

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

EU Security Sector Reform Advisory Mission to the DR Congo Armed Forces (EUSEC RD Congo)

Updated : April 2014

Background

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

Working closely with the other contributing members of the international community, EUSEC RD Congo provides practical support for security-sector reform in the DRC, through advice and assistance to the relevant Congolese authorities. Its advisors work with the military command authorities in Kinshasa, as well as the staffs in the military regions.

Since its first year, which focused on the integration process within the DRC Armed Forces (FARDC), and the "chain of payment" project which ensures that military pay gets to the soldiers, the mission has expanded its activities in this area with a view toward modernising both personnel administration and human resources management. It has also diversified its activities, providing assistance to its Congolese partners in the field of military education and training.

Mandate and objectives

The general aim of EUSEC RD Congo is to support the Congolese authorities in rebuilding an army that will guarantee security throughout the whole country, and which will create the conditions necessary to economic and social development. The mission currently is comprised of some 40 military and civilian personnel. It is based in Kinshasa, with a permanent detachment in Goma. The mission also runs projects in Kitona, Bas-Congo Province, and Kananga, in the Western Kasai. EUSEC RD Congo is the only organisation in the DRC entirely dedicated to the military component of security sector reform.



Exchange of the 2013-2014 Action Plan after its signature by the Hon. A. Luba, Minister of Defence, and Col J.-L. Nurenberg, EUSEC Head of Mission

Facts and Figures

Place : Democratic Republic of the Congo
Headquarters : Kinshasa
Start date : juin 2005
Current mandate: oct. 2013 – sept. 2014
Head of Mission : COL Jean-Louis NURENBERG
Expatriate personnel : 41 persons
Budget : EUR 8.455 millions
Contributing States : 10 EU Member States + the USA.



www.eusec-rdc.eu

During its eighth Mandate Year (1 October 2013 - 30 September 2014), EUSEC RD Congo is assisting the Congolese authorities with taking ownership of security sector reform through policies that respect democratic norms, human rights and international humanitarian law, as well as good governance. The mission's areas of activity are: 1) advice to the Minister of Defense, to the General Military Staff, to the Inspector General, to the Logistics General Staff, and to the Service for Civic and Patriotic Education and Social Actions; 2) support to consolidating personnel administration; and 3) support to re-launching the military training system.

Being a European mission, EUSEC aims to ensure coherence among EU-sponsored security sector reform activities in the DRC, in coordination with its sister mission EUPOL RD Congo, as well as with the EU Delegation and Member State embassies.

Ongoing activities

During its current mandate, the mission provides advice to key military leaders for implementation of the Army Reform Plan. Mobile teams execute assistance visits to the military regions to monitor the reform process in action. EUSEC also helps the Ministry of Defense Budget and Finance Directorate with the mechanics of budget planning and execution. The mission also helps with the development of a logistics data base. Within the context of proper arms and munitions stockpiling, EUSEC is building a munitions depot in Mbanza-Ngungu in the Bas-Congo Province.

Concerning the consolidation of personnel administration, EUSEC RD Congo continues its work to develop and implement automated personnel administration tools, and to formulate a human resources management policy. These efforts benefit not only active military personnel, but also their dependants. The census of the entire FARDC also is ongoing. Currently, 35% of all military personnel have been through multiple biometric ID checks. Distribution of military ID cards, now the sole piece of Congolese military identification, also continues. To date, 80% of all personnel possess their military ID card. This card also is required for an individual to draw his pay at the bank. To ensure good military personnel management, the mission trains recruiters and furnishes recruiting supplies to the military regions.

Concerning education and training, the mission supports implementation of the Military Education and Training Command, and helps with organising the national competition for recruiting military school cadets. EUSEC furnishes vital assistance to the military schools in Kananga (the Military Academy and the School of Administration), and those in Kitona (NCO School, Infantry School, Artillery School, and Medical Service School). Currently, EUSEC is refurbishing the amphitheater at the Kananga Military Academy, and the Medical Service School in Kitona, and has installed a gas-powered generator for the schools in Kitona. Moreover, the mission currently is rehabilitating the buildings of the Logistics School in Kinshasa, which will re-open its doors in September 2014.

Mission accomplishments

These past 7 years, EUSEC RD Congo has contributed to the writing of several laws, ordinances, regulations and directives. The mission has helped the Congolese authorities put more transparent financial mechanisms into place. It has contributed to the improvement of arms and munitions stockpile management, by constructing 11 armories and munitions depots throughout the country.

EUSEC RD Congo has supported the biometric census of all FARDC personnel, the cornerstone of human resource management reform. The distribution of military ID cards was completed with the mission's support. The computerized system for military personnel management ("SINGAMIL"), and the biometric census was implemented with the mission's help. Having this control over military personnel information is what now enables the national authorities to pay its military via the banking system. It has separated the "chain of payment" from the chain of command. EUSEC RD Congo has developed a FARDC computer network extending throughout the nation, with 400 computers in Kinshasa and 400 others in the military regions.



Biometric census of new recruits in Malaku, August 2013

Concerning education and training, the national competition for recruiting military school students is nationwide thanks to the help of EUSEC RD Congo. Also, the mission has rehabilitated its buildings, and contributes to the functioning of seven military schools.

La politique de sécurité et de défense commune (PSDC) de l'Union européenne inclut la définition progressive d'une politique de défense commune qui pourrait conduire, le moment venu, à une défense commune. La PSDC permet à l'Union de développer ses capacités civiles et militaires de gestion des crises et de prévention des conflits à l'échelle internationale. Elle contribue ainsi au maintien de la paix et de la sécurité internationale, conformément à la charte des Nations unies. La PSDC comprend une importante composante "prévention des conflits".

***D'autres informations et documents de référence figurent aux adresses
www.consilium.europa.eu/psdc et eeas.europa.eu***