Session 6: Assessing National, Regional and International Responses: Lake Chad Basin

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Overview

• Why MNJTF, not the African Standby Force?
• What is MNJTF?
• Original structure and deployments
• How does violent extremism in the Lake Chad Basin end?
• Some lessons
Regional Initiatives

African Peace and Security Architecture, African Union

Some Issues

• Resources: financial, material, human
• Subsidiarity principle
• Mandate and Speed

Source: Institute for Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa
Regional Initiatives

African Standby Force

What is the MNJTF?

1994: Established by Lake Chad Basin Commission to focus on banditry and trans-national crime.

2012: Mandate expanded to include counter-terrorism

2015: New concept of operations, new composition, new structure, renewed political impetus. Relocation of headquarters to N’Djamena, Chad. Troop contributing countries: Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria

2016: Agreement between European Commission and African Union Commission
MNJTF Deployments
Although confrontations between the military and the terrorists have increased in the past four months, civilian casualties have continued to decrease largely due to the interposition of the military force.
- Major General C.O. Ude, Force Commander
Some Lessons

• Make mandates clear, relevant and attainable.

• Establish workable internal coordination mechanisms.

• Establish viable external coordination mechanisms.

• Have a sustainable financing plan.

• Address messaging and communication failures.

• Measure impact, not outcomes.