

and qualified professionals to meet all current and forecast requirements for international civilian police was viewed as especially problematic. It was suggested that these and large scale monitoring missions may further strain an international system which is already struggling to meet the demands for international police in more 'traditional' police peace support rôles. Therefore, participants discussed ways in which 'standby arrangement systems' could be improved in order to reduce reaction time and to deliver fully prepared individuals. This included having adequate and timely funding for refugee camp security in place at the beginning of an operation in order to facilitate recruiting, equipping and deploying the requisite police elements. Other areas discussed were: challenges to refugee camp security and possible responses; ways in which to make the planning and preparation of an operation involving police more efficient; the gathering of resources; and the need for sensitivity and services to cater to special needs within refugee camps, which are often composed largely of women, children and other vulnerable groups.

PRINCIPAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- The chaos associated with mass refugee movements must be recognized as a potential threat to international peace and security and addressed in the Security Council.
- Security concerns need to become a priority for UNHCR and other relevant humanitarian organizations in the planning of refugee camp environments. Appropriate resources should be allocated to such activities, rather than as a secondary consideration.
- The host country should have the primary role in ensuring the security of refugees. Commitment and support by local officials, including police, must be an absolute priority. In some instances, host country efforts may need to be supported by the international community.
- Multi-disciplinary Security Assessment Teams should be developed which would be made available to deploy in advance or as a lead element of a humanitarian operation to reconnoiter, determine the security requirements, and develop a security plan. These teams could be composed of experts drawn from a number of fields including the police, the military, UNHCR and other humanitarian agencies, inter and non-governmental organizations, and local authorities.
- The main roles for international police should be the provision of advice to local police and the UNHCR (and others involved in camp management), as well as providing training, and coordinating logistical and technical support to the local police.
- In order for the UN to identify qualified professional international police quickly to meet current and forecasted requirements, member states should provide the UN Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS) with detailed information on their commitments. It should include the number of police available, their skills, and the anticipated response time to deployment. This information must be updated regularly.
- It is important to identify and work with credible local leadership - both within and outside a camp environment. International police, if deployed, should seek to foster relationships with genuine leaders both within the camps and in the host government.