

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

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

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EUSEC RDC/15

Background

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

Since December 2005 this mission, whose original mandate was to contribute to activities to integrate the Congolese army and to run the "Chain of payments" project, has been diversifying its activities with a view to modernising both administration and human resources management. The aim is to support the Congolese authorities in their efforts to establish a modern, efficient administrative structure within the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC). In addition to these activities, the mission assists its Congolese partners in the field of officer training, logistics, human rights and civilo-military cooperation.



EUSEC RD Congo support for distribution of FARDC military identity cards in Mbanza Ngungu, Lower Congo.

Working closely with the other actors in the international community, EUSEC RD Congo provides practical support for security sector reform in the DRC by giving advice and assistance directly to the competent Congolese authorities. Some advisers have been working with the military authorities in Kinshasa since June 2005, while others have been in post with the staffs of three of the military regions since April 2006.

Mandate and objectives

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

MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Theatre: the Democratic Republic of Congo
Headquarters: Kinshasa
Starting date: June 2005
Current mandate: October 2010 - September 2012
Head of Mission: General António MARTINS
Mission strength: 51
Mission budget: EUR 13,6 million for 2011-2012
Contributing states: 13 EU member states+USA

www.eusec-rdc.eu



In line with its sixth mandate (1 October 2010 – 30 September 2012), EUSEC RD Congo is helping to pave the way for implementation of the guidelines adopted in the plan for FARDC reform presented by the Minister for Defence of the DRC in January 2010. The key activities of this mandate are to continue strategic support for the general military staff, to modernise and consolidate the administration, to revive the training system by supporting the re-opening of officer training schools, to rebuild logistical capabilities and to carry out activities to combat impunity with regard to human rights violations, including sexual violence. In other domains, such as civilo-military cooperation and gender equality, EUSEC RD Congo develops, implements and/or supervises projects financed or initiated by EU member states and/or the European Union.

The EU has been unceasing in its support for security sector reform in the DRC, and the EUSEC mission is designed to ensure that its action on the military side is consistent and in coordination with its "sister mission" EUPOL RD Congo, the EU Delegation and the member states. These missions form part of wider EU action supporting development and democracy in the African Great Lakes region.

Mission achievements

EUSEC RD Congo advisers deployed in the east of the country have been supervising the monthly disbursements of the brigades' wages for more than five years, to help the Congolese authorities put in place mechanisms ensuring greater transparency of financial flows. One of EUSEC RD Congo's flagship initiatives has been the biometric census of troops carried out by the FARDC, which is essential for the reform of personnel administration and spending. The previous mandate was particularly noteworthy for its successes in the field of training. Courses on financial management and human resources were attended by around 1 800 officers, and administrative regulations were distributed in all the military regions. In addition, for the first time in 24 years, the FARDC ran a full course for trainers at the Administrative school, with 31 trainees qualifying as administrative officers, which have now assisted in training of other officers. In the field of administration, EUSEC RD Congo continues to help reinvigorate human resources management and assists in drawing up administrative and financial regulations. Finally, a territorial computer network installation project launched in mid-2006 is to be completed in early 2012.



Members of the 26th graduation take oath during the reopening of the FARDC Military Academy in Kananga, October 2011.

Ongoing activities

EUSEC RD Congo is helping the Congolese authorities with the distribution of military identity cards, which is the final stage in the biometric census of the Congolese army. The distribution began in the Kinshasa and Lower Congo military regions and continued in the Kasai Occidental, Kasai Oriental, Maniema, North Kivu, Orientale and South Kivu. At present, EUSEC supports the FARDC with the final distribution in Katanga province. During the first year of its mandate, the mission focused on the revival of training within the FARDC: the refurbishment of the school for non-commissioned officers, the infantry school and the artillery school in Kitona and the reopening of the Military Academy, and this will be completed in the second year with the creation of the general command of military schools in Kinshasa and the opening of the Administrative School in Kananga.

Other projects

- *Development of a network of trainers to raise awareness of human rights in 6 provinces:*
 - Training of FARDC trainers with a view to changing the behaviour of FARDC personnel and strengthening their responsibility and capacity in a military career in a democratic environment.
- *Improvement of the military medical structures' response to and care of victims of sexual violence.*
 - Supply of equipment to maternity ward of Camp Kokolo in Kinshasa and training of military care staff in dealing with sexual violence.

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

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