

cantonment of heavy weapons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia province of Kosovo. The KVM is designed to create the political and security environment conducive to the safe and dignified return of populations displaced by the earlier events in 1998.

19. The deployment of an international police force has also been envisaged as an option to manage refugee situations presenting exceptional security problems. These could be deployed by the United Nations or by regional organizations and could be authorized and mandated by the Security Council, and comprised of police units contributed by Member States.

(c) The "hard" options: military deployment

20. The deployment of a United Nations Peacekeeping Operation or that of a multinational or regional force under Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter, and even more so under its Chapter VII, requires strong political convergence between States and, in particular, members of the Security Council. In most cases, such a deployment has been envisaged to address situations that went much beyond the issue of refugees or population displacement, although such displacement has often been an important factor contributing to the decision. While recognizing that the deployment of external military forces will remain exceptional, there is a need to ensure that forces are equipped and trained to address refugee and related issues when such objectives form part of the force's agreed mission. With that notion in mind, the Security Council in S/RES/1208 supported the inclusion in the United Nations Stand-by Arrangements of military and police units and personnel trained for humanitarian operations in order to provide advice, supervision, training and technical or other assistance for the maintenance of the security, and civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements. In this regard, DPKO is preparing a Note Verbale to Member States seeking support as a follow-up to the Security Council resolution. UNHCR is in contact with DPKO to assist in defining the profile of such specialized units.

V. LOOKING AHEAD

(a) Assessment of needs

21. Not all refugee situations present exceptional elements which negatively affect the security of refugees and the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and refugee populated areas. It is therefore necessary to develop mechanisms to assess situations that are both flexible and rigorous, ensuring that when situations become politically complex, there can be recourse to independent expertise. UNHCR intends to include the consideration of the security environment as one of the standard functions of its emergency assessment teams for all new situations. This could be done by using the specialized officers currently available through the Field Staff Safety Section at Headquarters and in the field or by drawing from a roster of experts that could be established as part of UNHCR's own emergency response mechanisms.

22. There are situations, however, where the complexity of the political, military and security aspects will require the intervention of external expertise. UNHCR would then take the initiative to propose to the Secretary-General the creation of an independent assessment team. The composition of such a team, its terms of reference and its reporting lines should be decided by the Secretary-General.

(b) Training

23. Among the measures noted by the Security Council in S/RES/1208 to support to the efforts of States in promoting security, and the civilian and humanitarian character of refugee camps and settlements, training and the provision of technical advice figured prominently. UNHCR already participates in a number of training programmes and exercises involving police or military forces. In January 1995, UNHCR produced two training modules which are being used extensively. The first, a *UNHCR Handbook for the Military on Humanitarian Operations*, was created specifically for the use of armed forces who may find themselves working with or alongside UNHCR. The second handbook, entitled *Working with the Military*, aims at assisting UNHCR staff members and associated personnel in achieving a better understanding of the relationship with the military.

24. The number of invitations received by UNHCR to participate in training programmes and military exercises has been growing steadily over the last few years, reflecting the growing interest in operations related to humanitarian situations by national armed forces and regional organizations. This has placed a heavy burden on the Office's limited training staff and on the resources of certain operations which are often solicited. UNHCR is in the process of re-defining responsibilities for matters related to security and liaison with military forces and law-enforcement authorities within the new structure at Headquarters. In parallel, discussions are being held with a number of regional organizations and training institutes with a view to better plan and prioritize UNHCR's involvement in such training and exercises. The possibility of a more coordinated approach and pooling of material and training resources between United Nations humanitarian agencies should also be explored.