ENSURING DIGNITY AND HYGIENE IN ABLUTION FACILITIES

Sub-Working Group on Self-Sustainment

LIST OF ISSUE PAPERS

(SS) IP Gender-responsive improvements to the COE manual #3

FOCAL POINTS

Canada, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Finland, Germany, Mongolia, New Zealand, Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, UK

SUMMARY OF PROPOSAL

Increasing the meaningful participation and number of uniformed women deployed to UN peace operations has been a stated priority of the United Nations since 2000, with UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) and subsequent Resolutions 2242 (2015), 2439 (2018), 2538 (2020). This is also a shared goal of Action for Peacekeeping + (2021), the Secretary-General’s System-Wide Gender Parity Strategy (2017) and the Department of Peace Operations’ Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy (2019), the latter of which includes recommendations and targets to create more enabling environments within peacekeeping missions. These foundational documents recognize that a crucial component of achieving gender parity and improved representation in peacekeeping requires that mission contexts are responsive and adaptable to the safety and inclusion of women personnel. This effort requires interventions by Member States, peacekeeping missions, and the UN system over cross-cutting issues. Member States have a valuable opportunity to ensure that the Contingent Owned Equipment (COE) Manual better reflects the needs of women personnel in peacekeeping units who, according to the Uniformed Gender Parity Strategy targets, should make up 25% of Staff Officers / Military Observers, 15% of Contingent Troops, 20% of Formed Police Units, and 30% of Individual Police Officers by 2028.
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<td>39</td>
<td>(d) The scale of ablution facilities provided is to be in accordance with the scales adopted by the United Nations for the deployment of officers and troops in missions. The ablution facilities should complement the type of accommodation facility being employed and meet the requirements of long-term facilities as defined in paragraph 20 of chapter 3, annex A, have hot and cold running water for the showers and basins as per the water scale defined by the mission or by the United Nations, have adequate plumbing fixtures and fittings to maintain standards of hygiene including proper disposal of menstrual products and have an appropriate and environmentally friendly drainage system that meets field mission wastewater standards. The ablution facilities provided are to account for adequate gender separation and privacy for personnel.</td>
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