Message from the SPC Chief, Maria Appelblom

Dear colleagues,

Please find here at last the new SPC newsletter, slightly delayed but as you will also notice, the SPC has been very busy with providing support in a wide range of fields and missions.

During the last months, the demand for SPC services continued to grow and I appreciate the good feedback I received on SPC officers’ performance.

Last July – in cooperation with SPDS-SPC also hosted the last workshop on developing guidelines within the Strategic Guidance Framework in Brindisi and with the kind support from UNGSC. The cooperation with our sister capacity, the JCSC, continues to grow with common trainings and joint planning for deployments to ensure a holistic chain of justice perspective.

Some staff members have left due to normal rotation, but I am also proud to introduce our new and knowledgeable officers that have joined us to support you. The SPC is no more than a phone call or an email away, and happy to assist you. As always – SPC is at your service!

SPC Support to MINUSCA in the Central African Republic

Through various projects and engagements, the SPC continues to support MINUSCA. In recent months, 10 SPC staff members have visited CAR for periods varying from a week to several months.

SEA Response Team Training in CAR: From 4 to 7 March, SPC Investigations Adviser, Olivier Belcourt, and Gender Affairs Officer, Jean Claude Nkurunziza, co-facilitated with an external Interpol consultant, a pilot training for Immediate Response Teams (IRT) on Sexual Exploitation and Abuse in Bangui. 16 MINUSCA staff from all components attended the training which included lectures, practical courses on crime scene management and evidence gathering. Being part of the mission’s IRT roster, the participants may be deployed throughout CAR within 24 hours to provide assistance to the victim and proceed to the crime scene to collect and preserve evidence.

C-SMART: In May, IT officers Gerrit Schut and Jean-Yves Mazard deployed for 3 months to MINUSCA for the implementation of the C-SMART system. Through this system, the capability of the national police and gendarmerie can be evaluated. MINUSCA is the fourth mission where this system was implemented, after UNMIT, MINUSTAH and UNMIL. For each of these missions, the system was customized to the particular circumstances of the country and specific needs of the mission.

Legal Support: At the end of June, the SPC Legal Officer, Miriam Mafessanti, deployed to MINUSCA for 3 months to provide legal support to MINUSCA's police Component on a range of matters, including 'urgent temporary measures' under the Mission's mandate. The Legal Officer also worked with MINUSCA's Justice & Corrections Section on several SOPs, including an SOP establishing a framework for the Mission to receive and assess requests to effect arrest warrants, an SOP concerning arrests and hand-over to national authorities and an SOP on Prison Security.

Planning & Reform: Between May and October, the Planning Officer, Servilien Nitunga, and the Reform Adviser, Jane Grausgruber, were also (re)deployed to MINUSCA. Jane had already assisted in elaboration of the development plan for the national police and gendarmerie, while Servilien assisted with budget matters.

UNDP Strategic Planning Training: The SPC Transnational Organized Crime Officer, Stephanie Tieles, and Servilien also delivered (cont. right)
The Police Division organized the 5th FPU ToT Course in cooperation with the Government of Cameroon. The training took place in the EIFORCES (international school for security forces) Training Centre, near Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 18 April to 10 June 2016. Due to the full support of the Cameroonian authorities, all the necessary equipment needed for the delivery of the course was in very good condition. This training was held for the first time in French, subsequent to English sessions that were organized in the Russian Federation in 2009, in India in 2011, in Botswana in 2012, and lastly in Jordan in 2015. The current session welcomed 37 participants from nine (9) countries: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, France, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal and Togo.

During the 8-week training, the participants obtained knowledge of the UN pre-deployment training programme for FPUs on firearms handling, police techniques and tactics, crowd control and command and control. 30 of the 37 participants successfully completed this training session and are now certified UN trainers. 20 of 37 participants also passed the UN SAAT tests. The certified officers are now ready to be deployed to one of the UN’s current missions.

The course was placed under the direction of the SPC Public Order Adviser, Paolo BONANNO, supported by 8 trainers from France and Cameroon, and by SPC Administrative Assistant, Joseph BREIDI.

The SPC Training Adviser, Amad Gurung, participated in the first workshop organized by European Gendarmerie Force headquarters for their staff officers at Vicenza, Italy, from 29 to 30 June where he delivered lectures on UN SSR principles and lessons learned during the month of May.

SPC is dedicated to continuous learning
Not only did the SPC provide training to colleagues in the field, the SPC also ensures that its staff is kept up to date with the latest developments. SPC Transnational Crime Officer, Stephanie Tieles, and Analyst, Peter Faulhaber, attended the Tele-Strategies ISS World Europe: Intelligence Support Systems training conference for lawful interception, electronic surveillance and cyber intelligence gathering. ISS is the world’s largest gathering of law enforcement, intelligence and Homeland Security analysts.

The SPC Training Adviser, Amad Gurung, and the Human Resource Management Adviser, Ahmed Abdelrahim, attended a Protection of Civilian course organized by Swedish National Police at the Swedish International Centre from 30 June to 3 July.

The SPC Logistic Adviser, Majed Hachaichi, and the SPC Budget Officer, Sanjeev Joshi, participated in a ‘Diploma in State Public Procurement’ course organized by UNDP IAPSO from 13 to 17 June in Copenhagen, Denmark.

The SPC Public Order Adviser, Nedal Rashdan attended the 2-weeks SSR Master class in Scotland from 19 to 30 September.

The SPC Team Leader, Benigno Durana attended the UN Police Commander’s course in Sweden from 26 September to 14 October.
**SPC engagement in Sierra Leone**

**Chief SPC’s Visit to Sierra Leone**
The Chief of SPC, Maria Appelblom, visited Sierra Leone in April 2016 to capture lessons learned from the Mission-to-UN Country Team transition and assess SPC services provided to UNDP Country Office. Coinciding with the end of the Ebola emergency, her visit was welcomed by partners including the UN Resident Coordinator, heads of UN agencies and key government partners. The UNDP Country Director, appreciating SPC’s continuous support, suggested further exploring the potential of the Global Focal Point (GFP) arrangement.

**Enhancing Security Sector Accountability and Coordination in Sierra Leone**
SPC Police Reform Officer, Godfrey Odia Aropet (below right), deployed to Sierra Leone since November 2015, continued to provide his advisory support to enhance the accountability and coordination of the security sector. He facilitated capacity-building of the Independent Police Complaints Board, popularization of Sierra Leone Police’s Code of Discipline and contributed towards the review of the Police Act. He also supported the organization of the Office of National Security workshops in three major border-crossing points.

**Improving Police Service-delivery to Communities in Sierra Leone**
SPC Community Policing Officer, Won Hyuk Im (above left), deployed to UNDP Sierra Leone since March 2016, worked to improve police service-delivery to communities through a community-oriented policing approach. Building upon the ongoing project in Kambia, he supported the completion of a public perception survey to gauge the project’s impact. During a workshop organized by SLP and SPC, challenges and opportunities to community policing in rural communities were diagnosed to lay the foundation for national-level policy formulation. To deepen the understanding on central-local governance and decentralization structures, the SPC Officer collaborated with the Ministry of Local Government and Rural Development (MLGRD) to identify the roles and needs of the Chiefdom Police.

**UNISFA and support to UNIOGBIS**
In May, the SPC Team Leader Benigno Durana was sent to Abyei to participate in an assessment mission to UNISFA. This was almost immediately followed in June by a deployment for 3 months to Guinea Bissau to support the reform process.

**Continued support to CoESPU**
In between deployments, several SPC members also continued to support the Centre of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU) in Vincenza. Trainings and lectures were also delivered by Chief SPC, Maria Appelblom in the past months.

**Planning Assistance to UNFICYP**
In April 2016, the Standing Police Capacity provided assistance to the UN Police Component in Cyprus within the context of the broader mission planning process, in support of the peace process.

The SPC Planner, Jane Grausgruber, deployed for a period of two months and assisted UNPOL in considering various staffing and operational implications should various scenarios arise in the mission area, among other considerations. The UNPOL planning contributions were included in the mission’s consolidated planning efforts.

**Project Assistance to UNMIK**
SPC Public Order Adviser, Giorgio Giailmo, deployed to UNMIK from May to support mission activities particularly in project developments for Kosovo Police and Kosovo Forensic Agencies. In addition, the Public Order Adviser supported UNMIK’s police component to review the structure, composition and job descriptions of the Special Police Adviser’s Office according to the envisaged re-calibration of UNMIK’s activities.

**Support to UN Columbia**
During the peace negotiations of the Colombian Government with the FARC, the SPC supported the Mision de Naciones Unidas en Colombia with the deployment of SPC Team Assistant Marylinda Gonzalez, from April to July. Marylinda provided valuable assistance to the mission’s Human Resources section, was involved in the recruitment, onboarding and induction process, took care of the drafting of several official correspondence with the local authorities and numerous other tasks.
Reform and Planning support to UNMIL

While the SPC Reform Adviser, Jane Rhodes, returned in June from a 5-month assignment to Liberia, the Planning Officer, Shubhra Tiwari, deployed to UNMIL for more and much appreciated assistance from May to September.

Support to UNSMIL

SPC Public Order Adviser, Nedal Rashdan, deployed to Libya as Special Police Adviser to UNSMIL originally from April to July, and was requested back 2 weeks later by the mission where he continues his assignment to assist in the reform and development of the Libyan Internal Security Forces in accordance with international standards.

STRATEGIC GUIDANCE FRAMEWORK WORKSHOP

From 19 to 21 July, the SPC co-organized and hosted in Brindisi a 3-day workshop on Police Administration related to the Strategic Guidance Framework. The Police Division—in partnership with Member States, regional organisations, UN System partners and academia—continues to work towards strengthening UNPOL’s doctrinal base. The meeting brought together significant global policing expertise on the subject, i.e. 45 participants representing 32 Member States, as well as the Centre of Excellence for Stability Police Units (CoESPU), Challenges Forum, European Gendarmerie Force, European Union and other senior administrative officers from MINUSCA, MINUSMA, MINUSTAH, UNIOGBIS, UNSOM, including the former Police Commissioner of MONUSCO.

Breakout discussion groups allowed the Police Division to solicit ideas in greater detail on how to perform police administration in five key sub-areas of: (1) human resources, (2) logistics, (3) learning and development, (4) professional standards, conduct and discipline; and (5) the structure of the CoS Office and police administration pillar. The valuable inputs received during the workshop were destined to develop the Guidelines on Police Administration. Once completed, the draft will be circulated to Heads of the Police Components and to the participants of the workshop.

FAREWELL to...

Since our last edition, the SPC has said farewell to 2 of its Public Order Advisers, Paolo Bonanno (top) and Giorgio Giaimo (bottom). They continue in the UN, but completed their 4 years tenure with the SPC. We wish them all the best.

...and WELCOME to...

New colleagues who have joined the SPC are now available to provide support to DPKO and DPA missions as well as for other assignments through the Global Focal Point Arrangement.

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