

the UN, and highly resistant to even a hugely reinforced DPKO. For example, nations are extremely slow to provide both troops and equipment, and their overall record in paying for peace-keeping is abysmal. There is a continued political sensitivity to country specific contingency planning and substantial country specific preparatory activity.

Many countries are clearly worried about any increase in UN military intervention capability. These and similar impediments reflect a political fear and reluctance on the part of member states to allow the UN to take peace-keeping action readily. There is no indication that this lack of political will by member states will dissipate in the near future. It is also debatable as to whether these types of impediment are resolvable from within the UN structure, eg. by DPKO or the Secretary-General.

Recommendations for enhancing United Nations rapid reaction capacity, must deal directly with the need for confidence building measures directed at member states in general, troop contributing nations specifically, and Security Council members absolutely.