

## **DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS (DPKO)**

### **Support to NEPAD**

**Period of report: 2004 - 2005**

The realisation that sustainable development cannot be achieved in the absence of lasting peace and stability lies at the heart of the NEPAD agenda. In this regard, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) remains fully engaged in international efforts to build African capacities in the area of peace and security.

#### **Enhancement of African Peacekeeping Capacities**

As stated in the Secretary-General's Report on the Enhancement of African Peacekeeping Capacities (A/59/591) DPKO is committed to supporting the African Union (AU) in the implementation of its new peace and security agenda. Acknowledging the willingness of the AU and African sub-regional organizations to carry a greater share of the burden of maintaining peace and security on the continent, DPKO continues to cooperate closely with these organizations with a view to strengthening their ability to effectively plan and manage peace support operations. In this regard, DPKO has provided technical assistance to the AU in the planning and management of the AU Mission in Darfur through the establishment of a UN assistance cell in Addis Ababa. Having assisted the AU in the development of the African Standby Force (ASF) concept, DPKO is currently in the process of developing a programme of assistance geared towards facilitating the establishment of the ASF and strengthening other key components of the emerging continental peace and security architecture such as the AU and sub-regional organizations' Situation Rooms.

At the same time, DPKO remains committed to strengthening the ability of African Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) to participate effectively in both African and UN-led peacekeeping operations in Africa and other parts of the world. In this regard, DPKO continues to run peacekeeping training programmes for African TCCs in key areas such as Rule of Law, Mine Action, HIV/AIDS and gender mainstreaming. DPKO has also been making an effort to enhance coordination among the various bilateral initiatives relating to African peacekeeping capacity so that their activities become mutually complimentary.

#### **Collaboration with other UN agencies**

DPKO is working closely with other UN agencies in the framework of the NEPAD Cluster on Peace and Security. Recognizing the need for early stabilization efforts to be followed up by programmes that can engender a smooth transition from war to lasting peace and sustainable development, DPKO has made a serious effort to include its UN system partners in the planning of multi-dimensional peacekeeping operations through the creation of Integrated Mission Task Forces (IMTFs). In this regard DPKO, in

consultation with the funds, programmes and agencies, is developing an Integrated Mission Planning Process (IMPP) which will hopefully serve as a system-wide planning tool. In key thematic areas such as DDR and Rule of Law, which are now a major component of DPKO's core business, DPKO is spearheading efforts to develop truly integrated policies and guidelines geared towards maximising the overall impact of the UN's activities in the field.