

United Nations
Peacekeeping

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FACT SHEET:

Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections in Crisis Countries

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Resilient nations.*

In September 2012, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections areas in the rule of law in post-conflict and other crisis situations. The Secretary-General has prioritized “delivery as one” by the UN in crisis and conflict settings. This new policy is an important part of his reform process and will strengthen the United Nations’ ability to fill critical civilian capacity gaps in the aftermath of conflict. To facilitate the provision of joint support, both organizations have agreed to co-locate their respective rule of law teams from 2013 in a single location at UN Headquarters. They will work to serve the entire UN system and improve the performance of UN presences in crisis contexts.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL FOCAL POINT?

- To ensure the UN is central to international efforts to strengthen the rule of law in crisis-affected contexts.
- To support the system in delivering police, justice and corrections assistance to peacekeeping and political mission settings and other crisis situations, and to assist UN Country Teams and UN Missions to develop and implement common rule of law, justice and security strategies and programmes.
- To provide timely and high quality technical assistance in response to requests from the country level.
- To support fundraising efforts for comprehensive sector-wide programmes in crisis and conflict contexts.
- To enable the UN to fill capacity gaps in terms of people, skills, knowledge and policy in crisis and conflict contexts.
- To strengthen the UN outreach and partnerships with and between Member States, NGOs and think-tanks, with a particular focus on strengthening South-South cooperation.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN THE GLOBAL FOCAL POINT PROVIDE TO UN FIELD PRESENCES IN CRISIS AND CONFLICT SETTINGS?

- Rapidly deploy police justice and corrections advisers.
- Expand expert rosters for more flexible deployments.
- Support joint assessment, planning and design of police, justice and corrections assistance.
- Support fundraising efforts for police, justice and corrections programmes at country level.
- Develop guidance, training and policy tools where gaps exist.
- Evaluate the assistance provided and the UN impact on rule of law at country level.
- Convene relevant UN entities to provide coordinated support.



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HOW WILL THE EXISTING ACCOUNTABILITY STRUCTURES WITHIN THE UN CHANGE?

The Policy Decision, which was adopted in September 2012, replaces all other previous decisions in this area. The decision agreed a new “two-tier” accountability structure for the UN support to police, justice and corrections.

At Country level:

The senior UN official in-country, the Special Representatives or Executive Representatives of the Secretary-General or, in non-mission settings, Resident Coordinator, should be responsible and accountable for guiding and overseeing UN rule of law strategies, for resolving political obstacles and for coordinating UN country support on the rule of law, without prejudice to the specialized roles and specific mandates of UN entities in-country. UN entities working at country level should be responsible and accountable for the provision of legal and technical advice related to the rule of law, and the technical design and implementation of rule of law related programmes.

At HQ level:

DPKO and UNDP will be responsible and accountable for responding to country-level requests, channelled through UN entities on the ground, with timely and quality police, justice and corrections assistance including facilitating access to global knowledge and people, and providing advice on assessments, planning, funding and partnerships. They will also commit to transparent country-driven measurement of this service. The Global Focal Point arrangement will be applicable to peacekeeping, special political mission and selected non-mission countries, to be determined. The Global Focal Point should draw upon expertise from UN entities, Member States, NGOs, think tanks, etc., and make them available to colleagues in the field.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT PLEASE CONTACT:

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