

# GPOI Senior Mission Leaders Course (SML), MET

(MASL #P309211)

**Introduction:** The Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) conducts a peacekeeping training course entitled “Senior Mission Leaders (SML) course. The SML course prepares senior personnel for their future roles and responsibilities as mission leaders in United Nations (UN) peacekeeping operations, to include planning, managing and leading UN peacekeeping missions. On completion of the course, participants will be competent to lead UN peacekeeping missions. The US conducts this course through its Global Peace Operations Initiative (GPOI) program.

CCMR has conducted the SML course with partner countries; the partner country is also responsible for helping develop and select course participants. For example, the course has been offered in Tokyo twice, jointly with the Government of Japan. Course participants are senior personnel (i.e., brigadier general and civilian equivalents) and are drawn from GPOI countries throughout the region or worldwide; they could also be from non-GPOI participating countries, but those candidates will be funded through IMET/ EIMET or be self-funded. Course duration is 12 calendar days, inclusive of weekend rest and cultural/ social events.

**Training Objectives:** The SML will enhance capacities of GPOI partner countries by developing senior UN leadership capabilities, and it will increase the number of trained leaders available for leadership posts in UN peacekeeping missions. The specific objectives of the SML course are to:

- a. Ensure understanding of Cooperation, Coordination, Communication, Consensus and Integration for effective functioning of the mission Senior Leadership Team (SLT);
- b. Develop understanding of the various components of peacekeeping missions;
- c. Enhance understanding of the legal framework of UN operations and the attendant Integrated Mission Planning Process;
- d. Create a common understanding of the UN system and various agencies in the field including aspects of strategic coordination;
- e. Ensure understanding of the responsibilities and roles of the SLT to effectively lead personnel employed in peacekeeping operations;
- f. Enhance understanding of cross-cutting issues to include Gender and the implementation of SCR 1325, Code of Conduct & Discipline, Sexual Exploitation and Abuses (SEA), etc, through sound leadership and administration.

**Instructors:** The instructor staff consists of course secretariat and mentoring team. The mentoring team possesses extensive mission experience. Subject Matter Experts also include personnel from UN agencies, field missions, HQ staff and academic institutions.

**Participants:** Course size is 25 participants. Participant rank/grade should be brigadier general or civilian equivalent. Previous peacekeeping experience is desirable. Optimally, participant structure achieves both gender and component (military, police and civilian) parity.

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