The Integrated Training Service (ITS) and the Child Protection Team of the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations concluded a five day pilot training on child protection for United Nations Police at the UN Global Services Centre in Brindisi, Italy, on 9 December.

The pilot training reviewed the newly developed Specialized Training Module on Child Protection, and collected feedback from the 34 participants from 30 police contributing countries, which are experienced in peacekeeping, training, and policing. It familiarized participants with the new child protection training standards for UN Police.

Based on the feedback from the workshop, the training modules will be finalized in early 2017, and disseminated to Member States, police contributing countries, UN peacekeeping operations in the field, and child protection training partners.
The United Nations Police Adviser, Stefan Feller noted, “Protection of civilians, and in particular child protection, is at the heart of police mandated tasks. This critical training package will complement the DPKO training portfolio and support Member States to be better prepared for the demanding tasks in UN Peacekeeping and Special Political Missions.”

The Security Council has emphasized the need for training of military, police and civilian peacekeepers on child protection in a number of children resolutions since 1999, including S/RES/2185 and S/RES/2143 of 2014. Dedicated training enables peacekeepers to effectively recognize, report, and respond to violations and abuses committed against children, and to successfully support child protection activities. While a Specialized Training Module on child protection for military peacekeepers was already in place since 2014, this new training module for UN police closes a gap of training needs on child protection for UN police.

The pilot training was delivered by a training team of experienced trainers from ITS, Child Protection, the German government, and child protection experts from missions.

For more information on the pilot training or the child protection training modules for UN police, please contact: Police Training Officers, Dag Dahlen (dahlen@un.org), Stefan Schwarz (schwarz1@un.org) or Child Protection Team Leader, Ann Makome, (makome@un.org).

For more information on United Nations Police visit: www.un.org/police.