

# Eastern Africa Standby Force



## Annual Report 2021

*“Advocating for Peace  
and Stability”*



Burundi



Comoros



Djibouti



Ethiopia



Kenya



Rwanda



Seychelles



Somalia



Sudan



Uganda

**EASF MEMBER STATES**

# CHIEFS OF STAFF OF DEFENCE AND SECURITY



Gen. Prime Niyongabo,  
**CDS, Burundi**



Col. Idjihadi Yousouf,  
**CDS, Comoros**



Lt. Gen. Zakaria Cheick  
Ibrahim,  
**CDS, Djibouti**



Field Marshal Birhanu  
Jula Gelelcha,  
**CDS, Ethiopia**



Gen. Robert Kariuki  
Kibochi,  
**CDS, Kenya**



Gen. Jean Bosco Kazura,  
**CDS, Rwanda**



Brig. Michael Rosette,  
**CDS Seychelles**



Brig. Gen. Odowa  
Yusuf Rage,  
**CDS, Somalia**



Gen. Mohamed  
Osman Elhussin,  
**CDS, Sudan**



Gen. Wilson Mbaddi,  
**CDS, Uganda**

# EASF DIRECTORS



Brigadier General Getachew  
Shiferaw Fayisa  
**Ethiopia 2020-**



Dr. Abdillahi Omar Bouh  
**Djibouti 2017 - 2020**



Amb. Chanfi Issimail  
**Comoros 2014 - 2017**



Maj. Gen. Cyrille Ndayirukiye  
**Burundi 2010 - 2014**



Col. Peter Marwa  
**Kenya 2009 - 2010**



Simon Mulongo  
**Uganda 2007 - 2009**



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In the just ended year 2021, the Eastern Africa region faced a number of security concerns. Internal conflicts posed the most serious security concern in the region. Sudan saw several protests against the government on transitional arrangement issues, which at times led to violent conflicts. Ethiopia went through a major armed conflict between the federal government and the Tigray Liberation Front (TPLF), which was the most influential constituent in the country's ruling coalition before the reform in April 2018. The region also faced terrorist attacks in some countries. Such attacks happened in Burundi, Somalia and Uganda, among others.

Another challenge that the region faced during the year 2021 was the spread of the Corona virus. The Covid-19 pandemic spread widely in the Eastern Africa region during the year. In its issue of December 31, 2021, allAfrica.com reported that the African continent ended the year 2021 with nearly 10 million confirmed COVID-19 cases (<https://allafrica.com/stories/202112310194.html>). It stated that as of December 31, 2021, "confirmed cases from 55 African countries reached 9,659,957 while over 188,696,109 vaccinations have been administered across the continent." Accordingly, South Africa is the most affected with 3,446,532 infected cases and 90,935 deaths. Some Eastern African countries are also among the most affected: Ethiopia with 415,443 cases, and Kenya with 292,237 cases.

Added to all these, the Eastern Africa region is historically one of the most drought-affected areas in the continent. Droughts frequently strike this region, especially the sub-region known as the Horn of Africa. These droughts often lead to food insecurity, which exacerbates the security concerns resulting from conflicts over grazing lands. According to the November 2021 update by the World Food Program, the Horn of Africa is still facing, since August 2021, severe drought conditions affecting mainly eastern, north-eastern and coastal Kenya, southern Somalia, and south-eastern Ethiopia. The Eastern Africa region is therefore striving to maintain its stability and security amid a wide range of peace and security issues, weak economy, pandemics and climate change impacts.

These multi-faceted challenges call for collective, collaborative and synchronized actions. EASF is contributing its share in peace building as well as in alleviating peace and security problems, working with its member states and other partners. In 2021, EASF conducted several activities in line with its mandate. It carried out activities that enhance and maintain its full operational capability including recruitment, verification and rostering. It conducted peace-building activities such as the 'youth for peace' seminars, tree planting and other environmental and peace-awareness creation works. Moreover, it deployed its staff and individuals from member states in election observer missions.

However, various pressing challenges tend to hinder EASF from pursuing its noble cause, shortage of funds being a major one. Stakeholders and partners of EASF have thus far provided commendable financial and technical support along the way. EASF continues to work with strong conviction and far-reaching aspirations for regional peace, security and stability. All partners and stakeholders are urged to further scale up their indispensable support, which is instrumental in discharging EASF's mandates of conflict prevention and management as well as peacemaking.

## MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



It gives me great pleasure to share with you my thoughts on how 2021 has been. It has been an honour for me to serve as the EASF chairperson and I know that you will agree with me that the year 2021 has been a very challenging and dynamic one especially with ongoing health. I wish to firstly appreciate the efforts of all the Chief of Defence Staffs and Defence Ministries of the EASF Member States for their support towards the organisation. The EASF has achieved a lot in terms of implementation of the activities and peace promotion. The year 2021 started on a high note with the deployment of an election observer mission to the Republic of Uganda in January, 2021. A second election observer mission was deployed in the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia in June. Another milestone was the Initial planning conference as part of the preparation for the command post exercise which had to be postponed to March, 2022 due to public health restrictions. Despite the numerous challenges, the EASF has strived hard in pushing the peace and security agenda forward.

The hindrance brought about by the health pandemic, has not undermined the role of EASF as a key partner in promoting peace and security in an integrated approach to address issues of conflict prevention, conflict management facing our region. With renewed determination, I am positive EASF is moving to the higher level of professionalism and is more than ever ready to take up the challenges maintaining peace in our region and beyond.

In concluding, I wish to acknowledge and thank the African Union Commission, for providing the necessary strategic guidance and support, also to our faithful partners and shareholders for believing in EASF and for extending a helping hand whenever called upon.

I take this opportunity to express my gratitude to Friends of EASF and other stakeholders who have been influential in providing and supporting EASF's capacity building programmes and for their faithful patronage. EASF remains optimistic that the new year will inject a positive sense of optimism and hope as we gear up towards a brighter future and a happy and prosperous year ahead.

**Hon. Youssoufa Mohamed Ali**

**Chairperson Council of Ministers of Defence & Security of Eastern Africa Region.**



## MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



**E**ASF has seen a number of achievements and challenges in the year 2021. The COVID-19 pandemic was a major challenge to EASF, not just in 2021 but since 2020. Our Member States, the region and our entire continent were affected in all aspects, and our organization was not spared either.

It has been quite overwhelming to us in EASF in all our efforts to undertake planned activities for the last two years. As our member states had to adopt various protocols to mitigate the pandemic, it was quite difficult for us to operate in full capacity and uniformly in the region. Despite our wish for improved situations, there has been a very slight progress until the last quarter of the 2021, and we have been obliged to live with the challenges which adversely affected the implementation of our activity plan for 2021.

In 2021, we planned activities that were geared towards strengthening the four major pillars of EASF Strategic Plan, namely: Political and Advocacy; Enhancement of Full Operational Capability and Response to Crises; Institutional Capacity and Sustainability; and Diplomacy, Cooperation and Partnerships. The full implementation of our planned activities is vital for enhancing our visibility and in maintaining Full Operational Capability (FOC) for our organization which would enable us to respond to threats, as put forward by our leaders in the African Union.

Amid the challenges posed by the pandemic, we managed to implement more than 50% of our planned activities, with 30% being postponed to the coming year, and it is my belief that, even as we have remained focused this past year, we will be able to conduct successfully these leftover activities and more with determination, commitment and hard work.

Despite the many challenges, we were able to achieve great milestones due to the full engagement of all our staff both at the Secretariat and at the Force Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and I am glad to say that we have the right people in place to ensure that we implement and conduct all those activities within given time and with required flexibility.

I would like to thank our member states, EASF Policy Organs, Heads of Departments and Structures and our staff for the synergy which helped us move forward. Our achievements would not have been possible without the continuous effort of all our staff, the support of Member States and the guidance of the Council of Ministers. Our shared objective of working towards a common goal of maintaining FOC has helped us implement Activity Plan 2021 and more.

Finally, I am grateful to the Friends of EASF for the financial and technical support provided to us in carrying out our planned activities of 2021 and extend my call for more collaboration in building and maintaining peace.

**Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa**  
EASF Director



## MESSAGE FROM THE OUTGOING CHAIRPERSON OF THE FRIENDS OF EASF



**M**any thanks for once again giving me this opportunity on behalf of the Friends of EASF to make a few comments in the EASF Annual Report.

Regrettably, 2021 was another year significantly influenced by the COVID-19 pandemic in Kenya just as the rest of the world. For EASF, the consequence, just like in 2020, was the need to make severe changes to its Annual Activity Plan during the year. However, I want to applaud EASF for having achieved important results during 2021 Force Headquarters Course, which I had the privilege to visit at the KCB-centre during the training. I was

highly impressed by the strong commitment by the participating officers as well as the competent performance by the instructors.

In December 2021, I was called back by to my capital for a new assignment after more than 9 years of service in Kenya and Eastern Africa. I served almost 5 years as a military adviser to EASF before I took up the position as the Defence Attaché to the Royal Danish Embassy in Nairobi as well as the Chairperson of the Friends of EASF. I would like to extend my sincere thanks and gratitude for the cooperation and friendship that I have enjoyed with many wonderful people associated to EASF. The experience and memories will stay with me forever. I would like to extend my special thanks to the Director EASF, Brigadier (ret.) Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, EASF senior management and the entire EASF fraternity and in particular the unforgettable farewell ceremony afforded to me at my departure from Kenya. Finally, I send my thanks to the international advisers associated and posted to EASF for their dedication and tireless work for the EASF. Our joint journey would not be possible without their support.

**Colonel Joern Rasmussen**  
Chairperson of the Friends of EASF (2017 – 2021)

## MESSAGE FROM THE INCOMING CHAIRPERSON OF THE FRIENDS OF EASF



**I** am both humbled and honoured to take over the function as Chairperson of the Friends of EASF and I am determined to carry forward the torch handed to me by my predecessor, Colonel Jørn Rasmussen.

I join this role from several previous postings in the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) where Western countries also work together in a multinational and multicultural environment. I am convinced that this background is relevant as Chairperson of the Friends of EASF since both organisations are politically governed alliances with a strong military arm and a comprehensive approach to enhancing peace and security. I am looking forward to working with and learning from all ten EASF Member States and I see great opportunities for EASF in 2022. This year, the Friends of EASF are eagerly anticipating a demonstration of the scope of EASF capacity in the long-awaited Command Post Exercise Mashariki Salaam III, as well as member states' position on the proposed restructuring of the EASF for a more effective force. As the Chair of the Friends of EASF, I will do my utmost to work with partners and friends to assist EASF's continued development into an agile integrated peacekeeping force coveted by the political leadership of the Member States and respected in Eastern Africa and beyond.

**Jens Lindvig**  
Chairperson of the Friends of EASF



# MEMBERS OF EXECUTIVE MANAGEMENT



Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa  
**EASF Director**



Ms. Lina Hoarau  
**Head of  
Administration  
and Finance**



Brig. Gen. Henry Isoke  
**Head of  
Peace Operations  
Department**



Brig Gen PSC  
Dr. Osman Mohamed  
Abbas  
**Joint Chief of Staff**



Brig. Gen. Vincent  
Gatama  
**Force Commander**



Col. Ahmed Essa  
**Chief of Staff  
LogBase**



Mr. Kedir Ababulgu Ali  
**Head of Civilian  
Component**



Col. Abdallah Rafick  
**Chief of Staff,  
Military  
Component**



Col. Ali Mohamed Robleh  
**Head of Police  
Component**





# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2021

## Election Observer Mission in Uganda

Observers from the Eastern Africa Standby Force were deployed to the Republic of Uganda in January 2021, to observe the Presidential and Parliamentary elections which took place on the 14th of January.

H. E. Ambassador Ahamada Hamadi from the Union of Comoros led the team of 21 observers as the Head of Mission.



The EASF Election Observer Mission (EASF-EOM) team was presented with the EASF Flag and official observer toolkits in a short ceremony on Monday, January 7, 2021 at the EASF Secretariat in Nairobi, Kenya. The Joint Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. PSC Osman Mohamed Abbas pointed out the importance of election observer missions in strengthening the democratic process in the region. Similar to previous EASF observer missions, the observation methods are based on the principles of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG). The ACDEG was adopted by the African Union (AU) in 2007 as a roadmap to encourage better governance across the continent. It sets out international standards of good governance as well as free and fair elections.

## Police Points of Contact Workshop held in Mombasa

The EASF Police Component conducted a Police Point of Contacts (PPOCs) workshop in Mombasa, Kenya, from 14 to 17 February 2021.

The workshop was aimed at improving relationships and



sharing information between EASF and PPOCs from respective Member States. It also aims to highlight the accomplishments by the Police Component within EASF since the last PPOCs workshop held in the Republic of Seychelles in 2019.

Another important objective is to train PPOCs on the effective use of the Police Roster Database which would enable them to select suitable and qualified personnel to be placed in the EASF roster database. Officers selected accordingly can thereafter be rapidly deployed should need to do so arise.

Delegates from Burundi, Comoros, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Seychelles and Uganda attended the five-day workshop.



## Civilian Roster Recruitment and Verification in Sudan and Kenya

The Eastern African Standby Force (EASF) conducted the African Standby Capacity (ASC) roster identification, recruitment and verification exercise in the Republic of the Sudan, in February 2021 and similarly in Kenya in November 2021.



The event in Sudan was opened by the guest of honor, representing the Government of Sudan, Major General Ezeldin Taha, and the roster recruitment exercise in Kenya was opened by the Director of Foreign Services Academy, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kenya, Amb. Michael Oyugi accompanied by the EASF Director, Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa.

During the opening ceremonies for both events, the head of EASF Civilian Component expressed his gratitude and that of EASF to the Sudanese and Kenyan governments for hosting the exercise and also for the warm hospitality extended to the EASF team. The aim of the exercises is to ensure that adequately trained personnel in the region are identified and included in the ASC Roster for the Civilian Component.

## Human Rights and Conflict Prevention Project

The EASF Peace Operations Department implemented a joint project regarding Mainstreaming Human Rights into Conflict Prevention (Phase II) in collaboration with the African Union Conflict Early Warning System, and the World Bank Group (WBG) through its Global Program for Reintegration Support (GPRS).



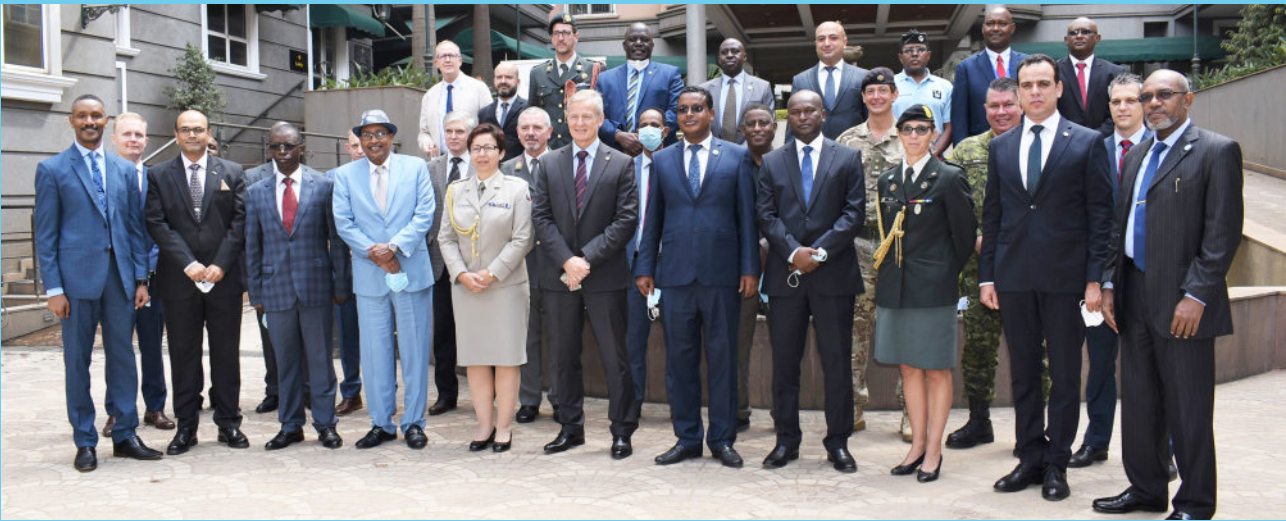
In this regard, EASF hosted a round-table meeting with a nominated team of experts from the continent. The meeting was officially opened by the Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa on 22 March 2021.

The team's duty covers the exchange of technical insights on human rights and conflict prevention methodologies. This effort seeks to synergize conceptual understanding, data collection and analysis methodologies. Further, the meeting aims at exchanging knowledge and develop capacities of analysts on human rights based approaches to conflict prevention.

A total of 15 participants (8 on premises and 7 virtually) took part in the meeting. The project is funded by the United Nations Human Rights Commission through the World Bank.



## The Friends of EASF Group Upholds Commitment



The ordinary meeting of the Friends of EASF took place on 24 March 2021 at the Villa Rosa Kempinski Hotel, in Westlands, Nairobi, Kenya.

EASF has many strategic partners, one being a pool of many countries regrouped under the name 'Friends of EASF'. The aim of the meeting was to discuss pertinent issues relating to the organization and how to attract other potential countries in supporting the work of the EASF.

In his opening remarks, the Chairperson of Friends of EASF, Col. Joern Rasmussen, highlighted the importance of collaborating and networking with the countries represented and also considering other potential countries coming onboard to support the EASF. He also noted some of the challenges faced by the EASF both in terms of finance and the adverse effects COVID-19 pandemic.

Speaking at the opening of the meeting, the Director of EASF, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa highlighted EASF's remarkable achievements as well as challenges facing the organization currently. The Director highlighted EASF's contribution in the areas of democracy and good governance through the deployment of election observation missions in Seychelles and Uganda despite the challenges of the health pandemic.

The meeting was attended by representatives and Defense Attachés from Turkey, Canada, Belgium, the Netherlands, France, Finland, Australia, UAE, United Kingdom, Kenya, Sudan, the Czech Republic and many others countries. Also present were the Technical Advisors and EASF management staff.



## EASF Observes Election in Ethiopia

In line with EASF's commitment towards enhancement of democratic processes as well as supporting peace and stability in the region, the Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Fayisa, officially launched an Elections Observer Mission (EOM) to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, in June 2021. EASF's contingent of experts from its Member States was deployed to observe the democratic process in Ethiopia in accordance with the African Charter on Democracy, Elections, and Governance (ACDEG).



During the flagging-off ceremony, the Director urged the team to carry out its mandate in the most efficient and professional way. Brig. Gen. Fayisa expressed satisfaction that the mission's planning team weighed substantively into gender parity, and unanimously elected the Head of Finance and Administration, Ms. Lina Peggy Hoareau, as the Deputy Head of Mission.

EASF EOM issued its preliminary statement the next day after voting was completed, and the final report was released in November 2021.

## Integrated Mission Support Course in Addis Ababa

EASF conducted a two-weeks Integrated Mission Support Course at the Logistics Base in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 5 to 16 July 2021.

This course aims to provide participants with essential knowledge, skills and attitude required for effective planning,

coordination and successful delivery of mission support to Peace Support Operations whereby police, military and civilian personnel are to be deployed, in accordance with African Union's policies and doctrines.

The course was officially opened by Brig. Gen. Bulti Tadesse from the Defense Foreign Relations Directorate of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. During the opening ceremony, the EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa also addressed the course participants, underlining the importance of the course in the context of peace support initiatives.

The training was funded through the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) IV program.



## EASF Receives Rapid Deployment Kits

The Danish Ambassador to Kenya, His Excellency Ambassador Ole Thonke, handed over Rapid Deployment Kits (RDK) worth about USD 36,000 to the Eastern African Standby Force Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi on 25 May 2021.

The EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa received the kits and thanked the ambassador and the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark for the support that EASF highly needs in its capacity enhancement endeavors.

In his handover speech, Amb. Ole Thonke commended EASF for its tireless efforts in promoting peace and security in the Eastern Africa region and beyond. He underscored the current Full Operational Capability (FOC) status which the Standby Force attained in 2014.

The ambassador added that these RDKs are important especially for civilians during mission deployment. Each RDK contains satellite phones, GPS navigation equipment, first aid kits, survival food packs (for a team of four people for up to 72 hours) and other safety tools that can serve during mission deployment. The Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark has been providing financial, material and technical advisory support to EASF through the International Advisory and Coordinating Staff (IACS) housed within the EASF Secretariat.



## Integrated Mission Planning Course Conducted in Bujumbura

EASF conducted a two-weeks long Integrated Mission Planning Course (IMPC) in Bujumbura, Burundi in July 2021. The course was officially opened by Col. Victor Nduwumuremyi, Deputy Operations Officer, from Burundi Defence Forces, on 26 July 2021.



The course aims at increasing the number of individuals drawn from civilian, police and military backgrounds from all 10 Member States that are qualified to operate as Staff Officers at either the Mission or Force Headquarters level. It familiarizes participants with EASF's Operational Planning Process (OPP) and provides them with tools to conduct operational planning, whereby Military, Civilian, Police components and Mission Support Components are integrated in a single mission plan.

The two-weeks IMPC with twenty-four participants from EASF Member States was funded by the European Union through the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) programme.



## Youth for Peace and Environmental Protection Seminar in Addis Ababa

EASF conducted a two-day “Youth for Peace and Environmental Protection Seminar” in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 6 to 7 July 2021.



The Guest of Honor, the Minister of Peace, Her Excellency Mufariat Kamil from the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, opened the seminar officially. In her opening remarks, the Minister thanked EASF and all the youth leaders from Member States for coming to Ethiopia and participating in this important seminar. She said, “Africa has potential youth power that can change its image. What is needed from us is addressing the mechanism of changing this potential youth power into a meaningful agent of peace and security.” She appreciated EASF for engaging the youth in activities that advocate peace and environmental protection.

The EASF Director, Brigadier General Getachew Shiferaw welcomed the participants and thanked the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia for hosting the seminar. He emphasized that by the end of the seminar, youth leaders from EASF Member States should take home what they have acquired during the seminar to their respective countries.

Delegates from African Union, European Union, Civil Societies and representatives from the Host Nation participated in the seminar.

The Youth for Peace and Environmental Protection Seminar was followed by tree planting on 8 July 2021 by youth from EASF member states and from Ethiopian Youth Federation. The youth braved the cold and misty morning in the Entoto Park, Ethiopia, to plant trees as part of Ethiopia’s ‘Green Legacy’ program, aimed at planting 6 billion trees by the end of the year.

The Guest of Honor at the tree planting event, Ethiopia’s State Minister of the Ministry of Agriculture, His Excellency Mr. Sani Redi, expressed his gratitude to both EASF and the youth delegates from the Member States for supporting the ‘Green Legacy’ Campaign. “Your action is an exemplary deed, it is my wish that as the trees grow and flourish, you will also grow and flourish in life as leaders of the young generation,” he said.

The tree planting ceremony was followed by presentation of a peace pledge by the youth delegates to the Director of EASF, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa.

The Youth for Peace project is aimed at protecting the environment and promoting peace by engaging youth from EASF Member States. The project is funded by the European Union through the APSA program.

## Main Planning Conference

EASF conducted a five-day Main Planning Conference for the Command Post Exercise (CPX 21) in Nairobi, Kenya, in July 2021. The Conference, which was officially opened by EASF Director, Brigadier General Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa on

26 July 2021, aimed to make an in-depth analysis and validation of the working documents prepared during the Initial Planning Conference which was held in the Union of Comoros in March 2021.



Explaining the purpose of the exercise, Director Brigadier General Shiferaw said, “The aim of the Command Post Exercise (CPX) code named ‘Command Post Exercise Mashariki Salaam III’ is to develop, consolidate, maintain and test the capability of EASF in planning and conducting multidimensional operations both in operational and strategic levels. The Command Post Exercise (CPX 21) which was scheduled to be held in Nairobi in November 2021 is named “Mashariki Salaam III” was postponed to the year 2022.

This conference which drew participants from EASF was sponsored by the African Union through the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) program.

## Child Protection Course in Nairobi

EASF conducted a Child Protection Course at the International Peace Support Training Centre (IPSTC) in Karen, Kenya, from 19 to 30 July 2021.



The course is aimed at tackling the vulnerability of children in Peace Support Operations (PSO) environments and conflict areas as well as enhancing the understanding of participants about armed conflicts and their impact on children. The Director of EASF, also a chief guest, Brig. General Getachew Shiferaw opened the course officially. In his opening remarks, the Director thanked the Republic of Kenya for allowing EASF to conduct this important course, and EASF Member States for their willingness to send participants for the course. The Director said that the African continent is witnessing different types of conflicts and calamities in which vulnerability of children is a major concern. He emphasized the importance of such courses in order to equip EASF’s multidimensional force with the right knowledge and skills to protect both girls and boys during missions.

Participants of the course were drawn from Member States and EASF staff. The course has both theoretical and practical sessions that help participants acquire experience, knowledge and skills on child rights and protection.



## Police Pre-Deployment Course

EASF conducted a two-weeks African Union's Police Pre-Deployment Course from 31 August to 10 September, 2021 at the Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS) at Embakasi, Nairobi.



The course has drawn 48 participants from EASF Member States, 6 trainers from the region as well as 4 mentors: 2 from Denmark and 2 from Norway. The course was funded by the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark. The relevant details of those officers who have now accomplished the course will be maintained in the EASF Police Database.

Officially closing the course on 10 September was EASF Director, Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa. In his key address during the closing ceremony, the Director thanked the participants, the trainers and mentors for dedicating their efforts towards achieving the course objectives. Brig Gen Fayisa thanked EASF Member States for availing officers to participate in this course despite many challenges. The Director applauded the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark for supporting the course.

## Integrated SGBV Course in Burundi

Violence against women, girls and children (vulnerable people) in conflict and post conflict situations has been of great concern all over the world despite the existence of different legal instruments aimed at addressing this kind of human suffering. The most common violence, in this regard, is Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV). The suffering is extensive with long lasting physical and psychological effects even those who are not part of the conflict. This makes it crucial to have well prepared officers who can effectively address issues of human rights violations, especially the SGBV.



It is under this premise that EASF conducted a Sexual and Gender Based Violence course for personnel from civilian, military and police backgrounds from across EASF Member States in Bujumbura, Burundi from 10 to 20 September 2021.

The Guest of Honor during the opening ceremony on 10 September was CPP Louis Marie Mwumvaneza from Burundi National Police. CPP Mwumvaneza expressed gratitude that the Standby Force had decided to conduct this important course in the Republic of Burundi. He further reinstated his confidence that the trainees would absorb the relevant knowledge and skills which would positively impact EASF's capacity building efforts in the desired way.

In the opening ceremony, EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa thanked the Government and the people of the Republic of Burundi for hosting the course. Brig Gen Fayisa outlined the important role of women in peace processes and the need to address the specific vulnerabilities of women and children in conflict situations.

The course was facilitated by 3 regional police trainers and 2 civilian trainers from EASF Member States, who are all certified in SGBV Training of Trainers. There were also two other mentors, one from Denmark and another Norway. The training was funded by the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark.





## EASF Policy Organs Meetings Conducted Virtually

The 29th Ordinary Session of EASF's Policy Organs Meeting (POM) took place virtually from 4 to 7 October 2021. The virtual meetings were coordinated from the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi. EASF POMs comprise three meetings which are run consecutively, viz., the Experts Working Group (EWG) meeting, the Chiefs of Defence Staff (CDS) meeting, and meeting of the Council of Ministers for Defence and Security. The EWG meeting analyzes and drafts discussion points for the CDS meeting. The Council of Ministers of Defense and Security would eventually deliberate on issues put forward for them by the CDS. Decisions made by the Council are final and are passed over to the Secretariat for implementation over a predefined period.

The Director of EASF, Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa made opening speeches in each of the three virtual meetings. In his speech on the EWG meeting, he thanked EASF Member States for availing highly qualified subject-matter experts to deliberate on matters put forward for discussion. On his speech to the CDS meeting, Brig Gen Fayisa thanked EASF Member States for the continued support they have been according the Standby Force as it continues to execute its mandate of ensuring peace and stability in the region. He informed the CDS that the Secretariat has continued to implement its annual activity plan despite various challenges including those posed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

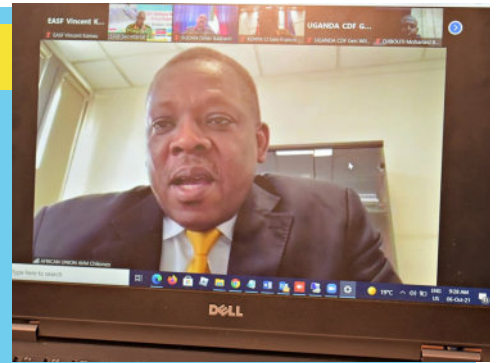
Representative from the African Union, Air Vice Marshall Brian Chikonzo, who addressed the CDS meeting participants, encouraged EASF to continue with its work and assured the participants that the African Union would always be ready to support peace initiatives on the entire continent.

In his opening remarks on the meeting of the Council of Ministers

for Defence and Security, EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa informed the Council that EASF had managed to maintain the organization's viability despite COVID-19 related challenges through timely implementation of decisions of the Policy Organs, execution of planned activities and maintenance of Full Operational Capability by conducting continued capacity building. He thanked the Ministers for their guidance, encouragement and steering the Standby Force towards executing its mandate of maintaining a peaceful and stable Eastern Africa. He reflected on recent engagement with Partners and Friends of EASF in seeking ways towards cultivating a broader avenue of cooperation in terms of financial, technical and logistical support in the near future.

The Chief of Staff of the African Standby Force (ASF), Air Vice Marshall Brian Chikonzo, who addressed the Counsel's meeting, acknowledged the importance of the support ASF receives from Regional Mechanisms such as EASF and reiterated that the African Union, through the ASF, remains committed in supporting EASF in its mandate as well as seeking ways of enhancing cooperation and coordination between both players.

In his opening remarks, the Chairperson of the Friends of EASF, Col. Joern Rasmussen, congratulated EASF and its Member States for their continued commitment to multilateralism and regional cooperation for more than 17 years.



## Force Headquarters Training

EASF conducted a Force Headquarters Training at Kenya Commercial Bank Leadership Training Center in Karen, Nairobi, from 10 to 19 November 2021. The training was meant to prepare



the Force Headquarters staff for African Union or EASF mandated Peace Support Operations (PSO). It was informed by the necessity to further develop and maintain the operational capability of the multinational Force Headquarters.

The training acquainted the participants with EASF as an organization, structure and capabilities of the Military Component, as well as the role of the component in various PSO scenarios. The skills imparted include the use of analytical tools and the ability to create planning products that facilitate headquarters tactical planning. The course was funded by the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark.

## EASF Conducts Civilian Foundation Courses

EASF conducted two rounds of the Civilian Foundation Course in 2021. The first round which engaged 30 trainees from EASF member states took place at the Humanitarian Peace Support School (HPSS) from



22 March to 2 April, 2021 in Embakasi, Nairobi. This round was opened officially by Joint Chief of Staff, Brig. Gen. (Dr) Osman Mohamed Osman on behalf of the Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa.

The second round was offered from 29 November to 8 December, 2021 at the HPSS in Embakasi, Nairobi, Kenya. Opening the second round on 29 November was the EASF Director, Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa. During the opening ceremony, the director thanked EASF Member States for availing participants to attend the course stressing the importance of maintaining and enhancing a force that is ready and deployable at all times, as required by the African Union.

The PSO Foundation Course is the first capacity building step for professional civilian personnel who are eligible and genuinely interested in serving in PSOs carried out by either the African Union or EASF. The Foundation Course is a pre-requisite for the inclusion of successful participants in the Continental African Standby Capacity Roster and admission to suitable future training in specialization fields. The course was funded by the African Union, through the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA IV) program.

## Integrated Peace Operations Course

EASF conducted African Integrated Peace Operations Course (AIPOC) at the Kenya Commercial Bank Leadership Center in Karen, Nairobi, on 14 November 2021. The course was conducted in two rounds: the first round from 19 to 21 November 2021 and the second from 21 to 26 November 2021.



The Planning Element Joint Chief of Staff, Brig Gen Dr. PSC Osman Mohamed Abbas opened the courses on behalf of the EASF director.

The course is informed by the necessity to prepare military, police and civilian personnel to handle crisis situations in a multidimensional Peace Support Operations (PSO) mission setup. It seeks to enhance the knowledge and understanding of integrated crisis management approaches as well as collaboration and coordination among diverse actors. The course was funded by the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre (FINCENT) of Finland.

## Humanitarian Action and Disaster Support Workshop

EASF conducted a Humanitarian Action and Disaster Support (HANDS) workshop in Moroni, Comoros from 29 November to 3 December 2021.



Leading the EASF team from the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, during the official opening of the workshop

was Planning Element Joint Chief of Staff, Brig Gen Dr. PSC Osman Mohamed Abbas.

The first step in the actualization of HANDS generic framework was scenario development project. In this respect, the workshop sought to develop diverse HANDS scenarios so as to enhance a common understanding of disaster and pandemic situations management within the Eastern Africa region.

The HANDS workshop was funded by the Government of the Royal Kingdom of Denmark.

## Youth for Peace Seminar in Seychelles



EASF conducted the Youth for Peace seminar in Victoria, Seychelles from 1 to 2 December to 2021 with the theme 'Promoting Peace, and Protecting the Environment'.

The two-days seminar sought to sensitize young people on the essence of maintaining peace in the Eastern Africa region as well as on the entire African continent by dissuading the youth from violent actions and facilitating their meaningful participation in all spectrums of peace and security. This engagement is the second one in line with African Union's Youth Program following a similar activity that EASF conducted in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in the course of the year 2021.

Officially opening the seminar was the Principal Secretary of Youth Mr. Jean Louis. The opening ceremony was also attended by the EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa and Mr. Steve Lalande, the Director of Regional Affairs, in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs & Tourism in the Republic of Seychelles. Mr. Lalande is a former Head of the EASF Civilian Component.

After the opening ceremony, the EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa paid courtesy calls to the Chief of Defence Forces, Brigadier Michael Rosette, the Commissioner of Seychelles Police, Ted Barbe, and the Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Viviane Fock Tave

*After the opening ceremony, the EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa paid courtesy calls to the Chief of Defence Forces, Brigadier Michael Rosette, the Commissioner of Seychelles Police, Ted Barbe, and the Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Viviane Fock Tave*

## EASF Director meets with the President of Seychelles

The EASF Director, Brigadier General Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa and his delegation was received by the President of the Republic of Seychelles, His Excellency Wavel Ramkalawan, for a courtesy call at State House on 2 December 2021.

The President welcomed the EASF Director and his delegation and commended him for the achievements of the organization, highlighting the importance of maintaining peace and security in the region. “Welcome to our shores and it is my sincere wish that your visit will further solidify our bonds of cooperation. Rest assured of my Government’s unwavering support in consolidating the existing relations,” said President Ramkalawan. The President also thanked EASF for deploying an election observer mission during the last general elections held in October 2020.



On his part, the EASF Director congratulated the President and people of Seychelles for the peaceful transition of power and for the level of political maturity displayed by the leaders involved in the last elections. “This is indeed an example to the rest of the world” said the Director. The Director also briefed the President and his delegation on the major achievements of EASF and the potential for further engagement with Seychelles especially in the maritime security.

The President’s team during the meeting included the Chief of the Seychelles People’s Defence Forces, Brigadier Michael Rosette, the Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Vivianne Fock Tave and Director-General Regional Affairs, Department of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Steve Lalande and other officials from the Department of Foreign Affairs in Seychelles.

At the meeting, the EASF Director was accompanied by Head of Administration and Finance, Ms. Lina Hoareau, Head of the Peace Operations Department, Brig. Henry Isoke, and the Information Manager for EASF, Mr. Jules Hoareau.



*The President welcomed the EASF Director and his delegation and commended him for the achievements of the organization, highlighting the importance of maintaining peace and security in the region.*



## EASF Conducted High-Level Meetings in Uganda



The 30th Ordinary Session of EASF's Policy Organs Meetings (POM) were conducted from 13 to 17 December 2021 at the Speke Resort, in Munyonyo, Uganda. POM is a series of three high-level meetings conducted consecutively as per the EASF regulations, viz.: the Experts Working Group (EWG), the Committee of Chiefs of Defence and Security (CCDS), and the Council of Ministers of Defence and Security (CMDs) meetings.

As usual, this POM started with the EWG session with the aim to apprise the higher leaders of the Eastern Africa region on the progress made by EASF since the 29th Ordinary Policy Organs Meetings.

It was officially opened by Guest of honor, Gen. Peter Elwelu, Deputy Chief of the Uganda Defence Forces who pointed out the great achievements of EASF in discharging its mandate of promoting peace in the region and also highlighted the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the region.

The Chairperson of the EASF Experts Working Group, Col. Mohamed Barkat

from Djibouti, also offered welcoming remarks whereby he highlighted the key achievements of EASF and the importance of this EWG session notably in preparing for the coming year 2022.

On his part, the Director of EASF, Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa informed the EWG meeting that the Secretariat had implemented successfully the Council's decisions as well as the 2021 EASF Activity Plan despite the COVID-19 pandemic. The Director called on the EWG to consider the issue of remittance of contribution from Member States. The Director also conveyed utmost appreciation to the Republic of Uganda, to Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces and to EASF Member States for their contributions and participations in the 30th Policy Organs Meetings.

Following the EWG meeting came the CCDS meeting on 16 December, whose Guest of Honor was Hon. Jacob Marksons Oboth, Minister of State, General Duties, from the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs. In his opening address, Hon. Oboth applauded the great

achievements of EASF in discharging its mandate of promoting peace in the region.

In his welcoming remarks, the Chairperson of the CDS, Taher Ali Mohamed, thanked the Government of Uganda, for hosting the POM. He urged the defense chiefs to continue supporting the organization especially through timely submission of assessed contributions to ensure the proper running of the affairs of EASF and EASF partners for their supports.

EASF Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa, also delivered opening remarks whereby he underscored the role of the Friends of EASF in the implementation of EASF activities. "I cannot fail to recognize the major role played by the African Union, European Union through APSA and the Friends of EASF in supporting the implementation of our activities through funding and technical support. On behalf of EASF, I wish to register our appreciation to AU and all the partners who have continued to be with us through these difficult times," said the Director.

The CMDS meeting, the last and highest of the POM, which took place on 17 December, was opened by Guest Honor Hon. Jacob Marksons Oboth, Minister of State, General Duties from the Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs of Uganda. The Hon. Jacob Marksons Oboth called on all actors to address the security

challenges that confront the region stressing the need for collaborative efforts.

In his address at the CMDS meeting, EASF director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa said, "We are faced with many security challenges in our region from terrorism, cross border crime and illicit trafficking, and this is why we need to continuously promote the values of peace and security."

The Chairperson of the Friends of EASF represented by the Civilian Advisor, Mr. Peter Zartsdahl, stressed the importance of having the political willingness of from the Heads of State and Government to reflect on widening the scope of EASF's mandate to include humanitarian, natural disasters and asymmetric threats in terms of capacity and resources.

The 30th Ordinary POM deliberated and passed decisions on a range of issues including the 2022 Annual plan of EASF. It came to conclusion on 17 December 2021 by conducting the traditional ceremony of rotation of bureau which took place alongside the ceremonial parade by Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces (UPDF) where the EASF flag was handed over from the Republic of Djibouti, the outgoing Chair, to new chair, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. Meanwhile, Ethiopia has also confirmed that it will host the 31st Policy Organs Meetings in 2022.

## COURTESY CALLS

1. EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa met with Amb. Chol M. U. Ajongo, who is the Head of Mission at the Embassy of South Sudan to Kenya and Permanent Representative to UNEP and UN-HABITAT on 10 February 2021.



2. **Director Pays Turkish Ambassador a Courtesy Call**

EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa paid a courtesy call on the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey to Kenya, Amb. Ahmet Cemil Miroglu on 11 February 2021



3. **Rwanda Defence and Police Attaches Call on Director**

Defence Attaché at the Rwandese Embassy in Nairobi, Brig. Gen. Joseph Demali together with the Police Attaché, Assistant Commissioner of Police Stephen Rukumba, met with EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa on Friday 26 February 2021, at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi.



4. **Turkish Military Assistant Attaché Calls on Director**

Turkish Military Assistant Attaché at the Embassy in Nairobi Sergeant Major Taskin Kilic paid a courtesy call on the EASF Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa on 22 March 2021 at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi.



5. **Management Visits Japanese Ambassador**

A delegation comprising members of EASF management led by the Director, Brig. Gen. Getachew Fayisa, paid a courtesy call to the Japanese Ambassador to Kenya, His Excellency Amb. Horie Ryoichi at the Embassy in Nairobi on 30 April 2021.



6. **Japanese DA in Talks with Director**

EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Fayisa held talks with Commander Takao Katsumata who is the Defence Attache at the Embassy of Japan, at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, on 27 May 2021.





## COURTESY CALLS

### 7. Diplomats Visit EASF's EOM Coordination Center

A Danish and Swedish delegation including ambassadors visited the EASF Election Observer Mission Coordination Center in Addis Ababa and was briefed by the Deputy Head of Mission, Ms. Lina Hoareau, on 21 June 2021.

Head of Mission and his Deputy also met with the Ethiopian Ambassador to African Union, Ambassador Tesfaye Yilma.



### 8. EASF in Talks with Defence Cabinet Secretary

A delegation of EASF top leadership held consultative talks with the Cabinet Secretary in the Ministry of Defence, Amb. Dr. Monica Juma, at the Defence Headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya, on 30 June 2021.



### 9. Members of EASF management held meetings with African Union's senior officials on 13 July 2021, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



### 10. EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa hosted the new Turkish Defence Attache to Kenya Captain (Navy) Erdinc Parlak at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi on 9 August 2021.



### 11. EASF Joint Chief of Staff Brig. Gen. Dr. PSC Osman Mohamed Abbas paid a courtesy call to the Operations and Trainings Commander of the Burundi National Defence Forces, Brig. Gen. Leonidas Niyungeko in Bujumbura, Burundi, on 12 August 2021.



### 12. EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa hosted the new Director of the International Peace Support Training Center (IPSTC), Brig. Joyce Sitienei at the EASF Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, on 13 August 2021.



## COURTESY CALLS

13. Members of EASF's senior leadership held extensive discussions with Turkish Defence officials in Istanbul, Turkey, on 18 August 2021.



14. EASF held extensive discussions with officials at the Rwanda Peace Academy from 23 to 27 August 2021 in Musanze, Rwanda.



15. EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa together with senior officials held a meeting with the Chairperson of the Friends of EASF, Col. Joern Rasmussen at the Hermosa Hotel in Karen, Nairobi, on 24 September 2021.



16. The Head of Police Component at African Union's Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) - Plans and Operations Unit, Police Commissioner Mrs. Lillian Okembo (KEN), paid a working visit to the EASF Police Component, at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, on Monday 4 October 2021.



17. EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa paid a courtesy call to the GIZ Country Director, Mr. Bodo Immink at the GIZ Headquarters on Riverside Drive, Nairobi, on 10 November 2021.



18. A delegation of military officers from the Finnish Defence Forces International Centre of Finland (FINCENT) paid a courtesy call to the EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, on 22 November 2021.



19. EASF Military Chief of Staff Colonel Abdallah Rafick paid a courtesy call to the President of the Union of Comoros, His Excellency Azali Assoumani at State House Moroni, on 3 December 2021.



## COURTESY CALLS

20. EASF Director Brig Gen Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa together with senior officials from the Secretariat called on Ambassador Gunnar Andreas Holm of the Norwegian Embassy in Nairobi, on 6 December 2021.



21. A delegation of police officers from the International Police Deployment Department of Danish Police paid a courtesy call to the EASF Director Brig. Gen. Getachew Shiferaw Fayisa at the Secretariat in Karen, Nairobi, on 9 December 2021.



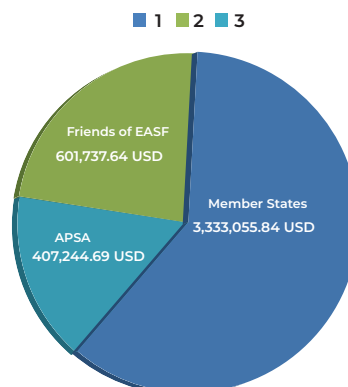
## FINANCIAL REPORT

The approved Member States budget for the financial year 2021 was **USD 4,342,038.17**. EASF received Contributions amounting to **USD 3,333,055.84** from its Member States.

The approved Partners budget for the financial year 2021 was **USD 3,247,500** for Activities and **USD 231,210.84** for Recurrent Budget. EASF received for 2021 Contributions amounting to **USD 601,737.64** and **EURO 663,779.52** from its Donors.

SUMMARY				
	APPROVED BUDGET	PERCENTAGE	CONTRIBUTION RECEIVED	PERCENTAGE
MEMBER STATES	4,342,038.17	55.52%	3,333,055.84	84.70%
DONORS	3,478,710.84	44.48%	601,737.64	15.30%
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>	<b>7,820,749.01</b>		<b>3,934,793.48</b>	

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF 2021





Eastern Africa Standby Force, 2022

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## EASTERN AFRICA STANDBY FORCE

“STRIVING FOR PEACE AND SECURITY IN EASTERN AFRICA”



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