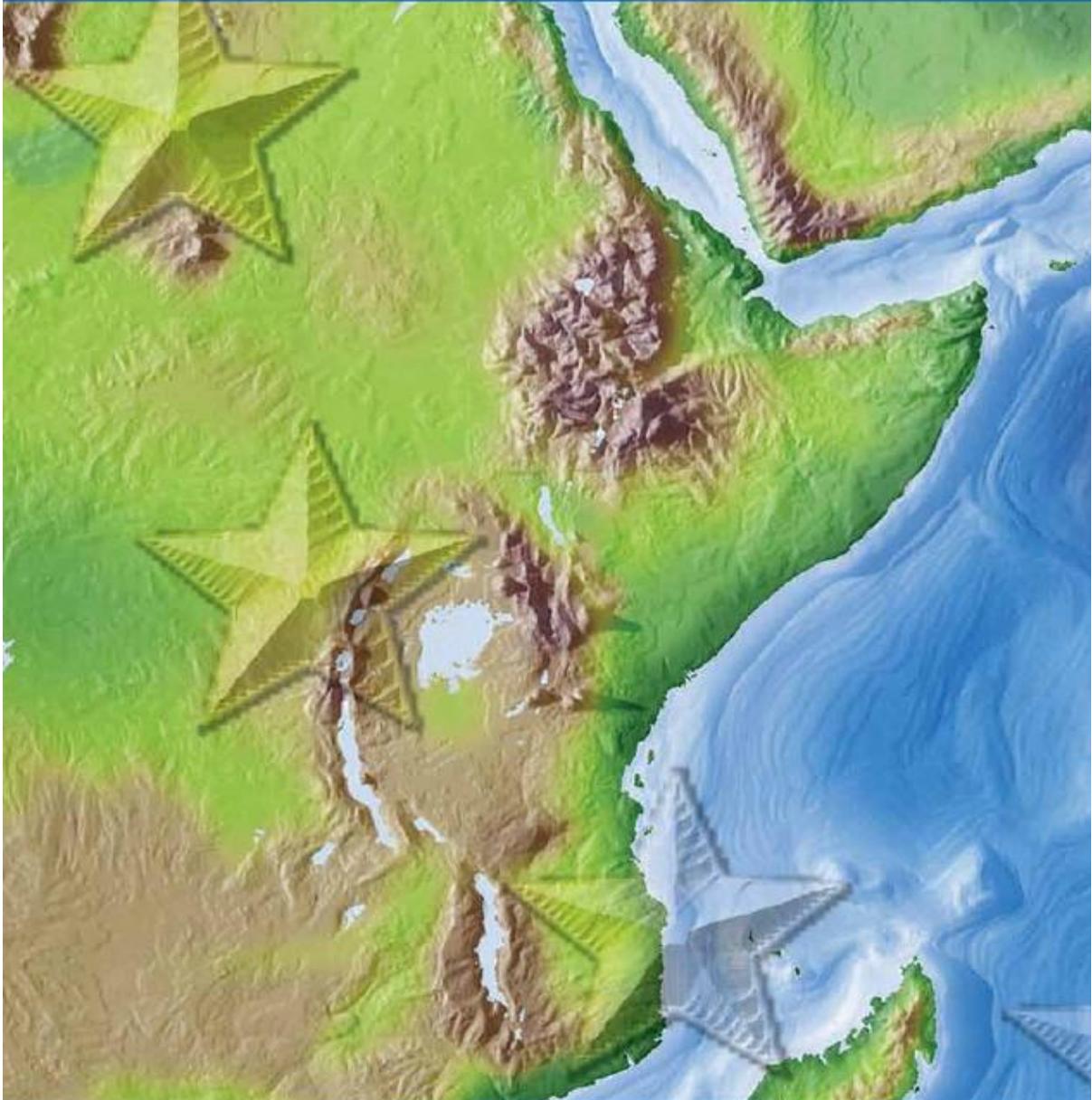




EU NAVFOR

OPERATION ATALANTA



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MEDIA INFORMATION GUIDE



EU NAVFOR

OPERATION ATALANTA

EU NAVAL OPERATION AGAINST PIRACY

Aim and Mandate:

The European Union is conducting a military operation to help deter, prevent and repress acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia.

This military operation, named European Union Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) Somalia - Operation ATALANTA, was launched in support of Resolutions 1814, 1816, 1838, 1846, 1897 and 1918 which were adopted by the United Nations Security Council.

Its mandate is to:

- Protect vessels of the World Food Programme (WFP), humanitarian aid, and African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) shipping
- Help deter, prevent and repress acts of piracy and armed robbery
- Protect vulnerable shipping
- Contribute to monitoring fishing activities off the coast of Somalia

This operation, **the European Union's first naval operation**, is being conducted within the framework of the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP).



Chain of Command:

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises the political control and strategic direction of the EU military operation, under the responsibility of the Council of the European Union. For its part the European Union Military Committee (EUMC) monitors the correct execution of the operation conducted under the responsibility of the Operation Commander.

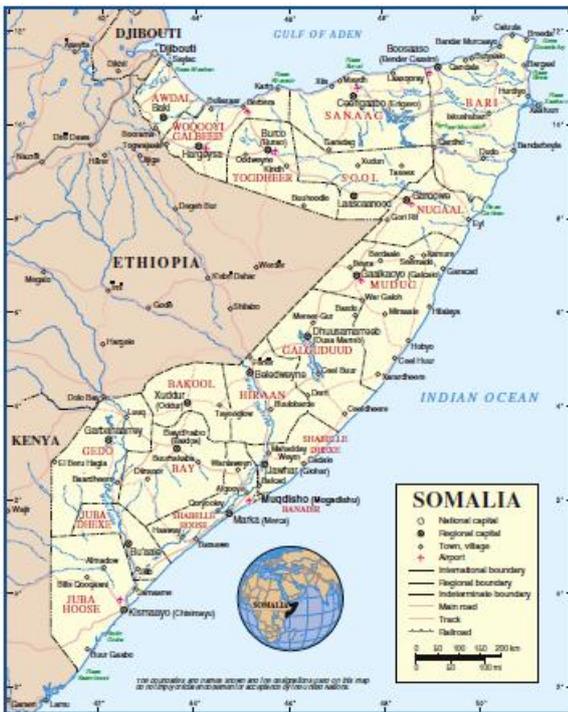
Major General Buster Howes OBE (UK) commands the operation from the Operational Headquarters (OHQ) at Northwood, United Kingdom. There he plans and conducts the operation in conjunction with the political and military authorities of the European Union.



Operational Parameters:

The operation, which was scheduled for an initial twelve months, has been extended twice by the Council of the European Union, with a new end date taking this mission through December 2012.

At the present time, more than 20 EU member states have made an operational contribution to the operation. These contributions include Warships, Maritime Patrol Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA), boarding teams, staff personnel or a combination of them. Non EU member states as Croatia, Norway, Switzerland, Montenegro and Ukraine have also participated.



The joint funding of the operation amounts to EUR 7.8 Million for the year 2011. This budget, which is shared between the EU member states and is established on the

basis of their GDP, mainly covers the running costs of the OHQ and the Force Headquarters (FHQ). The common costs for supplying the force are shared by the contributing countries and established according to their involvement in the operation, with each country continuing to bear the cost of the resources it contributes.

The military personnel involved in the operation can arrest, detain and transfer persons who are suspected of having committed or who have committed acts of piracy or armed robbery in the areas where they are present. They can seize the vessels of the pirates or the vessels captured following an act of piracy or an armed robbery and which are in the hands of the pirates, as well as the goods on board. The suspects can be prosecuted, as appropriate thus far, by an EU member state or by Kenya under the agreement signed with the EU on 6 March 2009 giving the Kenyan authorities the right to prosecute. An exchange of letters concluded on 30 October 2009 between the EU and the Republic of Seychelles allows the transfer of suspected pirates and armed robbers apprehended by ATALANTA in the operation area. This arrangement constitutes an important new contribution to the counter-piracy efforts. This agreement is based on the same conditions and framework than the Kenyan agreement. Similar arrangements with other countries in the region are being developed.

The European Naval force operates in an Area of Operations covering the southern Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and a large part of the Indian Ocean, including the

Seychelles. **This is an area 1.5 the size of Europe mainland.** A considerable international naval presence is now in this zone working alongside the EU NAVFOR. The EUNAVFOR operation is in permanent liaison with these forces (US-led coalition CTF-151, NATO, Russian, Indian, Japanese, Malaysian, Chinese vessels).



Signing of the agreement between the European Union and Kenya on 6 March 2009



Protect vulnerable shipping



World Food Programme:

Since escorts began in late 2007, not a single ship carrying WFP food to Somalia has been attacked by pirates.

Under the EU ATALANTA Operation, which started in December 2008, WFP has delivered almost 500,000 metric tons of food into Somalia through Mogadishu, Merka, Bossaso and Berbera ports.



EU NAVFOR escorts WFP vessels

WFP remains extremely grateful to the EU for committing itself to escorting ships carrying

WFP food, and giving us the long term protection that our shipments need, especially in view of the increasing need for assistance.” (WFP Public Affairs Office East Africa)

Each merchant vessel wishing to transit through the Gulf of Aden or off the coast of Somalia is requested to register in advance on the website of the Maritime Security Centre-Horn of Africa (www.mschoa.eu), which was set up at the beginning of the operation to facilitate the co-ordination of maritime traffic.

This initiative, which was welcomed by the whole community of ship owners and merchant navies, makes it possible for vessels that observe EU NAVFOR recommendations to know what arrangements are in place. In some cases, close military protection will be provided to further reduce the risks of attack or capture.

A Comprehensive European Approach:

Operation ATALANTA is part of the global action conducted by the EU in the Horn of Africa to deal with the Somali crisis, which has political, security and humanitarian aspects.

The EU supports the Djibouti Code of Conduct for peace and reconciliation in Somalia, facilitated by the UN. In this context the EU welcomed the election of President Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed on 30 January 2009. The EU is multiplying its efforts to support the peace process and has called on all parties in Somalia to ease the suffering of the population and to work towards the restoration of security, stability and development in Somalia. The government of Somalia also has the task of delivering a new constitution, to be adopted by referendum, and of setting up democratically

elected institutions by the end of the transition period in August 2011.

The EU and its member states support the African Union’s Military Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) financially, in terms of planning and capacity building, in order to increase, in particular, the efficiency of the Somali police force and to combat any abuse or serious violations of human rights. The Joint Strategy Paper for Somalia for 2008-2013 provides an allocation of EUR 215.8 Million under the EU’s 10th European Development Fund (EDF). This covers three main sections of co-operation: governance, education and rural development. The issue of the security of maritime routes is also included in the European Commission’s 2009-2011 indicative programme.



With up to 95% of EU member states' trade (by volume) transported by sea and 20% of global trade passing through the Gulf of Aden, EU NAVFOR gives considerable effort to safeguarding trade through this strategic area.

The Maritime Security Centre – Horn of Africa (MSC-HOA) is an initiative established by EU NAVFOR with close co-operation from industry. The MSC-HOA provides 24 hour manned monitoring of vessels transiting through the Gulf of Aden, whilst the provision of an interactive website enables the Centre to communicate the latest anti-piracy guidance to industry, and for shipping companies and operators to register their movements through the region.



A further initiative is the introduction of group transits where vessels are co-ordinated to transit through high risk areas overnight when attacks are less likely. This enables military forces to “sanitise” the area ahead of the merchant ships. MSC-HOA will also identify particularly vulnerable shipping and co-ordinate appropriate protection arrangements, either from within EU NAVFOR, or other forces in the region.

Finally, in between routine or baseline operations, EU NAVFOR conducts focussed operations aimed at achieving specific effects within a given area or time window. By concentrating forces to achieve specific effects EU NAVFOR can provide influence, deterrence or insight into legitimate and illicit activities in order to better co-ordinate future activities to deter piracy and armed robbery and thus reassure legitimate merchant mariners.





EU NAVFOR

OPERATION ATALANTA

UPDATED FACTS & FIGURES:

(Since start of Operation ATALANTA 8 Dec 2008)

Number of WFP ships safely escorted:	95 (104)
Metric tons of food delivered by WFP ships to Somalia:	499.615
Average daily mouth feed:	1.078.334
Number of AMISOM ships safely escorted:	87
Number of pirates arrested by EU NAVFOR awaiting judgment:	49
Number of pirates arrested by EU NAVFOR already judged:	43
Number of pirate incidents * 2011 (2010 /2009 same period):	64 (174/163)
Number of pirated ships 2011 (2010 /2009 same period):	15 (47/46)
Number of disruptions, 2011 (2010 /2009 same period):	05 (64/14)

EU NAVFOR warships 2011-04-06

ESPS CANARIAS	Spain (Flagship)
FSG NIEDERSACHSEN	Germany
FNS POHJAHNMAA	Finland
HMS RICHMOND	United Kingdom
FS GUEPRATTE	France
ITS ESPERO	Italy
SPS INFANTA ELENA	Spain
FS NIVOSE	France

EU NAVFOR aircraft 2011-04-06

P-3A ORION	Spain
P-3A ORION	Germany
FAIRCHILD sw3 MERLIN 73	Lux
FAIRCHILD sw3 MERLIN 75	Lux

**unsuccessful attacks + pirated*

** National Tasking



EU NAVFOR

OPERATION ATALANTA

COMMAND



European Union NAVAL FORCE

EUNAVFOR

Operation Commander
EU Naval Force

Major General Buster Howes OBE



European Union NAVAL FORCE

EUNAVFOR

Deputy Operation Commander
EU Naval Force

Rear Admiral Guido Rando



European Union NAVAL FORCE

EUNAVFOR

Force Commander
EU Naval Force

Rear Admiral Juan Rodriguez



The composition of EU NAVFOR changes constantly due to the frequent rotation of units and varies according to the Monsoon seasons in the Indian Ocean. However, it typically comprises 5 - 10 Surface Combatants (Frigates/Destroyers), 1 Auxiliary and 3 Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

Units are drawn from the contributing nations of Estonia, Belgium, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom. The Force Head Quarters vessel rotates on a four monthly basis.

For the names and nationalities of contributing units at any time, and the CVs of the Senior Commanders please refer to www.eunavfor.eu.

Under the “PRESS” tab the “Picture Gallery” contains the pictures of all participating ships.

Contact details	
European Union Naval Force Public Affairs Office	
Spokesperson	Paddy O`Kennedy MBE Wing Commander RAF Tel: +44 (0) 1923 9 58693 Mob: +44 (0) 7540 417378 E-Mail: spokesperson@eunavfor.eu
Address	European Union Naval Force European Union Operation HQ Northwood Headquarters Sandy Lane-Northwood Middlesex-HA6 3HP
Media Centre	Tel: +44 (0) 1923 9 58611 Mobile: +44 (0) 7762 784746 E- Mail: media@eunavfor.eu
More information on	www.eunavfor.eu www.mschoa.org www.consilium.europa.eu/esdp www.consilium.europa.eu/eunavfor-somalia
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