



EUPOL-KINSHASA **The first European Police mission in Africa**

Responding to an invitation by the Government of the DRC, the police Mission of the European Union EUPOL-Kinshasa is the first civilian mission of crisis management in Africa, coming within the framework of the External Security and Defence Policy (ESDP).

The mission was established in December 2004 by the Joint Action 2004/847/PESC of the Council of the European Union.

After a partial pre-deployment in the Democratic Republic of Congo on February 3rd 2005, the EUPOL-Kinshasa Mission was officially launched on 12 April 2005.

On 22 November 2005, taking into account the continuation of the Transition in the DRC until 30 June 2006, and following a request by President Kabila dated 6 October 2006, the Council of the European Union decided to extend the EUPOL-Kinshasa Mission for an additional year, until 31 December 2006.

The mission staff includes 29 expatriates (12 French, 6 Portuguese, 4 Italians, 2 Dutch, 2 Belgians, 1 Swede and two staff from invited countries: Canada and Turkey, a candidate for membership of the European Union).

The EUPOL-Kinshasa Mission is steered by the Superintendent Adilio Ruivo CUSTÓDIO.

The activities of the Mission

1. Support to the Integrated Police Unit (IPU)



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The initial mission of EUPOL-Kinshasa consisted in supporting the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) at the level of its chain of command, in order to strengthen the management capacities of the Unit.

It thus undertakes activities of monitoring, supervision and advice to the IPU for the execution of its missions, while ensuring that this specialised unit acts in accordance with the best international police practices and Human Rights.

The IPU is an inter-mixed unit of the National Congolese Police (PNC) includes 1008 men, responsible for the protection of the institutions and the actors of the Transition.

This specialized unit has benefitted from a programme of training and supply of equipment led by the European Commission, the Council and the Member States, at the Kasangulu Training Center, mentioned in the Joint Action 2004/494/PESC of May 2004.

Today, the IPU covers three essential missions:

- It provides escorts to certain actors of the transition as well as personalities during official missions, as well as guarding the Institutions.
- It contributes to the security of the elections by organizing prevention and intervention patrols.
- It constitutes a tactical reserve force of 350 men for the purposes of maintaining order.

The EUPOL mission covers three further activities:

2. A training activity



Pursuing the action initiated by the specialized training mission at the Kasangulu center, in close cooperation with the Delegation of the European Union in Kinshasa, the EUPOL Mission has established a continuous training programme for the IPU.

This programme started in early February 2006 at the IPU operational base, located at the Echangeur de Limete, and will end in November 2006.



Through theoretical lessons and practical exercises, this training program aims at strengthening the operational capacities acquired by the policemen as well as the planning and managerial capacities of the managers of the Headquarters Staff and the commanders of the basic units.

It also includes Human Rights information, through a partnership partnership with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

Six trainers constitute the framework of the training section.

3. *the reform and reorganisation of the Congolese National Police (CNP)*

Responding to the invitation of the Congolese authorities, the EUPOL Mission participates in the Joint Think-Tank on the Reform and Reorganisation of the National Congolese Police.

Apart from the National Congolese Police, this cell groups the main actors in the DRC police sector, i.e. MONUC, France, Great Britain, Angola, South Africa, and the European Union represented by the Delegation of the Commission in Kinshasa and the police Mission EUPOL.

Its mandate was to :

- establish an inventory of the current NCP ;
- make recommendations in view of a forthcoming reorganisation ;
- draft an organic law ;
- establish a plan of action for the coordination of the various bi lateral cooperation activities in this area.

The final report was published on 15 May 2006. According to current plans, this task shall be pursued in the framework of a Monitoring Committee.

4. The establishment of an element of coordination of the Congolese forces maintaining order during the election period



On 23 March 2006, following a recommendation of the Policy and Security Committee, the Council of the European Union, in the framework of the response to the UN request for assistance with the security of the election process, decided to temporarily strengthen the EUPOL Mission.

Maintenance of order in Kinshasa has been recognised by the UN as a key element for the success of the electoral process. The EUPOL Mission is currently strengthened by 29 police staff (11 French, 1 Dane, 1 English, 13 Angolans, 2 Malians, 1 Rumanian), for a period of five months, covering the election period.

The commitment of the EU in terms of police support contributes to strengthen stability in Kinshasa, by improving coordination between the specialised units of the National Congolese Police in charge of maintaining or re-establishing public order in the capital, i.e. 4500 men in total.

The mission doesn't have executive authority. Its support consists in technical assistance, monitoring activities, supervision, including advice on the planning of crowd management operations, without intervening in these operations.

This aims at improving and facilitating communication and decision-making, application of operational directives, and supervision of the manoeuvres of the units in charge of maintaining order in the capital, by ensuring that they are acting in accordance with democratic rules of police for the maintenance or re-establishment of public order.

This operation contributes to ensure that cohesion of the integrated units is maintained through a presence on the ground.

This action is supported by both the Congolese authorities and the United Nations. It is undertaken in perfect harmony with the other components of the NCP in the capital, and in close interaction with MONUC, the EUFOR mission and the other major actors present in Kinshasa.

The EUPOL-Kinshasa Mission is being strengthened by police elements from third countries, including African countries that have been invited.

This integration underscores a new dimension of EU action in the area of civilian management of crisis situations.