

by the Secretary-General in *An Agenda for Peace*. Due regard will be accorded to non-military aspects of peace operations, such as preventive diplomacy, the political component of all such operations and peacebuilding. Peacekeeping will be treated in its broadest context.

The study will focus on the specific issue of improved responsiveness, given the structure and nature of contemporary peacekeeping. This will take account of the interrelationships among the political, strategic, operational and tactical components of any peace operation, as well as the relevance for rapid reaction of the integration of political, humanitarian, police and military elements, including non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Similarly, the study will address the question of command and control systems and their contribution to an improved rapid reaction capability. The conditions under which nations are willing to make their resources available to the UN are crucial to their political commitment and readiness to act. Paramount among these concerns is the nature and competence of command and control structures and relationships. The role of the Security Council in mobilizing political support and providing ongoing guidance is essential.

The study will elaborate the component elements of a rapid reaction capability in a generic sense. This section of the study will address the requirement for, and provision of, among other things, early warning, integrated planning capability, command and control systems, logistics capability and doctrine/standards/interoperability. An important element will be the nature of standing forces, options for their development and a discussion of their potential utility.

Having established the basis for rapid reaction, the study will address in concrete terms what can be done to achieve this capability. The study will outline proposals that logically fit into one of the three time frames envisaged. The implications of a given proposal at one of the four levels (political, strategic, operational and tactical) for the remaining levels will be explored. For example, the establishment of regional stocks in two or more locations has direct implications for how these stocks will be allocated and co-ordinated at the strategic level in New York.

In many cases, short-term proposals will suggest additional measures that might logically follow in the medium and long terms. For example, virtually all proposals for the medium and long term imply an increased capability in the UN Secretariat to cope with additional responsibilities. Therefore, reform and enhancement of the UN Secretariat, a necessary stand-alone requirement to enhance the UN's rapid reaction capability, will also cumulatively establish the necessary strategic apparatus to handle a series of additional medium- and long-term improvements.