JOINT DECLARATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF ASIA-PACIFIC PEACE OPERATIONS TRAINING CENTERS (AAPTC) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, 2023

We, the delegations of AAPTC members, during the Annual General Meeting held between 01-04 May 2023 in Sydney, Commonwealth of Australia with the theme of "Stronger Together: Enhancing Training Standardisation and Emerging Capabilities" and have agreed to the following conclusions:

- a. Express deepest condolences to the fallen heroes among the UN Peacekeepers in various missions,
- b. Continue to extend invitations to other Asia-Pacific nations, who are contributing, or aspiring to contribute to the UN Peacekeeping missions, but have yet to join the association to attend the next AGM.
- c. Agree to consider changes to the Articles of the Association and put to vote, during the next AAPTC AGM in 2024 in Bangladesh,
- d. Agree that the Chairmanship and host of AAPTC 2024 AGM and workshop will be the People's Republic of Bangladesh; by Association precedence, the 2025 AGM will be offered to the Sultanate of Brunei Darussalam or any other volunteers,
- e. Request the AAPTC members to update the official link of respective institution in the AAPTC Website www.aaptc.asia by 31 July 2023,
- f. Request all members to train their peacekeepers to operate in the Digital Era of Peacekeeping for ensuring safety as well as for successful accomplishment of the mission mandate,
- g. Urge all members to continuously remain updated about the evolving trend of peace operations and transformation required to face the present challenges,
- h. Request all members to analyze the required doctrinal and structural reform required to prepare our peacekeepers to implement A4P and A4P Plus initiatives under respective UN Mandate,
- Continue to cooperate by sharing vacancies for thematic courses. AAPTC Members and GPOI are requested to share vacancies for Engagement Platoon Training, UN Peacekeeping-Intelligence Course or any other courses as applicable,
- Encourage all members to share their resources in the AAPTC Website including the schedule of Seminars/Workshops, FTXs,
- k. Emphasize the importance of pre-deployment training (including Counter IED), rules and policies, mission SOP and ROE for the peacekeepers' safety. Besides, sharing of intelligence and other resources by other partners would also ensure peacekeepers' safety. Sharing resources and Tactics. Techniques and Procedures (TTPS) would also enhance the capacity of the peacekeepers,

- I. Encourage other regional associations to extend invitations to the President/Secretariat of AAPTC to attend their AGM,
- Continuing to support the United Nations Department of Peace Operations in preparing the 'Mission Specific Training Needs Assessments',
- Recommend members to continue to send feedback to the United Nations Department of Peace Operations on specialized training materials,
- o. Encouraging members of Permanent Missions to United Nations Headquarters to actively encourage the United Nations Department of Peace Operations' (OMA and ITS) participation in AAPTC workshops and activities,
- p. Support United Nations gender mainstreaming initiatives to increase women's participation through the expansion of training opportunities, and their employment in conventional military and leadership roles throughout peace operations,
- Recommend all members to collectively reflect upon the challenges and opportunities
 of the information operating environment, regarding peace operations,
- r. Decide to offer membership to the observer nations who attended the 2023 conference, but not the 2022 conference; on the condition that they attend the 2024 conference,
- s. Note that, per the Association articles, BIPSOT will continue as the Secretariat of AAPTC for remainder of their term of 3 years up to the end of 2024,
- t. Extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Commonwealth of Australia Leadership and UNDPKO as the host and the organizer of this year's event,
- u. Recommendations from AAPTC Senior Instructors:

Firstly - For the National Investigation Officers (NIO) course:

- a. That AAPTC members determine the annual training number requirements,
- b. That applicable members roll out the practitioner courses in time for AAPTC, 2024, BIPSOT, Bangladesh,
- c. That AAPTC identify center(s) of excellence who can facilitate regional training.

Secondly - For the Military Peacekeeping-Intelligence (MPKI) course:

- a. That UN ITS develops a universal scenario for all UN STMs/RTP (CARANA versus GARLAND),
- b. That members identify regional center(s) of excellence for UN ITS MPKI recognition.

Thirdly - Birendra Peace Operations Training Center (BPOTC), Nepal, Training Initiatives

a. AAPTC requests UN ITS/OMA to support allowing members access to specific mission lessons learned relating to military pre-deployment training (e.g., case studies),

Fourthly - That UN ITS confirms its key priorities are 1. MPKI, 2. Operational logistics, 3. NIO.

In keeping with the Articles of Association of the Asia-Pacific Peace Operations Training Centers (AAPTC), we affirm our commitment to ensure the highest quality of training of peacekeepers for United Nations peace operations.

Lieutenant colonel Nick Floyd

AAPTC Chair

Lieutenant Colonel (U) Pg Farisan Pg Metassan

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Lieutenant Colonel Martin Voyer

Canada

Senior Colonel Qu Zhe

On behalf of the Head of the

Secretariat AAPTC

Major General Soth Prak

China

Cambodia

Captain (N) Saula Tuilevuka

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Air Vice Marshal Benedictus Koessetianto

Indonesia

Colonel AKEKUMA Koichi

Japan

Lieutenant Colonel Nyamjav Gantulga

Mongolia

Lieutenant Colonel Nathan Mutu

New Zealand

Colonel Francisco R Godoy Jr

Philippines

Colonel Abdullati Mohd Zamri

Malaysia

Colonel Ashok Bahadur Chand

Nepal

Brigadier (Retired) Dr. Fiaz Hussain Shah

Pakistan

Lieutenant Colonel Park, Yongchae

Republic of Korea

Major David L. Dos Reis Santos Timor Leste

Senior Colonel Luu Dinh Hien

Vietnam

Yhylit Nurath

Major General Chumphot Nurakkate

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