



EUROPEAN UNION MILITARY COMMITTEE

Chairman's E - Newsletter
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Don't miss our interview at page 2

Message from the Chairman

After five interesting days in China I am now sitting on the plane back to Brussels.



In Beijing, I held the first EU-China Dialogue on Security and Defence with General Fang Fenghui, Chief of the General Staff of PLA.

I also had a meeting with Chinese Defence Minister Chang Wanquan, gave a speech at the Defence University and participated in a few roundtables with Chinese experts.

This ground-breaking mission stems from last March's visit by Chinese President Xi to the EU, where it was agreed to raise the level of EU-China dialogue and cooperation on defence and security.

The EU and its Member States are strongly committed to the EU-China Comprehensive Strategic Partnership which was delineated by the China-EU 2020 Strategic Agenda for Cooperation, signed on November 2013.

General Patrick de Rousiers

These training programs expand and reinforce the MS's defence relations, while raising the European Union profile on the world stage.

The challenging economic situation in Europe has generally caused a reduction of national defence budgets and Pooling and sharing (P&S), through multinational cooperation, has remained one of the most important initiatives to counter its effects on the development of defence capabilities.

In this light, the European Union Military Staff (EUMS) has continued to actively support the EDA's in its role in P&S.

In this framework, proposals from identified lead nations, together with further collaborative T&E opportunities, are being evaluated.

Further, the EU-NATO cooperation is smoothly progressing, and contacts are established to coordinate efforts between P&S and Smart Defence to avoid unnecessary duplication.

By training together and working together the EU aims to foster closer cooperation and improve interoperability as well as promote understanding between European military actors and engage their civilian counterparts.

Some MS volunteered to take the work forward in several T&E areas but continued efforts will be required to take forward the un-allocated topics of the related EU military capabilities development.

Col Giovanni Ramunno

Towards a European security and defence culture

Since the first ESDP operational engagement back in 2003, Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) missions and operations not only increased over the last 11 years, but they also evolved in terms of political ambition, scope, complexity and interaction.

The ability of the European armed forces to work together has become a determining factor in preparing and conducting increasingly complex multinational military operations within such generous parameters and difficult environment.

This new environment entails *inter alia* well developed individual and collective competencies achieved through increased cooperation between Member States in the field of training and education (T&E).

The development of a policy and implementation of training programs, to meet the European Common Security and Defence Policy objectives, has generally been welcomed by Member States and has made some progress since July 2004, when the first EU Training concept in ESDP was agreed by the Political and Security Committee (PSC).

The Member States have therefore agreed on a number of practical measures, implemented at both European and national level, for encouraging and facilitating exchanges between their national training colleges, with assistance from the European Security and Defence College.



In this issue:

1. The cover story takes us to EU Military Training and education.
2. The newsletter also presents the European Union Training Mission in Somalia.



COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY STRUCTURES: EUROPEAN UNION TRAINING MISSION MALI

In this issue we provide an insight into the **European Union Training Mission in Somalia**, and interviewed Brigadier General Mingiardi, who is the Mission Commander.



Could you explain the role of EUTM Somalia in Somalia?

EUTM Somalia has been established as an important element of the EU long term strategy aimed at transferring EU training expertise to the Somali National Security Forces, and constitutes an effective action in support of Somali Security Sector Development. Its aim is to strengthen Somali security capacities so that Somali Government can recover its full sovereignty, deliver essential security services to the population and be the prime and only guarantor of security and sovereignty in Somalia. The intended end state is to establish a Somali-owned and led military training system, including policies and programmes to train personnel and units, specifically tailored on Somali requirements and needs.

In order to achieve these goals, EUTM Somalia conducts training and mentoring activities, which are normally carried out at Jazeera Training Camp (JTC) here in Mogadishu, in coordination with other international stakeholders such as AMISOM and UNSOM. Beside, EUTM Somalia is also conducting advisory functions towards Somali authorities in order to build up a security and defence apparatus professional and accountable to the Somali Government. In doing so, EUTM Somalia implements the guidelines provided by the Somali Government, which is the owner of the entire process.



What drives you to achieve your objectives?

The Mission, and its personnel, gets great motivation from the response we see from the beneficiaries of our work. The reports of our trainers and mentors who work close with the trainees are more than satisfactory: Somali military personnel that attend our courses are very eager to learn, and are confident that the skills they learn during the training at Jazeera Training Camp will help them to better accomplish their duties. On the other side, any time EUTM Staff is engaged with the local authorities, Somali leaders both at political and military level, praise the results of the training and report the improvements of the performance of their soldiers after the training received at JTC.

What are your biggest accomplishments?

The main results achieved by the Mission since it moved to Mogadishu January this year, has been the establishment of fruitful relations with the main stakeholders in Theatre, both local and international. The enhancement of the advisory and mentoring activities in the Ministry of Defence and in the Armed Forces General Staff. As a result, EUTM Somalia submitted and got the approval of the Somali Minister of Defence of the "Ministerial Guidance on the Defence Policy for the period 2014 to 2016", which establishes the framework for the development of the Somali Defence sector at political-military level. Other remarkable documents have been submitted, awaiting for final approval, such as "the Defence Strategic Plan" (DSP) and its Management Plan, a Directive about payments and a Guide to the MoD with a proposal for the MoD structure and for establishing the Ministry. Furthermore, the Defence Working Group accepted Villa Baidoa Logistic Concept, a project presented by EUTM for the main logistic hub of the SNA. This concept also included a detailed training annex as a starting point for the development of the logistic capabilities of the SNA.

In the training domain, EUTM Somalia has planned and conducted in Mogadishu a number of courses which have been attended, so far, by about 1,000 Somali soldiers. At the end of the year, standing the current planning, the final amount will be of 1,400 military personnel trained in the reintegration, specialist, and leadership courses routinely carried out at Jazeera Training Camp.

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The views expressed in this newsletter are those of the author and do not represent the official position of the European Union Military Committee or the single Member States' Chiefs of Defence.



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