

#### 4.13.1 India and Pakistan

##### UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)

• Authorization Date	21 April 1948 (UNSC Res. 47)
• Start Date	1 January 1949
• Chief Military Officer	Major-General Kim Moon Hwa (Republic of Korea)
• Budget	\$8.1 million (1 January 2008–31 December 2008)
• Strength as of 31 October 2008	Military Observers: 44 International Civilian Staff: 23 Local Civilian Staff: 46

*For detailed mission information see p. 348*

In 2008, the UN Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) monitored an increasingly tense situation along the contested Jammu-Kashmir border. During September, on the margins of the meetings of the UN General Assembly, the parties agreed to a new round of peace talks before the end of the year; and in October, cross-border trade resumed, breaking a sixty-year hiatus. But, despite these promising developments, the terrorist attacks in India's financial capital, Mumbai, in November served to undermine India-Pakistan relations.

UNMOGIP observes the cease-fire established by the Karachi Agreement of 27 July 1949, despite India's official position that UNMOGIP has had no operational role to play since the signing of the 1972 Simla Agreement, which established the line of control separating the two armies.

The mission continues to monitor the 1972 line of control, which has been only slightly revised since the 1949 Karachi Agreement. Following tensions in 2003 that raised the prospect of nuclear confrontation, political relations took a positive turn in January 2004, when an agreement was reached to commence a bilateral "composite dialogue" on an agreed range of issues, including those related to Jammu-Kashmir. Numerous confidence-building measures were initiated, and a minisummit was held in April 2005 to discuss the fate of Jammu-Kashmir. At talks in December 2006, Pakistan's former president Pervez Musharraf put forward a four-point plan involving demilitarization by both sides of the line of control, self-government, and joint control over the disputed areas in Kashmir. India responded cautiously to the terms of the plan, with talks continuing through 2007.

Political upheaval in Pakistan in late 2007 led to the postponement of the scheduled talks. However, the two sides agreed to resume meeting in May 2008. Increased Islamic rebel violence and violent anti-India demonstrations were the cause of much concern throughout the year, leading India's foreign minister to declare in July that the peace talks were under duress. The surge in violence led to a dramatic violation of the cease-fire—the first in five years—that saw the two armies engage in a fierce gun battle. Each side blamed the other for the provocation, and in August, India accused Pakistan of complicity in the bombing of its embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan. Recriminations between the two countries were followed by violent demonstrations in the contested area, with India deploying fighter jets in response to what it saw as increased Pakistani support for Islamic militants.

India-Pakistan tensions peaked in late November and early December following the terrorist attacks on Mumbai, which were attributed to Lashkar-e-Taiba, a militant group based in the Pakistani-controlled region of Kashmir. At the end of the year, India had taken a more confrontational stance toward the Pakistani government, raising questions as to the prospects of resolving the decades-old conflict over Kashmir.