

modern technology, especially the means of observation and communications and unmanned aerial vehicles.

The attractiveness of the use of drones in UN peacekeeping operations is due to their ability to control the situation in the buffer zones. However, the main argument of supporters of the «power» peacemaking, in our opinion, is not so much efficiency, possibility of obtaining high-quality images at low altitudes or speed of data transmission, but the fact that drones can be used in hazardous locations without risk to the life of peacekeepers.

However, there are a number of issues in the political, legal and budgetary matters, as well as in the control of the information received and ensuring its confidentiality when using drones in peacekeeping operations.

In this regard, the disadvantages of using unmanned aerial vehicles should be eliminated as quickly as possible to make effective their use by peacekeepers. The use of new technologies will save human resources and make peacekeeping missions safer and more efficient. Today, the use of drones is one more step on the way to improve the peacekeeping activities.

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### **AUSTRALIAN POLICE PEACEKEEPING IN THE PACIFIC**

The Australian police participation in overseas peacekeeping operations is older than the Australian Federal Police (AFP), but Timor-Leste and the Solomon Islands overseas deployments have done more than any others. The Australian Government organized 11 Pacific nations into a regional force to assist the Solomon Islands in law and order restoration after a breakdown of the rule of law. The AFP's role in Solomon Islands wasn't new to the organization. In 1964, members of the Commonwealth Police (the AFP's predecessor) were sent to Cyprus as part of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force to help prevent further fighting between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. In 1974, the United Nations Mission was expanded to supervise a ceasefire and maintain a buffer zone separating the communities and undertake humanitarian activities. Australia's commitment in Cyprus has spanned 45 years, making it one of the few countries to have had a continuous presence there since the beginning of the UN mission.

Unquestionably, the AFP's two most significant peacekeeping and capacity development roles are in Timor-Leste and in the Solomon Islands.

The AFP Timor-Leste Police Development Program is providing the Policia Nacional de Timor-Leste with the institutional strengthening and governance frameworks that is the basis of an effective police force. This bilateral police-to-police arrangement develop and strengthen the leadership, vocational and management capabilities of the Timor-Leste police and enhance policing skills, create a professional, accountable and community-oriented police force with the leadership skills and training to allow it to deal with contemporary policing challenges. The AFP are working in partnership with senior executives on how to support criminal investigations, prosecutions, financial investigations, community policing, transnational crime, intelligence, internal investigations and training.

The need for dedicated section of the AFP to manage growing international deployments led to the establishment of the International Deployment Group (IDG) in February 2004 to provide logistical support for missions and a body of suitably trained men and women ready for deployment. Training focuses on cultural sensitivities, remote first aid, principles in capacity development, team building and UN police training modules. A purpose-built training facility that looks like a typical village or town in a country where an AFP member may be deployed is used so police officers can experience conditions and different cultures first-hand before they depart for a mission. The AFP is the first police force in the world to receive UN recognition for its pre-deployment training program.

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## **POLICE WOMEN ACTIVITIES IN THE UNITED NATIONS**

Women are deployed in all areas – police, military and civilian – and have made a positive impact on peacekeeping environments, both in supporting the role of women in building peace and protecting women’s rights.

In all fields of peacekeeping, women peacekeepers have proven that they can perform the same roles, to the same standards and under the same difficult conditions, as their male counterparts.

During 2013, the Departments of Field Support, Peacekeeping Operations and Political Affairs undertook a project called «Bridging the Civilian Gap in Peace Operation» to better understand the barriers to attracting, retaining and advancing female staff in the field. With civilian field staff representing 53 per cent of all UN Secretariat staff, an increase in