DPKO and DFS should implement systems, with clear roles and responsibilities and relevant substantive training to field missions, to improve internal information sharing and electronic records management and achieve data liquidity.

Every mission should undertake a comprehensive review (at least) annually of its information priorities, as well as its information gathering, management, analysis and dissemination practices as measured against those priorities.

Peacekeeping should revise its reporting requirements to enable, where appropriate, single reports from the field to serve multiple purposes, and missions should strengthen the capacity of JOCs to maximize their role as the information hub of the mission.

JOCs, JMACs (or a mission’s other analytic capacity) and GIS components should be immediately provided with the tools required to collect, process, use and disseminate information effectively, to the benefit of decision makers. GIS capacities should be co-located with the JOC wherever possible.

The UN must immediately implement basic cyber hygiene—at a minimum, to include hardware asset inventory, software asset inventory, secure configurations of networks and systems, a system of continuous system monitoring and vulnerability mitigation, and means of controlling the distribution and use of administrative permissions.

Clear policies should be emplaced, and leadership accountability be established, to help ensure that information is properly and lawfully obtained, stored, used, processed and shared, and that prevailing privacy laws are respected.

To enable missions to make better immediate use of open source information, the UN should reiterate the policy that lifts Internet restrictions for those engaged in open source information collection, and provide training on basic cyber security and ethics protocols. It should also ensure that open source analytic tools are immediately available and accessible to those whose core business requires them.

DPKO and DFS should work with UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes and other humanitarian actors in the field to establish a common information exchange policy and protocols sensitive to humanitarian principles, to enhance common situational awareness and understanding, and explore the use of available inter-agency data-sharing tool s.

As the UN moves towards intelligence-led peacekeeping, it should engage with Member States to determine an appropriate governance structure for the use of certain technologies used to collect information.

The UN must continuously review and update related internal policies and procedures as technology evolves and is taken on board by peacekeeping.

Peacekeeping missions should seek to incorporate technology in the design and

implementation of protection of civilians strategies, in particular their early warning and early response mechanisms.

Missions must take care to protect sensitive information as well as the privacy of particularly vulnerable individuals in protection scenarios.

Peacekeeping should continue to seek ways to use technology as an empowerment tool in protection of civilian contexts, while remaining mindful of possible risks.