FACT SHEET:
Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections

In September 2012, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) as the Global Focal Point for the Police, Justice and Corrections Areas in the Rule of Law in Post-conflict and other Crisis Situations. The Secretary-General has prioritized “delivery as one” by the United Nations in crisis and conflict settings. The Global Focal Point arrangement will strengthen the United Nations ability to fill critical civilian capacity gaps in the aftermath of conflict. To facilitate the provision of joint support, both organizations have agreed to co-locate a portion of their respective rule of law teams from early 2013 in a single location at United Nations Headquarters.

WHAT ARE THE OBJECTIVES OF THE GLOBAL FOCAL POINT?

• To ensure the United Nations is central to international efforts to strengthen the rule of law in crisis-affected contexts.

• To support the system in delivering police, justice and corrections assistance to peacekeeping and political mission settings and other crisis situations, and to assist United Nations country teams and United Nations missions to develop and implement common rule of law, justice and security strategies and programmes.

• To provide timely and high-quality technical assistance in response to requests from the country level.

• To support fundraising efforts for comprehensive sector-wide programmes in crisis and conflict contexts.

• To enable the United Nations to fill capacity gaps in terms of people, skills, knowledge and policy in crisis and conflict contexts.

• To strengthen the United Nations outreach and partnerships with and between Member States, NGOs and think-tanks, with a particular focus on strengthening South-South cooperation.

WHAT SUPPORT CAN THE GLOBAL FOCAL POINT SEEK TO MOBILIZE IN RESPONSE TO REQUESTS FROM UNITED NATIONS FIELD PRESENCES IN CRISIS AND POST-CONFLICT SETTINGS?

• Rapidly deploy police, justice and corrections advisers.

• Expand expert rosters for more flexible deployments.

• Conducts joint assessment, planning and design of police, justice and corrections assistance.

• Support fundraising efforts for police, justice and corrections programmes at the country level.

• Develop guidance, training and policy tools where gaps exist.

• Evaluate the assistance provided and the United Nations impact on rule of law at the country level.

• Convene relevant United Nations entities to provide coordinated support.
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HOW ARE RESPONSIBILITIES ASSIGNED ACROSS UNDP AND DPKO AT HEADQUARTERS AND IN THE FIELD?

The Policy Committee Decision, which was adopted in September 2012, replaces previous decisions in this area and lays out a “two-tier” structure for United Nations support to police, justice and corrections.

At Country level:
The senior United Nations official in-country, the Special Representatives or Executive Representatives of the Secretary-General or, in non-mission settings, Resident Coordinators, are responsible and accountable for guiding and overseeing United Nations rule of law strategies, for resolving political obstacles and for coordinating United Nations country support on the rule of law, without prejudice to the specialized roles and specific mandates of United Nations entities in-country. United Nations entities working at country level are responsible and accountable for the provision of legal and technical advice related to the rule of law, and the technical design and implementation of rule of law related programmes.

At HQ level:
DPKO and UNDP are responsible and accountable for responding to country-level requests, channeled through United Nations entities on the ground, with timely and quality police, justice and corrections assistance including facilitating access to global knowledge and people, and providing advice on assessments, planning, funding and partnerships. They also commit to transparent country-driven measurement of this service. The Global Focal Point arrangement is applicable to peacekeeping, special political mission and non-mission countries. The Global Focal Point will draw upon expertise from United Nations entities, Member States, NGOs, think tanks, etc., and make them available to colleagues in the field.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND REQUESTS FOR SUPPORT PLEASE CONTACT:

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