

EASF Directors



Brigadier General Getachew
Shiferaw Fayisa
Ethiopia 2020-



Dr. Abdillahi Omar Bouh
Djibouti 2017 – 2020



Amb. Chanfi Issmail
Comoros 2014 – 2017



Maj. Gen. Cyrille Ndayirukiye
Burundi 2010 - 2014



Col. Peter Marwa
Kenya 2009 -2010



Simon Mulongo
Uganda 2007 - 2009



Eastern Africa Standby Force, 2021

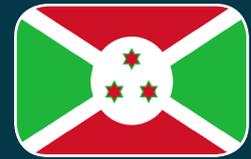
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EASF MEMBER STATES



Burundi



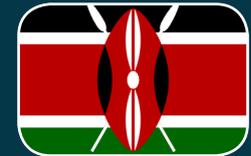
Comoros



Djibouti



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



Seychelles



Somalia



Sudan

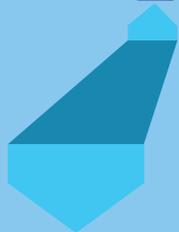


Uganda

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



The Union of the Comoros had the honour and the privilege of chairing the East African Standby Force (EASF) during the year 2020. A challenging year, destabilized by the Covid-19 pandemic which continues its devastation across the world. However, despite this obstacle which has impacted severely on our programmes and on the ordinary functioning of our Organization, EASF has strived through and pursued even against this pandemic which has upset the global balance.

A new Director of the Secretariat took office and he was able to quickly “hold the bar” and adapt to new situations in the management of the organization. In that same year, an election observation mission was deployed to Seychelles. The political bodies met in Kigali in December. Other activities were organized despite the various restrictions dictated by policies to fight the pandemic. Others, unfortunately, had to be postponed.

However, this global scourge has highlighted the weaknesses and inadequacies in many States. It also demonstrated the sense of solidarity, complementarity and the need for unity, in the face of a common peril.

It proved the relevance of a regional organizations such as ours, in its commitment to peace and reconciliation, and ensuring the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts. Thus, EASF must continue to strengthen itself, to innovate in order to have its own capacities and to invent its own intervention solutions to guarantee regional stability, a pledge of any development.

I am convinced that EASF will remain as an essential stakeholder in promoting peace and regional security. The achievements of EASF would not have been possible without the support and patronage of its Member States, also the unwavering support of the African Union and the generosity of ‘Friends and partners’ of EASF.

EASF is our common future. It deserves the full indulgent of its members.

I thank all those who have accompanied the Union of the Comoros throughout this year. I thank the EASF Secretariat for the work done. And Finally I renew my country’s desire and commitment in supporting the Eastern African Standby force. I wish you all success and best of luck as we move ahead in the presidency of our Organization.

Hon. Youssoufa Mohamed Ali

Chairperson Council of Ministers of Defence & Security of Eastern Africa Region.



MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



It is with great appreciation that I present the Annual Report 2020 of the Eastern Africa Standby Force. The year 2020 has been a momentous time for the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) for we have achieved a lot even though COVID-19- a global pandemic hampered us in many ways. Most importantly, EASF has managed to conduct the review of the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan.

We have also identified our priorities and envisioned the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan that will make EASF more viable and visible in its mission and vision. The 2021-2025 Strategic Plan goals are organized mainly around four thematic areas namely: Political and Advocacy; Enhancement of Full Operational Capability and Response to Crisis; Institutional Capacity and Sustainability; as well as Diplomacy, Cooperation and Partnerships.

The 2020 activity plan has been implemented as per the plan, however, some of the activities were rolled to the following year due to Covid – 19 pandemic. As EASF we were able to maintain our organization's viability despite the challenges.

We were able to organize an Experts Working Group meeting to develop the agenda for the Policy Organs Meetings that were successfully conducted in Kigali, Rwanda in December, 2020. The outcome of the Policy Organs included the approval of the Strategic Plan 2021 - 2025, the Activity Plan for 2021, guidance on the current status of EASF as well as the budget for the year 2021. The EASF Heads of Departments as well as Structures were also able to participate in on line meetings with regional and international organizations in order to maintain our cooperation and also help maintain the viability of the organization.

On the other hand, in order to support the democratic process in the region, EASF deployed an Election Observer mission (EOM) to the Republic of Seychelles in 2020. Also in order to maintain its Full Operational Capability and institutional capacity in the year 2020, EASF conducted various training workshops, and courses aimed at enhancing knowledge and skills of both the EASF and Member States personnel in matters of peace and security.

Having achieved the above and more, I would like to thank all EASF staff who worked tirelessly even during the COVID-19 pandemic to attain such achievements in the year 2020. I also want to extend my appreciation to the leadership of EASF, Member States and Friends of EASF for their continued support and collaboration. Together, we can make a difference and I call upon everyone to strive even harder in promoting peace and stability in our region.

Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa
EASF Director



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE FRIENDS OF EASF



I am grateful for again being provided the opportunity to address the EASF on behalf of the group of countries constituting the Friends of EASF. 2020 has been yet another challenging year for EASF in its further development as a Standby Force and as a mechanism towards challenges to peace and security in Eastern Africa and across the continent. COVID and the pandemic changed everything we used to know in 2020 and continues in 2021 to influence life across the world significantly. However, EASF, being an organisation to counter a broad variety of challenges, continued its important work in making sure that it is ready to be deployed in promoting peace and stability should need be.

In 2020, EASF continued to focus training of its headquarters towards not only the integration of the three components (military, police and civilian), but also many other training activities across a broad variety of competences continued. The enhanced operationalisation of EASF was substantiated by the fact that EASF in 2020 deployed a number of Election Monitoring Missions (EOM) throughout the region. I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere admiration and appreciation for all the hard work done by the entire EASF organisation and its talented leadership and staff within its four permanent institutions. My thanks also go to EASF's 10 Member States for their continued support and commitment to peace and security that the African Standby Forces constitute within the African Peace and Security Architecture. I would also like to recognise the important role that the international advisers posted to EASF are performing in support of EASF's further development (Denmark, Finland and the UK).

As the Chairperson of the Friends of EASF, I would like to take this opportunity to warmly thank the Director of EASF, Brigadier (ret.) Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, for his strong leadership and our excellent cooperation. Taking a glance at the future, the Friends of EASF look forward for the Command Post Exercise (CPX) in 2021. The CPX will constitute an important event for combining all the training EASF has been doing for the last couple of years and will inform us about how we shall focus our continued training onwards.

In conclusion, I would like to reiterate the full support to the continued work of EASF from the entire group of Friends of EASF.

Jørn Rasmussen

Chairperson of the Friends of EASF



DJIBOUTI TAKES ON.....



EASF, has felt the deep pinch of COVID-19 pandemic but with zeal and renewed leadership, the organization steadfastly strived through the stormy year of 2020 and is embracing 2021 with great zeal and determination.

The Council of Ministers of Defence meeting which was held in December, 2020 at the Kigali Convention Centre, Rwanda, culminated with the approval of a series of Policies and Working Documents for EASF, namely, the 2021-2025 Strategic Plan and the Activity Plan. It was also the first time to have the Policy Organs' Meetings available virtually to one Member State namely the Republic of Seychelles. At the end of the meeting, the chairmanship EASF was handed over to Djibouti from the outgoing Chair Hon. Mohamed Ali from Comoros.

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FRIENDS OF EASF UPHOLDS PARTNERSHIP



During the 28th Policy Organs' Meetings (POM) held in Kigali, Rwanda, the Friends of EASF echoed their continued intentions of supporting the organization. The Chair of the Friends of EASF was represented at POM by Mr. Peter Zartsdahl, the Senior Civilian Advisor, who had this to say to the gathering "...EASF has developed truly multinational operating standards, creating a common operational language and ready standards for civilian, military and police staff from ten different Member States and the EASF models of planning and operating could easily be shared as an example to follow. EASF has built the capacity to address

transnational threats, not just militarily, but in aspects of policing, protection of civilians and civilian fields of governance and development support, including management and support for the delivery of humanitarian assistance. EASF has the necessary standards of planning and decision-making to prepare, deploy, conduct, and withdraw operations - also in difficult environments. The EASF's successful deployment to the Seychelles as the only international observer group in 2020's COVID-19 affected elections is testimony of the capacity for handling complex planning in the Secretariat and Planning Element" explained the Civilian Advisor to EASF.



COMMITTEE OF CHIEFS OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY MEETS IN MORONI

The Eastern Africa Standby Force's Committee of Chiefs of Defence and Security met for the 17th Extra-Ordinary Session of Policy Organs Meetings in March 2020 in Moroni, in the Union of Comoros.

The aim of the meeting is to conduct interviews of candidates according to the EASF Rotation Matrix for the positions of the Director, Joint Chief of Staff, Force Commander, Chief of Staff Logistics' Base and Commandant, Logistics' Training Center. The Guest of Honour noted that significant progress

has been made by EASF in building capacity and capability in the area of peace and security in the region and commendable strides have been made in the operationalization of the Standby Force.

Hon. Bianrifi Tarmidi noted that Member States, is showing greater pro-activeness in dealing with crisis situations, with encouraging results. The region has demonstrated commitment and determination towards its mandate to address issues of peace and security.

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1. New Face at the Helm of EASF.

EASF welcomed its current Director, Brigadier General Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. The change in leadership was in line with EASF's Staff Rotation Matrix. The new Director took office at a very challenging time when the EASF together with the rest of the world was facing uncertainty amidst the COVID-19 pandemic. However, with his visionary leadership and with the support of the EASF management, he has steered the organization and has achieved significance progress.



2. IMPC Regional Facilitators at UN-CMCOORD Course.

In efforts to have consolidated, skilled and competent humanitarian actors responding to both natural disasters and conflict/complex emergencies, the United Nations Office of the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UN-OCHA) conducts regular readiness trainings around the world such as the United Nations Humanitarian Civil-Military Coordination (UN-CMCOORD) Course. The course was conducted in Entebbe, Uganda, having been preceded by three weeks of online engagement



3. United Religions Initiative Awards EASF

The United Religions Initiative (URI) presented EASF with the Africa Peace Award in recognizing the outstanding work of EASF in terms of peace support activities ever since it was established as a regional mechanism. The Peace Award is a symbol to compliment the remarkable commitment and great efforts of EASF to enhance peace, security and stability in its region and beyond.



4. Training at Army School of Combat Engineers

EASF successfully rolled out a training package at the Kenya Defence Forces' Army School of Combat Engineers in Isiolo, Kenya on 30th July 2020.



5. Integrated Mission Planning Course

EASF rolled out an Integrated Mission Planning Course (IMPC) at the Rwanda Peace Academy (RPA) in Musanze, Rwanda on 14th September 2020.



6. Celebrating the International Day of Peace

The Eastern Africa Standby Force joined the rest of the world in commemorating the International Day of Peace at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi on 21st September 2020.



7. Elections Observer Mission to Seychelles Launched.

EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa officially launched an Elections' Observer Mission to the Republic of Seychelles on 8th October 2020 at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi.



8. EASF Conducts Force Verification in Sudan

The Eastern Africa Standby Force rolled out a verification exercise of Pledged Forces in the Republic of the Sudan on Monday 12th October 2020.



9. Integrated Senior Mission Leadership Course Up and Running

A one-week Eastern Africa Standby Force's Integrated Senior Mission Leadership course was officially opened on Monday 9th November, 2020 at the Aberdare Country Club in Nyeri, Kenya.



10. EASF Conducts an Integrated Mission Planning Course

EASF rolled out an Integrated Mission Planning Course (IMPC) at the Kenya Commercial Bank Leadership Center in Karen, Nairobi on 16th November 2020.



11. Civilian Roster Recruitment and Verification in Burundi

The Civilian Component of the Eastern Africa Standby Force carried out a one-week personnel recruitment and verification exercise ending on 27th November 2020 in Bujumbura, Burundi.



12. Experts Working Group Meets in Addis Ababa

A one week-long EASF's Experts' Working Group (EWG) meeting was held from Monday, 28th September, 2020 at the EASF's Logistics' Base in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The Guest of Honour, Maj. Gen. Habtamu Tilahun from the office of the Ministry of Defence and Foreign Relations of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia officially opened the EWG meeting. In his address to the delegates, Maj. Gen. Habtamu pointed out the great achievements of EASF particularly, in the discharge of its mandate in promoting peace in the region. He also emphasized on the importance of the EWG meeting in deliberating on key documents tabled for discussion during the meeting.



13. EASF, EU & AU Review APSA Programmes

The Eastern Africa Standby Force held a high-level virtual meeting with the African Union and European Union aimed at reviewing the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) III program for the year 2019 at the EASF Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi in July 2020.



14. Facing the Media

The spokesperson training for the management of the Eastern Africa Standby Force was conducted in November 2020 in Naivasha, Kenya.

The aim of the training was to provide EASF Senior Staff with skills to effectively deliver time-critical information to various stakeholders as well as the general public.

The Senior Staff team including the Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, the Head of Administration and Finance, Miss Lina Peggy Hoareau, the EASF Liaison Officer to African Union, Col. John N. Njoroge, the Force Commander, Brig. Gen. Vincent Gatama, the Head of Civilian Component, and the Military Chief of Staff were some of the participants of the training course funded by Denmark.



2020 POLICY ORGANS MEETINGS.



EASF High Level Meetings in the Land of Thousand Hills.

The 28th Ordinary Session of EASF's Policy Organs' Meetings (POM) was officially opened on the 14th December, 2020 at the Radisson Blu Hotel in Kigali, Rwanda. POM is a series of three high-level meetings conducted as per the EASF regulations.

The Guest of Honour, Lt. Gen. Jean Jacques Mupenzi, who is the Army Chief of Staff from the Rwanda Defence Forces officially opened the Experts Working Group meeting. In his address to the delegates from EASF Member States, Lt. Gen. Jean Jacques Mupenzi pointed out the great achievements of EASF particularly, in the discharge of its mandate in promoting peace in the region. He called on the delegates to engage fully in the meeting

and thanked the EASF Secretariat for organizing the high level meetings.

In his welcoming remarks, the Chairperson of the Experts Working Group, Commandant Moujib Adaine from Union of Comoros thanked the Government of Rwanda for hosting the Policy Organs' Meetings. On

his part, the Director of EASF, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, highlighted the importance of the EASF Policy Organs Meetings as it sets the foundation for the other meetings namely, 'Chiefs of Defence Staff meeting' and the Ministers of Defence meeting. He added "It is at this level that strong deliberations and proposals are made to inform the decisions of the next level, the Committee of Chiefs Defense Staff and it is evident, therefore that our Experts continue to play a very essential role in the development of EASF operating manuals, documents, guidance, plans and others to effectively and efficiently operationalize the mandate and on this regard I want to thank you all for the invaluable support of all EASF subject matter Experts" concluded the Director

MEETING OF THE CHIEFS OF DEFENCE



The 28th Ordinary Session of EASF's Policy Organs' Meetings of the Chiefs of Defence (CDF) was opened on 16th December, 2020 in Kigali, Rwanda by the Guest of Honour, Lt. Gen. Jean Jacques Mupenzi, who is the Army Chief of Staff from the Rwanda Defence Forces. In his address to the delegates from EASF member states, Lt. Gen. Jean Jacques Mupenzi, pointed out the great achievements of the EASF particularly, in the discharge of its mandate in promoting peace in the region

In his welcoming remarks, the Chairperson of the Committee of Chiefs of Defence, Amb. Ahamada Amadi from Union of Comoros said 'I urge you to continue supporting the organization especially through timely submission of our assessed contributions to enable the running of the affairs of the organization.

In the same vein I would like to express sincere gratitude to our partners. They have been part of this journey from the start and we look forward to working together further to realize our vision, mission and beyond.'" concluded Ambassador Amadi.

The Director of EASF, Brig. Gen. Getachew Fayisa highlighted, the importance of the EASF Policy Organs Meetings added 'role of the Friends of EASF in the implementation of our activities, I want to recognize and appreciate our partners who have continued to be with us through difficult times. The African Union through African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), the United Kingdom, the Nordic Countries (the Royal Kingdom of Denmark, the Republic of Finland and the Kingdom of Norway) for being pivotal in funding our activities.



The Council of Ministers gave their go-ahead for EASF to roll into the promising year 2021 after a challenging one with an Approved Budget, an Activity Plan and other important Policy Documents. The meeting ended on a positive and optimistic note from the new Chairperson of the Council, H.E. Hassan Omar Mohamed from the Republic of Djibouti, saying that EASF is now ready and fully engaged to embrace 2021 with the support from all Member States.

The Guest of Honour officially opened the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security meeting. In his opening address, the minister highlighted the major achievements of the EASF despite the challenges of COVID-19 faced by the organization. The Minister renewed

Rwanda's support and commitment towards EASF as well as to the peace agenda in the region.

The Director of EASF pointed out the importance for the region to work together to counter threats and enhance regional integration. The Director also reminded the audience that EASF has been able to verify the pledged capabilities and most importantly, EASF is multidimensional and heavily engaged in the promotion of peace and security. At the closing of Council of Ministers' of Defence session, the chairmanship of the organisation was handed over to Djibouti as the new chair taking over from Union of Comoros who served for one year as per the EASF's policy.



FREE ELECTIONS AND PEACEFUL TRANSITION OF POWER IN SEYCHELLES



Only one of EASF's Member States conducted elections in 2020 and it was described as an example to the world by many regional and international organizations including the African Union, the Commonwealth and others. Seychelles opposition candidate Wavel Ramkalawan won the archipelago's presidential election with 54.9 percent in a highly contested election held in October 2020. The victory of the opposition leader is the first in 40 years since Seychelles gained independence from Britain. President Ramkalawan is an Anglican priest and leader of the Seychelles Democratic Alliance and was contesting against the United Seychelles Party which has been in power since 1977. The Eastern Africa

Standby Force was the only international observer group in the country to observe this important democratic process. The EASF election observer mission indicated in a statement that EASF concluded with satisfaction that the general elections were conducted in a calm, peaceful environment and congratulated the Republic of Seychelles for the conduct of free, transparent and credible elections, in particular, for the peaceful transition of power from the previous government to the newly elected one.

The EASF wishes to congratulate His Excellency Wavel Ramkalawan on his election as the new President of the Republic of Seychelles.



POLICE COMPONENT ON THE FOREFRONT



Fruitful meetings were conducted in Ethiopia with the Ethiopian Federal Police including a visit to Ethiopian Police University College (EPUC) in Sendafa, where the President of EPUC and Dep. General Police Commissioner Mesfin ABERA met the EASF delegation. Attending the meeting were senior representatives of EPUC,

including Head of EPUC International Peace Keeping Training Directorate, Gosaye TADESSE, EASF Police Point of Contact (PPOC) and Head of International Peace Keeping Support Directorate, Comdr. Tegegne AGAJIE. EPUC is a highly valuable partner for continuous Peace Support Operations (PSO) cooperation and EASF training activities.

Similar fruitful meetings were conducted in Djibouti with the head and senior representatives at the Djiboutian Gendarmerie International School for Advanced Criminal Investigation, within the Force Police Unit training facilities.

EASF: PUSHING FOR THE YOUTH AGENDA

The Youth Ambassador for Eastern Africa, Ms Emma Ng'ang'a paid a courtesy call on the Director of EASF, Brigadier General Shiferaw Fayisa in July 2020, at the EASF Secretariat, in Karen, Nairobi. The EASF Director and the Youth Ambassador discussed the role of EASF in maintaining peace in the region and how EASF can further support the peace, security, and youth agenda. The Director pointed out that the meeting with Ambassador Emma is opportune as EASF is currently developing its strategic plan 2021 – 2025 hence, the right time to take cognition of the youth engagement and partnership in the upcoming strategic plan. On her part, the youth Ambassador expressed her wishes in collaborating with EASF on youth issues in line with the African Union youth charter. The meeting was attended by the Head of Peace Operations Department, Brigadier General Henry Isoke, EASF's Youth Focal Person, Mr. Jules Hoareau and the Military Assistant to the Director.



The appointment of African Youth Ambassadors for Peace (AYAP) is in line with the decision of the Peace and Security Council.

COURTESY CALLS

1. The Rwanda Defence Attaché at the Embassy in Nairobi, Brig. Gen. Joseph Demali paid a courtesy call on the EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, at the EASF Secretariat Nairobi in August 2020.



2. The Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Finland Mr. Otto Stenius visited the EASF Secretariat in Nairobi in September. The aim of the visit was to discuss the major achievements of the organization as well as its future plans.



3. The EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa in September 2020 made a courtesy call on the Chief of the General Staff of the Ethiopian National Defence Forces, H.E General Adem Mohammed in Addis Ababa.



4. The Indian Defence Advisor at the High Commission in Nairobi, Kenya, Capt. (Navy) Nitesh Garg paid a courtesy call on the EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Feyisa at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi in July, 2020.



5. A military delegation from the United Kingdom paid a courtesy call on EASF's Director Dr. Abdillahi Omar Bouh at the Secretariat in February 2020.



6. A delegation from Kenya's Ministry of Defence led by Chief Administrative Secretary Hon. Peter O. Odoyo paid a visit to the EASF Secretariat in Karen.



7. An EASF Delegation, led by the Director Dr. Abdillahi Omar Bouh, paid a courtesy call to Saudi's Ambassador to Kenya, H.E. Amb. Dr. Mohammed A. Khayat in February 2020 at the Embassy premises at Muthaiga, Nairobi.

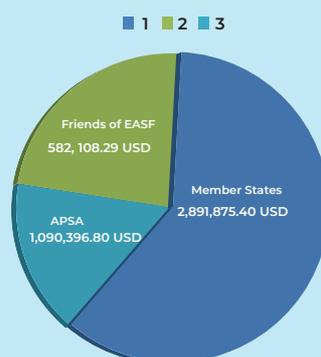


2020 EASF BUDGET

	APPROVED BUDGET 2020	PERCENTAGE	CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE
1 MEMBER STATES				
2020 BUDGET	4,714,422.30	63%	2,891,875.40	63%
2 DONORS				
APSA IV	1,362,996.00		1,090,396.80	37%
FRIENDS OF EASF	1,350,500.00	37%	582,108.29	
GRAND TOTAL	7,427,918.30		4,564,380.49	

SUMMARY				
	APPROVED BUDGET	PERCENTAGE	CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE
MEMBER STATES	4,714,422.30	63%	2,891,875.40	63%
DONORS	2,713,496.00	37%	1,672,505.09	37%
GRAND TOTAL	7,427,918.30		4,564,380.49	

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF 2020



EASTERN AFRICA STANDBY FORCE

"STRIVING FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN EASTERN AFRICA"



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