**EUAVSEC South Sudan : La mission renforcera la sûreté aérienne au Soudan du Sud**

Le Conseil a donné le 18 juin son feu vert à une nouvelle mission PSDC (politique de sécurité et de défense commune) visant à renforcer la sûreté aérienne à l’aéroport international de Djouba, EUAVSEC - South Sudan

Cette mission civile répond à une demande du Soudan du Sud et s’inscrit dans le cadre de l’approche globale de l’UE, une stratégie visant à aider le Soudan du Sud à devenir un État viable, stable et prospère.

Mme Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l’Union, a déclaré à cette occasion: “L’UE est déterminée à soutenir la paix, la sécurité et le développement au Soudan du Sud. EUAVSEC - South Sudan s’attachera à améliorer la sûreté à l’aéroport de Djouba en vue de la rendre conforme aux normes internationalement reconnues, ce qui est important pour favoriser le développement économique du Soudan du Sud et pour soutenir les efforts visant à éviter que l’aéroport ne devienne une cible pour le terrorisme.”

**EU completes its police mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

The EU Police Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (EUPM), the first mission launched under the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), completed its mandate on 30 June 2012. Initially launched on 1 January 2003 for a period of three years, EUPM continued its mission beyond this at the request of the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), regularly adjusting its size and role as necessary as part of the EU’s efforts to support the rule of law.

High Representative Catherine Ashton said: “EUPM BiH has in many respects contributed to shaping our common security and defence policy and the EU’s role as a security provider. Since 2003, we have developed the capacity to deploy efficiently both civilian and military means on various continents, and our neighbourhood has always been a priority. The completion of EUPM reflects the progress achieved by Bosnia and Herzegovina in strengthening the rule of law. The mission’s achievements will be sustained through the EU Special Representative Peter Sorensen to support further improvements and accompany BiH on its path towards EU accession. I pay tribute to the current Head of Mission Stefan Feller and his three predecessors, to all police officers and experts from all over Europe and beyond and to the local staff who have participated with dedication in this mission.”

**New Security Forces for Somalia**

On 6 July, the European Union Training Mission (EUTM) for Somalia successfully delivered a 3rd rotation of trained Somali soldiers to the Somali authorities in Mogadishu. This EU programme will have trained more than 3 000 Somali soldiers by the end of the 4th training intake. The EU Training Mission is part of a broader EU strategy to assist countries in the Horn of Africa in countering piracy and improving security.

The training course was conducted in Bihanga Training Camp, Western Uganda. During each six month training session, between 600 and 900 Somali men and women are trained by teams of military trainers from twelve EU Member States in partnership with the Ugandan Army. The aim of the courses is to contribute to the strengthening of the Somali National Security Forces and thereby contribute to the credibility of the Somali Government as a functioning institution serving the Somali people.

**EDA Helicopter Programme ‘Hot Blade’ exercise**

One of the largest helicopter exercises in Europe kicked off in Ovar, Portugal on 4 July.

Hot Blade 2012, part of the European Defence Agency’s (EDA) Helicopter Training Programme, is a two-week event involving some 2 700 personnel from seven countries: Portugal (hosting the event and supported by Luxembourg), Austria, Belgium, Finland, Germany and the Netherlands, as well as observers from Sweden and the UK. From the Ovar Air Base near Porto, the exercise area covers almost half of Portugal.

The Helicopter Training Programme is one of a number of EDA programmes that pool and share assets and resources, enhancing the overall military capabilities of the EDA’s Member States.
Mission Mandates and Appointments

EUPOL Afghanistan: Mr Karl Åke Roghe has been appointed Head of Mission for the EU police mission in Afghanistan. The decision was taken by the EU Political and Security Committee on 10 July. Mr Roghe, from Sweden, will take up his duties on 1 August 2012, with his mandate running until 31 May 2013. He succeeds Brigadier General Jukka Savolainen, who had been in the post since July 2010, and interim Head of Mission Geoffrey Cooper.

EUPOL COPPS: Kenneth Deane took office as the new Head on 1 July 2012. He succeeds Henrik Malmquist, Paul Robert Kernaghan and Colin Smith. On 25 June 2012, the Council of the European Union decided to extend the mission's mandate until 30 June 2013

EUBAM RAFAH: On 1 July, Captain Davide Palmigiani took office as the Head of the EUBAM Rafah Mission. He succeeds Colonel Alain Faugeras

EUNAVFOR ATALANTA: Rear-Admiral Enrico CREDENDINO is appointed EU Force Commander for the European Union military operation to contribute to the deterrence, prevention and repression of acts of piracy and armed robbery off the Somali coast


EULEX KOSOVO: The mandate of Mr Xavier BOUT DE MARNHAC as Head of Mission of EULEX KOSOVO has been extended until 14 October 2012

Upcoming activities

23 July - Foreign Affairs Council

EUNAVFOR Frigate Guépratte Secures Gulf of Aden

The beginning of June usually marks the arrival of the monsoon in the Indian Ocean, where sustained rains, strong winds and rough seas make navigation for skiffs and dhows very difficult. These changing conditions also restrict fishing grounds causing fishermen to shift to quieter areas in the western Gulf of Aden and the southern Strait of Bab El Mandeb.

Pirate groups take advantage of this situation by blending in with fishing boats to attack cargo ships transiting in the vicinity. By order of the EUNAVFOR Headquarters on board flag ship Marne, Guépratte sailors concentrated their patrols in sensitive areas so as to act quickly in case of an attack against a merchant vessel.

EUSEC RD Congo - La sécurité d’armes des FARDC* est améliorée dans les villes principales

En juin dernier, des armoires blindées ont été installées dans les postes de garde des unités militaires les plus actives dans la capitale Kinshasa, à Bukavu (Sud-Kivu), Goma (Nord-Kivu), Kitona (Bas-Congo) et Lubumbashi (Katanga).


* Forces armées de la République démocratique du Congo

EUPOL COPPS – Young Police Summer Camp 2012, Ramallah

120 children from five villages in the Nablus District met together with the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) in Beita School for the “Young Police Summer Camp 2012” in Ramallah, 16-20 June. At the end of the camp, certificates and medals were awarded to the children in the presence of the Palestinian Civil Police (PCP) Head of Public Relations and Media Department, Lieutenant Colonel Mansour Khuzimeyeh, the Nablus District Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Omar Bzour, the Director of Education, Professor Mohammad Awwada and the Deputy Head of the EU Police Mission in the Palestinian Territories (EUPOL COPPS), Sofie Mortier.

The summer camp aimed to contribute to the security of Palestinian children in rural areas and also contribute to improving communicating and understanding of the work of the PCP with future generations. The event was partly the result of a pilot project sponsored by EUPOL COPPS from its Small Projects fund with the support of the South Nablus Education Directorate.