

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF UN PEACEKEEPERS CONFERENCE

Enhancing the UK Contribution to Peacekeeping

27 May 2021

1000 - 1015 **Introduction and Welcome**

Speaker: **Paul O'Neill**, Senior Research Fellow, RUSI
Dr Karin von Hippel, Director General, RUSI

1015 - 1145 **Session One: The UK's role in Peacekeeping**

The UK's Integrated Review sets out a high level of ambition for Global Britain. Whilst the Review does not go into specifics, statements by the Prime Minister and details included in the subsequent Defence Command Paper suggest a Government desire to contribute more to the United Nations, and particularly to peacekeeping. The panel will consider what the UK is already doing, including the lessons from the deployment to Mali, and the opportunities for Global Britain to enhance its peacekeeping contributions.

Chair: **Bryony Pike**, Senior Finance & Campaigns Officer, UNA-UK
Speaker: **Harriet Mathews CMG OBE**, Director Africa, UK FCDO
Ivo Werneck, Strategic Force Generation and Capability Planning Cell, United Nations Headquarters
Lieutenant Colonel Tim O'Brien, Former School Commandant, United Nations Training School Ireland

1145 - 1200 **Break**

1200 - 1300 **Session Two: The Folke Bernadotte Memorial Conversation**

Dr Karin von Hippel will be in conversation with the Special Representative of the Secretary General to the UN Mission to the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO), Bintou Keita. Their wide-ranging discussion will cover the current mission, its challenges and opportunities, and how peacekeeping itself is changing from the perspective of one who is leading peacekeepers in the field.

Chair: **Dr Karin von Hippel**, Director General, RUSI
Speaker: **Ms Bintou Keita**, Special Representative of the Secretary General, MONUSCO

1300 - 1315 **Commemoration Ceremony and Reflection**

To commemorate International Peacekeepers Day, a short film will be screened, showing the small wreath-laying ceremony held at the Cenotaph the previous week and film of current UN peacekeeping missions. We hope to return to the traditional diplomats' wreath-laying ceremony in 2022.

1315 - 1345 **Break**

1345 - 1515 **Session Three: Margaret Anstee memorial seminar: "the future of peacekeeping".**

The UN Peacekeeping Ministerial conference taking place in December 2021 seeks to strengthen the effectiveness of missions. To inform the meeting, the panel will consider the evolution of peacekeeping, and what reforms might contribute towards improving operations, from the elaboration of the mandate, through deployment, to draw-down. The panellists will explore how peacekeeping might become more people-centred and how missions can ensure the protection of civilians through all phases. It will also consider how transitions should be managed to work towards sustainable peace.

Chair: **Giovanna Kuele**, Non-Resident Researcher, Igarape Institute

Speakers: **Castro Wesamba**, Chief of Office, UN Genocide Prevention and Responsibility to Protect, United Nations Headquarters

Abi Watson, Conflict and Security Policy Coordinator, Saferworld

Dr Comfort Ero, Interim Vice President and Africa Programme Director, Crisis Group

1515 - 1530 **Closing Remarks**

Ms Natalie Samarasinghe, Executive Director, UNA-UK
