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NOTE

From : Secretariat
To : Delegations

Subject : Concept for the European Union (EU) Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) - Operation ALTHEA

Delegations will find attached a sanitised version of the document “Concept for the European Union (EU) Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) - Operation ALTHEA”.

**Concept for the European Union (EU) Military Operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH) -
Operation ALTHEA**

1. **SITUATION.** Following NATO's decision to conclude its SFOR operation in BiH by the end of 2004 and the adoption of UNSCR 1551 (2004), the EU Council adopted the Joint Action on the EU military operation in BiH, including a military component to be operational from Dec 04. This EU-led military operation will be carried out with recourse to NATO common assets and capabilities. On the basis of the agreed General Concept, the EU has selected a Military Strategic Option, and a Police Strategic Option. The Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe (DSACEUR) has been appointed the Operation Commander (OpCdr) for the military component of this ESDP mission, with the EU Operation Headquarters (OHQ) located at SHAPE.
 - a. **Political Context.** In December 2003, *"The European Council confirmed the EU's readiness for an ESDP-mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina, including a military component based on the agreed Berlin Plus arrangements. The European Council welcomed NATO's readiness to start consultation with the EU. It invited the incoming Presidency and the EU Secretary General/High Representative (SG/HR) to take the matter forward in accordance with the agreed procedures"*. At the Istanbul Summit on 28 June 2004, NATO agreed to conclude the Alliance's successful SFOR operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and welcomed the readiness of the EU to deploy a new and distinct UN-mandated Chapter VII mission in the country, based on the Berlin Plus arrangements agreed between the two organisations. Following the UNSCR 1551 (2004) on 9 July 2004, which welcomed NATO's decision to conclude SFOR as well as the EU's intention to launch a follow-on mission in BiH, including a military component, starting in December. The EU Council decided that the EU shall conduct a military operation in BiH named "ALTHEA" in order to provide deterrence and continued compliance as specified in Annexes 1-A and 2 of the General Framework Agreement for Peace (GFAP) in BiH and to contribute to a safe and secure environment in BiH, in line with its mandate, required to achieve core tasks of the High

Representative (HR's) Mission Implementation Plan (MIP) and the Stabilisation and Association Process (SAP). This operation shall be part of the overall ESDP mission in BiH.

b. EU Political Objectives. A strong commitment of the International Community (IC) remains necessary in BiH to help building a secure, self-sustaining and democratic BiH. The Thessaloniki Declaration confirmed that the future of the Western Balkans is within the EU. The SAP is the framework for the European course of BiH, all the way to future accession. It is within this wider context of European integration that a comprehensive policy for addressing BiH's security needs has to be situated.

(1) Long Term Objective. A stable, viable, peaceful and multiethnic BiH, co-operating peacefully with its neighbours and irreversibly on track towards EU membership.

(2) Medium Term Objective. Supporting BiH's progress towards EU integration by its own efforts, by contributing to a safe and secure environment with the objective of signing the Stabilisation and Association Agreement (SAA). This complements the HR/EU Special Representative's (EUSR) Mission Implementation Plan (MIP) and the end of the EU's executive role in peace implementation, including through gradual transfer of ownership to BiH authorities.

(3) Short Term objectives. To ensure a seamless transition from SFOR to EU Force (EUFOR) in order to help maintain a secure environment for the implementation of the GFAP, as highlighted in the MIP, and the strengthening of local capacity building through support of the BiH authorities in implementing the 16 conditions in the feasibility study as part of the SAP, to make sure that the SAP and the implementation of the MIP reinforce one another.

- c. **Political Military Objective.** To contribute to a safe and secure environment for the achievement of the necessary political and economic reforms by leading a military operation to take over the responsibility to fulfil the role specified in Annexes 1A and 2 of the GFAP and to provide support to the OHR's MIP, within means and capabilities, in order to support the EU's short and medium-term political objectives.
- d. **Military End-state.** An EU assessment, taking into account the views of the BiH authorities, judging that progress towards lasting stability in the country is self-sustaining to the extent that:
- (1) Military and stabilisation tasks in Annex 1A and 2 of the GFAP have been accomplished;
 - (2) Democratically controlled BiH security capabilities are in place, able to maintain lasting stability;
 - (3) The OHR's MIP no longer needs support by military means to back the EU's short and medium term political objectives.
- e. **Exit Strategy.**
- (1) The military exit strategy is to be based on progress in building efficient state level structures, in particular in the area of security and defence. This objective is primarily the responsibility of the BiH government assisted by EU civilian actors. Moreover, it will be important to avoid the creation of a culture of dependence upon EUFOR.
 - (2) EUFOR should be prepared to contribute to the overall assessment process regarding progress for the ESDP mission in BiH. In this context, when requested, inputs should be provided concerning progress towards the military exit strategy, specifically with regard to military and security aspects.¹

¹ In accordance with paragraph 18 of the General Concept (Ref. G)

f. Political Limitations.

- (1) The activities of the EU military component need to take into account the role and objectives of other international actors in BiH, including the UN, the High Representatives, NATO, the OSCE, the Council of Europe, the World Bank and the IMF.
- (2) The EU military operation will be conducted taking into account NATO residual tasks in BiH.
- (3) The necessity to respect the sovereignty of BiH;
- (4) The necessity to take into account the overall political co-ordination role of the EUSR for BiH;
- (5) The initial adoption of the Deterrent Presence Profile of SFOR in its final rotation, with a capability level of around 7,000 troops, and related logistic support.

g. Given Assumptions.

- (1) Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA) and Host Nation Support (HNS) arrangements will be established;
- (2) Member States and non-EU Troop Contributing Nations (TCN) will provide the necessary capabilities;
- (3) A new UNSCR will be adopted prior to the deployment of EUFOR detailing its mandate and role, based on Chapter VII of the UN Charter and will grant EUFOR full authority under the GFAP.
- (4) As initially part of EUFOR the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) style capability will have executive powers, derived from EUFOR mandate, and will be fully equipped with weapons and non-lethal means in accordance with national regulations.

h. Friendly Forces.

(1) NATO HQ Sarajevo. At the Istanbul Summit on 28 June 2004 NATO agreed to conclude the Alliance's successful SFOR operation in BiH. NATO's long-term political commitment to BiH remains unchanged and the establishment of NATO HQ Sarajevo will constitute NATO's residual military presence in the country. This NATO HQ shall be led by a Senior Military Representative (SMR).

i. Military Tasks. In accordance with the military tasks as defined in the IMD the OpCdr has to carry out the following key tasks:

(1) Key Military Tasks (KMTs).

- (a) Provide a robust military presence in order to: deter recidivist elements of the BiH armed forces and other armed groups; monitor and ensure continued compliance with the military aspects of the GFAP; and prevent a resumption of violence;
- (b) Contribute to a safe and secure environment, support the OHR's MIP and prevent efforts to reverse peace implementation, so that all EU and other International Community (IC) actors may carry out their responsibilities whilst ensuring own force protection (including counter terrorism) and freedom of movement;
- (c) Conduct information operations (INFO OPS) in support of the EU political objectives;
- (d) Manage any residual aspects of the GFAP including airspace management, advice on de-mining and ordnance disposal, and weapon collection programmes.

(2) Key Supporting Tasks (KSTs).

- (a) Provide support, within means and capabilities, in co-ordination with the EU and IC actors, to the OHR's MIP core tasks and other civil implementation organisations regarding counter-terrorism, the fight against organised crime, DPRE returns, the rule of law and implementation of other civilian aspects of the GFAP;
- (b) Assist in defence reform and provision of military and technical advice to BiH authorities as appropriate over security issues;
- (c) Provide support to the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia (ICTY) and relevant authorities, including the detention of PIFWCs;
- (d) Provide, in extremis, evacuation support within means and capabilities to IC officials.

2. **MISSION.** To conduct the EU-led operation in BiH, under the political control and strategic direction of the PSC, under the authority of the Council, in order to provide deterrence, continued compliance with the responsibility to fulfil the role specified in Annexes 1A and 2 of the GFAP and to contribute to the safe and secure environment in line with its mandate required to achieve core tasks of OHR's MIP and the SAP.

3. **EXECUTION.**

a. **Planning Assumptions.**

- (1) UNSCR 1551 (2004) establishes that current SOFAs apply to EUFOR. Concurrence from the parties concerned will be received. This guarantees that EUFOR benefits from the same privileges currently enjoyed by SFOR.

- (2) Mission essential equipment, capabilities and facilities not provided through Berlin Plus arrangements, by Member States or by Third Countries/TCN will be sourced by other means.
- (3) The bulk of the SFOR forces presently deployed in BiH will be transferred to the EUFOR by the respective TCNs.
- (4) TCNs may establish Mutual Support Agreements (or arrangements) (MSA) between each other and with EUFOR, in order to obtain better logistic co-ordination and co-operation.
- (5) Sufficient contracting authority, in accordance with Athena and agreed rules for procurement by the Special Committee, and funding from the approved operational budget will be available for financing the common cost.
- (6) Practical arrangements in accordance with the already existing EU/NATO security agreement will be put in place between the EU and NATO at all levels of command to enable smooth, effective and efficient exchange of classified information and intelligence.
- (7) The appropriate BiH civil authorities and IOs will fulfil their responsibilities for the further civil implementation of the GFAP and assume appropriate tasks from EUFOR as soon as they are able to do so.
- (8) HNS from EU countries will be available. HNS from countries in the Balkans will remain limited.
- (9) The designated Cdr EUFOR is authorised to liaise directly with COMKFOR as required whilst keeping the Head of the EU Command Element (EUCE) in JFC Naples informed. ¹

¹ NATO MCM 163-04

- (10) TOA of forces will follow immediately upon HQ EUFOR achieving FOC.
- (11) Transit authority through Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro is provided by UNSCR 1551 of 2004 .
- (12) Other non-BiH national forces could be deployed in BiH. In order to facilitate the co-operation and co-ordination with these forces bilateral arrangements and strong liaison elements may be established as appropriate.

b. Commander's Analysis.

- (1) Military Centre of Gravity. A capable and credible EU military force able to conduct a successful military operation within the framework of the Joint Action, in co-ordination with the other EU actors, the Government of BiH and international actors.
- (2) Military Objectives.
 - (a) To be able to conduct military operations in BiH from the outset at an operational tempo at least similar to that of SFOR.
 - (b) Establish mechanisms within the Command Structure assuring timely and close co-ordination with other EU Actors, NATO and other relevant IO/NGO at all levels.
 - (c) Ensure the widespread perception among the target audiences in BiH of the fact that EUFOR is a credible military force with a robust capacity to deal with any threat to stability.
 - (d) Establish and maintain responsive reserve forces at appropriate levels with the assured ability to react in a timely and credible manner.

- (e) Establish organisations and procedures flexible enough to adapt force structure and posture when required.
- (f) Ensure that the IPU style capability tasks will be defined within EUFOR tasks.
- (g) Define the transition process to transfer to BiH civilian authorities the full control of airspace management without prejudice to EUFOR's operational requirement.
- (h) Establish the HQ EUFOR in Sarajevo (Camp Butmir), in building 200, in a manner that ensures visibility and clear identification of the EU military operation in BiH.

c. **Commander's Intent.** My intent is to prevent the return of major violence and to implement the military aspects of the GFAP by maintaining a robust EU military presence, seamlessly deployed in continuation of the SFOR Deterrence Presence Profile.

EUFOR will be established as a credible military force fully operational from Day 1, deployed in 3 regional Task Forces (TF) to demonstrate EU resolve and engagement throughout the country.

An IPU style capability will primarily provide policing capacities to support the HR's MIP and EUFOR relevant KSTs.

INFO OPS and Public Information (PI) campaigns will be conducted, in co-ordination with the IC and NATO, in order to provide consistent and reinforcing messages in support of EU political objectives, and the EUFOR deployment.

Close co-ordination of effort with the EUSR will be ensured, and military activity will be coherent with and supportive of the OHR MIP.

Local liaison arrangements will be put in place both with IOs and with local authorities.

By collocating HQ EUFOR with NATO HQ Sarajevo, a close relationship will be promoted with the remaining NATO presence in BiH, practical delineation of tasks will be facilitated and assets and facilities will be shared.

In the event that the security situation deteriorates, prompt and resolute action will be taken. A concept for the deployment of reserves will be developed, to include use of EU TACRES, and procedures for the calling forward and engagement of Operational and Strategic Reserves.

d. Conduct of Operations.

- (1) Phase I: Transition. This phase will start at CONOPS approval and details will be co-ordinated between the EU and NATO. It will end with the launch of the Operation ALTHEA in BiH (D-Day).
- (2) Phase II: Execution. This phase starts with the termination of SFOR and launch of Operation ALTHEA in BiH. EUFOR will initially conduct operations under a Deterrent Presence Profile. During this phase, EUFOR and EU C2 will maintain the ability to adapt to changes in the situation by using assets and capabilities that provide sufficient situation awareness. The ability to command and conduct operations involving operational and strategic reserves will be developed and maintained through regular operational rehearsals. Progress towards mission accomplishment, completion of KMTs and KSTs and the desired endstate will be measured at approximately six-month intervals. The size and profile of the EU-led military force will be adapted commensurate with changes in the operational environment and achievement of KMTs and KSTs. This phase ends with the achievement of the military end-state.

- (3) Phase III: Redeployment. The redeployment will commence on the date of a decision of the Council, once the military end-state is achieved and will finish when all EU military forces, their related support, and national elements have departed from the AOO and relevant HQs.

e. **Military Tasks.**

(Annex B).

f. **Forces and Resources.**

(1) Capabilities and resources.

- (a) HQ EUFOR. The HQ EUFOR and NHQ Sarajevo will be collocated in Camp BUTMIR. The HQ EUFOR will require sufficient C3 infrastructure to command the three TF HQs including Combat Support (CS), Combat Service Support (CSS) units, the IPU style capability and reserve forces.
- (b) Reserves. Reserve Operations will be conducted following NATO-EU agreement on mutual TACRES support and OTHF deployment to BiH and any subsequent agreement involving EUFOR.
- (c) Task Forces (TF). The three TF will include a deterrent component composed of Company Teams and a Situation Awareness Structure including Liaison and Observation Teams (LOT), Verification Teams (VT). The necessary C2, Combat Support (CS) and Combat Service Support (CSS) will complete the TF. The Cdr EUFOR will co-ordinate the Intelligence Activities of the TFs.
- (d) Integrated Police Unit (IPU) style capability. An IPU style capability will be initially deployed as part of EUFOR to contribute to a secure environment in BiH throughout with a capacity in the maintenance of public order, to

support civilian implementation of the GFAP and the OHR MIP and to contribute to providing a tactical reserve. Force Generation for this unit will be conducted in consultation with DGE IX/Police Unit.

- (e) Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD), Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and Mine Clearing. The EOD Detachment will operate in direct support of the mission as required by the Cdr EUFOR and advice on the safe and secure storage at the Ammunition Storage Sites. It is not to be used for demining which is a HN responsibility. The teams must be capable of deploying in their own vehicles and have equipment capable of locating, clearing and disposing of unexploded ordnance, IEDs and mines.
- (f) Rotary Wing Support. Light and medium aviation assets are required to support C2, reconnaissance and troop and logistic movements in order to provide Cdr EUFOR with capabilities to fulfil the mission.
- (g) Strategic lift. Strategic lift includes sealift and/or air lift to deploy and to sustain troops and units into the AOO including OTH Reserve Forces.
- (h) Health and Medical Support. The entire spectrum of medical care and support must be provided to include a theatre role 3 deployed hospitalisation facility and adequate role 2 facilities.
- (i) Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC). Intra-AOO evacuation to higher-level care facilities will be performed via ground and air ambulances (both fixed and rotary wing). Inter-AOO or strategic evacuation will be provided via national or multinational arrangements.

g. Co-ordinating Instructions.

(1) Timings.

- (a) 07 September 04 (TBC) - Force Generation Conference and Manning Conference for HQ EUFOR is planned.

- (b) 01 October 04 – HQ EUFOR and EUCE Initial Operating Capability (IOC)¹.
- (c) Early December 04 (date TBD, pending date for ToA) – HQ EUFOR and EUCE Full Operating Capability (FOC).²
- (d) ToA of forces on the day before the launch of the EU military mission in BiH.

(2) Civil Military Co-ordination (CMCO)

- (a) The Cdr EUFOR has to maintain close co-ordination with the EUSR and all other EU actors in the area, taking account of the politically co-ordinating role of the EUSR.
- (b) To ensure proper guidance regarding the liaison and co-ordination with all other international actors in BiH, especially with OSCE.
- (c) Co-ordination with the EUPM is necessary in order to ensure consistency and synergy in the military operation within the broader context of EU activities but without any prejudice to the EUFOR military operational capability.

- (3) Force Protection: EUFOR will plan and take appropriate precautions and protective measures against adversaries that would use all means available to degrade its operational effectiveness. Appropriate force protection planning measures will be used, where appropriate, to ensure that EUFOR is equipped and trained to operate in a hostile environment. Establishing a co-ordinated Warning and Reporting System will be a priority. All levels of command will deploy all available means to protect the forces and plan responsive recuperation procedures.

¹ IOC: When the HQ will have the ability to plan.

² FOC: When the HQ will have the ability to operate

Host Nation will develop its own Force Protection capabilities. Force Protection measures will be extended to NATO presence in the area (where applicable).

- (4) CIMIC. Effective civil-military co-operation with both the BiH authorities at all levels and all IOs/NGOs and agencies operating within BiH will be crucial to success and the necessary resources to conduct this work will be made available. The overall CIMIC effort should be co-ordinated with the information strategy.
- (5) Legal. Full assistance will be provided by the OHQ during the negotiation of SOFAs and other appropriate agreements as necessary. In addition, full support will be provided in the screening of current SFOR contracts to assess their operational and financial relevance for the EU operation, as well as for the processing of actual contracts and their subsequent management, in order to ensure full compliance with the ongoing plans, the legal status and to highlight any shortcoming that could hamper the military operation.
- (6) Use of Force. The use of force policy shall draw on the “Use of Force Concept in EU-led Military CMOs” including its annexed Rules of Engagement (ROE) compendium.
 - (a) The use of force policy will reflect the authority to use necessary force consistent with mission accomplishment and self-defence the principles of necessity and proportionality and the observance of International Law. Moreover, it will permit the protection of International Community personnel, mission essential property and categories of personnel designated by the OpCdr. The use of force in self-defence will complement the ROE tailored to EUFOR’s posture and capabilities. Such policies should allow the force to respond to violations if required, commensurate with the capabilities of the force.
 - (b) Without prejudice to national restrictions and in accordance with EU operational doctrine, ROEs will be applicable to all EU-led forces at all time and in all places. Specific tasks may require adequate additional ROEs, which will need to be identified in the ROEREQ.

- (c) The residual presence of NATO, and its involvement in counter-terrorism, whilst ensuring force protection, and PIFWC operations, will require the examination and co-ordination of the ROEs through arrangements at FCdr's level. The necessary cohesion between the ROEs employed by the EU and NATO will be detailed, thus allowing for effective co-operation and mutual support. Concerning Reserve Forces, these units must be prepared to operate under KFOR or EUFOR set of ROEs. This will require appropriate rehearsals of the OTHF under the authority of the OpCdr.
 - (d) An aide-memoire will provide guidance to commanders on the standard of behaviour, gender issues and human trafficking.
- (7) Co-operation with ICTY. The ICTY is competent to prosecute persons responsible for serious violations of International Humanitarian Law committed in the territory of the former Yugoslavia since 1991. ICTY acts under Chapter VII of the UN Charter. ICTY is authorised by, and reports to, the UN Security Council on its mandate.

The ICTY and national courts have concurrent jurisdiction to prosecute war crimes but the ICTY has primacy over the national courts and cases may be deferred to the Tribunal.

- (8) IPU style capability assets.
- (a) EUSR Support. Appropriate co-ordination arrangements and liaison will be established between the Cdr EUFOR and the EUSR regarding his possibility to draw on the IPU style capability assets if needed, subject to the agreement of the Cdr EUFOR. If this is the case, the Cdr EUFOR plan and direct such IPU operations in close co-operation with EUSR, subject to the requirements of operational security. In case an agreement is not forthcoming, the EUSR and the Cdr EUFOR will seek guidance through their respective chains of command.

(b) Investigation Operations Policy. As a principle, the responsibility of conducting investigations in BiH lies with the local authorities. Nevertheless, the tasks of the IPU style capability could include support for investigations undertaken by the OHR or by the local police, assisted by the EUPM, involving high profile cases. This support will be provided under the following conditions:

- The support will be activated upon request of the EUSR/HR with the agreement of the Cdr EUFOR;
- The support will be provided accordance with the EUFOR mandate;
- The Cdr EUFOR will plan and direct the support in close co-operation with the EUSR and subject to the requirements of operational security;
- A close and permanent co-ordination needs to be maintained with the OHR Rule of Law pillar and the EUPM, as necessary;
- The results of such support will be processed in the local judicial system by the OHR/local authorities or by the ICTY;

(9) Civil Disturbance Operations Policy. This policy will be based on a three layers approach as follows:

- (a) The primary responsibility for dealing with civil disturbance operations in BiH lies with the local police;
- (b) IPU riot and crowd control capacities can be used in support of and/or back up of the local police when required;
- (c) Self extracting capacity: Long-term experience in the Balkans has shown that troops can become involved in operations to extract themselves or Persons with Designated Special Status or to protect Property with Designated Special Status, from Civil Disturbance Situations (CDS).

Therefore, all units should at least be capable of self-extracting from CDS and every contingent should have adequate self protection capabilities against hostile and aggressive crowds that disturb public order.

(10) Mission Review.

- (a) As part of the EU mission review process, a six monthly review will be held to enable the PSC to determine what changes should be made to the size, mandate and tasks of EUFOR and when the EU military operation should be terminated. In accordance with the EU Crisis Management Procedures the PSC will regularly keep NATO informed of the outcome of this process.
- (b) The same six monthly review will apply for the IPU style capability, to enable the PSC to determine, taking account the security situation and the advice from the Cdr EUFOR in conjunction with advice from the HR/EUSR, and HoM EUPM, whether all or part of the IPU style capability should be repositioned within the EUSR domain for duties in support of the Rule of Law, including the support to SIPA. In this case the composition of the police and military missions will be reviewed.

(11) Manpower and Organisations. The activation of the HQ EUFOR should be achieved through a concept of progressive replacement of NATO personnel within HQ SFOR in order to achieve the maximum continuity during the transfer of the Deterrent Presence Profile from SFOR to the EUFOR. HQ SFOR will progressively transform into both the HQ EUFOR and NATO HQ Sarajevo, with both HQs requiring backfilling by their respective national memberships. The initial assessment is that additional personnel will be required in the short term to facilitate this process. In order to accomplish a seamless activation of both HQs a co-ordinated EU and NATO Manning Conference will be conducted as soon as possible.

(12) NBC Defence Operations. The current NBC threat to SFOR in BiH, with the exclusion of endemic diseases, is assessed as zero. However, the planning and

conduct of NBC Defence operations as part of the EU mission must support the maintenance of security against any potential terrorist organisations or organised gangs that may seek an NBC or Release Other Than Attack (ROTA) option to destabilise and derail political and economic reforms. Specific NBC defence operations and procedures will be planned and conducted at the operational and tactical levels as an integral part of operations to ensure overall force protection is maintained.

(13) Information Strategy.

- (a) General. Information operations will ensure co-ordination between all military information activities, taking into account the role that all actors play in this field. Public Information (PI) will keep the public informed about the EUFOR deployment while Psychological Operations (PSYOPS).
- (b) INFO OPS. INFO OPS will be planned and conducted within the framework of the EU Information Strategy for BiH.
- (c) PSYOPS. Effective PSYOPS will be critical in gaining the support of the local population for the EUFOR mission.
- (d) Public Information. PI has a critical role in presenting and promoting the credibility of the ESDP mission in BiH. All PI activities will be based on the concept of operational transparency, allowing free and open reporting by the media about the EU military presence in BiH.
 - PI Policy: PI posture throughout this operation will be ACTIVE taking account of the Master Messages released by the EU, in full co-ordination and support with the EUSR press office.

- PI Military Objectives.
 - i. Gain and maintain public support for the EUFOR military operation by establishing and facilitating a clear understanding of the EU overall mission in BiH.
 - ii. Establish early and adequate arrangements to ensure a seamless transition from current SFOR PI activities to an integrated EUFOR PI operation in BiH and in co-ordination with the EUSR media operations.
 - iii. Present the EU-led military operation in BiH as a part of a well co-ordinated international effort aimed at ensuring the full implementation of the military aspects of the GFAP.
 - iv. Demonstrate that EUFOR is a credible military force and a part of a wider effort by the international community in BiH and explain the rationale of the EU follow-on operation to SFOR in BiH.
 - v. The EUFOR PIO will complement and co-ordinate the PI activity with the EUSR press office in order to support the EU overall mission in BiH.

- Master Messages.
 - i. EUFOR is committed to taking all the necessary measures and establishing mechanisms to ensure a seamless transition from the current SFOR operation in BiH and in co-ordination with the EUSR media operations.

- ii. The EU military operation in BiH complements and supports the measures taken by the EU in the country.
- iii. The primary responsibility for the further successful implementation of the Peace Agreements lies with the authorities of BiH themselves.
- iv. EUFOR is part of a coherent EU approach. The EU is deeply engaged in BiH, through the SAP and the fulfilment of the GFAP in order to maintain a safe and secure environment in BiH.
- v. The EUFOR will build on the progress made by NATO (SFOR) and the BiH authorities, taking over the security and stabilisation tasks and in close co-ordination with the efforts of the other EU actors, IOs and NGOs.
- vi. EUFOR is contributing to the creation of a safe and secure environment in BiH, so that EU and IC actors are able to carry out their responsibilities, in order to achieve a long lasting and self-sustaining stability in BiH.

h. End State and Exit Strategy.

The conditions for achieving the desired end state and how to develop the exit strategy are well clear defined in paragraph 1.

The six months review will give the possibility to control the approaching end state and to define the modalities and the procedures in order to comply with the exit strategy. Full contribution will be assured in this process with an updated report concerning military and security aspects.

4. SERVICE SUPPORT.

a. Logistics.

- (1) General. TCN have a collective responsibility for logistic support of EUFOR. The provision of support for national and multinational formations may be arranged from national sources, mutual support arrangements, third party contracted logistics or from the HN. However, logistics is ultimately the responsibility of each TCN. In accordance with ATHENA Financing Mechanism, the Special Committee of ATHENA on the basis of a proposal by the administrator or a member state, may decide the management by ATHENA of certain expenditure to meet some elements of the requirement not included in common costs. Existing contracts, technical arrangements and MOUs will be reviewed to ensure that they meet the requirements of EUFOR.
- (2) Transit arrangements. UNSCR 1551/2004 provides for transit authority through Croatia and Serbia and Montenegro. Additional arrangements will be developed if required.
- (3) HNS. HNS is a fundamental supplement to organic support. Therefore HNS should be used to the maximum extent possible.
- (4) Multinational Logistics. To achieve efficiency and economy of effort and to minimise the logistics footprint in theatre, MN logistics solutions (e.g. Multinational Integrated Logistics Units) should be implemented when practical.
- (5) Log C2 Elements.
 - (a) TCN must provide EUFOR Commands with appropriate logistic C2 authority and capabilities they require to execute their responsibilities. It includes co-ordination, prioritisation and deconfliction of logistic support. It also includes transferring C2 of logistics units as appropriate to the EU commanders.

- (b) Co-ordination of logistic support between the EU and TCNs will be carried out at all appropriate levels and will be facilitated by the EU chain of command. Wherever possible, contracting is to be co-ordinated to avoid competition for scarce local resources.
- (6) External support. Logistic support may be given to IOs, NGOs and agencies within means and capabilities.

b. Movements.

- (1) The Allied Deployment and Movement System will be used to plan, de-conflict and monitor strategic movements. States will be responsible for submitting Detailed Deployment Plans to the Allied Movement Co-ordination Centre (AMCC) at the EU OHQ.
- (2) Deployment and sustainment is a national responsibility, but will be co-ordinated, de-conflicted and monitored by the AMCC acting as the EUMCC which should envisage the use to the maximum extent of the existing EU mechanisms, such as European Airlift Centre (EAC) and Sealift Co-ordination Centres (SCC). The AMCC operations and procedures will be in accordance with MC 336/2 and AJP-4.4.
- (3) Reception, staging and onward movement (RSOM) will be co-ordinated by the Cdr EUFOR with the HN. Strategic surface movement should be exploited to the fullest extent.

- c. Personnel.** Personnel matters encompassing terms and conditions of service, discipline and morale remain a national responsibility.

d. Health and Medical Support.

- (1) Concept of Health and Medical Support. The responsibility for health and medical care and support rests with the TCN. Consistent with existing arrangements with SFOR, the EUFOR will have to support EUPM and other IC organisations to a similar extent. In an effort to provide an economy of force, Role 2/3 medical support should be provided by Multinational Medical Units (MMU), Lead Nation, Role Specialists Nation or HNS wherever possible. Medical care to the local population is limited to emergency cases only, in which there is potential of loss of life, limb or eyesight and within means and capabilities. However, this care should not hamper the development of the local health and medical infrastructure.
- (2) Health Threats and Risk Assessment. Although the overall epidemiological situation in BiH does not pose a high risk to EUFOR, special emphasis will be put on preventive medicine as part of the Medical Force Protection. Based on the medical information available from medical intelligence, the EU medical advisor in co-ordination with the JFC Naples Medical Advisor will recommend the desirable immunisations and prophylactic measures. Preventive medical precautions are the responsibility of individual states.
- (3) Medical C2. The technical medical chain extends from the EU OHQ Medical Advisor through the CJMED EU Naples Medical Officer and CJMED EUFOR Medical Advisor ensuring co-ordination with the JFC Naples Medical Advisor.

e. Engineer Support.

- (1) General. BiH's civilian engineering capability is maturing. Community assistance will contribute to local capability to provide any needed works. Consequently there is no longer a requirement for an Engineer Support U as currently utilised by SFOR, but there is a requirement to retain an emergency de-mining and EOD/IED capability in EUFOR.

- (2) Freedom of Movement. EUFOR must have freedom of movement to be agile, highly mobile and sustained. In order to ensure freedom of movement, CIMIC mechanism with BiH, will enable the theatre level routes, airports of debarkation (APOD) and rail ports of debarkation (RPOD) to be improved and maintained. Freedom of movement also includes snow and ice clearance (SNIC) on theatre routes. Existing contracts between NATO and National Authorities will help to facilitate this and be transferred to EUFOR at the earliest opportunity. EUFOR will endeavor to use EC assistance and local municipal authorities to maintain critical Theater Road Network infrastructure to ensure freedom of movement for EUFOR.

- (3) Facilities Support. The HQ EUFOR and collocated NHQ Sarajevo in Camp BUTMIR will require accommodation for operations and life support. Maximum use should be made of existing facilities though there may be a need to replace facilities withdrawn by SFOR. The existing facilities must be maintained and may require improvements. Temporary facilities may have to be replaced. A process will be developed to screen and approve projects to meet EU funding criteria. In theatre engineering design and contract supervision will be provided by EUFOR contracted personnel.

- (4) Mines and EOD. BiH is still heavily mined. De-mining is a HN responsibility. There will be a need to work closely with the UN Mine Action Coordination Centre and similar organisations. It will be very important to transfer mine/EOD location database and maps from SFOR. Mine clearing and an EOD/IED capability must be provided for emergencies and when required for operations. There must also be a mine awareness training capability.

- (5) Environmental Protection. When conducting military activities, EUFOR and the TCN have a collective responsibility for the protection of the environment. However, each TCN bears ultimate responsibility for the actions of its forces. The HN's environmental laws will be respected, if not otherwise agreed. Environmental protection is vital in order to minimize expensive environmental damages and to protect the health and safety of the EUFOR and local inhabitants.

- f. **Financial.** In line with the Council Decision establishing a mechanism to administer the financing of the common costs of EU operations having military or defence implications (ATHENA), the Joint Action includes a Reference Amount for the common costs of this operation for the planned period. Based on this Reference Amount, the contributing States have to pay their first contributions. As part of OpCdr budget task, proposals for the “Expenditure – operational common costs” will be provided. The budget, which will be approved by the Special Committee, will cover all annual costs eligible for the common funding. When the budget is adopted, the Administrator of ATHENA shall send the corresponding calls for additional contributions. The contributions shall be paid within 30 days following despatch of the relevant call for contributions.
- g. **Contracts.** Where contracts exist between NATO and specialist contractors for the support of logistic and CIS infrastructure, EUFOR will be prepared to negotiate on a contract by contract basis the most appropriate arrangement for the maintenance of specialist contractor support.

5. **COMMAND AND SIGNAL.**

- a. **Command and Control (C2).** Annex A. Under the authority of the Council, the political control and strategic direction of the operation is exercised by the PSC. The SG/HR will be in regular contact with the OpCdr and will report to the PSC and to the Council on all matters pertaining to the operation. The EUMC and CEUMC will exercise their responsibilities set out in their terms of reference.
- b. **ToA.** In their Order of Battle Transfer of Authority messages. MS and TCN will transfer authority for designated forces to the OpCdr in accordance with the EU C2 Concept.
- c. **Area of Operation (AOO).** The AOO is the whole territory of BiH including its air space and territorial waters.

d. **Liaison.** Liaison between the EU and NATO and between the EU and non-EU Member States will be established.

e. **EU Balkans Information Criteria, Documentation, Records and Reports.**

(1) Once the operation is launched, reporting will be in accordance with the Principles for an EU OHQ SOP, and will include a six monthly mission review process and any further directions to be issued.

(2) The Cdr EUFOR will report through the military chain of command.

(3) The CEUMC is to be informed of the progress of preparations.

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