



UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF PEACEKEEPING OPERATIONS
OFFICE OF RULE OF LAW AND SECURITY INSTITUTIONS
JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS SERVICE
JUSTICE AND CORRECTIONS STANDING CAPACITY

JCSC NEWS

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Introduction

The **Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity** (JCSC) is a part of the Justice and Corrections Service in the Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions of the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO). It is based at the United Nations Global Service Centre in Brindisi, Italy, and is a rapid response team of five justice and corrections experts that deploys to support United Nations peace operations. JCSC has three core functions: (1) starting up justice and corrections components in peace operations; (2) reinforcing existing peace operations in the areas of justice and corrections by providing time-limited and targeted support; and (3) conducting needs assessments and reviews in the areas of justice and corrections.

Overview of deployments in 2016

In 2016, requests from peace operations for JCSC support continued to increase. A major client throughout the year was the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), which has a complex rule of law-related mandate, including operational prison support and assistance in establishing a Special Criminal Court (SCC) to address serious conflict-related crimes. JCSC also deployed to MONUSCO, UNAMID and UNMISS in order to provide strategic management capacity, support to transition planning, and assist with the operation of United Nations-run holding facilities. The capacity also conducted rule of law assessments in UNMIK and UNFICYP.

MINUSCA (Central African Republic)

Between February and August 2016, JCSC deployed to MINUSCA to establish and temporarily lead the Special Criminal Court Support Unit (SCCSU) within the Mission's Justice and Corrections Section. Based on the principle of national ownership, JCSC assisted in the development of the selection procedure for the Court's international magistrates and created a network of international and national partners for the Court. In addition, JCSC with UNDP was instrumental in planning the operationalization of the Court through United Nations assessed funding of USD 4.7 million as well as other contributions.

In a further deployment to MINUSCA from October 2016 onwards, JCSC contributed significantly to the devel-



From left: Carsten Weber, JCSC Team Leader, H.E Nicolas Nzoyoum, Ambassador of Cameroon in CAR, Didace Nyirinkwaya, MINUSCA Judicial Affairs Officer. Credit: Staff at Cameroonian Embassy in Bangui

opment of the expenditure plan in support of the Court. JCSC also initiated programme delivery for the security of Court personnel and outreach activities for civil society organizations and judicial authorities. In addition, JCSC co-designed a detailed plan for the operationalization of the SCC for the next 18

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months, which will allow MINUSCA, UNDP and other key partners to optimize planning, monitoring and tracking progress on a regular basis.

Between May and August 2016, JCSC deployed to MINUSCA to support operational tasks in national prisons. JCSC developed a deployment plan and organized logistical support for an additional 68 United Nations corrections personnel (Government Provided Personnel) to assist national authorities in enhancing prison security. JCSC assisted in the development of standard operating procedures and guidelines for the additional corrections personnel and designed a training programme at Ngarabga Central Prison in Bangui and the *Camp de Roux* detention facility. The training included sessions on the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (“Mandela Rules”), prison security, incident management, negotiation techniques and self-defense techniques.

MONUSCO (Democratic Republic of the Congo)

From March to June 2016, JCSC was deployed to MONUSCO to assist the Justice and Corrections Section in strengthening the Prosecution Support Cells (PSCs) programme to optimize their effectiveness in the mandated fight against impunity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The deployment resulted in a series of recommendations with respect to management, reporting, partnerships and case prioritization, which are currently being implemented.

In another deployment to MONUSCO since October 2016, JCSC has been temporarily heading the Justice and Corrections Section. JCSC designed a new strategic outlook for the Section based on the new Mission priorities and, in close cooperation with UNDP, worked towards establishing a multi-disciplinary Criminal Justice Task Force and a Rule of Law Transition Plan. JCSC also strengthened the Mission’s outreach to donors aimed at achieving sustained political and financial support for rule of law reform in the country.



National Workshop on Priority Cases in Kinshasa — From left: Raluca Eddon, Team Leader, Gouvernance et Consolidation de la Paix, UNDP DRC, Manga Nyamkway, Prosecutor General at the Constitutional Court of the DRC, and Carsten Weber, JCSC Team Leader. Credit: Jean Marius Simpire, MONUSCO

UNAMID (Darfur)

In December 2016, JCSC deployed to the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) to assist the Mission’s Rule of Law Section in the implementation of its transition planning for the re-establishment of the criminal justice chain in priority returnee areas in North and West Darfur. As part of the deployment, a series of assessment visits to returnee areas has been conducted jointly with other UNAMID components and UNDP. This assessment will inform the planning of high impact projects in areas where armed conflict has ceased and where the rule of law can contribute to sustaining peace.



Second from the left: Ignacio Tredici (JCSC Judicial Affairs Officer) meeting with Adam Kuma, Coordinator for Humanitarian issues from the IDP community, at the IDPs' communal hall in Kabkabiya, North Darfur. Credit: Ali Al Omari, UNAMID Police

UNMISS (South Sudan)

Between January and March 2016, JCSC deployed to the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to support the management of the Mission's holding facilities, located within the UNMISS Protection of Civilians sites. JCSC drafted policies, standard operating procedures, guidelines and protocols on the use of non-lethal force, incident management as well as a detainee recreation routine; conducted an oversight management review of all UNMISS holding facilities; developed training and rotation plans for UNMISS corrections officers working at the holding facilities; and supported infrastructural improvements for the holding facilities.



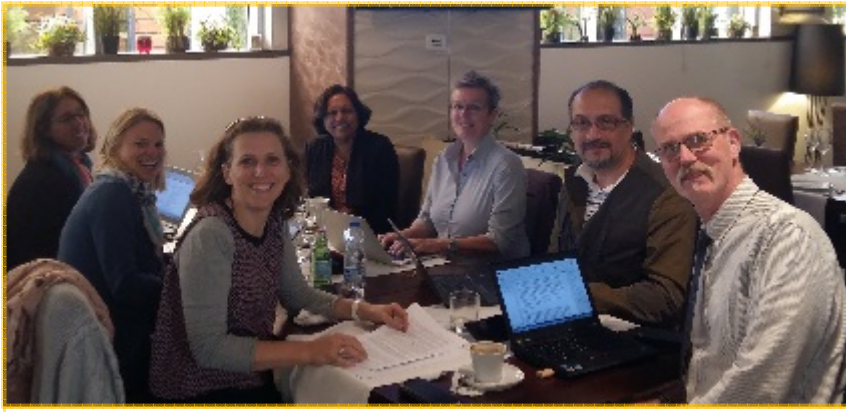
Anna Sif Olafsson (JCSC Corrections Officer) with training team and participants of the first mission-specific prison security training. Credit: Theophile Touabobona, Corrections Officer, MINUSCA

UNFICYP (Cyprus)

A JCSC Judicial Affairs Officer joined a Transition Planning Working Group in Cyprus in May 2016, consisting of representatives from DPKO and DFS, to initiate the transition planning in anticipation of a final political agreement. This planning exercise was based on the Security Council resolution 2263 (2016) noting “the importance of transition planning in relation to the settlement, including recommendations as appropriate for further adjustments to UNFICYP’s mandate, force levels and other resources and concept of operations, taking into account developments on the ground and the views of the parties”.

UNMIK (Kosovo)

In September 2016, JCSC deployed to the United Nations Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) to assess the local prison system and identify priority areas for future Mission engagement and programming in the corrections area, including the establishment of transparent and effective procurement, finance and recruitment systems; the design and implementation of a strategy to enable the provision of specialized and advanced corrections training; and key areas of cooperation between



Marie Pegie Cauchois (JCSC Judicial Affairs Officer), third from the left, and Anna Sif Olafsson (JCSC Corrections Officer), third from the right, with GFP Team in Kosovo. Credit: UNMIK staff

the local counterparts, UNMIK and other United Nations partners.

Also in September 2016, JCSC participated in a Global Focal Point mission to Kosovo to develop a joint United Nations police, justice and corrections support programme for Kosovo from January 2017 to July 2020. JCSC provided recommendations on areas in which the United Nations can build on its comparative advantages, including strengthening rule of law institutions, enhancing access to justice and supporting efforts to respond to Gender Based Violence.

Training

In response to the evolving requirements of justice and corrections components in the field, including the need to properly plan and implement major United Nations-funded rule of law support programmes, JCSC participated in a number of training events. These included training on strategic planning; mentoring and advising; and programmatic funding.

JCSC also contributed to the training of rule of law field personnel, including pre-deployment training for United Nations corrections officers in Senegal (March 2016) and Entebbe (May 2016). In October 2016, JCSC delivered a session on ‘Re-establishing the Rule of Law in Conflict and Post-conflict Countries: Lessons Learned in Peace Operations’ at the annual rule of law course in Sandö, Sweden, organized by the Swedish Folke Bernadotte Academy and the German Centre for International Peace Operations.

The way forward

DPKO’s capacity to rapidly deploy justice and corrections experts remains crucial for the successful delivery of rule of law mandates by United Nations peace operations. The Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C34) recognized the important role of JCSC in its 2016 report, which noted “the continued demand for assistance by the Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity” and recognized “the need for strengthening its capacity”. Moreover, the Report of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) (2015) underlined the need for increased rapid response capacity and rapidly deployable personnel especially for new peace operations.

In this context, JCSC will continue to deliver on its core functions and stands ready for future deployments to new peace missions. It is also prepared to provide surge, planning and strategic capacity to closing missions or missions facing a significant drawdown. JCSC will further increase its capacity to serve justice and corrections components by offering enhanced assistance on budgeting and planning processes.

Lastly, JCSC will continue its excellent cooperation with the United Nations Standing Police Capacity in Brindisi through joint training, planning and deployments to ensure coordinated support in the police, justice and corrections areas of peacekeeping.

CONTACT

Carsten Weber, Team Leader

Justice and Corrections Standing Capacity

United Nations Global Service Centre

Piazza del Vento, 1

72100 Brindisi — Italy

weberc@un.org

+39 0831 05 6305 (office)

+39 345 582 1790 (mobile)

