

**Video Message by Mr. YAMADA Kenji,  
State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan  
for the Preparatory meeting of the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial**

**31 August 2023**

Excellences, distinguished delegates, I am YAMADA Kenji, State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan. I would like to deliver a few words on behalf of Japan, the co-host country of the Preparatory meeting of the UN Peacekeeping Ministerial, at the start of the second day of this meeting.

First of all, I would like to thank H.E. Mr. Jilani, Minister of Foreign Affairs, H.E. Mr. Hyder, Minister of Defense, and other officials of the Government of Pakistan for their efforts in organizing this meeting.

I would also like to pay tribute to the leadership of the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Mr. Lacroix, and the Under-Secretary-General for Operational Support, Mr. Khare, for their efforts to resolve the various challenges that the United Nations Secretariat has faced in Peacekeeping Operations.

As the international situation becomes more severe and complex, the United Nations is playing an increasingly important role in creating an international community of cooperation rather than division. In particular, Peacekeeping Operations are important policy tools that provide concrete measures to maintain peace and stability not only in host countries but also in surrounding countries of the region.

On the other hand, Peacekeeping Operations are facing new threats such as IED and dis/mis-information. It is an urgent issue to ensure "safety and security of peacekeepers". Experts from TCCs and PCCs and the UN Secretariat can contribute to further discussions by sharing their knowledge and expertise in these areas.

Through this Preparatory meeting, which will focus on the safety and security of peacekeepers, I hope to deepen discussions among Member States on how to tackle such threats, and I look forward to the pledges of each country for the Peacekeeping Ministerial to be held in Ghana this December.

Japan contributed to the launch of the UN Triangular Partnership Programme in 2015 and has promoted capacity-building support for peacekeepers as the flag-bearer of the TPP and by providing 82 million US Dollars thus far. The TPP is currently expanding both in the regions as well as in the fields, and has trained approximately 16,000 personnel to date.

In a recent effort to contribute to the safety and security of peacekeepers, we have contributed around 1.5 million US Dollars to support the Telemedicine Projects as part of the TPP. In the past two years, the Telemedicine System has been installed and now in operation in 4 different missions and 16 medical facilities, and is contributing to the improvement of the medical environment for personnel working in remote areas.

Moreover, through a contribution of approximately 1.4 million US Dollars to the UN Department of Peace Operations this year, we are cooperating with UNMAS to implement a project to counter IED, and we are also supporting projects to counter dis/mis-information.

Furthermore, we contributed to the establishment of the UN Peacekeeping Intelligence Academy and launched the PKIA Donor Group together with European countries. We will continue our efforts to train personnel in the intelligence field and improve the early warning capabilities of Peacekeeping Operations.

Through such efforts, Peacekeeping Operations, the sole implementation unit of the UN, will become more effective and efficient, and will contribute to the “Action for Peacekeeping” and A4P+ as stated by Secretary-General Guterres. Japan will continue to provide support to ensure the safety and security of peacekeepers. We also intend to actively participate in discussions on the “New Agenda for Peace”.

As a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, which has responsibilities for international peace and stability, and as one of the co-hosts of the Peacekeeping Ministerial, Japan will continue to make efforts to improve and strengthen the Peacekeeping Operations.

Finally, I would like to conclude my remarks by wishing you the success of this Preparatory meeting. Thank you for listening.