



## Learning Activity: Mission-specific Group Discussion

### Instructor Guidance Notes

This learning activity presents simple questions to be responded by participants organized in working groups. It has the main goal of consolidating the main concepts discussed in the three “Introduction to POC” presentations.

The questions are in general direct and simple and want to trigger the discussion on the general understanding of the POC concepts as well as to foster participants to use the Country and Mission Overview document.

For each field mission, instructors should indicate that some questions and connected pictures are to be responded on the grounds of the Country and Mission Overview document.

### DURATION

<b>Part 1</b> <b>Introduction to</b> <b>POC 1</b>	<b>Lecture/Presentation</b>	<b>Questions/Discussion &amp; Session Assessment</b>	
	40 min.	10 min.	
<b>Part 2</b> <b>Introduction to</b> <b>POC 2</b>	<b>Lecture/Presentation</b>	<b>Questions/Discussion &amp; Session Assessment</b>	
	40 min.	10 min.	
<b>Part 3</b> <b>Introduction to</b> <b>POC 3</b>	<b>Lecture/Presentation</b>	<b>Questions/Discussion &amp; Session Assessment</b>	
	40 min.	10 min.	
<b>Part 4</b>	Explanation of the exercise	Group discussion	Group presentations in plenary
<b>Learning Activity</b>	5 min	45 min	50 min

## MONUSCO


### Protected Persons

### Learning Activity - MONUSCO

Based on the MONUSCO picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who are the persons to be protected?
2. List different “categories” of civilians that need protection
3. List and discuss their protection needs
4. Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at tactical level

Protected Persons



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

#### Question # 1: Who are the persons to be protected?

Persons to be protected are basically non-combatant civilians, referred to as ‘protected persons’ in international law who require/need protection from injury and harm during war/conflict. They are vulnerable groups who are likely to be abused during conflict and therefore need to be planned for by protectors. In Congo there are a lot of armed groups. This picture seems to show some of the helpless civilians, particularly women and children who may be at risk and require protection in Congo.

#### Question # 2: List different “categories” of civilians that need protection

Specific categories of civilians that need protection include women who must be protected from sexual abuse, children and the elderly whose special needs must be taken into account, refugees, internally displaced people, those who have gone missing as a result of conflict, particular groups/tribes who are being targeted as a result of conflict. In DR Congo, the people who need protection are found mainly in the east of the country. It shall be expanded with specific examples from different missions (Country and Mission Overview document).

#### Question # 3: List and discuss their protection needs

Protected persons have a wide range of needs. These include protection from physical harm/threat to their lives, threats to physical integrity (including sexual violation), threats to freedom and threat to property (including means of livelihood, public facilities such as schools). They will also require shelter, food, medicine, water, legal support, sanitation needs and

clothing. It shall be expanded with specific examples from different missions (Country and Mission Overview document).

**Question # 4: Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at the tactical level**

If the UN is unable to protect civilians at the tactical level, the local population will lose confidence in the UN and be dissatisfied and disappointed with the organization. This will lead to ill feeling and animosity from local population which will have a rippling effect on key operational matters. Subsequently, information gathering, liaison, key leaders outreach and security (force protection issues) related to base protection, patrolling, observation and other tactical tasks are likely to be negatively affected. In MONUSCO, there have been several instances where the government and local population have blamed the UN force for failing to protect civilians in the face of brutalities and assaults meted out by armed groups. This has led to very negative attitudes to the force at various times and has a compounding effect in the loss of credibility.


**Protection Actors**

## Learning Activity - MONUSCO

Based on the MONUSCO picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who are these protection actors?
2. What other protection actors are part of MONUSCO? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission
3. Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed in #2 above.

Protection Actors



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

**Question # 1: Who is this protection actor?**

- The picture shows MONUSCO police officers and a humanitarian/public affairs officer in DR Congo. UNPOL in DR Congo is comprised of individual police officers and Formed Police Units.

**Question # 2: What other protection actors are part of the mission? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission.**

- Some protection actors that are part of MONUSCO: Mission Military and Police Components, Civilian Components (Human Rights, Political Affairs and Civil Affairs amongst others).
- Other protection actors: The Host State Government, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UNICEF (UN Children’s Fund), NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society Organizations like MSF. OXFAM etc.

**Question # 3: Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed above.**

- The capabilities of the various protection actors are:
  - The Host State Government always has the primary responsibility for protecting civilians within its borders. This protection should emanate from the full range of state security (military, police, and gendarmerie) and judicial structures. Other organizations that have been mandated by the international community to provide supplementary protection in support of host government protection responsibilities include:
    - UN Peacekeepers under POC mandates are authorized by the UN Security Council to support or supplement the protection efforts of host-state institutions in cases where international peace and security is deemed to be at risk.
    - UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) staff work in urban areas, host communities and refugee or IDP sites. They attempt to promote or provide legal and physical protection, and minimize the threat of violence to displaced people. They also seek to provide at least a minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care in the immediate aftermath of any refugee exodus.
    - OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights) is engaged in monitoring human rights situations on the ground and implementing projects, such as technical training and support in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, human rights treaty ratification, and human rights education.
    - ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) is the guardian of International Humanitarian Law. The mission of the ICRC is to “...protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles ...” (ICRC Protection Policy)
    - UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) mobilizes and coordinates humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention, and facilitate sustainable solutions.
    - UNICEF (UN Children’s Fund) engages in Child Protection activities, preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse. They monitor and report on IHL and human rights violations perpetrated against children in conflict.
    - NGOs (non-governmental organizations), INGOs (international non-governmental organizations) and other civil society organizations and many non-state actors are also involved

in the provision of protection related services (humanitarian assistance) the monitoring and reporting of human rights abuses (human rights monitors and advocacy organizations) and the rehabilitation and reform of judicial institutions.

## Protection Risks

### Learning Activity - MONUSCO

The slide is titled "Protection Risks" and features a photograph of a large group of people, including men, women, and children, carrying their belongings and walking through a field. The slide contains the following text:

1. Suppose that there is a risk of attack on these people moving out of a conflict area by an armed group
2. List possible measures to be taken to reduce their vulnerability
3. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat

At the bottom of the slide, there is a small UN logo and the text: "UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians".

Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:

#### Question # 2: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability

- Use Joint Protection Teams to carry out an assessment of the situation, to determine existing or potential threat and to enhance preventive and responsive action for the group when necessary. The CLA will be useful in information/intelligence gathering at this stage.
- This should lead to the preparation of an effective patrol plan to monitor the movement. A system of patrols and checkpoints should be put in place for the protection of the movement. The police should be part of this patrolling effort. Mobile Operating Bases may have to be used for this purpose.
- The basic tasks of the MOBs should be to dominate the given area with patrolling; liaise with local communities and community leaders, and obtain a 'pulse' on the exact security situation in the area. The MOB should conduct day and night patrolling and liaison with village chiefs and local community representatives as well as with any national police and army units within the vicinity.
- Such patrols must be carried out jointly with the FARDC. The patrol may be accompanied by the CLA at all times and make pro-active efforts to talk to local people, and gather information.

- When the group sets up camp or goes into IDP Camps, the police should plan to maintain security in these camps. Military Observers should work with the infantry units to gather information, observe and monitor the area
- MONUSCO Police should work in conjunction to set up joint checkpoints at key areas for the protection of the movement.
- The development of an early warning system also helps reducing vulnerabilities to attacks and should be put in place. MONUSCO peacekeepers (military, police and civilian) should be part of the system, able to observe and communicate on indicators of violence.
- The civilian component, especially the humanitarian component has an important role to play in this scenario. They should make available basic food, water and medicinal needs for the group. This may be difficult to provide in unfriendly terrain. They should make arrangements to provide this both during movement and at stops.

Question # 3: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat

- Reducing threats to the civilian population requires solid plan and sound intelligence. In the case of DR Congo, the country is vast and difficult to dominate especially in remote, forested and inaccessible locations. Threats therefore exist in the form of rebel groups who may violently attack civilians in these remote locations. Sometimes even members of the FARDC have been accused of violence against civilians.
- MONUSCO has had to adopt robust military operations to counter the activities of armed groups on certain occasions. However, in view of the vast AOR and the paucity of resources, operations need to be intelligence driven in order to be effective. The force and units at all levels therefore need to intensify their intelligence gathering activities in order to make the best use of their resources
- Deployment of mobile bases in order to expand military presence or pre-empt attacks or acts of violence against the population are also resources used by military units.
- MONUSCO IP and FPU must intensify their presence among the local population in order to contribute to the information gathering effort.
- Local political engagement by civilian, military and police peacekeepers is vital to prevent the threat of violence to civilians. In DR Congo, the international press has reported several incidents of violence for which questions have been asked of the force. It is therefore important for all components to double their efforts to ensure positive results on the issue.

## Protection Responses

### Learning Activity - MONUSCO

1. What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be this one?
2. Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain
3. Discuss how "intelligence" (information gathering, processing and sharing), "early warning and crisis response" and "expectation management" might be related to the response showed in the picture

*Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians*

#### Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:

#### Question # 1: What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the various photos? What phase of protection response seems to be indicated in the picture?

- There are three tiers of protection. These are:

##### **Tier I - Protection through Political Process**

Support to political processes (including peace negotiations and agreements), support to the development of governance institutions and the extension of state authority which seek to establish a safe, secure environment where human rights are respected. Conflict management and support to reconciliation (can include local-level conflict resolution, as well as national or regional processes that seek to address post conflict issues and restore confidence and community stability.)

##### **Tier II - Protection from physical violence**

Establishing deterrent presence through forward field military and civilian deployments and day and night patrols in vulnerable communities and targeted locations (such as markets or schools). It is also part of this tier taking pro-active actions to reduce the vulnerability of civilians through heightened human rights monitoring, political dialogue, conflict mediation, pressure and engagement with potential aggressors. Other relevant actions to be mentioned are: the establishment of physical defensive positions or cordons, (e.g. around a community or refugee

site) and joint protection teams. As a last resort, responding to violent attacks with all necessary means including, if necessary, the use of force, to protect civilians and stabilize the situation.

**Tier III – Establishing a Protective Environment**

Some examples of measures related to this tier:

- Creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
  - Promotion and protection of human rights
  - Reduction of forcible displacement and creating of conditions suitable for return.
  - Reform to the police, judicial and defense sectors of the host country, as well as DDR.
  - Mine action activities.
- The picture depicts a MONUSCO troops firing live rounds from a support (mortar/artillery) weapon and it is related to Tier II, physical protection.

**The four phases of response are:**

**Phase I – Prevention** (Examples: Patrolling, human rights monitoring, mediation and conflict prevention, key leaders outreach).

**Phase II – Pre-emption** (Examples: Intensify patrolling, military and police presence, interposition operations, political pressure, human rights monitoring).

**Phase III – Response** (Examples: Offensive and defensive operations, mitigation of suffering, evacuation of civilians, human rights and humanitarian assistance).

**Phase IV – Consolidation** (Examples: Mediation between affected communities, human rights investigation, humanitarian assistance, liaison to reestablish ties and readjustment of security).

The picture depicts a Phase III Response – offensive/defensive operations.

**Question # 2: Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain.**

- Physical protection if delivered in isolation is difficult to sustain because an effective strategy for the protection of civilians is based on a three tier structure comprising a political process, protection from physical violence and the creation of a protective environment. These three are linked in such a manner that to provide one without providing the others will not achieve the desired results. A political process is required to get the key parties to a conflict to agree to an end to hostilities and the protection of civilians. Without this overarching framework, there can be no basis for the other two to be effected. Physical protection is derived out of the political process. It derives its legitimacy from that process and is supported by it. The creation of a protective environment runs alongside and takes over after physical protection has ended. It ensures that the gains derived from physical protection are consolidated and prevents a relapse into conflict and violence to civilians. For these reasons, it is difficult to sustain physical protection if it is delivered in isolation.

- Normally physical protection addresses a need which is immediate and requires quick and decisive action to save lives. It does not address causes of the local conflict and it is commonly characterized as a short-term response. A successful physical protection action as a joint response from the Mission and the Government of DRC or conducted by the MONUSCO Military Component in isolation probably will not be sustainable due to the limit logistical capability of military forces. The Military Component needs the presence of other components, particularly mission civilian components (Human rights, Civil Affairs and Political Affairs for



example) and of non-mission partners as UNHCR local representatives to provide food, shelter and water to local population, attacked, displaced or that simply approached UN bases seeking for protection.

**Question # 3: Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture**

Intelligence represents the eyes and ears of any military operation. Intelligence informs us about our enemies/other actors in the theatre of operations, what their strength, disposition, equipment and intentions are. It fashions our response to any perceived situation/threat and without it, we cannot be effective in the protection of civilians or any other venture. Without intelligence, an army operates blindly and does not have a good chance of success.

Early warning and crisis response are closely related to quick and effective responses to threats to or attacks against civilians. An early warning system, like intelligence, alerts the protectors and civilians alike of looming dangers and enables them to respond in good time to such threats. Crisis response is the reaction to an emergency/crisis situation, in this instance, involving danger to civilians. It is closely tied in to intelligence/early warning. Effective intelligence will prevent a response after the incident/abuse of civilians has occurred. Poor early warning will result in the inability to effectively protect civilians.

Expectation management: Any communities in which peacekeepers are deployed expect something from the peacekeepers, basically protection, safety and security. If at any time, this expectation is not met, the community will be disappointed. The UN does not have unlimited resources. Very often, UN troops may be deployed in an area where their resources do permit them to effectively dominate their whole area of responsibility. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the UN, to inform the surrounding community of their capabilities such that the community does not expect them to provide what is beyond this capacity. If the expectation of the community is not thus managed, it will lead to a misconception on the part of the community that the UN force is not doing what they are capable of and result in strained relations with rippling negative effects on the operations of the UN detachment.

## UNMISS


### Protected Persons

### Learning Activity - UNMISS

Based on the UNMISS picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who are the persons to be protected?
2. List different “categories” of civilians that need protection
3. List and discuss their protection needs
4. Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at tactical level

Protected Persons



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

#### Question # 1: Who are the persons to be protected?

Persons to be protected are basically non-combatant civilians, referred to as ‘protected persons’ in international law who require/need protection from injury and harm during war/conflict. They are vulnerable groups who are likely to be abused during conflict and therefore need to be planned for by protectors. The picture shows people in an IDP camp in South Sudan.

#### Question # 2: List different “categories” of civilians that need protection

Specific categories of civilians that need protection include women who must be protected from sexual abuse, children and the elderly whose special needs must be taken into account, refugees, internally displaced people, those who have gone missing as a result of conflict, particular groups/tribes who are being targeted as a result of conflict

#### Question # 3: List and discuss their protection needs

Protected persons have a wide range of needs. These include protection from physical harm/threat to their lives, threats to physical integrity (including sexual violation), threats to freedom and threat to property (including means of livelihood, public facilities such as schools). They will also require shelter, food, medicine, water, legal support, sanitation needs and clothing.

### Question # 4: Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at the tactical level

If the UN is unable to protect civilians at the tactical level, the local population will lose confidence in the UN and be dissatisfied and disappointed with the organization. This will lead to ill feeling and animosity from local population which will have a rippling effect on key operational matters. Subsequently, information gathering, liaison, key leaders outreach and security (force protection issues) related to base protection, patrolling, observation and other tactical tasks are likely to be negatively affected.


## Protection Actors

### Learning Activity - UNMISS

Based on the UNMISS picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who is this protection actor?
2. What other protection actors are part of UNMISS? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission
3. Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed in #2 above.

Protection Actors



UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

### Question # 1: Who is this protection actor?

- The picture shows a UNMISS police officer in South Sudan. UNPOL in South Sudan is comprised of individual police officers who are responsible to provide advice to and train the South Sudan Police Service (SSPS).

### Question # 2: What other protection actors are part of the mission? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission.

- Some protection actors that are part of UNMISS: Mission Military and Police Components, Civilian Components (Human Rights, Political Affairs and Civil Affairs amongst others).

- Other protection actors: The Host State Government, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UNICEF (UN Children's Fund), NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society Organizations like the Church etc.

**Question # 3: Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed above.**

- The capabilities of the various protection actors are:

- The Host State Government always has the primary responsibility for protecting civilians within its borders. This protection should emanate from the full range of state security (military, police, and gendarmerie) and judicial structures. Other organizations that have been mandated by the international community to provide supplementary protection in support of host government protection responsibilities include:
  - UN Peacekeepers under POC mandates are authorized by the UN Security Council to support or supplement the protection efforts of host-state institutions in cases where international peace and security is deemed to be at risk.
  - UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) staff work in urban areas, host communities and refugee or IDP sites. They attempt to promote or provide legal and physical protection, and minimize the threat of violence to displaced people. They also seek to provide at least a minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care in the immediate aftermath of any refugee exodus.
  - OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights) is engaged in monitoring human rights situations on the ground and implementing projects, such as technical training and support in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, human rights treaty ratification, and human rights education.
  - ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) is the guardian of International Humanitarian Law. The mission of the ICRC is to "...protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles ..." (ICRC Protection Policy)
  - UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) mobilizes and coordinates humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention, and facilitate sustainable solutions.
  - UNICEF (UN Children's Fund) engages in Child Protection activities, preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse. They monitor and report on IHL and human rights violations perpetrated against children in conflict.
  - NGOs (non-governmental organizations), INGOs (international non-governmental organizations) and other civil society organizations and many non-state actors are also involved in the provision of protection related services (humanitarian assistance) the monitoring and reporting of human rights abuses (human rights monitors and advocacy organizations) and the rehabilitation and reform of judicial institutions.


## Protection Risks

### Learning Activity - UNMISS

1. The photo shows an attack against civilian population in Pibor, Jonglei State. These attacks are product of inter-tribal fighting

2. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability

3. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat



Inter-ethnic fighting

Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

#### Question # 2: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability

- One of the best ways to reduce vulnerability is to be present and visible. Military units deployed in the area carry out patrolling and observation, interact with the local population and reach out key local leaders, including the Church.
- Military Liaison Officers are tasked to interact and build confidence with the SPLA (Government of South Sudan) who has the primary responsibility of protecting civilians. MLOs should provide sound and timely advice to DPLA on protection matters, especially when there is a need for military deployment to protect communities or establish interposition between different tribes.
- UNMISS IPOs (individual police officers – UNPOL) are also co-located with SSPS to advice and train on police matters. They can play a role in reducing vulnerability by planning and conducting joint patrols with the SSPS in order to be visible and help creating a more safe and security environment.
- The development of an early warning system also helps reducing vulnerabilities to attacks and should ideally be put in place with local communities. UNMISS peacekeepers (military, police and civilian) should be part of the system, able to observe and communicate on indicators of violence. An UNMISS staff member who becomes aware of credible information warning of an impending threat must report it to the State SOC and JOC immediately as a Flash Report. UNCT members are also requested to provide information on impending threats.

- Inter-ethnic fighting in South Sudan is a sad reality and engagement of local key leaders is a decisive action to reduce vulnerabilities of locals. It serves for several purposes: understand what is happening and protection needs; manage expectations; mediate and negotiate with local leaders; gather information etc.

**Question # 3: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat**

- Reducing threats to the civilian population requires solid plan and sound intelligence. In the case of South Sudan threats in the form of rebel groups exist in several States.

- UNMISS has not adopted military operations to neutralise rebel armed groups. Military units has been tasked whenever necessary to exercise a robust posture in patrolling activities and eventually to show force or support SPLA activities directly related to reduce the threats posed by particular groups. On the other hand, despite having huge areas of operation, military units strive to set area domination and be present and visible to local populations as a way to deter threats.

- Deployment of mobile bases in order to expand military presence or pre-empt attacks or acts of violence against the population are also resources used by military units.

- UNMISS police is always requested to provide advice and assist in the SSPS efforts to establish police presence and some degree of control in certain areas.

- Ethnic tensions, competition over resources, land disputes and grabbing, cattle-raiding, and migration, could also lead to serious inter-communal violence which poses threats to the security of civilians. Local political engagement by civilian, military and police peacekeepers is vital to prevent the threat of intercommunity fighting. In South Sudan the Church is a very important actor that actively participates in the political solution of crisis involving inter-ethnic violence.


**Protection Responses**

### Learning Activity - UNMISS

Based on the UNMISS picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be this one?
2. Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain
3. Discuss how "intelligence" (information gathering, processing and sharing), "early warning and crisis response" and "expectation management" might be related to the response showed in the picture

Protection Response



Mobile operating base

Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:**

**Question # 1: What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be indicated in the picture?**

**- There are three tiers of protection. These are:**

**Tier I - Protection through Political Process**

- Support to political processes (including peace negotiations and agreements), support to the development of governance institutions and the extension of state authority which seek to establish a safe, secure environment where human rights are respected. Conflict management and support to reconciliation (can include local-level conflict resolution, as well as national or regional processes that seek to address post conflict issues and restore confidence and community stability.)

**Tier II - Protection from physical violence**

- Establishing deterrent presence through forward field military and civilian deployments and day and night patrols in vulnerable communities and targeted locations (such as markets or schools). It is also part of this tier taking pro-active actions to reduce the vulnerability of civilians through heightened human rights monitoring, political dialogue, conflict mediation, pressure and engagement with potential aggressors. Other relevant actions to be mentioned are: the establishment of physical defensive positions or cordons, (e.g. around a community or refugee site) and joint protection teams. As a last resort, responding to violent attacks with all necessary means including, if necessary, the use of force, to protect civilians and stabilize the situation.

**Tier III – Establishing a Protective Environment**

Some examples of measures related to this tier:

- Creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- Promotion and protection of human rights
- Reduction of forcible displacement and creating of conditions suitable for return.
- Reform to the police, judicial and defense sectors of the host country, as well as DDR.
- Mine action activities.

**The four phases of response are:**

**Phase I – Prevention** (Examples: Patrolling, human rights monitoring, mediation and conflict prevention, key leaders outreach).

**Phase II – Pre-emption** (Examples: Intensify patrolling, military and police presence, interposition operations, political pressure, human rights monitoring).

**Phase III – Response** (Examples: Offensive and defensive operations, mitigation of suffering, evacuation of civilians, human rights and humanitarian assistance).

**Phase IV – Consolidation** (Examples: Mediation between affected communities, human rights investigation, humanitarian assistance, liaison to reestablish ties and readjustment of security).

- All the four phases should be integrated into the military contingent planning process. The existing constraints (mobility, communications, surveillance etc) indicate the essentiality of HUMINT as the main source of intelligence with consequent need to interact with communities, reach out key local leaders and cooperate with other deployed protection actors.

- The picture seems to depict a mobile operating base deployment and it is related to Tier II, physical protection. Photography not always permits precise idea of an event but it could be Phase II (Pre-emption) or Phase III (Response).

**Question # 2: Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain.**

- Physical protection if delivered in isolation is difficult to sustain because an effective strategy for the protection of civilians is based on a three tier structure comprising a political process, protection from physical violence and the creation of a protective environment. These three are linked in such a manner that to provide one without providing the others will not achieve the desired results. A political process is required to get the key parties to a conflict to agree to an end to hostilities and the protection of civilians. Without this overarching framework, there can be no basis for the other two to be effected. Physical protection is derived out of the political process. It derives its legitimacy from that process and is supported by it. The creation of a protective environment runs alongside and takes over after physical protection has ended. It ensures that the gains derived from physical protection are consolidated and prevents a relapse into conflict and violence to civilians. For these reasons, it is difficult to sustain physical protection if it is delivered in isolation.

- Normally physical protection addresses a need which is immediate and requires quick and decisive action to save lives. It does not address causes of the local conflict and it is commonly characterized as a short-term response. A successful physical protection action as a joint response from the Mission and the Government of South Sudan or conducted by the UNMISS Military Component in isolation probably will not be sustainable due to the limit logistical capability of military forces. The Military Component needs the presence of other components, particularly mission civilian components (Human rights, Civil Affairs and Political Affairs for example) and of non-mission partners as UNHCR local representatives to provide food, shelter and water to local population, attacked, displaced or that simply approached UN bases seeking for protection.

**Question # 3: Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture**

Intelligence represents the eyes and ears of any military and police operation. Intelligence informs us about negative forces / spoilers /other actors in the theatre of operations, what their strength, disposition, equipment and intentions are. It fashions our response to any perceived situation/threat and without it, we cannot be effective in the protection of civilians or any other venture. Without intelligence, units and teams of MILOBs or IPOs operate blindly and do not have a good chance of success. In the picture we see a mobile operating base deployed. The idea here is to expand the military presence and cover more ground by deploying temporary forces. The area of operations is huge and this an important measure to be present and know what is happening. In summary the MOB permits the collection and processing of information, interaction with local leaders and population as well as with other mission and non-mission protection actors. Only understanding the operational environment it is possible to plan and conduct successful POC.

Early warning and crisis response are closely related to quick and effective responses to threats to or attacks against civilians. An early warning system, like intelligence, alerts the protectors



and civilians alike of looming dangers and enables them to respond in good time to such threats. Crisis response is the reaction to an emergency/crisis situation, in this instance, involving danger to civilians. It is closely tied in to intelligence/early warning. Effective intelligence will prevent a response after the incident/abuse of civilians has occurred. Poor early warning will result in the inability to effectively protect civilians. The MOB will surely interact with the local early warning system focal points established by the mission (remember that probably its higher military command is already part of it). The MOB's capacity to quick react and respond to POC incidents will be obviously related to the existence of an early warning and crisis response system.

Expectation management: Any communities in which peacekeepers are deployed expect something from the peacekeepers, basically protection, safety and security. If at any time, this expectation is not met, the community will be disappointed. The UN does not have unlimited resources. Very often, UN troops may be deployed in an area where their resources do permit them to effectively dominate their whole area of responsibility. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the UN, to inform the surrounding community of their capabilities such that the community does not expect them to provide what is beyond this capacity. If the expectation of the community is not thus managed, it will lead to a misconception on the part of the community that the UN force is not doing what they are capable of and result in strained relations with rippling negative effects on the operations of the UN detachment. The presence of a new military unit deployed in the area certainly raises expectations amongst the local population. MOB Commander must instruct his/her staff on how to communicate to the local population and key local leaders the force capacity to protect the civilians in the region.

## UNOCI


### Protected Persons

### Learning Activity - UNOCI

Based on the UNOCI picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who are the persons to be protected?
2. List different “categories” of civilians that need protection
3. List and discuss their protection needs
4. Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at tactical level

Protected Persons



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

#### Question # 1: Who are the persons to be protected?

Persons to be protected are basically non-combatant civilians, referred to as ‘protected persons’ in international law who require/need protection from injury and harm during war/conflict. They are vulnerable groups who are likely to be abused during conflict and therefore need to be planned for by protectors. In La Cote d’Ivoire, the population was divided broadly along tribal lines with the groups targeting each other. The picture seems to depict some refugees or displaced persons moving from one place to another. In La Cote d’Ivoire, people had to move frequently from one location to the other to avoid flare ups of violence that was so common at the time. These kinds of people required protection.

#### Question # 2: List different “categories” of civilians that need protection

Specific categories of civilians that need protection include women who must be protected from sexual abuse, children and the elderly whose special needs must be taken into account, refugees, internally displaced people, those who have gone missing as a result of conflict, particular groups/tribes who are being targeted as a result of conflict. In La Cote d’Ivoire, the violence was widespread in both cities and the countryside. Civilians who needed protection included people from tribes other than the tribe of the aggressors, women, children and migrants. It shall be expanded with specific examples from different missions (Country and Mission Overview document).

#### Question # 3: List and discuss their protection needs

Protected persons have a wide range of needs. These include protection from physical harm/threat to their lives, threats to physical integrity (including sexual violation), threats to freedom and threat to property (including means of livelihood, public facilities such as schools). They will also require shelter, food, medicine, water, legal support, sanitation needs and clothing. It shall be expanded with specific examples from different missions (Country and Mission Overview document).

#### Question # 4: Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at the tactical level

If the UN is unable to protect civilians at the tactical level, the local population will lose confidence in the UN and be dissatisfied and disappointed with the organization. This will lead to ill feeling and animosity from local population which will have a rippling effect on key operational matters. Subsequently, information gathering, liaison, key leaders outreach and security (force protection issues) related to base protection, patrolling, observation and other tactical tasks are likely to be negatively affected. In UNOCI, the failure to protect civilians after the elections left many unarmed civilians dead and wounded.


### Protection Actors

## Learning Activity - UNOCI

Based on the UNOCI picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who is this protection actor?
2. What other protection actors are part of UNOCI? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission
3. Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed in #2 above.

Protection Actors



UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

#### Question # 1: Who is this protection actor?

- The picture shows UNOCI police officers (FPU/UNPOL). UNPOL in Cote d'Ivoire is comprised of individual police officers and Formed Police Units.

#### Question # 2: What other protection actors are part of the mission? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission.

- Some protection actors that are part of MONUSCO: Mission Military and Police Components, Civilian Components (Human Rights, Political Affairs and Civil Affairs amongst others).
- Other protection actors: The Host State Government, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UNICEF (UN Children's Fund), NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society Organizations like MSF. OXFAM etc.

### Question # 3: Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed above.


- The capabilities of the various protection actors are:
  - The Host State Government always has the primary responsibility for protecting civilians within its borders. This protection should emanate from the full range of state security (military, police, and gendarmerie) and judicial structures. Other organizations that have been mandated by the international community to provide supplementary protection in support of host government protection responsibilities include:
    - UN Peacekeepers under POC mandates are authorized by the UN Security Council to support or supplement the protection efforts of host-state institutions in cases where international peace and security is deemed to be at risk.
    - UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) staff work in urban areas, host communities and refugee or IDP sites. They attempt to promote or provide legal and physical protection, and minimize the threat of violence to displaced people. They also seek to provide at least a minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care in the immediate aftermath of any refugee exodus.
    - OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights) is engaged in monitoring human rights situations on the ground and implementing projects, such as technical training and support in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, human rights treaty ratification, and human rights education.
    - ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) is the guardian of International Humanitarian Law. The mission of the ICRC is to "...protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles ..." (ICRC Protection Policy)
    - UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) mobilizes and coordinates humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention, and facilitate sustainable solutions.
    - UNICEF (UN Children's Fund) engages in Child Protection activities, preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse. They monitor and report on IHL and human rights violations perpetrated against children in conflict.
    - NGOs (non-governmental organizations), INGOs (international non-governmental organizations) and other civil society organizations and many non-state actors are also involved

in the provision of protection related services (humanitarian assistance) the monitoring and reporting of human rights abuses (human rights monitors and advocacy organizations) and the rehabilitation and reform of judicial institutions.


## Protection Risks

**Learning Activity - UNOCI**

1. The photo shows fighting in Abidjan which caused harm on the civilian population
2. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability
3. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat



Attacks against civilians



UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

### Question # 2: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability

- The military and police must work closely with humanitarian agencies, particularly in relation to areas of tensions and of return of displaced persons, to collect information on and identify potential threats against the civilian population
- Identify the potential threats to civilians with particular reference in UNOCI to:
  - Intercommunal and intra-communal violence
  - Violence by national state security and defence forces, affiliated entities and non-state armed groups
  - Criminal violence by armed groups that pose a public security threat
  - Politically motivated violence
- Gather reliable information on violations of international humanitarian and human rights law; bring them to the attention of the Ivorian authorities and relevant international organisations as appropriate
- Monitor and report on violations and abuses against vulnerable populations, particularly children in line with resolution 1612 (2005), 1882 (2009) and 1998 (2011) and contribute to efforts to prevent such violations and abuses

### Question # 3: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat

- The Implementation Matrix to reduce the possibility of violence against civilians is based on four phases of action: preparing for risk in day-to-day activities, responding to heightened risk through pre-emptive measures, responding to actual threats of physical violence, and stabilizing the situation after a crisis has occurred. In each phase the civilian, police and military components of the mission must have a clear understanding of how they should act to implement the POC mandate. A central part of the strategy rests on establishing effective coordination structures with both national and international actors to ensure the regular and timely exchange of information and analysis to ensure that there is effective preventive action and rapid response.

- Determine whether or not hostile intent is intended and act pre-emptively to reduce threats. This determination must be done by the on-scene commander based on his or her professional judgement on the basis of one or a combination of the following factors:

- the capability and preparedness of the threat;
- the available evidence which indicates an intention to attack; and
- historical precedents within the Mission’s Area of Responsibility (AOR), depicting patterns of behaviour exhibited by parties to the conflict which may require the application of a worst case scenario.

## Protection Responses

### Learning Activity - UNOCI


Based on the UNOCI picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be this one?

2. Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain

3. Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture

Protection Response



Offensive operations

Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:**

**Question # 1: What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the picture? What phase of protection response seems to be indicated in the picture?**

- There are three tiers of protection. These are:

**Tier I - Protection through Political Process**

Support to political processes (including peace negotiations and agreements), support to the development of governance institutions and the extension of state authority which seeks to establish a safe, secure environment where human rights are respected. Conflict management and support to reconciliation (can include local-level conflict resolution, as well as national or regional processes that seek to address post conflict issues and restore confidence and community stability.)

**Tier II - Protection from physical violence**

Establishing deterrent presence through forward field military and civilian deployments and day and night patrols in vulnerable communities and targeted locations (such as markets or schools). It is also part of this tier taking pro-active actions to reduce the vulnerability of civilians through heightened human rights monitoring, political dialogue, conflict mediation, pressure and engagement with potential aggressors. Other relevant actions to be mentioned are: the establishment of physical defensive positions or cordons, (e.g. around a community or refugee site) and joint protection teams. As a last resort, responding to violent attacks with all necessary means including, if necessary, the use of force, to protect civilians and stabilize the situation.

**Tier III – Establishing a Protective Environment**

Some examples of measures related to this tier:

- Creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
  - Promotion and protection of human rights
  - Reduction of forcible displacement and creating of conditions suitable for return.
  - Reform to the police, judicial and defense sectors of the host country, as well as DDR.
  - Mine action activities.
- The picture depicts a UNOCI troops deploying for offensive operations in support of the mandate. Such action is related to Tier II, physical protection.

**The four phases of response are:**

**Phase I – Prevention** (Examples: Patrolling, human rights monitoring, mediation and conflict prevention, key leaders outreach).

**Phase II – Pre-emption** (Examples: Intensify patrolling, military and police presence, interposition operations, political pressure, human rights monitoring).

**Phase III – Response** (Examples: Offensive and defensive operations, mitigation of suffering, evacuation of civilians, human rights and humanitarian assistance).

**Phase IV – Consolidation** (Examples: Mediation between affected communities, human rights investigation, humanitarian assistance, liaison to reestablish ties and readjustment of security).

The picture depicts a Phase III Response – offensive operations.

**Question # 2: Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain.**

- Physical protection if delivered in isolation is difficult to sustain because an effective strategy for the protection of civilians is based on a three tier structure comprising a political process, protection from physical violence and the creation of a protective environment. These three are linked in such a manner that to provide one without providing the others will not achieve the desired results. A political process is required to get the key parties to a conflict to agree to an end to hostilities and the protection of civilians. Without this overarching framework, there can

be no basis for the other two to be effected. Physical protection is derived out of the political process. It derives its legitimacy from that process and is supported by it. The creation of a protective environment runs alongside and takes over after physical protection has ended. It ensures that the gains derived from physical protection are consolidated and prevents a relapse into conflict and violence to civilians. For these reasons, it is difficult to sustain physical protection if it is delivered in isolation.

- Normally physical protection addresses a need which is immediate and requires quick and decisive action to save lives. It does not address causes of the local conflict and it is commonly characterized as a short-term response. A successful physical protection action as a joint response from the Mission and the Government of South Sudan or conducted by the UNMISS Military Component in isolation probably will not be sustainable due to the limit logistical capability of military forces. The Military Component needs the presence of other components, particularly mission civilian components (Human rights, Civil Affairs and Political Affairs for example) and of non-mission partners as UNHCR local representatives to provide food, shelter and water to local population, attacked, displaced or that simply approached UN bases seeking for protection.

**Question # 3: Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture**

Intelligence represents the eyes and ears of any military operation. Intelligence informs us about our enemies/other actors in the theatre of operations, what their strength, disposition, equipment and intentions are. It fashions our response to any perceived situation/threat and without it, we cannot be effective in the protection of civilians or any other venture. Without intelligence, an army operates blindly and does not have a good chance of success.

Early warning and crisis response are closely related to quick and effective responses to threats to or attacks against civilians. An early warning system, like intelligence, alerts the protectors and civilians alike of looming dangers and enables them to respond in good time to such threats. Crisis response is the reaction to an emergency/crisis situation, in this instance, involving danger to civilians. It is closely tied in to intelligence/early warning. Effective intelligence will prevent a response after the incident/abuse of civilians has occurred. Poor early warning will result in the inability to effectively protect civilians.

Expectation management: Any communities in which peacekeepers are deployed expect something from the peacekeepers, basically protection, safety and security. If at any time, this expectation is not met, the community will be disappointed. The UN does not have unlimited resources. Very often, UN troops may be deployed in an area where their resources do permit them to effectively dominate their whole area of responsibility. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the UN, to inform the surrounding community of their capabilities such that the community does not expect them to provide what is beyond this capacity. If the expectation of the community is not thus managed, it will lead to a misconception on the part of the community that the UN force is not doing what they are capable of and result in strained relations with rippling negative effects on the operations of the UN detachment.



## UNAMID


### Protected Persons

### Learning Activity - UNAMID

Based on the UNAMID picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who are the persons to be protected?
2. List different “categories” of civilians that need protection
3. List and discuss their protection needs
4. Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at tactical level

Protected Persons



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

### **Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:**

#### **Question # 1: Who are the persons to be protected?**

Persons to be protected are basically non-combatant civilians, referred to as ‘protected persons’ in international law who require/need protection from injury and harm during war/conflict. They are vulnerable groups who are likely to be abused during conflict and therefore need to be planned for by protectors. The picture shows women and children walking to a village in Darfur.

#### **Question # 2: List different “categories” of civilians that need protection**

Specific categories of civilians that need protection include women who must be protected from sexual abuse, children and the elderly whose special needs must be taken into account, refugees, internally displaced people, those who have gone missing as a result of conflict, particular groups/tribes who are being targeted as a result of conflict.

#### **Question # 3: List and discuss their protection needs**

Protected persons have a wide range of needs. These include protection from physical harm/threat to their lives, threats to physical integrity (including sexual violation), threats to freedom and threat to property (including means of livelihood, public facilities such as schools). They will also require shelter, food, medicine, water, legal support, sanitation needs and clothing.

### Question # 4: Mention two consequences of the failure to protect civilians at the tactical level

If the UN is unable to protect civilians at the tactical level, the local population will lose confidence in the UN and be dissatisfied and disappointed with the organization. This will lead to ill feeling and animosity from local population which will have a rippling effect on key operational matters. Subsequently, information gathering, liaison, key leaders outreach and security (force protection issues) related to base protection, patrolling, observation and other tactical tasks are likely to be negatively affected.


## Protection Actors

### Learning Activity - UNAMID

Based on the UNAMID picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. Who is this protection actor?
2. What other protection actors are part of UNAMID? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission
3. Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed in #2 above.

Protection Actors



UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed in the plenary session after deliberation by the working groups:**

### Question # 1: Who is this protection actor?

- The picture shows UNAMID military, police and civilian peacekeepers. They represent the Military, Police and Civilian Components, including Human Rights, Political Affairs, Civil Affairs and others.

### Question # 2: What other protection actors are part of the mission? List protection actors that are not part of the Mission.

- Some protection actors that are part of UNAMID: Mission Military and Police Components, Civilian Components (Human Rights, Political Affairs, Humanitarian Liaison, Gender Office and Civil Affairs amongst others).
- Other protection actors: The Host State Government, the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the UN Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), the UNICEF (UN Children's Fund), NGOs, INGOs, Civil Society Organizations like the Church etc.

**Question # 3: Mention the capabilities / roles of the protection actors listed above.**


- The capabilities of the various protection actors are:

- The Host State Government always has the primary responsibility for protecting civilians within its borders. This protection should emanate from the full range of state security (military, police, and gendarmerie) and judicial structures. Other organizations that have been mandated by the international community to provide supplementary protection in support of host government protection responsibilities include:
  - UN Peacekeepers under POC mandates are authorized by the UN Security Council to support or supplement the protection efforts of host-state institutions in cases where international peace and security is deemed to be at risk.
  - UNHCR (UN High Commissioner for Refugees) staff work in urban areas, host communities and refugee or IDP sites. They attempt to promote or provide legal and physical protection, and minimize the threat of violence to displaced people. They also seek to provide at least a minimum of shelter, food, water and medical care in the immediate aftermath of any refugee exodus.
  - OHCHR (Office for the High Commissioner for Human Rights) is engaged in monitoring human rights situations on the ground and implementing projects, such as technical training and support in the areas of administration of justice, legislative reform, human rights treaty ratification, and human rights education.
  - ICRC (International Committee of the Red Cross) is the guardian of International Humanitarian Law. The mission of the ICRC is to "...protect the lives and dignity of victims of armed conflict and other situations of violence and to provide them with assistance. The ICRC also endeavors to prevent suffering by promoting and strengthening humanitarian law and universal humanitarian principles ..." (ICRC Protection Policy)
  - UNOCHA (UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs) mobilizes and coordinates humanitarian action in partnership with national and international actors in order to alleviate human suffering in disasters and emergencies, advocate for the rights of people in need, promote preparedness and prevention, and facilitate sustainable solutions.
  - UNICEF (UN Children's Fund) engages in Child Protection activities, preventing and responding to violence, exploitation and abuse. They monitor and report on IHL and human rights violations perpetrated against children in conflict.
  - NGOs (non-governmental organizations), INGOs (international non-governmental organizations) and other civil society organizations and many non-state actors are also involved in the provision of protection related services (humanitarian assistance) the monitoring and reporting of human rights abuses (human rights monitors and advocacy organizations) and the rehabilitation and reform of judicial institutions.

## Protection Risks

### Learning Activity - UNAMID

1. The photo depicts locals fetching water at a water point. They may be object of attack by armed groups.
2. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability
3. List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat



UN DPKO - Tactical Level Mission-Specific Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

### Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:

#### Question # 2: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the local population vulnerability

- Water is a scarce resource in Darfur and it might generate violence and disputes besides presenting an eventual opportunity to have people gathered and perpetrate violence. Surveillance and protection of water points might be an adequate measure to be taken to reduce the risk of violence against civilians. Escorting of women who are going to fetch water outside IDP camps may be also the right move for military units to protect civilians.
- One of the best ways to reduce vulnerability is to be present and visible. Military units deployed in the area carry out patrolling and observation, interact with the local population and reach out key local leaders.
- Addressing the challenges of protection against physical violence requires enhanced military presence at areas where civilians are most at risk of violence. This includes a permanent presence by both the military and Formed Police Units (FPUs) at IDP camps, and increased and extensive patrolling on main axes and known risk areas.
- In addition, targeted patrols for specific activities such as firewood collection, market activities, and grass cutting are required for immediate-term protection and an effective way to reduce the vulnerability of locals. A key factor, however, is deterrence, which is achieved through developing close community relationships that provide early warning, by maintaining a robust posture, and using proportional force when required, in accordance with the Mission's mandate.

- Sector Joint Protection Groups comprised of civil affairs, humanitarian affairs, human rights, child protection, military, police, and other officers, as needed, are being established at the Sector-level to carry out fact-finding missions to assess and report on protection risks, challenges. The mission representatives at tactical level need to understand the environment and to be capable to assess risks and reduce vulnerabilities.

**Question # 3: List possible measures to be taken to reduce the threat**

- UNAMID is confronted with numerous logistical and security constraints as it must operate in unforgiving terrain and in a complex and often hostile political environment. The Mission also faces shortfalls in critical transport, equipment, infrastructure and aviation assets.

- The Military component carries out long-range patrols and establishes, when necessary Temporary Forward Operating Bases (TFOBs), to show force and deter targeted attacks against civilians. Deployment of mobile bases in order to expand military presence or pre-empt attacks or acts of violence against the population are also resources used by military units. These actions are extremely important to mitigate the risks of violence, particularly sexual violence.

- UNAMID has not adopted full military operations to neutralise rebel armed groups. Military units has been tasked whenever necessary to exercise a robust posture in patrolling activities and eventually to show to reduce the threats posed by particular armed groups. On the other hand, despite having huge areas of operation, military units strive to set area domination and be present and visible to local populations as a way to deter threats.

- UNAMID Police Component is mandated to build the capacity of national police but also to improve security, especially by patrolling IDP camps and establishing community policing. FPU are tasked to conduct protection activities inside IDP camps while military units are in charge of external security. Cooperation with humanitarian partners has been enhanced and joint long range patrols are conducted with military, police and humanitarian representatives. These measures produce a calming effect and help reducing the vulnerability of local population in Darfur.


**Protection Responses**

**Learning Activity - UNAMID**

Based on the UNAMID picture and the topics previously discussed in the Introduction to POC presentations:

1. What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be this one?
2. Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain
3. Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture

**Protection Response**



Scenario-based Exercises on Protection of Civilians

**Ideas to be discussed after deliberation by the working groups:**

**Question # 1: What protection tier is related to the response depicted in the photo? What phase of protection response seems to be indicated in the picture?**

**- There are three tiers of protection. These are:**

**Tier I - Protection through Political Process**

- Support to political processes (including peace negotiations and agreements), support to the development of governance institutions and the extension of state authority which seek to establish a safe, secure environment where human rights are respected. Conflict management and support to reconciliation (can include local-level conflict resolution, as well as national or regional processes that seek to address post conflict issues and restore confidence and community stability.)

**Tier II - Protection from physical violence**

- Establishing deterrent presence through forward field military and civilian deployments and day and night patrols in vulnerable communities and targeted locations (such as markets or schools). It is also part of this tier taking pro-active actions to reduce the vulnerability of civilians through heightened human rights monitoring, political dialogue, conflict mediation, pressure and engagement with potential aggressors. Other relevant actions to be mentioned are: the establishment of physical defensive positions or cordons, (e.g. around a community or refugee site) and joint protection teams. As a last resort, responding to violent attacks with all necessary means including, if necessary, the use of force, to protect civilians and stabilize the situation.

**Tier III – Establishing a Protective Environment**

Some examples of measures related to this tier:

- Creating conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance.
- Promotion and protection of human rights
- Reduction of forcible displacement and creating of conditions suitable for return.
- Reform to the police, judicial and defense sectors of the host country, as well as DDR.
- Mine action activities.

**The four phases of response are:**

**Phase I – Prevention** (Examples: Patrolling, human rights monitoring, mediation and conflict prevention, key leaders outreach).

**Phase II – Pre-emption** (Examples: Intensify patrolling, military and police presence, interposition operations, political pressure, human rights monitoring).

**Phase III – Response** (Examples: Offensive and defensive operations, mitigation of suffering, evacuation of civilians, human rights and humanitarian assistance).

**Phase IV – Consolidation** (Examples: Mediation between affected communities, human rights investigation, humanitarian assistance, liaison to reestablish ties and readjustment of security).

- All the four phases should be integrated into the military contingent planning process. The existing constraints (mobility, communications, surveillance etc) indicate the essentiality of HUMINT as the main source of intelligence with consequent need to interact with communities, reach out key local leaders and cooperate with other deployed protection actors.

- The picture seems to depict a patrol escorting vulnerable civilians in Darfur. Photography not always permits precise idea of an event but it could be Phase I (Prevention), Phase II (Pre-emption) or Phase III (Response). It would be always desirable that peacekeepers could prioritize phases I and II but it heavily depends on sound intelligence so units can anticipate and prevent or pre-empt the threat.

**Question # 2: Explain why physical protection, if delivered in isolation, is difficult to sustain.**

- Physical protection if delivered in isolation is difficult to sustain because an effective strategy for the protection of civilians is based on a three tier structure comprising a political process, protection from physical violence and the creation of a protective environment. These three are linked in such a manner that to provide one without providing the others will not achieve the desired results. A political process is required to get the key parties to a conflict to agree to an end to hostilities and the protection of civilians. Without this overarching framework, there can be no basis for the other two to be effected. Physical protection is derived out of the political process. It derives its legitimacy from that process and is supported by it. The creation of a protective environment runs alongside and takes over after physical protection has ended. It ensures that the gains derived from physical protection are consolidated and prevents a relapse into conflict and violence to civilians. For these reasons, it is difficult to sustain physical protection if it is delivered in isolation.

- Normally physical protection addresses a need which is immediate and requires quick and decisive action to save lives. It does not address causes of the local conflict and it is commonly characterized as a short-term response. A successful physical protection action as a joint response from the Mission and the Government of South Sudan or conducted by the UNMISS Military Component in isolation probably will not be sustainable due to the limit logistical capability of military forces. The Military Component needs the presence of other components, particularly mission civilian components (Human rights, Civil Affairs and Political Affairs for example) and of non-mission partners as UNHCR local representatives to provide food, shelter and water to local population, attacked, displaced or that simply approached UN bases seeking for protection.

**Question # 3: Discuss how “intelligence” (information gathering, processing and sharing), “early warning and crisis response” and “expectation management” might be related to the response showed in the picture**

Intelligence represents the eyes and ears of any military and police operation. Intelligence informs us about negative forces / spoilers /other actors in the theatre of operations, what their strength, disposition, equipment and intentions are. It fashions our response to any perceived situation/threat and without it, we cannot be effective in the protection of civilians or any other venture. Without intelligence, units and teams of MILOBs or IPOs operate blindly and do not have a good chance of success. In the picture escorting locals requires an amount of information on the people moving, itinerary, objectives, vulnerability and threat assessment (capacity intention and opportunity) amongst other relevant data, that must analyzed to produce intelligence to plan for the escort and carry out the task.

Early warning and crisis response are closely related to quick and effective responses to threats to or attacks against civilians. An early warning system, like intelligence, alerts the protectors and civilians alike of looming dangers and enables them to respond in good time to such threats. Crisis response is the reaction to an emergency/crisis situation, in this instance, involving danger to civilians. It is closely tied in to intelligence/early warning. Effective intelligence will prevent a response after the incident/abuse of civilians has occurred. Poor early warning will result in the inability to effectively protect civilians. In the case of the picture a good early warning system would be of great value for the escort to be prepare to adequately respond to an attack against the protected locals.

Expectation management: Any communities in which peacekeepers are deployed expect something from the peacekeepers, basically protection, safety and security. If at any time, this expectation is not met, the community will be disappointed. The UN does not have unlimited resources. Very often, UN troops may be deployed in an area where their resources do permit them to effectively dominate their whole area of responsibility. In such circumstances, it is the duty of the UN, to inform the surrounding community of their capabilities such that the community does not expect them to provide what is beyond this capacity. If the expectation of the community is not thus managed, it will lead to a misconception on the part of the community that the UN force is not doing what they are capable of and result in strained relations with rippling negative effects on the operations of the UN detachment. Concerning the picture and the escort being carried out to protect the movement of civilians, it is necessary to clarify what the protection capabilities are to be offered by the military to the local leaders and to the protected persons, including before and after the fulfillment of the task when the locals might be alone at their destiny.