



SPC NEWS

Standing Police Capacity, United Nations Police Division

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Message from the

SPC Chief, Maria Appelblom

Dear colleagues,

Let me take the occasion to wish you a Happy New Year 2017 and present to you our January edition of the SPC Newsletter, giving an overview of our main activities from September to the end of December 2016. This has been a rather intense period.

Besides our continued support to MINUSCA, we also noticed a significant number of requests for assistance from UNDP in various countries and for a variety of projects, often in close cooperation with the peacekeeping operation, which demonstrates once more the broad range of expertise which SPC offers and the flexibility of its members to adapt to environments and situations in which to operate.

I am confident that in the coming year SPC will continue to provide and further develop the quality of its specialized services where needed. I and all SPC staff look forward to continuing to provide assistance to you all in the coming year

Kind regards,

Maria Appelblom



SPC Support to UNDP under Global Focal Point arrangement

Through six deployments to four UNDP country offices, the SPC has been able to support UNDP during the past months and for a wide range of different projects in:

UNDP Sierra Leone:

More than a year ago, on 27 October 2015, SPC Police Reform Adviser Odia Godfrey Aropet was deployed to Sierra Leone in support of UNDP. Godfrey has since then piloted or supported reform activities, such as projects on Community Policing and the Independent Police Complaint Board.

On 24 November 2016, SPC Police Reform Adviser Jane Rhodes was also deployed to Sierra Leone, well in advance of the 2017-2018 elections, to assist in the preparation of the related security arrangements.



SPC Advisers Odia Godfrey Aropet and Jane Rhodes in Sierra Leone

UNDP Central African Republic:

On 21 October 2016, SPC Gender Officer Jean Claude Nkurunziza was requested by UNDP CAR to support a project aiming at the creation within the national police of a rapid reaction unit to enforce sexual violence against women and children or "UMIRR" (*Unite Mixte d'Intervention Rapide et de Répression des Violences Sexuelles faites aux Femmes et aux Enfants*). Jean-Claude had been engaged previously in a very similar project in UNOCI, Ivory Coast.

On 21 November 2016, the SPC IT Officer, Jean-Yves Mazard, joined Jean Claude in Bangui for a different project, namely to work with the UNDP Court Evidence Custodian to create the architecture for the control and management of files and evidence for judicial cases. Currently, judicial cases are dismissed or leading to the release of the suspects, as a result of the fact that the incriminating evidence has disappeared or could not be traced back timely when they are appearing in court. The project is of paramount importance to end *de facto* impunity in numerous prosecuted cases. The work of both SPC advisers is progressing well and in close coordination with the MINUSCA Police component.



SPC Advisers Jean-Yves Mazard and Jean-Claude Nkurunziza in CAR.

UNDP Ukraine:

On 2 October 2016, the SPC deployed Policy and Planning Officer, Shubhra Tiwari to UNDP Ukraine for the implementation of a broad Rule of Law and Community Security project, under its Recovery and Peace Building Program, focusing on conflict affected communities in Eastern Ukraine. The project aims mainly at strengthening the citizen's security by using a community based approach. Shubhra was deployed to the Project Office in Kramatorsk and started to establish community-police engagement platforms while also supporting the local police in implementing the newly drafted Community Policing policy.



SPC Adviser Shubhra Tiwari during a briefing in Ukraine



MINUSTAH

On 6 November, the SPC deployed its Public Order Adviser, Jean Michel Turquois and Planning Officer, Servilien Nitunga to Haiti at the request of MINUSTAH Police Commissioner, Brig. Gen. Monchotte.

The request was also the result of the upcoming presidential elections. The first round was concluded successfully on 20 November while the second round is scheduled for 29 January 2017, which prompted the mission to request an extension for both SPC advisers.

From the operational side, SPC Policy & Planning Adviser Servilien Nitunga also provided valuable support and advice for the Haitian Police Development Plan 2017-2021, on the transition planning for the UNPOL drawdown strategy.



MINUSMA - Joint assessment with EGF

In September 2016, Stéphanie Tiele, SPC Transnational Organised Crime officer, together with Estela Argudin Pombo, of the New York-based Police Division team, carried out a joint assessment mission in cooperation with the European Gendarmerie Force (EGF) in Mali to identify options to enhance the MINUSMA Police Component's capacity-building activities to support Malian Security Forces when addressing SOC and Terrorism.

Visits and meetings in Bamako and in Timbuktu with most of the MINUSMA components, EUCAP Sahel Mali, UNMAS, INTERPOL, UNODC, UNDSS and ASIFU and national law enforcement agencies resulted in the draft of a report recommending the strengthening of MSF's criminal intelligence capabilities to fight SOC and Terrorism. EUROGENFOR plans to provide intelligence experts and embed a team in the SOC Support Unit to ensure a coherent approach by the Police Component.



UNDP Yemen (continued):

On 11 November 2016, the SPC Adviser Ahmed Hosni Abdelrahim deployed to Amman in Jordan to assist UNDP to develop – in prospect of a possible future peace agreement – a quick assessment and to design a re-deployment strategy of the Yemen police services, starting in the main cities of Sana'a, Ta'ez and Hodeida. The exercise will include, in addition, a capacity building plan and a stabilization programme document. Due to the volatile security situation in Yemen our SPC Adviser is operating from Amman, Jordan, providing UNDP urgently needed security and policing expertise, which may be augmented in early 2017.



Ahmed Hosni Abdelrahim briefs UNDP staff in Amman, Jordan

MINUSCA - SPC re-engages with additional support

SPC Legal Advisor, Miriam Mafessanti, SPC Reform Adviser, Jane Grausgruber and Team Assistant, Joseph Breidi, (re-) deployed on 26 December 2016 to MINUSCA for additional support to the Police Component at the explicit demand of the Acting PC, Roland Zamora. In addition to the expertise, their knowledge about the mission, the region and the security situation will increase the value they can add to MINUSCA and the population. Miriam, who was also part of the mission's start-up, is now focussing on the further drafting of essential guidelines on UNPOL implementation of the mission's UTM mandate and on all legal aspects related to the implementation of the Capacity-Building and Development Plan for National Police and Gendarmerie. SPC Adviser Jane Grausgruber will focus on the adoption and initiation of key actions related to that plan and will also ensure the smooth processing of MINUSCA Police budget and staffing matters for 2017/2018. Both advisers will benefit from the support of Team Assistant Joseph Breidi.



The SPC team in Bangui, CAR, during a quiet moment.

UNMIK - Interpol Liaison Office in Kosovo

The SPC received a request for urgent assistance from UNMIK in October 2016 to support the UNMIK Interpol Liaison Office. Due to the particular legal situation of Kosovo, UNMIK assumes the task of Liaison to Interpol on behalf of the national authorities. Thanks to such specialized experience in its ranks, the SPC rapidly deployed SPC Investigations Officer, Olivier Belcourt, on 15 October 2016.



As soon as he had arrived, Olivier updated himself on the practical procedures related to

the numerous requests for international police cooperation and fulfilled his tasks to the satisfaction of the UNMIK leadership.

For Olivier, the mission to Kosovo was his last before returning in early 2017 to Brindisi and subsequently returning to the French Gendarmerie for reasons of promotion.



SPC in Guinea Bissau

From 22 November to 10 December 2016, the SPC deployed a team of 3 French speaking staff members to conduct a SAAT training for an all female IPO class.

The team was composed of SPC TOC Adviser, Stéphanie Tiele, SPC Logistics Planner, Majed Hachaichi and Team Assistant Joseph Breidi.

As part of a still ongoing recruitment campaign, 94 police women of the Guinean National Police and Gendarmerie embarked on a two-week training, to familiarize and prepare them with the assessment procedures required to deploy as United Nations Police.

After this exercise, Joseph Breidi was redeployed for another assignment in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) to assist two other freshly deployed SPC members.



UNIOGBIS - Back from Guinea Bissau

In September 2016, SPC Team Leader Benigno Durana returned from UNIOGBIS where he was deployed for several months, to help its Rule of Law and Security Institutions Section (ROLSIS) to: 1) reassess the internal security system, make proposals for the review of the National Security Document on Rule of Law (ROL) and Security Sector Reform (SSR); 2) design the UNPOL contribution to the comprehensive roadmap for the key reforms in Guinea-Bissau and 3) draft the National (Internal) Security Strategy and Policy for Police and Security Institutions and the National Training Strategy for the Police and Security Institutions. The deployment came in the midst of political instability in the country due to the dismissal of the Prime Minister and his entire government by the incumbent President. The SPC Team Leader focused on areas of interventions that were feasible despite the absence of a favorable political climate such as repackaging the Model Police Station (MPS) Project as a reform hub and engaging other UN partners in trying to integrate their development projects with the MPS.



SPC Team Leader Benigno Durana (middle) in UNAMID

While focusing on some of the major strategic documents, Benigno advocated and worked for incorporating local context and ownership in the development process. With this in mind, he went the extra mile by conducting workshops in strategic planning, mentoring and advising. Benigno has been in UNAMID prior to this assignment.

UNSMIL—SPC in Libya

SPC Adviser, Nedal Rashdan, who has been extended for a second time in UNSMIL, continues his assignment as Special Police Adviser to further assist the mission with his expertise. Since April 2016, Nedal is closely engaged in major stabilization and reform processes for the Libyan security forces and has become a much appreciated interlocutor for the highest authorities of the country. Recently, the Minister of Internal Security thanked him for his efforts to improve the capacity of the Libyan police services and consequently the security situation in the country.



SPC Adviser Nedal Rashdan during one of his meetings with Libyan Minister, Dr. Aref Khoja

SPC in Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou—December 2016 Colloquium on SCR 2185 on UN policing

SPC Team Leader, Lucien Vermeir, represented the Police Division at the Ouagadougou Colloquium in Burkina Faso, organized from 12-16 December 2016 by the Kofi Annan International Police Training Center. The colloquium was officially opened by the Minister of Interior and the Ambassadors of Germany and Ghana. The delegations from Burkina Faso, Benin, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and ECOWAS presented their own national structures, processes, latest experiences and challenges with regard to recruitment and selection (SAAT) for peacekeeping operations.

The SPC Team Leader briefed the audience on the content of the SCR 2185/2014, the subsequent 2016 report of the Secretary General, the state of play of the Strategic Guidance Framework and on the latest initiatives of Police Division to enhance the recruitment and selection process for peacekeeping operations. The discussions led to constructive exchanges where some delegations were able to provide solutions, from their own experience, to others currently facing identical challenges. A set of recommendations will also be addressed, on the one hand to the national authorities and on the other hand to the United Nations through the final report that will be circulated, once finalized and translated. Among the attendees, the SPC Team Leader also found two former members of his SPC team, namely Odile Kantonyono from Burkina Faso and Francis Tsidi from Ghana.



SPC Training Support tothe Thai Police

From 16 to 21 October, the SPC Training Adviser Amod Gurung, deployed to Bangkok, Thailand, to deliver a Human Rights Training to the Royal Thai Police.

The training concluded with a closing ceremony, during which certificates were delivered to 23 midlevel (11 female and 12 male) police officers from various departments (CID, Narcotics, HR and Immigration).

The training was part of the ongoing technical support of the Regional OHCHR South Asia Office to the Royal Thai Police in order to improve their compliance to Human Rights.

OHCHR will continue to engage the Thai Police Leadership and follow-up on any additional technical assistance that might be required for the future.



10 Years Anniversary of the SPC

In April 2017, the Standing Police Capacity will commemorate its 10 years of existence. Created modestly in New York in 2007 and moved to Brindisi in 2009, the concept of this flexible, rapidly deployable unit with a variety of specialized expertise, proved to be very successful over the years. Requests for its assistance still continue to grow.



UN Police Week in New York HQ



From 7 to 11 November 2016 the UN Police Week took place in UNHQ. Chief SPC, Maria Appelblom, joined the Commissioners of 12 peacekeeping operations and 6 Special Political Missions to mark the annual event. The participants were warmly addressed by the Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon, the USG DPKO Hervé Ladsous, ASG OROLSI Dimitri Titov and UN Police Adviser Stefan Feller. During the meeting, best practices were exchanged and operational counterparts were met at Headquarters to discuss the operational requirements and priorities to manage 13.500 officers from 86 countries under their command. Discussions also focused on the Independent External Review of Police Division, the report of the Secretary General on UN policing and the outcome of the UN Chiefs of Police Summit in June.



IAWP Conference in Barcelona



Through its staff, the SPC is a strong advocate of gender mainstreaming and co-organized the Annual Training Conference of the *International Association of Women Police* in Barcelona, from 10 to 16 October 2016. The UN delegation consisted of 70 participants, nominated by UN peacekeeping and Special Political missions and Permanent Missions of Member States, and the SPC team. The UN provided five

workshops, a film showing, an exhibition stand, a photo display and a 3-days Training-of-Trainers on the UN Police Gender Toolkit. The SPC team was not only part of the event as facilitators and panelists in the workshops, but also provided assistance for a myriad of tasks. The team included: Maria Appelblom, Stephanie Tieles, Shubhra Tiwari, Jane Rhodes, Stefania Putignano, Jean-Claude Nkurunziza and Won Hyuk Im for whom it was his last SPC assignment.



HRDDP Conference in Geneva



From 5 to 7 November 2016, Chief SPC, Maria Appelblom participated, at the OHCHR Geneva Conference on Lessons Learned and Good Practices on HRDDP Mitigation Measures, as well as identifying gaps in existing guidance for implementation. A report with a number of recommendations will be issued later.

POC and CRSV Training in India

From 21 to 25 November 2016, jointly with ITS and UN Women, SPC Adviser Shubhra Tiwari delivered a Train the Trainers course on the Protection of Civilians and Conflict Related Sexual Violence to 37 participants of the Indian Rapid Reaction Force of the Central Reserve Police Force, in Meerut, Uttar Pradesh, India.

This 4th training since 2014, included also, for the first time, a module on Child Protection.



SPC Adviser Shubhra Tiwari handing out the certificates.

SPC in figures....

The SPC continues to be in high demand for its variety of expertise that it can make very quickly available. For instance, in December 2016 – usually a rather quiet period 15 SPC members out of 26 deployable staff or 58% were in the field, with 10 missions or agencies in 9 different countries: Central African Republic, Guinea Conakry, Haiti, Kosovo, Libya, Mali, Sierra Leone, Ukraine and Jordan/Yemen. Additional requests for January are being processed. Support continued also to CoESPU in Vincenza, Italy.

58%

FAREWELL to...

In October 2016 the SPC said farewell to its South Korean colleague and SPC Community Policing Adviser, Won Hyuk Im, who returned to his National Police and will continue to deal with international cooperation in and for his country.



...and WELCOME to...

...our new colleagues who have joined the SPC since our September 2016 edition and are now available to support you.



Jean-Michel Turquois
Public Order Adviser since
November 2016



Zafer Ersin
Community Policing
Adviser - November 2016



Jaakko Christensen
Team Leader
December 2016

Best wishes....

The SPC Team wishes every reader and his/her family a...



2017, filled with prosperity, health and success.

