



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Senior military officers get training on contemporary United Nations peace operation

OTTAWA, Canada (September 21, 2009) – The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre (PPC) is providing a state-of-the-art course to senior military officers from 30 countries. Participants from Africa, Asia, Central America and Europe, will spend three weeks at the PPC’s training facility in Cornwallis, Nova Scotia, to enhance their knowledge and skills of complex peace operations.

The Senior Management Course (SMC) focuses on United Nations integrated peace operations and is designed to train military and civilian officers to increase the effectiveness of mission planning and participation. Participants will be introduced to the processes of providing strategic and operational advice in the development phase of a contemporary UN peace operation.

“Building the confidence and experience of officers to react quickly and accordingly can be a critical factor in determining the effectiveness of those officers upon deployment,” said Suzanne Monaghan, President of the PPC. “This can be achieved through a better understanding of how all the different departments and units of the United Nations work together in a peace operation.”

The course runs from September 21 to October 8, 2009. During that time, participants will examine a number of important topics, such as how a peace operation comes together; how the UN Security Council works, how to identify and correct cultural miscommunication, and how to use practical tools to get to the root of conflicts and help solve them.

“We are proud to welcome participants from so many different countries,” said project manager, Capt. John Pulchny. “The mix of backgrounds and experiences will create a truly robust and engaging learning environment for each participant. Each previous SMC course has seen the participants develop strong bonds with one another over the three weeks, where they can learn and develop their skills together.”

The PPC’s SMC course is supported through the Canadian Department of National Defence’s Directorate Military Training Assistance Program (MTAP), a key instrument of defence diplomacy that advances Canada’s contribution to international peace and security.

The Pearson Peacekeeping Centre is a Canadian institution dedicated to making international peace operations more effective through research, education, training and capacity building.

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