

Dear Mr Battulga, Secretary of Ministry of Foreign affairs,
Participants,
Peacekeeping experts and Guests,

Welcome to my lovely country, birth land of the Greatest Khaan of the Millennium,
Chinggis Khaan.

I would like to mention my attendance in the first peacekeeping experts meeting in Malaysia, 2007. It's my pleasure to be here Indonesia-Mongolian co-chairing 5th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), the Peacekeeping Experts' Meeting, to announce my words as a guest speaker. Taking this opportunity, I would like to emphasize great results of ARF Peacekeeping experts meetings have been brought us enhancing well-trained troop contribution for peacekeeping operations from our region, sharing of best practices for networking among peacekeeping training centers in the Asia-Pacific region so that UN peacekeeping remains a viable and indeed a stronger instrument for the future.

I hope this forum will give us an opportunity to reflect on last 10 years participation of the Armed Forces of Mongolia to the UN Peacekeeping Operations that is to examine our achievements and also bring with it the expectations of the future vision, mission, and standards.

Hence the Government of Mongolia views continued and increasing participation of Mongolian Armed Forces military personnel in UN peace operations is an endeavor of profound significance because first, this is a form of safeguarding Mongolia's national security through political and diplomatic means and second, this is a venue for professional advancement and human development for Mongolian men and women in uniform.

We will continue to work and develop efficient, effective and accountable contributions to the UN and direct support to the security of the regional peace and stability by carrying out "Mongolian Armed forces development program till 2015".

Since 1999, the country has started to prepare for its participation in the peacekeeping operations of the United Nations, having signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Organization.

Consequently, in 2002 the country has sent two military observers in the UN Mission in Congo. On the stage of 10 years of anniversary for participating into the UN PKO, we have increased strength of our troop contribution in the UN to great number of 1289. Mongolian troops had served 7 peace support operations successfully and Today Mongolian Armed Forces has deployed its peacekeepers to Peace Support Operations in South Sudan, Sudan Darfur, Congo, Western Sahara, also to the Coalition mission in Afghanistan.

The Armed Forces of Mongolia, its active participation in the peace efforts of the UN and its extensive contribution to implementing its common goals, helped to expose the country to the region as well as to the world.

Information technology is a powerful means of facilitating an active response to individuals and organizations at every level in closing gaps between countries cooperation, the enhancement of their knowledge and improving people's business and earning skills, in addition to sharing their data. One of the great examples is the International Association of Peacekeeping Training Centres website which initiated by Canada's Pearson Peacekeeping Center in 1995.

Therefore we will pay highest attention to this aspect as the core string of development in the future for having closest and effective cooperation with partner countries' peacekeeping training centers.

Here, the presence of the so many different countries is unique and valuable for Mongolian peace efforts.

The 5th Peacekeeping Experts Meeting, as several previous meeting and forums that set the foundation of our success, lead to a better understanding of the problems and perspectives of each country, and particularly those in the ASEAN.

I take this opportunity to thank all the participants, guests, experts and advisers very successful results. I also can not conclude without a through for all our peacekeepers who are in those 16 UN missions, far from home.

The Armed Forces of Mongolia is grateful to the Global Peace Operations Initiative Programs of the Unites States' the Department of States for its assistance and support in peacekeeping expert development efforts which have achieved to train military officers. It is remarkably working to improve capabilities of the Armed Forces of Mongolia in the UN PKO.

Welcome, again, and I wish the best success to the ARF PK Experts' meeting participants and the best results in the meeting.