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To: FADT, Committee (SEN)

Subject: your inquiry on peacekeeping operations

On behalf of the ambassador, please find hereafter a little contribution on the French PKO.

Best regards,

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France actively contributes to peacekeeping operations, which are, year after year, more and more numerous. During last decade, the number of civilians and soldiers dedicated to peacekeeping operations has grown from less than 20,000 to more than 80,000, with a budget from 1,25 billion to more than 5 billions US dollars. 75% of these figures have been sent to Africa.

France, as a permanent member of the UNSC which takes decisions on operations, is particularly involved in this area: a French senior civil servant (Mr Jean-Marie Guéhenno) has been appointed Deputy Secretary General of the UN, Head of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, from 1st October 2000. In addition, France contributes 300 millions euros to the PKO budget (i.e. 7,32%, against 6,03 for the ordinary budget) and about 600 French soldiers and policemen participate in 11 operations (as of 31 May 2006), in particular in Lebanon (UNIFIL: 210) and Ivory Coast (UNOCI: 200).

In addition to the UN PKO, France is also present on a number of places, mostly in Africa and Central Asia with 12,000 soldiers (see map attached). For more information, please visit

http://www.defense.gouv.fr/ema/enjeux_defense/operations_exterieures/.