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Preparation Paper

External Discussion Forum 2

**“International Conference on the Establishment of an
'UN Emergency Peace Service'”**

The Chair Team

Chair of EDF 2 Stephan Dehler

Honorable Delegates,

my name is Stephan Dehler and I am 26 years old. I was born in Berlin, visited school in Mainz and at the moment I am studying economics at the University of Giessen. I am the chairperson of the EDF 2. ViMUN 2010 will be one of my last Model United Nations and I am very happy to be your chair. I am very happy that our panel will discuss about UNEPS. We will have interesting days, a lot of discussions and of course a lot of fun. See you soon.

Co-Chair of EDF 2 Margot Heinrich

Honorable Delegates,

my name is Margot Franziska Heinrich and I am 22 years old. I live in Vienna and have been studying law since autumn 2006. Since spring 2010 I am also studying political science. My main focus will be on international law. I am the Co-Chairperson of the EDF 2 and I am very much looking forward to a great week, full of interesting discussions!

Current conditions for peace operations of the United Nations

The committees and bodies of the United Nations are having no capacity of its own to start peace operations within the needed timeline to protect civilians or to prevent wars. Security Council must authorize a response for all operations. With this authorization the bodies of the United Nations must request assistance from the member states. National governments must agree to lease their personnel and their resources for international peace operations. This political and diplomatic procedure can take months. The United Nations cannot react rapidly on ongoing crisis, future crises and sudden conflicts.

The Need of an United Nations Emergency Peace Service

Despite the need at times to move quickly to prevent genocide, "ethnic cleansing," and crimes against humanity, the United Nations has no reliable capacity to move promptly, even if halting a catastrophe could save hundreds of thousands of lives. Genocide in Rwanda illustrates this incapacity, as do the massive killings of innocent people in Cambodia, the former Yugoslavia, East Timor, Sierra Leone, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Liberia, the Sudan, and elsewhere.

The time has come to create a permanent UN Emergency Peace Service to ensure that the next preventable humanitarian disaster will not occur. If such a service had been established earlier, it could have prevented many of the atrocities that have killed millions of civilians, wounded millions more, forced tens of millions from their homes, destroyed entire economies, and wasted hundreds of billions of dollars. Of course such a service would not be a panacea for security problems in general; indeed it would be designed to complement - not replace - other essential national, regional, and United Nations efforts. Yet an Emergency Peace Service could provide immediate, full protection in some crises and serve as an advance group that would prepare the way for subsequent additional help, if needed, in larger conflicts - a vital function that is not provided by any existing agency. Such a service could also help address extreme environmental and natural disasters in cases where other remedies are inadequate for averting major threats to human life.¹

Possible future conditions for peace operations of the UNEPS

UNEPS must be able to react within 48 hours after United Nations authorization. UNEPS needs a static operational headquarter and mobile field headquarters. UNEPS contains of military units, medical units, engineer units, civilian police units, legal adviser units, development aid units and peacebuilding advisory units. Estimates on the cost of UNEPS vary, but start-up expenses could come to \$2 billion, with an annual recurring cost of \$900 million or more, depending on field operations. UNEPS needs up to 15.000 carefully

¹ "A United Nations Emergency Peace Service " by Robert C. Johansen

selected and expertly trained full-time personnel. UNEPS will still require all time the authorization by the UN Security Council to ensure the legitimacy to start an operation.

Possible political goals of an United Nations Emergency Peace Service

The foundation of UNEPS should be prevent future genocides and crimes against humanity. The United Nations can also use UNEPS for preventing armed conflicts and to protecting civilians during political and military conflicts. This peace service should be the basis for a fast start up of peace operations around the world. The benefits of a permanent, sophisticated UN Emergency Peace Service are clear. In past crises, the UN has often been unable to assemble personnel and provide assistance in less than three to six months. Even then these ad hoc forces were not always well prepared for their demanding tasks. The proposed UN Service would directly surmount these difficulties and also lift the burden that now makes governments reluctant to deploy their own national citizens in conflicts with high risk and low national interest. As a dedicated UN Service with personnel recruited from among carefully selected volunteers, it would no longer need to acquire the last minute approval of or meet the conditions imposed by each member state that participates in a conventional peacekeeping operation. Life-saving decisions for international help would be easier for the Security Council to make. The UN Service could also play a constructive preventive role during crises when mass violence might otherwise appear tempting to some. If cynical political leaders in strife ridden societies knew that a rapid reaction UN Service could be deployed quickly to enforce international law, some of those political leaders who otherwise might be tempted to commit misdeeds would be more likely to be deterred.²

Possible services of an United Nations Emergency Peace Service

UNEPS should be able to react within 48 hours after United Nations authorization. UNEPS should include military operations during the first period in a new crisis regions to build up, protect the logistic mobile headquarters and to stabilize the region. If necessary UNEPS should be able to offer police operations (if the actual government is not able to do it) in every crisis zone to protect their own personnel and civilians. UNEPS should be able to offer executive and judicative functions for a short period, if the actual government is not able to do it. UNEPS would help to reduce the number of armed conflicts and war crimes. Such a peace service would also reduce the size, duration and number of other peacekeeping operations around the world.

Similar organizations to UNEPS

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization is an intergovernmental military alliance based on the North Atlantic Treaty which was signed on 4 April 1949. The NATO headquarters are in Brussels and the organization constitutes a system of collective defence whereby its member states agree to mutual defence in response to an attack by any external party.³

European Union (EU)

The European Union (EU) is an economic and political union of 27 member states which are located primarily in Europe. Committed to regional integration, the EU was established by the Treaty of Maastricht in 1993 upon the foundations of the European Communities. With over 500 million citizens, the EU combined generated an estimated 28% share (US\$ 16.5 trillion) of the nominal and about 21% (US\$14.8 trillion) of the PPP gross world product in 2009.⁴

United Nations Standby Arrangements System (UNSAS)

To deal with threats to international peace, the United Nations has become increasingly involved in peacekeeping operations throughout the world. However, the time available to organize and deploy more and more peacekeeping forces, along with the complexity of peacekeeping missions has made it increasingly difficult to implement Security Council peacekeeping mandates. As a result, the Secretary-

² "A United Nations Emergency Peace Service " by Robert C. Johansen

³ <http://www.nato.int/cps/en/natolive/index.htm>

⁴ <http://europa.eu/>

General has identified the need for a system of "Standby Arrangements" with the capability of deploying on short notice to facilitate the planning, implementation and effectiveness of peacekeeping operations.⁵

Standby High-Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG)

The Standby High-Readiness Brigade (SHIRBRIG) was a Danish-led initiative associated with the United Nations that aimed to create a standby force ready for peacekeeping. It was formed largely as a result of the genocide in Rwanda and other atrocities. Its permanent headquarters were in Garderbasernen (Garder barracks), Høvelte 30 kilometres north of Copenhagen in Denmark. It was declared ready for operations on January 1, 2000, and deployed to the Horn of Africa in November 2000 to form the core of the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) under the command of Royal Netherlands Marine Corps Major General Patrick Cammaert. The Brigade returned from that mission six months later and began a training cycle. It announced that it would again be ready for action as of January 1, 2002. Cammaert's appointment expired in November, 2002, but was extended at least once.⁶

Battlegroup of the European Union (EUBG)

A European Union battlegroup (EUBG) is a military force consisting of at least 1500 combat soldiers. Fifteen battlegroups have been established, most of which consisting of multi-national contributions. The groups rotate actively, so that two are ready for deployment at all times. The forces are under the direct control of a unanimous European Council (heads of state, or often heads of government of countries where the head of state is largely a symbolic position, of member states) of the European Union (EU).

⁵ <http://www.un.org/chinese/work/peace/rapid/sys.htm>

⁶ <http://www.shirbrig.dk/>