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**STATEMENT BY MINISTER ANGELINA MATSIE MOTSHEKGA
MINISTER OF THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE AND MILITARY VETERANS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA
DURING THE UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING MINISTERIAL**

14 MAY 2025

**Chairperson,
USGs Jean-Pierre Lacroix, Atul Khare, and Ms Catherine Pollard
Hon Ministers,
Esteemed Generals
Distinguished Delegates
Ladies and Gentlemen**

I would like to express my delegation's appreciation to the UN Secretariat and the Government of the Germany for hosting this essential 8th United Nations Peacekeeping Ministerial meeting, the member states who co-hosted the Peacekeeping Ministerial Preparatory Meetings.

My Delegation certainly wishes to appreciate the hospitality extended to us since our arrival in Berlin. As we mark the 8th Anniversary of UN Peacekeeping Ministerial a lot has been achieved enhance Peace Mission to achieve their Mandates, through capabilities pledges.

Undoubtedly, it can be agreed that United Nations Peacekeeping remains the only successful multilateral instrument, at the disposal of the UN and the international community, to maintain international peace and security.

Peacekeeping operations are compounded by complex and multidimensional challenges ranging from geo-political tensions, protracted armed conflicts with no end in sight, diverse belligerents including terrorist organisations, transnational/cross-border conflicts to emerging threats such as the misuse of new technologies, misinformation/ disinformation and emerging pandemics.

Peacekeeping has been tried and tested tool and the only legitimate option in stopping violent conflicts, resolving political disputes, preventing outbreak of conflict and ensuring post conflict reconstruction and development.

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Integrity and Justice

Chairperson,

South Africa supports UN forward thinking on the Future of Peacekeeping and we hold the view that the models and modalities under discussions will shape the transformative peace Agenda

Africa remains the epicentre of protracted conflicts and our lessons learned and experiences gained in the quest to Silence the Guns, conflict areas, calls for a greater partnership, capability enhancement with politics been the primacy to guide the achievement of Mission Mandates.

It is of utmost importance for Member States, and partners in peacekeeping and troop and police contributing countries, to demonstrate political will and intent to invest in a well-equipped, better trained, well financed and a strengthened UN Peacekeeping architecture.

South Africa has always demonstrated the political will and intent, in this regard supports the UN Secretary Generals, New Agenda for Peace, Pact for the Future, especially Action 21 for an enhanced UN Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding Architecture.

As one of the leading troop and police contributing countries, South Africa reiterates its commitment to this ideal.

Chairperson,

Furthermore, South Africa is committed to the implementation of UN Security Council Resolution 2518 (2020), which focuses on the importance of enhancing the safety and security of UN peacekeepers. Its full implementation by all relevant stakeholders will go a long way in ensuring that challenges to peacekeeping are addressed.

South Africa calls for UN to eradicate targeted attacks on peacekeepers and culture impunity. We therefore calls for Accountability for Crimes against Peacekeepers as per the UN Security Council Resolution 2589 (2021). My delegation calls for UN to take appropriate measures to prevent crimes against peacekeepers and bring to justice perpetrators of criminal acts against Peace keepers and UN personnel.

South Africa is dedicated to UN Peacekeeping and would like to make the following Pledges,

1. Engagement Platoons.
2. Staff Officers.
3. Military Gender Advisers and Military Protection Advisors.
4. *Host UN Mission Advanced Staff Training.*
5. Host UN Staff Officer Specialized Training Materials, Trainer of Trainers.
6. *Host Women's Military Peace Operations Course, Seminar and Networking Forum.*
7. UN Military Observers Course.
8. *To support Counter-IED training to TCCs.*
9. *Host Peace Keeping Intelligence Course.*
10. Share Good Practices related to Prevention of SEA.

11. Secondment of Women to UN Women Talent Pipeline.
12. *Engage Triangular Partnership Model as Equipment Contributing Country.*
13. *Contribute to UN Sea Trust Fund.*

Chairperson,

In conclusion Chairperson, as we celebrate the 25th anniversary of UNSCR 1325, the 30th anniversary of Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in this the 8th Peacekeeping Ministerial, our Pledges must provide joint action to shared commitments for prioritizing Women Peace and Security agenda.

South Africa as one of the champions of Women, Peace and Security agenda, underscore the need to ensure a safe, enabling and gender-sensitive working environment for women in peacekeeping.

Our mandate today is to produce an outcome that will significantly contribute to strengthened and better performing peace operations. South Africa looks forward to contributing to the discussion on the Pact for the Future with specific focus to review of all peace operations.

I thank you.