

Table 2. Key Regional Variations in Security Sector Perceptions

ISSUE/TOPIC	WEST	CENTRAL	SOUTHERN	EAST
Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Starting education levels of service personnel in West Africa are higher than in other regions. Overall, 68% start with a bachelor's degree or higher. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41% of service members start with just a high school education. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall, 52% of service members start with just a high school diploma. This has dropped to 40% for youngest cohort. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 23% of East African service members start with a 2-year college degree.
Motivations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gendarmeries indicate the highest commitment to serve among services. West African professionals have the strongest level of satisfaction that their expectations are being met. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Central African respondents have the highest rate of unmet expectations (21%). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service members are most influenced by a family member who served. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service to country is cited as the highest motivator relative to all regions.
Formative experiences	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peacekeeping experiences are highly influential. 			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong association with service legacy.
International Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training outside the country is a highly influential experience for service members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training outside the country is an influential experience for service members. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> There is equal emphasis on both domestic and international training. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Training outside country is the most influential experience for service members.
Perceptions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 41% see peacekeeping as a likely security activity. 61% feel prepared for peacekeeping challenges. 44% feel prepared for VEO threats. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil unrest seen as a serious threat among 48% of respondents. Ethnic violence seen as serious threat among 40% of respondents. 56% see political crises as a serious security challenge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service members have a low rate of concern over civil unrest. Service members have a high level of concern over corruption. Only 9% see illicit trafficking as a serious challenge. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Civil-military relations are perceived by 30% as very cordial. Service members have a low rate of concern over civil unrest or ethnic violence. Service members have a high level of concern over corruption.