



SPC NEWS

Standing Police Capacity, United Nations Police Division

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Message from the

SPC Chief, Maria Appelblom

Dear colleagues,

After a very busy spring a hot and humid Pugliese summer has arrived, but the Standing Police Capacity is not slowing down providing support in a wide range of fields and missions.

In May the SPC has commemorated its 10th Anniversary and hosted a highly expected and well attended United Nations Police Commanders Course Curriculum Development Workshop.

Under the Global Focal Point arrangement SPC experts continue to support UNDP projects in Yemen, Central African Republic and Sierra Leone. As UNDP says, the credibility and technical inputs of SPC team members have greatly contributed to the great achievement of their respective missions.

And a small personal note. My time limited contract with the UN ends in the beginning of August. It has been three very intense, instructive and fruitful years. I believe I was able to make a difference, leading the Standing Police Capacity into extensively enhancing its production as well as its scope. I have had the privilege of working with extremely competent and professional colleagues from all over the world, and I will seriously miss you all. At the same time I look forward to spending more time with family and friends back home.

I will for now leave the management of SPC in the safe hands of SPC Team Leader Jaakko Christensen as OIC awaiting selection and on-boarding of a new Chief.

As always – SPC remains at your service!

Kind regards,

Maria Appelblom



Standing Police Capacity celebrates its 10th Anniversary

Brindisi, 23 May 2017 – In the presence of the high representatives of the Italian Government and Italian Armed Forces, of the United Nations, UN Peacekeeping Missions, Member States and partner organizations, as well as of the former and current staff members, the Standing Police Capacity of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations Police Division celebrated today its 10th anniversary.

The United Nations Standing Police Capacity (SPC) is a rapid response unit tasked with providing immediate start-up capability and with providing timely support, advice and assistance to police components of UN peace operations.

"The Standing Police Capacity is a vital tool of UN peacekeeping across the entire spectrum from conflict prevention to peace sustainment" said in his greeting **Jean-Pierre Lacroix**, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations.

Since 2007 in over 44 deployments, the SPC has established the police components of five peacekeeping operations, assisted 15 ongoing operations and supported five operations during reconfiguration, closures or transition. Assisting the field, SPC officers were deployed most often in Chad, Central African Republic, Haiti, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan, Liberia.

"I would like to see the Standing Police Capacity developing in the center of excellence for the United Nations policing," said **Stefan Feller**, UN Police Adviser.

In carrying out its tasks, SPC supports the implementation of today's often complex policing-related tasks in the broader rule of law and security sector reform context.

"When established the SPC marked a conceptual milestone in international policing. With its establishment, missions had assured and continuous access to police expertise required in their life cycle that was not readily available within the mission previously" said **Walter Wolf**, first Chief of SPC.

In addition to its primary functions, the SPC provides expertise as part of the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections in the Rule of Law in Post-Conflict and Other Crisis Situations.

"At the UN, you need to adapt very fast to the changing environment and so did SPC. All over the years, we spent numerous working hours to rethink our tools, our modus operandi of deployment, our overarching policing responses to our clients," said **Maria Appelblom**, Chief SPC. "We try to be innovative to provide new answers to emerging problems and all the women and men within SPC continuously strive to be at the service of the UN Police Components in the field", concluded Ms. Appelblom.

When deployed, the SPC has made a plausible and positive contribution to missions' police-related work and tasks. With over 16 core areas of expertise, it has also been versatile in the range of products and services it has delivered.



Security in the Times of Elections - Sierra Leone

Jane Rhodes, SPC Police Reform Officer, has been deployed since November 2016 to Sierra Leone to serve as the UNDP Election Security Adviser, working within the Office of National Security with the chair of the Integrated Election Security Planning Committee (IESPC). She supported the IESPC to train security agencies in their security responsibilities related to the Voter Registration process, completed an assessment mission to two 'hot spot' districts, progressed Election Security priorities relating to training, communication and strategy, contributed towards UNDP programming and reporting responsibilities, supported the development of the Election Security budget for the Security Sector, liaised with local donors and international partners and participated as a role player in the National Security Exercise. She is also responsible for progressing SSR activities relating to Gender, Asset Management and the Independent Police Complaints Board.



Transnational Crime High on the Agenda

Miroslav Milojevic, SPC Transnational Crime Adviser, participated at the National Workshop for Iraq on "Prevention and Suppression of Financing of Terrorism through Illicit Trafficking in Cultural Property" that was held in Beirut, Lebanon, from 21-23 January 2017. The title of his presentation was "United Nations Police's perspective on prevention and Suppression of the Illicit Trafficking of Cultural Properties to Fund Terrorism".

Stephanie Tieles, SPC Transnational Crimes Officer, together with Mr. Milojevic facilitated a workshop held in New York on 09 and 10 May 2017 for Serious and Organized Crime Focal Point Network (SOC FPN) which is one of Transnational Threats (TNT) projects under Uniform Capability Development Agenda (UCDA).



SPC continues its support to UNSOM

Based on the request of UNSOM SPC Team Leader **Jaakko Christensen** was deployed to UNSOM as a member of the Gaalkacyo Ceasefire Team – Advisory Group (GCTAG) from 15 January to 14 February 2017 and from 10 to 31 March 2017 with an objective to support the local conflict resolution process after a ceasefire agreement. The objective for the SPC Team Leader, as member of GCTAG, was to develop a targeted and realistic joint police training program for police from Galmudug and Puntland States which will create the basis for joint police patrols in Gaalkacyo.

During the deployments the SPC Team Leader drafted the SOP for the joint police patrols in Gaalkacyo; drafted the Project Proposal for Joint Training of Puntland and Galmudug Police in Gaalkacyo, which is the proposal for obtaining funding for training and equipping the joint patrols; submitted an outline of the Training Programme, training timetable, trainee criteria and Trainee Questionnaire in preparation for the training of the joint patrols; and brought together the management of the two regional police from Puntland and Galmudug in order to agree on cooperation across the boundary line.

His deployment was followed with the deployment of SPC Police Reform Officer, **Odia Godfrey Aroper**, who has been finalizing and operationalizing the joint police patrol project since April 2017. Based in the regional office of UNSOM Police in Galkayo, Mr. Aroper is tasked with supporting, as Police Advisor, the Galkayo Ceasefire and Advisory Group (GCTAG) in the monitoring of the ceasefire and training of a Joint Police Patrol Team. He was also coordinated the finalization of the curriculum and preparations for the training of the Joint Police Patrol Team in Galkayo.

Dongxu Su, Police Reform Adviser, and **Sanjeev Joshi**, Budget and Finance Officer have been deployed to support the UNSOM in April 2017.



Mr. Su and Mr. Joshi are based in Mogadishu and supporting the UNSOM Police Section in the implementation of the New Policing Model (NPM) for the Federal Republic of Somalia and are providing the technical support in the process of the formulation of the State Police Plans. They are also assisting the UNSOM Police Section in developing standard guidelines for the police development plan and generic resource plan for the police development planning in the context of Somalia.

Support to the Police Adviser's Front Office



In another example of an excellent collaboration between the SPC and Police Adviser's Front Office, Special Assistant to the Chief SPC, Catherine Rompato intensively collaborated on the drafting of the new UN Police Knowledge Management (KM) policy note.

In his report on UN policing (S/2016/952), the Secretary-General welcomed DPKO and DFS efforts to strengthen the UN police knowledge management (KM) capacity, a function identified by the External Review of the Functions, Structure and Capacity of the Police Division as requiring increased consideration. Police Division (PD) prepared a note with an outline for the systematic collection, analysis and dissemination of lessons learned in UN policing, defining tasks that PD will assume with existing resources and that PD intends to realize progressively as dedicated KM capacities are identified or as interrelated, interdepartmental discussions on performance, accountability and compliance, crystallize.

In line with the DPKO-DFS Policy on Knowledge Sharing and Organizational Learning (Ref. 2015.13), PD is committed to improving the performance of UN police and HQ backstopping support that are informed by identified, captured, shared and implemented good practices and lessons learned. While there has been considerable attention on specific aspects related to accountability and various indicators to measure impact, UN police require a comprehensive UN Police KM Strategy (Strategy) that captures, makes accessible and integrates the explicit and implicit knowledge and experiences of revolving personnel in evolving guidance.

In brief

- **Ms. Maria Appelblom**, Chief SPC, travelled to Stockholm 10-14 June 2017, where she met researchers at Stockholm and Cornell universities to discuss mentorship program for female officers.

- **Mr. Nedal Rashdan**, SPC Public Order Officer, continued his deployment to UNSMIL as SPA and his mission was extended for three-month, until 15 August 2017.

- **Mr. Gerrit Schut**, SPC Information Technology Officer, and **Ms. Ni-misha Pandey**, SPC Police Reform Adviser, travelled to Monrovia on 20 – 28 June 2017 for an assessment/evaluation of the use of L-SMART in light of the UNMIL transition.

- **Mr. Benigno Durana**, SPC Team Leader, was deployed to UNIOGBIS as SPA for three months as of 23 June 2017.

- **Mr. Mahmoud Abu-Salman**, SPC Community Policing Officer, as a member of the United Nations assessment team visited Burkina Faso 12 – 23 February 2017 with the aim of conducting a strategic analysis of the situation in the field of justice, security and rule of law in BF and propose potential priority interventions by the UN System.

UNPCC Curriculum Development Workshops

The UN Police Commander Course (UNPCC) Curriculum Development Workshop was held 24-25 May 2017 in UNGSC, Brindisi. The workshop brought together 71 representatives from 17 Member States, 11 field missions and 6 partner organizations as well as representatives from UNDPKO in New York and SPC in Brindisi. During the workshop the draft content of the Police Commander Course was discussed in smaller groups under the guidance of experienced current and former UN Police Commissioners. The participants provided views and experiences which PD and ITS will take into account in preparatory work for the UNPCC.

Participants to the workshop have also prioritized the proposed topics and some participants have indicated interest in providing further remote support in developing the lesson plans and course material.

ITS and PD/SPC representatives attended a workshop at the German State Police Training Centre in Brühl, Germany 12-16 June. SPC was represented by Team Leaders **Benigno Durana** and **Jaakko Christensen**, as well as Public Order Adviser, **Giorgio Giaimo**. ITS had three representatives and the State Police Training Centre one representative. During the workshop the UNPCC curriculum was reviewed in detail, the course content developed, the schedule for the course and assessments agreed upon and responsibilities for facilitators assigned.



Support to UNDP in Yemen

Since November 2016, **Ahmed Hosni Abdelrahim**, Human Resources Adviser, and **Amod Gurung**, Training Adviser, have been supporting the planning for police redeployment in the 4 major cities in Yemen by developing a quality document as well as liaising with the Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and the UNDP Country Office in Yemen. The police assessment and guidance for strengthening policing and strengthening civilian security is a joint activity between UNDP, the Standby Police Capacity of OROLSI/DPKO, and the Office of the Special Envoy of Secretary-General, supported through the Global Focal Point for Rule of Law.



According to the UNDP Head of Office, the support of both Police Advisors have contributed to a strong follow up to the Dead Sea meeting which resulted in pledges from the US and the EU to fund Rule of Law activities in Yemen. The credibility and technical inputs of both have greatly contributed to this great achievement. In the next phase they will design the actual activities on the ground which will require some missions to Yemen itself to finalize the project documents and establish relations locally.

SPC assists the UN Police Component's Legal Expertise in the Central African Republic

Since MINUSCA establishment in April 2014, SPC has deployed a Legal Adviser on five occasions to assist the police component throughout its various phases (including start-up, stabilization) as the Mission continues to support the Government of the Central African Republic (CAR) in securing peace. **Jane Grausgruber**, Police Reform Adviser, and **Miriam Mafessanti**, SPC Legal Officer, have been supporting MINUSCA UNPOL component since June 2017.

With MINUSCA now in its third year, the mandate has evolved to additionally focus on the development of national security forces. Currently, UNPOL with assistance from the SPC Legal Adviser, is supporting national counterparts to recruit 500 national police and gendarmerie officers, thus laying foundations for development of a new generation of police and gendarmes. In this regard, the SPC Legal Adviser and UNPOL worked with national counterparts from the Police, Gendarmerie and Ministry of Interior to develop a series of legal texts necessary to set the framework for launching and the implementation of the recruitment process. A subsequent arrêté outlines the organization of the recruitment process, recruitment exams and selection modalities. The next steps involve working with national counterparts to formalize the process for background checks and vetting of successfully shortlisted candidates, with a view to finalizing a short list of successful candidates for entry into the National Police and Gendarmerie training schools.



Evaluation of Formed Police Units Underway

Giorgio Giaimo, SPC Public Order Officer, from March to June 2017 supported the United Nations Division of Policy, Evaluation and Training (DPET) in conducting an overall evaluation of Formed Police Units (FPUs). The evaluation, which was conducted in accordance with one of the recommendations of the External Review of the functions, structure and capacity of the United Nations Police Division, was conducted in New York at the UNHQ, MINUSTAH, MINUSCA and focused, among others, on the impact that FPUs have on field missions activities as well as challenges related to FPU deployments, their mobility and flexibility. For the purpose of the evaluation, the team also visited three Police Contributing Countries, the Headquarters of the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF), the Centre of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) and the NATO Stability Policing Centre of Excellence (NATO COE). Moreover the team had several interactions with field missions via VTC.

Mr. Giaimo, on behalf of the Police Division, on 29 and 30 March 2017 participated at the G7 Working Group on Peacekeeping/Peace building. The meeting that was attended also by representatives of the African Union, DPKO, EEAS, and UN Women, focused on different issues, encompassing training of peacekeepers, including Formed Police Units (FPUs) with special attention to the existing gaps and challenges.

In May 2017, Mr. Giaimo also attended a NATO Stability Policing Workshop in Amsterdam that aimed to test some aspect of the NATO Stability Policing Concept through a scenario based discussion. In this regard, along with Chief SPC, **Maria Appelblom**, they wrote an article on UN policing which will be part of a NATO Stability Policing manual.



Assistance to MINUSTAH

From 6 November 2016 to 5 May 2017, MINUSTAH UNPOL component benefitted from SPC support through the deployment of SPC Public Order Advisor, **Jean-Michel Turquois**, and SPC Planning Officer, **Servilien Nitunga**.

From November 2016 to January 2017, Mr. Turquois assisted the UNPOL Police Commissioner on the issues related to election security process (presidential, senate and local elections) and public order issues and then toured the 11 FPU in order to assess, among others, FPU operational and training activities and internal organization. Mr. Turquois ended his tour of duty by organizing training periods for FPU commanders, the 4 FPU units deployed in the Haitian capital and 2 deployed in Gonaïves region, and the 2 Haitian National Police crowd control units in Port au Prince.

Mr. Nitunga provided valuable support and advice for the Haitian National Police Development Plan 2017 – 2021, specifically dealing with the transition planning for the UNPOL drawdown strategy. A pilot project in the Department North was initiated and all police component units were tasked to identify key activities to be transferred to HNP to make it responsible, confident and increase its ownership for effective implementation of the HNP SDP 2017-2021. MINUSTAH Police leadership provided strategic guidance and SPC PPO coordinated development of transition action plans for police component and all pillars (development, operations and administrative pillar). SPC PPO also contributed to training of HNP region commanders and MINUSTAH Police region commanders on election security related operational planning. This training contributed to identifying coordination challenges between HNP and MINUSTAH Police at field level and advice has been provided to improve relationship and collaboration between them.



SPC Medal Parade

Brindisi, 23 June 2017 – On the occasion of the United Nations Peacekeepers Day (which is commemorated on 29 May) and in recognition of having met the requirements of eligibility and having completed the necessary period of qualifying service as police staff members of the Standing Police Capacity of the United Nations Police Division, the Secretary-General of the United Nations awarded the United Nations Medal to eight police officers of the Standing Police Capacity: **Benigno Durana, Jaakko Christensen, Miroslav Milojevic, Zafer Ersin, Mahmoud Abu-Salman, Jean-Michel Turquoise, Servilien Nitunga, Jean-Claude Nkurunziza, and Dongxu Su**.

“Your service here at the Headquarters and in the field, assisting UN peacekeeping missions, UN programs, funds and agencies and other various partners, and the sacrifice it entails, are recognized with this medal” said on this solemn occasion Maria Appelblom, Chief SPC.

“During its short history, SPC has established police components in five peacekeeping operations, assisted 15 ongoing operations and supported five operations during reconfiguration, closures or transition. And nothing would be possible



without SPC extraordinary staff members” concluded Ms. Appelblom.

High Demand for Training on Gender Related Issues

Jean-Claude Nkurunziza, SPC Gender Affairs Officer, was deployed to Central African Republic from 21 October 2016 to 28 February 2017 to support UNDP in the operationalization of the Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) Rapid Response Specialized Police Unit. He coordinated the training of UMIRR (Unité Mixte d'Intervention Rapide et de Répression des Violences Sexuelles) members together with the Training Consultant; drafted the UMIRR Management Manual in collaboration with stakeholders from other ministries; draft Standard Operating Procedures on Police Investigation of SGBV-CRSV (Conflict Related Sexual Violence).



The Integrated Training Service (ITS) deployed a Mobile Training Team (MTT) to Agadir, Morocco, to conduct a Training of Trainers course from 8 to 19 May 2017. The MTT had 4 facilitators, among them Mr. Nkurunziza. 33 participants from the Moroccan Army, all male, attended the ToT that familiarized them with the UN Core Pre-deployment Training Materials (CPTM) and other Specialized Training Materials (STMs) that enhanced their capacity to further train future Moroccan Peacekeepers.

In 2016, MINUSCA's Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT) organized a training to build the capacity of members of the MINUSCA Immediate Response Team (IRT) to ensure readiness for immediate deployment to assist in the preservation of evidence for cases of sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) reported to the mission. Two SPC Staff co-facilitated this training. Due to the rotation of staff, from 12 to 16 June 2017 MINUSCA's CDT organized a refresher training for the same purpose. Mr. Nkurunziza was deployed to co-facilitate the training. In total, 20 members of the IRT, including 06 female members of the MINUSCA's military, police and civilian personnel attended training.

On 28 and 29 June 2017 SPC Gender Affairs Officer delivered the 6 modules on child protection at the CoESPU organized 6th Gender Course. Thirty six participants (18 males and 18 females) from 11 Member States attended the course. A week later, 6-7 June 2017, Mr. Nkurunziza presented at the same course a module on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA) “General issues, responsibilities and code of conduct, victim assistance strategy”. **Maria Appelblom**, Chief SPC, delivered a session on female leadership at the Gender course on 5-6 July 2017.

FAREWELL to...

the staff members who has left SPC since January 2017:

Olivier Belcourt, Investigations Adviser

Majed Hachaichi, Logistics Adviser

Lucien Vermeir, Team Leader

Shubhra Hira Tiwari, Planning Officer

Peter Faulhaber, Police Analyst

...and WELCOME to...

our new colleagues who have joined the SPC since January 2017 :

Ivan Djordjevic, Public Information Adviser

Samson Napulu, Logistics Officer

Jeffrey Buenger, Legal Adviser

Jean-Marc Lafon, Team Leader

Habis Al-Hawawsheh, Training Adviser

Stephanie Tiele,

SPC Transnational

Crimes Officer, and

Miroslav Milojevic,

Transnational Crime

Adviser, while on

official business in

New York, met at the UN HQ with the outgoing Assistant Secretary-General OROLSI, Dmitry Titov and thanked him on behalf of the Chief SPC for his decade-long support to SPC.

