Prevention & Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

Tactical Level
“Supporting host governments to meet their protection responsibilities, including preventing and addressing accountability for sexual violence in conflict, lies at the heart of modern peacekeeping. UN Peacekeeping is not only working hard to protect civilians from sexual violence but also to ensure women's participation in the peace process.’”

Mr Hervé Ladsous
Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations
“Sexual violence in conflict is a hugely traumatic and destructive violation of people's lives. It damages the very fabric of society and hinders the preservation of a peaceful future for women and girls and all members of the community. We must work to ensure that victims are protected and assisted, that there is no impunity, and the perpetrators of these heinous acts are brought to justice.”

Mr. Atul Khare
Under-Secretary-General for Field Support
Aim

- To train commanders, staff, Military Experts on Mission and contingents on the role and responsibilities of the Military Component in addressing CRSV challenges a UN peacekeeping mission.
Learning Outcomes

Comprehend/Understand/Be able to:

- UN peacekeeping Mission framework to address CRSV
- Interact & support WPAs in the mandate implementation
- Integrate & coordinate with other components/partners
- Mission’s approaches in prevention & response to CRSV
- Execute prevention & response measures to combat CRSV as part of mandate implementation.
- Be able to design operational level military activities
- Be able to define planning and execution parameters
- Be able to implement prevention and response activities to combat CRSV
## Scope

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Part I: Role and Responsibilities of UN Mission Headquarters
Combating CRSV: A Holistic & Comprehensive Approach

UN HQ & International Community

Parties to the Conflict

Host State Authorities & Local Communities

UNCT Protection Clusters

Mission HQ (WPA/HR/G/CP)

UN Military UNPOL

Whole of Mission Activity

Prevent

Protect

Neutralise

CRSV Threats

UN HQ
UNSC/UNA/DPKO-DFS
DPA/OHCHR.
TOE/MS.

Parties
Commitments.

Host State
Strategy.
POC.
Capacity.

UNCT
Integration
Protection Clusters.
Strategy Formulation.
Survivor/Victim Assistance

Mission HQ
Political Dialogue.
Advocacy.
Instruments.
CRSV Framework for Military Component in UN Peacekeeping Operations

- **DPKO/DFS**
- **OMA**
- **DPET**

**Field Mission**
- Component/Force HQ
- G/CRSV/CP Focal Points

**Unit**
- G/CP Focal Points

**Field**
- Protection Clusters
- SGBV/CP Sub-Cluster
- Platform/Working Group
- SMG Protection
- PAG
- P/CRSV/CP WG
- JOC/JMAC
- MOC/POC/SOC

**HQ**
- DSRSG P/RoL
- SPOCA/SWPA/SCPASGA
- HR WPA/Gender WPA

**Prevention & Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence**
Role & Responsibilities of Mission HQ
Mission HQ Responsibilities

- Unity of effort & coherence;
- Develop & implement protection strategies;
- Set Mission-wide operational direction for:
  - Component level objectives, benchmarks and deliverables;
  - Political engagements, civil affairs efforts & public information campaigns;
  - Integration, coordination & unity of effort.
- Establish CRSV prevention & response framework;
- Constructive engagement (including advocacy);
- Capacity building of host Government & state institutions;
- Prevent/deter & neutralise threats/incidents;
- Reconciliation & empowerment of local communities.
Mission Approaches

- Political Dialogue;
- Advocacy;
- Constructive engagement;
- Assist Host State;
- Report to the Security Council;
- End impunity;
- PoC;
- Promote equality, participation & empowerment.
Mission Substantive Entities

- DDR
- HR
- PoC
- JSR
- G
- CP
- SSR
- PI
- PA
- CA

UN POLICE → Mission Substantive Entities → UN Military

UN Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
Module 2: UN-CRSV Operational level

Prevention & Response to Conflict-Related Sexual Violence

07/02/2017
DPKO & DFS/ ITS

== UN-CRSV STM/ 1st Edition – 2017 ==
WPAs: Role & Responsibilities

- Assist SRSG (HoM) & guide components;
- Political engagement & Advocacy;
- Comprehensive National Strategy & Missions Action Plan;
- Mainstream, integrate & Coordinate;
- MARA;
- Gender-specific early-warning;
- Capacity building;
- Address CRSV together with HR;
- Monitor, report, analyse & investigate; &
- Promote equality, participation & empowerment.
Country Level Initiatives by UNCT

- Comprehensive National Strategies;
- Institutional capacity development;
- Legislative/legal assistance;
- Provision of services (Referral Arrangements);
- Capacity building of law enforcement & security agencies; &,
- Coordination (clusters & processes).
Part II: Coordination and Constructive Engagement
Coordination and Constructive Engagement

- Coordination with UN Country Team (UNCT)
- Coordination with Protection Cluster
- Coordination with Host State
- Coordination with Host Security Forces
- Provision of Support to Host Security Forces
- Engagement with Parties to the Conflict
- Engagement of Armed Groups/Perpetrators
Part III: Procedural Aspects
Advocacy

- Target audience: Host Government authorities, parties to the conflict, armed groups & local communities;
- Command responsibility;
- Conform to Mission PoC Strategy, CRSV Action Plan & SOP;
- Reflect coherent & harmonised messaging;
- Joint advocacy;
- Report; &,
- Not be carried out in isolation.
Advocacy with Host Security Forces

- Protection of human rights & women’s rights;
- Prevention of human rights violations & CRSV;
- Promote responsibility & accountability;
- Instill conduct & discipline (including prohibition of SEA);
- Cantoning & movement control;
- Payment salaries & provision of welfare/recreational facilities;
- Training, education & sensitisation;
- Removal of unauthorised CPs & roadblocks;
- Declaration of ‘weapons free zone’;
- Establishment of Border CPs.
Advocacy
With Armed Groups/Perpetrators

- Cease violations & release hostages/sex slaves;
- Designation of interlocutors;
- Inform that activities are closely monitored, recorded & reported;
- Sensitise that amnesty provisions not applicable to CRSV offenders;
- Stress on prosecution of all perpetrators.
Monitoring Analysis & Reporting Arrangements (MARA) on CRSV

- Reporting requirement for Security Council;
- Systematic gathering of information;
- Monitoring of activities of perpetrators;
- Analysing trends/patterns & incidents;
- Feed into early-warning, prevention, response & accountability;
- Listing in the Annual Report of the Secretary-General; &,
- Mission components, UNCT & other sources contribute.
Early-warning indicators on CRSV:

- Disappearance.
- Political Rhetoric.
- Fleeing/evacuating.
- House raids and searches.
- Tell-tale marks of violation.
- Silence or fearful disposition.
- Detention at camps & check points.
- Increased hospital reporting of rape.
- Movement of troops after victory/defeat.
- Proximity of armed groups to Civilian centres.
- Information from human & electronic sources.
- Frequent forays to villages by individual/few soldiers.
- Changed mobility patterns, particularly women & children.
- Reporting of threats/incidents to the authorities or communities.
- Ambushes, waylaying, isolated attacks, firewood/water rape & looting/ pillaging.
Early-warning
Military Component Responsibilities

- Develop early-warning indicators;
- Identify threats, report & respond;
- Establish early-warning centres (EWC);
- Obtain early-warning;
- Integrate all sources;
- Process & share information;
- Report; &,
- Coordinate & direct military responses.
Ethical Reporting

- Report immediately (age & sex-disaggregated data);
- Report all CRSV incidents/violations;
- Alert & initiate pre-emptive/protective responses;
- Vet, corroborate & confirm information;
- Maintain records & documents; &,
- Maintain confidentiality & anonymity.
Reporting of CRSV Incidents

**UNSC**

**DPKO-DFS/OHCHR/SRSG-SVC**

**HQ**

**Peacekeeping Mission**

**MLT/FC**

**PA/SWPA**
**HRO/GA/CPA**

**CO**

**Company Commander**

**Patrol Commander**

* **Actions By Patrol**
  * Segregate, Contain & Protect.
  * Assist Victim/Survivor.
  * Preliminary Enquiry.
  * Report
  * Referral Arrangement.
  * Maintain Confidentiality.
  * Document/Record.
  * Evacuate if required.
  * Acquire more information.
  * Act within capability immediately.

* **Reporting**
  * Information on incident.
  * Location & time.
  * Action taken.
  * Analysis.
  * Recommendation.

* **Include**
  * Survivor/victim (Age & Sex-disaggregated).
  * Perpetrator.

**Note:**
- All COBs should have female Doctors/Medics, have separate holding facilities for rape survivors, PEP Kits and facility to heli-evacuate survivor.
- Maintain anonymity of the victim/survivor (no names) and do not photograph/video-graph the victim/survivor.

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Referral Arrangements

Established by UNCT
UNFPA/UNICEF

Medical, Psycho-Social, Economic and Legal Assistance

- Legal Assistance Counselor
- Local Police
- Psychological Service
- Protection Actors

Service Provider Responsibility Starts

Health Centre

UN Military Responsibility Ends

Military Component
* Provide first aid, food, water, clothing & security.
* Transfer, escort & handover.
* Establish grassroots referral networks.

Service Provider/Designated Civil/Military Official Accompany

Report Direct to Service Provider/COB/Patrols

Survivor

Incident

Note:
- Minors must be accompanied either by a family member or social worker.
- Medical assistance to be provided immediately.
- Access to PEP within 72 hours to prevent HIV.
- Respect the privacy, confidentiality & wishes of survivor(s).
- Always respect the wishes of the survivor.
- Obtain informed consent of the survivor.

SWPA
Inform Referral Arrangements (SOP/Guidelines/Referral Card)
### Investigation

- Primary responsibility of National law enforcement officials.
- Human Rights Component responsibility.
- May constitute an independent agency.
- UNPOL (Specialist IPOs) may to assist.
- Supported by designated officials (SWPA/WPAs/CPAs).
- No investigation by military peacekeepers.
- Only preliminary enquiries for reporting.
- Support JIT/HR team (security/logistics, etc.)
Handling of CRSV Offenders

- End impunity & foster accountability;
- Prosecution - national law/international law (ICC/tribunals);
- Authorised to search/detain/disarm;
- Assist identification, verification & prosecution;
- UNPOL with executive authority can take actions;
- Immediate action - Report on chain of command & to DFP;
- In 36 Hours - Detention, Release, Transfer Form to the DFP, HR & HOM; & written notification to ICRC;
- In 48 Hours - Handed over to designated authorities (72 hours with approval);
- Child detainees - last resort, shortest time & separate from other detainees (unless with members of family).
Handling of IDP/Refugee Camps

- Applicable to “in & around” the camps.
- Local police have the executive authority.
- UNPOL with executive authority can take action.
- UN military employed on specific request/approval of HoM.
- Conducted as joint operations.
- Likely tasks:
  - External area security cover;
  - Perimeter Security;
  - Patrolling inside the camp;
  - Specific cordon & search operations.
- Also applicable to DDR camps.
Actions on the Scene of an Incident

- First aid, safety & comfort.
- Be respectful of the survivor.
- Secure the area & preserve evidence.
- Enquire, document & report.
- Follow ‘Referral Arrangements’.
- Security, transportation & escort.
- Detain & hand-over.
Part IV: Role and Responsibilities of the Military Component In Addressing Conflict-Related Sexual Violence
CRSV-Specific Role and Responsibilities of UN Military Component

• Key Areas of Response.
• Role and Responsibilities of the Force Headquarters.
• Human Rights Role and Responsibilities of UN Military Peacekeepers.
• Role and Responsibilities of UN Military Experts on Mission.
• Role and Responsibilities of Military Units and Sub-Units.
UN Military’s Approaches to Address CRSV

- Mainstreaming
- Accountability
- Analysis
- Coordination

- Prevention
- Response
- Female Military Peacekeepers
- Focal Points
Cardinal Points on PoC

- PoC includes all forms of sexual violence;
- Take all necessary actions to prevent CRSV within capability;
- May operate independently when host Government is unwilling or ineffective;
- Uphold and adhere to IHL, IHRL and code of conduct for UN peacekeepers;
Cardinal Points on PoC (cont’d)

• Show or use force to prevent, deter and respond to threats as per ROE;
• When and where possible, permission to use force should be sought from immediate superior commander; and,
• Adhere to UN HRDDP when operating with host State security and law enforcement forces.
Preventive Measures

- Protective-Grid
- Constructive Engagement and Advocacy
- Conflict Mitigation
- Engagement of Local Women
- Community Support
- QIPs
Preventive Measures (cont’d)

- Monitoring & Reporting
- Presence and Proactive Posturing
- Preemptive Interventions
- Escorts
- Safe Areas
- DSR/DDR
- Physical Security
Response Measures

- Active Patrolling
- Direct Military Action
- Cordon and Search
- Extraction
- Disarming
- Detention
- Survivor Assistance
- Consolidation
Part V: Constructive Approaches to Prevention and Response to CRSV
Constructive Approaches to Prevention and Response to CRSV

- Community Support and Engagement.
- Building Community Based Capacities.
- CRSV Planning and Coordination.
- Prevention and Response Measures.
- Training for Prevention and Response to CRSV.
Conclusion
Takeaways

• Strategic level - Peace process; women’s participation; political engagement, eliciting commitments; listing of perpetrators; imposing sanctions & judicial processes.

• Operational level - proactive measures & credible responses to prevent CRSV, protect vulnerable sections of population deter perpetrators & neutralise potential/impending/on-going threats.

• At the heart of any intervention regarding CRSV is the priority protection and assistance to the survivors, witnesses and community.
Takeaways

• Military Component plays a vital role in prevention and response to CRSV, but forms part of the integrated mission response.
• The direction, planning and coordination is primarily done at the Mission HQ by the Mission Leadership assisted by integrated entities, and further de-centralised at component level for joint execution.
• Coordination with all actors and synergy in application of response measures are vital for success.
• Clear directions, deliberate preparations and resolute execution of protection tasks can achieve the desired result as envisioned in the Mandate.
• Specific to CRSV, the UN military units and sub-units must be conversant with advocacy, early-warning indicators, handling of perpetrators and survivors, preventive and protective measures.
• Commanders and troops must maintain high standards of operational readiness and be ready to use force as specified in the respective mission-specific ROEs.
Thank You