



Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse in UN Missions

**Training for Peacekeeping Personnel
DPKO May 2005**

Learning Outcomes

- Describe what constitutes sexual exploitation and abuse
- Outline the UN policies on standards of conduct concerning sexual exploitation and abuse
- Describe what is prohibited behaviour
- Explain the impact of misconduct on peacekeeping operations and host population



Learning Outcomes

- List the consequences for individuals and the mission if mission personnel are directly or indirectly involved in engaging in this form of misconduct
- List the main responsibilities of personnel and managers /staff officers to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse
- Identify who is the peacekeeping operation's Focal Point on sexual exploitation and abuse



Pre-workshop test

- 10 minutes to complete
- All results confidential
- Upon completion, please put it away for now





What is sexual exploitation and abuse?

Sexual exploitation

Any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power or trust for sexual purposes, including but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.

(ST/SGB/2003/13)



Sexual abuse

Actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.

(ST/SGB/2003/13)



Standards of Conduct

- **Sexual activity with children (persons under the age of 18) is prohibited**
- **Exchange of money, employment, goods, assistance or services for sex, e.g. Sex with prostitutes, is prohibited**
- **Sexual relationships with beneficiaries of assistance are strongly discouraged**



Secretary-General's Bulletin

- Consider the “abuse” element required for sexual exploitation:
- Actual or attempted abuse of:
 - Position of vulnerability
 - Differential power
 - Trustfor sexual purposes



What is human trafficking?

Trafficking is the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of persons, by the threat or use of force or other means, for the purpose of exploitation.



(Art 3 UN Trafficking Protocol)





We create
the demand.

We are part
of the
problem.



Special Vulnerability in Conflicts

- Women and children most vulnerable
- Sexual Violence as strategy in armed conflict
- Increase of Organized Crime
- Increased poverty
- Loss of social services
- Loss of access to rights; fear of reporting and retaliation
- Unequal power relationships that can be exploited



Impact on mission mandate

- Violates victim's human rights
- Damages image and credibility of mission
- Threatens security
- Risk of HIV/AIDS and other health risks



Consequences of Sexual Misconduct

- Sexual exploitation and abuse is serious misconduct and subject to disciplinary action
- Possible summary dismissal, termination of UN contract and no further UN service
- For criminal offences, all except military members of national contingents can be tried in the host country
- Military members of national contingents subject to their own national military justice, including court martial



Your Responsibilities

- Be informed
- Be a role model
- Report suspicions, rumours and allegations
- Cooperate fully with investigations
- Inform local population on reporting mechanisms



How do I report a rumour of sexual exploitation?

- Chain of Command
- Mission Focal Point (or other agency focal point)
- Personnel Conduct Officer
- The Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)



What are the duties of managers and officers to prevent and respond to sexual exploitation and abuse?

- Be a role model
- Create an environment that discourages sexual exploitation and abuse
- Provide information to and raise awareness of PKO personnel
- Provide information to local populations on the UN standards of conduct and complaints mechanisms available



CASE STUDIES

In Groups

Examine the case study you have been given:

- Identify and discuss the issues around sexual exploitation and abuse
- Which of the identified acts constitute misconduct and why?



Focal Point (and alternate) for Sexual Exploitation and Abuse

Name

Office

Extension

Mobile



Key Messages

● Remember

- Sex with anyone under 18 years of age is prohibited
- Exchanging money, goods, food or employment for sex, e.g. prostitution, is prohibited
- Sexual relations with beneficiaries of assistance are strongly discouraged

● Prevent sexual exploitation and abuse

● Reports any suspicions, rumours or allegations

● Set an example



Post -workshop test

- 10 minutes to complete
- All results confidential
- Upon completion, please hand test and pre-session test to facilitator
- Complete evaluation form and hand in to facilitator

