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CONDUCT & DISCIPLINE TEAM

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{CDT}



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Commitment to prevent SEA in MINUSMA

On Monday, 14 September 2015 at the restaurant of Hotel Laico Amitié, a town hall meeting on prevention of SEA was chaired by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Mongi Hamdi, with the participation of a cross section of MINUSMA personnel from all components and Mission Leadership including the Force Commander, Major General Michael Lollesgaard, the Police Commissioner, Mr. Awale Abdounasir and the Chief of Conduct & Discipline Team, Ms. Roselyn Odera.

Regional offices were connected by VTC and the SRSG reminded all MINUSMA personnel about the importance of the SG's comments to the Security Council on 13 August 2015, which inter alia stressed that he considered allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse of beneficiaries of assistance by UN forces, police or civilian personnel as "a cancer in our system that is doing grave harm to the lives of the people we are meant to protect and serve. Even a single allegation represents a serious strike at our institution with severe repercussions to UN peacekeeping missions and to the image of the Organization as a whole".



In his speech, the Force Commander underlined that he discusses SEA-related issues during the regular Commanders' Conferences, Senior National Representatives meetings (to which CDT is invited) and reiterates the importance of individual and command accountability at all levels.

He has personally visited the capitals of all of MINUSMA's TCCs in the region during which he requested them to provide information on how they are preparing their troops prior to deployment with regards to the prevention of SEA and advised them on the importance of training their members before deployment to the Mission.



The Police Commissioner reminded attendees of the main prevention measures in place, which include visits to PCCs, induction and refresher training and signature of an undertaking upon commencement of service with the United Nations and MINUSMA. In addition, CDT is regularly invited to address MINUSMA Police Officers. He underlined the importance of discipline within the Police component stating that he attaches great importance to SEA prevention and ensures that all police personnel receive the related training.



The Conduct and Discipline Chief, Ms. Odera mentioned that in general, most MINUSMA personnel behave very well, but the bad behaviour of a few has a serious impact on the Mission as a whole. She stressed that Individual accountability applies to all and for all categories of personnel and the collective accountability applies to supervisors and commanders who have additional responsibilities for all categories of personnel.

Ms. Odera noted that a SEA Standing Task Force and an Immediate Response Team (IRT) are in place. The FC and PC assisted in the establishment of the IRT by identifying representatives to act as Focal Points from their respective components.

She also mentioned some additional measures being proposed by the Secretary-General to strengthen protection from SEA such as: administrative leave with/without pay (for civilians) and immediate repatriation (for uniformed personnel) pending completion of investigation; proposal to "Name and Shame" some Police Contributing Countries (PCC)/Troop Contributing Countries (TCC) not compliant with the administrative/disciplinary process, withholding of funds from TCC pending completion of investigation and barring countries from participating in future peacekeeping missions in cases of repeated non-compliance. Finally she reminded all staff of their duty to report acts of perceived misconduct and their obligation to cooperate with UN investigative entities.



OIOS Town hall at MINUSMA HQ

On 23 September 2015 at the restaurant of Hotel Laico Amitié, a town hall meeting was chaired by visiting investigators from the Investigations Division/Office of Internal Oversight Services (ID/OIOS) from Vienna and ONUCI. The objective was to present the role, the functions and availability of the OIOS Investigations Division; explain the nature of OIOS investigations; how to report wrongdoing to OIOS; how OIOS investigations are carried out; the policy on protection against retaliation for reporting misconduct and for cooperating with duly authorized investigations; as well as the availability and use of the OIOS website and hotline.

How to report wrongdoing to OIOS?

- Hotline: <https://oios.un.org/page?slug=reporting-wrongdoing>
- OIOS Resident Investigators in missions
- OIOS investigators in regional centres (e.g. ONUCI for Mali)

The 16 days of activism to stop violence against women campaign

As part of the annual 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, CDT conducted sensitization sessions jointly with the Women's Protection office at: Lycée Ba Aminata Diallo and Lycée Notre Dame du Niger.



Outreach at Lycee Ba Aminata Diallo and Lycee Notre Dame du Niger

CDT also participated in the launch of the Official Ceremony of the "the 16 days of activism to stop violence against women campaign" at MINUSMA HQ - Hotel Laico Amitié. CDT had a stand to present its outreach materials and remind participants about the reporting mechanisms.

CDT sensitisation through local radios

As part of "the 16 days of activism to stop violence against women campaign" CDT conducted awareness raising campaigns on UN Standards of Conduct, including prevention of SEA via a number of community local radio stations in Bamako, including Tabalé FM 94.3 MHz, Maliba 99.5 MHz, and Benka FM 97.1 MHz. The first two stations broadcast all over Bamako and the suburbs of Bamako within at least 60 km. As for the third station, it broadcasts country wide and abroad via the Internet. The listeners of all three stations include a large number of illiterate people. Radio being one of the farthest reaching means of communication in Mali, CDT decided to continue with radio campaigns beyond "the 16 days of activism to stop violence against women campaign". Accordingly, on 18 December 2015, it conducted another programme on Espoir FM. 91.1 MHz, a confessional protestant radio station which broadcasts over Bamako city and Sikasso region with the Malian protestant community as its main listeners.



FAQ

- A** **S** **Q** What is sexual exploitation and abuse?
- S**exual exploitation means any actual or attempted abuse of a position of vulnerability, differential power, or trust, for sexual purposes, including, but not limited to, profiting monetarily, socially or politically from the sexual exploitation of another.
- S**exual abuse means the actual or threatened physical intrusion of a sexual nature, whether by force or under unequal or coercive conditions.



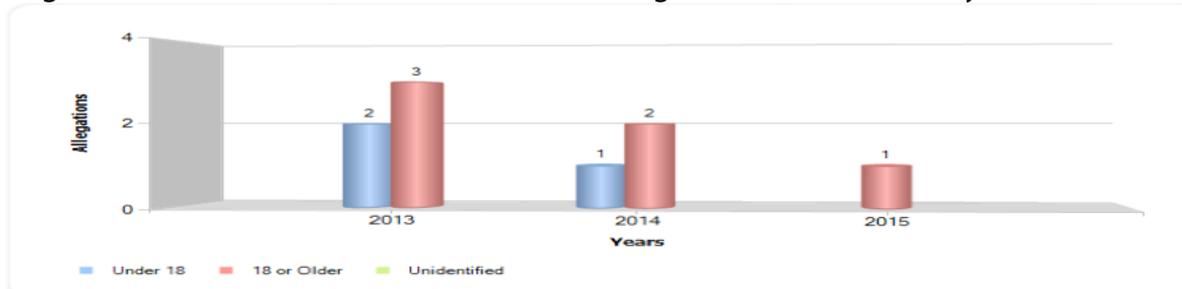
Allegations of SEA – 2013, 2014 and 2015 involving minors

As per the provisions of the Secretary-General's Bulletin on Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (ST/SGB/2003/13):

- Sexual activity with children (under the age of 18) is prohibited
- Exchange of money, employment, goods, assistance or services for sex is prohibited
- Use of children or adults to procure sexual services for others is prohibited

The UN maintains a policy of Zero Tolerance to SEA and all UN personnel have a duty to report any concerns regarding sexual exploitation and abuse by a fellow worker through the established reporting mechanisms. Every allegation of SEA activity is taken seriously and if substantiated following a thorough investigation, will result in disciplinary measures being imposed, including possible suspension, immediate repatriation or summary dismissal.

Allegations of SEA – 2013, 2014 and 2015 involving minors (the under 18 years old)



Note: source: Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) as reported at www.cdu.unlb.org

The data reflects OIOS reports dated up until November 30, 2015 and allegations of misconduct against all categories of UN peacekeepers in the Republic of Mali received by the Conduct and Discipline Team (CDT). It should be noted that an allegation may involve more than one individual.

How to report and where to report **misconduct** ?

Any perceived act of misconduct, notably Sexual Exploitation and Abuse should be reported to the Conduct and Discipline Team via: Telephone Hotline and whatsapp on: [94 95 05 46](tel:94950546) and E-mail on: minusma-cdt@un.org

Allegations of misconduct may also be reported directly to the Investigations Division of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (ID/OIOS), to the Special Investigations Unit (SIU) and to the Mission SEA Focal Points and/or to Heads of Office in the regions.

Useful documents & other tools:

- MINUSMA Code of Conduct, December 2015
- ST/SGB/2003/13 Special measures for protection from sexual exploitation and abuse
- ST/SGB/2008/5 Prohibition of discrimination, harassment, including sexual harassment, and abuse of authority
- «To Serve with Pride»: A film aiming at sensitizing on sexual exploitation and abuse and its impact on individuals and communities: <http://www.pseataskforce.org/>

These documents are available upon request from CDT.



CDT new Office location:

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