



CALLING NOTICE FOR THE 4TH AFRICAN CONFERENCE OF COMMANDANTS (ACOC)

1st -4th November 2010

Reference

A. Minutes of the 3rd ACOC 8-14 Nov 09

B. Established in 2007, the African Conference of (Staff College) Commandants (ACoC) aims to enhance harmonisation – interoperability, commonality, standardisation and co-operation – between African Staff Colleges in order to contribute to joint multi-national and multi-agency cross governmental African Standby Force (ASF) peace support operations. The Conference is an annual event, rotating between AU member nations, and would in time be expected to become a network of all African Staff College Commandants.

The Conference is similar in concept to the [NATO Conference of Commandants](#) and is targeted at the senior military levels of education within the [African Union \(AU\)](#) / African Standby Force (ASF) militaries (eg Commandants and Chief Instructors / COS of staff colleges); ASF representatives from the AU and regional levels (eg the AU's ASF Harmonisation Workshop and AU Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD)); peace, security and defence related Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and educational institutions; and, possibly national / international donors. The ACoC, however, deals with pan-defence education as well as focusing on the delivery of peace missions and Military Operations Other Than War education.

INTRODUCTION

1. The 4th African Conference of Commandants (ACoC) will take place in Uganda from 1-4 Nov 2010. This is in line with the decision taken at the 3rd ACOC in Nov 09 in Cairo, Egypt. Consequently, this letter serves as an invitation notice as well as administrative information for the delegates.

2. The conference will take place at the Nile Resort Hotel in Jinja town, a short distance away from the Senior Command and Staff College. Jinja town is

the second biggest, industrial and tourist town in Uganda located 80 km east of the capital Kampala and 120 km North East of Entebbe International Airport.

PARTICIPANTS

3. Participants will include delegates from all ACoC participating Command and Staff Colleges as well as all the invited representatives of various institutions. Invitations are also extended to representatives of Regional and International organizations who may wish to attend as observers.

TRAVELS/ARRIVALS

4. All participants are responsible for their transportation from their countries of origin to Entebbe international airport, Uganda where transport organized by the Senior Command and Staff College will be available to all delegates to the Nile Resort Hotel in Jinja. Participants are expected to arrive on the 31st Oct 10. Should circumstances warrant earlier arrival, kindly confirm for appropriate arrangements including collection from the airport.

CONTACT PERSONS

5. For any further information or clarifications regarding the conference, please get in touch with the following persons:

a. **Colonel Kasiita Gowa**
College coordinator
Senior Command & Staff College
JINJA, UGANDA
Office: + 256 434122485
Cell: +256 752428713
E mail: kasiitag@hotmail.com

b. **Colonel Stephen Oluka**
Conference Coordinator
Senior Command Staff College
JINJA, UGANDA
Office: + 256 434122485
Cell: +256 772403683
Email: olstevn@gmail.com

- c. **Mr E Nibishaka**
Institute for Security Studies (ACOC Secretariat)
PRETORIA, SOUTH AFRICA
Office Tel: +27(0) 12 3469500
Cell: + 27 720812251
E-mail: enibishaka@issafrica.org

VISA REQUIREMENTS

6. It is an immigration requirement for members outside the East African Community to possess a valid visa to gain entry into Uganda. Should you require a visa to enter Uganda, you are encouraged to submit your application to the nearest diplomatic or consular representative. Visas can also be obtained at Entebbe International Airport on arrival upon payment of a fee and a receipt obtained. Visa costs are the responsibility of the applicant

CONFERENCE VENUE

7. As already mentioned, the conference will take place at the Nile Resort Hotel, Jinja approximately 1km from the Senior Command and Staff College.

ACOMODATION AND FEEDING

8. The Uganda government will cover the full cost of accommodation and meals for all delegates from invited Command and Staff Colleges. Observers representing Regional and International organizations will be required to pay for their accommodation for the whole period of the conference but meals will be covered by the Senior Command and Staff College. Other incidental charges, extras and whatever other special preferences made will be met by the individuals. Participants will make own arrangements for sufficient funds for incidental expenses (laundry, bar bills etc).

BANKING INFORMATION

9. Currency exchange is available at the Hotel and in forex bureaus in town. The Hotel also accepts all major credit cards and traveller's cheques. The Uganda monetary unit is the Shilling (Shs) which exchanges at approximately US\$1 = Shs 2,300.

DRESS

10. Respective military uniforms based on national regulations will be worn by all military personnel during the conference. The Senior Command and Staff College will host a dinner for the delegates and the dress code will be formal (jacket and tie). Recognised formal traditional dressing of other nationalities is acceptable.

11. There will be a site seeing excursion for all interested guests to view some of the tourist sites around Jinja town i.e the Source of the Nile and the Bujagali Falls. Appropriate outdoor clothing preferably casual clothes, will be needed. Name tags to be worn during the conference will be issued to all participants on arrival.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

12. Costs for medical care will be borne by the participants themselves. It is therefore necessary that individual participants possess valid medical insurance coverage during the conference. The Senior Command and Staff College Medical Reception Station (MRS) will however be available on 24 hour basis to provide first aid and minor medical care.

WEATHER

13. Average temperatures in Uganda in Oct/Nov are usually approximately between 20 and 30 degrees Centigrade. There would therefore arise no serious need for warm clothing. However temperatures are cooler at night.

SAFETY AND SECURITY

14. In spite of the terrorist incident in Uganda on the 11 Jul 10, the security situation in the whole country is calm. However, Jinja town being a metropolitan area like all towns anywhere else requires personal consciousness and care against careless interaction with strangers.

15. Should any delegate wish to go or stay out of the hotel; it would be appropriate to inform the relevant officials from the Senior Command and Staff College. Besides personal safety, the security of personal effects is the responsibility of the individual particularly on valuables like mobile handsets, money, cameras and other attractive items.

“KARIBU SANA”

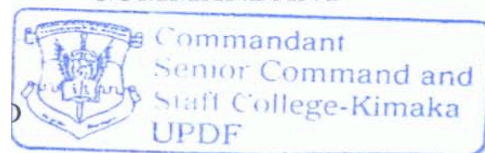
16. On behalf of the Uganda government, I would like to warmly welcome you to the 4th Conference of the African Commandants and sincerely hope that you will have fruitful discussions and ultimately enjoy your time in Uganda. “Karibu Sana”. Welcome.



A GUTTI (egsc) USA

Maj Gen

COMMANDANT



Cc. CDF - Uganda Peoples' Defence Forces
D/CDF
JCOS
COT