

BANGLADESH

REIMBURSEMENT FOR TCC ROTATION

1. ISSUE PAPER THEME: Self-Sustainment

2. SUMMARY

According to generic guidelines for troops contributing countries deploying military units to the United Nations peacekeeping missions, contingents will be entitled to rotate a maximum of once every six months at UN expense following the date of transition or initial deployment (twice in a month of period). But Bangladesh rotates its troops in every 12 months. Thus, saving time and effort of UN to rotate the troops. Incentive can be given for the troops who remain in mission area for one year instead of six months.

3. BACKGROUND

Due to high travel cost most of the contingent members do not avail annual leave during the period of one year TOD. Presently only 4% to 5% members voluntarily avail annual leave at their own expense, which costs almost 10-12% (ranges from \$1500 - \$2000) of total reimbursement received by an individual. The burden of costly airfare discourages an individual for availing annual leave that causes stress on the moral as well. Following the guidelines of the Secretary General TCCs/PCCs are maintaining 'zero case' on SEA. An individual may get involved into immoral activities if continues working for long one year at stretch in the mission area. Therefore contingent members are encouraged to avail annual leave to avoid fall prey to vices as mentioned above.

It has been observed that troops undergo tremendous mental strain due to one year stay away from homeland. This may cause mental deprivation, mental stress, morale idleness and occasionally leads to unwanted incident or misconduct affecting the reputation of UN and TCC/PCC as a whole. Besides, an individual may experience psychological disorder if he or she remains away from family for long time. Therefore, annual leave is a requirement for every individual to be able to discharge peacekeeping output as expected by UN.

4. DETAILED PROPOSAL

The Working Group may include the proposed issue into COE manual (preferably at Chapter 4 under Deployment and Redeployment of Personnel) with either of the following options:

- a. Option 1. UN may handover one-way air ticket or equivalent airfare to every individual once for the whole one year TOD to encourage avail annual leave.

b. Option 2. UN may reimburse TCC/PCC the equivalent cost of one way air ticket per individual once for whole one year TOD. TCC/PCC will be responsible to arrange leave flight or pay the cost/fare to individual.

c. Option 3. If TCC/PCC can provide own air transportation, UN may bear the fuel and maintenance cost of air transportation to and from mission area as necessary to complete annual leave for 100% contingent members.