

## ABOUT INTERPOL

Created in 1923, INTERPOL is the world's largest international police organization. Its mission is to assist law enforcement agencies in its 187 member countries to combat all forms of transnational crime. INTERPOL provides a high-tech infrastructure of technical and operational support to enable police forces around the world to meet the growing challenges of crime in the 21st century. Each member country runs an INTERPOL National Central Bureau, staffed by highly-trained law enforcement officers.

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## ABOUT THE UN DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO)

United Nations peacekeeping is a unique and dynamic instrument developed by the Organization as a way to help countries torn by conflict create the conditions for lasting peace. DPKO is currently managing 16 peacekeeping operations around the world, and has managed a total of 63 operations since the first UN peacekeeping mission was established in 1948.

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## INTERPOL AND THE UNITED NATIONS



## PARTNERS IN BUILDING SUSTAINABLE SECURITY

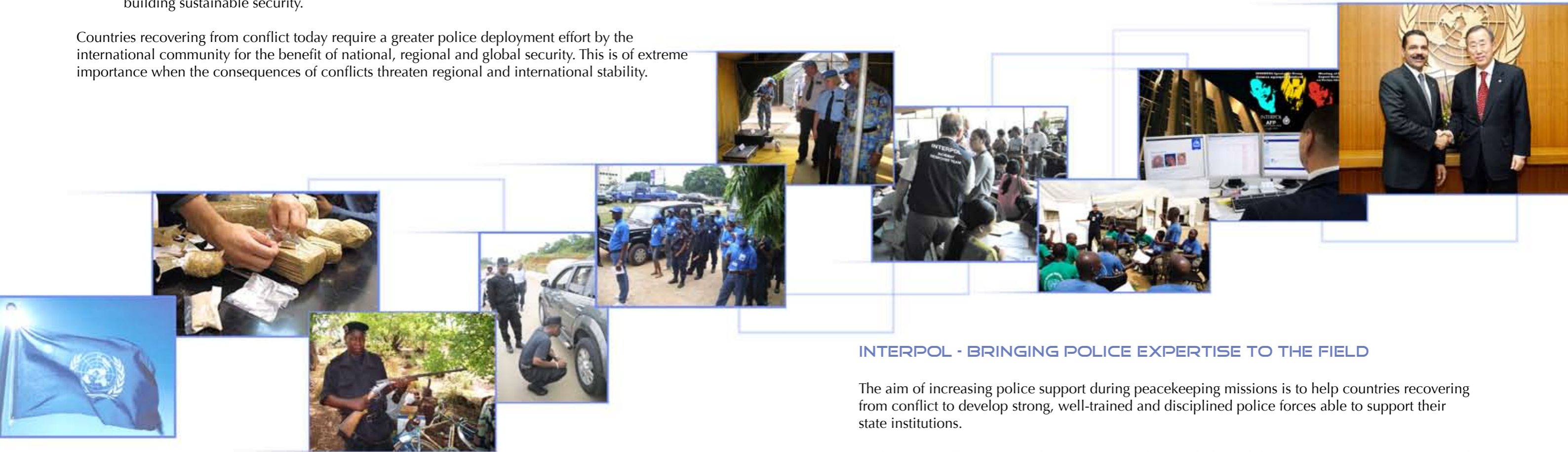


## A CRUCIAL ROLE FOR POLICE IN PEACE OPERATIONS

In recent years, world leaders and high-ranking government officials have increasingly recognized the pivotal role played by police in consolidating peace and building sustainable security, and have underlined the need to complement military forces with police personnel in international peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations.

- Criminal activities such as drug and arms trafficking fuel wars by providing belligerents with the resources to finance their expensive military activities. Past conflicts have clearly shown that those that are not fed by criminal profits tend to end sooner.
- Countries recovering from conflict need to secure their borders in order to maintain peace, a task that requires capacity-building in the area of border management, but also secure international police communications and access to global police databases.
- All of this requires a foundation of competent and non-corrupt police officers dedicated to consolidating peace and rebuilding the rule of law, which is an essential condition to building sustainable security.

Countries recovering from conflict today require a greater police deployment effort by the international community for the benefit of national, regional and global security. This is of extreme importance when the consequences of conflicts threaten regional and international stability.



## RAPIDLY GROWING DEMAND FOR POLICE SUPPORT

The UN is currently the primary provider of “police peacekeepers” deployed worldwide to help foster sustainable peace, rebuild shattered states, and promote human rights and good governance.

The number of police deployed in peace operations worldwide has grown from just over 1,000 at the beginning of 1995 to more than 11,500 by the end of 2008, representing approximately 13% of all uniformed personnel deployed. But, demand is rising sharply and will soon outstrip the ability of the UN – with its 18,000 authorized police – to deploy in sufficient numbers. At present, half of INTERPOL’s member countries provide police officers to UN peace operations.

## THE UNITED NATIONS AND INTERPOL: A COMMON GOAL

As the only global police organization, INTERPOL has a vital role to play in assisting the United Nations to strengthen the role of police in peacekeeping and peacebuilding operations in countries recovering from conflict.

A co-operation agreement between the two agencies lays out the guidelines for future collaboration by identifying how and where INTERPOL and the police forces of its member countries will be deployed to work alongside the United Nations.

By combining their strengths, the two Organizations can create a powerful partnership and a wide-reaching network that will help restore peace and security.

## INTERPOL - BRINGING POLICE EXPERTISE TO THE FIELD

The aim of increasing police support during peacekeeping missions is to help countries recovering from conflict to develop strong, well-trained and disciplined police forces able to support their state institutions.

With its network of 187 member countries and strong links with law enforcement agencies around the world, INTERPOL will be able to identify member countries willing to second police officers to the field and to provide experts in police training.

In addition, INTERPOL can give these countries access to its police tools and infrastructure; these include the only global secure police communications system, databases on a variety of crime-related data (e.g. names of criminals, fingerprints, DNA and stolen passports), and operational police support services in key crime areas.

