Subject:- COVID 19- Postponing deployment and rotation of personnel

PMI to UN vide E/fax 27 dated 05.3.2020 (copy enclosed) has intimated that United Nations Department of Operational Support(UNDOS) has informed that the current outbreak of COVID-19 continues to expand with the reported cases across more than 78 countries. UNDOS has further informed about suspension or postponing certain planned deployments or rotations of military and police personnel to UNMISS, MONUSCO, UNISFA and UNIFIL.

2. It is here mentioned that there are one planned deployment to UNISFA (Abeyi) of two UNSAAT qualified Officers and tentative rotational deployment of BSF contingent as Formed Police Unit with MONUSCO(D R Congo) in the month of March and April respectively.

3. Therefore, there may be postponing of above planned/tentative deployment. Further information will be shared on receipt from Permanent Mission of India to United Nations. Please also check the MHA’s website for future updates.

Encl:- As Above

(S.Muthukumar
Under Secretary (PF-VI)

1Commandant (Ops), BSF, R K Puram HQ
2Commandant , UN Civpol Centre, ITBP, Tigri Camp, New Delhi

MHA ID No. 21023/08/2017-PMA (Dtd 11 March, 2020)

Copy to :-

SO (IT), MHA - With the request to upload the above communication on MHA website (UNSAAT 2018-2020 )
Sub: COVID 19 - Postponing deployment and rotation of personnel

Find enclosed UN Department of Operational Support communication dated 05 March 2020 on the above subject.

2. On receipt of guidance from several member states, UN is postponing planned deployment and rotation of police personnel to UNMISS, MONUSCO, UNISFA and UNIFIL.
Excellencies,

I am writing to provide guidance, further to my note of 21 February 2020, to all troop- and police-contributing countries (T/PCCs) and field operations on travel constraints imposed in light of the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak and the impact to peacekeeping missions and special political missions.

The current outbreak of COVID-19 continues to expand with reported cases across more than 78 countries. Experience to date shows that majority of patients would have mild disease and recover. The virus may, however, have an exacerbated impact on those most vulnerable, including people without access to medical care and who may have an existing underlying condition.

While there are no reported cases of the virus in any UN field operations, recent guidance received from several Member States will require us to suspend or postpone certain planned deployments or rotations of military and police personnel to UNMISS, MONUSCO, UNISFA and UNIFIL.

I thank you for your continued support in helping us mitigate against any spread of COVID-19 in our missions.

If you have any queries on this subject, the Division of Health-Care Management and Occupational Safety and Health in the Office of Support Operations of the my Department, is available to reach at email: dos-dhmosh-public-health@un.org.

Please accept, Excellencies, the assurances of my highest consideration.

Atul Khare
Under-Secretary-General
for Operational Support

Permanent Representatives of Member States
to the United Nations
New York
Annex A:

Current travel limitations

The WHO does not recommend any travel or trade restrictions, and in line with WHO guidance, the UN has not banned travel to or from any country for reasons of COVID-19, however Member States continue to assess the situation have several have recently issued guidance for travellers arriving from certain countries which will impact upcoming deployments and rotations to MONUSCO, UNMISS, UNISFA and UNIFIL.

The specific Host or Transit countries and countries or origin as of now:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country of Origin</th>
<th>Host or Transit country restrictions</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cambodia</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>China</td>
<td>Lebanon South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Iran</td>
<td>Lebanon South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>Lebanon South Sudan</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nepal</td>
<td>South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Republic of Korea</td>
<td>Lebanon South Sudan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Uganda</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Secretariat will continue to monitor the situation and provide further information, including an updated table, on any known travel constraints in response to COVID-19 and will send further updates as available.