

Module 2: Mandated Tasks of United Nations Peacekeeping Operations

Lesson 2.1



Mandated Tasks



Relevance

Peacekeeping personnel must be familiar:

- Shared tasks
- All contribute



Learning Outcomes

Learners will:

- Identify four categories of mandated tasks
- List examples of mandated tasks which are the core business of UN PKOs
- Describe two critical areas where UN PKOs play a limited “support” role
- List four humanitarian principles



Lesson Overview

1. Overview of Mandated Tasks
2. Supervision or Monitoring of the Ceasefire Agreement
3. Provision of a Secure & Stable Environment
4. Facilitating the Political Process
5. Facilitating the Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance
6. Supporting Poverty Reduction & Economic Development



Learning Activity

2.1.1

Mandated Tasks

Instructions:

- Match images with tasks, definitions and challenges addressed
- Discuss impact of the challenges on civilians
- Identify peace and security, humanitarian and development tasks

Time: 10 minutes

- Group work: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 3 minutes



1. Overview of Mandated Tasks

The range of mandated tasks may be categorized in the following way:

- Core business
- Support roles
- Peacebuilding activities
- Cross-cutting thematic tasks



Learning Activity

2.1.2

Putting Tasks into Categories

Instructions:

- Label tasks as core business, supporting role, peacebuilding activity and cross-cutting themes
- Give reasons

Time: 5 minutes

- Brainstorming: 3 minutes
- Discussion: 2 minutes



The Core Business

- Supervision or monitoring of the ceasefire agreement
- Provision of a secure and stable environment
- Facilitating the political process



Peacebuilding Activities

- Mine action
- Disarmament, demobilization and reintegration (DDR) of ex-combatants
- Security sector reform (SSR)
- Rule of law (ROL)-related activities
- Electoral assistance
- Support to the restoration and extension of State authority



Support Roles

- Facilitating the delivery of humanitarian assistance
- Cooperating and coordinating with mission partners to support poverty reduction and economic development



Cross-Cutting Thematic Tasks

- Human rights
- Protection of civilians (POC)
- Conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV)
- Child protection
- Women, Peace and Security (WPS)



2. Supervision or Monitoring of the Ceasefire Agreement

- **Ceasefire agreement:** refers to a temporary stoppage of war or any armed conflict for an agreed-upon timeframe or within a limited area
- **Monitoring ceasefire agreements:** involves actions to gather information on compliance with an agreement
- **UNPKOs** monitor to reassure that parties will not exploit ceasefires to gain military advantage
- **Core business**





3. Provision of a Secure & Stable Environment

- A secure environment is generally a precondition for moving ahead on several elements of peace agreements
- **UNPKOs** help fill the security/public order vacuum, and as a result play a critical role in securing the peace process and creating a safe environment for humanitarian and development actors
- Primary role of the military component
- **Core business**





4. Facilitating the Political Process

- **Political process:** steps to end conflict, maintain peace – involves peace negotiations and peace agreements
- **UNPKOs** facilitate the political process by promoting dialogue and reconciliation, and supporting the establishment of legitimate and effective institutions of governance
- Important for a lasting settlement or longer-term political solutions
- **Core business**





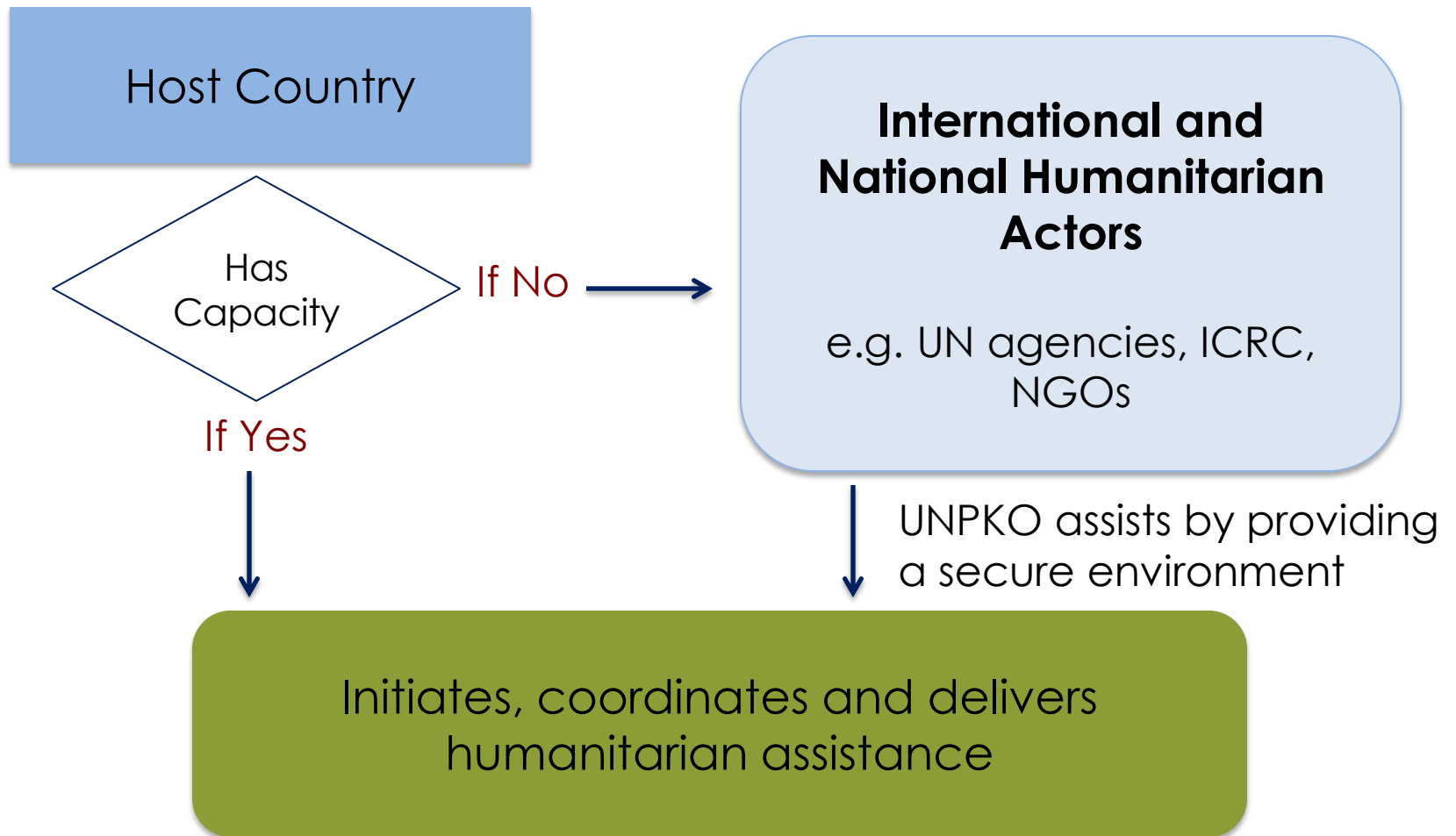
5. Facilitating the Delivery of Humanitarian Assistance

- **Humanitarian assistance:** aid and action designed to save lives, alleviate suffering, and maintain and protect human dignity during and in the aftermath of man-made crises and natural disasters
- Includes basic supplies of drinking water, food, shelter, medical care, protection and assistance to refugees and IDPs
- **UNPKOs** facilitate delivery
- **Support role**





Responsibilities





“Humanitarian Space”

- An environment where receiving humanitarian assistance is independent of military and political action
- Ensures safety and accomplishment of humanitarian actions and personnel
- **Four humanitarian principles:** humanity, neutrality, impartiality and independence
- Complementary concepts for **civil-military coordination:** UN-CIMIC (UNPKO) and UN-CMCoord (OCHA)



“Humanitarian Space”

Instructions:

- You are a humanitarian worker
- Consider the photo and scenario
- How can the mission help with the challenges?
- Discuss importance of “humanity”, “neutrality”, “impartiality” and “independence”

Time: 15 minutes

- Group work: 5-7 minutes
- Discussion: 5-7 minutes



6. Supporting Poverty Reduction & Economic Development

- **Poverty reduction:** ‘pro-poor’ policies and policies to stimulate economic growth, raise incomes and indirectly reduce poverty
- Poverty eradication is important for lasting peace and sustainable development
- **UNPKOs** cooperate, coordinate with partners
- **Support role**





Summary of Key Messages

- Mandated tasks – core business, peacebuilding activities, supporting roles, cross-cutting thematic tasks
- Core business – monitor cease-fire, provide secure environment, facilitate political process
- Supporting roles – facilitate delivery of humanitarian assistance, coordinate mission partners in development
- Humanitarian principles – humanity, neutrality, impartiality, independence



Questions



Learning Activity

Learning Evaluation