

## COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

# Regional Maritime Security Capacity Building Mission in the Horn of Africa and the Western Indian Ocean (EUCAP Nestor)

Updated : August 2015

### Mission background

In July 2012, the European Union launched EUCAP Nestor, a civilian mission which assists host countries develop self-sustaining capacity for continued enhancement of maritime security, including counter-piracy and maritime governance.

At its launch, EUCAP Nestor was mandated to work across the Horn of Africa (HoA) and Western Indian Ocean (WIO). The Mission currently has personnel located in Mogadishu, Hargeisa, Nairobi, Seychelles and Djibouti. However following a strategic review of the Mission and progress achieved to date, it has been decided to phase out regional activities and operations in Djibouti and the Seychelles by the end of 2015 in order to focus efforts solely on Somalia (including Somaliland). This will also see the relocation of the Mission Headquarters to Mogadishu.



### Mandate and activities

EUCAP Nestor is mandated to support the development of maritime security in Somalia. Maritime security falls within Rule of Law and covers maritime, policing and legal dimensions.

The Mission is a demonstration of the European Union's commitment to strengthen the existing legal and law enforcement frameworks related to anti-piracy and develop relevant maritime security capacity instruments. These objectives are key to reaching the goal of offering solutions covering a process "from crime to court", starting with the arrest and detention of suspects all the way to the investigation and prosecution of maritime crime. This requires the mission to work with the main actors responsible for maritime security in Somalia. Typically these include coast guard, navy, civilian coastal and maritime police, prosecutors, judges and other key figures.

With the strategic shift in the Mission's operational focus, its efforts in Somalia will concentrate on mentoring and advising Somali partners. This strategic level advice and mentoring is supported by the coordination and facilitation of specialised training to support capacity building efforts.

As part of its mandate, EUCAP Nestor has promoted **regional cooperation** in maritime security and coordinated capacity building activities. A series of regional events were organised, including a regional conference on maritime security in 2013, as well as a series of regional workshops for prosecutors, judges and other legal practitioners on piracy and other maritime crimes in Nairobi and Djibouti.

### MISSION FACTS AND FIGURES

Theater – Somalia

Headquarters: Djibouti up to October 2015,  
Mogadishu since October 2015

Starting Date: July 2012

Acting Head of Mission: Simonetta Silvestri

Planned capacity: 156 (117 international and 39 national staff)

Contributing states: 14

Mission Budget: : EUR 17.9 Mio € (16/10/2014-15/10/2015)



In **Somalia**, the Mission assists the authorities to develop a self-sustaining capacity in maritime security and rule of law, enabling them to fight piracy more effectively. Currently, the Mission offers strategic and operational advice as well as law drafting support and training. A series of basic Coast Guard mentoring activities for recruits from Somali regions and the Federal Government, as well as workshops for legal practitioners and Police have already taken place inside and outside Somalia. Light equipment related to training activities has been provided based to Somalia partners.

Since Autumn 2014, EUCAP Nestor has scaled up its engagement in the Somali regions and Somaliland which was enhanced with the establishment of fully operational field offices in Mogadishu and Hargeisa in 2015. The Mission's operational activities include support in the practical implementation of legislation and policy frameworks, training, mentoring, advising and monitoring through embedded experts and capacity building activities addressing the Somali judicial and prosecution actors responsible for investigation and prosecution of suspect pirates and their leaders.

At **regional level**, the mission has brought together experts to assist in setting up regional networks and to create a better understanding of maritime security needs in the region. An important achievement is the development of a regional network of law drafters and prosecutors with experience in prosecuting piracy and maritime crime. A series of prosecutor's conferences involving Prosecutors and Lawyers from several Countries of the HoA/WIO - including Somalia - organized by the Mission are the the best examples of a networking activity promoted by the mission. The staging of a "Mock Trial" during one of these events provided an opportunity to examine best practice and exchange knowledge based on actual piracy cases.

### The EU's Comprehensive Approach to Fighting Piracy



EUCAP Nestor's carries out its activities within the context of the EU's comprehensive approach to the HoA comprising a broad set of activities (political, diplomatic, development, security and humanitarian). This is outlined in the "[Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa](#)", which the EU Member States adopted in November 2011 in order to guide the EU's engagement in the region.

In the fight against piracy, the Mission complements a number of other EU actors including the two CSDP missions in the region, the European Union Naval Force Somalia – Operation Atalanta at sea and the EU Military Training Mission (EUTM) for Somalia on land as well as a number of EU programmes funded by the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace (Critical Maritime Routes Programme – MARSIC) and the European Development Fund (Regional Maritime Security Programme – MASE). The Mission also works closely with key international and regional organizations such as the United Nations, in particular UNODC and UNDP, the African Union, IGAD, IMO, etc.

*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.*

*Based in Brussels, the **Civilian Planning and Conduct Capability (CPCC)** is the permanent structure responsible for an autonomous operational conduct of civilian CSDP operations. Under the political control and strategic direction of the Political and Security Committee and the overall authority of the High Representative, the CPCC ensures the effective planning and conduct of civilian CSDP crisis management operations, as well as the proper implementation of all mission-related tasks.*

**More information and background documents** available on <http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp> and [eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)