



**Current and Emerging Uniformed Capability Requirements
for United Nations Peacekeeping**

United Nations peacekeeping is at a pivotal juncture following the late-2025 contingency plan being implemented to reduce expenditures, impacting budgets, civilian posts and troop levels across several missions. The liquidity crisis could place significant strain on the UN's ability to maintain operational effectiveness and deliver mandated tasks in volatile environments. At the same time, the contingency planning may also provide an opportunity to identify efficiencies and make peacekeeping nimbler. In this context, the sustained and proactive support of Member States to maintain peacekeeping readiness is more critical than ever. Current and emerging capability requirements must be met with timely pledges in the Peacekeeping Capability Readiness System (PCRS) and innovative solutions must be found to ensure that peacekeeping remains agile, responsive, and capable of addressing complex threats to international peace and security. By reinforcing our collective commitment, we can safeguard the credibility and impact of UN peacekeeping during this period of constrained resources.



AAV for an infantry battalion pledged at the Berlin Peacekeeping Ministerial

Member States' support remains the cornerstone of effective peacekeeping. In that vein, some of the Berlin Peacekeeping Ministerial pledges have already been materialized through PCRS registration and the conduct of Assessment and Advisory Visits (AAVs). These actions have transformed political statements into credible and reliable PCRS capabilities for future UN needs. Peacekeeping is a shared responsibility. By reinforcing partnerships and aligning pledges with emerging requirements, Member States can help safeguard peacekeeping's role as a vital instrument for international peace and security during this challenging period.

The following pages outline the current and emerging uniformed capability needs for UN Peacekeeping, including with regards to training and capacity-building, mission specific unit gaps, general uniformed capabilities that are in demand and some important information and requirements for the upcoming 2026 Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group. **Annex A** (page 8) is an updated list of current uniformed pledges made in the PCRS and **Annex B** (page 9) displays the PCRS pledges at Levels 2 and above for each capability category against the estimated number of units required for a new medium size mission. These lists support identification of military and police capabilities that are low in supply and should be prioritized in Member State planning for future pledges to the PCRS. If questions remain, please reach out to the PCRS managers at pcrs.manager@un.org.

I. TRAINING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

The UN seeks active collaboration from Member States to fortify capacity building and pre-deployment training efforts. We aim to receive offers from Member States in several areas:

1. **Hosting and Funding Training Activities:** Member States are encouraged to fund and host training activities, which may include the provision of venues, accommodation, meals for international participants, inland transportation, and conference services.

2. **Nomination of Subject Matter Experts (SMEs):** For 2026, SMEs from Member States are needed to support the development of new training materials on integration and joint tactical planning for military and police. SMEs will also be needed to assist in the creation of Counter UAS (C-UAS) training materials, Strategic Communications for T/PCC personnel, and Environmental Management for T/PCC focal points, pending the approval of appropriate policy and guidance, where necessary.

3. **Selection and Provision of National Trainers for UN-led Train-the-Trainer (TOT) Programs:** Member States are encouraged to fund and nominate qualified national trainers for participation in TOT programs run regionally/globally. These trainers will later disseminate the materials nationally. Priorities for 2026 include TOTs on the newly revised Core Pre-deployment Training Material (CPTM), addressing misinformation, disinformation, and hate speech (MDH) threats for military and police commanders; UN Infantry Battalions (STM currently in development); UN Staff Officers (new STM); UN Military Observers (new STM) and various training programs for UN Police. Additionally, subject to funding and in coordination with the Conduct and Discipline Service, ITS plans to conduct a TOT to roll out new training materials on conduct and discipline for military and police commanders.



Training of Trainers (ToT) on UNIBAT Specialized Training Materials (STM), Serbia

4. **Supporting the UN Senior National Planners Programme:** Member States are encouraged to carefully select and nominate the most suitable candidates for this program. The target audience includes decision-makers and planning officers responsible for the deployment of contingents. Participants will be introduced to the UN's administrative and technical procedures and the complexities of negotiating, planning, preparing, deploying, supporting, sustaining, and withdrawing national contingents in UN Peace Operations.

5. **Translation of Training Materials:** Member States are requested to assist in translating training materials, particularly those related to new developments, into at least the six UN official languages to enhance accessibility for all T/PCCs.

6. **Supporting AI and e-Learning Initiatives for Pre-Deployment Training:** ITS is developing AI models to enhance Scenario-Based Exercises and Table-Top Exercises (SBE and TTX) as part of the Pre-Deployment Training for T/PCCs. ITS is also considering issuing parts of suitable STMs and RTPs as e-learning. Member States are encouraged to provide funding or in-kind contributions to support these developments.

7. Addressing Capability Gaps: The Light Coordination Mechanism (LCM), managed by Integrated Training Service (ITS), engages troop-and police-contributing countries (T/PCCs) and training and capacity-building providers to communicate training gaps, match opportunities to identified needs, and facilitate capacity-building partnerships to improve the performance, safety and security of uniformed UN peacekeepers. Member States and relevant stakeholders are encouraged to use the LCM Online System (LCMOS), including the Global Peacekeeping Training Schedule and the new Marketplace feature launched in March 2025. Through this platform, they can post and/or search for training and capacity-building opportunities and strengthen collective information-sharing and direct collaboration to support partnerships in the field of peacekeeping.

To discuss offers and training matters with ITS, please contact: peacekeeping-training@un.org.

To register for the LCM Online System or to discuss your offers or requests for training and capacity-building assistance, please contact the LCM at dpo-lcm@un.org.

The **Triangular Partnership Programme (TPP)** enhances uniformed peacekeepers' capacities for UN Peacekeeping Operations, as well as African Union Peace Support Operations, through training and operational



TPP conducts its first Women's Outreach Field Medical Assistants Course

support across four distinct projects: 1) Engineering 2) Medical 3) C4ISR (Command, Control, Communications, Computers (C4), Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR)) and camp security technologies, and 4) Telemedicine. TPP has continued its close cooperation with the UN Mine Action Service (UNMAS) to provide cross-pillar Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (C-IED) training through its engineering and medical pillar courses. In line with these efforts, and to enhance women uniformed peacekeepers' safety and security, the TPP organized its first Women's Outreach Field Medical Assistants Course (FMAC) and its Training of Trainers (TOT) with Explosive Hazard Awareness Training (EHAT) in Uganda. The training aims to enhance the knowledge, skills and attitudes of women uniformed officers and promote long-term retention of lessons learned that enhance safety and security in the field. Following its cross-pillar multi-national training approach, the TPP also organized its first French FMAC and FMAC TOT in Morocco, with Moroccan trainers providing the EHAT. Additionally, the TPP has conducted the Engineering Project Management Course in Kenya, the Heavy Engineering Equipment (HEE) Maintenance and Horizontal Engineering Course in Brazil, and the HEE Operators' Intermediate Course and FMAC with EHAT in the Kingdom of Cambodia. In addition, nominations for the Environmental Management e-Learning are accepted on a rolling basis with Member States encouraged to send their nominees to the TPP.

The TPP welcomes the continued active participation of Member States in training in the abovementioned key peacekeeping capability areas, as well as, but not limited to, C-IED, environmental management, and women, peace and security (WPS) mainstreaming. Member States are encouraged to actively participate in TPP trainings by nominating trainees, notably women participants, deploying trainers, hosting facilities, and providing equipment, funding and other in-kind support. Member States interested in training and partnership opportunities

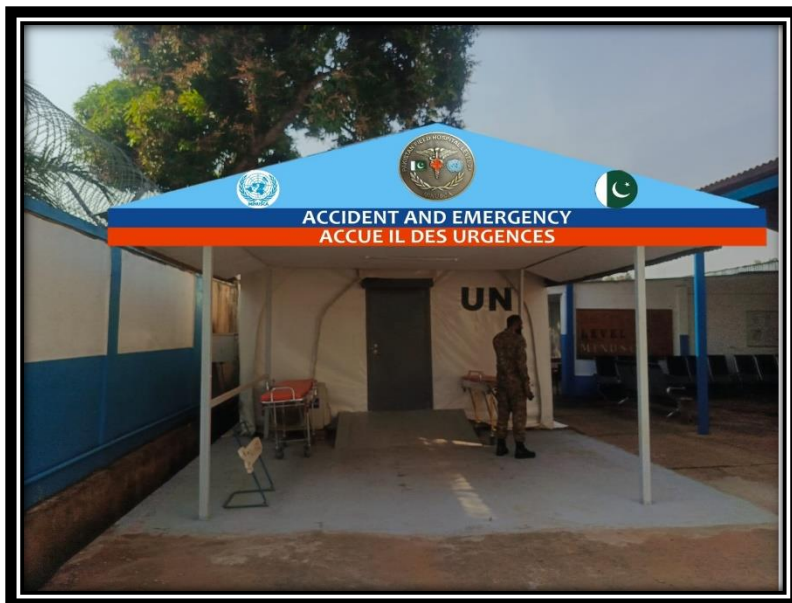
can contact Mr. Takakazu Ito (itot@un.org). For more information, please consult [the TPP Informational Video](#) and the [TPP Fact Sheet](#).

II. MISSION-SPECIFIC UNIT GAPS

All units required by field missions have been selected from the PCRS and presently there are no mission-specific gaps.

The PCRS Rapid Deployment Level (RDL) is critical in allowing the Secretariat to promptly respond to any new immediate requirements from existing missions and to support plans for the quick start-up of a new mission. Verification Visits for units to be elevated to RDL were all completed by the end of June 2025. Following the deployment of the Level 2 hospital at RDL to MINUSCA, a new Member State has been selected to fill this gap in the Vanguard Brigade capability.

For Member States willing to contribute in the future to the RDL, invitations were sent in early October, and pledges are due on 31 Dec 25. All Member States interested in contributing to the RDL should pledge, including T/PCCs already with units at RDL that wish to remain for the 26/27 cycle. The generic statements of unit requirements are available for reference on the PCRS website, and the Strategic Force Generation and Capability Planning Cell is ready to support in this process. T/PCCs are encouraged to read and familiarize themselves with the 2023 RDL Guidelines.



Pakistan Level 2 Hospital Deployed to MINUSCA from the RDL

III. GENERAL CAPABILITIES

As peacekeeping missions evolve, it is critical that military and police capabilities offered to the UN not only address trends and future needs but also can adapt to existing capability gaps or new short-term requirements.

In line with the 2025 Peacekeeping Ministerial Pledging Guide, the following section outlines the military and police capabilities that are seen as necessary for current and likely for future peacekeeping missions. These types of units serve as the backbone for mandate implementation or for the safety and protection of peacekeepers.

Air Assets

Attack, armed helicopters units are critical deterrent capabilities for field missions in the delivery of their mandates. **Utility Helicopter Units** are often one of the most critical specialized capabilities deployed to peacekeeping. Medium Utility Helicopter Units (MUHU) can carry out multiple functions to contribute to mission's mandate delivery, including troop insertions/extractions, aerial escorts, quick reaction force response, passenger transportation, medical transportation (CASEVAC/ MEDEVAC) air reconnaissance, support for airmobile operations, search and rescue (SAR), combat SAR (CSAR), patrol, observation and monitoring, troop movements, logistic support, aerial resupply and cargo re-supply. Well-equipped MUHUs are in high demand and short in supply.

Tactical Transport Fixed-Wing Aviation Units are very important elements to provide flexibility and rapid response, extend the missions' footprint, and increase the missions' ability to support components deployed in locations that cannot be sustained by roads. Despite some current challenges with Host Nations authorization for

deployment and utilization, **Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS)** are needed in the mid to long-term as critical Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) tools that are part of the UN peacekeeping-intelligence (MPKI) architecture and also to minimize risk in logistic activities including UAS Class I, Class II and Class III. Micro and mini UAS class I can be deployed as organic equipment and support ground units in early warning and observations. All UAS classes should be deployable and re-deployable easily to observe incidents in real time, monitor safe demilitarized border zones, detect civil intrusions into buffer zones, detect/deter illegal activities, conduct surveillance of opposing forces positions, help protect peacekeepers and map/record terrain changes. The Secretariat is studying the use of UAS for the delivery of cargo and medical supplies, emergency response or environmental monitoring.

Countries that cannot provide aviation capabilities and UAS capabilities for a long period may partner with other Member States on a rotational mechanism model. This would be required to be pledged and communicated as soon as possible for better understanding and to allow time for the conduct of the necessary assessments.

Military Ground Forces

Quick reaction forces (QRF) at company level that are more agile and have the adaptability to the developing situations, give the Force and Sectors the ability to quickly intervene in contingency situations and allow planned operations to be reinforced. **Infantry Battalions** are required in large UN peacekeeping missions and must be able to quickly respond to urgent requirements and have a lighter footprint without losing their robust posture and maintaining conditions for the safe implementation of mandates. To allow the configuration of operational elements to conduct different types of tasks, most QRF and Infantry Battalions' Statement of Unit Requirements (SUR) require high-mobility light tactical vehicles (HMLTV) and reconnaissance vehicles for their units. To enhance mobility during the rainy season in South Sudan, the Composite Infantry Battalion SUR has been revised to include All Terrain Vehicles Heavy, which are being deployed to UNMISS.



Indian All-terrain vehicles deployed in UNMISS

Force Protection and Mandate Implementation

Some capabilities are required for both force protection, as well as to better implement mandated tasks with high end capabilities in higher threat environments. T/PCCs must be capable of adjusting their units or generating independent units. **Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Units/capabilities** are required to contribute to the missions' overall capacity to respond to an increasing EOD threat, especially from Improvised Explosive Devices (IED), impacting freedom of manoeuvre and the safety and security of peacekeepers. In response to the increasing presence of unexploded ordnance and remnants of hostilities, additional EOD teams and Explosive Ordnance Reconnaissance (EOR) teams have already been deployed by TCCs to UNIFIL. Disposal of unexploded ordnance, improvised explosive devices, booby-traps and abandoned ordnance would be some of the tasks.

Counter Rocket, Artillery and Mortar Capability (C-RAM) has been requested recently to detect and/or destroy incoming rockets, artillery, and mortar rounds in the air before they hit their ground targets or simply provide early warning to UN personnel. Ground Surveillance Radars and Long-Range Cameras have been

identified as essential assets to enhance persistent monitoring, improve early warning, and support situational awareness along sensitive areas in UNIFIL. **Counter UAS Systems (C-UAS)** with hard and soft kill capabilities for effectively responding to increasing incidents of drones overflying military bases are a short to mid-term requirement both for military and police units. **Please also refer to the UCRPs of March 2022 and March 2025 when this requirement has been communicated to T/PCCs.**

Engineering Units

Military Engineering Units play a crucial role in United Nations peacekeeping operations, contributing to the mission's success and creating conditions for successful mandate implementation. Engineering Units are responsible for constructing and maintaining critical infrastructure, such as roads, bridges, and airstrips, which are essential for the mobility of peacekeeping forces and the delivery of humanitarian aid amongst other tasks. These types of units may also play a role in transition phases in support of humanitarian and development agencies and support to host authorities and local populations. Besides regular horizontal and vertical works, additional capabilities with EOD and bridging capacity are being requested from these units.

Police

In line with current and emerging uniformed capability requirements, it is not sufficient for units to be well equipped in terms of equipment; commanders must also be able to understand and address related challenges, having a common understanding of performance-related issues, FPU generation mechanisms, pre-deployment training, and COE matters, as well as the recent changes in key guiding documents such as the revised FPU Policy, PCRS Guidelines, and the COE Manual, among others. To support this, the Police Division, in collaboration with field missions and some Member States, conducts annual FPU Commanders' workshops. These workshops include tailored mission scenarios and address topics such as command and control, welfare, gender issues, and conduct and discipline, all of which are thoroughly discussed.



Senegalese FPU preparing for a patrol

Formed Police Units (FPU) are the core of uniformed police capabilities in UN missions. They should be equipped with relevant capabilities, such as SWAT, rapid reaction, canine and/or riverine elements (e.g., two FPUs at rapid deployment level require SWAT capabilities, one of them being francophone). A platoon size of women as part of each FPU remains essential.

Guard Units (GU) and Rapid Response Police Units (RRPU) protect mainly UN personnel and facilities. Rapid Response Police Units are smaller police contingents (about 60 to 80 strength), highly specialized and quickly deployable to support specific mission

requirements. As the RRPUs cannot deploy in full self-sustainment, they will require sustainment and logistic support from other units already deployed.

Currently deployed formed police units still require compatible satellite phones, unmanned aircraft system micro (multirotor), force protection surveillance equipment, day and night cameras for camp security, inside base surveillance dome camera (360° + thermal view), armored personnel carriers (APC) wheeled ambulance/rescue, and all-terrain vehicles light. Some PCCs will require support to augment COE so that they meet the renewed

statement of unit requirements in line with mission mandates and to enhance safety and security and undertake protection tasks. The UN Secretariat can facilitate bilateral partnerships with concerned PCCs to fill such gaps.

Language skills are also essential. For example, among the current pledges in the PCRS, 89% are from anglophone Member States, while two of the major missions are francophone. Francophone Member States are therefore strongly encouraged to pledge FPU, Police Guard Units, and SPTs.

Specialized Police Teams (SPT) are specialized assets, usually provided by one or two PCCs, used in community-oriented policing, environmental (rule of law) crimes, public order management, border policing, protection of civilians, cattle raiding, SGBV, CRSV, forensics and forensics explosives exploitation. The use of SPTs provides the opportunity to target specific areas of concern in different missions. Additionally, specialized anti-narcotics teams are also required

IV. THE 2026 CONTINGENT-OWNED EQUIPMENT WORKING GROUP



Election of the Bureau of the 2026 Contingent-Owned Equipment Working Group on 20 November 2025, United Nations Secretariat, New York

once every three years, the WG provides a critical platform for Member States to update and improve the COE policy and related reimbursement standards.

The agenda encompasses enhancements to policies on major equipment, self-sustainment, and medical, as well as the discussion of a new reimbursement model for major equipment. This model, developed by the Secretariat pursuant to a study mandated by the 2023 COE WG, aims to incorporate usage as an additional eligibility parameter alongside availability and serviceability. The proposal applies to support vehicles and generators and could represent a significant improvement in the COE framework, strengthening efficiency, transparency, and fairness. Furthermore, the proposed usage-based reimbursement would generate valuable operational data, supporting evidence-based decision-making for capability optimization, rightsizing, operational rebalancing, and the redeployment of uniformed capabilities when required.

The General Assembly, through its resolution 50/222 of 11 April 1996, authorized the implementation of procedures governing reimbursements to Member States for contingent-owned equipment (COE). These procedures are detailed in the Manual on Policies and Procedures Concerning the Reimbursement and Control of Contingent-Owned Equipment of Troop/Police Contributors Participating in Peacekeeping Missions (the COE Manual), the current version of which is issued as document A/75/121. From 19 to 30 January 2026, the COE Working Group (WG) will convene at the United Nations Secretariat, New York. During this session, the WG will examine 110 issue papers, including 39 prepared by the UN Secretariat, 11 studies mandated by the 2023 COE WG, and 70 proposals submitted by 21 Member States. Meeting

ANNEX A

CURRENTLY PLEDGED CAPABILITIES

The PCRS is the sole entry point to commit uniformed capabilities to UN peacekeeping. The system supports the Secretariat's selection process for deployments. The status of pledges in the PCRS (Level 1, Level 2, Level 3 and RDL) is shown in the table below. Level 1 indicates that a pledge of a formed unit with all the required information was accepted in the system. **Level 2** indicates the pledge received a successful AAV and that the unit assessed is deemed capable for a potential deployment within **180 days from the acceptance of an invitation**. **Level 3** indicates that the pledged capability has contingent-owned equipment and personnel in alignment with the generic UN military/police statement of requirement (SUR) and this equipment is accurately reflected in a load list and is estimated ready for deployment within **120 days from the acceptance of an invitation**. A unit at the **RDL** has been pledged and verified as ready for deployment to any UN field mission within **60 days of a formal invitation from the Secretariat**. A "Registered" pledge (e.g. for Staff Officers, IPOs and training pledges) is one for which the various PCRS Levels are not relevant. For questions on the status of a pledge contact pcrs.manager@un.org.

Type of units	# of units in PCRS Level 1	# of units in PCRS Level 2	# of units in PCRS Level 3	# of units in PCRS RDL	# of deployed units in the Cycle (25/26)
Infantry Battalions	24	7	3	2	0
Infantry Company/Platoon	7	2	0	0	0
Recce Company	3	1	0	0	0
Special Force Units/ groups	8	2	0	1	0
Force Protection/HQ Sp Company	6	3	1	0	0
Quick Reaction Force (Coy)	16	11	2	3	0
ISR Aerial units/ UAS	5	4	1	0	0
Engineering Companies/ Platoons	16	5	3	1	0
Demining/EOD Units	13	1	0	1	0
Hospitals/ Medical Teams	12	4	1	0	1
Utility Helicopter Units	6	2	0	0	0
Attack/Armed Helicopter Units	0	0	0	2	0
Transport Aircrafts	4	3	0	1	0
MP Companies/ teams	7	3	0	1	0
Signal Companies/platoons	5	2	0	1	0
Log/Transport Companies/Units	3	2	1	0	0
Formed Police Units	21	12	6	2	0
Police Guard Units	3	0	0	0	0
Air Lift	6				
Maritime Units	5				
Training Pledges	72				
Total	159	64	18	15	1

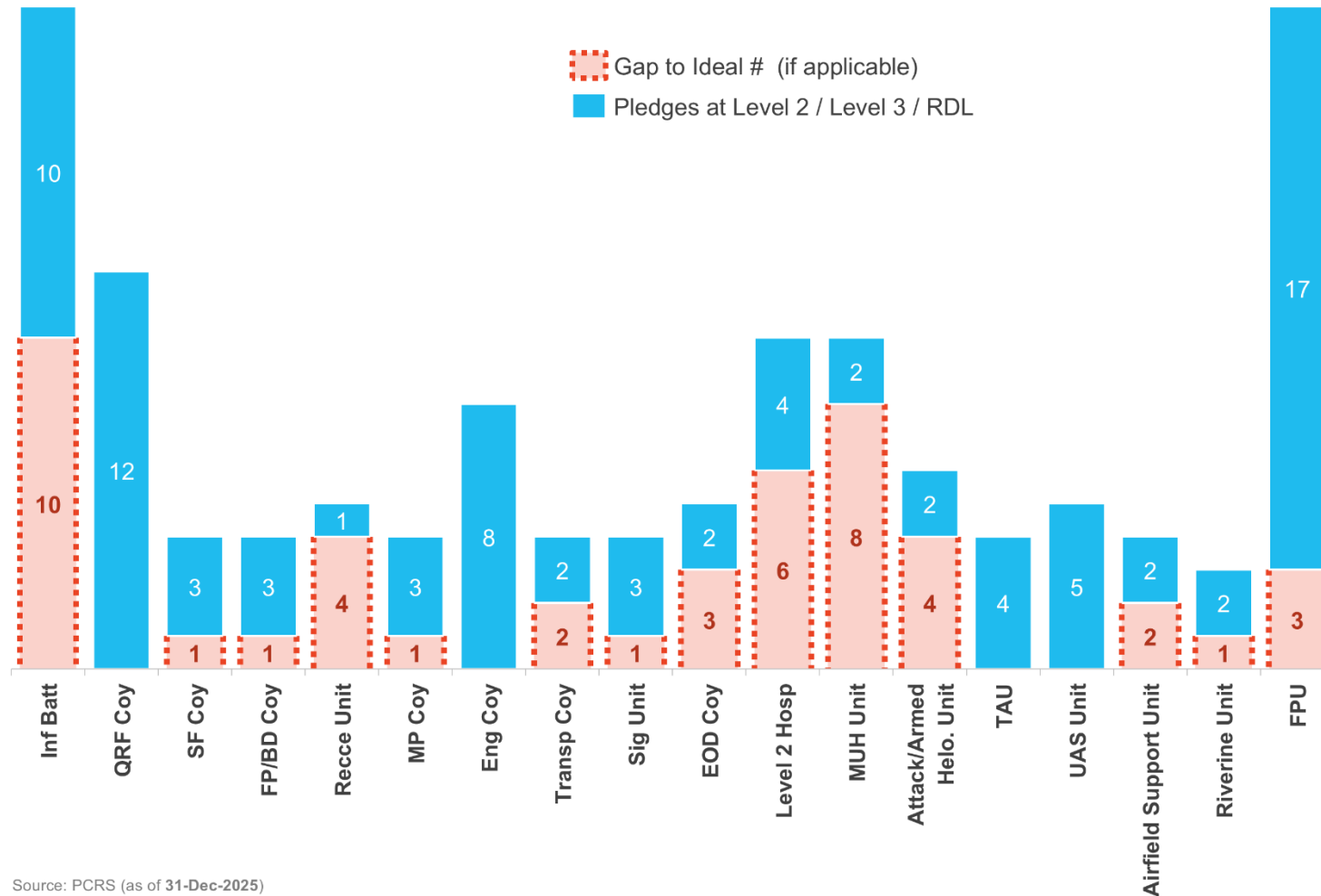
* as of 31 Dec 2025.

One of the Attack/Armed Helicopter Units at RDL is an Armed Utility Helicopter unit.

ANNEX B



Current PCRS pledges vs ideal number of pledges



Source: PCRS (as of 31-Dec-2025)

UNITED NATIONS | Department of Peace Operations

*Multiple pledges by one Member State of the same capability at Level 2, 3 or RDL are counted as one available pledge.