



EASTERN AFRICA STANDBY FORCE



CELEBRATING EASF DAY/INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE

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Date: 21st Sept November 2015, Nairobi Kenya

We need peace in our region to transform wealth into prosperity

Message from the Cabinet Secretary for Defence of the Republic of Kenya

Today marks an important milestone in the history of the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF), and also commemorates an important event in the history of mankind: the International Peace Day.

EASF is a regional force, being a component of the African Standby Force. It is charged with the responsibility of bringing together the 10 Eastern Africa countries to collectively contribute towards peace and stability on our continent.

It is 10 years ago that the Government of the Republic of Kenya made a commitment to be an active player in this agenda, and went ahead to sign the relevant protocol to bring to life the Eastern Africa Standby Force, known then as the Eastern Africa Standby Brigade.

Reflecting on all those years, we are very proud of the achievements EASF has made. In particular, we applaud EASF for having been the first African regional force to declare Full Operational Capability.

Kenya is delighted today to report that it was the first member state of EASF to validate its pledged forces. In addition, Kenya recently ratified the agreement establishing EASF. This illustrates the importance our country attaches to regional peace and security.

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Amb Raychelle Omamo

As EASF continues to develop, I wish to appreciate the political will and leadership from all Member States. This has made it possible for EASF to reach its current status in a bid to secure the region and its peoples. In this respect, I wish to appreciate the commitment of the President of the Republic of Kenya, H.E Uhuru Kenyatta, who has constantly supported this regional peace initiative.

Let me conclude by expressing the Kenya Government's gratitude to all EASF Member States, especially in entrusting Kenya with the responsibility of hosting the Secretariat. I also wish to thank the Chair of the Council of Ministers, Chiefs of Defence Forces, Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Internal Security, Development partners and the media, for standing with EASF so far.

It is fitting that this EASF open day is taking place on the day the entire world is celebrating the International Peace day. We trust that EASF will continue to be a vehicle for the enhancement of peace and stability for all the citizens of our region.

Message from the Chairperson of the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security of the Eastern Africa Region and Minister of Foreign Affairs and Transport of the Republic of Seychelles

I convey to you, peace-loving people of our Eastern Africa region, a message of confidence in our common future on the occasion of the Eastern Africa Standby Force Open Day which, fittingly, falls on the day the world celebrates the International Day of Peace.

This happy coincidence underlines the central importance of peace to the mandate of the Eastern Africa Standby Force as well as the culture of the people of our beautiful part of the world.

The Africa Standby Force emerged from the convergence of the wish of the African people to live in peace and the political will of their leaders to deliver on this wish by striving to rid our continent of conflicts. The Eastern Africa Standby Force, as one of these Regional Forces comprising of the ten Eastern African States, represents our region's contribution in making that dream come true. Our regional actions have a continental and even global impact because peace advances in Africa and around the world as a result of our determination to keep our region free of conflicts.

In fact, the whole aim of this Open Day is for the EASF to highlight its relevance in the daily lives of the people of Eastern Africa by showing its critical importance in bringing and maintaining peace in our region. The progress of the Eastern Africa Standby Force has been made possible through the various partnerships it has forged over the years. During these hours with us, we will share with you the progress of our preparedness and entice you to take greater interest in our development.

Having attained Full Operational Capability (FOC) in December 2014, EASF is sending out the message that it means business. The 10 Member States of the Eastern Africa Standby Force say with one voice that peace is the order of the day. Our region need peace so that the wealth found in our land and ocean can be transformed into prosperity and better quality of life for our populations. EASF's mission is to secure that environment of peace and this Open Day our way of telling you that your future is secured with EASF.

Since inception, EASF has enjoyed outstanding support from our leaders and on behalf of the Council



Hon Joel Morgan

of Ministers of Defence and Security of Eastern Africa Standby Force, I would like to sincerely thank our Heads of State and Government for making the bold step in making EASF a champion of peace and security under the umbrella of the Africa Peace and Security Architecture and the Africa Standby Force. I would like to thank all member states for their commitment.



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Message from the Chief of Defence, Kenya Defence Forces

The organisation of the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) Day is yet another demonstration that Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) Member States are prepared and ready to engage in defending the people of Eastern Africa and the continent at large.

The changes in the security sector call for new approaches and strategies. In this regard, therefore, we in East Africa have realised that regions are stronger as security blocks, trading blocks and as single markets than as fragmented entities. The Coming together collectively is a clear demonstration of our common problems and interest in defending our people.

The military arm from different countries has, in the recent past, moved in to different countries in the region, at a very short notice to protect citizens and help restore order. This is a clear indication of common ideals to defend humanity. We have seen militaries from neighbouring countries move into Somalia, Darfur, South Sudan and other countries at a very short notice for peace Support Operations. This demonstrates their concern about the security of citizens. The military, in its very

nature, will continue to play a very critical role in addressing security matters.

Having attained Full Operational Capability in December 2014, EASF is now equipped to provide renewed and enhanced protection to its citizens. This is evidenced by the commitment demonstrated by personnel from all EASF Member States during the force preparation process over the years that included participation in several training and capacity-building programs.

Today, the Nations constituting the Eastern Africa Standby Force have come

together to recount their experiences and celebrate the gains that serve to demonstrate the latent power of an organized block able to speak with one another and in one voice. Further, EASF will today have an opportunity to show case its achievements and give new hope to the people of Eastern Africa and the entire continent of Africa, that collective efforts are a solution to our security issues.



Gen. Samson Mwachethe

We remain committed to making Eastern Africa a safe place to live in

Message from the Director, EASF

Today as the world celebrates the International Peace Day, I take this opportunity to pay tribute to all of us who have been engaged in this noble cause. As a region, we choose to join hands with all global efforts in pursuit of lasting peace.

Over 10 years, EASF, strongly supported by the Member States, has responded to the call of the African Union to help address the scourge of conflict destroying our continent. Today, after 10 years of preparation, EASF stands ready and

willing to bring substantive contribution towards making our world, a safer place to live in.

We are committed towards the region, continental and global agenda in pursuit of international peace and security. We appreciate all our Heads of State for their continued support and commitment.

We also value the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security, Chiefs of Defence Forces, Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Ministers of Internal Security for remaining committed to the EASF vision and mission.

We also appreciate the valuable support of the friends and partners of EASF throughout our journey. EASF remains committed to serving the people of Eastern Africa and the continent as a whole.

As we celebrate this Open Day in conjunction with the International Peace Day, we pay homage to the thousands of men and women who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the cause of peace. We at EASF will not relent in our quest because, as Edmund Burke rightly points out, "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men do nothing"



Amb Issmail Chanfi



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Enhancing peace and security in Eastern Africa

Introduction

The Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) takes this opportunity to join the rest of the world to mark the International Day of Peace on 21st September 2015 in Nairobi, Kenya. The Day will be celebrated in an event branded the "EASF OPEN DAY".

The EASF Open Day coincides with this day to signify the importance that the Member States of the Eastern Africa region, and the African continent at large, attach to peace and security for its peoples today and in the future.

It provides an opportunity for EASF to present its activities/functions to government officials, academicians, civil society, students, journalists, and various other relevant stakeholders.

The activities will kick off with a symbolic Peace Walk to demonstrate solidarity and support for peace at one level in Eastern Africa and at another level, the African continent. Other activities will include presentations, discussions and a debate on various security issues.

Speakers will include university lecturers and key peace and security practitioners currently involved in mediation and other peace-keeping activities in Eastern Africa. The day will conclude with a



comprehensive exhibition to display some of the practical activities that the organisation uses to train the multi-dimensional force comprising military, police and civilian personnel to build the requisite capacity in preparation to deploy in peace-support missions.

Background

EASF was established under the African Union (AU) Constitutive Act and relevant provisions establishing the protocol of the AU Peace and Security Council. Its mandate of "Enhancing Peace and Security in the Eastern Africa Region" is anchored on Chapter VIII of the UN Charter that provides for regional security arrangements, and in particular, the Agreement on Establishment of EASF.

EASF was formerly named Eastern Africa Standby Brigade (EASBRIG), as it was comprised of only a Military Component. The subsequent incorporation of Civilian and Police Components in March 2007 necessitated the change of name from a Brigade to a Force.

In an effort to achieve its Full Operational Capability, EASF has been engaged in developing doctrines, procedures, training manuals and other relevant documents to set the foundation and development for operationalisation of the Force. In the recent past EASF has embarked on intensive capacity building programmes especially for military, police and civilians. This has helped create an encouraging level of integration and interoperability as the multidimensional force works together and interacts in various ways in pursuit of its mission mandate.

EASF completed the first cycle of Training Exercises after successfully conducting a Command Post Exercise (CPX) in Nairobi, Kenya in 2008, a Field Training Exercise (FTX) in Djibouti in November 2009, and a Logistics Map Exercise (LogMAPEX) in November 2010 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Upon completion of this first training cycle, EASF attained the Initial Operational



President Uhuru Kenyatta (4th left) views a model of chemical and bio hazard response equipment by the Disaster Response Unit of the Kenya Army during the verification of Kenya pledged capabilities. Looking on (from left) are Amb. Raychelle Omamo, Hon. Gen. James Kabarebe, Minister for Defence, Rwanda, and Former CDF Kenya Gen. (rt'd) Dr. Julius Karangi.

Operational Capability (IOC) in 2010. Further conducted a Command Post Exercise (CPX) MASHARIKI SALAM 2014 in Adama, Ethiopia. This Training was the last milestone that marked declaration of its Full Operational Capability (FOC) in December, 2014.

EASF, in its progression, has also had an opportunity to participate in current missions by deploying staff and other enabling capabilities to the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in 2011/12 to augment AMISOM efforts to deliver its mandate.

Capability (IOC) in 2010.

In the second training cycle, EASF conducted a second CPX in Khartoum, Sudan in November 2011. This was followed by a Field Training Exercise in May 2013 in Jinja, Uganda. EASF FTX "Mashariki Salam 2013" was a multi-dimensional Field Training Exercise (FTX) set to validate EASF on its path towards attaining Full

About EASF

The EASF is one of the African Union's five regional Standby Forces based in five regions of Africa that make up the African Standby Force. It comprises 10 Member States in Eastern Africa, namely Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda.

Vision

To contribute to regional and continental peace, security and stability, and enhance regional integration.

Mission

EASF to maintain and sustain a fully operational and multidimensional integrated Standby Force ready to respond to emerging crisis, in the region.

Organs of EASF

In order to ensure the realisation of its vision and mission, the EASF affairs are guided by Policy Organs, which are structured at three tiers, namely: the Assembly Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security, and the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff (EACDS).

The Assembly

The Assembly is the supreme authority of the EASF. It consists of the Heads of State and Government of Member States. It formulates policy, directs and controls the functioning of the EASF. The Assembly authorises the deployment of the EASF in accordance with the Constitutive Act of the African Union and its Peace and Security Council (PSC) Protocol.

The Assembly meets at least once a year and at a time upon the request of any Member State and is contingent to the agreement of the majority of the Member States.



Ministers of Defence and Security of the EASF during the Force Pledging Conference in Kigali, in August 2014.

The Council of Ministers of Defence and Security

Ministers of Defence and Security of the EASF during the Force Pledging Conference in Kigali, in August 2014

The Council of Ministers is made up of Ministers of Defence and Security of the EASF Member States that are signatory to the MOU. The Council manages all aspects relating to EASF. The Council appoints the Director and Heads of Department of the EASF Secretariat, the heads of EASF Structures as well as the EASF Commander upon recommendation of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff for stand-alone missions within Eastern Africa. The Council meets at least twice a year.

Eastern Africa Committee of Chiefs of Defence Staff (EACDS)

Ministers and Chiefs of Defence and Security of Members States of EASF during a Policy Organs Meeting.



Ministers and Chiefs of Defence and Security of Members States of EASF during a Policy Organs Meeting.

The Committee is made up of the Chiefs of Defence Staff of EASF Member States signatory to the MOU. It serves as an advisory Military Committee of the Council of Ministers and the Assembly. It oversees, directs and manages the PLANELM, the Standby Force Headquarters, and the Logistics Base on all matters; oversees and directs the EASF Secretariat on technical matters. The Committee meets at least twice a year.

The EASF Secretariat

EASF Secretariat is located in Nairobi, Kenya and serves as the Secretariat for all EASF policy organs, structures and activities. It coordinates EASF activities in consultation with relevant authorities of Member States and the African Union and is led by a Director and Heads of Departments appointed by the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security.



EASF Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi

Planning Element (PLANELM)

Located in Nairobi, Kenya, PLANELM serves as a multi-national and multidimensional full time planning headquarters for EASF. PLANELM comprises a military, police and civilian components on secondment from all EASF Member States.

EASF Force Headquarters

Located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the Eastern Africa Standby Force Headquarters is made up of military and civilian staff on secondment from EASF Member States.

It serves as a command headquarters for force preparation and operational command of the Standby Force. Upon deployment, the Force comes under the operational control of the African Union or the United Nations, as applicable. It assists PLANELM to prepare the mission Force Headquarter structure.

The Logistics Base (LOGBASE)

Located in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, the

Logistics Base serves as the central regional base for sub-depots and for maintaining, storage and management of the logistical infrastructure of the EASF.

The Logistics Base receives personnel, material and other resources to be maintained and supplied for training and operations of EASF. It coordinates all activities involving logistics of EASF, including, but not limited to, performing functions mandated by the African Union.

Partnership

EASF is working closely with the African Union as well as Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in the Eastern Africa Region and beyond. This includes Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) and East African Community (EAC). It also works closely with various partners towards the realisation of its mandate at national, regional and international levels.

Partners and Friends include Australia, Canada, Denmark, Finland, France, and Germany through GIZ, Japan through UNDP, the Netherlands, Norway, Russia, Sweden, United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (USA). Further, EASF continues to work with relevant stakeholders in peace and security in Africa. This includes the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) and other regional training institutions in EASF Member States.



EASF staff in a meeting with "Friends of EASF". 8th from left is Amb Issmail Chanfi, Director EASF Secretariat; 7th from left is Col Søren Knudsen, Chair, Friends of EASF.