



# EUROPEAN UNION

## ~FACTSHEET~

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### EU SUPPORT FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

#### International support for African peace and security initiatives

Momentum is building up for the international community to do more to promote peace and security on the African continent. Individual states, international organisations and groups such as G-8 have put Africa high on their priority lists and have pledged 2005 as a landmark year for the concentration of efforts and the building of high political will on the efforts for progressive and sustainable changes in Africa. African nations are undertaking increased efforts to resolve conflicts and they achieved important progress in setting up their own security structures at continental level through the African Union and its, Peace and Security Council, as well as at sub-regional level, such as in West Africa (ECOWAS) and, in the Horn of Africa (IGAD).

The EU is fully committed to this objective and is working with Africa to promote peace and security on the continent. As underlined in the European Security Strategy (ESS) adopted by the European Council in December 2003, security is the first condition to development. But not only is African security a precondition for the continent's development, it is also essential for Europe's security. State failure and conflicts not only sustain poverty, they can fuel organised crime as well as illicit trafficking and terrorism.

The EU is the largest donor to Africa and it is Africa's biggest trading partner with 45% of African's foreign trade, accounting for € 144 billion in the year 2000, which is five times bigger than intra-African trade (€ 29 billion a year). The EU provides more than 50% of global development assistance to the continent. For the year 2002, it stood at over US\$ 29 billion.

#### ...an EU priority

The EU's integrated approach to preventing conflict in Africa draws on all the instruments at its disposal: development, trade, economic, diplomatic, political and military.

- The *Peace Facility for Africa*, a commitment of € 250 million from the EU's development aid budget to support African led peace support operations and to enhance the institutional capacities of the African Union and sub-regional organisations in relation to peace keeping and conflict prevention, is a key new initiative in this respect; €101.87 million have already been committed in support of the AU peace keeping mission in Darfur, the "Communauté Economique et Monétaire des Etats d'Afrique Centrale" (CEMAC) mission in the Central African Republic as well as for a first program of the institutional capacity building of the AU Peace and Security Directorate.
- Furthermore, within the framework of the *Cotonou Agreement*, the *European Development Fund* (EDF) as well as the EU's Rapid Reaction Mechanism (RRM) have been providing important support for a broad range of peace building activities such as mediation, negotiation and reconciliation efforts, and for demobilisation and reintegration of former combatants and child soldiers.

- The first *autonomous EU-led military operation* (without recourse to NATO assets) – in the framework of the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) - outside Europe to Ituri (Summer 2003) in the Democratic Republic of Congo was a rapid response operation: it started only two weeks after the UNSC resolution was adopted, lasted for three months and involved 1500 troops from EU countries. It helped put the peace process back on track. To support the transitional national government, the EU provided € 2.5 Million.
- Practical measures in support of African organisations to improve co-ordination of all EU instruments and to prepare for the new missions (mainly Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (SSR) are under way.

## **Some specific initiatives**

### *Sudan/Darfur*

- The EU is responding to the crisis in Darfur in an innovative way, successfully undertaking diplomatic efforts to bring the belligerents to the negotiating table and facilitated through financing the talks via its Rapid Reaction Mechanism. The AU peace support mission (AMIS) is supported with a contribution of €92 million, representing more than half of the annual budget, from the Peace Facility for Africa. Considerable contributions, in cash and in kind, have also been provided on a bilateral basis by EU Member States. Furthermore the EU has responded positively to the invitation by the African Union to be represented in a (political) Joint Commission supervising the cease-fire and to assume the position of Vice-chair of the Cease-fire Commission. In addition, the EU has sent six observers, alongside with six US and Canadian observers, to cease-fire monitoring teams, and provided substantial expertise to the planning of the second phase of this mission. The EU has also provided police planning and logistical support to the African Union in support of AMIS II.
- In terms of humanitarian assistance the EU has allocated a total of € 72 million to meet the needs of people affected by the conflict in the Darfur region. Furthermore € 14 million have been allocated and another €12 million will be made available as of April 2005 for relief to the Sudanese refugees that have fled to Chad as well as local host communities, many of which are impoverished. In addition, several EU Member States will make bilateral contributions.

### *Great Lakes region / Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)*

- The EU is committed to promoting stability in the Great Lakes region, notably through its Special Representative Aldo Ajello. Through the military operation "Artemis" conducted in summer 2003 in Ituri, DRC, the EU took concrete steps to contribute to the re-establishment of security in the DRC. This operation, conducted at the request and in support of the UN, stopped a dangerous cycle of violence and preserved the political process.
- An important financial contribution of € 25 million permitted the African Union to sustain its military operation in Burundi.
- The Commission participates also in the financing of the Multi-Country Demobilisation and Reintegration Programme for the Grater Lake Region by a contribution of € 20 million to the trust fund managed by the World Bank. In addition, it already financed with € 2 million a disarmament program in Congo Brazzaville managed by UNDP.
- The EU is maintaining its engagement for peace in the DRC and the region. Through a project funded by the EDF, the CSFP and bilateral contributions of Member States, it is currently supporting the establishment of an Integrated Police Unit (IPU) in the DRC to foster the

process of consolidation of internal security, an essential factor for the peace process and the development of the country **for an amount of about € 8 million.** This action will be followed and consolidated by a civilian ESDP Police mission (EUPOL KINSHASA) to monitor, mentor and advise the IPU in Kinshasa, with 23 international staff and a budget of € 4.4 million for 2005. The Commission and Member States are participating in a regional demobilisation programme headed by the World Bank.

- In order to create a secure environment during the forthcoming electoral process in DRC, the EU allocated € 9 million to establish and implement a strategy of elections security to be implemented by the Police Nationale Congolaise with the assistance of the “Mission de l’Organisation de Nations Unies en République Démocratique Congo” (MONUC).

#### *Central African Republic (CAR)*

- € 3.5 million from the African Peace Facility have been allocated to support the Peacekeeping operation led by the CEMAC in CAR.

#### *West African Region*

- The European Community is supporting ECOWAS conflict prevention policy through a 9<sup>th</sup> EDF allocation of 10 MEURO. This activity includes support to the fight against the proliferation of small arms in the region. ECOWAS is indeed planning to transform the moratorium on SALW into a binding convention.

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