

G *ANNUAL REVIEW OF*
**Global Peace
Operations**
 2013

Foreword

We jointly welcome the 2013 *Annual Review of Global Peace Operations*. This year marks the first time that the Center on International Cooperation reviews the work of field-based political missions and peacekeeping operations in a single volume. This offers an opportunity to foster learning within and between different types of field missions and to build on the complementary nature of our international conflict management tools.

With recent deployments to address new and intensified threats to peace and security, the need to identify complementarities is particularly relevant today. The *Review* illustrates the challenging environment in which peace operations are deploying and the increasing prevalence of multiple mission deployments in a single country or region. In some countries where the UN is expanding its engagement, such as Mali and Somalia, this means that peacekeeping and special political missions are operating in parallel with enforcement operations led by non-UN actors. Exceptionally, the UN peacekeeping operation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has been mandated to undertake targeted offensive operations. This effort is in support of Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's broader efforts to achieve peace in the Great Lakes region, through the adoption of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework by eleven states in the region. The *Review* rightly highlights the need for strong and effective coordination in all such cases.

There are commonalities between peacekeeping operations and field-based political missions. Both are, in most cases, essentially political instruments mandated to help coun-

tries and parties create conditions necessary for societies to transition from violent conflict to sustainable peace. The leadership in many of these missions embodies the good offices role of the Secretary-General on the ground, and they increasingly draw from common pools of civilian experts and field support platforms. These linkages are also reflected at UN headquarters, where our Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Political Affairs, and Field Support are working closely together in support of our field operations.

The *Review* also demonstrates the diversity and complementarity of our missions and covers the whole spectrum of mandates: from military observer groups monitoring ceasefires to multidimensional peacekeeping operations that combine logistical and security capabilities with civilian expertise; from Special Envoys and regional offices focusing on conflict prevention and mediation to multifaceted political missions that accompany complex peace consolidation processes.

Finally, the *Review* provides qualitative analysis—noting the successes in fostering peace, while also highlighting instances where more can be done. The two thematic chapters in this year's review set out some of the major challenges confronting the UN and other peace and security actors. Chapter 1 on the changing face of peace operations recognizes the increasingly difficult environments in which the United Nations is operating. It highlights the challenges of deploying missions in rapidly evolving contexts and reviews how these issues were addressed in the recent cases of the DRC, Mali, and Somalia. Chapter 2

focuses on the particular challenges for mission leadership of increasingly complex and divisive conflicts that require the engagement of a broad range of actors, some of which may have enforcement or counterterrorism roles and are operating alongside peace operations. It rightly notes the urgency of ensuring that, in all such cases, the political track of international engagement does not lag behind the security track. This is a point that the Secretary-General has highlighted repeatedly in his reports on the DRC, Mali, Syria, and Somalia. The chapter reminds us of the urgency of ensuring that Special Envoys and Special Representatives of the Secretary-General are adequately empowered and supported in the political roles mandated to them. In all cases, field missions must

have resources and capabilities commensurate with their mandated tasks.

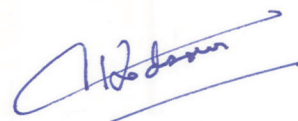
As we tackle today's challenges to international peace and security, while also preparing for those of tomorrow, an independent analysis of how peace operations have developed on a global scale and an outside assessment of key issues that warrant further debate are needed more than ever. The *Annual Reviews* are an insightful contribution to both. With this in mind, we would like to thank New York University's Center on International Cooperation, which helps to foster a wider understanding of global peace operations and their important contributions to peace and security around the globe.



Jeffrey Feltman
Under-Secretary-General
for Political Affairs



Ameerah Haq
Under-Secretary-General
for Field Support



Hervé Ladsous
Under-Secretary-General
for Peacekeeping Operations