UNAMID TRANSITION PROCESS FROM PEACEKEEPING TO PEACE BUILDING

What Is UNAMID Transition About?

In 2018, the Security Council (SCR 2429, 2018) directed UNAMID to draw-down its operations in Darfur, with a potential exit in June 2020. Consequently, the Mission’s troop ceiling was reduced by 54 percent and its footprint reduced to the wider Jebel Marra.

The Council also directed UNAMID to work jointly with the UNCT to support a whole-of-system transition concept, known as the State Liaison Functions (SLFs) with the aim of providing sustainable solutions to the critical drivers of conflict as part of efforts to prevent a relapse into conflict.

The Mission is therefore implementing a two-pronged mandate i.e continuing with peacekeeping in Greater Jebel Marra where pockets of conflict exists and beginning to implement peacebuilding (through the SLFs) in Darfur States from which UNAMID has withdrawn. Transition is taking place along three key elements i.e political/peace, security and programmatic/peace building.

What Does The Peacekeeping Mandate Involve?

UNAMID supports the protection of civilians; facilitates the delivery of humanitarian assistance and ensures the safety of humanitarian personnel; mediates between the Government of Sudan and non-signatory armed movements on the basis of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur. On the latter, UNAMID is now providing support to the Transitional Government of Sudan (TGoS) led peace negotiation process taking place in South Sudan.

UNAMID is providing peacekeeping support in 13 team sites (TS). In South Darfur there are 4TS, North Darfur 6TS while Central Darfur has 3TS. Areas of operation host IDP camps namely in:

North Darfur Team Sites

- Saraf Umra (53,691 IDPs)
- Sortony (21,533 IDPs)
- Kutum (32,997 IDPs)
- Shangil Tobaya (41,698 IDPs)
- Kab’biya (87,722 IDPs)

Central Darfur Team Sites

- Golo (1,824 IDPs)
- Nertili (74,486 IDPs)
- Zalingi( IDPs)

South Darfur Team Sites

- Kalma (126,174 IDPs)
- Khor Abeche (28,405 IDPs)
- Menawashi (15,074 IDPs)
- Kass(76,000 IDPs)

Peacekeeping support in three states of Darfur, North, Central and South Darfur.
What Does The Peacebuilding Mandate Involve?

The peacebuilding mandate is about supporting the mediation of community conflict, including through measures to address its root causes.

In this regard, UNAMID is working with UN Agencies Funds and Programmes to implement programmatic activities under a framework known as the SLFs. The SLFs establish a link between Peacekeeping and Peacebuilding and contribute towards preventing a disruption of the Peace Continuum, especially in states where active conflict has ceased.

It focuses the work of the UN to preserve and build upon peacekeeping gains and offers an opportunity for development partners to invest in Darfur’s development through a joint UN conflict analysis and planning.

How Is The Overall UNAMID Transition Managed?

UNAMID jointly with the UN country team in Sudan adopted a more pragmatic approach in the form of a joint transition action plan (JTAP). This action plan is broken down into five distinctive but related workstreams: political/peace, security and programmatic/peace building.

It is a management tool and outlines the body of work that will need to be carried out by responsible offices/sections, as well as work to be carried forward post UNAMID’s departure from Darfur.

A Joint Transition Cell (JTC) has been established which supports UNAMID and the UNCT to spearhead and provide oversight on broad transition guided by the action plan. The JTC brings together UNAMID and the UNCT to ensure implementation of planned interventions under each workstream, including reporting on progress.

For more info, please contact: unamid-joint-transition-cell@un.org or the Office of the Deputy Joint Special Representative (ODJSR), or martha.wilhelm@un.org

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