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COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW OF THE WHOLE QUESTION OF PEACE-KEEPING  
OPERATIONS IN ALL THEIR ASPECTS

Report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations

Rapporteur: Mr. Saad Ahmed ALFARARGI (Egypt)

1. At its twenty-ninth session, the General Assembly, following consideration of the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, adopted resolution 3239 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, which reads as follows:

"The General Assembly,

"Recalling its resolutions 2006 (XIX) of 18 February 1965, 2053 A (XX) of 15 December 1965, 2249 (S-V) of 23 May 1967, 2308 (XXII) of 13 December 1967, 2451 (XXIII) of 19 December 1968, 2670 (XXV) of 8 December 1970, 2835 (XXVI) of 17 December 1971, 2965 (XXVII) of 13 December 1972 and 3091 (XXVIII) of 7 December 1973,

"Having received and examined the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, 1/

"Conscious that there is a need for agreed guidelines which would govern United Nations peace-keeping operations and strengthen the capability of the United Nations to respond to future peace-keeping needs in an effective and economical manner,

"Noting the working document submitted to the Special Committee by its Working Group setting out a number of alternative or complementary draft articles of guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations, 2/

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 39, document A/9827.

2/ Ibid., annex, appendix.

"Noting also that, although the draft articles are subject to further consideration, their preparation represents progress in the difficult task of achieving agreed guidelines on United Nations peace-keeping operations,

"1. Takes note of the report of the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations, in particular paragraph 6 thereof;

"2. Requests the Special Committee and its Working Group to renew efforts towards the completion of agreed guidelines for carrying out peace-keeping operations in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations for submission to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session;

"3. Requests the Special Committee to report to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session."

2. Following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 3239 (XXIX), the Special Committee held two meetings (14 March and 17 November 1975). The Working Group of the Special Committee held 15 meetings (26 March; 2, 11, 18, 28 April; 22, 29 May; 11, 27 June; 8, 16, 25, 31 July; 11 September and 31 October 1975).

3. At the Committee's 65th meeting on 14 March 1975, the Special Committee, having taken note of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3239 (XXIX) (see para. 1 above), agreed to authorize the Working Group to renew its efforts towards the completion of agreed guidelines for carrying out peace-keeping operations in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, so that the Special Committee would be able to submit them to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.

4. At the same meeting, the Special Committee re-elected its officers for a further term of one year.

5. At its 66th meeting, on 17 November, the Special Committee had before it the ninth report of the Working Group (A/AC.121/L.25), which is annexed to the present report. It considered the report and took note of it.

6. The Special Committee shares the deep regret of its Working Group that, in spite of the definite progress evident from its report of last year 3/ and its efforts this year, the Working Group has not found it possible to make further progress in the completion of agreed guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. The Special Committee agrees with its Working Group that the task of achieving such agreed guidelines is a difficult one, since the issues with which it is faced are of a fundamental nature. The Special Committee believes that this has given rise to certain important differences between some members of the Working Group concerning the basic political and institutional problems which need further substantive negotiations.

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3/ Ibid., annex.

7. Accordingly, the Special Committee shares the opinion of its Working Group that more time and greater accommodation are required to overcome existing differences and to reach agreement on guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations, so that the Special Committee will be able to submit these guidelines to the General Assembly in fulfilment of its mandate. Efforts towards this end should be continued, having due regard to circumstances likely to lead to further progress. Furthermore, the Special Committee feels that the Working Group should also devote its attention to the consideration of specific questions related to practical implementation of peace-keeping operations.

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ANNEX

Ninth report of the Working Group\*

Rapporteur: Mr. Saad Ahmed ALFARARGI (Egypt)

1. At its 65th meeting held on 14 March 1975, the Special Committee on Peace-keeping Operations agreed to authorize its Working Group, under the terms of paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 3239 (XXIX) of 29 November 1974, to renew its efforts towards the completion of agreed guidelines for carrying out peace-keeping operations in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations, so that the Special Committee would be able to submit them to the General Assembly at its thirtieth session.
2. During the period between 26 March and 31 October 1975, the Working Group held 15 meetings: on 26 March; 2, 11, 18 and 28 April; 22 and 29 May; 11 and 27 June; 8, 16, 25 and 31 July; 11 September and 31 October 1975. The meetings of the Working Group were held under the chairmanship of the Chairman of the Special Committee and the four Vice-Chairmen serving in rotation. The meetings were also attended by representatives of some other members of the Special Committee, which are not members of the Working Group.
3. As a starting point for its work on the implementation of the mandate of the Special Committee, the Working Group used working document No. 2 entitled "Draft formulas put forward during the consideration in the Working Group of the question of guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations", which is contained in the eighth report of the Working Group. a/
4. In the course of its deliberations, the Working Group gave thorough consideration to the subject-matter which is set forth in the introduction and in articles 1 through 6 of the above-mentioned working document No. 2. Extensive discussions also took place with respect to a number of concrete proposals which were put forward in the Working Group for the purpose of reaching agreement on guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations.
5. While in a few instances the Working Group succeeded in preparing tentative formulas for the final text of agreed guidelines, in many instances the discussions did not result in reducing the number of alternatives or agreeing on single formulas acceptable to all the members of the Working Group.

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\* Previously issued under the symbol A/AC.121/L.25.

a/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Twenty-ninth Session, Annexes, agenda item 39, document A/9827, annex, appendix.

6. The Working Group deeply regrets that, in spite of the definite progress evident from its eighth report and its efforts this year, it has not been possible to make further progress in the completion of agreed guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations in conformity with the Charter of the United Nations. The Working Group realizes, however, that the task of achieving such agreed guidelines is a difficult one, since the issues with which it is faced are of a fundamental nature. This has given rise to certain important differences between some members of the Working Group concerning basic political and institutional problems which need further substantive negotiations.

7. Accordingly, the Working Group wishes to express the opinion that more time and greater accommodation are required to overcome existing differences and to reach agreement on guidelines for United Nations peace-keeping operations, so that the Special Committee could submit these guidelines to the General Assembly in fulfilment of its mandate. The members of the Working Group are of the opinion that efforts towards this end should be continued having due regard to circumstances likely to lead to further progress. Furthermore, the Working Group feels that it could also devote its attention to the consideration of specific questions related to practical implementation of peace-keeping operations.

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