



Lesson 3.5 b

Overview of the UN Military Decision-Making Process (UN MDMP)

Content



-
- General overview of the concepts of Military Planning Process
 - Introduction to UN Military Decision-Making Process (UN MDMP)
 - Overview of Steps 1 to 5
 - Types of UN Orders and Plans
 - Other planning considerations

Learning Outcomes



- Describe the 5 steps of the UN MDMP
- Identify the purpose and desired outcome of each Step of the UN MDMP
- List the range and purpose of UN Orders and Plans
- Outline other planning considerations

Definition of A Military Planning Process



A methodical process that relies on joint efforts of commanders and staff to seek optimal solutions and to make decisions to achieve an objective in a dynamic environment



Principles of Planning



- Comprehensive
- Efficient
- Inclusive
- Informative
- Integrated
- Logical
- Transparent



Themes of Planning

- Identify problems and objectives
- Gather information
- Generate options to achieve those goals
- Decide on the way ahead and then execute it
 - Who, What, Where, When, How, Why?



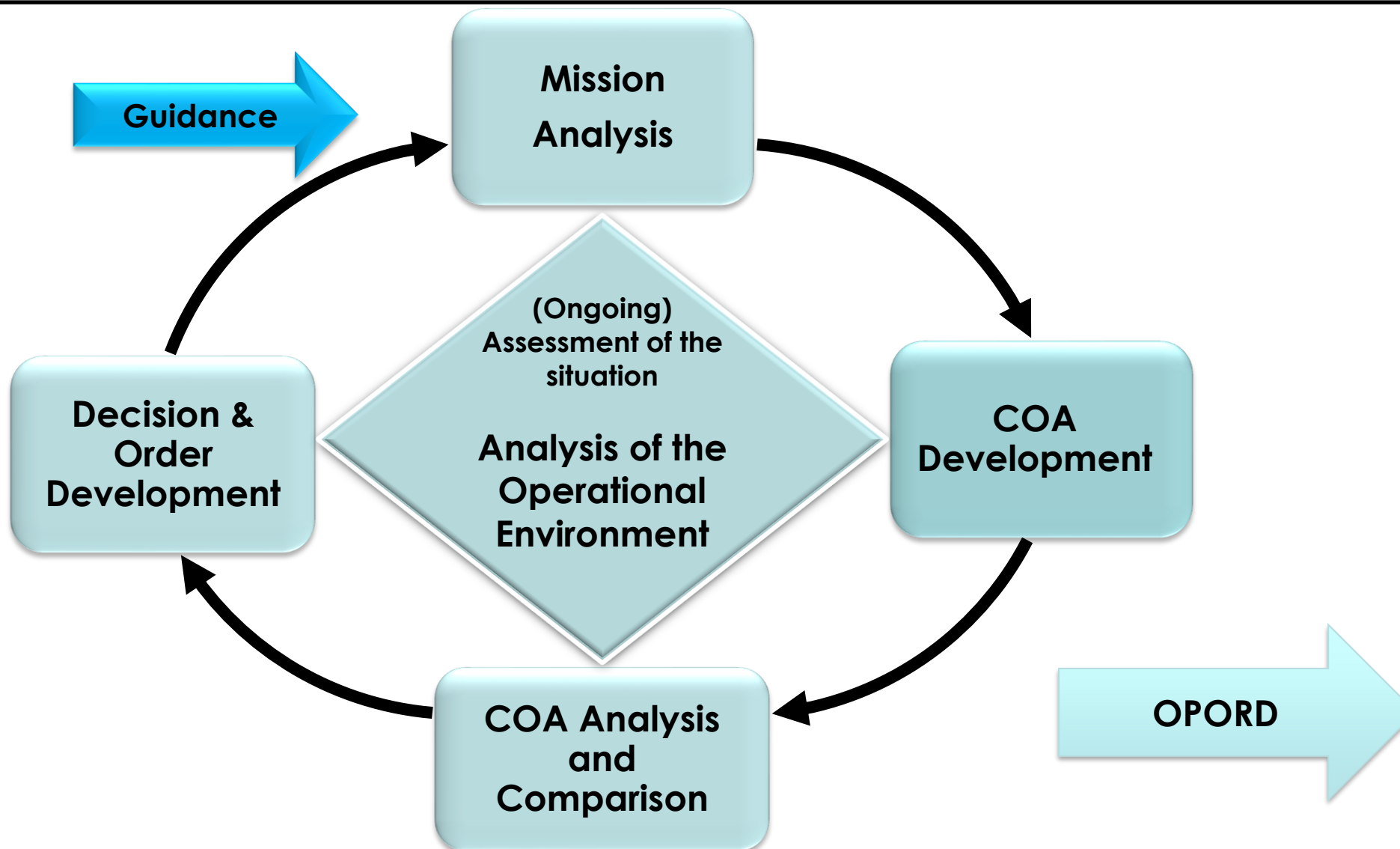
Definition of the UN Military Decision-Making Process



Methodical process adopted by the UN which relies on joint efforts of commanders and staff to seek optimal solutions and to make decisions to achieve an objective in a dynamic environment, resulting in the development of OPORDs at FHQ/SHQ and combined unit levels, integrating aspects of UN civilian agencies/components and peacekeeping considerations into the MDMP

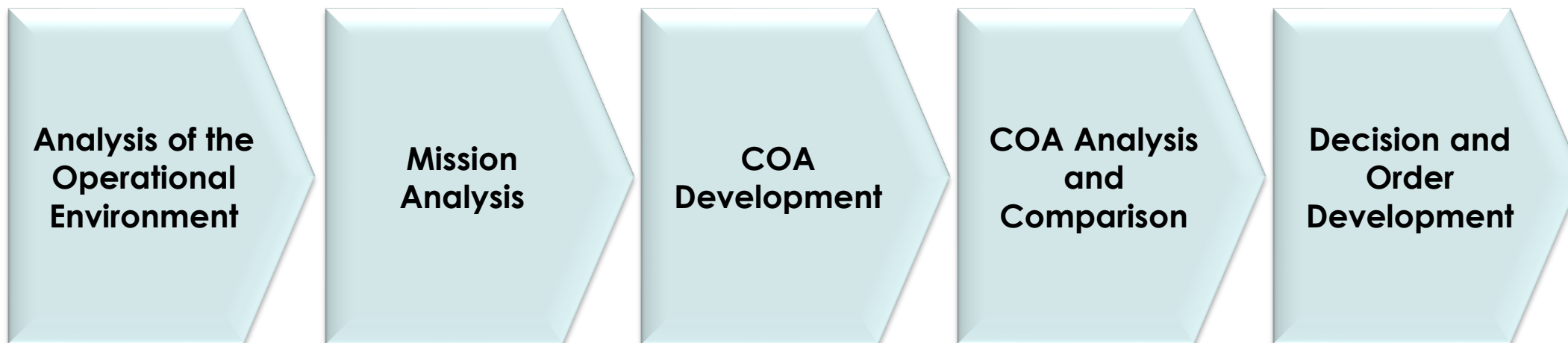


UN Military Decision-Making Process





UN MDMP Sequence



**Analysis of the
Operational
Environment**

**Mission
Analysis**

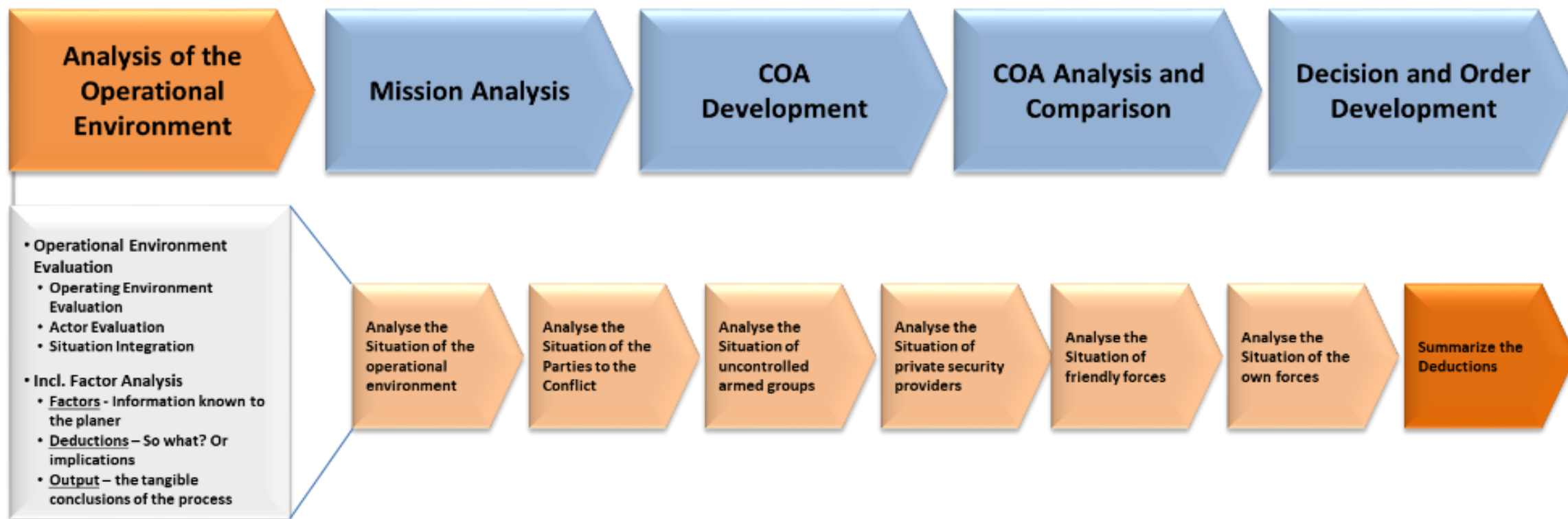
**COA
Development**

**COA Analysis
and
Comparison**

**Decision and
Order
Development**



Step 1- Analysis of the Operational Environment



Purpose of AOE: To gain a complete picture of the situation and all relevant factors and actors on operations and tactical levels



Step 2 – Mission Analysis



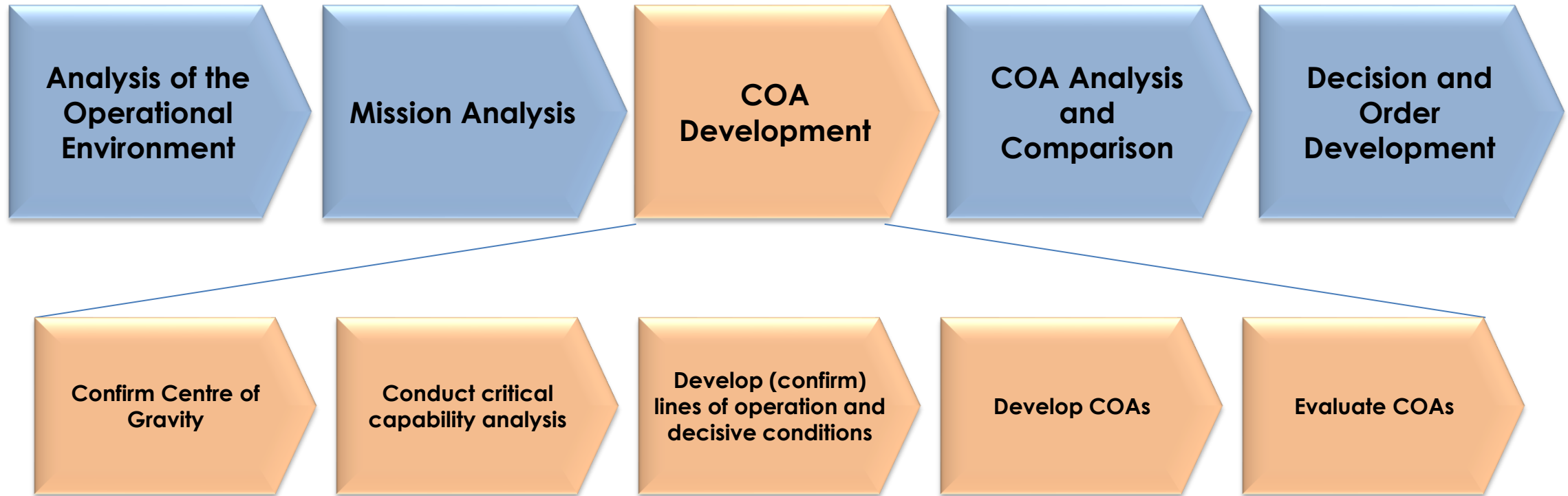
Purpose of Mission Analysis: Clearly define the tasks which need to be accomplished by the Peacekeeping Force (Military Component).

This step should result in:

- A restated mission
- Planning guidance
- Commander's intent, incorporating purpose, method and end state

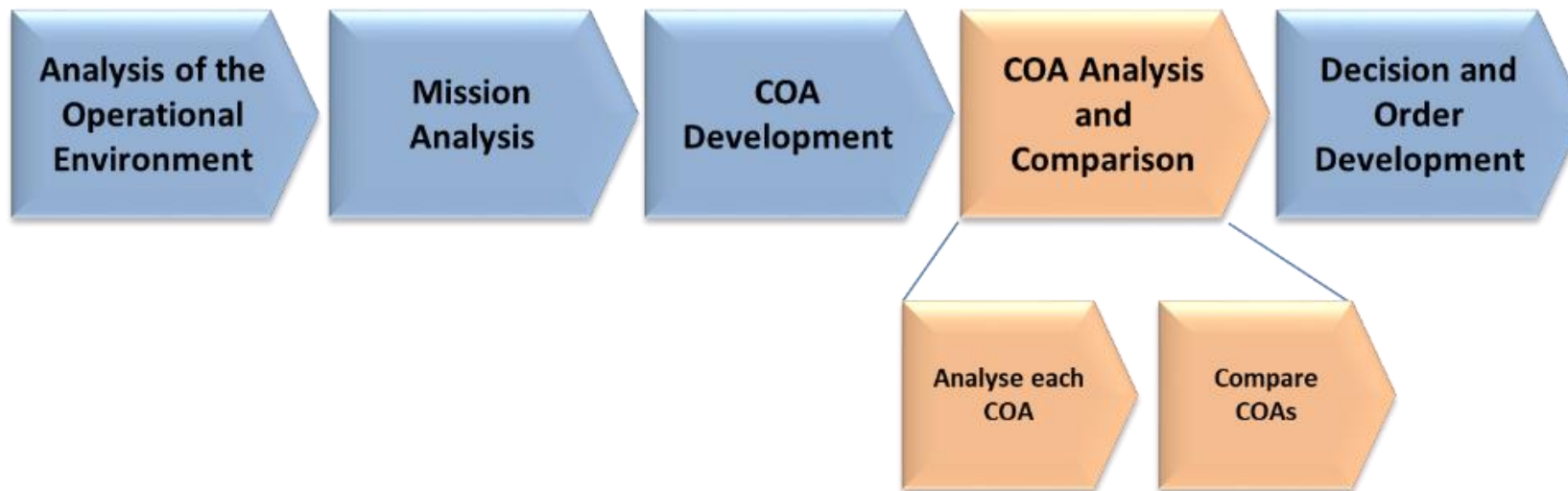


Step 3 – Course of Action Development



Purpose of COA Development: Develop two, or more, feasible COAs, based on the deductions made from the previous planning steps. The COAs must be feasible, acceptable, complete, exclusive and suitable

Step 4 – Course of Action Analysis & Comparison



COA 1	COA 2	COA 3
Advantages: Disadvantages: Risks:	Advantages: Disadvantages: Risks:	Advantages: Disadvantages: Risks:


COA analysis should be summarised graphically

Purpose of COA Analysis & Comparison: To determine the most suitable COA. Therefore, the identified COAs are first analysed individually and then compared against each other using approved methods and criteria

Step 5 – Decision and Order Development



CLASSIFICATION


UNAC

Force HQ
Galasi

xx M+4 20xx

UNITED NATIONS ASSISTANCE MISSION CARANA (UNAC) OPERATIONAL ORDER (OPORD) 01/ 20xx

References:

A. Kalari Peace Agreement dated 19 May 20xx
B. UNSCR 1544

1. SITUATION

a. **General Political and Strategic Situation.** On 19 May 2006, after years of violent conflict in Carana a ceasefire agreement called the Kalari Peace Agreement (KPA), Ref A, was signed between the country's government and the main rebel forces – the Movement Patriotique de Carana (MPC) in the West and the Combattants Indépendants de Sud Carana (CISC) in the South West.

Purpose of Decision and Order Development: To draft and circulate a clearly defined OPORD, reflecting the Commander's Decision and Concept. All orders include: Situation, Commander's Intent, Mission, Execution, Logistics, and Command, Control and Communications Paragraphs

UN Orders & Plans



TITLE	ABBREVIATION	REMARKS
Operation Order	OPORD	To direct subordinate units' activities with the conduct of military operations.
Fragmentary Order	FRAGO	Issued as needed after an operation order to change or modify that order
Warning Order	WARNORD	An executive order that initiates preparation among all concerned units and personnel
Military Coordination Order	MCO	Used to transmit the Force Commander's Directive and Guidance to subordinated HQs
Concept of Operations	CONOPS	Describes how the Military & Police Components of a peacekeeping operation intends to accomplish their identified tasks.
Operational Plan	OPLAN	A comprehensive plan, based on the Mission Concept and Mil CONOPS that details how the MC will implement its tasks.
Contingency Plan	CONPLAN	Used to react to local or mission wide emergency situations.

Other Planning Considerations



- CPOC – POC, CP, CRSV
- LOGS - OPLOG
- GENDER - GFP
- FORCE PROTECTION (FP)
- ENGAGEMENT TEAM (UN-ET)
- UNPK-I & PK-ISR
- ENVIRONMENT

Requirements for Military Planners and Decision-makers



- Follow the process sequentially
- Consider the full scope of determining factors
- Understand the risks associated with the assumptions
- Refrain from shaping their analysis to suit a predetermined course of action

Time Allocation

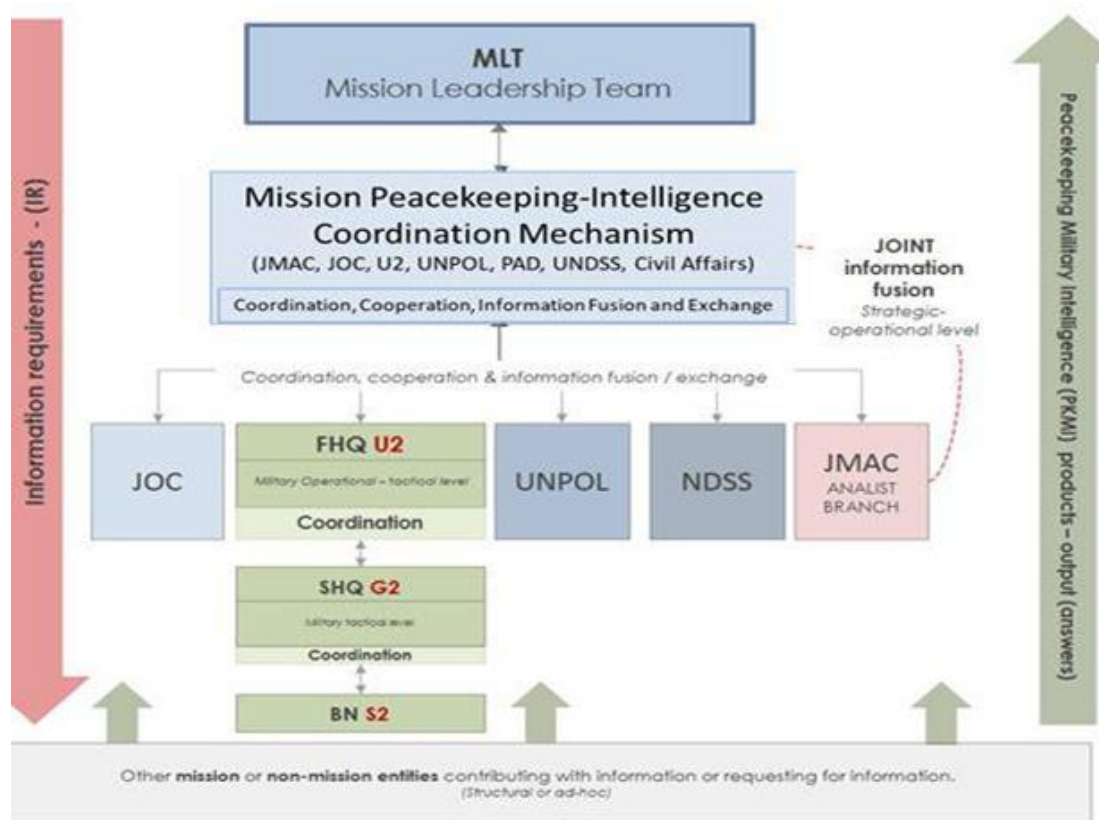


One-third/Two-thirds Rule

A general rule of thumb is to allocate a minimum of two-thirds of the time available for planning and preparation to the sub-units who will conduct the operation



Information Requirements



- Force Information Acquisition Plan
- Make collection plan
- Use risk-managed assumptions

Interactions with Commanders



- The Commander owns and directs the planning process.
- He/she may delegate aspects of the planning to staff
- Use of initiative to analyse commander's intent carefully
- Ask for commander's guidance at regular intervals
- Brief the commander formally (and informally) frequently, or as required

Likely Consequences of Incomplete Planning



- Inefficient use of valuable resources
- Potential loss of life
- Ultimately mission failure

Successful military operations rely on commanders and staff understanding and employing a common and comprehensive process

Summary of Key Messages



- UN MDMP is a comprehensive process that requires planners to consider the full scope of factors before developing a military solution
- Planners must follow the process sequentially
- Understand the risks associated with the assumptions
- Refrain from shaping analysis to suit a predetermined COA
- Throughout the UN MDMP, Warning Orders (WARNORD) are provided to facilitate parallel planning
- The UN MDMP delivers OPOORD, FRAGO, or MCO

Learning Activity



Group discussion

Total Time: 15 mins

Preparation: 7 min

Discussion: 8 min

List the 5 Steps of the UN MDMP and explain the purpose of each Step