



UNAMID

The United Nations Africa Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) is a joint African Union/United Nations hybrid operation in Darfur, authorised by Security Council Resolution 1769, of the 31st of July, 2007.

It has the protection of civilians as its core mandate, as well as contributing to security for humanitarian assistance, monitoring and verifying implementation of agreements, assisting an inclusive political process, contributing to the promotion of human rights and rule of law, and monitoring and reporting on the situation along the borders with Chad and the Central African Republic (CAR).

1. COMPOSITION

UNAMID is authorised to consist of up to 19,555 military personnel, including 360 military observers and liaison officers, and up to 6,432 police personnel. When fully deployed, it will comprise approximately 26,000 uniformed troops in Darfur, with another 5,000 or so civilian support personnel.

UNAMID is the first-ever hybrid mission between the United Nations and the African Union. Troops will be predominantly African, with contributions from other countries if African nations are unable to meet the force requirements.

At full strength, UNAMID will be the largest mission ever deployed by the United Nations and will cost an estimated \$2.6 billion per year, in addition to start-up costs. UN member states will fund the mission through the UN assessment scale.

2. MANDATE

Under Resolution 1769, UNAMID is mandated to:

- Contribute to the restoration of security for humanitarian assistance and facilitate full humanitarian access;
- Contribute to the protection of civilian populations under imminent threat of physical violence and prevent attacks against civilians;
- Monitor and verify the implementation of various ceasefire agreements signed since 2004;
- Assist with the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) and any subsequent agreements;
- Assist the political process to ensure its inclusiveness and support the African Union-United Nations' joint mediation efforts;
- Contribute to a secure environment for economic reconstruction and development, as well as the sustainable return of internally displaced persons and refugees to their homes;
- Assist in the promotion of human rights and the rule of law in Darfur; and,
- Monitor and report on the security situation at Sudan's borders with Chad and the Central African Republic.

To achieve this mandate, its tasks will include:

- Actively providing security and robust patrolling;
- Liaising with the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) to ensure complementary implementation of mandates;
- Monitoring violations of the DPA and ensuring the complementary implementation of all peace agreements in Sudan;
- Supporting capacity building, monitoring and law enforcement;
- Assisting in the establishment of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programs;
- Monitoring and promoting Janjaweed disarmament;
- Ensuring the participation of women in the peace process and their protection against gender-based violence; and,
- Assisting all stakeholders, especially in efforts to transfer federal resources to Darfur states and implement reconstruction plans and agreements on land use and compensation issues.

Acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter, UNAMID is authorised to take action to protect UN personnel, facilities and equipment, ensure the security and freedom of movement of UN personnel and humanitarian workers, support early and effective implementation of the DPA and protect civilians.

3. THE CURRENT STATUS OF UNAMID

Only 9,563 total uniformed personnel, including 7,605 troops, 154 military observers, and 1,804 police officers, supported by 446 international civilian personnel, 741 local civilian staff and 148 United Nations Volunteers, are currently in Darfur – a third of the total uniformed force promised¹. Of those 9,563 peacekeepers, more than 7,000 were already in Darfur prior to authorisation of UNAMID as part of the beleaguered AU force.

Since the beginning of this year, only some 300 additional peacekeepers have deployed to Darfur.

UN member states have failed to contribute critically needed equipment, including dozens of heavy transport trucks, 22 helicopters and other crucial resources.

The Sudanese military attacked a UNAMID convoy less than two weeks after its inauguration. The UNAMID convoy did not return fire. UNAMID has also been attacked on other occasions.

The Sudanese government is obstructing deployment of the force by refusing to approve the list of countries contributing troops provided by the UN and AU, imposing restrictions on UNAMID flights, delaying the release of UNAMID equipment from Port Sudan and failing to provide sufficient land for bases in Darfur.

In December 2007, the long-awaited hybrid United Nations-African Union mission (UNAMID) took control of peacekeeping operations in Darfur. But the transition from African Union peacekeepers to the new hybrid mission was largely ceremonial. The people of Darfur are still waiting for protection after five years of death, displacement, rape and broken promises.

¹ Strength as of 31 May 2008, (www.UN.org.com)