

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

EU Mission to provide advice and assistance for security sector reform in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in the area of defence (EUSEC RD CONGO)

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EUSEC RDC/18

Background

The EUSEC RD Congo mission, which has been deployed in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) since June 2005, reflects the EU's ongoing commitment to the Congolese people in terms of reforming their army.

Since the original mandate, which was to support the Congolese army's integration process and to run the "Chain of payments" project for ensuring the security of payments to the military, the mission has diversified its activities with a view to modernising both administration and human resources management. The aim is to support the Congolese authorities in their efforts to establish a modern, efficient administrative structure and to implement reform policies that are compatible with good governance within the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC). In addition to these activities, the mission assists its Congolese partners in the field of troop training, logistics, human rights and civil-military cooperation.



Col NURENBERG, Head of EUSEC Mission, with SEM LUBA, Minister for Defence, after signing the EUSEC action plan, November 2012

Working closely with the other contributing members of the international community, EUSEC RD Congo provides practical support for security sector reform in the DRC by giving advice and assistance directly to the competent Congolese authorities. Advisers have been working with the military authorities in Kinshasa since June 2005 and have been deployed in the staffs of several military regions since January 2006.

Mandate and objectives

The general aim of the EUSEC RD Congo mission is to support the Congolese authorities in rebuilding an army that will guarantee security throughout the country and create the conditions for making economic and social development possible again. The mission is currently composed of some 50 military and civilian personnel. It is based in Kinshasa, with detachments deployed in Bukavu and Goma. In addition, two project sites are established in Moanda, Lower Congo (School for non-commissioned officers, Infantry School and Artillery School of Kitona) and Kananga, Kasai Occidental (Military Academy and School of Administration). EUSEC RD Congo is the only structure fully dedicated to reforming the military security sector in the DRC.

MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Location: the Democratic Republic of the Congo
Headquarters: Kinshasa
Starting date: June 2005
Current mandate: October 2012 - September 2013
Head of Mission: Col Jean-Louis NURENBERG
Expatriate staff: 48 persons
Mission budget: EUR 11 million for 2012-2013
Contributing states: 10 EU Member States+USA

www.eusec-rdc.eu

For its seventh mandate (1 October 2012 - 30 September 2013), EUSEC RD Congo will assist the Congolese authorities in implementing policies compatible with democratic norms, compliance with human rights and international humanitarian law, as well as good governance. For a period of two years, the mission's activities will be: to continue to support the Ministry of Defence, the FARDC high command and the general inspectorate, to consolidate the administration of human and financial resources, to support the consolidation and alignment of the training system and to support the reconstruction of the logistics system. Moreover, in addition to two detachments situated in Bukavu and Goma respectively and two engineering experts deployed in Kananga and Kitona to continuously monitor the projects in Moanda in Lower Congo and in Kananga in Kasai Occidental, since 1 October 2012 mobile teams have been in place in Kinshasa and are completing missions in the nine other military regions to ensure they benefit from the EUSEC's expertise. In the military regions, the mobile teams make contact with the FARDC authorities and evaluate administration and human resources, training, infrastructure and logistics. In other spheres, such as civil-military activities and the promotion of equality between men and women, EUSEC RD Congo develops and implements projects funded by the Member States or the European Union.

As part of its assistance to the DRC, the EU supports security sector reform. The EUSEC RD Congo mission aims to ensure the coherence of the military component of its actions, in coordination with its "sister mission" EUPOL RD Congo, and with the EU delegation and the ambassadors of the Member States. This is in line with the EU's external action to support development and democracy in the African Great Lakes region.

Mission achievements

EUSEC RD Congo advisers deployed in the east of the country have supervised the monthly disbursements of wages for the past six years, and are helping the Congolese authorities to put in place mechanisms ensuring greater transparency of financial flows. One of EUSEC RD Congo's flagship initiatives has been to support the biometric census of troops carried out by the FARDC, which is the cornerstone of personnel administration and financial reform. The sixth mandate was noteworthy for its successes in reviving training. Courses on financial management and human resources were attended by around 1 800 officers, and administrative regulations were distributed in all the military regions. In addition, the FARDC reopened the Administrative School in Kananga after a break of 24 years. This school, with the capacity to take on 140 students, held its fourteenth session in September in completely renovated buildings. More recently, the mission supported the reopening of the Kitona Training School for non-commissioned officers and the Military Academy in Kananga in conjunction with French military cooperation and the Belgian military partnership programme respectively. Finally, the distribution of military identity cards, which is the final stage in the biometric census, was successfully completed with the mission's support. Moreover, a territorial computer network now connects Kinshasa to the main sites of the military regions and their staffs. This project has so far received EUR 3.5 million in funding from the EU and its Member States.



The mobile team talks to Lt Col BOTENA from the General Staff in Matadi in November 2012.

Ongoing activities

During the first year of this mandate, the mission will continue its work in supporting the modernisation of human resource management for troops and their dependants. It will also help with the development of a logistics database to contribute to the development of the law on military planning in the short, medium and long term, and will support the budget and finances directorate of the Ministry of National Defence. In terms of training, the mission continues to provide support for the operation of the Kitona schools, including the School for non-commissioned officers, and the Kananga schools, including the Military Academy and supports the establishment of the general command of military schools that is to coordinate all training and schools. The mission also continues with preparations for the creation of a School of logistics to promote logistic culture and knowledge.

*The European Union's **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defence policy which might in time lead to a common defence. The CSDP allows the Union to develop its civilian and military capacities for crisis management and conflict prevention at international level, thus helping to maintain peace and international security, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The CSDP includes a strong conflict prevention component.*

More information and background documents available on:
www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp and eeas.europa.eu