

Question for written answer E-005813/2017
to the Commission (Vice-President / High Representative)
Rule 130
Maria Arena (S&D)

Subject: VP/HR - Funding of Burundian contingents in AMISOM

In March 2016, following the decision by the Council of the EU to suspend direct financial support to the Burundian Government, including budgetary support, the EU undertook to review the arrangements for the payment of Burundian soldiers in the African Union's mission to Somalia (AMISOM). The agreement reached with the African Union was to pay the soldiers via a Burundian commercial bank to prevent their pay being routed via the Burundian Government which would deduct 20%. However, it appears that the forces' pay is currently being channelled via a military cooperative (CECAD) controlled by the Ministry of Defence, and that the deductions are still taking place.

Are there any plans for joint monitoring with the African Union to verify this information, and if so, when will the results be known?

If the information proves correct, what position will the EU take to ensure a coherent approach and avoid any collusion with or support for the Burundian authorities?