Mr Chairman,

We thank Cote d’Ivore for organizing the meeting of the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations on this important subject and for inviting troop and police contributing countries to participate. We would also like to thank the representatives from DPO Policy and Best Practices Service, Office of Military Affairs and Police Division for their comprehensive briefings.

Mr Chairman,

India pays tribute to the men and women who have served and continue to serve in peacekeeping operations for their professionalism, dedication and courage. We remember those who have lost their lives in serving the cause of peace.

India is a signatory to A4P declaration and is committed to play an active role in the implementation of this important initiative.

Let me showcase some of our recent steps which highlight our commitment.

India successfully conducted the co-deployment of a Kazakhstan Contingent with Indian Battalion in UNIFIL in October 2018 which is one of the key “Member State to Member State Partnership initiative”.

India employs its United Nations peacekeeping experience to partner with other Member States in ‘Capacity Building Initiatives’ in a very tangible manner. This year we conducted the Joint Field Training Exercise on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations (UNPKO) and Humanitarian Mine Assistance (HMA) with 17 African Countries in March 2019.

Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) at India has been a flag bearer for imparting quality instructors in the field of UN peacekeeping training as per ITS promulgated standards. We have been conducting UN related courses like Female Military officers Course (FMOOC), Senior Missions Leaders’ Course (SMLC), Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) as well as conduct of Field Training Exercise (FTX) / Tactical Training Exercise (TTX) / Command Planning Exercise (CPX).
India deployed a Female Engagement Team (FET) as part of the Rapidly Deployable Brigade (RDB) in Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in June 2019 with an aim to increase the number of women peacekeepers in the contingents.

Mr Chairman,

On the latest initiative of A4P Champions by the Secretariat, India has already expressed its interest in two of the thematic areas namely the “Performance & Accountability” and “Conduct of Operations & of Personnel”.

On the “Performance & Accountability” we are willing to engage in the formulation of Integrated Performance Policy Framework (IPPF), procedure for caveats and provision of Mobile Training Teams (MTTs) in selected missions for “In-Mission Training”.

On the “Conduct of Operations & of Personnel” we are already engaged in provision of Financial Support for “Pipeline to Peacekeeping Command Programme” (PCP) which will help develop the capacity of future commanders and managers to lead by example and raise awareness of UN standards of conduct among their personnel.

Mr Chairman,

In the absence of C34 report this year, we see that Para 24 of the A4P Declaration provides adequate guidance for follow-up. We are also happy to note that the recently adopted C34 report structure now stands aligned to the eight themes of A4P.

Finally we hope that the deliberations during this working group will make a significant contribution in pursuing the follow-up of A4P in an inclusive & transparent manner.

I Thank You Mr Chairman.