



EUROPEAN UNION
COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

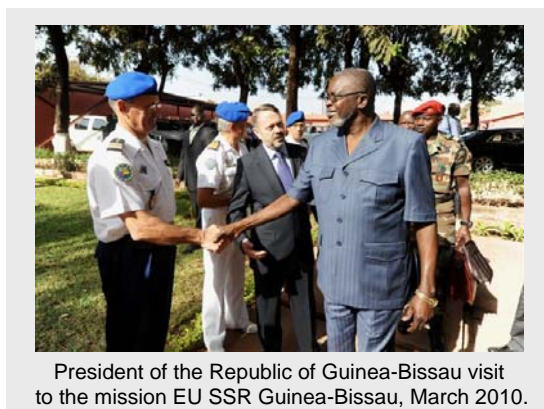
**EU mission in support of security sector reform
in the Republic of Guinea-Bissau
(EU SSR GUINEA-BISSAU)**

Updated: September 2010
Guinea-Bissau/12

Mission background

The Council of the EU decided to establish a mission in support of Security Sector Reform in the Republic of Guinea Bissau (EU SSR Guinea-Bissau) on 12 February 2008 (Council joint action 2008/112/CFSP). The mission was conducted under the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). It was the first mission planned entirely at the headquarters for EU civilian crisis management operations - the Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC).

The mission was officially launched in June 2008 for an initial duration of 12 months and its duration was prolonged to 28 months. The last extension ended on 30 September 2010, date on which the mission closed down. It was conducted in partnership with the Republic of Guinea Bissau, which maintains ownership of the security sector reform (SSR) process. The mission was in line with the joint "Africa-EU strategic partnership" adopted at the 8-9 December 2007 EU-Africa summit in Lisbon.



President of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau visit to the mission EU SSR Guinea-Bissau, March 2010.

Mandate and objectives

The mission provided local authorities with advice and assistance on SSR in order to contribute to the creation of conditions for the implementation of the National SSR Strategy document (approved by the National Assembly on 23 January 2008) in close cooperation with other EU, international and bilateral actors, and with a view to facilitating subsequent donor engagement.

The specific objective of the mission was to operationalise the National SSR Strategy through assisting in the development of detailed implementation plans for downsizing and restructuring the Armed Forces and the Security Forces. Moreover, the mission assisted in the development and articulation of capacity-building needs, including training and equipment, and facilitating subsequent donors' engagement.

MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Country: Guinea Bissau
Headquarters: Bissau
Starting date: June 2008
End date: 30 September 2010
Head of Mission: Colonel Fernando Afonso (since 1 July 2010)
Mission strength: 8 international staff and 16 local staff
Mission budget: EUR 5 650 000 (from April 200 to November 2009) + EUR 1 530 000 (from 1 December 2009 to 30 June 2010) + EUR 630 000 (from 1 July 2010 to 30 September 2010)
Participating states: FR, PT, IT, ES



www.consilium.europa.eu/eu-ssr-guinea-bissau

The mission consisted of military and civilian advisers assigned to work with the Army, the Navy, the Air Force, the Judicial Police, the Public Order Police, the Prosecution Services and the Secretariat of the Steering Committee for the SSR process.

Actions

The mission, in accordance with its mandate and respecting the principle of local ownership, assisted the Guinean authorities to prepare a comprehensive set of laws and organisational documents for three areas of activities: military, police and prosecution. In particular, this included the revision and development of the legal model of the Armed and Security Forces, the definition of their future structures, the re-establishment of the link between the Judicial Police and Interpol, the project for the National Guard, as well as the revision of the organic law on Prosecution and the code of conduct for magistrates.



The Security Sector Reform pack of laws has been approved in May 2010 by the Guinea-Bissau National Assembly. Among them were approved the National Guard and Public Order Police organic laws and as well the Basic Law for the Armed Forces, which are considered essential for starting the implementation phase of the SSR process.

The approval of these laws is a consequence of almost two years of close and daily cooperation with the national authorities in accordance with the EU SSR Guinea-Bissau mission mandate. The Mission also carried out numerous communication activities and education on SSR and helped the topic to become a national priority. The mission's objectives have thus been successfully achieved. The Government of Guinea-Bissau is the owner of the reform and must decide on its implementation. It now has a solid legal framework to start implementing the national SSR strategy, restructure the Armed Forces and establish new Police Bodies.



CPCC visit to the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces (September 2009)

Following the mutiny of April 2010, the EU expressed repeatedly its concern regarding the violation of constitutional order, the illegal detention of civilian and military leaders and the impunity of its perpetrators. The EU intensified its political dialogue with the Bissau Guinean authorities and asked for clear signs of commitment to the principles of rule of law allowing stability and progress of the SSR.

In particular, the EU highlighted that the continuation of its CSDP action and in general of its engagement in the country would depend on the return to constitutional order and respect of rule of law, the ending of the unlawful detention of former Chief of Defence Zamora Induta and other officials and the establishment of legal accountability and disciplinary measures against those responsible for 1 April incidents.

*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.*

*Based in Brussels, the **Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)** is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian CSDP operations. Under the political control and strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee and the overall authority of the High Representative, the CPCC ensures the effective planning and conduct of civilian CSDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks.*

More information and background documents available on:

www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp and www.eeas.europa.eu

Unfortunately, the situation did not evolve the way we hoped for and none of those requirements were met. On the contrary, the nomination of General Antonio Indjai, responsible for the 1 of April mutiny, to the post of the Chief of Defence Staff constitutes another setback to the process of democratic consolidation and confirms that conditions for deployment of the new CSDP mission are not met.

The EU deeply regrets that conditions for a new CSDP action could not be fulfilled. However, the EU is strongly convinced that the implementation of the reform must not be abandoned, as it is a crucial element for ensuring peace, democracy and the socio-economic development of Guinea-Bissau, to which the European Union remains firmly committed.

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