

PEACE BUILDERS NEWS



A QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER OF THE INTERNATIONAL PEACE SUPPORT TRAINING CENTRE

VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3 (01 JULY-30 SEPTEMBER 2013)



Enhancing Peace in Somalia through PSO Capacity building

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COVER PICTURE: AU Peacekeeper at Mogadishu, Somalia

Enhancing peace in Somalia through PSO Capacity building



Welcome to the IPSTC Third Quarter Peace Builders Newsletter this year. This issue comes at a time when IPSTC has been busy undertaking research and training activities towards peace and security stabilization in Somalia. It is a great pleasure to introduce this issue when we have new regional and international members of staff in our Centre. This is a positive step towards building a global image for our institution. I take this opportunity to welcome the new members of staff; Lt Col

JC, the new Chief of staff who replace Lt Col JB and Lt Col Peter Sangioreio from Denmark to the Centre. I wish them best wishes as they undertake their international assignments in the Centre and urge them to contribute effectively to the mandate of IPSTC. Let us all rededicate our efforts to the attainment of IPSTC's goals and objectives.

As the International community is engaged in peace building efforts in the war ravaged horn of Africa, specifically in Somalia, IPSTC

comes in handy to contribute towards the ongoing peace building efforts within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). As a Centre of Excellence in PSO training and research IPSTC has been at the forefront in facilitating the Somalia peace building efforts.

In pursuant to the above objective, our research Department recently conducted intensive field research in Somalia in August 2013. The research focused on critical problem areas such as analysis of the current drivers of conflict and violence, Human rights, Protection of civilians, Contribution of AMISOM, Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Child protection, Sexual and Gender based violence, among others. This field work will culminate into a symposium to discuss the findings later in October 2013. The research findings will not only contribute to PSO training at IPSTC but also inform regional policy makers on peace and security in Somalia.

On the other hand, IPSTC held specific training sessions that were customized to meet the needs of Somalia



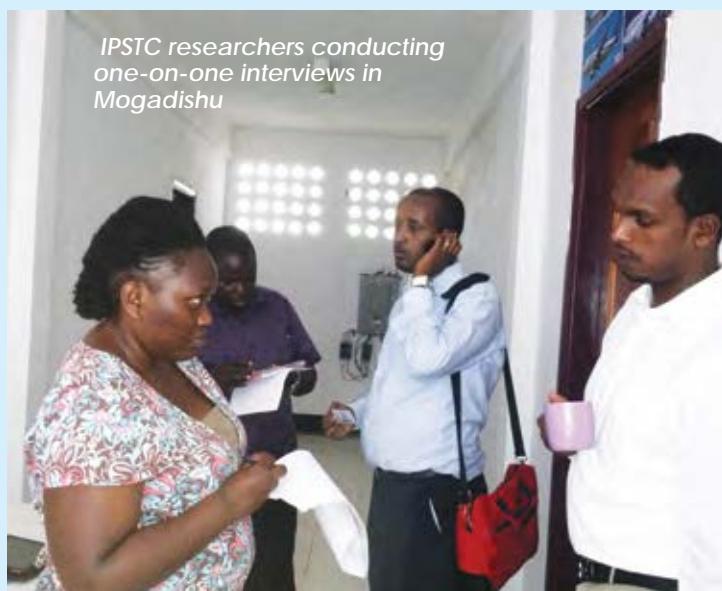
AMISOM Force Headquarter Training Course in a plenary session

peace and security actors. Towards this end the Centre conducted courses such as AMISOM Force Headquarter training, AMISOM Logistics, Human Rights for Somalia participants, among others. All these courses were geared towards enhancing capacity of various actors in the Somalia peace effort thus the theme: Enhancing peace in Somalia through PSO Capacity Building.

In conclusion I wish to acknowledge and register the support of the Government of Japan, through UNDP, European Union and all other partners and friends of IPSTC, who have made this work possible.

I also wish to thank all IPSTC staff for their continued support and dedication to our noble cause.

Asanteni sana
Brigadier Kabage
Director, IPSTC



IPSTC researchers conducting one-on-one interviews in Mogadishu



AMISOM Logistics Course Participants at IPSTC

Capacity building in Somalia: Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) contribution

The challenge of violent conflicts and its impact on socio-economic development in Africa has remained a daunting task. The African Union (AU) and the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) have put enormous efforts in the facilitation of negotiations for peaceful resolution of existing conflicts and the effective implementation of peace agreements. It was in this context that the AU saw the necessity to ensure that peace agreements are effectively complemented by sustained post-conflict reconstruction and peace building efforts, with a view to addressing the root causes underlying their outbreak. This need gave birth to AU Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy. This policy continues to serve as a guide for the development of strategies that elaborate measures that seek to consolidate peace and prevent relapse to violence, promote sustainable development and pave the way for growth and regeneration in countries and regions emerging from conflict.

Over time, the AU and RECs have used PCRD as one of the tools to curb the severity and repeated nature of conflicts in Africa as well as bring about sustained development. In view of research that has shown that countries that have evolved from conflicts have tended to revert back into conflicts within a period of about five years, PCRD stresses on the long-term nature of post-conflict reconstruction strategies that are founded within and by communities and states themselves. PCRD activities do not stop with stabilization but seek to achieve long-term sustainable development. One of the activities that is key in PCRD is capacity building; the process of strengthening the abilities of individuals, organizations and societies to make effective use of the resources, in order to achieve their own goals on a sustainable basis. Capacity building entails the development of knowledge, skills and attitudes in individuals and groups of people relevant in design, development, management and maintenance of institutional and operational infrastructures and



Col Otieno

processes that are locally meaningful. Ideally, capacity building should be undertaken at an individual, institutional and societal level. Individual capacity building focuses on enhancing existing knowledge and skills, institutional capacity building concentrates on making existing institutions effective and controllable, and societal capacity building supports the establishment of an interactive public administration. Adequate training, education and research is an important technical requirement and a prerequisite for the capacity building.

The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) is a research, education and training institution focusing on capacity building at the strategic, operational and tactical levels within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and has developed into the regional Center Of Excellence (CoE) for the African Standby Force (ASF) in Eastern Africa. Over the years, the Center has made considerable contributions in capacity building in Somalia in Peace Support Operations (PSO). In 2013, Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD) in IPSTC promoted capacity building in Somalia by conducting field research, symposiums, workshops,

and Training Needs Assessment (TNA).

The field research provided insights into pertinent peace and security issues in Somalia that are useful to policy and enabled design of training customized to Somalia requirements and building of individual capacities. The symposium brought together individuals and organizations interested in Somalia and regional peace and security to peer review field research findings which were aimed at capacitating Somalia in PSO. This was a crucial step in ensuring that IPSTC engaged the partners in thematic analysis of the Somalia requirements in order to develop capacity and frameworks which could be used to promote peace initiatives within the country. The workshops provided a forum for national dialogue, reconciliation and national cohesion in Somalia. The workshops also highlighted the current attempts at security sector development in Somalia and enabled discussion on the strategies necessary for holistic development of the sector in the country. The TNA enabled the Centre to identify training needs among the Somali Government, the Somali people and other stakeholders. It also enabled the Centre to design relevant courses for imparting knowledge, skills and attitudes identified as gaps and determine who needs to be trained and in which disciplines.

Capacity building for Somalia in PSO will continue being a priority for IPSTC. In line with PSRD objective of enhancing consistency with customer needs, the department will continue to conduct activities that ensure that the process of capacity building in Somalia is endogenous; owned and driven by the Somalis.

The PSRD activities conducted for Somalia in 2013 and publication of this Newsletter has been made possible by the support of the Government of Japan through UNDP. It is hoped that this support for PSRD will continue so as to fulfill the noble cause of enhancing PSO in Somalia through research.

Col Otieno
Head of Research, IPSTC

A poster indicative of AMISOM role in Peace building as manifested by the construction and rehabilitation of schools



Building Peace in Somalia: Factors for Consideration

The desire to have a stable and prosperous Republic of Somalia has been the wish of not only the inhabitants of Somalia, but the East African region and the international community at large. Realization of lasting peace and security in this Horn of Africa State has led to a massive participation of multidimensional actors ranging from the State, non-State actors and the international community, among others. This is a positive indicator given that a pacified Somalia will be a great milestone for the socio-economic progress of the region. The question we should ask here is, are all these stakeholders singing the same song, in other words, are their goals and activities unified and coordinated? Synchronization of the peace building efforts is crucial to avoid confusion and duplication and to enhance efficiency of the initiatives and ultimately attainment of the desired end state.

The participation of the new Government is necessary to address the roots of insecurity in Somalia.

Currently the Government is backed by some goodwill of the people in and around Mogadishu. The Government should be an all-inclusive entity in order to mitigate effects of inter-clan rivalries and to gain legitimacy.

In order to strengthen the mechanisms of governance, the federal government must strengthen the relationships with non-State actors such as local NGOs, CBOs and CSOs working in Somalia focusing especially on issues of human development with emphasis on human health, human rights / rule of law, good governance and the proliferation of small arms and light weapons. This will contribute to national ownership of the process so that at the end of the day the international community will be a facilitator and not a determinant of the peace and security agenda in the country.

As such the malicious killing of international staff involved in peace

building is an abominable act requiring international condemnation. In as much as bringing in short-term intervention is necessary; the International community efforts need to be long term leading to sustainable peace and development in the Republic of Somalia. On the other hand addressing the root causes of insecurity should be the guiding principle for peace building endeavours. This should mean that if the problem of insecurity is politically precipitated then involvement of all warring parties towards a desired solution should be considered.

Since the situation in Somalia is generally amorphous, adoption of a simple but holistic and multidimensional approach is important. The role of the International community in capacity building of the Somali peace and security actors is very essential. The training of AMISOM and civil society staff operating in Somalia is key to the peace building process.

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The International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) spirit of continuous training and evaluation of AMISOM personnel is very essential. The pivotal role played by the Centre in capacity building of Somalia peace and security sector is a great step towards the right direction.

Before anything else the establishment of capable and active legislative and executive bodies is critical to lay the groundwork for the creation of other institutions of Government. Then, the implementation of the rule of law will be paramount. To assist in this process, the training and empowerment of a national police force able to deal with internal threats will be necessary.

The establishment of reliable judicial and corrections institutions will also be fundamental to fostering the rule of law. The training and deployment of a capable Somalia Armed Force, Primarily Army and Navy will help cope with the land and sea challenges. All these fits well within the broad framework of Security Sector Reform (SSR) in Somalia.

Economic and social development should be adapted to ensure effective and efficient lines of communication, as such, building roads, hospitals, schools, telephone and electricity network should be accorded priority by relevant stakeholders. Construction of manufacturing and service industries should enable many unemployed youths to be absorbed in gainful employment opportunities so that tools of trade should replace the guns. Somalia with the longest coastline in Eastern Africa has a huge potential for the development and growth of tourism, hence the need to invest in world class hospitality business to tap this great wealth for national development. The Indian Ocean confers to



Aerial view of the scenic Somalia coastline

Somalia an economic advantage and offers a conducive environment for world class fishing. The vast unoccupied Somalia territory provides the agricultural potential as well. The Government can turn a food impoverished Somalia to a food secure nation and net agricultural exporter. This will be an important milestone for Somalia. Livestock is also another prospective industry with the capacity to export canned beef, refrigerated meat supplies and other livestock products to the neighbouring countries in Africa, Middle East and the rest of the world.

The involvement of all Somali clans in nation building will see a cohesive nation of Somalia forge an agenda for national development. There is also need to address clan disputes alongside the "religious extremism". Addressing national unity gaps created by divergent Somalia political ideologies is critical to peace process. This will be a prerequisite for national cohesion and reconciliation and a precursor of national building. Involving the youth in national reconstruction and reconciliation is critical to

unearthing the roots of the Al-shabaab insurgency.

Here is yet another issue - the Somalia diaspora, which, in my opinion, cannot be ignored. Apparently, a large number of Somalis fled their country and took up citizenship in other countries of Africa, Middle East, Asia, Europe, Canada, USA and other parts of the world. It is important to consider engaging this Somalia diaspora bearing in mind that they are part of the solution to the problem of Somalia.

Sustainable Peace and security in Somalia continues to be a question of international concern and as such there is a need for all parties to support efforts in finding peace. Unless the Somali Republic stands on its own; there will be a need to interrogate the effectiveness of International community interventions. The fundamental question for every rational actor in Somalia should be: What have I done to help build peace in Somalia and the world at large?

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360 degrees aerial view of the Mogadishu Airport

Sowing the Seeds of Peace in Somalia

Though it is not the prerogative of researchers to search for magic wands in complex conflict situations, a walk down memory lane in Somalia's history is necessary in order to decipher what became of this land of heroes and heroines.

Renowned Somali intellectual, Prof. Ahmed Samatar laments about the fate of his beloved country:

'Why and how could this society, one of the few nations in the continent with one ethnic group, one culture, one language, and one religion, find itself in such perilous circumstances – verging on self-destruction'

The legendary Somali poet Hadraawi (Mohamed Ibrahim Warsame) extols the virtues of a Somali:

I've still not admitted defeat,
nor have I withdrawn:
that high inspiration,
that talent I was endowed with,
has not been discarded
When men dedicate to the struggle and determine to fulfill their duty;

When they ready themselves for the charge, amass the finest thoroughbreds;

When the reins are on the racers, I never step aside.

The great land of the 'Mad' Mullah (Mohammed Abdille Hassan), the legendary Somali freedom fighter who resisted colonial infiltration of Somalia early in the 20th Century, beckons for new dawn of peace which like a reluctant bride has refused to patch on the wings of a rising Somalia in the 21st Century. Every Somali historian remembers what happened at Dul Madoba (Black Hill) in 1913 as the Mullah handed defeat to the invaders and infidels. A scenario that would be repeated towards the end of the century as Americans marines failed to tame Somali warlords in Mogadishu.

In the Mullah's poetic rendition of his advice to the slain British commander, Richard Corfield, on his way to hell:

'Say, 'in fury they fell upon us, report how savagely their swords tore you' When pain racked me everywhere – men lay sleepless at my shriek, how your eyes stiffened with horror as spear butts hit your mouth silencing your soft words

'Hyenas eat Corfield's flesh, Crows pluck at his veins and tendons. Tell your God of the 'Mullah's militants who are like the advancing thunderbolts of a storm, rumbling and rolling'

Many conquerors of yester years have attempted to tame Somalia in vain. The Portuguese left a mark in Somalia when the son of Vasco Da Gama, Cristovao Da Gama, docked in Benadir in the 15th Century. The messengers of Prophet Mohammed (PBUH) landed at the Somali coastline shortly after the Hijra (622 AD). Though Islam is the dominant religious identity of the Somali, it does not supersede Somali clan and cultural heritage.

Does history repeat itself in Somalia?... May be not but

the history of Somalia forever remains the side mirror of a careful driver in this rough and remote terrain.

As I landed in the famous Berbera Airport which changed sides from the Soviet Union to the USA during the cold war, one could see the ruins and bullet holes just close to the Airport. The wounds; both physical, bodily and psychological are still around. There might have been relative peace in Somaliland for the last 20 years but the era of conflict has not yet been forgotten.

Hargeisa looks new and vibrant but my Host, Abdullahi Odowa, head of Observatory for Conflict and Violence Prevention (OCVP) is quick to remind me that:

'Hargeisa lay in ruins in 1990' after aerial and ground attack from Barre's forces'.

'There was nothing here ... all the buildings you see here have been reconstructed after the war...'

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*Aerial photo of Hargeisa, Somaliland*



The Author Mr Mbugua (centre) discusses with other IPSTC Researchers in Mogadishu

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The journey from Berbera to Hargeisa provides a glimpse of the dry Somali countryside. Women gather around a waterhole but there is no visible water or green pasture around. It is a tough life for both man and beast.

As I land in Mogadishu Airport, I can't forget the specter of Al Shabaab's rocket propelled grenades that target planes. The airport is well done but the clearing hall still tells about the country. The pitch in the voices of the people is noticeably high but the people are not quarreling. 'Welcome to Mogadishu', a green beret Amisom soldier ushers us into the protected camp.

Mogadishu city can be seen 1 kilometer away. The old Islamic architecture is conspicuous in the old and the new buildings. Only visitors in armored vehicles can venture into the city. The bells of peace have not yet rung.

AMISOM and UN personnel in Mogadishu are upbeat about emergence of a new Somalia. A new president and government are in place and for the first time

since 1991, they are not made up of former warlords.

Is there a ray of hope...may be, it depends on the eyes of the beholder. As I gather my notes back to the cool waters of Nairobi, I meditate on the value of peace in my country. Many questions cross my mind ... can this research work contribute to a rising dawn of peace? A new chapter in the troubled history of Somalia? Like a gospel scribe, I begin to patch the pieces of my story together, casting my eyes at the historical past, looking at the unintended artwork written in the buildings around me, looking at the faces of Somali leaders and ordinary people, even the ones who have left peaceful capitals in Europe and North America.

There shall be peace in Somalia...it is just a question of when. I shall trace the drivers of the current conflict and map the contours of violence and like an African witch doctor, I shall reveal the direction of the Harmattan ... that elusive easterly winds that herald a new dawn in the dry sand dunes of the Sahara.

Joseph Kioi Mbugua
Researcher, IPSTC

Pilot Mobile Evaluation of IPSTC Training in Juba and AMISOM

The current global economic climate will continue to have an impact on the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) and the Region as partners seek to rationalize and justify program funding. In this regard, evaluating the linkages between training and employment is key in validating IPSTC and ensuring continued support from partners. In response to the changing environment, the IPSTC in partnership with the Eastern Africa Standby Force Coordination Mechanism (EASFCOM) and the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) constituted and subsequently deployed a Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) to Juba in the Republic of South Sudan and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The mobile evaluation for the Republic of South Sudan was conducted from 25 – 29 June 2013, while that of AMISOM was conducted from 4 – 8 August 2013. Both Evaluations were conducted with aim of ascertaining the degree to which the

training offered at IPSTC had achieved the desired objective and to identify any training requirements. The MET evaluated the PSO training offered at the IPSTC and training needs of military, police and civilian personnel in peacekeeping missions, government departments, international organizations and civil society organizations, international and national NGOs. Evaluation Information was gathered using a combination of methods; document and procedural review, focus group discussions, structured and semi structured interview for individuals and groups. Initial data was gathered using IPSTC Training Management System (TMS) to establish entry points and identify key personnel to be interviewed.

Based on the feedback and information gathered, the MET identified cross-cutting training needs for all peacekeeping personnel as well as those for individual components (military, police and civilian). The MET also evaluated the impact of the training offered as well as methodology of delivery,





including participation in training and assessment of training delivery.

Most of the respondents agreed that IPSTC was indeed a Centre of Excellence and delivered relevant and effective courses that provided them with the necessary foundation and enabled them to adapt to peace keeping missions, both at the sector and mission headquarters level. The courses at IPSTC were reported as well organized and most facilitators were assessed as very experienced (Subject Matter Experts). Regional Senior Missions Leaders Course, Pre-deployment Training, Logistics Course and Multinational Force Headquarters Training were singled out as some courses that provided the participants with an overview of the mission situation and appropriately prepared them for the real challenges in field missions. This contributed to their effectiveness in carrying out their peacekeeping responsibilities.

The Centre was assessed as well equipped, with training facilities and well trained personnel, who delivered the courses in a professional manner. Besides the facilities, the meals were also good.

Most agreed that they would recommend IPSTC to fellow colleagues and others as far as delivery of PSO training is concerned. Some respondents suggested that IPSTC should export training to reach more personnel especially in field missions (i.e. use Mobile Training Teams).

Feedback from alumni indicated that their learning experiences were based on; classroom instruction, sharing experiences and use of learning aids and training materials. Most appreciated practical sessions, exercises, demonstration, role plays simulations and methodology of delivery used in IPSTC training which practically prepared them for undertaking their responsibilities in the field mission. A significant number of alumni believed that other methods of delivery would better respond to the specific challenges and needs of PSO learning such as; lessons learned case studies, panel discussions and vignettes.

Predeployment training (PDT) and that the training they received at IPSTC was relevant and enabled many in the field to perform their duties well. However, it was felt that the time

allocated for PDT was short and needed adjustment. In addition, respondents requested more mission specific training guidance in the PDT; general country and mission information, as well as specific operational issues. The respondents also recommended the introduction of additional courses such as communication and language skills course, mission specific information, rules of engagement and Computer/Information Technology training, among others.

In-theatre training (including induction training) was viewed by many respondents as a unique opportunity to introduce and familiarize with mission operational, logistical and administrative environment. Respondents confirmed support of this type training for all personnel in the field missions. Some suggested areas to be considered in this regards included, refresher leadership, communications and management training. IPSTC was encouraged to study the contents of these trainings and others that may be necessary and suggest possible ways of ensuring timely delivery.

The MET further identified the following training needs (some could be modules in a course, while others could be complete courses); Report writing, Teambuilding, Stress Management, Hostage Taking, Child Protection Course, Bilingual conduct of training, Cultural awareness and respect for diversity, Customized CIMIC Training, Transport Management in PSO Course, Force Generation Course, Modules on Mission Mandate and Phases and Mission Specific documents, Mission Support and Coordination with other PSO actors, Mobile Training Teams to conduct in-theatre/in-mission training, Doctrine harmonization and interoperability training, Timely in-theatre induction training, Crisis Management training and DDR training.

Most respondents highlighted the need of customization of training in line with changing PSO environment as well evolving threats and concepts. Timely delivery of in-theatre training was a concern of many respondents and most felt that training institutions such as IPSTC would be best placed to implement these training in a timely manner. Other respondents felt there was a need for IPSTC to help them design training models to address their needs.

The findings of the MET indicate that training was essential in carrying out tasks effectively, but that there were some gaps in the training that would need to be addressed from time to time. These findings will enable IPSTC to refine the courses they already offer and have an opportunity to introduce new courses to meet mission specific requirements. Additionally, IPSTC will be able to identify courses that can be delivered through mobile training.

Col Otieno
Head of Research, IPSTC

The Somalia I Saw

'Somalia is a country that has been in turmoil for the last two decades.' This is a statement that is echoed by almost everyone who thinks and talks of Somalia. When I learnt that I was to visit the country the same statement came to mind. I was not comfortable with the visit and I kept hoping that the visit would be cancelled and whenever there was a delay or a security threat I was at peace since I knew the visit was being pushed forward. However the day came and on 27 August 2013; armed with my research tools and dressed for the occasion, I together with my colleagues boarded the flight to Mogadishu, Somalia. Having worked in the field before and having met persons who were in Somalia, I was informed that the weather was harsh so I had also braced myself to face this challenge.

On landing in Mogadishu I was shocked that there was an airport and a good one at that, although the

word good is relative. Remembering that this is a country that has been and is in conflict I gave the airport a ranking of 4 out of 5. The weather was cool. My imagination of Somalia was a country in great chaos but my expectations were not met. We managed to clear at the immigration! Yes there is an immigration department.

From the airport to the hotel, I got a totally new and good feeling of the country. Despite the presence of so many military personnel, it's a country that is trying its level best to get back to order. It might not look much compared to other countries that have been out of conflict but the strides taken are amazing; the growing suburbs on one side and the old Mogadishu town on the

other. The beauty is that at no one moment did I worry about the security situation. Despite the fact that we were confined to the AMISOM grounds it didn't seem as such since we had to drive from one agency to another. The people who work in AMISOM and the UN agencies have a big heart and were helpful where

possible and the research was successful.

Somalia is a country in which the airport is located next to the sea, a beautiful sea. It is a land of opportunities from the airport to the sea and with abundant beautiful beaches it can host many tourists and there is a large and deep seafront where a port can be created now that piracy level has reduced. I enjoyed every moment in Somalia. The experience was above my expectations; meeting with people who lived in the country when shooting used to happen at the airport to a silent airport environment with no gunshots. Somalia is strategically placed and with time the citizens of the country will get to enjoy the fruits of their country and peace in the region. I cannot stop without complimenting the efforts of AMISOM. We appreciated their hard work for they have done a magnificent job in Somalia and we expect more from them.

Muriithi Laura
Curriculum Developer, IPSTC



*IPSTC Researcher
Ms Muriithi Laura at
the Somalia coast
in Mogadishu*



*The author Muriithi Laura (right) with
UN police officer in Mogadishu*

My First Encounter with AMISOM

Mogadishu by all means and descriptions is the most war torn city in Eastern Africa, perhaps displaying magnificently the scourge of war in Somalia. The once beautiful capital city at the coast of the Indian Ocean, Mogadishu, is a phantom of what it was 20 years ago.

I departed for Mogadishu from the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport at exactly 8:00 am via East African Safari Air, a commercial airline, with my return ticket costing US\$420. Inside the plane, I sat with my fellow research officers from the same organization. I noticed a number of well-dressed Somali men and women, some with their children aged between 5 and 15 years. They were chatting in Somali language, which I could hardly comprehend, but their laughter and facial expression indicated happiness. I immediately assumed they were Somali citizens who ran away from their country as a result of the armed conflict which escalated in 1991 after the ouster of then President Siad Barre.

As a researcher from Kenya, it was still not yet clear to me why anyone would want to return to a war-torn country, and to make it worse, with little children. I pose the question to the "Muzungu" who was coming from UK seated next to me, also travelling to Somalia, but he never gave me a tangible explanation? At exactly 9:30 am, we land at the Aden-Adde International Airport in Mogadishu. Constructed in the 1940s by the Italians, this facility was originally known as the Mogadishu International Airport.

However, when it was reopened after years of closure due to conflict, the then Transitional Federal Government (TFG) announced that the airport would be renamed to honour the first president of Somalia, Aden Abdullah Osman Daar, who died in Nairobi in June, 2007.

My mood immediately started changing. I started panicking and a question kept coming in my mind, "what if we get bombed by the Al-shabaab terrorists?"

I notice the airport is far much small compared to JKIA, but at least both small and large planes can still land with much ease in Mogadishu. The Indian Ocean is a few meters from the airport's runway, making Mogadishu a perfect destination for tourists from all over the world. However, due to the war and insecurity coupled with reports of pirates and radical group presence such as



The author (centre) talks to AMISOM peacekeepers in Somalia

the Al Shabaab and Al Qaeda militant groups who hijack foreigners, tourism is a pipe dream, at least for now.

As I was told later by Ugandan military officer, the airport was being used by the Somali Air Force; now history as a result of war. The air force also maintained a military academy at this airport and which was used by all members of Somali Armed Forces.

But today, the facility is in the firm grip of the heavily-armed and well-disciplined Ugandan soldiers who are operating under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

As we walk towards the immigration offices, I notice dozens of AMISOM soldiers clutching to their guns. Far across, I spot a dozen of AMISOM military vehicles, mainly lorries and Armoured Personnel Carriers, all mounted with machine guns and rocket launchers, ready for action if need be, Some are facing the Indian Ocean. Together with my colleagues, we presented our passport to the authority but we were denied entry and advised that someone from AMISOM comes and pick us for security and safety.

Due to the war and the influx of foreigners, either on peace support operation or humanitarian missions in Somalia, the economy has been 'dollarized' and life is very expensive compared to Kenya. For accommodation alone, each one of us had to part with US\$155 (Ksh13, 175) per night in a simple cottage.

The US dollar is the second most used currency in Somalia after the local currency. Most local Somali companies and schools pay monthly salaries in US dollars and so are large transactions. "Mogadishu is like a state in United States of America (USA) because almost everyone in the city is using US

Dollar," explains Halima, who operates a makeshift Foreign Exchange Bureau.

My encounter with AMISOM Force Commander, Lieutenant General Andrew Gutti was great. Easy going and humble, the General, exuded confidence that AMISOM will finally defeat Al-Shabaab and take full control of the entire Somalia. He explains that Kenyan units are in full operation in south Somalia and their presence in the regions of Bay, Gedo and Lower Juba, Banadir and Middle and Lower Shabelle is a tremendous contribution to stabilization of security in Somalia.

Back in my hotel, the sound of gunshots is still being heard in Mogadishu. AMISOM trucks with heavily-armed soldiers are zooming across the like battered streets of Mogadishu every hour. Federal Government of Somalia Forces, in all sorts of military uniform, are also zooming in different vehicles or patrolling the streets with AK47 rifles in their hands. Despite the war, the killings and destructions, there are a sizeable number of Somalis in the capital, men and women, and I am so lucky to spot children playing football and sporting Arsenal and Manchester United attire.

In my opinion, Somalia is a country trying to free itself from a painful past. To Somalia people, everyone wants a piece of Somalia for no lesser reason than the abundance of its resources. Agriculture, if sustainably developed, could feed an estimated 100 million people. Fish stocks rival the world's best.

In conclusion, I must say that everyone needs to play his or her part in the struggle to restore Somalia back to its glorious past. As a researcher, I am doing my part with the pen; I strongly believe that the pen is mightier than the sword.

Okwir Martin
Researcher, IPSTC



Somalia flag

All the World's a Stage

*...And all the men and women merely players;
They have their exits and their entrances,
And one man in his time plays many parts...*

William Shakespeare
(Circa 1564 - 1616)

The Other Side of Somalia: A glimpse of Hope

Beset by war for over two decades, Somalia has struggled to stand back to its feet. According to Ken Menkhaus, an expert on Somali conflict; criminality, lawlessness and armed conflict has come to characterize present day Somalia. Al Shabaab and other militia groups continue to pose a threat, although AMISOM's entry has changed these dynamics. Equally important, Somalia made a huge milestone in September 2012 after it ended the 8 year transitional period. It now has a provisional Federal Government, Parliament and a provisional constitution. In 2016, Somalia will be holding its first democratic elections. Meanwhile, many reconstruction and reforms processes are underway to stabilize Somalia.

William Shakespeare's Poem 'All the World's a Stage,' captures the imagery and complexities of post-war reconstruction. Like a world's stage with different men and women. The Somalia post-conflict context is

made up of several actors, sectors, dimensions and phases. Each exit or entry gives way to success, failure or unintended consequences. Simply put, it is a fragile process with each action having a lasting impact. In the same breath, how the media reports on the fragile reconstruction process can either escalate or de-escalate conflicts. Similarly, research can either influence the process positively or negatively.

Late August 2013 I had an opportunity to visit Somalia for a period of one week. My purpose there involved meeting different experts in the security sector and ordinary Somali people. As a researcher, my engagement with Somalia was limited to secondary knowledge. The only time I had come close to Somalia, was through the eyes of the media. As I made way into Aden Adde International Airport in Mogadishu, I was excited and full of fear at the same time. In no time I would have an opportunity to put a face to Somalia. I was keen to see the

other side of Somalia, the one that news editors and journalist decided not to show. I was interested in the unwritten narratives of courage, hope and despair. I wanted to hear stories from ordinary Somali men and women.

I was so eager to listen to the unwritten narratives, those that only Somali people knew and wished others could. Like any other 'outsider' I was fearful of what would happen to me while in Somalia. I too had become victim to the only narrative the media produced, what Chimamanda Adichie calls the danger of a single story. The single story as she explains, robs people of their dignity. It gives permanency to stereotypes as though they are true. In her words; 'it emphasizes how we are different rather than how we are similar, it makes our recognition of our humanity difficult'. The story of Somalia is marred with stereotypes, negativity and asymmetrical analyses of how the country has degenerated in the last two decades. While this may be true, this is not the only story about Somalia.

Aden Adde International Airport



While the state of infrastructure gave the history of Somalia, the people told a different story. Despite the cyclic war, failed attempts to resuscitate the state and non-functional state institutions, confidence was building. I spoke to two members of the civil society who expressed hopes and high expectations of their government. Unlike the past, this government was striving to realize its aspirations and also include its people in understanding their vision. The reconstruction process has a long way to go. Reversing the effects of the civil war is a daunting task, but it's the resilient spirit of the Somali people that will drive the process. The renewed hope expressed by the two men I met speaks to this, and I too wish Somalia well.

Nancy Muigei,
Applied Researcher, IPSTC

Protection of Civilians and Respect for Human rights in Somalia

The dire human rights situation in Somalia which is threatening the lives of civilians including children needs to be adequately tackled by all and sundry.

The recent surge in military operations increases civilians' vulnerability to attacks and displacement and brings more arms into a country already awash with weapons.

This is a lethal mix that could fuel further human rights abuses. It is everyone's dream to see more efforts being undertaken to improve the safety of the Somali population.

Though many Human Rights actors give reference to human rights violations and abuses, they still fall short of the measures required to address the risks faced by civilians in Somalia. At a minimum, the international community must ensure that its current actions in Somalia do not contribute to a further deterioration in the human rights situation.

The international community must take concrete measures to increase the monitoring, documenting and public reporting of violations of



Human rights for Somalia course participants in a class discussion at HPSS, Embakasi

international human rights and humanitarian law committed by any party to the conflict in Somalia, including the AMISOM troops. Children in Somalia are particularly vulnerable in the armed conflict. They continue to be killed while many more lose parents, caretakers and homes to the fighting.

Armed groups specifically target children, recruiting them as child soldiers, and denying them access to education. The step up in military operations against

Al-Shabaab has led the armed group to intensify their child recruitment drive. The Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and militia affiliated with them have also been accused of having child soldiers in their ranks.

The international community should ensure that effective mechanisms are put in place for the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration of child soldiers. Until then, no military or security

assistance should be provided to armed forces and groups that use child soldiers and the international community must respect and strengthen the UN arms embargo on Somalia.

It is disappointing that international discussions continue to sideline the protection of civilians, and especially children. There is no question that this must be central to any strategy to improve the future of Somalia.

National and international laws should be applied and action taken to address wide-ranging impunity for the decades of human rights violations and abuses committed in Somalia, some of which could amount to war crimes.

Unless impunity is tackled, perpetrators of human rights abuses will have no incentive to stop and others will be encouraged to commit abuses. The international community must not leave Somalia's civilian population to bear the brunt of this endless cycle of violence.

**Major D Y Kilimo
HPSS**



Col Gitonga (right), UNDP Country Director Ms Mariah Threase-Keating (centre) with a representative of Somalia Embassy in Kenya during the course opening ceremony

AMISOM Pre-Deployment Writing Board



Members of the AMISOM Pre-deployment writing board (Seated from right: Lt Col Nkoimo, Col Bartonjo, Col Otieno, Lt Col Sitienei. Standing- Ms Muriithi Laura, Lt col Jeff Nyagah, Mr Muriungi (author), Maj Mramba and Maj Jeff Allen)

When I was given an opportunity to participate in the AMISOM Pre-Deployment writing board (12 – 14 August, 2013), this was a challenging task for me. But after discussing the topic with the experts and previous senior AMISOM commanders namely; Col Bartonjo, Lt Col Jeff Nyagah and Lt Col Nkoimo we came up with the first and the best AMISOM Pre-Deployment Course Learning Plan. The course aim was to equip the command and the staff with the knowledge and skills necessary to operate effectively in AMISOM mission environment and to impart that knowledge to their subordinates.

The course targeted the commanders and staff officers who are deployed in AMISOM environment at Force, Sector and Battalion levels. Peacekeeping operations have become increasingly complicated task, especially in Somalia which calls for a standardized training. In peacekeeping environment, soldiers need to conduct themselves professionally. To achieve this end, robust training to acquaint the soldiers with Peace Support Operations environment is required. The AMISOM

Pre-Deployment writing board was given the task of coming up with such a training curriculum. The writing board gave priority to Geo-political analysis of Somalia, Socio-economic and Cultural dynamics of the Somalia people, UN/AU Peacekeeping Operations, Force Protection, Mission Support and Mission Coordination.

The course has been planned to be conducted in 15 training days and is envisioned to be resident at the (Humanitarian Peace and Support School (HPSS), though in exceptional circumstances the course may be undertaken at another location. Each of the 15 training days will contain eight 45 minute periods. The course is structured into theoretical and practical sessions which correspond with the learning outcomes. The practical sessions will be built upon a common scenario/case study preferably related to the Somalia situation. The training is expected to provide necessary skills and knowledge to enable the peacekeepers execute their duties effectively.

Evans Muriungi Muchege
 Researcher/Curriculum Designer, IPSTC

Al-Shabaab's waning Popularity in Somalia

Although Al-Shabaab has clearly been suffering military defeats in Somalia as a result of offensive operations conducted by AMISOM and its partners, the decline of Al-Shabaab can also be attributed to more prosaic factors, such as a reduction of its support among the Somali population. In particular, two main factors have led to a reduction in the organization's popular support: the mishandling of the 2011 drought and internal divisions within the organization.

International humanitarian relief organizations stood ready to assist the starving populations. Al-Shabaab, nevertheless, decided to maintain its policy of refusing foreign aid, which it considers a tool of western influence, and denied access to most aid agencies. Relief that was allowed to enter was primarily kept for Al-Shabaab's own fighters. An Al-Shabaab spokesperson even suggested the declaration of famine to be a politically motivated lie with a hidden agenda.



Commandant HPSS Col Gitonga welcoming the course Director Mr Zimmer

In mid-2011, Eastern Africa suffered from a severe drought which is considered the worst for a generation. Although much of the region was affected, it was only in the areas of Southern and Central Somalia, which were controlled by Al-Shabaab, where the drought also led to a highly devastating famine. UN reports estimated that approximately three million people in these areas were without enough food.

Al-Shabaab's handling of the situation forced starving Somalis to flee Al-Shabaab controlled area. It also made it difficult for Al-Shabaab to continue to convincingly present itself as the provider of order and justice, which had been its major selling-point since Al-Shabaab's days as part of the Islamic Courts' Union in 2006. In the end, popular support for Al-Shabaab among its key constituents was severely reduced.



Group photo of AMISOM Force Headquarter Training course participants

Al-Shabaab is also suffering as a result of its internal dynamics. It has been alleged that the organization has had links with Al-Qaeda for years, but the two organizations did not officially merge until 2012. The relationship to Al-Qaeda and its global jihad has, nonetheless, led to rifts amongst the Al-Shabaab leadership, as there are divisions over how Al-Shabaab's regional struggle should relate to Al-Qaeda's broader ambitions.

Reportedly, disagreement between the more committed jihadists of Al-Shabaab and leaders with a more regional focus has weakened the organization from within.

There are reports that some of the more opportunistic regionalists are willing to sit down with the Somali government and become part of a political process, a move considered inconceivable by the more ideologically committed jihadists. In general, the

success of the political process in yielding a legitimate government in Somalia has, to some extent, led to the questioning of Al-Shabaab's own legitimacy to lead Somalia among some factions in the organization. In addition to this on-going rift, clan divisions are also reportedly causing splits within the group; some clan leaders, whose clans comprise the majority of Al-Shabaab's foot soldiers are becoming enraged that their clans are bearing the brunt of the casualties

as Al-Shabaab increasingly suffers defeats. Such divisions were exacerbated by the famine since it was primarily clan leaders in areas that were barely affected by the drought who made the decision to refuse foreign aid. A range of additional factors, as noted by scholars and experts on the Somalia conflict; other than the series of military defeats contributing to the demise of Al-Shabaab are the following:

The heightened number of civilian casualties resulting from an increased number of suicide and IED attacks, further reducing popular support; heavy taxation; and harsh interpretations of what is permitted under Sharia law, making life under Al-Shabaab miserable. The Arab spring also had negative effects on the organization, as political and financial support from Islamist fundamentalists in North Africa reportedly was reduced and funding from Libya ceased entirely as a consequence of regime change and political tumult. In addition, the supply of weapons and soldiers from Yemen has reportedly been reported for similar reasons.

Maj Y D Kilimo
HPSS



Course participants taking lunch

Training for Peace in Somalia: AMISOM Logistics Course



*Course Director
Maj Miriti
taking course
participants
through one of
the modules*

Finding troops with the essential training, equipment and logistical support to successfully undertake the complex and often risky responsibilities required of peacekeepers remains a crucial factor of mission accomplishment. According to Robert Carney, logistics know-how must be maintained, logistic is second to nothing in importance in operations and logistic training must be widespread and thorough. To underscore the critical role of logistics in Peace Support Operations, the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC), conducted the AMISOM Logistics Course at the Peace and Conflict Studies School (PCSS) from 29 July to 8 August 2013. The course was funded by the United

Kingdom through BPST and the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM (UNSOA). It was a great pleasure and learning moment for participants from various countries and organizations to take part in the course.

The Course Participants were selected officers of the rank of 2nd Lieutenant to Lieutenant Colonel who are employed as logisticians in the ongoing African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) or serving with their national forces as logisticians and earmarked for deployment in peacekeeping missions. The course participants were drawn from various countries and organizations as follows: AMISOM 8, Sierra Leone 6, Uganda 4, Burundi 4, Kenya 1 and UNSOA 1.

The aim of the course was to provide selected officers with the relevant knowledge and skills they need to be effective logisticians in a traditional or complex peace support operations.

At the end of the course the participants were expected to:

- Be familiar with the logistics operations of the UN and the AU
- Understand the rationale behind PSO logistics
- Understand Contingent Owned Equipment (COE)
- Be familiar with logistics planning required for deployments
- Understand the different components that make up integrated logistics support in a field mission

To attain the course objectives the course covered the following areas:

- United Nations headquarters and DPKO and DFS organization and functions
- Mission planning; deployment, Reception, Staging, Onward Movement & Integration, Sustainment, redeployment
- United Nations field logistics and administrative support organization
- Contingent owned equipment, finance, procurement and contracting
- National operational and logistic functions in peacekeeping missions

The course was privileged to have the guidance of a diverse and seasoned team of directing staff composed of:

- Maj Kenny B Miriti – Kenya
- Maj Evans Otieno Oduma – Kenya
- Maj Daniel Martimbeault - Canada
- Mr Patrick Duah – UNSOA
- Mr Charles Nulamba – UNSOA
- Mr Alvin Norman – UNSOA

The course was conducted through a blend of plenary session discussions, syndicate work and presentations. The Carana exercises added more value to the learning process and enabled the participants to apply the knowledge gained to a mission environment. Undoubtedly, the course exercises enhanced participants knowledge and skills on logistic planning, particularly the logical evaluation of critical factors of logistics at every stage of the planning process.

The facilitative role played by guest lectures could not be wished away as it provided course participants with the opportunity to learn from the horse's mouth. This



Issuance of course certificates to participants

enabled participants to interact with practitioners and seek answers to their burning questions. Indeed the experiences shared by guest speakers were necessary for enhancing participants' application of the lessons learnt in class.

The invaluable support offered by the IPSTC team headed by Major Miriti- the Course Director and Major Martimbeault- course coordinator, was a pillar for the success of the course. The presence of

UNSOA directing staff team in the second week was necessary to bridge the gap between theory and practice. The administrative support from other members of staff: Training Warrant officer, Course clerk, Accommodation supervisor and IC facilities, to mention but a few was equally indispensable.

The course participants visited the Maasai market in Nairobi City and the Bomas of Kenya. This provided participants with

a piece of the diversity of the rich Kenyan culture and traditions. They were entertained by traditional dancers from a cross section of the 42 tribes of Kenya. They also visited the traditional African villages (bomas) and were astonished by the traditional houses that depicted different Kenya communities.

Indeed the course was an eye opener to the participants and was pertinent to addressing some of the contemporary logistic challenges not only in AMISOM but also in other Peace Support Operations at large. The Course Director, Major Miriti exuded confidence that the course was well conducted and that learning had taken place during the nine days period of intensive facilitation. It is expected that participants will use the lessons learnt to enhance performance in their respective logistic appointments. Thanks to the sponsors for financing this important event and IPSTC would appreciate to have similar support in future endeavours.

Captain M H Mwaiha
Assistant Researcher
IPSTC



A participant presenting a plaque to Col Plans and Programmes Col Lojore

Key Events and Visits to IPSTC

The 3rd Quarter was a period full of events and visits. The period witnessed several visits to the Centre by diverse national, regional and international personalities.

Key amongst them were visits by Kenya Cabinet Secretary for Defence Amb. Raychelle Awuor Omamo, Brigadier Spencer of Royal Marines, Col Richard Decontre -DA French Embassy in Kenya, UNDP HQ Delegation, Danish delegation, National Defence staff College course participants and Brigadier Raymond Dory from Belgium.

This provided IPSTC with the opportunity to showcase its prowess as a Centre of Excellence in Peace Support Operations Training and education and Research. The IPSTC once again welcomes all stakeholders to the Centre anytime they wish to.



Ambassador Raychelle Awuor Omamo, Kenya Cabinet Secretary for Defence is taken on library procedures during her visit to IPSTC on 5th July 2013



IPSTC Director Brig Kabage welcomes Col W Verweij from Netherlands on his visit to IPSTC on 1st July 2013



Brigadier Spencer of Royal Marines is taken on a tour of IPSTC during the UK RSML RWTE visit to IPSTC on 16th July 2013



Col Muthui, Commandant PCSS briefs National Defence staff College course participants on the occasion of their visit to IPSTC on 3rd July 2013



Col Richard Decontre, DA French Embassy in Kenya visit to IPSTC on 26th July 2013



Lt Col Norihisa Urakami (centre) from Japan visit to IPSTC on 29th August 2013



Director IPSTC Brig Kabage with Brigadier Raymond Dory from Belgium during his visit to the Centre on 19th August 2013



Stephen Ursino UNDP Representative in Kenya with other members during the UNDP HQ Delegation visit to IPSTC on 25th July 2013



Col Muthui Commandant PCSS presents a plaque to the Head of Zimbabwe Military Delegation, Brigadier A. Viyano during their visit to IPSTC on 6th August 2013



Danish delegation visit to IPSTC on 23rd August 2013

AMISOM Multinational Force Headquarters Command and Staff Course

AMISOM Headquarter training consists of staff officers drawn from different countries with different cultures and doctrine. It is for this reason that IPSTC in partnership with the USA government ran AMISOM Multinational Force Headquarters Command and Staff Course in July 2013 for command and staff officers being deployed at AMISOM headquarters. The course was delivered under the auspices of African Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ACOTA) program of the United States Department of Defense.

The participants were drawn from Uganda, Djibouti, Burundi and Kenya. This course acted as a meeting point where the officers from these four countries met and shared their experience in preparation for deployment. The Course came at an opportune time since it enabled the officers to familiarize with each other before getting down to work at AMISOM headquarters.

During the Course, the participants appreciated the complex and delicate nature of peacekeeping

in Somali. They were taught the different clan politics that are at play, the Somali government structure and also other actors in the conflict. The Course also highlighted the importance of understanding the politics of the host country so as to avoid being drawn into the internal wrangles and also be able to advise senior commanders appropriately.

The course also gave the participants the opportunity to understand the social life of the Somali people. Interfering with the people's way of life or looking down on people's culture in a peacekeeping operation may create hostility against AU/UN forces. It is for this reason that this seminar endeavored to highlight the Somali culture to the participants, the dos and the don'ts.

The Course further highlighted the economic structure of Somalia. Most conflicts have economic undertones in them and as we understand the economics of a conflict we will be able to deal with them better. It is for this reason that the course gave an overview

of economic situation in Somalia, highlighting the various interest groups within the economy.

Finally the Course equipped the participants with the knowledge of the operational environment that they were to be deployed into with an in-depth analysis of the threats and various armed groups in the region. Through Map exercises and syndicate work, the participants were able to appreciate the various cells in a force headquarter, their roles and relationship with each other. All these were meant to ensure synergy amongst the staff officers once they are deployed. With all these knowledge and skills, by the end of the course, the staff officers were raring to go as some of the participants testified that they had acquired a lot of knowledge and felt like they were already operating in Somalia as the course presented a real time situation in Somalia.

Capt Ouma
SO2 Training Support Wing
PCSS/IPSTC

United Nations and Humanitarian Actors

A number of deteriorating security situations and a lack of respect for International Humanitarian Law by non-humanitarian actors operating in areas considered by aid organizations to be humanitarian spaces continue to pose great challenges for international aid delivery. The UN and NGOs alike are experiencing increasingly complex threats due to expanded field operations in fragile contexts, the blurring of the distinction between civilians and combatants, new forms of warfare and greater availability of weapons—which have endangered notions of independence and neutrality alongside staff and operations.

A new paradigm has emerged under which the presence of international organizations and NGOs is no longer universally accepted and, as a result, they have to deal with increased threats to security on top of their everyday activities. The past few years have seen a rise in high-profile direct attacks against aid agencies. As expected, the safety and security of staff has become a growing concern for aid organizations, and has resulted in a concerted effort – for the most part, within larger organizations – to institutionalize security measures through improved policy and practice. Lack of staff and funding could be severe constraints to effecting much-

needed security improvements within smaller organizations. Since these organizations tend to have a higher proportion of local staff, who therefore suffer higher insecurity incident rates. It seems that smaller NGOs, in particular, would benefit greatly from increased levels of security coordination and collaboration. In recognition of the closer working relationships being established between UN agencies, IGOs and NGOs, a Menu of Options was launched in 2001 by the Interagency Standing Committee (IASC) and Office of the United Nations Security Coordinator, UNSECOORD, to provide a framework for collaboration on security issues



Participants engage in map exercise

within shared operational spaces. A study of the effectiveness of the Menu of Options carried out in 2004 found that implementation was limited due to a number of recurring difficulties, including personality clashes between key security actors, lack of resources and constraints on information sharing. Divergent priorities, time constraints and approaches to security by potential collaborators were also said to be problematic.

Awareness of the document was found to be poor, though it is difficult to determine whether this was a cause or a consequence of the lack of implementation. On the

premise that the Menu of Options remained relevant and provided a sound framework for encouraging collaboration between actors in the humanitarian community, the IASC Taskforce on Collaborative Approaches to Security revised and re-launched it in 2006 as *Saving Lives Together: A Framework for Improving Security Arrangements Among IGOs, NGOs and UN in the Field* (the SLT framework).

In June 2009, UNDSS undertook a rapid survey to assess the current state of coordination among humanitarian actors achieved through the SLT framework. The survey found that confusion over the roles and

responsibilities expected of the UN and NGOs, dependence on personal relationships, and a lack of dedicated resources or capacity within UNDSS field offices had been the key factors hindering successful implementation of the SLT framework. This has however gradually improved and United Nations Department of Safety and Security is playing a critical role by training different stakeholders on *Safe and Secure Approaches to Field Environment (SSAFE)*. Two such courses were held at the Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS) from 2-12 September 2013.

Maj Y D Killimo
HPSS

Peace Support Missions and Sexual Violence

Peacekeepers must play an important role in protecting civilians from sexual violence during armed conflict. Since 1990s, mandates for UN peacekeeping missions explicitly include provisions for the protection of civilians. The challenge of effectively preventing and responding to conflict-related sexual violence is one that peacekeepers have rarely met. Indeed, peacekeepers have themselves committed acts of sexual violence as noted in the profiles of sexual violence during the conflicts in Burundi, Cambodia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, East Timor, Eritrea, Haiti, Liberia and Rwanda. Peacekeepers and other variety of actors like development specialists, humanitarian workers and other civilians have been involved in sexual violence. This article will focus on armed and security forces and will examine some of the strategies that have been initiated by UN/AU and other multilateral

peacekeeping agencies like troop contributing countries to better address sexual violence in peacekeeping missions. These include both initiatives to strengthen the capacity of peacekeepers to prevent and respond to sexual violence in the contexts in which they are deployed, and measures introduced to prevent and sanction sexual violence committed by peacekeepers.

In the UN Mission in Liberia for example, UN civilian police appointed a human trafficking officer with a team of seven officers. The team raided nightclubs and rescued many women and girls who had been trafficked. The women and girls concerned were handed over to local NGOs, which did not have sufficient resources to support or protect them.

The European Union military operation in the Democratic Republic of the

Congo (Operation EUFOR RD Congo) has initiated collaboration with local women's organizations to improve its response to sexual violence. Local organizations provided information on whom to contact whenever EUFOR came across cases of sexual violence in order to arrange for psychosocial, medical and legal support for the victims.

The aforementioned examples point to some of the challenges and opportunities experienced by peacekeeping missions in addressing sexual violence within the communities in which they work. Peacekeepers must be alert to the possibility that individuals might have been victims of sexual violence. They should also be trained to recognize and respond to symptoms of trauma, and to operate in a way that spares individuals from suffering further traumatic experiences.

This approach impacts upon every aspect of peacekeepers' interaction with the community, including on protocols regulating conduct during searches, at checkpoints and in consultation processes. Sensitivity to sexual violence is essential to ensuring good relations between peacekeepers and host communities and the effective fulfillment of peacekeeping mandates.

In many cases peacekeeping missions do not have the capacity to provide proper assistance to victims of sexual violence and thus enlist the support of local organizations. Consequently, cooperation with local civil society, including women's groups is essential both to identify and meet the needs of all members of the community. Local civil society organizations may also be well-placed to provide training on gender issues, and to sensitize



peacekeepers to problems of past or ongoing sexual violence in the community. Therefore collaboration with local NGOs is to be encouraged because such organizations are often under resourced and are only able to provide very limited support, assistance or protection to victims of sexual violence. It becomes crucial that peacekeeping missions must have the mandate, funds and expertise to support local civil society organizations that provide services to and advocate on behalf of survivors of sexual violence.

In many countries, the environments in which peacekeepers carry out their tasks are generally characterized by a breakdown of law and order, poverty, the dislocation of community structures, population displacement and various forms and degrees of conflict-related human suffering and trauma. The local population may be heavily reliant upon peacekeepers and humanitarian aid organizations for its subsistence. This dependency makes members of the local population extremely vulnerable like displaced women and girls in conflict contexts. Collecting firewood puts them in a particular risk of rape, abduction and murder as it has been observed in the Burundi and Sudan country profiles. To protect women collecting firewood in Darfur, African Union Civilian Police and Ceasefire Committee (CFC: the African Union protection force in Darfur) soldiers began firewood patrols, primarily in the western and southern regions. Generally, the patrols consisted of 2 or 3 large pickup trucks that followed approximately 100-200 meters behind a group of women along a predetermined route to a firewood collection



Gender Perspective in Peace Support Operations course in a plenary at IPSTC

location. The trucks carried a patrol force comprising 3 to 5 civilian police personnel up front and 6 to 8 noticeably heavily-armed CFC soldiers riding open air in the back of the vehicle.

The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children reported that the firewood patrols proved highly effective security. The lessons learned from the firewood patrols can help to guide strategies to protect women and girls from sexual violence in other peacekeeping environments. The Women's Commission for Refugee Women and Children highlighted the following issues, amongst others, as important to the success of firewood patrols in Darfur:

- Firewood patrol committees consisting of leaders from the participant groups (such as IDP women leaders), representatives from the patrolling forces (female wherever possible) and an intermediary, such as a UN agency or NGO, were crucial in building trust between participants and patrollers.
- Committees should together develop guidelines on timing, frequency, route selection, distance, and the details of how the patrols will be carried out; and should meet regularly to address any concerns

that arise during the patrols.

- The protection mandate of the patrolling force, whether soldiers, civilian police or local authorities, must be clear among all parties before the patrols begin.
- The role of the host government's security forces (in refugee settings) and the local government security forces (in IDP settings) must be clarified before the patrols begin.
- Where necessary, a translator – female wherever possible – should accompany all patrols in order to communicate between participants and patrollers.
- The commander of the patrolling force must be supportive of the engagement of the patrollers in firewood patrols, committed to following the guidelines and willing to conduct patrols on a regular and predictable basis.
- Patrollers must not engage in sexual exploitation of participants in the patrols and must be held accountable for following internationally recognized guidelines and codes of conduct for peacekeeping forces exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers and humanitarian workers.

Women and girls in these insecure environments are particularly vulnerable because they have little protection from sexual abuse, and may have few alternatives to sexual exploitation in order to survive.

This experience of fire wood escorts in Darfur showed that stopping sexual exploitation and abuse by security forces requires training and the creation of an organizational culture wherein armed forces commanders and police commissioners are well prepared to prevent, identify, halt and punish such behavior. It also requires clear and practical guidelines on prohibited behavior for peace keepers as paying for sex or having sex with persons under the age of 18 and clear complaint, investigation and disciplinary procedures. It is in the same spirit that the UN secretary General created a bulletin on "Special Measures for Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse". The Bulletin was followed by, "A comprehensive strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations."

Lt. Col Nduwimana Donatien
Applied Researcher,
IPSTC

Too Young to be caught in the Conflict Trap



Participants pose for a group photo with the IPSTC Director Brigadier Kabage at the Peace and Conflict Studies School (PCSS) Karen

The changing nature of conflict in the past two decades has seen the involvement of children in conflict. This therefore necessitates an in-depth understanding of the concept "child" what affects them, their involvement in conflict, legal framework and protection structures. A "child" is defined by several different criteria; age, relationships with family and community, parenthood, initiation, level of economic responsibility, level of education, possession of legal rights and so forth. Biologically, a child is anyone between birth and puberty or in the developmental stage of childhood, between infancy and adulthood.

The recognition of childhood as a state different from adulthood began to emerge in the 16th and 17th centuries where the society began to relate to the child not as a miniature adult but as a person of a lower level of maturity needing adult protection, love and nurturing. In the middle ages, children were portrayed in art as miniature adults with no childish characteristics. From the late 17th century onwards, children were shown playing with toys and literature for children

also began to develop at this time. Cunningham in his book, "Invention of Childhood (2006)" also found that children were represented as mini-adults.

Internationally, the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) defines a child as, "a human being below the age of 18 years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier". Regionally, the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (also called the Children's Charter) defines a child as "a human being below the age of 18 years." Like the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC), the Children's Charter is a comprehensive instrument that sets out rights and defines universal principles and norms for the status of children.

The charter recognizes the child's unique and privileged place in the African society and that African children need protection and special care. It also acknowledges that children are entitled to the enjoyment of freedom of expression, association, peaceful assembly, thought, religion, and conscience. It aims to protect the private life of the child and safeguard

the child against all forms of economic exploitation and against work that is hazardous, interferes with the child's education, or compromises his or her health or physical, social, mental, spiritual, and moral development. It calls for protection against abuse and bad treatment, negative social and cultural practices, all forms of exploitation or sexual abuse, including commercial sexual exploitation, and illegal drug use. It aims to prevent the sale and trafficking of children, kidnapping and begging of children.

Children in Africa continue to be affected by sexual exploitation, gender discrimination in education and access to health, involvement in armed conflict, migration, early marriage, differences between urban and rural areas, street begging, poverty and child labour. This does not however mean that some of the problems mentioned affect children who are in Africa only; it is a global issue of concern. For instance, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO) 2013, tens of thousands of girls and boys find themselves fighting adult wars in at least 17 countries in different regions around

the world. Some are used as fighters and do take direct part in hostilities while others are used in supportive roles (e.g. cooks, porters, messengers, or spies) or for sexual purposes. They are abducted, forcefully recruited or personally decide to enroll (for instance for survival, for protection or for vengeance). It is such a pity that the children participate because they were taken under duress and in ignorance of the consequences.

Regionally, war affected children are found in regions like Central Africa Republic, Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia. As stated by Graça Machel, former First lady of Mozambique and South Africa: "War violates every right of a child – the right to life, the right to be with family and community, the right to health, the right to the development of the personality and the right to be nurtured and protected." children are vulnerable and therefore, during conflict times they are more susceptible to child rights violation and abuse. Many are subject to abductions, rape, military recruitment, killing, maiming, and numerous forms of exploitation.

The use of children in

armed conflict is a worst form of violation of human rights and a war crime. The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict prohibits all recruitment, either voluntary or compulsory, of children under eighteen (18) by armed forces and groups. The Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court makes it a war crime, leading to individual prosecution, to conscript or enlist children under the age of (fifteen) 15 years or use them to participate actively in hostilities.

This has seen the Security Council, address this issue since 1999 and protection of children in conflict has been included in the mandates of peacekeeping operations since 2001. In these past ten years peacekeeping operations have helped release thousands of child soldiers and advocate for legislative reform. The Security Council has established a mechanism to monitor and report on the most serious violations that are committed against children in conflict. This mechanism referred to as the 1612 Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism (MRM) established in 2005 reports on six grave violations which are; killing or maiming of children, recruitment or use of children as soldiers, sexual violence against children, attacks against schools or hospitals, denial of humanitarian access for children, abduction of



Participants in a plenary

children name and shame the perpetrators.

The MRM is done with the involvement of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), other partners, armed groups (who are reported to commit violations against children), who enter into a dialogue with the mission. The aim is to develop an action plan on how to systematically end these violations. It also acts as an important tool to hold perpetrators of child rights violations to prevent further violations and enhance protection of children affected by armed conflict.

The ability to end the violations and abuses on children requires training and advocacy for the peace keeping personnel on protection, rights, welfare of the children regional and international frameworks so as to ensure maximum impact. Spearheading the growing need for training regionally, the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) conducted the First Child Protection Course at the Peace and Conflict Studies School from 17th -28th June 2013 with the sole aim of enhancing the participants' understanding

of child protection issues for the effective prevention and protection of children in peace support operations.

There was a diverse representation of twenty seven participants from the Eastern African Standby Force (EASF) as follows; Burundi, Comoros, Rwanda, Somalia, Sudan, Kenya and Uganda. The Closing Ceremony noted the attendance of high dignitaries consisting of the Japanese Ambassador to Kenya, His Excellency, Toshihisa Takata and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Country Director, Maria-Threase Keating. The Ambassador reiterated that the course was one of its own kind to be offered at IPSTC's training platform and in Africa. He further cited the importance of the course in addressing children's plights in a conflict environment. The UNDP Country Director mentioned the need of awareness on the changing nature of conflicts where drones are used and schools attacked making children victims of such attacks.

In agreement to the latter remarks, conflicts have

shown changing trends in the past two decades as revealed by the United Nations Report including the 1996 study by Graça Machel and its 10-year review which has depicted the new threats to children. Children have become more vulnerable due to new tactics of warfare, the absence of clear battlefields, the increasing number and diversification of parties to conflict that add to the complexity of conflicts and the deliberate targeting of traditional safe havens such as schools and hospitals. There have been cases of acid and gas attacks on girl students on their way to school, shootings, suicide bombings and recruitment of children on school premises. In certain circumstances, school buildings are used as military bases that become strategic targets. The deliberate attack against education infrastructures as well as the targeting of school children and teachers leads to the damage of school facilities, deaths or casualties on the children.

The use of new technologies, have led to greater risks to children during the conduct of hostilities. Wherever military tactics involve aerial attacks and drone operations, children are likely to be killed and injured. Although such attacks are not prohibited by international humanitarian law as such, they must not be disproportionate. Of growing concern is the use of children to carry explosives or plant explosive devices or even the child suicide bombers and child victim bombers leading to their own death and of other civilians. This poses the challenge on us on what we are doing to protect the children.

Catherine Cherotich
Directing Staff, IPSTC



UNDP Country Director Ms Maria Threase-Keating presenting certificates of completion to course participants

A woman carrying a child walks at a camp for internally displaced persons in Mogadishu, Somalia, while AMISOM peacekeepers stand guard (ACCORD conflict trend 2012)



Understanding Protection of Civilians in Internal Armed Conflict

Born out of the horrors of international wars in the 19th and 20th Centuries, the traditional idea of Protection of Civilians (POC) is the principle that non-combatants should so far as possible be spared the harms of war. POC as part of the humanitarian constraints on the means and methods of war are found in International Humanitarian Law (IHL), especially the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and the Additional Protocols of 1977, and the customary international law

of armed conflicts. The POC's immediate roots stretch further back to the work of Henry Dunant and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) in the 1860s, but countless cultures across the globe have developed norms protecting unarmed civilians from armed soldiers. In the first instance, then, POC is a canon of international law determining that combatants in armed conflicts must distinguish between combatants and civilians, and must

not target or disproportionately harm the latter.

The concept of the protection of civilians is a complex issue with humanitarian, political, legal, and military components. The complexity arises from the lack of agreement on what protection means among the various players. Indeed, the issue can be so complex that even within these thematic areas there may not be agreement, or confusion may

exist regarding interpretation of a mandate to protect.

Colonel Robert Manton from the Peace operations institute gives the different Scenarios of the protection of civilians. "First, protecting civilians can be conceived of as a legal obligation of military actors to abide by international humanitarian and human rights law during the conduct of war. Second, protection may be seen as the natural outcome of traditional war fighting through the defeat of a defined enemy. Third, it may be viewed as a job for humanitarian organizations aided through the provision of broad security and humanitarian space by military forces.

Recent developments in relation to the emergence of the protection of civilians came as a result of the failure of States and international organizations to stop acts of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity committed during the 1990s. These were prevalent in Africa. Countries like Liberia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone demonstrated the contemporary trend where civilians are increasingly made the targets and objectives to be won in a context where military engagements take place amongst, against or in the defence of civilians.

The protection of civilians must be considered also as programs that have to be implemented by the national armies in their always trainings in order to enhance their capacity in the relevant mater. This is important to develop their professionalism as after the cold war, most of the conflicts are within the countries and it has been very difficult for them to distinguish civilians and combatants. That was the main challenge that faced the former Rwanda army and justify why it was deeply involved in genocide and has been disqualified. African armies must

be careful when they are facing internal wars within their countries.

In the peacekeeping missions everything must be done to protect civilians. Even with the inherent limitations of UN operations, all missions must assess the threats and risks to the population and develop mission-wide strategies that take into account those vulnerabilities. Where necessary, the strategies should include a full range of measures to support and provide protection, ensure security, and to support actions that eliminate the ability of perpetrators, or potential perpetrators, to threaten the population. The development and implementation of such strategies is predicated on the fact that missions are willing to do so, they perceive that they have the authority, that personnel have adequate capacity and knowledge of how to achieve their strategic aims, and that each mission has the appropriate leadership. Leadership is particularly critical in this regard. Mission leaders need to be better selected and better prepared. They need to be held accountable for the production of mission wide strategies, the implementation of such strategies, and for reporting on their results.

According to the evolution of the protection of civilians in armed conflicts, the EAC in its treaty upholds the "recognition, promotion and protection of human and peoples' rights in accordance with the provisions of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights". The EAC presented in April 2008 its second draft Protocol on Peace and Security, in which the Partner States re-affirm their faith in the purposes and principles of, among others, the Constitutive Act of the African Union. Also, in Article 5, the Protocol specifically mentions that Partner States shall establish an EAC Early Warning System in order to facilitate the anticipation and

early responses to prevent, contain and manage conflict and crisis situations. Moreover, the 2006-2010 Development Strategy provided the development of strategies and programs aimed at the promotion and protection of human rights in East Africa.

It is in that spirit that the International Peace Support Training Centre has, in the training programs, the objectives to inform relevant protection actors about the normative, institutional and operational scope of the protection of civilians and to provide practical guidance regarding when, how and by whom POC might be implemented. These programs are strengthening African armies in the effective protection of civilians in all types of conflicts which makes them more professional when they are in peace support operations or facing intrastate or civil wars in their countries.

The reality is that each peacekeeping operation is deployed in a unique political and operational setting, has a distinct mandate and capabilities, and engages with varied and diverse protection challenges. As such, each mission charged with protection responsibilities will design and tailor its own comprehensive mission-wide strategy in consultation with its key partners and with respect to existing agency mandates on the ground. Accordingly the International Peace Support Center determines the ideal target audience from various backgrounds as civilians, police and military components at national or international levels. This contributes significantly to create a common understanding of the concept and the practical skills of the protection of civilians in internal conflicts.

Lt Col Nduwimana Donatien
Researcher IPSTC

Interns Corner

Our footprints as interns at IPSTC

"Working at IPSTC, which aims to perform at the highest level of competence in the delivery of peace support operations training in keeping with its status as an international Centre of Excellence, has armed me with more knowledge on management, working culture and relationships. The breadth of knowledge, as well as the different tasks that the Centre manages, provided an environment that was both exciting and challenging. In Curriculum Design Department where

I was based, I had the opportunity to interact with the team members who were very kind, supportive and had real patience with me. Attending Child Protection Writing Board was one of the most overwhelming experiences I had at IPSTC. I learnt more on child protection and their rights which was of assistance to my future profession.

The entire team members supported me a lot and rendered a part of their valuable time and extended

warm support in all my prospects right from day one. Some of the other aspects of this internship was how to be well prepared in a working environment; how to relate with all team members; how to handle a situation in point of fact (work ethics), was obviously learnt. All this experience will definitely help in building my career in my future endeavours.

I thank the management for giving me this chance and I do not take it for granted. It was really a great pleasure



and I make extensive regards to everyone."

Rebecca Kimani,
Peace Studies Student
Africa Nazarene University

"Being an intern at IPSTC is the greatest thing that ever happened to me since it has provided me with a wide window of opportunity to career, I'm very glad that I decided to take on an internship that better prepares me for my future career goals. It was no ordinary internship though since it was a full-time job commitment that demanded a breadth of organization knowledge, efficient priority allocation and the willingness to grow and learn on issues regarding security and peace. Working in IPSTC taught me the importance of working hard; being good in time keeping and mimicking my co-workers in the sense of watching how they interact, how they talk, and their repeated habits. For example, I noticed that everyone is always on time and takes punctuality seriously; hence I had to



be time conscience. I learnt a lot about office etiquette procedures from the different people at different departments.

I have attained great ideas and knowledge in my field of study through the research, training, interactions and advice given by different co-workers who have good experience in peace support operations.

I will forever be thankful for the great opportunity given as an intern at IPSTC."

Malyun Mohammed,
Africa Nazarene University

"At IPSTC I have realized the importance of building relationships since it is a vital part of education. I have learnt internship involves being a learner which calls for understanding that learning doesn't always come without failure but it is through these failures that we learn how to succeed and become better practitioners in the field.

The need to be flexible and be able to adapt quickly to changing situations is one of the major lessons I had the privilege of learning. I learnt to take advantage of all the opportunities offered. I enjoyed attending special presentations and events that were hosted at IPSTC. Through these events, I was able to meet new people, hear about their careers and learn about their roles in the organization. I learned something new at each event I attended.

Overall, my internship was a great experience. I gained insight on what a career in a military organization committed to building capacity for peace operations within the context of the African Peace and



Security Architecture entails. I have learnt the importance of networking and substantive practical knowledge that will aid me in future. However, the biggest lesson I learned was that even after I finish my formal education, I am always learning. I am more appreciative of the opportunity given at IPSTC since I am propelled in my journey to become a peace and conflict resolution practitioner, and I look forward to what awaits me in the future."

Nelly Marion,
Africa Nazarene University

-“I can remember the memories vividly as I came to International Peace Support Training Centre, the orientation itself was close to spectacular and I knew from that day, my stay in IPSTC was not just going to be a learning experience but also memorable at the same time, Why am I saying this, I met beautiful people who were willing to learn from me and me learning from them. This wonderful people have been able to make the Institution a Haven which many intern would die for, from the catering department to the Library, the place is not only rich in professionalism but also efficiency at its best.

An ideal intern looks for a place where he/she can not only get practical and theoretical experience but exposure to the trending world market. IPSTC has surely outshined this intern’s requirement and if I was to weigh it on a scale of ten, it will be on the good books. I got an opportunity to do some task



which was a bit different from my profession and that was coming up with a News Letter. A bit difficult but joyous and achievable at the same time, therefore as I write this article I am very happy and satisfied that I have contributed to its development. Being a proud intern of IPSTC where I got exposure from a totally different angle of expertise from my

profession. I got additional skills which is important especially in the modern competitive world.

I will surely miss IPSTC but one thing I know it will always remain in my heart.”

Robert Otieno,
Africa Nazarene University



“Being an intern in the International Peace Support Training Centre has been the best thing that has ever happened to me. The people are so friendly, disciplined, organized, and focused. I have worked as an intern in several departments of the organization, namely Disaster Management

Wing (DMT), Disaster Response Unit (DRU) and finally the Peace and Security Research Department (PSRD). All those departments have moulded me to be a better person today and in the near future. Some of my achievements include the following; In the Disaster Management

Wing, I was able to learn how to write better reports and proposals, conduct Course coordination and preparations, among other things. The Disaster Response Unit on the other hand exposed me to planning and delivery of lessons to the military participants of that unit. Participate in some of the

field exercise, facilitate and teach in some of their classes, write articles on disaster related issues and so on.

The Peace and Security Research Department on the other hand has exposed me to development of Learning plans and participation in curriculum development meetings for different courses and much more. Every day brings in a new experience in this organization and moulds one to become better, smarter, more articulate, accurate and confident.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the institution for granting me the opportunity to work with them. I hope that in so many ways I was able to return the favour by giving them my best.”

Monica S. Musyoni
Masinde Muliro University

Human Rights Course: Why the Republic of South Sudan needs it more



Group photo of participants

When the very first Human Rights Course for Republic of South Sudan took place two years ago at the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC); there was all evidence that participants were quite happy with it. In their course evaluation, they implored that their colleagues also benefit from the same course at the earliest opportunity. Their wish came to pass when IPSTC in partnership with Government of Japan, through UNDP organized the second Human Rights Course this year. The course took place from 19th - 30th August at the IPSTC Karen. It attracted a total of 21 participants three of whom were female. The course

participants were drawn from military, prisons, human rights commission and civil society. The topics covered in the course ranged from Humanitarian Planning and Assistance, Gender Roles and Relations, International Humanitarian Laws, Childhood and Impact of Conflicts on Children to mention but a few.

Republic of South Sudan is the youngest nation in Africa. Key human security challenges still face South Sudan as observed in the insufficiency of basic needs and poor status of infrastructure due to the protracted war it has suffered over years. In fact, Sudan has experienced war most of its time since its independence in 1956.



Dr. Njenga engages course participants in a discussion

The frequent tensions and clashes in parts of South Sudan even after the referendum and independence connote the need to invest in the rule of law and security sector reforms. This would

provide long term solution to the social- political problems and encourage stability in the region at large.

During the official closure of the course, the Diplomatic Attachee for Republic of South Sudan applauded the Japanese Government, the UNDP, IPSTC, EASFCOM and the RSS Government for working together to ensure the success of the course. He promised to continue strengthening the partnership for continued capacity building for the good of the Republic of South Sudan.

Kibisu Kennedy
Directing staff, IPSTC



Participants in a plenary session



The media interviews rebels after a demonstration on Protection of civilians in Carana at HPSS

Media in Peace Support Operations Course

The notion that the news media constitute an important instrument in Africa can no longer be wished away. It has proved to be an important tool for shaping public opinion and arousing feelings. Therefore attempting to form, control and manipulate opinions both at national and international level is often resisted by the media, civil society and civilians. A study conducted by Marjan Malesic in Croatia and Serbia, "The Role of Mass Media in the Serbian-Croatian Conflict (SPF Report no 164), expounds on the role of Media and its effects. Similarly in Africa, the Conflicts in Kenya (2007/8), Rwanda (1994), Egypt and Syria (Ongoing) have all been

amplified by Media. The effects may be both positive and Negative.

Media is an effective tool for sharing information and can be used to enhance Peace Support Operations. However, for a long time, many practitioners in the field had not nurtured the Standard Operation Procedures and professionalism that is required in Peace Support Operations (SOPs). Such SOPs and professionalism can only be acquired through capacity building. It is in recognition of this need that the Media in PSO course was organized by IPSTC. Media in Peace Support Operations Course was conducted on 2nd to 13th September, 2013. The two- week course

attracted a total of 24 participants drawn from countries in Eastern Africa; Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Seychelles, Tanzania and Uganda.

The purpose of the course was to explore a viable and coherent understanding of media and PSO practice among Eastern Africa regional media practitioners. It was also meant to provide a clearer perspective of standard operating procedures, best practices and underlying guiding principles in media operations during conflict situations in the Eastern Africa region. Actual practitioners were invited to take part in the facilitation and hence

share their experiences and opinions about streamlining media in PSOs. The participants benefited from various subject matter experts working in the field of Media in PSO, beside both theoretical and practical knowledge and skills gained.

The course was also expected to further assist in improving multinational cooperation on current and future peace support operations in the region with the aim of forging unified approach to media issues. The course was funded by the British Peace Support Team-East Africa (BPST-EA).

Mr. Kennedy Kibisu
Directing staff IPSTC

IPSTC undertakes Inaugural Mobile Training Team Course in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

In line with its mission, IPSTC conducted its Maiden Mobile Training at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The idea of having Mobile Training Teams (henceforth MTT) was conceptualized early in the year 2011. Under the directorship of Brigadier General Robert Kabage, the Director of IPSTC, the concept paper on the implementation was signed in 2012. Having MTTs would give IPSTC an increased capacity to deliver training beyond its physical confines.

By April of the following year, the Maiden MTT was at the planning stages. The African Union (AU) was engaging IPSTC to have a partnership in the delivery of the Exercise Planning Process Course (EPPC), at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. This course was meant to build capacity of the AU Personnel in preparation for the upcoming EXERCISE AMANI AFRICA II, which was scheduled to take place in Lesotho in October 2014.

German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) and Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation (DMTC), Canada, were the sponsors of the training. IPSTC took a lead role in the course planning, administration and execution.

The course was preceded by a Writing Board at the AU Headquarters. MS Daniela Link (GIZ), Major Mwachinalo (Kenya), Major Makau (Kenya), Major Eric Cottenoir (Canada), Captain Jonathon Mclean (Canada) and Supt Gariba Papi (Ghana) were the facilitation team.

The 22 participants in the course were drawn from Burundi, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Nigeria, Mali, Somali, Ethiopia,



Major Makau, (Author) receives a certificate of Facilitation from the Director IPSTC, Brigadier Kabage

Egypt, Kenya, Republic of South Africa, Rwanda, Cameroon and Niger. The Civilian, Police and Military components were all represented in the course, providing expertise and subject matter expertise in the various fields.

70% of the course duration was dedicated to practical discussions by the participants within syndicate groups. The participants had a wealth of experience in exercise planning and conduct, having participated in previous exercises at National and Regional level.



Course participants in a class discussion



Brigadier General Kabage launching the IPSTC Mobile Training Team course website after the Closing ceremony

This experience was incorporated into the syndicate and plenary discussions.

The training, though initially scheduled to be conducted at the AU Log House, was conducted at Hotel Desalegn, Addis Ababa, right across the European Union offices in Addis Ababa.

During the Mid weekend, a cultural tour was organized for the facilitators and participants. The course participants visited several heritage sites within Addis Ababa, including the Ethiopian National Museum, Addis Ababa University, the 1922 Holy Trinity Cathedral, the African Union headquarters, among other places.

All said and done, the EPPC MTT at Addis was a great milestone for IPSTC, and provided the much required “test through the fire” for the first Mobile Training Team by the International Peace Support Training Centre, Kenya. Valuable lessons that would inform the conduct of future IPSTC MTTs were learnt.

IPSTC wishes to thank their Partners the African Union (AU), German Society for International



The class visiting Addis Ababa University at the weekend (Cultural Tour)

Cooperation (GIZ) and Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation (DMTC), Canada for their invaluable support.

The Director IPSTC, Brigadier Kabage, honoured the closing ceremony with his presence as the chief guest. Besides the closing ceremony where all participants

and facilitators were given certificates, there was another ceremony where the Director officially launched the IPSTC Mobile Training Teams Website. <http://mobiletrainingteams.wordpress.com/>

Major Makau S.M.
Curriculum Developer, IPSTC

Conflict Analysis and Prevention- The Solution To Africas' Problems

Conflict Analysis and Prevention is a critical component of Conflict Prevention Studies that helps highlight potential sources of conflict. It also helps in developing strategies that would sustainably manage conflict by providing the appropriate tools to delve into the matter. The International Peace Support Centre (IPSTC) together with EASFCOM organized a 10- day Conflict Analysis and Prevention course. This endeavour is aimed at contributing to the strengthening of capacities to alleviate violent conflict in Africa through creation of a resource-pool of expertise. The target audience for this course was top and middle level practitioners working with relevant government Institutions. They originated from ten different countries in Eastern Africa Region namely; Burundi, Comoros, Ethiopia, Kenya, Djibouti, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda. One more participant from Romania attended the course. A total of 6 females and 17 males attended the Conflict

Analysis and Prevention course. The attendees were composed of military, police and civilians.

The course aim was to enhance participants understanding of conflict by equipping them with tools and competencies to enable them identify and interpret issues in conflict systems. This would inform and influence decision making processes in participants' respective organizations and work environments hence ensuring effective programming recommendations in multi-dimensional contexts. By all means, the objectives of the course were greatly achieved. The course employed adult-centered methodology which accelerated participation and interaction amongst the learners. A mixture of lectures, CARANA case studies and discussions were integrated and used during the delivery of the course. Effort was made to enhance participants' facilitation skills through mentorship.

The Conflict Analysis and Prevention Course provided the participants

an opportunity to better understand and diagnose the problems that have been ailing our continent hence make informed decision on effective channels to promoting sustainable peace. All the knowledge and skills acquired coupled by their vantage positions as policy makers, and policy implementers is aimed at contributing to improving on conflict resolution processes while creating contemporary solutions in peace management.

Notwithstanding, prevention of armed conflict can always be said to be the best solution compared to attempting to stop an ongoing violent conflict. Un-prevented conflict within states quickly escalate into endemic violent wars when not deterred in time. This in the long time results into undue suffering and stagnated development of a country. It also diverts focus from priorities to emergencies other than long term developmental programmes. It is in this regard that Conflict Analysis and



Group photo of course participants



Mr. Kennedy Kibisu, course coordinator facilitating in one of the sessions

Prevention Course is rapidly gaining ground to become the prescriptive solution to violent conflict globally. The course also illustrates the mechanisms to alleviate conflicts into degenerating, and also encourages other conflict resolution mechanisms that are both healthy and sustainable in conflict management. To date more countries are getting convinced that violent war can be stemmed out and this cannot happen in the absence of conflict analysis and prevention knowledge and skills. The course participants set out to have their capacities built for this.

In search for durable solutions to arrest or prevent the implosion of our states and strengthen the quality of governance, it is now accepted logic that the management and prevention of violence and conflict is not the sole preserve of the state. More importantly non-state actors equally have a stake in building the capacities and establishing the institutions and mechanisms for preventing violence and conflict.

Also, national, sub-regional and regional organisations have a role to play. In the past, the principle was of non-interference in your neighbours affairs. Currently, the outstanding principle is one of non-indifference. No state should be indifferent to the on- goings within the neighbouring states. Lessons learnt previously indicate that states cannot hold their hands akimbo as the ruling elite in neighbouring countries commit terror against its citizenry. In preparing to more effectively engage on issues that concern all of us, even if they happen without territorial borders. This course scored highest mark on this ability to sensitize the participants.

Finally, is the emerging international consensus on a "responsibility to protect". Most members of the global community now agree that mass atrocities committed within a state's borders can be considered as threats to international peace and security. In 2005, the UN World Summit accepted the principle of individual and collective

responsibility to protect populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity. This is a sharp departure from the rights of sovereign states and highlights attention on their obligations to their populations. One of the key elements of the responsibility to protect rests in early warning and early analysis. Timely analysis of the conditions within a country and providing early warning of these issues to both national and international actors can prevent the perpetration of mass violence against citizens.

Given the wide choice of participants by both geographic and institutional representation, it is greatly hoped that the participants were fully equipped to make a difference in their respective places of work, and respective organizations.

Kennedy Kibisu
Directing Staff
IPSTC

IPSTC Fourth Quarter Course Calendar 2013

PEACE & CONFLICT STUDIES SCHOOL

S/No	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE
1	Protection of Civilians for Somalia 1-11 October 13	11 days course funded by UNDP/Japan	Staff to be deployed to Somalia missions
2	RSML 14-25 October 2013	12 day course funded by UK	Senior officers for potential deployment to UN/AU missions
3	WK SSR 29-31 October 13	3 Days Event funded by UNDP/ Japan	Staff involved in SSR
4	Governance, Diplomacy, Peace & Security 1-11 October 13	11 days course funded by GIZ	EASF senior military, police and civilian officers
5	Human Rights 4-15 November 13	12 days course funded by EU	Participants from EASF
6	AMISOM LOG 18-29 November 13	12 days course funded by UK UNSOA	AMISOM staff
7	Rule of Law 4-15 November 13	12 days course funded by UNDP/Japan	Participants from IGAD member states
8	SGBV 18-29 November 13	12 days course funded by UNDP/Japan	Selected individuals serving or will be serving in various positions within EASFCOM, EAC, IGAD, ICGLR, and IPSTC. They include military, police and civilians of the equivalent rank of captain to colonel
9	Physical security & stockpile management 9-13 December 13	5 days course funded by MSAG	UNDP

HUMANITARIAN PEACE SUPPORT SCHOOL

S/No	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE
10	Gender Perspective in PSO 30 September - 4 October 13	5 days course funded by AFRICOM	Multi-dimensional staff to be deployed in Peace support operation
11	Personal safety & security 30 September-4 October	5 days course funded by RED R UK	Red R UK
12	SSAFE 7-10 October 13	4 days course funded by UNDSS	EASF
13	Specialised Police course on Negotiation 17-25 October 13	9 days course funded by EU	EASF police to be deployed to missions
14	Weapon Contamination Training 20-25 October 13	6 days course funded by ICRC	ICRC
15	MILOBS 21 October-8 November 13	19 days course funded by Australia	Military, police and civilian to be deployed to observer missions from EASFCOM, UNDPKO, HQ AU/ASF
16	HEAT 26 October -13 November	9 days course funded by ICRC	Selected individuals deployed or to be deployed to mission
17	Operational management of Prison 11- 22 November 13	12 days course funded by UNDP/Japan	Selected Participants from EASF
18	AMISOM Force HQ 4-29 November 13	26 days course funded by ACOTA	AMISOM staff
19	UNSOC 25 November -13 December 13	17 days course funded by DMTC	Multi-dimensional staff to be deployed in PSO
20	SSAFE 18-21 November 13	4 days course funded by UNDSS	EASF
21	WEC 17-29 November 13	13 days course funded by ICRC	ICRC
22	SSAFE 2-5 December 13	4 days course funded by UNDSS	EASF

PEACE AND SECURITY RESEARCH DEPARTMENT

S/No	EVENT	DESCRIPTION	TARGET AUDIENCE
23	Security Sector Development Workshop for Somalia 14-16 October 2013	3 days event funded by UNDP/ Japan	Individuals from core security institutions, management and oversight bodies, justice and the rule of law, Non-Statutory security forces, civil society actors, and community based organisations
24	Somalia Research Symposium 17 October 2013	1 day event funded by UNDP/ Japan	Regional experts on peace and security
25	National Dialogue and Reconciliation workshop for Somalia 29-31 October 2013	3 days event funded by UNDP/ Japan	Individuals committed to reconciliation, human rights or social justice, and who have the potential to make significant contributions to reconciliation initiatives in Somalia
26	2014 Research Agenda Workshop December 2013	1 day event funded by UNDP/ Japan	Regional experts on peace and security



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