



CSDP newsletter

POLITIQUE DE SÉCURITÉ ET DE DÉFENSE COMMUNE DE L'UE



Coup d'œil sur la Politique de sécurité et de défense commune de l'UE

La Politique de sécurité et de défense commune (PSDC) constitue le volet opérationnel civil et militaire de la Politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC) de l'Union européenne.

L'Union européenne mène des opérations au titre de sa Politique de sécurité et de défense depuis 2003. Sept ans plus tard, vingt-quatre opérations ont eu lieu ou sont en cours avec un effectif total de près de 20 000 personnes. Il s'agit d'opérations militaires et de missions civiles (maintien de la paix, renforcement de l'Etat de droit, lutte contre la piraterie, aide au désarmement, aide à la réforme de la police et de la justice, réforme du secteur de la sécurité, surveillance des frontières ...). Du Tchad aux territoires Palestiniens, de la République Démocratique du Congo à l'Afghanistan, de l'Irak aux Balkans et à l'Asie du Sud-Est, l'Union européenne est devenue un acteur toujours plus actif et reconnu pour assurer la paix et la sécurité internationale. À ce jour, l'UE conduit douze opérations simultanément : trois opérations militaires et neuf missions civiles.

Depuis janvier 2007, l'Union dispose d'un Centre d'opérations (OpsCentre) lui fournissant une nouvelle option pour la planification et la conduite d'opérations. Elle dispose également de forces de réaction rapide, les groupements tactiques (« EU Battlegroups »).

En juin 1999, parallèlement à la nomination de Javier Solana en tant que premier « Haut Représentant pour la PESC » (1999–2009), le Conseil européen réuni à Cologne a placé au cœur du renforcement de la Politique étrangère de l'UE les missions de gestion des crises. Ce même Conseil européen a décidé que « l'Union doit disposer d'une capacité d'action autonome soutenue par des forces militaires crédibles, avoir les moyens de décider d'y recourir et être prête à le faire afin de réagir face aux crises internationales, sans préjudice des actions entreprises par l'OTAN ». C'est sur cette base que des efforts soutenus ont abouti à la mise en place de structures politiques et militaires permanentes (Comité politique et de sécurité, Etat-major militaire et Comité militaire de l'UE) et à l'établissement de capacités civiles et militaires en matière de gestion des crises.

L'Union a également conclu des arrangements relatifs à la consultation et à la participation de pays tiers à la gestion des crises. Elle a en outre défini avec l'OTAN le cadre des relations entre les deux organisations, qui comprend des arrangements permettant à l'Union de recourir aux moyens et capacités de l'OTAN si nécessaire.

Les missions dans lesquelles l'UE peut intervenir incluent aujourd'hui des missions humanitaires et d'évacuation, des missions de conseil et d'assistance en matière militaire, des missions de prévention des conflits et de maintien de la paix, des actions conjointes en matière de désarmement, des missions de forces de combat pour la gestion des crises, y compris les missions de rétablissement de la paix et les opérations de stabilisation à la fin des conflits. Toutes ces missions peuvent contribuer à la lutte contre le terrorisme.

Le traité de Lisbonne, entré en vigueur en décembre 2009, prévoit de nouvelles dispositions de nature à renforcer la PSDC. La Haute Représentante, Catherine Ashton, est en même temps vice-Présidente de la Commission européenne, avec à sa disposition le Service européen pour l'action extérieure. Le traité a introduit également la coopération structurée permanente pour les Etats membres dont les capacités militaires peuvent faire face aux missions les plus exigeantes. Cette clause s'ajoute à la nouvelle possibilité de lancer des coopérations renforcées en matière de défense. Il introduit également une clause de solidarité entre les Etats membres (assistance en cas d'attaque terroriste ou de catastrophe naturelle ou d'origine humaine) et une clause d'assistance mutuelle (en cas d'agression armée, les Etats membres se doivent aide et assistance par tous les moyens en leur pouvoir). Par ailleurs, le traité de Lisbonne élargit et actualise le spectre des missions PSDC et adapte les mécanismes financiers pour gagner en rapidité.

La Politique de sécurité et de défense commune peut donc continuer à se développer pour renforcer la paix et la sécurité à l'extérieur des frontières de l'UE.

Plus d'infos :

www.eeas.europa.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu/psdc

www.consilium.europa.eu/csdp

et plus de 160 vidéos des missions PSDC disponibles sur YouTube : www.youtube.com/EUSecurityandDefence



Editorial

Last summer, in the last issue of the newsletter, we were looking ahead to the remaining steps for the establishment of the European External Action Service (EEAS). Since then, the Service has come into being. Key steps have been the formal establishment on 1 December, and the transfer of staff from the Council Secretariat and the Commission on 1 January. The High Representative has appointed officials in key positions including the corporate board, managing directors and chairs for the PSC (Political and Security Committee) and other Council bodies. A new director for the European Defence Agency was also appointed.

This does not mean that everything is done. Recruitment will continue, notably for staff coming from national diplomatic services, and the teams are being formed. The Service will need to move into a building of its own, on Rond-Point Schuman in the heart of Brussels' European area.

So work is really beginning in the EEAS, and the newsletter tries to give you a sense of what this involves both at headquarters level in Brussels, but also in the field. To highlight the role of the network of 136 Union delegations placed under the authority of the High Representative and which are part of the EEAS structure, we visit three of the most relevant for the Common Security and Defence Policy: the delegations to the UN in New York and to the

African Union in Addis Ababa, as well as the delegation in Kabul and the EU Special Representative to Afghanistan, where the EU actively participated in international efforts. The latter particularly illustrates the importance of Union delegations in countries where the EU conducts CSDP missions.

A strengthened capacity to plan and conduct policy in Brussels, including the crisis management structures, and a full network of delegations with a new political component to relay policy, report and coordinate in the field: the External Action Service will further contribute to the development of CSDP and its implementation.

Meanwhile, the newsletter also aims to give you an insight into ongoing work on CSDP development and on crisis management missions. Such work includes the work of EU defence ministers on military capacities, the state of play regarding EU capacities in the crucial area of security sector reform, as well as gender mainstreaming in CSDP, 10 years after UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. We also visit the EU Training Mission for the Somali forces, halfway through the mission's planned work, while Daniel Keohane of the EU Institute for Security Studies looks at EU-NATO relations following the November 2010 Lisbon summit.

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High Representative Catherine Ashton meets with United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon in New York on 19 September 2010



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Names and News

CONSEIL AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES EN FORMAT DÉFENSE – DÉVELOPPER LES CAPACITÉS MILITAIRES POUR RENFORCER LA PSDC

Transformer la crise financière et ses conséquences pour les budgets nationaux de défense en opportunité pour donner un nouvel élan au développement des capacités militaires européennes et soutenir la politique de sécurité et de défense commune (PSDC) de l'UE. Tel était le principal sujet au menu du Conseil en format défense tenu le 9 décembre 2010 à Bruxelles. Les ministres étaient réunis pour la première fois depuis l'entrée en vigueur du traité de Lisbonne en format défense, sous la présidence de la Haute Représentante de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité Catherine Ashton.

Cette réunion avait été préparée par la réunion informelle des ministres de la défense réunis à Gand les 23 et 24 septembre 2010.



The Ministers of Defence at the informal meeting in Ghent

Le Conseil a souligné les effets multiplicateurs de la coopération capacitaire entre États membres, en particulier la mutualisation et le partage des ressources, en s'inspirant d'exemples multilatéraux couronnés de succès, comme le commandement européen du transport aérien inauguré le 1er septembre 2010 aux Pays-Bas. Ce commandement va permettre aux États membres participants (pour le moment Allemagne, Belgique, France, Pays-Bas) de partager leurs moyens de transport aériens. Les travaux en cours au sein de l'Agence européenne de défense sur la mutualisation et le partage ont également été encouragés par les ministres. Parmi les domaines prioritaires qui requièrent le soutien des États membres figurent le transport aérien, le soutien médical, la défense CBRN, les drones, mais également l'escadre multinationale d'hélicoptères et la future logistique navale.

Le Conseil a par ailleurs salué l'initiative de l'Allemagne et de la Suède, qui ont proposé également différents domaines d'action afin d'intensifier les capacités militaires.

Dans le cadre de la coopération UE-OTAN concernant le développement des capacités, le Conseil s'est félicité des progrès réalisés dans les domaines de la lutte contre les engins explosifs improvisés et du soutien médical, deux domaines essentiels si l'on veut protéger les troupes et assurer leur capacité de soutien. Après leur réunion, le déjeuner informel des ministres était consacré aux trois opérations militaires en cours. Y participaient les trois commandants d'opération, à savoir le général Mc Coll pour EUFOR Althea, le général Buster Howes pour EUNAVFOR-

Atalanta et le colonel Ricardo Gonzalez Elul pour EUTM Somalia.

Sur EUNAVFOR et EUTM Somalia, les ministres de la défense ont souligné la contribution importante que fournit l'opération EUNAVFOR-Atalanta à la sécurité maritime au large des côtes de la Somalie en protégeant, notamment, les navires affrétés par le Programme alimentaire mondial et les navires transportant des cargaisons essentielles pour l'opération de soutien de la paix menée par l'Union africaine en Somalie (AMISOM). Sur EUTM Somalia, le colonel Elul a présenté un bilan des activités de la mission. EUTM entamera une nouvelle session de formation de six mois pour un second groupe de 1000 personnes en février 2011.

THE EUROPEAN SECURITY AND DEFENCE COLLEGE CELEBRATES FIVE YEARS!

Training on Common Security and Defence Policy and promoting a common European security culture is the mission of the College. The creation of the European Security and Defence College (ESDC) in 2005 sought to give the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) a training and education instrument which actively promotes a European security culture.

The ESDC was established with the aim of providing strategic-level education in CSDP. The flagship training is provided as a High-Level course, as well as orientation courses for CSDP newcomers and others courses focused on regional (e.g. Africa, Western Balkans) or on more specialised audiences (e.g. public information staff, strategic CSDP missions planners, security sector reform experts).

The participants include civil servants, diplomats, police officers, and military personnel from the EU member states and EU institutions involved in CSDP. Partner countries and other international organisations are also invited to participate in some of the ESDC courses. The ESDC has become a key strategic CSDP training provider: some 2500 individuals have been trained since 2005.

The latest initiatives of the ESDC, namely the exchange programmes of young officers, the "Erasmus militaire", offer a new potential to continue the development of a European security culture.

An academic session was held on 29 September for the ESDC's anniversary and to award honorary fellowships to Javier Solana and Karl von Wogau.



AFRICA-EU SUMMIT: A PARTNERSHIP

CENTRED ON PEOPLE, NOT INSTITUTIONS



Around 80 leaders from the European Union and Africa met in Tripoli, Libya, on 29 and 30 November 2010 for their third summit. EU and African leaders adopted the 'Tripoli Declaration', taking stock of developments since their last summit in Lisbon in 2007 and renewing their commitments towards economic development, peace and security and the attainment of the Millennium Development Goals in Africa by 2015.

Speaking at the Summit, President of the European Council Herman Van Rompuy reaffirmed the EU's commitment to durable peace and security in Africa. The president assured African leaders of the EU's support in stabilising the situations in Somalia and Sudan. He underlined the importance of dealing with the threats of international terrorism, organised crime and piracy, including off the Horn of Africa and in the Sahel, and reaffirmed the EU's commitment to supporting women in all its efforts for peace and security in Africa.

The Tripoli Declaration calls for particular attention to be paid to the most vulnerable and marginalised people. "[...] 2010 being the African year of peace and security, we attach utmost importance to all efforts of conflict prevention, reconciliation, justice and post conflict reconstruction and development for the sake of people undergoing conflict. [...] We are committed to making the African peace and security architecture fully operational in close collaboration with the regional organisations. [...]"

"We will continue our concerted efforts to bring the Somali conflict to an end, to stabilise the internal situation and to promote timely post-conflict reconstruction and development efforts. To these ends, we will continue working together in support of a strengthened AMISOM, as well as of the Somali security forces (EUTM Somalia), extending support to the TFG in the framework of a reinvigorated comprehensive political strategy. On Sudan, we emphasise the urgency and importance of ensuring that all elements of the CPA [...] are implemented in a timely, peaceful and credible manner [...]"

The next summit will take place in Brussels in 2013.

www.africa-eu-partnership.org

AMANI AFRICA CYCLE

After more than two years of planning and preparatory activities, the AMANI AFRICA cycle reached its culmination with the execution of a Command Post Exercise from 13 to 29 October 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The AMANI AFRICA cycle is a success and is as such one of the major deliverables of the first action plan within the partnership Peace and Security of the Joint Africa European Strategy.



The African Union's (AU) leadership was represented during the opening and closing ceremonies by the Chairman of the African

Union Commission, HE J. Ping and Commissioner Peace and Security, HE R. Lamamra whilst the European Union was, on both occasions, represented by General PM Joana, "chef de file" of the Peace and Security Partnership. Both sides expressed the importance of the cycle, the progress made in the overall process, the need to continue and have African Standby Forces ready as a future tool for employment in African led peace support operations and emphasized the benefit of the EU-Africa partnership.

More than 150 African police, civilian experts and military personnel from the whole continent participated in this first ever continental exercise. Over three days, the exercise welcomed approximately 60 high level observers from the different regions of Africa and from all over the world. Much credit must go to the AU/EU core planning teams, the EU/AU partnership and the African Union Commission (AUC) and Regional Economic Communities/Regional mechanisms participants for their energy and enthusiasm throughout the whole cycle. The cycle proved to be a good vehicle for capacity building and a test bed for assessing the further development of structures, staff functions and processes. The cycle established a number of recommendations for future direction in the process towards the further operationalisation of the African Standby Forces.

Any follow-on cycle will need further positive political engagement, support and ownership at the highest levels in both the AU and EU. AU political ownership will also cover continental, regional and Member State levels. Continued advocacy of African Peace and Security Architecture Structures within the AUC remains necessary.

www.amaniafricacycle.org

EUNAVFOR-ATALANTA ENTERS ITS THIRD YEAR AS AN EXTENSION TO 2012 IS CONFIRMED

8 December 2010 marked the second anniversary since the start of EUNAVFOR-Atalanta, the European Union's Naval Force counter-piracy operation in the Gulf of Aden and the Somali Basin. The anniversary coincided with the confirmation by the EU that the operation would be extended until December 2012.

Over the past two years, EUNAVFOR's primary mission has been to protect United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) vessels against pirate attack by providing a close escort to the ships carrying much needed humanitarian aid to Somalia. Since the start of the operation, 98 WFP vessels have been escorted, of which 90 have been protected by EUNAVFOR units. The African Union Mission in Somalia's (AMISOM) logistic vessels also come under the protective arm of EUNAVFOR with 77 successful escorts having been achieved to date.

The Operational Commander, Major General Buster Howes, said: "Having been tasked to protect WFP vessels, I am proud to say that, since we arrived, not a single WFP ship has been successfully pirated and that we are now providing escorts to an organisation that is providing humanitarian aid to 1.8 million people per day and that has so far delivered nearly 470,000 tons of much needed food to the Somali people."

The Naval Force is also tasked to protect other vulnerable shipping and to help deter, prevent and repress pirate attacks. This last task is considerable and the one which, with an area of over three million square kilometres equating to the size of Western Europe to patrol,

is proving to be the most challenging. Despite the best efforts of EUNAVFOR, there are still currently 22 pirated vessels and 532 hostages in the hands of pirates off the coast of Somalia.

In the Gulf of Aden, the establishment and regular policing of the internationally recommended transit corridor (IRTC) by EUNAVFOR ships and aircraft has had a significant effect on the number of successful attacks: a 54% reduction in piracy was achieved between 2009 and 2010.

EUNAVFOR has also had considerable success in disrupting pirate attacks in the Somali Basin, with some 75 pirate action groups apprehended since the start of the operation. As a result of its close cooperation with regional governments such as Kenya and The Republic of the Seychelles, 92 suspected pirates captured by EUNAVFOR have entered a legal system, 43 of whom have been convicted to date.

The continuing close relationship with the industry and the application of the much-publicised best management practices (BMP) are particularly worthy of note, with instances of merchant vessels defeating pirate attacks by using BMPs become increasingly common. Latest figures suggest that since 19 November 2010, 15 merchant ships have successfully defended themselves against attacks using the advice provided by the merchant industry and EUNAVFOR. EUNAVFOR's message is clear: the merchant community should consider themselves to be on the front line of defence and must implement BMP.

As EUNAVFOR-Atalanta continues into 2012, the comprehensive approach of the EU also persists with the EU Training Mission for Somalia (EUTM Somalia) and the work carried out by the EU Delegation in Kenya for Somalia.



EUNAVFOR – Atalanta escorts the World Food Programme

www.eunavfor.eu
www.consilium.europa.eu/eunavfor-somalia
www.consilium.europa.eu/eutm-somalia

TWO YEARS OF EUMM GEORGIA OPERATIONS

On 1 October 2008, the EU Monitoring Mission began its patrols only two weeks after foreign ministers of the 27 EU Member States had agreed to deploy an unarmed civilian mission to Georgia to monitor the implementation of the ceasefire agreements which brought an end to the 2008 war.

Over the last two years, over 730 staff from EU member states, supported by 117 local staff, have worked in the mission, enabling



An EUMM monitor engages with the local population

over 15,000 patrols to be carried out on the ground. A multitude of skills, backed by dedication and professionalism, has ensured that the mission has been able to carry out its mandated role effectively: observing the situation on the ground, reporting on incidents and through many hours of hard work, contributing to improving the overall security situation.

Since EUMM's deployment, the number of reported incidents has significantly decreased and the situation in the areas adjacent to the ABLs has largely stabilised. The challenge now is to address the root causes of the conflict beyond the short term efforts at stabilisation.

www.eumm.eu

EU MISSION IN GUINEA-BISSAU TERMINATED

The EU's security sector reform mission in Guinea-Bissau, having completed its mandate, closed down on 30 September 2010. Launched in June 2008, the mission has provided advice and assistance to the local authorities on security sector reform (SSR). A wide range of projects in each sector were also prepared in close cooperation with the European Commission and other international stakeholders. The government of Guinea-Bissau now has a solid legal framework to start implementing the national SSR strategy.

However, following the mutiny of April 2010, the EU repeatedly expressed its concern regarding the violation of constitutional order, the illegal detention of civilian and military leaders and the impunity of its perpetrators and 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 the rule of law. The EU, however, 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.

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

EUROPEAN AND NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS

During the European Parliament plenary sessions in Strasbourg on 7 July, 19 October and 15 December 2010, High Representative Catherine Ashton addressed the members of the EP on various foreign policy issues (including the situations in Kyrgyzstan, Afghanistan, Côte d'Ivoire, Human Rights matters, the NATO

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Summit in Lisbon, to mention a few). On 27 October, High Representative Ashton exchanged views with the members of the EP during the Committee on Foreign Affairs meeting in Brussels. A range of issues were discussed, including the EU visa liberalisation for the western Balkans and Kosovo, relations with Cuba, Afghanistan and the EU's strategic partners around the world.

The EP's Subcommittee on Security and Defence meetings were held with various Senior Council officials, including DG EUMS van Osch, Civilian Operations Commander Klompenhouwer, EU Counter-terrorism Coordinator de Kerchove and others.

On 14–15 July, the EP's Subcommittee on Security and Defence visited the EU Monitoring Mission (EUMM) in Georgia and paid a visit to the EUNAVFOR-Atalanta in Djibouti on 12–16 November.

On 28 September, the EP's Foreign Affairs Committee organised an Interparliamentary Committee meeting in Brussels on 'The challenges facing the Union's CSDP after the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty', where BE State Secretary for EU Affairs Chastel spoke on behalf of HR Ashton.

In regards to national parliaments, on 18 October, HR Ashton addressed the bi-annual meeting of the Conference of Foreign Affairs Committee Chairs of National Parliaments of the EU Member States (COFACC) on the European External Action Service and the current issues of the foreign affairs and security policy of the EU.

www.europarl.europa.eu

NOMINATIONS

EULEX KOSOVO

On 27 July 2010, Xavier Bout de Marnhac, from France, was appointed as the new Head of Mission of the European Union Rule of Law mission in Kosovo, EULEX Kosovo. He succeeds Yves de Kermabon.

www.eulex-kosovo.eu

EUPOL RD CONGO

On 1 October 2010, Chief Superintendent Jean-Paul Rikir (Belgium) was appointed as Head of Mission for EUPOL RD Congo. He succeeded Superintendent Adílio Custódio (Portugal).

www.eupol-rdc.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu/eupol-rdcongo

EUSEC RD CONGO

General António Martins (Portugal) took office as the new Head of the EUSEC RD Congo mission on 1 October 2010. He succeeded Jean-Paul Michel, who was the Head of Mission since July 2008.

www.consilium.europa.eu/eusec-rdcongo

EUNAVFOR-Atalanta

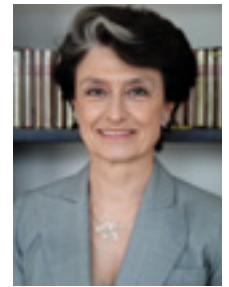
On 14 December 2010, Rear Admiral Juan Rodriguez Garat, from Spain, took office as the new EU Force Commander EUNAVFOR Somalia. He succeeded Rear Admiral Philippe Coindreau (France), who held the position from 15 August 2010, and previous EU Force Commander Rear Admiral Jan Thörnqvist (Sweden). Every four months, a new Force Commander is appointed.

www.eunavfor.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu/eunavfor-somalia

A NEW DIRECTOR FOR THE EUROPEAN DEFENCE AGENCY

On 6 January 2011, HR Catherine Ashton welcomed the appointment of Claude-France Arnould as Chief Executive of the European Defence Agency.



"On my proposal, the Steering Board of the European Defence Agency (EDA) has unanimously decided to appoint Claude-France Arnould as the EDA Chief Executive for a period of three years. With her background in defence issues, Claude France will bring more than 20 years' of experience to this post at a crucial time for the Agency," said the HR.

Claude-France Arnould was Deputy Director-General for Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD) in the External Action Service. Previously, she was Director for Defence issues in the EU General Secretariat of the Council and was in charge of CSDP operations and military capabilities.

EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

On 25 October 2010, High Representative Ashton announced the appointment of Pierre Vimont as the Executive Secretary General of the External Action Service and David O'Sullivan as its Chief Operating Officer.

On 29 October, the High Representative announced the appointment of two deputy secretary generals for the External Action Service, thereby completing her top management team. She appointed Helga Schmid as the Deputy Secretary General for Political Affairs and Maciej Popowski as the Deputy Secretary General for Inter-Institutional Affairs.

On 2 December, HR Ashton appointed Robert Cooper to the post of Counsellor in the European External Action Service. Dr Agostino Miozzo was appointed the Managing Director for Crisis Response and Operational Coordination in the EEAS.

On 14 December, HR Ashton announced the appointment of Miroslav Laják as Managing Director for Russia, Eastern Neighbourhood and the Western Balkans and Christian Leffler as Managing Director for the Americas in the EEAS.

On 17 December 2010, Catherine Ashton announced the appointment of Ilkka Salmi as Director for the EU Situation Centre (SITCEN) in the External Action Service. Mr Salmi is presently Director of the Finnish Security Intelligence Service, having previously occupied a range of posts inside the Service. He also has experience as a representative of the Finnish parliament and has worked with the Finnish parliamentary committees on foreign affairs and defence.

On 21 December 2010, HR Ashton appointed Hugues Mingarelli as Managing Director for the Middle East and Southern Neighbourhood and Viorel Isticioaia Budura as Managing Director for Asia in the EEAS.

On 6 January 2011, Catherine Ashton appointed Nicholas Westcott as Managing Director for Africa.

More on: www.eeas.europa.eu

Focus

Un nouvel acteur sur la scène diplomatique mondiale : le Service européen pour l'action extérieure

Depuis le 1er janvier 2011, l'Union européenne est dotée d'une structure nouvelle, le Service européen pour l'action extérieure, chargée de mieux faire entendre la voix de l'Europe dans le monde.

Dispositif tout à fait original, le Service européen pour l'action extérieure (SEAE) est formé de diplomates venus tant des institutions européennes (Commission européenne ou Conseil de l'Union européenne) que des 27 Etats membres. Il regroupe tant des structures de gestion de crise de la politique de sécurité et de défense commune que des structures plus classiques de la diplomatie, d'assistance ou de gestion des aides financières au développement. Ce qui correspond à la conception « globale » des politiques européennes. Son siège central est à Bruxelles et il dispose également de 136 Délégations de l'Union européenne qui couvrent toutes les parties du globe (lire les articles ci-après qui illustrent le travail des Délégations de l'UE à Kabul, Addis-Abeba et New York). Ce qui en fait un des premiers réseaux diplomatiques au monde. Il est placé sous l'autorité du Haut Représentante de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité, Catherine Ashton, qui est responsable devant le Conseil et le Parlement européen.

DE LA COOPÉRATION POLITIQUE EUROPÉENNE AU SERVICE EUROPÉEN POUR L'ACTION EXTÉRIEURE

La naissance d'un service diplomatique pour l'Union européenne n'est pas inopinée. Elle est inscrite dans les gènes de l'Europe. Après l'échec de la Communauté européenne de défense en 1954, la Communauté européenne renoue avec l'ambition politique au sommet de La Haye en 1969. C'est le rapport Davignon en 1970 qui lancera la coopération politique européenne (CPE) (harmonisation des positions, consultation, action commune, réunions semestrielles des ministres des Affaires étrangères ...) puis en 1973 on assiste à la création de groupes de travail et à la mise en place du réseau COREU. La CPE est consacrée officiellement par l'Acte unique européen en 1986.

Si cette coopération est restée essentiellement une concertation intergouvernementale fondée sur le consensus, elle a néanmoins été une étape indispensable au lancement de la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune (PESC) en 1993 avec le traité de Maastricht. Ce dernier crée une structure fondée sur trois piliers, la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune représentant le « deuxième pilier ». La PESC couvre « tous les domaines de la politique étrangère et de sécurité », y compris la « définition à terme d'une politique de défense commune » ; les Etats membres « s'informent

Catherine Ashton, Haute Représentante de l'Union pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité, lors de l'annonce de la nomination de Pierre Vimont (à gauche) au poste de Secrétaire général exécutif et de David O'Sullivan (à droite) à celui de Directeur général administratif du Service européen pour l'action extérieure



mutuellement et se concertent au sein du Conseil sur toute question de politique étrangère et de sécurité » et ils « veillent à la conformité de leurs politiques nationales avec les positions communes » qu'ils défendent au sein des organisations et conférences internationales. Un Etat ne doit plus se désolidariser d'une position commune. La PESC représente à la fois un aboutissement de vingt années de coopération politique européenne et une nouvelle étape dans la construction européenne. Le préambule du traité affirme « résolu à mettre en œuvre une politique étrangère et de sécurité commune, y compris la définition progressive d'une politique de défense commune, qui pourrait conduire à une défense commune, conformément aux dispositions de l'article 17, renforçant ainsi l'identité de l'Europe et son indépendance afin de promouvoir la paix, la sécurité et le progrès en Europe et dans le monde ».

En 1999, le traité d'Amsterdam franchit une nouvelle étape et institue notamment un Haut Représentant pour la PESC. Javier Solana occupera ce poste de 1999 à 2009.

En 2003, le traité de Nice renforce également la PESC en inscrivant en son sein le Comité politique et de sécurité (COPS). Composé d'ambassadeur des représentations permanentes auprès de l'Union européenne et placé sous l'autorité du Conseil, le COPS reprend l'ensemble des missions relevant de la PESC du comité politique instauré au titre de la CPE. Il assure également le contrôle politique et la direction stratégique des opérations de gestion de crise.

Enfin, en 2009, le traité de Lisbonne crée le Service européen pour l'action extérieure.

AU SERVICE DES INSTITUTIONS EUROPÉENNES

Le SEAE a un rôle très largement défini. Sa fonction principale est d'assister le Haut Représentant dans l'exécution de ses mandats c'est-à-dire tout autant dans sa fonction de conduire la PESC et la politique de sécurité et de défense commune (PSDC)

de l'Union européenne, de président du Conseil des affaires étrangères, et de vice-président de la Commission européenne. Il a ainsi pour tâche, notamment, de contribuer par ses propositions à l'élaboration de la PESC qu'il exécute en tant que mandataire du Conseil de l'UE, de veiller à la cohérence de l'action extérieure de l'UE et de s'acquitter, au sein de la Commission européenne, des responsabilités qui incombent à cette dernière dans le domaine des relations extérieures. Mais il a aussi pour fonction d'assister les autres responsables, comme le président du Conseil européen (Herman Van Rompuy), le président de la Commission européenne (José Manuel Barroso) et l'ensemble de la Commission européenne (les 26 autres commissaires), dans « l'exercice de leurs fonctions respectives dans le domaine des relations extérieures ».

UN BUDGET AUTONOME

Le budget du SEAE est identifié spécifiquement, par une section budgétaire, avec une structure budgétaire et un plan des effectifs propres. Il est soumis à l'accord du Parlement européen, qui le contrôle et vote la « décharge » à la fin de son exécution. La Commission reste en charge du budget de fonctionnement du service. Elle devra fournir au Parlement européen et au Conseil, un « document de travail détaillé présentant toutes les dépenses administratives et opérationnelles relatives à l'action extérieure de l'UE, ainsi que le projet de budget de l'UE ». Elle reste comptable du budget et peut retirer la délégation de paiement donné à un chef de délégation.

Afin d'assurer l'unité, la cohérence et l'efficacité de l'action extérieure, le Haut Représentant assure la « coordination politique » des principaux fonds existants, notamment l'instrument de stabilité, l'instrument de la coopération au développement, le fonds européen de développement (FED), l'instrument européen pour la démocratie et les droits de l'homme, l'instrument européen de voisinage et de partenariat, l'instrument de coopération avec les pays industrialisés, l'instrument relatif à la coopération en matière de sûreté nucléaire.



Catherine Ashton,
Haute Représentante de
l'Union pour les affaires
étrangères et la politique
de sécurité, 26 juillet 2010

UN PERSONNEL PROVENANT DES INSTITUTIONS EUROPÉENNES ET DES ETATS MEMBRES POUR CRÉER UNE CULTURE DIPLOMATIQUE COMMUNE

Chargé d'accomplir ses missions, le personnel du SEAE obéit à un triple équilibre : fonctionnel, géographique et hommes-femmes afin d'aboutir à une mixité des expériences et des cultures.

Le personnel du SEAE est, en effet, formé essentiellement des personnels de la Commission européenne (de la direction générale (DG) Relex, de la DG Développement) et du secrétariat général du Conseil de l'Union européenne qui était en charge des questions extérieures et politico-militaires (DG E). Mais il est aussi composé de diplomates des Etats membres qui lui sont détachés pour une durée relativement longue (de 4 à 8 ans, voire 10 ans au maximum).

Lorsque le SEAE aura atteint sa pleine capacité, les fonctionnaires de l'UE devront ainsi représenter au moins 60% du personnel au niveau « administrateur » et au moins un tiers de l'ensemble du personnel du SEAE devrait provenir des services diplomatiques nationaux. Le recrutement sera ouvert à partir du 1er juillet 2013 aux fonctionnaires des autres institutions européennes, comme le Parlement européen par exemple.

Le personnel du SEAE est recruté sur la base du mérite « tout en veillant à assurer un équilibre adéquat tant géographique qu'entre les hommes et les femmes ». Il doit ainsi compter un « nombre significatif » de ressortissants de tous les Etats membres, recruté « sur une base géographique aussi large que possible ». Afin d'assurer un équilibre hommes – femmes, la décision fondant le service précise aussi que des « mesures appropriées » seront prises pour promouvoir l'égalité des chances pour le sexe

Les principales étapes

17 novembre 2009 :

le Conseil européen approuve la nomination de Catherine Ashton, à la fois comme Haute Représentante de l'UE pour les affaires étrangères et la politique de sécurité et comme vice-présidente de la Commission européenne.

1er décembre 2009 :

entrée en vigueur du traité de Lisbonne et entrée en fonction du nouveau Haut Représentant.

10 février 2010 :

entrée en fonction de la nouvelle Commission européenne après son approbation par un vote au Parlement européen le 9 février.

11 mars 2010 :

la Haut Représentante et la Commission européenne proposent une décision sur le Service européen pour l'action extérieure, le règlement financier et le règlement sur le statut du personnel du SEAE.

26 avril 2010 :

les 27 ministres des Affaires étrangères de l'UE réunis au Luxembourg aboutissent à un accord politique sur le SEAE.

9 juin 2010 :

la Commission européenne propose des amendements au règlement sur le statut du personnel.

21 juin 2010 :

les représentants des principales institutions européennes, réunis informellement à Madrid, mettent au point un accord global sur les propositions de textes créant le SEAE et s'engagent à accélérer les travaux pour aboutir en une seule lecture.

8 juillet 2010 :

le Parlement européen adopte la première décision sur l'organisation et le fonctionnement du SEAE.

26 juillet 2010 :

le Conseil adopte, à son tour, cette décision. Ce qui clôt la procédure législative. Elle est publiée au Journal officiel de l'UE du 3 août.

15 septembre 2010 :

la Haute Représentante nomme une trentaine de nouveaux chefs et chefs adjoints de délégations de l'Union européenne au titre de la rotation 2010.

15 septembre 2010 :

une proposition de lettre rectificative au budget général 2011 est faite par la Commission européenne pour pourvoir certains postes manquants au SEAE.

20 octobre 2010 :

Le Parlement européen adopte les deux règlements : le règlement financier et le règlement sur le statut du personnel du SEAE, à une nette majorité : 578 voix pour, 39 contre et 28 abstentions pour le premier, 513 voix pour, 51 contre et 98 abstentions pour le second.

25 octobre 2010 :

la Haute Représentante nomme les premiers responsables du SEAE.

29 octobre 2010 :

deux autres nominations complètent la direction du SEAE.

16 novembre 2010 :

l'ambassadeur suédois Olof Skoog est nommé comme délégué de la Haute Représentante pour présider le Comité politique et de sécurité (COPS) de l'Union européenne.

24 novembre 2010 :

le Conseil de l'Union européenne adopte le règlement financier et le règlement sur le statut du personnel du SEAE. Ils sont publiés au Journal officiel de l'UE le 26 novembre.

1er décembre 2010 :

création officielle du SEAE, un an jour pour jour après l'entrée en vigueur du traité de Lisbonne.

2 décembre 2010 :

le premier directeur de département est nommé. D'autres nominations suivront tout au long du mois de décembre (voir page 8).

1er janvier 2011 :

nouvelle étape dans la mise en place du SEAE avec le transfert de personnel du Conseil et de la Commission.

sous-représenté dans certains groupes de fonctions. Et, à la mi-2013, le Haut Représentant devra remettre un rapport pour vérifier la bonne application de ses différentes clauses.

Dans le statut des agents du SEAE, un principe de base a été posé : celui de l'égalité de traitement. Les fonctionnaires de l'Union et les agents temporaires provenant des services diplomatiques des Etats membres ont ainsi les mêmes droits et obligations et bénéficient d'une égalité totale de traitement, en particulier en termes d'accès à tous les postes dans des conditions équivalentes. « Aucune distinction ne doit ainsi être faite entre les agents temporaires provenant des services diplomatiques nationaux et les fonctionnaires de l'Union en matière d'attribution des tâches à accomplir au sein du SEAE et dans toutes les politiques qu'il met en œuvre ».

En accueillant en son sein des personnels venus des Etats membres, le SEAE entend les associer à un processus qui pourrait conduire à l'émergence d'une culture diplomatique commune.

L'ADMINISTRATION CENTRALE DU SERVICE

Le SEAE est dirigé par un « Corporate board » composé d'un secrétaire général exécutif, Pierre Vimont, ancien diplomate français, assisté pour les questions administratives et budgétaires d'un secrétaire général administratif, David O'Sullivan (irlandais), ancien secrétaire général de la Commission européenne, et de deux secrétaires généraux adjoints, Helga Schmid (allemande) et Maciej Popowski (polonais). Lors de la nomination, la Haute représentante Catherine Ashton a tenu à saluer les profils des nouveaux responsables. « Pierre est tenu en très haute estime par la communauté diplomatique et apportera une richesse de connaissances et d'expertise sur les questions de politique étrangère. David a servi avec la plus grande capacité à la Commission européenne. Dans leurs rôles respectifs, ils contribueront à créer un service diplomatique européen dont la population européenne pourra être fière ».

Sept directeurs de département viennent compléter l'ossature dirigeante du Service. Cinq sont chargés des zones géographiques (Afrique, Amériques, Asie, Moyen-Orient, Balkans-Russie), un des dossiers thématiques horizontaux (démocratie, développement, terrorisme, droits de l'homme ...), le dernier coordonne la réponse extérieure de crises face aux désastres naturels ou humains.

Les structures de la PSDC (Etat-Major militaire de l'UE, Capacité de planification et conduite civile (CPCC), Direction Gestion des crises et planification (CMPD), Centre de situation (SitCen) voient leur autonomie préservée avec un lien direct au Haut représentant. Un secrétaire général adjoint est cependant chargé de coordonner la gestion administrative et financière de ces structures (par exemple sur les questions de contrat, de marchés publics ...).

Les principaux comités et groupes de travail, chargés de préparer les décisions du Conseil des ministres en matière extérieure, sont présidés par des délégués du Haut Représentant. Le Comité politique et de sécurité (COPS) est ainsi présidé par l'ambassadeur suédois Olof Skoog, qui a quitté ses fonctions en Suède et intégré ainsi le service diplomatique européen.

UNE POLITIQUE ÉTRANGÈRE COMMUNE EN MARCHÉ

Le SEAE va permettre ainsi à la politique étrangère et de sécurité commune de l'Union européenne de franchir un nouveau pas, selon l'approche « souple et pragmatique » de la construction européenne. Ce terme de « politique commune » a été choisi à dessein. Comme l'expliquait il y a 20 ans la Commission européenne présidée alors par Jacques Delors : « Il serait irréaliste de parler de politique unique alors qu'à l'évidence les Etats membres ont, notamment à l'égard de certaines parties du monde, des traditions de relations privilégiées ou des positions géopolitiques ancrées dans leur histoire (et) n'ont pas encore la même évaluation de leurs responsabilités ou de leurs engagements généraux et particuliers dans les diverses parties du monde ».

www.eeas.europa.eu ■

EU creates External Action Service to project the Union's voice on the world stage

The European Union's External Action Service (EEAS), which will coordinate a common EU external action policy, has been up and running since 1 January 2011. The seeds of this EU diplomatic service were sown back in 1970, when the Davignon report launched the idea of a European Cooperation Policy, including such innovations as regular foreign affairs ministers' meetings.

Based in Brussels, it comprises 136 EU delegations covering the whole world. It brings together security and defence policy crisis management structures as well as more traditional structures of diplomacy, assistance and financial aid for development.

The service is made up of diplomats from the European Commission and from the Council of the EU as well as from the 27 EU Member States. It intends to bring these people together in a process that could lead to the emergence of a common diplomatic culture.

Its tasks include managing the competences given to the European Commission in the area of external relations and ensuring coherence in the EU's external actions.

The service has its own budget, which is managed by the European Commission, and is subject to the agreement of the European Parliament, which checks it and votes on its discharge. In that context, the EU's High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, has been entrusted with the task of political coordination of the main existing EU funds, which include the European neighbourhood and partnership instrument. The EEAS is headed by Ms Ashton, who is accountable to the European Parliament and the European Council.



Left: Ambassador Ušackas, Head of the EU Delegation to Afghanistan, speaks to boys at a local school; Right: Ambassador Ušackas with EUPOL Head of Mission Jukka Savolainen

We are in Afghanistan to help to bring peace and stability

Ambassador Vygaudas Ušackas, the EU Special Representative and Head of the EU Delegation to Afghanistan

The “double-hatted” position of the EU Special Representative (EUSR) and Head of the EU Delegation in Kabul that I occupy as of 1st April 2010 was one of the visible changes stemming from the Lisbon Treaty. Much has happened since I started, both on the political scene in Afghanistan and internally in the EU. Upon my arrival in Kabul, the EUSR office and the EU Commission successfully merged into a single representation: the EU Delegation, which has taken over the responsibilities of the former rotating national Presidencies in Afghanistan. I now represent, coordinate, and negotiate on behalf of the EU with our Afghan partners. For the first time, the EU is combining its substantial development assistance with its growing political weight in the country. Our intense work in the past months fostered closer EU cooperation ahead of major events in Afghanistan in 2010 that have paved the way for stronger Afghan leadership: the consultative Peace Jirga, the Kabul Conference, and the parliamentary elections.

Among my duties is local political guidance to EUPOL, the EU Police mission in Afghanistan. It is one of the biggest Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions of the EU. Since 2007, the European police mission in Afghanistan has been engaged in building the civilian police and supporting the rule of law sector which is one of the key objectives of the EU in helping stabilise Afghanistan. EUPOL has developed six strategic objectives that reflect its core capabilities including police command, control and communications, intelligence-led policing, implementation of the anti-corruption strategy and police and justice cooperation. EUPOL currently delivers those objectives through its ‘City Police and Justice Programme’.

In the last two years, around 125 different training curricula were developed and training was delivered to more than 11,000 policemen. It also helped build the capacity of Afghan law enforcement bodies to fight corruption. EUR 15 million will be allocated for the construction of the Kabul Staff College and a regional police training centre in Bamyán, to be operated and overseen by EUPOL. This will put EUPOL in the position to independently operate and implement its civilian police training programme. In addition to this, the Delegation is one of the first contributors to the Law and Order trust fund for Afghanistan (LOTFA) which pays salaries of Afghan police personnel.

The EU and its Member States have over the past eight years continuously amplified their contributions to the stabilisation and development of Afghanistan. While our long term development

contributions in Afghanistan may not dominate the headlines, the EU provides a vital component of the international efforts to ensure security and stability in the country. Since 2002, the EU and its Member States have committed more than EUR 8 billion in aid for agriculture, rural economic development, health, border control, counter-narcotics and other sectors.

Examples are as follows: EUR 11 million was allocated to provide year-round accessibility to some 38,000 villages. This has rehabilitated 10,000 km of rural roads, generating more than EUR 14 million labour days for people in rural areas. Total EC contribution to the border control is in the range of EUR 52 million. The border crossing post at the border with Pakistan accounts for almost 25% of Afghan customs revenue and 10% of the country’s total revenue. Irrigation systems and rural roads that allow farmers to access markets is a practical way to provide farmers with viable, long-term alternatives to poppy farming. Thanks to the EU and other donors support, 65% of the population now have access to basic health services, which is a very significant increase in comparison with only 9% in 2001.

Afghanistan’s development has been hampered by 30 years of conflict, high levels of illiteracy, a lack of administrative capacity, diverging interests of the neighbours and a difficult security situation. The state remains a fragile construct, torn in different directions by various internal and external forces. Since 2001, the International Community and the Afghan government have achieved a lot in terms of social, political and economic development. Nevertheless, Afghanistan still faces many critical challenges. We have made the analyses, but the solutions often remain elusive. Changing these dynamics can only be a long process, and it does not sit well with political horizons, particularly in situations that involve troop deployments. This is why the second main strand of EU’s work focuses on stabilisation – which is often referred to as governance, the rule of law, security sector reform, civil service capacity building. Moreover, electoral reform, human rights, regional cooperation and strengthening civil society remains top priorities of the EU.

Afghanistan has come a long way, but it still has a long road ahead. We cannot afford to leave it to make this journey alone. We will remain to help stabilise Afghanistan and work together so that the Afghan people can live with the peace and stability they desperately want and deserve.

More on:

www.eupol-afg.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu/eupol-afghanistan

African Union
Commission Chief
of Staff John
Shinkayie and EU
Ambassador Koen
Vervaeke during a
meeting



EU Delegation to the African Union – Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The delegation to the African Union (AU) in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa is one of the European Union's youngest delegations. Established in December 2007 as part of the broad Africa/EU joint strategy adopted at the Lisbon Africa/EU summit in December 2007, it started its operations in mid-January 2008 with the arrival in Addis Ababa of the Head of Delegation Koen Vervaeke.

Although still new, the delegation to the AU can certainly and claim to be the oldest and very first EU Delegation. From the very start, two years before the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty and in a coordinated, ambitious move by the Council/the EU member states and the European Commission, it had been set up as an integrated EU representation combining a Council and a Commission component of roughly equal strengths, with Koen Vervaeke appointed in parallel as EU special representative (EUSR) by the Council and as European Commission Head of Delegation by the Commission. While the concept of “double-hatting” EUSR/HoD had already been implemented elsewhere (Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), the forward looking pilot project and test case character of the new integrated EU delegation set-up was obvious against the background of planned European External Action Service establishment. Experiences made and lessons drawn have consequently been extensively shared with EU institutions and member states.

Passing from an initial small core team of seven people to an office of 53 staff (around 30 of them are international staff at AD level from institutions, sent by member states, or employed under EUSR contracts) was a steep climb over a three-year period. Organisation, consolidation, setting up structures, developing and adjusting working methods and procedures – both internally and with partners and external interlocutors – occurred parallel to this build-up.

The work of the delegation as the EU's permanent representation to the AU is multi-faceted: there is a broad range of thematic issues (Africa/EU: eight thematic partnerships, with a particular importance of peace and security issues), there are different types of activity (political, diplomatic and policy work, cooperation and programme management, capacity building), there is a variety of interlocutors far beyond the AU organs and AU member states (including the African regional economic communities,

RECs, international organisations as well as other partners), and finally, there is also the delegation's important and meanwhile well-established coordinating role with our own member states.

WHAT HAS BEEN THE IMPACT OF THREE YEARS OF THE EU/AU DELEGATION IN ADDIS ABABA?

Having an EU delegation as an EU focal point and pole with the AU and other partners has made a difference and produced a tangible impact, which has been well-acknowledged and welcomed both by the AU/AUC and the EU member states for the following reasons:

- Its ability to draw on the political weight of both the Commission and Council headquarters and the full range of resources available.
- It contributes to a stronger coordination and collective political impact of the EU, resulting in a more compact EU presence and enhanced EU profile and visibility.
- By helping ensure synergies and a more coherent use of the different existing EU, EC and member states' instruments, in particular in capacity building support.
- Frequent invitations to contribute to official and internal AU meetings (AU Peace and Security Council, Permanent Representatives Committee, International Contact Group, expert and ministerial meetings on sector issues such as African integration, trade, economy and finance).
- Increasing recognition by international organisations, like the UN and the ICC, as a key interlocutor in their dealings with the AU.

With the appointment of HR Catherine Ashton and the EEAS launch, we have entered into a new phase, providing for the single guidance and coherence which will further strengthen the work of the delegation and our capacity to serve the EU's external policies. Immediate challenges include mastering the EEAS transition in 2011 and the EUSR component related continuity issues. Another important issue is to keep up the enthusiasm and formidable team spirit.

www.africa-eu-partnership.org

The EU team take their seats before the opening of the 65th UN General Assembly on 23 September 2010. From left: Pedro Serrano (Head of EU Delegation), José Manuel Barroso (EU Commission President) and Catherine Ashton (EU High Representative)



EU Delegation to the United Nations – New York

In a sense, the EU Delegation to the UN became a precursor to the still-forming European External Action Service (EEAS), as the European Commission Delegation and the Liaison Office of the General Secretariat of the EU Council successfully merged in New York as of 1 December 2009.

Necessity has dictated the fast pace of events. New York, like the other multilateral EU Delegations, faced an immediately increased workload in terms of representation and coordination of EU positions at the UN, transitioning into the tasks performed by the former rotating Member States' presidencies (in concert with the Spanish Mission first semester 2010, and with the Belgian Mission for the second semester 2010, under temporary burden-sharing arrangements). Together with Spanish and Belgian colleagues, the Delegation has operated in teams related to the six UN Committees, the UN Security Council and the issues at hand. And, already since beginning January 2010, the Head of the EU Delegation (at present, acting HOD Ambassador Pedro Serrano) has assumed responsibility in New York for presenting EU positions to the UN Security Council, informing on EU actions to support the maintenance of international peace and security.

The will and cooperation to succeed in this inter-institutional merger have been present from the beginning: early on, High Representative Ashton cited the Delegation to the UN as a positive example of how the EAS should come together.

In terms of substance, the Delegation's work covers a number of primary themes, inter alia: peace and security issues, especially the interface between UN peacekeeping missions and EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) deployments and field operations; the promotion and protection of human rights; achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals and effective, coordinated global development aid policies; emergency disaster relief and coordination of humanitarian aid; and responses to global challenges, such as pandemics, climate change and the economic and financial crisis.

Armed for the first time with a single legal personality, the European Union has assumed all the rights and obligations of the (former) European Community, including its Permanent Observer status within the United Nations. As an observer within

the UN General Assembly (UNGA) and most UN specialised agencies, the EU has no vote as such, but it is a party to more than 50 multilateral agreements and conventions as the only non-State participant. Moreover, it enjoys "full participant" status in a number of UN fora, like the ECOSOC's UN Commission on Sustainable Development (CSD) and the Intergovernmental Forum on Forests (IFF). And in the relatively new UN Peace Building Commission (PBC), the EU, as an "institutional donor", is a full participant in all the PBC's proceedings at headquarters.

Day-to-day tasks can be summarised as coordinating, negotiating and representing. An overarching role of the Delegation remains to facilitate and reinforce the coordination of common EU policies and approaches at the UN, including the drafting of EU statements and the adoption of EU positions on resolutions and other texts. These positions are generally established through EU coordination meetings – some 1,300 take place annually in New York – which the EU Delegation now chairs.

The EU Delegation also represents the EU and its Member States within the UN in all areas – beyond the areas of traditional "Community competence", e.g. trade, fisheries, agriculture and aspects of development as well as the environment.

With the increased workload and responsibilities, the Delegation has been challenged in terms of staffing levels. But the first reinforcements, a group of seconded national experts from Member State diplomatic services, arrived this fall, and a limited number of additional posts have been earmarked.

In the coming months, the EU will continue considering the implications of its new foreign policy structures for its representation at the UN, especially within the UNGA, where an attempt to improve the EU's ability mainly to speak on behalf of its Member States in that forum early on in a debate, together with other major groups, was recently postponed for more study by the UN membership. The Delegation continues to reach out to the UN membership and the key regional groups to explain its position and to obtain support for a resolution, which will be presented to the UNGA in the months to come.

More on:
www.eu-un.europa.eu



EUSEC RD Congo on the ground with the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of Congo (FARDC)

CSDP IN ACTION

Enhancing the EU's capacities for support to security sector reform

The European Union has established a pool of deployable EU Security Sector Reform (SSR) experts in order to enhance its capacity in the field of SSR.

Over the recent years, the EU and the International Community as a whole has placed a focus on SSR as one of the strands of supporting countries emanating from conflict or otherwise in transition towards stabilisation and development.

From the Western Balkans to the Democratic Republic of Congo, the EU is today – via its wide range of instruments – engaged in supporting countries in their efforts to reform their security sector. Within the framework of Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), the EU has conducted three dedicated SSR missions (namely EUPOL RD Congo on police reform, EUSEC RD Congo on defence reform and EU SSR Guinea Bissau, closed in September 2010), encompassing the defence, police and justice sectors.

As attention towards SSR has increased, it has also become clear that carrying

out SSR missions or projects demands a particular mind and skill set. In order to achieve the established aim of contributing to an effective and accountable security sector under civilian control and consistent with democratic norms and principles of good governance, transparency and the rule of law, a holistic approach towards the issue is required.

Expertise within the pillars that make up the security sector (namely military, police, customs, justice, penitentiary systems, etc) needs to be combined with disciplines that can look at issues of democratic control, governance and accountability, including the role of civil society, as well as public finances.

In the autumn of 2008, the French Presidency suggested that efforts towards further developing these capacities should also be undertaken at European level by establishing a pool of EU SSR experts that could be used in support of EU activities within the domain of SSR. Following the Council's approval, work has been ongoing to implement the Council's decision:

recently, the selection of experts was finalised and the pool is now established.

THE POOL

The pool consists of 104 experts, thereof 25 women, spread over nine profiles reflecting the broad approach towards SSR taken by the EU: a senior SSR expert to head up a team of experts, political and strategic analysts, defence experts, intelligence experts, criminal justice/penitentiary experts, police experts, border/customs experts, public finance experts and civil society experts.

The field experience of these 104 experts covers a vast number of countries in Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia and Latin America; all are continents where the EU could envisage undertaking SSR support. The experts come predominantly from Member States, but the European Commission and the General Secretariat of the Council also have experts in the pool.

The experts can be used to contribute to the planning and programming of SSR action, be it in the context of CSDP or other EU

Renforcer les capacités de l'UE pour le soutien à la réforme du secteur de la sécurité

Le groupe d'experts déployables renforce la capacité de l'UE en matière de réforme du secteur de la sécurité (RSS) et reflète l'approche globale adoptée par l'UE dans ce domaine. Le groupe compte 104 experts, dont 25 femmes, répartis selon 9 profils d'action pour mieux répondre aux besoins de la RSS. Leurs expériences couvrent un nombre important de pays partout où l'UE est susceptible de déployer une mission RSS. Ils peuvent contribuer à la planification des actions de RSS et être déployés sur le terrain pour renforcer une mission ou évaluer les possibilités d'engagement de l'UE dans une mission RSS. Ils pourront également servir à d'autres organisations comme les Nations Unies, l'Union Africaine ou l'OSCE, faciliter l'échange d'expériences entre les experts RSS nationaux et promouvoir une approche commune envers la RSS. Le Collège européen de sécurité et de défense a préparé le programme de formation en matière de RSS. Le groupe sera inclus au Service européen pour l'action extérieure, mais la Commission européenne et le Conseil pourront aussi décider de recourir à l'aide de ces experts.

instruments, including development. A team of SSR experts could, for example, be sent to a country to carry out an assessment of how the EU could provide support to SSR, or SSR experts could reinforce a CSDP mission on a temporary basis to assist in the evaluation and revision of its mandate. The experts would always work under the leadership of the relevant services of the Commission and/or the General Secretariat of the Council.

While the use of the experts for operational purposes is the main focus, they can also be used in the context of further developing European Union concepts and guidance in relation to SSR.

It is envisaged to establish the possibility for the experts to be drawn upon by other organisations active in SSR, in particular the UN, the OSCE and the African Union. Collaboration with partners could also be in the form of deploying assessment teams

composed of experts from the EU and from partners. In this context, it should be noted that the UN has established its own "SSR expert roster" and in time the AU may also decide to establish its own system of drawing on SSR expertise. The EU has yet to define the precise arrangements for cooperation with international partners in relation to the pool of EU SSR experts.

TRAINING AND EXPERIENCES

The process of establishing the pool of EU SSR experts shows the potential and a variety of skills across the EU within SSR. One of the challenges now is to develop these skills both within the various expert sectors and on horizontal SSR issues. Training the experts is therefore an integral part of the concept behind the pool. Member States and the Commission have shown considerable interest in organising training courses on SSR in general as well as also aimed at experts in the pool. The European Security and

Defence College established curricula for SSR training courses. Developing the skills of the experts is not only a question of technical expertise. The pool of EU SSR experts was also envisaged as a platform for promoting a European common approach amongst national experts, a so-called "community of experts". The idea is that the experts would meet on a regular basis in workshops and seminars to exchange experience and views on specific SSR topics that could also serve as a basis for further policy developments.

With the establishment of the European External Action Service, the pool, which is managed by the Crisis Management and Planning Directorate (CMPD), will come under the auspices of the External Action Service. In accordance with the terms of reference for the use of the experts, the Commission and the Member States through the Council bodies will continue to be able to propose and decide to use the experts in the pool. ■

EUSEC RD Congo and FARDC cooperate on the delivery of military identity cards



Tenth anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 – Women, Peace and Security and CSDP missions

The 10th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security was commemorated on 31 October 2010. A period of one decade provides a sufficient frame to reflect on the success of Resolution 1325, which addresses the disproportionate and unique impact of armed conflicts on women. Resolution 1325 stresses the importance of women's equal and full participation as active agents in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction.

On 8 December 2008, the EU adopted the 'Comprehensive EU approach to the implementation of UNSCR 1325 and 1820 on Women, Peace and Security'. This document adopts a holistic approach, recognising the close links between peace, security, development and gender equality. The 'EU Comprehensive approach' relies on the EU's experience with gender and crisis management that dates back to 2005, when the Council adopted the first operational paper on the implementation of UNSCR 1325, focusing on practical measures for taking work forward in the CSDP context. This document was followed in 2006 by a checklist to ensure gender mainstreaming and the implementation of UNSCR 1325 in the planning and conduct of CSDP operations.

In November 2010, the EU adopted the report on 'Lessons and best practices of mainstreaming human rights and gender into CSDP military operations and civilian missions'. This report, produced in the context of the 10-year anniversary of the UNSCR 1325, represents a compilation of lessons and best practices drawn from CSDP military operations and civilian

missions on gender and human rights mainstreaming. This is the first thematic CSDP lessons report, and provides an in-depth analysis on an issue where there are recurring lessons identified, but which still need to be learned. It seeks to learn the lessons from the planners and practitioners concerned. This is also the first CSDP lessons report that spans across the field of military operations as well as civilian missions. It is part of the effort to identify and exploit synergies from the EU comprehensive approach. Moreover, the current work on developing standard modules for training in this field for CSDP personnel draws on this lessons report and its recommendations related to training.

The report gathers lessons and best practices from the daily work of CSDP operations and missions of the operations' and missions' human rights and gender advisers and the focal points are presented at a meeting in Brussels on 5–6 July 2010 as well as at a separate meeting of gender advisers on 9–10 November 2009.

In the context of the creation of the External Action Service, lesson processes will need to be increasingly compared and streamlined across different EU instruments that contribute to conflict prevention, security and stabilisation, in order to achieve the Comprehensive Approach and to make the instruments' achievements comparable. This is necessary to ensure a rational and transparent use of the EU's instruments and resources in foreign policy. We will need to systematically build this know-how, based on evaluation, of how the EU can bring all its influence to bear in conflicts around the world and promote peace based on global standards for good governance, the rule of law and human rights. ■

UN Resolution 1325 – The CSDP missions at a glance

EUPM BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Bosnia and Herzegovina is one of the countries which adopted the resolution and the action plan for its implementation. "The next step is to ensure that the Law on Gender Equality is taken on board in talks on the constitutional reform," said the director of the BiH Agency for Gender Equality. EUPM stands ready to support the efforts. "We will continue drawing attention of the competent authorities to this issue and join your efforts in continuous raising of public awareness," said the Head of EUPM, S. Feller. EUPM marked the ten-year jubilee of UNSCR 1325 with an open day. It has been an opportunity to hear from the women of Bosnia and Herzegovina about their concerns on topics of interest to the mission. EUPM has dedicated this entire

year to implementing and raising publicity about the EU policy on women, peace and security, particularly by using the training, reporting and awareness raising tools.

EUMM GEORGIA

The EU Monitoring Mission in Georgia, EUMM, joined the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security with events organised by all three field offices as well as the headquarters.

Field Office (FO) Zugdudi invited female representatives from civil society, the local government and the business community to discuss the roles that may be played by these sectors in the peace process. The event

was opened with a skype-link to Brussels with Director General for Human Rights Ms Katariina Leinonen.

In FO Gori, both women and men from the villages situated in the vicinity of the South Ossetian Administrative Boundary Line were invited to the celebration during which they had an opportunity to familiarise with the UNSCR 1325 and to talk about the role of women in decision making as well as security issues which concern women along the Administrative Boundary Line.

Last but not least, FO Mtskheta organised, in cooperation with the headquarters, a celebration in Tbilisi, during which a number of female representatives from local NGOs, local government, media and international organisations gathered and engaged in



10ème anniversaire de la résolution 1325 – femmes, paix, sécurité et missions PSDC

En novembre 2010, l'année du 10ème anniversaire de la résolution 1325 du Conseil de sécurité sur les femmes, la paix et la sécurité, l'Union européenne a tiré les premières leçons de l'intégration des droits de l'homme et de l'égalité hommes/femmes dans les opérations militaires et les missions civiles PSDC. La stratégie globale de mise en œuvre de la résolution a été adoptée par l'UE en 2008 et a permis de reconnaître le lien entre la paix, la sécurité, le développement et l'égalité entre les hommes et les femmes. Le rapport adopté en novembre est le premier rapport de l'UE qui couvre à la fois les missions civiles et militaires. Ses remarques ont été prises en compte pour développer les schémas standards d'entraînement pour le personnel PSDC.

an absorbing and educative discussion on gender related issues in the conflict resolution process. All these events were attended by the local media and were very well received by the invitees, and were followed-up by working meetings with the representatives from the relevant organisations.

EUTM SOMALIA



EU gender training classes in EUTM Somalia

The participation of women in conditions of equality and the rights of the child during war, especially of girls, are part of the training program that is applied in the European Union Training Mission (EUTM) Somalia. This mission aims to strengthen the Somali security forces and contribute to the stabilisation of Somalia by delivering specialist training to Somali soldiers in various military skills. Gender issues are taken on board in the context of EUTM training. The mission's gender adviser, a Finnish female captain, provided training on gender issues and on the Guidelines on Human Rights and especially children's rights to the Somali recruits during their training in Bihanga training camp. The training teams also had female instructors who did an excellent job and made a very positive contribution. There was a small number of women in the first intake of Somali recruits who were fully integrated with their male counterparts. It is expected that the second intake will also include a number of women.

EUJUST LEX-IRAQ

On 9 November 2010, EUJUST LEX-Iraq organised an open day celebration of the 10th anniversary of UNSCR 1325. The Open Day was organised in Erbil, in the Kurdistan Region of Iraq, where EUJUST LEX-Iraq recently opened a new office. The aim of the open day was to bring together civil society organisations, government representatives and religious leaders to discuss the challenges facing women in Iraq.

Organising such an event proved to be a challenging task for the whole team: indeed, bringing people from Baghdad, Sulaymaniyah, and Brussels to speak about such a sensitive issue in Iraq was not so simple. The open day was attended mostly by women from national and international NGOs, Kurdish Regional Government representatives, religious leaders and international organisations, totaling 90 people brought together to debate the situation of women in Iraq.

EUJUST LEX-Iraq, UNAMI, Al-Mahaba: Voice of Iraqi Women and the Head of the Women Empowerment Organisation introduced the debate by presenting a range of topics from the role of civil society organisations in promoting and protecting women's rights, to increasing the participation of women in the media in order to promote better representation of women. For the first time in any international forum in Erbil, two religious leaders were present who were also invited to speak. They highlighted the important role women have to play in decision-making processes and encouraged better communication between women and religious institutions. Finally, they highlighted their support towards the promotion of women's rights in Iraq.

Despite the fact that not all women agreed with their statement, representatives for the Kurdish Regional Government were also present and stated their commitment to the cause of women in Iraq. The Minister of Religious and Endowment Affairs, as well as the Board for Human Rights, reinforced the important role women have to play in peace-building in Iraq.

The above-mentioned interventions led to lengthy open floor discussions between all of the participants, least of all the need for increased cooperation between all levels of society in Iraq to improving the education of women.

EUPOL RD CONGO

Afin de soutenir les autorités de la République Démocratique du Congo dans la restauration de la paix, de la sécurité et de l'Etat de droit, l'Union européenne a lancée en 2007 la mission de police EUPOL RD Congo. La mission a pour objectif d'appuyer les autorités politiques et policières congolaises dans la Réforme du Secteur de Sécurité dans le volet police et son interface justice, aussi bien par un soutien stratégique au processus de réforme que par un appui opérationnel à sa mise en œuvre.

Un des axes fondamentaux du mandat actuel de la mission, qui se prolonge jusqu'au 30 septembre 2011, est le soutien à la lutte contre l'impunité dans le domaine des droits de l'homme et, particulièrement, des violences faites aux femmes. Dans ce cadre, la mission assure l'intégration des notions de droits humains, genre, protection de l'enfant et lutte contre l'impunité et les violences sexuelles dans le processus de restructuration et réorganisation de la Police nationale congolaise. Ses experts contribuent également à l'amélioration des capacités techniques des policiers congolais œuvrant dans ce domaine.

Pour contribuer au renforcement des capacités de la Police nationale pour lutter contre l'impunité et les violences faites aux femmes, EUPOL RD Congo a déployé à Goma, depuis le mois de février 2010, une équipe mobile multidisciplinaire de lutte contre ce fléau. Grâce au travail effectué par cette équipe, des centaines de policiers venant des différents territoires de la province ont déjà été sensibilisés aux lois nationales et internationales en matière de droits de l'homme, de protection de l'enfant et de lutte contre l'impunité et les violences sexuelles.



La Police nationale congolaise lors d'une session de formation organisée par EUPOL RD Congo sur les questions de genre et la lutte contre les violences sexuelles, Goma, Nord-Kivu

Un des projets auquel participent les experts de l'équipe mobile d'EUPOL RD Congo, en collaboration avec d'autres partenaires, est l'élaboration d'une cartographie des violences sexuelles au Nord-Kivu. Sur la base des visites effectuées auprès des autorités politiques, administratives et policières des différents territoires de la province, ainsi qu'auprès des commissions territoriales de lutte contre les violences sexuelles, ce projet permettra prochainement de faire le bilan des besoins exprimés par les autorités congolaises et d'identifier les acteurs œuvrant dans ce domaine, ainsi que leur capacité d'intervention et d'appui.

Afin d'améliorer le lien entre la police, le système judiciaire et que le traitement global des dossiers dans le domaine des violences sexuelles, le volet formation est un axe de



EUPOL RD Congo lors d'une formation de la Police congolaise sur les lois nationales et internationales contre les violences sexuelles et l'impunité, Butembo, Nord-Kivu

travail prioritaire. En étroite collaboration avec l'Inspection provinciale de la Police nationale et avec l'appui d'autres acteurs, l'équipe mobile d'EUPOL RD Congo organise des formations à l'intention des policiers locaux afin qu'ils puissent à leur tour former d'autres policiers.

Parmi les policiers récemment formés se trouvent plusieurs éléments des unités de la Police spéciale de la protection de l'enfant et de la Femme du Nord-Kivu. L'ensemble de ces actions a permis, depuis début 2010, de doter environ 200 Officiers de police judiciaire du Nord et Sud-Kivu d'une formation juridique solide et des connaissances techniques qui devront leur permettre d'améliorer la quantité et la qualité des procès verbaux établis à l'issue des cas de violences faites aux femmes.

Le quartier-général d'EUPOL à Kinshasa contribue à assurer la durabilité des efforts et à les intégrer dans les stratégies et la législation nationales. Grâce à l'appui quotidien de ses experts aux structures liées à la réforme de la police, EUPOL RD Congo soutient l'intégration des notions de droits de l'homme, genre, droits de l'enfant et lutte contre l'impunité et les violences sexuelles dans les textes juridiques structurants de la réorganisation de la nouvelle Police nationale congolaise. Au sein du Comité de suivi de la réforme de la police, organe chargé de coordonner les travaux nationaux sur la réforme de la police, des experts d'EUPOL accompagnent quotidiennement leurs collègues au sein des différents groupes de travail, notamment dans les domaines 'Formation' et 'Violences sexuelles, Protection de l'enfant et Droits de l'Homme'. Grâce à l'appui d'EUPOL, les congolais s'approprient progressivement l'intégration des notions de droits de l'homme et genre dans le processus de réforme de la police.

Enfin, EUPOL assiste également l'Inspection générale d'audit de la Police nationale congolaise, organe de contrôle interne des activités de la police et des

policiers, qui contribue à la responsabilisation de la police elle-même.

EUSEC RD CONGO

EUSEC RD Congo, la mission de l'UE pour le conseil et l'assistance en matière de réforme du secteur de sécurité, contribue à intégrer la promotion et la protection des femmes au sein des Forces armées de la République Démocratique du Congo (FARDC) selon son nouveau mandat pour 2010–2012.

Sur la question des violences sexuelles et autres violations des droits de l'Homme en RDC, on retrouve souvent les FARDC sur le banc des accusés. Le pays ne manque pourtant pas d'instruments juridiques pour réprimer ces crimes : la Constitution du 18 février 2006 parle de l'engagement de l'Etat congolais à lutter contre les violences sexuelles et mentionne l'obligation de l'Etat à inscrire dans le programme de formation des forces de défense et de sécurité des cours relatifs aux droits de la personne humaine. D'autres textes législatifs répressifs existent également en matière de violences sexuelles comme deux lois de juillet 2006 sur les infractions de violences sexuelles et une loi de janvier 2009 sur la protection des enfants. Par le biais d'activités de sensibilisation et de formation au profit des FARDC, la mission EUSEC RD Congo a commencé à intégrer ces modules relatifs aux droits de l'Homme et à la protection de la femme, surtout à l'est du pays où les infractions sont les plus graves.

Depuis les accords de paix en 2003, l'armée comprend en son sein des hommes et des femmes issus des différentes fractions armées. Le défi est de parvenir à une armée régulière, républicaine et efficace, capable de protéger la population tout en respectant les droits de la personne. C'est pourquoi la mission EUSEC s'est engagée dans différentes activités de formations et de sensibilisations au profit des officiers en charge des unités dans le Nord et le Sud Kivu. Les formations réalisées prennent la forme d'ateliers de 20–30 participants. Les sujets abordés sont divers : la Constitution, le genre et la réforme de l'armée, le droit pénal congolais et les violences sexuelles, le serment, la discipline et le code de conduite des FARDC. Des médecins et infirmiers militaires ont également été formés sur la prise en charge clinique et psychosociale des victimes d'agressions sexuelles et sur leur orientation vers les institutions judiciaires. Fin 2010, une formation d'officiers supérieurs a été organisée sur le droit des conflits armés, soulignant les

objectifs de la résolution 1325 du Conseil de sécurité.

En 2011, des formations de formateurs sont prévues dans six provinces ; elles sont organisées avec le Service d'éducation civique et patriotique, un département de l'Etat-major général des FARDC, en charge notamment de la sensibilisation sur le civisme et les droits de l'homme. Avec le soutien de l'UNFPA et le gouvernement Finlandais, 10,000 exemplaires du nouveau code de conduite des FARDC seront distribués pour soutenir les modules de formation. L'objectif de ces formations est de renforcer les capacités des FARDC et de les sensibiliser dans le domaine des droits fondamentaux et de la lutte contre les violences sexuelles.

A plus long terme, EUSEC travaille sur la réhabilitation des écoles de formations des sous-officiers et des officiers, en incluant dans les curricula les cours sur les droits de l'homme, le droit des conflits armés et le genre. La mission est également engagée dans la définition des différents cursus de formation à l'académie militaire.



Rapport du travail effectué à l'atelier FARDC-EUSEC-REJUSCO

Le plan de réforme de l'armée congolaise adopté en février 2009, sur lequel repose le soutien de la mission EUSEC, pose comme un de ses principes directeurs la formation et l'entraînement des FARDC et la promotion de la femme dans l'armée. A cet effet, une proposition de loi qui prévoit une politique de quotas est en cours de discussion. Actuellement, la proportion des femmes dans l'armée ne dépasse pas 4%. Le renforcement de la sécurité des femmes et des filles passe cependant par la présence de personnel militaire féminin dans les unités des FARDC. Elle contribuerait à réduire, par exemple, le fléau des violences sexuelles dans les opérations et améliorer la protection des femmes.

Malgré les défis auxquels elle est confrontée, la mission EUSEC poursuit son aide à la RDC pour une armée professionnelle, représentative de la population et surtout respectueuse des droits de l'Homme.



EUTM Somalia: Final military parade of the first intake of Somali security forces
15 December 2010

EUTM Somalia: Towards the second intake

On 15 February 2010, the Council of the EU formally launched the EU military mission (EUTM Somalia) for the provision of specific military training and support to the training provided by Uganda, with the intention of contributing to the international community effort to empower the Somali Transitional Federal Government (TFG).

EUTM Somalia aims to provide specialised training to up to 2,000 Somali soldiers in two periods of six months each. The first training period ran from May to November in 2010 and the second period is scheduled to run from February to July in 2011. November and December 2010 were used as a period for cohesion training for the first intake in Uganda as well as a recruitment period for the second intake of troops at home in Somalia.

Training in EUTM Somalia is organised in three distinct blocks: recruits training, non-commissioned officer (NCO) training and junior officer training, as well as a comprehensive "train the trainers" programme. The NCO block of instruction, embarked upon after basic recruit training is completed by selected individuals, is divided in four modules to provide further specialised training in counter improvised explosive devices (C-IED), communications, infantry and medical combat life saver first aid.

THE SPECIFIC TRAINING BLOCKS IN EUTM SOMALIA

All Somali recruits received specialised training in fighting in built up areas (FIBUA) and C-IED. To date, 720 Somali

soldiers have successfully completed the basic recruit programme provided by the UPDF, while 21 Somali junior officers and 170 NCOs participated in the more specialised programme provided by EUTM instructors. Throughout the entire training process, a concerted effort has been made to actively promote awareness of the laws of armed conflict, including the protection of civilians in armed conflict, human rights (including children's right) and gender issues with a view to reflect best international practice.

Each training module is led by an individual EU member state. Spain is responsible for the NCO and the infantry modules, Italy teaches the C-IED and combat life saver modules, France instructs the junior officer training, Germany is the lead for the communications

EUTM Somalie : vers la seconde session d'entraînement

La mission EUTM Somalie contribue à l'effort de la communauté internationale visant à renforcer le gouvernement fédéral de transition. L'objectif d'EUTM, lancée le 15 février 2010, est d'assurer une formation spécialisée aux soldats somaliens et d'appuyer la formation de base fournie par l'armée ougandaise. L'entraînement est organisé en deux périodes de six mois, chacune destinée à environ 1000 militaires. Le 15 décembre a marqué la fin de la formation de la première relève des recrues qui avait débuté en mai 2010. 720 soldats somaliens ont complété la formation de base. 170 militaires somaliens ont complété l'entraînement pour les sous-officiers assuré par l'UE et 21 ont complété la formation destinée aux officiers dirigée aussi par l'UE. Pendant cette période, une attention particulière a été accordée au droit humanitaire, notamment en matière de protection des civils, des droits de l'Homme et les questions de genre. La deuxième relève de recrues commencera l'entraînement en février 2011.



module and, finally, Portugal teaches the FIBUA module. A total number of 96 trainers were generated for the first troop "intake", during which 191 Somali recruits completed the four-month NCOs' training module, covering topography, weaponry, communications, tactics, techniques and procedures; all at the level needed for a section leader. Awareness instruction on human rights and the law of armed conflicts as well as instruction on TFG structures (stressing TFG defence forces structures) was provided to all trainees.

After two months, 21 Somalis, out of the original group of 191, were selected for the junior officers training module. For the next three months, the French EUTM team of instructors trained these troops in leadership, platoon-level tactics and collective weapons. These troops also completed two specialised sub-modules in C-IED and FIBUA, each running for the duration of one week.

Once the first four-month long NCO training module period was completed, the remaining 170 Somalis were distributed among the different training modules, which are outlined as follows:

- 90 troops participated in the infantry specialised module.
- 25 troops undertook the communications module, designed to teach them how to both operate and maintain the communications equipment required at platoon level.

- 20 troops completed the combat life saver module designed to teach basic first aid in combat, immediate actions on injury and how to stabilise and prepare casualties for transportation from the battle area.

- 35 troops completed the C-IED module designed to equip them to deal with mines and other improvised explosive devices.

By the end of the fifth month, some 720 Somali troops had completed the UPDF-led basic training, 170 Somali troops had completed the EU-led NCOs training and 21 Somali troops the EU-led junior officers training. The sixth and final month, December 2010, was devoted to cohesion training, that is, training focussed on getting the troops (junior officers, NCOs and soldiers respectively) working effectively in recognised military structures (sections and platoons). This training was carried out by the UPDF with the assistance of EUTM Somalia trainers. The aim was to unite junior officers, NCOs and troops in cohesive small units to execute combat actions at platoon level.

THE GRADUATION CEREMONY

On 15 December 2010, the training culminated in a graduation ceremony for all Somali troops of the first intake in Bihanga training camp. This unique ceremony was attended by Somalia's first deputy Prime Minister, the Ugandan Minister of Defence, the EU Ambassador in Uganda and the EUTM Somalia Mission Commander, with the Ambassadors of EU member states (or their representatives), Somalia and Burundi and

other significant military and civil authorities. This "final parade" served to showcase the final graduation of the newly trained 18 platoons of Somali soldiers to be deployed in January 2011 in Somalia.

The programme of events on the day consisted of a number of tactical displays of skills acquired during training, including unarmed combat, weapons skills and FIBUA. Awards were presented to soldiers who performed best in training. The awards for best junior officer and best non-commissioned officer were presented by the aforementioned guest of honour in a moving tribute in their native tongue.

Since April 2010, many military and civilian leaders have shown their support in frequent visits to the mission headquarters in Kampala and the Bihanga training camp. The attention focused on EUTM Somalia demonstrates the high expectations that the international community has placed on the mission as part of a possible solution to the conflict in Somalia.

These newly trained soldiers, who arrived in Uganda with little but their aspiration to serve their country, are now preparing to return home as well-trained and highly motivated junior officers, NCOs and soldiers, ready to play their part in building a better future for their war torn and decimated homeland and providing some hope of a better future for their countrymen and women. ■

For more information:
www.consilium.europa.eu/eutm-somalia



Ambassador Diarra is the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia

Interview

COULD YOU DESCRIBE THE ENGAGEMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION IN SOMALIA?

The African Union is one of the stakeholders to the Djibouti Peace Process for Somalia along with the United Nations and the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), among others. The Somali Transitional Federal Government (TFG) invited the African Union (AU) to deploy a peacekeeping mission to Somalia (AMISOM) with an initial mandate of six months to stabilise the situation in readiness for the takeover by the United Nations. Despite the prevailing security challenges, the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) further authorised the deployment of AMISOM in Somalia by renewing its mandate for a period of 12 months.

AMISOM, which stands for the African Union Mission for Somalia, has the mandate to provide support to the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) in their efforts towards the stabilisation of the situation in the country, to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance and the furtherance of dialogue and reconciliation.

Over the last three years, AMISOM has made a significant impact in the areas of security, political support to the TFG, capacity building for the TFG and humanitarian support to the people of Somalia. AMISOM continues to (1) assist and secure the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and strategic locations and installations (airport, seaport, Villa Somalia) in the capital, (2) contribute to the rebuilding of Somalia's Security Forces and its Public Service Institutions (3) provide humanitarian support to the population notably in the areas of free healthcare and portable water supply. Somalia's only two real hospitals sit inside AMISOM bases in Mogadishu, where some 2,000 patients per week get badly needed medical care. These same bases provide up to 60,000 litres of clean drinking water per day to Somalis living in surrounding areas like Jazeera.

WHY SHOULD THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY BE INVOLVED IN SOMALIA, AND WITH WHAT TYPE OF COMMITMENT?

The problem in Somalia affects not only the entire Horn of Africa and East African region, but also the whole world. Somalia is a member of the African Union and United Nations, hence the need for other members of these organisations and the international community to provide support towards peace and stability in Somalia.

Lawlessness throughout much of the country has given rise to rampant piracy off Somalia's shores, where the ongoing presence of a flotilla of warships from the navies of more than two dozen nations offers a daily reminder of how Somalia's internal problems represent a pressing international issue. On the ground, an influx of foreign fighters to Somalia is swelling the ranks of armed groups openly aligned with Al-Qaeda. Hundreds of foreign militants are currently in Somalia ostensibly to fight the Somali government and AMISOM alongside al-Shabab and Hizbul Islam.

The untenable security situation is now being exported into the region as attested by the despicable Kampala bombings of 11 July 2010. The security situation is also impacting on the humanitarian situation which is worsening due to declining access, intimidation

and attacks against humanitarian workers and declining funding for humanitarian activities. The situation in Somalia is humanely unacceptable and remains a scar on the conscience of the world. If the international community does not confront these extremists by strengthening the TFG and AMISOM, they will continue to export violence in the region and around the world.

THE EU FINANCIALLY SUPPORTS AMISOM. WHAT TYPE OF ACTIONS HAS THIS MADE POSSIBLE?

The EU's financial contribution is used to support operations of AMISOM. This includes, among others, payment to the peacekeepers and the police and civilian personnel. The EU also supports all the administrative functions of the mission. There is no doubt that EU's contribution will also encourage other potential troop contributing countries to deploy forces to Somalia and strengthen the partnership between the EU and the African Union in their efforts to stabilise conflict zones on the continent.

THE EU CONTRIBUTES TO EUTM SOMALIA. WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS? WHAT ARE THE PERSPECTIVES FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE AMISOM AND THE EU?

The establishment and maintenance of peace and stability in Somalia remains with Somalis themselves. The African Union and the international community can only provide support for the people of Somalia to achieve their dream of attaining peace and stability. The training of the Somali Security Forces in Uganda by the EU (EUTM) is one of the classic examples of the international community's efforts to help bring peace and stability to Somalia.

The EU military training mission contributes to the sustainable development of the Somali security forces by providing specific training and support to Somali recruits: both officers and non-commissioned officers. The training curriculum also includes international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and the protection of civilians with an emphasis on the protection needs of women and children.

While the EUTM is conducted in liaison with the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, it continues to work in close cooperation and coordination with the AMISOM and its international partners. Specifically, AMISOM helps with welcoming the trainees, orient them and continues to engage them.

Indeed, the EU's support in this area is of great benefit to the people of Somalia as it seeks to rebuild the country's security forces. It is also important as it will allow the people of Somalia to maintain security for their country hence relieving the African Union Peacekeepers of the enormous task they are performing.

More on:
www.amisom-au.org





Operation EUFOR TCHAD/RCA

Many activities of the European Defence Agency (EDA) to improve defence capabilities will deliver in the long term. The reason is simple: projects requiring research and technology as well as development and procurement take time. Cycles of five to 10 years or more are normal, measured from the early start – harmonising military requirements – to the final stage of delivery and reaching an operational capability. Examples of such long-term deliveries are EDA's projects on the next generation maritime mine-counter measures (post 2018) and the future transport helicopter (post 2020).

Nevertheless, the Agency is also producing immediate results and addressing urgent operational needs. The Helicopter Training Programme (HTP) is an excellent example, also proving that capability improvement is not necessarily a matter of expensive new equipment. The HTP is based on the simple principle of sharing knowledge and experience of air crews on how to fly in the most demanding environments, like mountains and "hot and dust". In 2009–2010, EDA conducted two helicopter exercises in France and Spain. In total, some 60 helicopters, over 110 crews and more than 1,300 personnel in total participated. Of these, 63 crews were deployed to Afghanistan. Similar exercises are planned for the next four years, in addition to theoretical courses, taking into account lessons learned from real-life operations. EDA's Helicopter Training Programme has proven that immediate operational output can be realised at a very low cost.

In April 2010, the Ministerial Steering Board approved the proposal for EDA to procure a mobile forensic laboratory for investigating the artifacts of road-side bomb explosions. The resulting Countering Improvised Explosive Devices (CIED) project has matured very

quickly. The project is on track, with deployment foreseen by mid-2011 to Afghanistan under a French lead, with other Member States contributing with personnel or finances. Again, this addresses an urgent operational requirement, as road-side bombs are the primary killers of deployed forces and local populations. The capability is rare; only a very limited number of European countries have this so-called Level 2 exploitation capability. Thus, the CIED project is also important to spread knowledge and experience, as results will be shared with all Member States participating in EDA.

'Pooling and sharing' has already been a major feature of the Agency's efforts to improve capabilities, for example in projects like the European Air Transport Fleet and the Third Party Logistics Support (TPLS) Platform. The impact of the global economic crisis – declining defence budgets in most European countries – has increased the urgency to look for cost-effective solutions. At their informal meeting in Gent in September 2010, EU Defence Ministers called on EDA to investigate further 'pooling and sharing' potential. The Agency responded quickly. In addition to successful existing projects, more 'pooling and sharing' opportunities exist in areas like satellite communications, medical support and naval logistics. In many cases, 'pooling and sharing' also offers the potential for a civil-military dual-use. Working closely together with the EU Military Committee and other EU institutions, the Agency will continue to make proposals and support the participating Member States in the implementation of their selected projects for closer cooperation.

More on:
www.eda.europa.eu

Essay



Daniel Keohane
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The EU and NATO's future

EU-NATO relations were not the main subject at NATO's November 2010 summit in Lisbon. NATO leaders agreed on some big decisions, such as a new strategic concept, a withdrawal date for Afghanistan, missile defence and re-setting the relationship with Russia. But what NATO does, or will do in the future, has major implications for EU foreign, security and defence policies.

There is a lot of overlap between the NATO and EU agendas. The decisions made at NATO's Lisbon summit – especially the new strategic concept – could help advance three political goals, which would also benefit the EU. First, it could help restore confidence with Russia, building on the recent thaw in Polish-Russian

other international organisations, such as the UN, the OSCE, and, of course, the EU.

It is much more difficult to predict what the new strategic concept will mean for future NATO operations, and what that may mean for the EU's security and defence policy. What will NATO be doing post-Afghanistan? There are at least three reasons why this is difficult to predict: strategic trends, public support, and the budgetary crisis.

Current strategic trends suggest that NATO may not be very active beyond Europe's neighbourhood in the future. The US is already stretched thin due to the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan. Plus, Washington is increasingly focused on

neighbourhood, namely the Balkans, the Caucasus, the Middle East and Africa.

In addition, European public support for international peacekeeping is falling, for a number of reasons. The Iraq war in 2003 greatly damaged the credibility of international military interventions. Since then, NATO's Afghanistan campaign has become unpopular in most of Europe and some EU Member States plan to pull out in the coming years. Due to their experiences in Iraq and Afghanistan, many Europeans no longer want to follow the US on military operations if their core security interest is unclear, and/or if they think they have little say over strategy.

Moreover, public apathy in Europe increasingly extends to defence policy in general, not only international peacekeeping. Most Europeans currently do not feel militarily threatened by a non-EU state – although they are still concerned about non-military threats to their livelihoods such as terrorist attacks, gas supply cuts, cyber-attacks, organised crime or the potential security implications of climate change. The economic crisis makes it even more difficult for politicians to explain why defence policy matters relative to jobs, pensions, health or education.

The third factor that will affect NATO's operational future is the current budgetary crisis faced by every European defence ministry. Even if Europeans had more appetite for international peacekeeping, they will not be able to greatly improve their military capabilities in the coming years. At best, some badly-needed equipment programmes will be delayed or reduced, and

“Due to their experience in Iraq and Afghanistan, many Europeans no longer want to follow the US on military operations if their core security threat is unclear.”

relations, by offering to develop a more constructive partnership on security issues with Moscow. Second, NATO could play a stronger role in Europe's neighbourhood (including North Africa and the Middle East), as a complement to EU efforts to encourage political reform. NATO has much experience of encouraging countries to reform their armed forces and impose democratic civilian control, which may be relevant for some of Europe's neighbours. Third, NATO should continue to develop its political and operational partnerships with

South and East Asia (as well as the Middle East), which is the region with the most potential for major strategic trouble in the next 20 years. Witness the rapid growth in Chinese, Indian, Japanese and Korean defence spending (compared with declining European defence budgets). More importantly for NATO, the US is an Asian power, but the Europeans are not. The geographic focus of EU operations already conforms to this emerging strategic trend: 22 out of 24 EU peace operations initiated so far have taken place in its

some will be cut altogether. In early 2010, US Secretary of Defense, Robert Gates, complained about the “de-militarisation of Europe” affecting the military credibility of NATO. However, American complaints about Europe’s lack of military capabilities will not be addressed in the coming years. Indeed, because of public apathy towards peacekeeping, European governments may increasingly invest scarcer defence funds in national and/or homeland defence capacities instead of equipment useful for external deployments.

None of this is to say that NATO will not carry out military operations after (or in addition to) Afghanistan and Kosovo. However, in the event of a future crisis in Europe’s neighbourhood requiring a military response, if the US cannot or will not act, then the EU – not NATO – would probably have to respond. But a note of caution should be sounded here: while strategic trends suggest that there may be more (and perhaps larger and more politically difficult) EU operations in the future, the mix of public apathy and budgetary cuts will hamper the EU’s ability to respond to future crises at least as much as it is already affecting NATO’s operation in Afghanistan. Both the EU and NATO need to think harder and together about how to re-invigorate European defence policies.

Another area where NATO and the EU should improve their dialogue concerns their relationships with Russia. The EU is trying to develop its own strategic partnership with Russia, which already includes some cooperation on security issues, such as the Iranian nuclear programme, counter-terrorism and peacekeeping (the EU used Russian helicopters in Chad and Russian

is unclear how this would complement the NATO-Russia Council.

The final aspect of NATO’s future that deserves more attention is the EU-US relationship. The EU and the US increasingly

“Some in Europe would like to see a much stronger and more effective EU-US partnership, which could in time set strategic objectives for transatlantic cooperation.”

work on a host of international security issues together (some of which overlap with NATO), such as counter-terrorism, the arms embargo on China and the Iranian nuclear programme. There is growing interest in Washington in EU operations, both civilian and military. The US has contributed around 80 personnel to EULEX Kosovo, and has been happy to be coordinated by EUNAVFOR-Atalanta on the seas off Somalia.

Some in Europe would like to see a much stronger and more effective EU-US partnership, which could in time set strategic objectives for transatlantic cooperation, while NATO would remain a powerful military option for their implementation. This idea probably seems either fantastical or offensive to some Atlanticists. Everyone knows that the problem in the EU-US relationship is on the EU side, which may be one reason why President Obama decided not to attend an EU-US summit in May 2010, even if he attended one in Lisbon after the NATO summit in November 2010. Europeanists, for their part, hope that the changes contained in the Lisbon Treaty will promote more common EU policies on international affairs, but that will ultimately depend on EU governments.

However, Atlanticists should worry more about EU weakness rather than strength. Given the combination of emerging changes in Washington’s strategic focus, some diverging transatlantic security priorities, and the growing relative weakness of European military power, NATO will not have much of a political future unless the EU becomes a stronger international actor. If the EU remains weak, then the European parts of NATO will remain weak, and everyone loses. ■

“In the event of a future crisis in Europe’s neighbourhood requiring a military response, if the US cannot or will not act, then the EU – not NATO – will probably have to respond.”

ships work with the EU off Somalia). At the June 2010 Meseberg summit, German Chancellor Merkel suggested that the EU and Russia should even create their own joint ‘Political and Security Council’, but it

This opinion piece is a revised version of the concluding chapter in the EUISS report ‘What do Europeans want from NATO?’

The full report can be downloaded on www.iss.europa.eu



A WINDOW OF OPPORTUNITY FOR EUROPEAN DEFENSE

Javier Solana

6 January 2011

With budgets exceptionally tight in Europe nowadays, worries about European defense have been growing. Paradoxically, however, developments in 2010 offer hope for the future.

The defense agreement signed in November by France and the United Kingdom is composed of two treaties, which cover joint deployment of their armed forces, nuclear deterrence, and improved equipment and communications. This initiative has the firm political backing of both countries' leaders, and expresses a clear determination to unite against common threats.

Implemented correctly, these treaties could become a hopeful precedent for the entire European Union. By transcending strictly national limits, these treaties chart the future path of European defense and will help determine the course of Europe's relations with the United States and NATO.

To better judge the treaties' worth, we must remember the context in which they were conceived. In 1998, the Saint Malo Declaration by French President Jacques Chirac and British Prime Minister Tony Blair indicated both countries' determination to reinforce the EU's security and defense capabilities. Originally reluctant to accept a Europe with autonomous military capacity, the United Kingdom had learned from the intervention in Kosovo that the EU must be able to respond to crises rapidly and efficiently.

The Saint Malo Declaration signaled that the EU's leading military powers were prepared to develop their own defense policy, though one not fully autonomous of NATO. Indeed, through the Berlin Plus agreements, which facilitate use of NATO resources for missions undertaken under the European Defense and Security Policy (ESDP), NATO recognized the ESDP's maturation over the past decade. Indeed, the EU has undertaken 24 missions in Europe, Africa, and Asia, differing in nature, scope, and aims, and combining military and civilian means.

Today, the EU is being asked to conduct complex missions in adverse circumstances. In doing so, Europe must draw on the lessons of its past successes. We Europeans need to respond favorably, quickly, and effectively. Defense missions must be more adaptable, prompt, multi-national, and multi-instrumental. They must be focused on stability and security, regardless of the security situation or the nature of the conflict.

Yet it is clear that European defense is now struggling mightily with public financing. [...]

It is precisely here that the Franco-British agreement becomes vitally important. The treaties mark an attempt to balance action and ambition in a context of economic crisis, fiscal consolidation, large-scale defense transformations, increasing interdependencies, and global threats – from terrorism and nuclear proliferation to climate change, resource scarcity, and epidemics – that are impossible to tackle unilaterally. It also sets a precedent for the UK, preparing the way for future prime ministers to make advances in this direction.

Reinforcing both countries' military capacities indirectly reinforces those of the EU. The quest for synergies and efficiency that is implied by the agreement could well become a driving force for the European Defense Agency. The British may now consider the EDA a defense expenditure, but, when better defined, it could represent a source of savings for every EU country [...].

SOLDATEN FÜR DEN CHAOSSTAAT

Raphael Thelen

29 September 2010

„Lass beim Schießen verdammt noch mal die Augen offen! Du hast die Zielscheibe null Mal getroffen! Null, Null, Null!“ Der französische Ausbilder brüllt über den Schießplatz – sein somalischer Rekrut lächelt nur, halb verlegen, halb verständnislos. Der Franzose arbeitet in Uganda für die European Training Mission Somalia, innerhalb derer 16 europäische Staaten seit April somalische Rekruten ausbilden. Auch die deutsche Bundeswehr macht mit.

Die Mission ist nicht frei von Missverständnissen, es treffen zwei verschiedene Welten aufeinander. Auf der einen Seite die gut ausgebildeten, disziplinierten Soldaten der Europäischen Union, auf der anderen die bunt zusammengewürfelte Truppe der somalischen Rekruten. Sie lernen Strammstehen, Marschieren und Schießen. Doch die meisten wirken verloren in ihren zu großen Uniformen und abgewetzten Rucksäcken. Statt Leder tragen viele Gummistiefel, die wenigsten von ihnen können lesen und schreiben.

In Kooperation mit der ugandischen Armee sollen aus den Rekruten bis Mai 2011 Soldaten werden. In zwei Durchgängen werden insgesamt 2.000 Somalis ausgebildet. Die EU-Staaten übernehmen beim Trainingsprogramm in Uganda die Offiziers- und Unteroffiziersausbildung, sowie die Schulung im Häuserkampf, in der Minenabwehr und der Ersten Hilfe für knapp ein Zehntel der Rekruten.

Die Somalis sollen zukünftig ihre Übergangsregierung in Mogadischu unterstützen, die im Kampf gegen die islamistische al-Shabab Miliz auf so gut wie verlorenem Posten steht. Die al-Qaida nahestehende al-Shabab hatte in den vergangenen Wochen erneut Offensiven gestartet, um die von der internationalen Gemeinschaft unterstützte Übergangsregierung zu vertreiben. Die somalische Regierung wird von 8.000 Soldaten der Afrikanischen Union geschützt, der Großteil der Truppen kommt aus Uganda. [...]

Die neun deutschen Ausbilder der Gruppe „Kommunikation“ trainieren 25 Rekruten in der Verwendung von Funkgeräten. „Die meisten Kämpfer in Mogadischu verwenden Handys zur Kommunikation“, erklärt Oberleutnant Stefan Wizisk, der das deutsche Team leitet. „Die Rekruten sollen lernen, eine Kommunikation nach militärischen Richtlinien durchzuführen. Sie sollen sich gegen Überwachung und Einmischung wehren können, es geht um Abhörsicherheit.“ [...]

Zusätzlich zu der militärischen Ausbildung belegen die Rekruten Kurse zu Themen wie Menschen- und Frauenrechte, sowie Kriegsrecht. „Wir versuchen hier nicht nur Soldaten auszubilden, sondern somalische Bürger“, sagt der italienische Leiter des Trainings, Alessandro Fiori. Dies dürfte einer der wichtigsten und gleichzeitig schwierigsten Teile der Mission sein, denn in Somalia gilt die Loyalität normalerweise erst dem eigenen Stamm, und dann dem Zentralstaat.

In der Vergangenheit haben bis zu 80 Prozent der vom Westen ausgebildeten somalischen Soldaten die Armee nach ihrer Rückkehr nach Mogadischu verlassen. Entweder haben sie ihre Waffe verkauft und sind zu ihren Familien zurückgekehrt, oder sie haben sich in den Dienst der am besten zahlenden Miliz gestellt – mitunter war das al-Shabab. Oberleutnant Kümmerle, der im Hauptquartier in Kampala arbeitet, ist trotzdem zuversichtlich: „Wenn die Soldaten vernünftig bezahlt und gepflegt werden, warum sollten die dann von der Fahne gehen?“

Q&A: EU EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

7 December 2010

The EU's new diplomatic service – the European External Action Service (EEAS) – was launched quietly on 1 December 2010, without any fanfare.

It is one of the key innovations under the EU's Lisbon Treaty, but there were tough negotiations over its structure and a deal was not reached until 21 June. The EU foreign policy chief, UK peer Baroness Ashton, got European Commission support for her original blueprint, but the European Parliament argued successfully for changes to make the EEAS appointments and budget more transparent.

Does the EU need its own diplomatic service?

Supporters of the Lisbon Treaty, which took effect on 1 December 2009, say such a service is long overdue. They say the EU is a major global power economically but has not been punching its weight diplomatically. The treaty paved the way for creating the EEAS and appointing its chief – the new foreign policy chief, Baroness Ashton. Her official title is High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy. She is also a vice-president of the Commission, the EU's executive arm. One of the main arguments for Lisbon was to make EU foreign policy more coherent and integrated. Opponents of Lisbon say the EEAS will mean a new layer of EU bureaucracy, potentially wasteful of taxpayers' money and competing with national diplomatic services. They fear an encroachment of EU powers, a further step towards an EU "superstate". The EEAS, with a new headquarters in Brussels, will take charge of the EU's delegations worldwide. [...]

What role will the EEAS play in EU defence and security policy?

The treaty says the High Representative is responsible for steering foreign policy and common defence policy. So the EEAS can make recommendations on defence and security, but final decisions are in the hands of the Council – the body that speaks for the 27 EU governments. Under EU rules these decisions still have to be unanimous – that is, individual member states retain the power of veto. However, Lady Ashton will chair foreign policy meetings, so she will have great influence. International crisis management is also part of her remit.

How will the EEAS be organised and what will it cost?

Eventually the EEAS will have a staff of about 5,400. The first intake will be on 1 January 2011 – 1,525 civil servants from the Commission and the Council Secretariat. The first batch includes 100 newly created posts. [...] At least one-third of the EEAS staff will be seconded from national diplomatic services on a temporary basis. The rest of the staff – at least 60% – will be permanent EU officials drawn from the Council Secretariat and from the relevant Commission directorates. [...] Lady Ashton has pledged to promote a balance of staff in terms of gender and geography. The plan describes the EEAS as a "functionally autonomous" EU body. It will consist of directorates general, organised into geographical desks covering the whole world, as well as "multilateral and thematic" desks. [...]

Apart from Lady Ashton who are the top officials?

[...] EEAS policy will be managed by a veteran French career diplomat, Pierre Vimont, as EEAS secretary-general. His most recent post was French ambassador to Washington, but he also has years of diplomatic experience at the highest level in Brussels. The budget and staff administration will be managed by David O'Sullivan, the chief operating officer. An Irish career diplomat, he served previously as head of cabinet for former Commission President Romano Prodi. [...]

Le Monde

LES VINGT-SEPT ONT DÉCIDÉ D'INTENSIFIER LEUR COOPÉRATION MILITAIRE

Jean-Pierre Stroobants

11 décembre 2010

Sous l'effet de la crise, les Etats de l'Union vont redéfinir le partage des tâches entre leurs armées. La crise budgétaire va peut-être suppléer le manque de volonté politique dans le domaine de la défense européenne. Jeudi 9 décembre, à Bruxelles, les 27 Etats de l'Union ont, en effet, décidé d'intensifier leur coopération militaire, d'accroître les synergies entre leurs forces armées et d'examiner un nouveau partage des tâches entre celles-ci.

Le diagnostic avait été posé de manière abrupte par Hervé Morin, prédécesseur d'Alain Juppé, en septembre. Déplorant le « manque d'ambition » de beaucoup de pays, le ministre de la défense de l'époque avait évoqué le risque de voir l'Europe devenir un simple « protectorat » menacé d'une domination par les Etats-Unis et la Chine.

Le jugement posait clairement la question de l'avenir de la défense dans une Europe dont les budgets étaient partout à la baisse. L'OTAN – qui compte 21 des 27 pays de l'UE – exprimait, de son côté, sa crainte de voir se creuser le fossé entre l'Europe et les Etats-Unis.

La présidence belge de l'Union, puis l'Allemagne et la Suède, auteurs d'un document conjoint, ont voulu développer une approche pratique. Pour répondre au « dilemme » évoqué par M. Juppé – il faut développer la réponse à une série de nouvelles menaces au moment où les contraintes budgétaires sont généralisées –, Berlin et Stockholm proposaient une analyse systématique des capacités militaires de chaque pays. A la mi-2011, un diagnostic global devrait être établi, assorti d'une liste des domaines de coopération et des possibles partages des ressources.

L'Agence européenne de défense pilotera la réflexion : Londres a cessé de remettre en doute son utilité mais a obtenue, en échange, un gel de son budget 2011, à 30,5 millions d'euros. La France réclamait des moyens plus « ambitieux » et le poste de directeur exécutif pour Claude-France Arnould, haute fonctionnaire du Conseil européen. La décision a été différée.

Le projet adopté par les Vingt-Sept prévoit que certains domaines essentiels pour la sécurité (le renseignement, les avions des combat, les bateaux de guerre ...) resteraient strictement nationaux, ce qui n'empêcherait pas les Etats d'améliorer « l'interopérabilité », c'est-à-dire la capacité à travailler avec d'autres armées.

Dans d'autres secteurs, comme la formation, l'entraînement, la surveillance maritime et le transport, mais aussi la recherche et les acquisitions, la coopération devrait se développer afin de limiter les coûts, d'éviter les doublons et d'accroître l'efficacité des 2 millions de militaires européens.



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Overview of the missions and operations of the European Union January 2011

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"Strengths take into account international and local staff"



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