EUTM Mali
EUROPEAN UNION TRAINING MISSION

Presskit

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Background

The restoration of a lasting peace in Mali is essential for long-term stability in the Sahel region and in a broader sense for Africa and Europe. At the request of the Malian Government and on the basis of UN resolutions, in particular the UN Security Council Resolution 2085, the Member States of the European Union agreed to establish a mission to train the Malian Armed Forces (MaAF), in the framework of the EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP). The First Mandate for the EU-Training Mission in Mali was established in February 2013. In May 2014 the second Mandate was decided which will last until May 2016.

Mandate Three

In order to continue providing military training and advice to the Malian Armed Forces the Council of the European Union decided on 23 March 2016, EUTM Mali’s third Mandate, which will last until 18 May 2018. EUTM Mali will train, advice and educate the MaAF under the control of legitimate civilian authorities, in order to contribute to the restoration of their military capacity with a view to enabling them to conduct military operations aiming at restoring Malian territorial integrity and reducing the threat posed by terrorist groups.

Within the decision for Mandate Three the mission area was extended towards the river Niger loop including the municipalities of Gao and Timbuktu.
EUTM Mali

EUTM Mali is a ‘non-executive mission’, that is to say, the deployed servicemen and women do not participate in combat activities and do not accompany the Malian units in operations.

During Mandate 3 EUTM Mali will progressively move from initially centralised activities, towards a more decentralised approach in the regions, enabling the MaAF to increasingly take responsibility for a military owned education and training system and for the lead in achieving the aim of a successful reform process.

EUTM Mali’s Third Mandate consists of 4 phases: Shaping, Initial Decentralisation, Overall Decentralisation and Transfer of Authority.

Currently 26 countries are participating in the mission. Overall, approximately 580 servicemen and women are deployed in EUTM Mali. The mission is led by Brigadier General Peter Devogelaere (Belgium).

* 22 European States (EU members):
  Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Slovakia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

* 4 European countries (not members of the EU):
  Georgia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania.

STARLITE AVIATION GROUP from South Africa provides air transportation means.

Objectives

EUTM Mali shall respond to the operational needs of the Malian Armed Forces through the provision of:

- training support for the benefit of the Malian Armed Forces,
- training and advice on command and control, logistical chain and human resources, as well as training on International Humanitarian Law, protection of civilians and human rights,
- a contribution, upon Malian request and in coordination with MINUSMA, to the Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration process framed by the Peace Agreement, through the provision of training sessions in order to facilitate the reconstruction of inclusive Malian Armed Forces,
- support to the G5 Sahel process, within the activities of EUTM Mali in support of the Malian Armed Forces, by contributing to enhancing coordination and interoperability within the G5 Sahel national armed forces.
Organisation

The EUTM headquarters is located in Bamako. The training camp in Koulikoro is located 60 km northeast of Bamako and is the home of the Education and Training Task Force. Additionally, EUTM Mali will also conduct decentralised training within “Combined Mobile Advisory and Training Teams (CMATT). In Brussels, the mission established a support cell in order to liaise to the different branches of the European External Affairs Service (EEAS) and the respective officials within the Common Defence and Security Policy of the European Union.

Advisory Concept

EUTM Mali provides advice at both strategic and regional level, to the Ministry of Defence, Malian Armed Forces (MaAF) authorities and to military headquarters in the military region garrisons in support of to the implementation of the structural reforms encompassed in the Defence Programming Law. Additionally, the Mission assists the MaAF in assessing the implementation of the reform. French-speaking, multi-disciplinary, military advisors share their experience and expertise with their Malian counterparts in the domains of human resources management, logistics, intelligence, conduct of operations, information systems, finances and planning.
Training Concept

During the last years, EUTM Mali has successfully trained 8 Battlegroups whereas 5 Battlegroups have been retrained. Additionally, several Leadership Courses as well as Specialised Training Courses took place. In total, more than 8000 soldiers have been trained by EUTM Mali which represents approximately 2/3 of the Malian Army. In order to transition to an autonomous Malian Armed Forces training in the future, EUTM will concentrate on a gradual “Train the Trainer” and “Monitor the Trainer” approach focusing on Malian Armed Forces leaders mainly in the military region headquarter garrisons, Malian military schools or at the EUTM Training Centre in Koulikoro.
Education concept

In order to enhance leadership skills in the MaAF, leadership education and training, especially for the junior and middle leadership, appears crucial. The Mission aims to develop the military education system by integrating EUTM instructors into the officer and non-commissioned officer school, in order to improve the authority, legitimacy, actions and behaviour of each MaAF leader. The main focus lies on legal and leadership skills education, tactical and strategical education, training planning process, basic military principles and International Humanitarian Law.

Special Courses at Koulikoro Training Centre

At Koulikoro Training Centre, the Education and Training Task Force (ETTF) will offer special courses to Malian Armed Forces, such as:

- Sharpshooter training.
- Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Training.
- Mortar training.
- Commando training.
Leadership Courses

Previously, decentralised and specialised training courses for the leadership of the Malian armed forces have been held. This training could be conducted centrally in the future, if required. Experience shows that the company commanders are a decisive factor in the success of operations. Therefore it is proposed that future Malian company commanders participate in a 12 week long course consisting of the following basic topics that will be taught by the instructors of EUTM Mali include:

- Medical planning,
- Shooting training,
- Management of the unit (in various tactical situations),
- Request for fire support (e.g., artillery).

To best prepare the aspiring leaders for their demanding tasks, the Malian officers attend lessons in leadership, as well as in international humanitarian law training.

Training of Malian trainers

This type of course, which lasts from four to twelve weeks depending on MaAF requirements, ensures that future Malian instructors are trained to independently plan and deliver high-quality training in their home unit locations. The TTT (Train The Trainer) approach is used in all our training and advising efforts both in centralised in KTC and/or during a CMATT deployment.

The focus of the course is on methods of instruction, as well as the preparation and planning of teaching and practical training. We have already conducted four ‘Train the Trainer’ courses delivered by EUTM personnel. The next one is scheduled to start in February 2017.
Training module for International Humanitarian Law

The respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law is an essential part of EUTM training, delivered by highly-qualified staff. The education includes a basic understanding of humanity, distinction, proportionality and military necessity as core principles. Additionally, a knowledge of measures and procedures, required in dealing with protected sites and persons such as, capture, transfer and treatment of prisoners, identification and treatment of children in armed conflicts, Rules of Engagement, self-defence, the protection of women and prevention of sexual violence, as well as handling of refugees and internally displaced persons, is of utmost importance and therefore part of the IHL education.
### Key data of the Mission (excerpt)

- **10 December 2012:** approval of the crisis management concept by the European Union.

- **24 December 2012:** official request for support of the President of the Republic of Mali to the European Union.

- **17 January 2013:** founding of EUTM Mali and appointment of Brigadier-General Lecointre (France) as the Commander of the mission.

- **08 February 2013:** arrival of first soldiers of EUTM.

- **18 February 2013:** official start of EUTM in Brussels.

- **20 February 2013:** official start of EUTM in Bamako.

- **05 April to 07 June 2013:** training of the first Malian GTIA “WARABA”.

- **07 July to 14 September 2013:** training of the second GTIA “ELOU”.

- **01 August 2013:** Passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Lecointre to Brigadier-General Guibert (France).

- **23 October to 07 December 2013:** training of the third Malian GTIA “SIGUI”.

- **16 December 2013 to 28 March 2014:** first course "Train the trainers" (TTT).

- **01 January to 18 March 2014:** training of the fourth Malian GTIA “BALANZAN”.

- **31 March to 02 May 2014:** refresher training of the GTIA “WARABA”.

- **01 April 2014:** passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Guibert to Brigadier-General Rudkiewicz (France).
- 05 May to 24 August 2014: training of the fifth Malian GTIA “DEBO”.

- **18 May 2014:** extension of the Mission until May 2016.

- 06 August to 11 September 2014: first staff officer course.

- 01 September to 14 November 2014: first company commander course.

- 29 September to 14 November 2014: refresher training of second GTIA “ELOU”.

- 24 October 2014: passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Rudkiewicz (France) to Brigadier-General García Vaquero (Spain).

- 24 November to 21 February 2014: training of the sixth Malian GTIA “Al FAROUK”.

- 16 March to 29 April 2015: the fourth Malian GTIA BALANZAN refresher training.

- 07 April to 04 September 2015: training the first cadets at the Military Academy.

- 29 June to 21 July 2015: "Special weapons instructor course".

- 01 July to 30 July 2015: First Sergeant Course.

- 28 July 2015: passing the mission lead by Brigadier-General García Vaquero (Spain) to Brigadier-General Pfrengle (Germany).

- 31 August to 18 September 2015: repetition training of fifth GTIA "DEBO”.

- 31 August to 10 December 2015: second company commander course.
- 17 September 2015: first visit of the President of the Republic of Mali on EUTM Mali in Koulikoro.

- 05 October to 06 November 2015: repetition training of third GTIA "SIGUI".

- 12 October to 10 December 2015: training of the seventh GTIA, while first-time participation in a company of the Gendarmerie.

- 18 December 2015: passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Pfrengle (Germany) to Brigadier-General Albl (Germany).

- 11 January to 22 January 2016: training by the units of the 32nd infantry regiment in Kati.

- 11 January to 22 January 2016: training by the units of the 33rd Regiment of paratroopers in Bamako.

- 15 February 2016: start of training GTIA 8.

- 15 February 2016: start of Train the Trainers Course 4.


- 04 May 2016: Closing Ceremony of “Train the Trainers Course” in Faladie.

- 06 May 2016: Closing Ceremony of GTIA 8 in Koulikoro.

- 19 May 2016: Beginning of the Third Mandate.

- 03 July 2016: passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Albl (Germany) to Brigadier-General Harvent (Belgium).
- 18 July to 29 July 2016: First G5 SAHEL Liaison Officer Course.

- 20 June to 02 September 2016: Train The Trainers (TTT) Course in Koulikoro.

- 30 September 2016: ETTF Change of Command: passing the mission led by Colonel Koen Verdooit (Belgium) to Colonel Thierry Hinneken (Belgium).

- 15 December 2016: Closing Ceremony of CMATT in Kati.

- 05 December to 16 December 2016: G5 SAHEL Formation Course.

- **19 December 2016**: **Change of Command**: passing the mission led by Brigadier-General Harvent (Belgium) to Brigadier-General Peter Devogelaere (Belgium).