MULTILATERAL PEACE OPERATIONS: AFRICA, 2009

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For the first time since 2003, in 2009 Africa was not the region with the most personnel deployed to peace operations. Placed second behind Asia, Africa accounted for 71 763 military personnel (including troops and military observers) and 13 799 civilian personnel (see table 1). However, Africa remained the region with the highest concentration of large operations—6 of the 10 missions with over 5000 personnel were deployed to Africa—and 74 per cent of all United Nations peacekeepers were located in Africa in 2009.

The number of personnel deployed in Africa increased by 8 per cent between 2008 and 2009: civilian numbers increased by 23 per cent while the number of military personnel rose by 6 per cent. Close to 64 per cent of all civilian police and up to 54 per cent of all civilian staff globally deployed were assigned to peace operations in Africa.

Force generation problems continued to affect peace operations in Africa. In total, operations in Africa were around 15 800 personnel short of the approved staffing level. Although the African Union (AU)/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) built up their strengths in 2009, after more than two years on the ground UNAMID had only 76 per cent of its authorized staffing levels deployed and AMISOM only 65 per cent. The UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) had the highest vacancy rate among UN missions in 2009: only 52 per cent of the approved personnel were deployed. MINURCAT took over the military tasks of the European Union (EU) Military Operation in Chad and the Central African Republic (EUFOR Tchad/RCA) in March 2009 when the EU operation terminated as scheduled after one year of operation.

Table 1. Peace operations and personnel deployments, by region, 2009

Region	No. of operations	No. of personnel
Africa	16	85 562
Americas	2	9 571
Asia	9	88 270
Europe	17	19 750
Middle East	10	16 125
World	**54**	**219 278**

Notes: All personnel numbers are estimates of international personnel located in theatre as of 31 Dec. 2009. If an operation closed before that date, its final force size is used.

The joint UN–AU mission UNAMID is treated as a UN operation in the statistics given here. The EU Naval Force Somalia (EU NAVFOR, Operation Atalanta), an anti-piracy operation off the coast of Somalia is not included in the statistics given here.

KEY FACTS

● Over 85 500 personnel were deployed to 16 operations in Africa in 2009.

● Almost one-third of all operations worldwide and two-fifths of all personnel were located in Africa in 2009.

● Over 90 per cent of peacekeepers in Africa were deployed to 9 UN operations.

● Nearly three-quarters of all UN peacekeepers were deployed in Africa.

● For the first time since 2003, Africa was not the region to which most peace operation personnel were deployed.

● Personnel deployments in Africa were about 15 800 short of the authorized levels in 2009.

● Six of the 10 operations deploying over 5000 personnel were in Africa. These six missions accounted for 92 per cent of the personnel in Africa.

● The number of personnel deployed by the UN rose steadily over the decade 2000–2009.

● Deployments by regional organizations and ad hoc coalitions decrease between 2006 and 2009.

● Nearly two-thirds of all civilian police and more than one-half of all civilian staff on peace operations worldwide were deployed to Africa.

PERSONNEL DEPLOYED IN AFRICA

Troops: 69 757
Observers: 2006
Civilian police: 9201
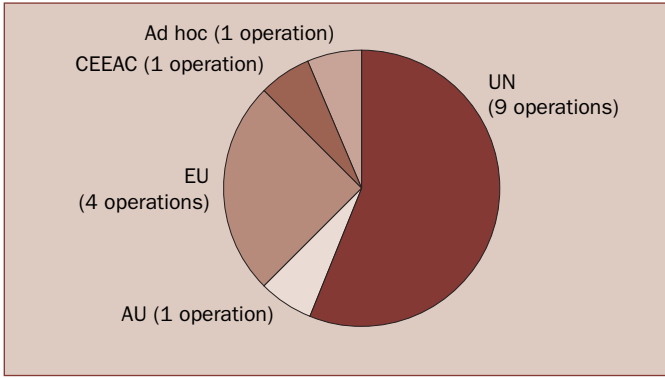**Civilian staff: 4598**

Figure 1. Number of peace operations in Africa, by conducting organization, 2009
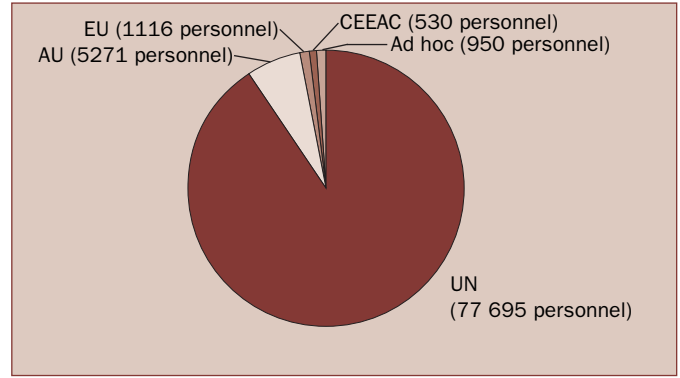

Figure 2. Number of personnel deployed to peace operations in Africa, by conducting organization, 2009

CONDUCTING ORGANIZATIONS

More than half of the operations in Africa in 2009 were conducted by the UN (see figure 1), including one, UNAMID, conducted jointly with the AU. The UN accounted for an even bigger share—91 per cent—of all mission personnel deployed to the region in 2009 (see figure 2). UN deployments to Africa increased by 445 per cent over the decade 2000–2009. In addition to UNAMID, the AU carried out one operation, AMISOM in Somalia. The EU deployed 1116 personnel to its four operations in Africa, including 1025 to EUFOR Tchad/RCA; the other EU missions were small capacity-building and advisory missions. The Communauté économique des États d'Afrique centrale (CEEAC, Economic Community of Central African States) conducted one operation, in the Central African Republic, while France led the ad hoc Operation Licorne in Côte d'Ivoire.
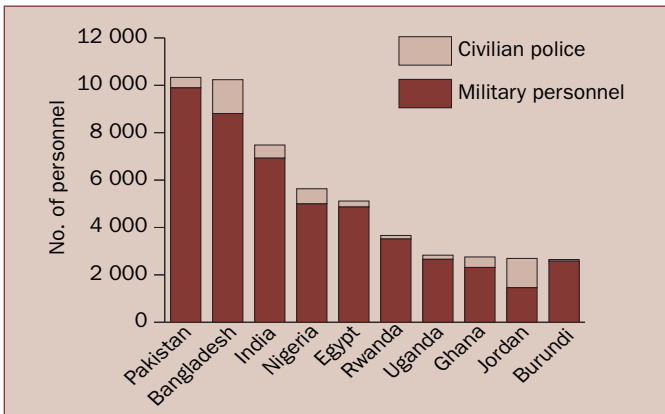

Figure 3. Top 10 contributors of uniformed personnel to peace operations in Africa, end 2009
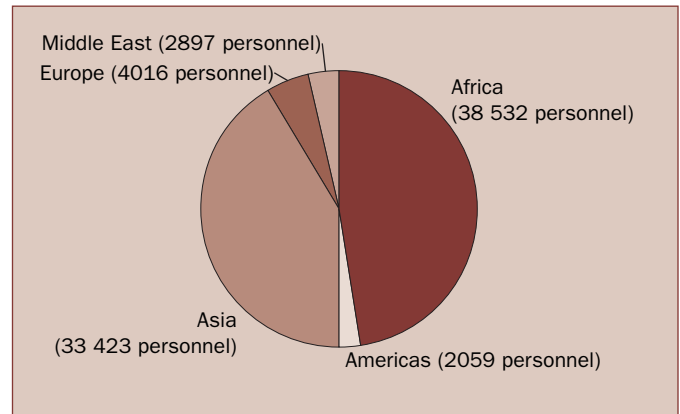
Figure 4. Region of origin of uniformed personnel deployed to peace operations in Africa, end 2009

CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES

As of December 2009, 110 countries sent uniformed personnel (i.e. troops, military observers and civilian police) to the 15 ongoing operations in Africa. All of the top 10 contributors (see figure 3) contributed exclusively to UN and AU operations. Of the top 10, only Burundi and Uganda sent the majority of their personnel to the AU operation, AMISOM. Around 48 per cent of personnel deployed came from Africa and 41 per cent from Asia (see figure 4).

TEN-YEAR TRENDS

Personnel deployed to Africa increased steadily over the decade 2000–2009 (see figure 5). While 84 per cent of personnel deployed in 2009 were military, the proportion of civilian personnel grew from 6 per cent in 2000 to 16 per cent in 2009. Over the decade, the number of civilian personnel increased more than 15-fold (from 886 to 13 799) while the number of military personnel increased fivefold (from 13 402 to 71 763).
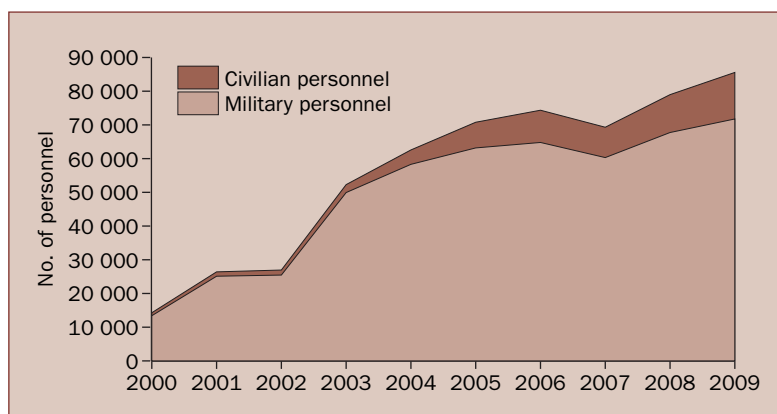

Figure 5. Number of civilian and military personnel deployed to peace operations in Africa, 2000–2009
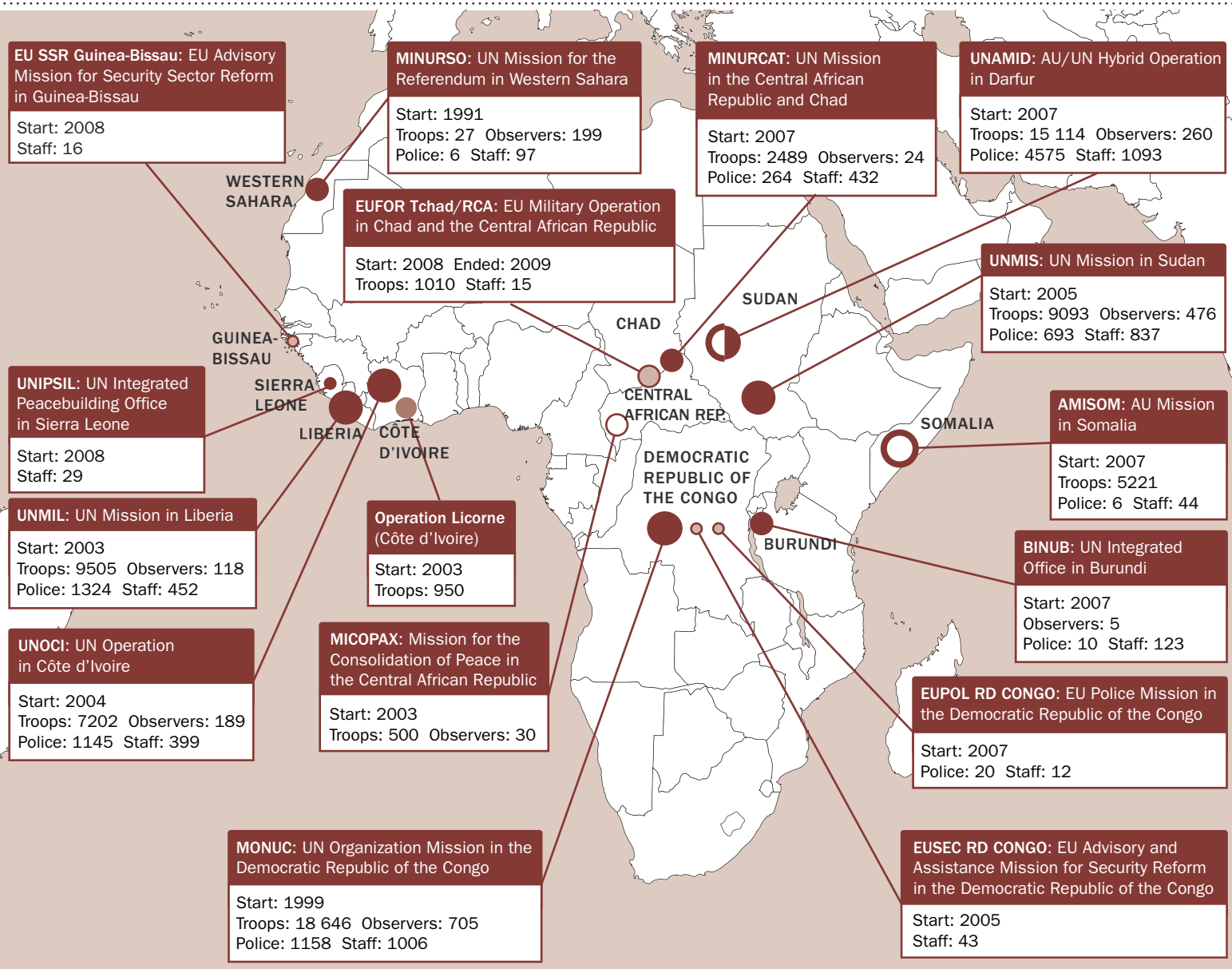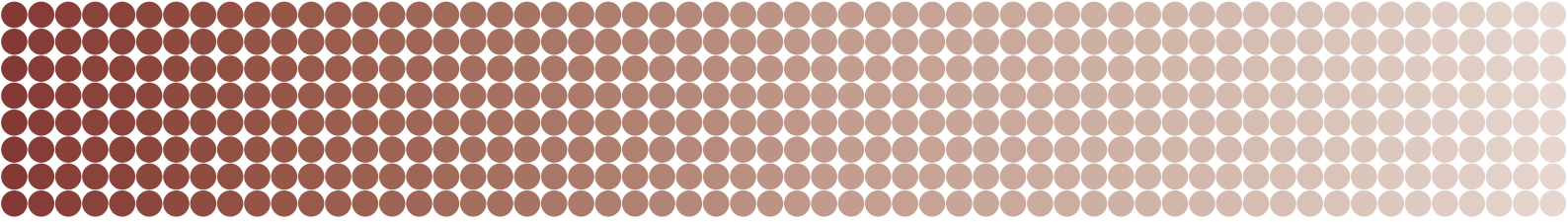
DEVELOPMENTS IN 2009

During 2009 a total of 200 AMISOM peacekeepers died, including the operation's deputy commander, making it the second most dangerous mission (after the International Security Assistance Force, ISAF, in Afghanistan). Security conditions led AMISOM's police component to withdraw from Mogadishu in September. Despite demands from the troop contributing countries and Somalia that the mission's mandate and rules of engagement be revised to allow it to be more robust, the AU declined to do so. In January 2009 the UN Security Council authorized a support package for AMISOM and confirmed its intention to deploy a UN peacekeeping force. To counter a funding shortage, in April 2009 donors pledged $213 million to support the development of Somali security institutions and AMISOM. The pledges were only partly fulfilled by the end of 2009, resulting among others things in delayed salary payments to AMISOM troops. International maritime forces continued to counter the piracy problem off the coast of Somalia, another consequence of the weak Somali state.

Following a planning phase throughout 2009, on 25 January 2010 the Council of the EU authorized a military training mission for security forces of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (EUTM Somalia). The mission was launched on 7 April 2010, has an authorized strength of 150 personnel and is based in Uganda. It will train up to 2000 Somali security personnel during two six-month training periods.

The total number of peacekeepers in Côte d'Ivoire dropped below 10 000 for the first time since the UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) was deployed, in 2004. Both missions in Côte d'Ivoire, UNOCI and Operation Licorne, decreased their presence during 2009—Operation Licorne for the fifth year in a row. The presidential election, whose organization UNOCI is mandated to assist, was rescheduled again in 2009.

Throughout 2009 the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) gave planning and logistical support to the Congolese Armed Forces in fighting rebels in the east of the country. Following the involvement of Congolese soldiers in civilian killings, the UN partly suspended its support. At the request of the Congolese Government, in early 2010 the withdrawal of MONUC by mid-2011 was under discussion. On 1 July 2010 the mission received a revised mandate and was renamed the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO).

EU SSR Guinea-Bissau: EU Advisory Mission for Security Sector Reform in Guinea-Bissau

Start: 2008
Staff: 16

MINURSO: UN Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

Start: 1991
Troops: 27 Observers: 199
Police: 6 Staff: 97

MINURCAT: UN Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad

Start: 2007
Troops: 2489 Observers: 24
Police: 264 Staff: 432

UNAMID: AU/UN Hybrid Operation in Darfur

Start: 2007
Troops: 15 114 Observers: 260
Police: 4575 Staff: 1093

EUFOR Tchad/RCA: EU Military Operation in Chad and the Central African Republic

Start: 2008 Ended: 2009
Troops: 1010 Staff: 15

UNMIS: UN Mission in Sudan

Start: 2005
Troops: 9093 Observers: 476
Police: 693 Staff: 837

UNIPSIL: UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone

Start: 2008
Staff: 29

UNMIL: UN Mission in Liberia

Start: 2003
Troops: 9505 Observers: 118
Police: 1324 Staff: 452

Operation Licorne (Côte d'Ivoire)

Start: 2003
Troops: 950

AMISOM: AU Mission in Somalia

Start: 2007
Troops: 5221
Police: 6 Staff: 44

UNOCI: UN Operation in Côte d'Ivoire

Start: 2004
Troops: 7202 Observers: 189
Police: 1145 Staff: 399

MICOPAX: Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the Central African Republic

Start: 2003
Troops: 500 Observers: 30

BINUB: UN Integrated Office in Burundi

Start: 2007
Observers: 5
Police: 10 Staff: 123

EUPOL RD CONGO: EU Police Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Start: 2007
Police: 20 Staff: 12

MONUC: UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Start: 1999
Troops: 18 646 Observers: 705
Police: 1158 Staff: 1006

EUSEC RD CONGO: EU Advisory and Assistance Mission for Security Reform in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

Start: 2005
Staff: 43

Map labels: WESTERN SAHARA, GUINEA-BISSAU, SIERRA LEONE, LIBERIA, CÔTE D'IVOIRE, CHAD, SUDAN, CENTRAL AFRICAN REP., DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO, SOMALIA, BURUNDI

Legend:
- UN
- AU
- CEMAC
- EU
- Ad hoc coalition
- ○ = >5000 personnel
- ○ = 100–5000 personnel
- ○ = <100 personnel

SIPRI MULTILATERAL PEACE OPERATIONS DATABASE

The data included in this fact sheet is taken from the SIPRI Multilateral Peace Operations Database. The database include historical data on all multilateral peace operations active since 2000, including international and local personnel numbers, budgets, lead countries and mission heads, fatalities, countries contributing different types of personnel, and mandates. The database can be accessed online at <http://www.sipri.org/databases/pko>.

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