Position Title: Military Force Headquarters' Environmental Adviser/Focal Point

Section/Unit: [Mission] Force Commander or embedded to MSD/ODMS/Environmental Unit

Reporting to: t.b.d.

Period of appointment: t.b.d.

Job Description

The Director/Chief of Mission Support is in charge of implementing the DPKO/DFS Environmental Policy UN Field Missions (2009.6) and the DPKO/DFS Waste Policy for UN Field Missions (2015.06) at the field level and, through its delegation of authority to the mission’s Environmental Officer, is responsible for coordinating and monitoring all environmental issues across the field mission and ensuring that the civilian, military and police components are working in compliance with this policy as well as implementing related General Assembly and Security Council mandates requesting to reduce and manage the environmental footprint of each peacekeeping operation.

Paragraph 7.28 of the generic model of the Memorandum of Understanding in the Chapter 9 of the COE Manual (A/72/288) states that: “National contingents will appoint, where requested by the Force Commander, officials to serve as environment focal points.” Also, Paragraph 26 of the DPKO/DFS Environmental Policy for UN Field Missions (2009.06) calls for the appointment of “[...] an official of the Force to serve as the focal point within the military component of the mission to liaise with the Environmental Officer and to deal with environmental issues within the military component.”

Under the general guidance and direction of t.b.d. and in close link with the Mission Environment Unit, the incumbent shall be responsible for the following duties:

1. Liaise/Consult with Mission Environmental unit on environmental management on a regular basis – if not embedded, and attend staff meetings of Environment unit;

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1 A full time Military Environmental Adviser is preferred. However, if this is not possible, the Terms of Reference are still valid for a Military Environmental focal point.

2 The C34 mentions the need to reduce the environmental footprint of UN field missions since 2011; A/65/19 (paras 216 and 278), A/66/19 (para 288), A/68/19 (para 314), A/69/19 (para 325), A/70/19 (paras 313, 317, 368);

3 The 5th committee also gives a clear mandate on reducing the overall environmental footprint of each peacekeeping mission; A/RES/67/186 (para 31), A/RES/69/307 (para 28), A/RES/66/264 (para 53).

4 The A/CABQ supports the efforts to mitigate the environmental impact of peacekeeping missions; A/66/18 (para 146), A/67/87 (para 159), A/68/782 (paras 120 & 121), A/70/142 (para 94), A/71/856 (paras 194, 195, 196, 198, 199).

2. Regularly update the list of Sector/Region Environmental Advisers/Focal Points especially after contingent’s rotation and share it with the DPKO/OMA Environmental adviser/focal point and the mission environmental unit;

3. As per paragraph 27 of the Environmental Policy for UN Field Missions (2009.06) the appointed official in the military component is required to report on environmental issues and provide advice on appropriate measures to be taken to address these issues within the mission’s military component in a manner consistent with the environmental measures instituted by the Director of Mission Support;

4. Coordinate with the military component, especially the G4 branch, and report to the Force Chief of Staff and Force Commander on environmental issues related to Military contingents;

5. Assist the Force Commander by reviewing relevant operational procedures, discussing these with the Mission Environmental Unit, and where necessary, assist in the preparation of instructions and amendments to operational procedures, in coordination with the Mission Environmental Unit, to ensure that environmental issues are appropriately managed and controlled;

6. Coordinate with the Military/Force Chief of personnel on administrative issues related to environmental management within the military contingents, in particular monitoring the appointment of sector/camp-level environmental focal points and reporting to the Mission Environmental unit, and DPKO/OMA/Military Environmental Adviser/focal point on a quarterly basis;

7. Assist missions’ Environmental Officers in planning and carrying out environmental inspections within military contingents (and FPU sites, if embedded in mission’s Environmental Unit), identifying environmental problems that need to be addressed by relevant sections within the Mission and preparing inspection reports;

8. Liaise with respective sectors and camps for the environmental inspections planning;

9. Coordinate activities related to remediation of environmental issues within the military component identified during inspections;

10. Provide onsite guidance and training to military contingents (and FPUs, if embedded in mission’s Environmental Unit), especially during induction training, on the required preventive and remedial measures, and follow up on the implementation of the remedial actions;

11. Promote environmental awareness, provide briefings/training to military component;

12. Act as the focal point on cultural heritage for the military component in compliance with the Environmental policy;

13. Any other tasks on environmental and culture issues related to military operations as directed by the Force Commander.

Qualifications:
Military Rank: t.b.d.

Education: University degree (Bachelor’s Degree or higher). Prior Training in one of the Environmental related fields; Environmental Management, Environmental Health, public Health, Civil Engineering, Environmental Engineering or Logistics is desirable.
Work Experience: At least two years of relevant experience in environment, engineering and/or logistics within military operations, knowledge of administrative processes, practical experience, and ability to apply good judgment in the context of assignment, ability to prioritize work and meet deadlines.

Languages: Fluency in written and spoken English is required; fluency in French is highly desirable in English Missions and required in French Missions, knowledge of other UN languages is desirable.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: DPKO/DFS Environmental Policy for UN field missions (2009.6)
Attachment 2: DKPO/DFS Waste Management Policy for UN field missions (2015.6)