

Background Paper on Security Sector Reform in Guinea-Bissau

Introduction

1. The present situation of the security and defence forces of Guinea-Bissau is attributed to the long and difficult years of the national liberation struggle (1963-1974), and subsequent post-independence





funded Census of the Veterans is expected to start shortly. Significant EU assistance is also being provided under the Instrument for Stability and the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) launched recently. A mission of the ESDP is currently in Guinea-Bissau to work in partnership with national and international partners, providing advice and assistance under SSR in order to contribute to creating the conditions for implementation of the SSR Programme and helping to facilitate subsequent donor engagement.

14. Specific programmes within the Government's 2007-2009 Three-Year Investment Plan for SSR are also benefiting from assistance by other international bilateral and multilateral partners. Examples include (i) the provision by Portugal of technical assistance under the Security Sector Restructuring Programme; (ii) the provision by Brazil and Portugal of support to the Security Forces Modernisation Programme, including training for law enforcement; (iii) the provision of support by Spain, Italy, UK and UNDP to the Programme for Capacity-building to Control Organized Crime including equipment and technical assistance; (iv) support by UNDP under the Defence Restructuring and Resizing Programme; (v) support by the UN Peacebuilding Fund (PBF), Portugal, Brazil and Spain to the Defence Forces Modernization Programme, to rehabilitate military infrastructure and military-technical cooperation; (vi) support by ECOWAS, in partnership national and international partners, under the Programme for Reintegration of Demobilised Personnel; (vii) support by China, Portugal, France, Germany, the PBF and UNDP under the Justice and Security Programme, including administration of justice, rule of law, access to justice and penitentiary infrastructure and administration; and (viii) strategic support to the SSR process, currently being provided by Brazil and UK, among others.

Peacebuilding Commission Country-Specific Configuration on Guinea-Bissau

Thematic Discussion on Security Sector Reform and the Rule of Law – 18 June 2008

Expectations from the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and Support from the Peacebuilding Fund (PBF)