



**AFRICA CENTER  
FOR STRATEGIC STUDIES**

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

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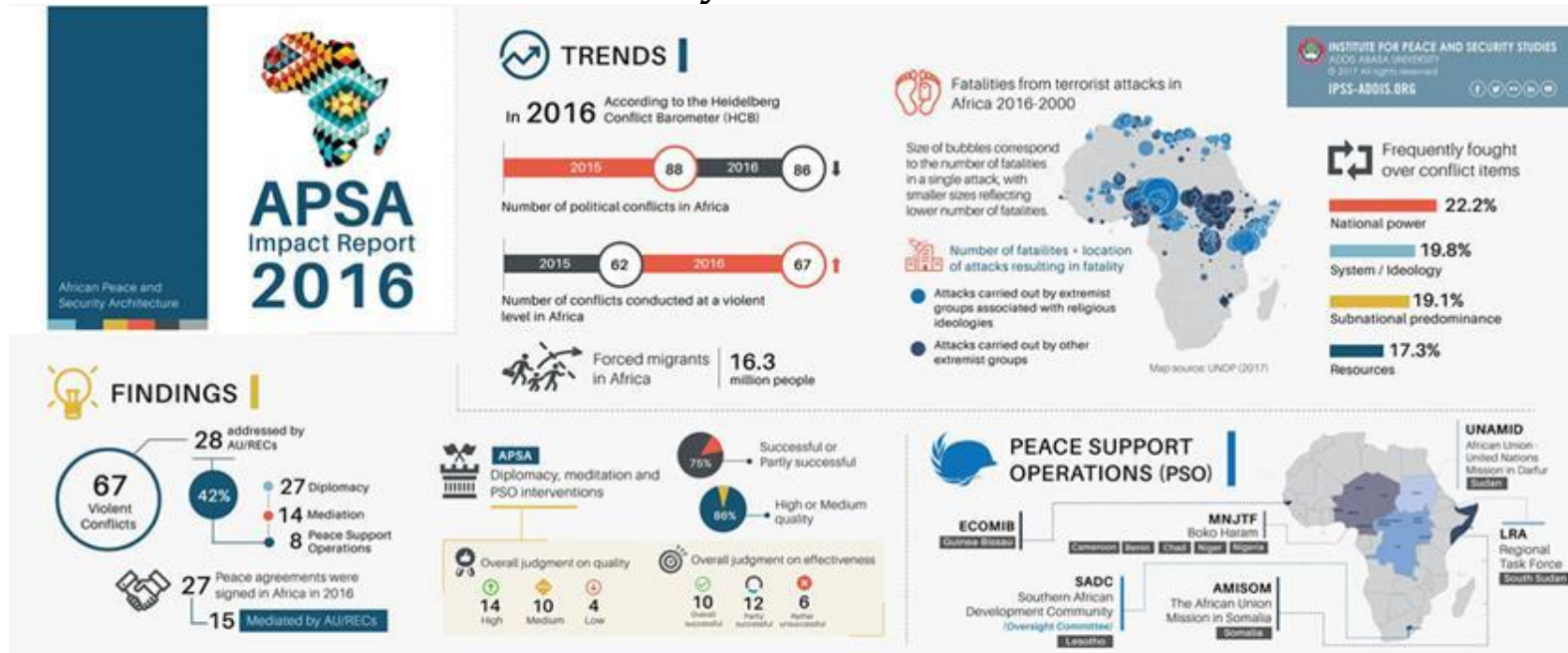
Delivered at Strategic Approaches to Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Africa, Washington, DC  
8 August 2019

# 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



Source: Institute for Peace and Security Studies, Addis Ababa

## Some Issues

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

# Regional Initiatives

## African Standby Force

	North African Standby Brigade (NASBRIG)*
	West African Standby Brigade (WASBRIG)
	Central African Standby Brigade (CASBRIG)
	East African Standby Brigade (EASBRIG)
	South African Development Community Brigade (SADCBRIG)

<p><b>ASF Potential Missions</b></p> <p>Scenario 1. AU/Regional military advise.</p> <p>Scenario 2. AU/Regional observers to UN.</p> <p>Scenario 3. Stand alone AU/Regional observers.</p> <p>Scenario 4. AU/Regional peacekeeping force (PKF).</p> <p>Scenario 5. AU PKF for complex multidimensional PK.</p> <p>Scenario 2. AU intervention – e.g. genocide situations.</p>
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<p><b>*NOTES</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Morocco is not part of the African Union.</li> <li>• Tunisia does not yet contribute to the NASBRIG.</li> <li>• Western Sahara is not universally recognized as an independent state.</li> <li>• Angola and Democratic Republic of the Congo are members of the Central and Southern Brigades; Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Tanzania are members of Eastern and Southern Brigades; Burundi is a member of the Central and Eastern Brigades.</li> </ul>
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Source: [https://www.globalsecurity.org/jhtml/jframe.html#https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/report/call/call\\_11-23\\_5-3.jpg](https://www.globalsecurity.org/jhtml/jframe.html#https://www.globalsecurity.org/military/library/report/call/call_11-23_5-3.jpg) | | The%20African%20Standby%20Force

# What is the MNJTF?

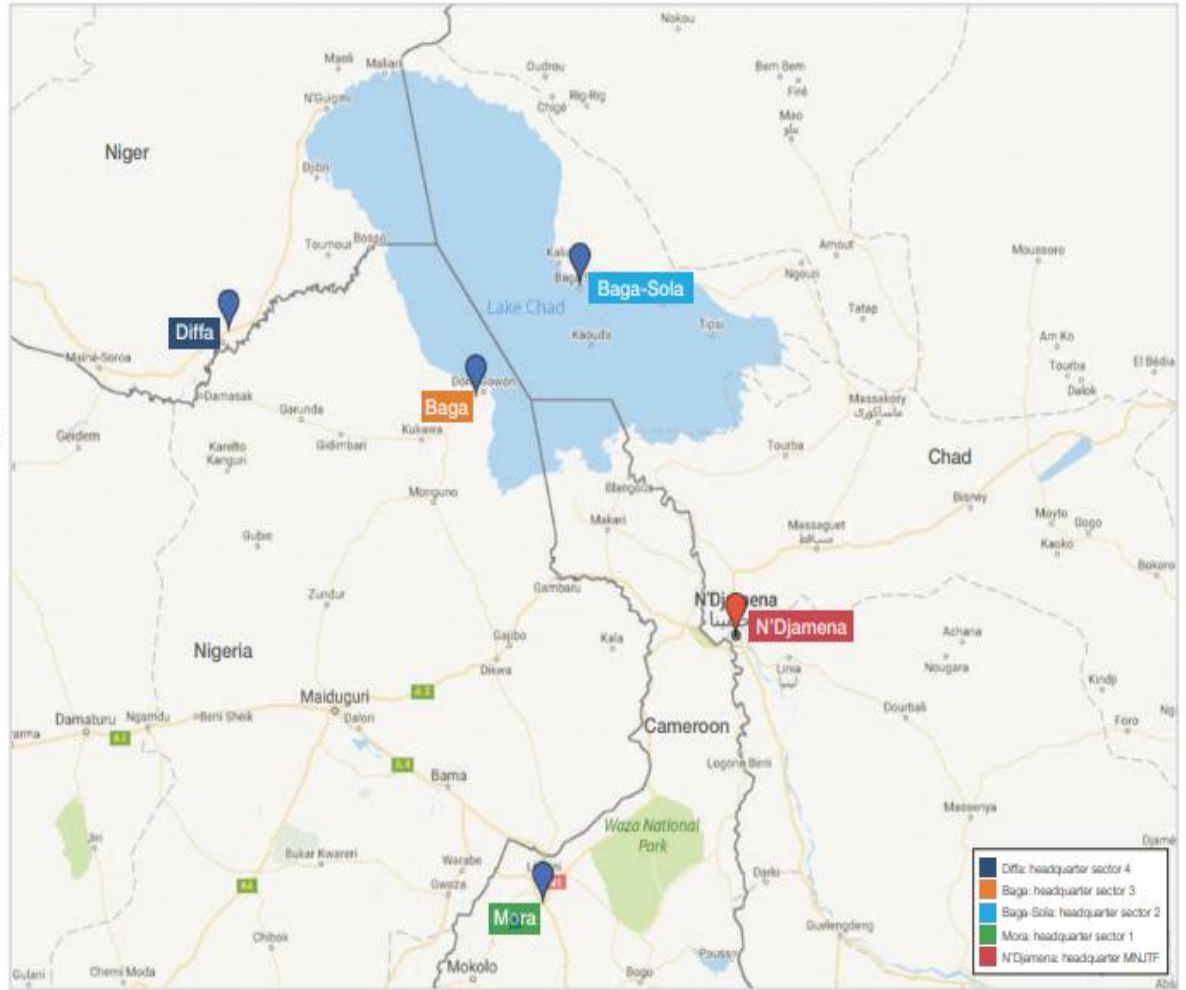
1994: Established by Lake Chad Basin Commission to focus on banditry and trans-national crime.

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

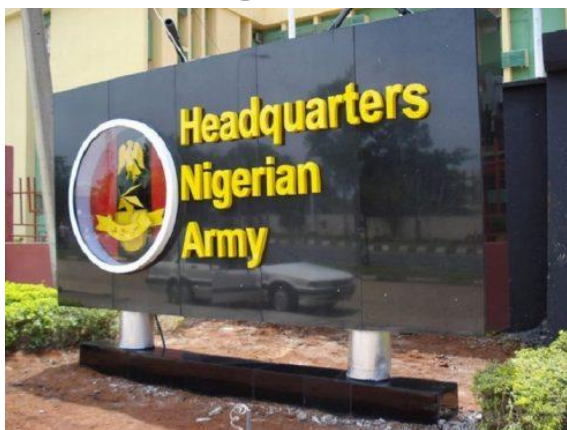




# Evaluating MNJTF



**Boko Haram: Security has improved in Lake Chad region – MNJTF**

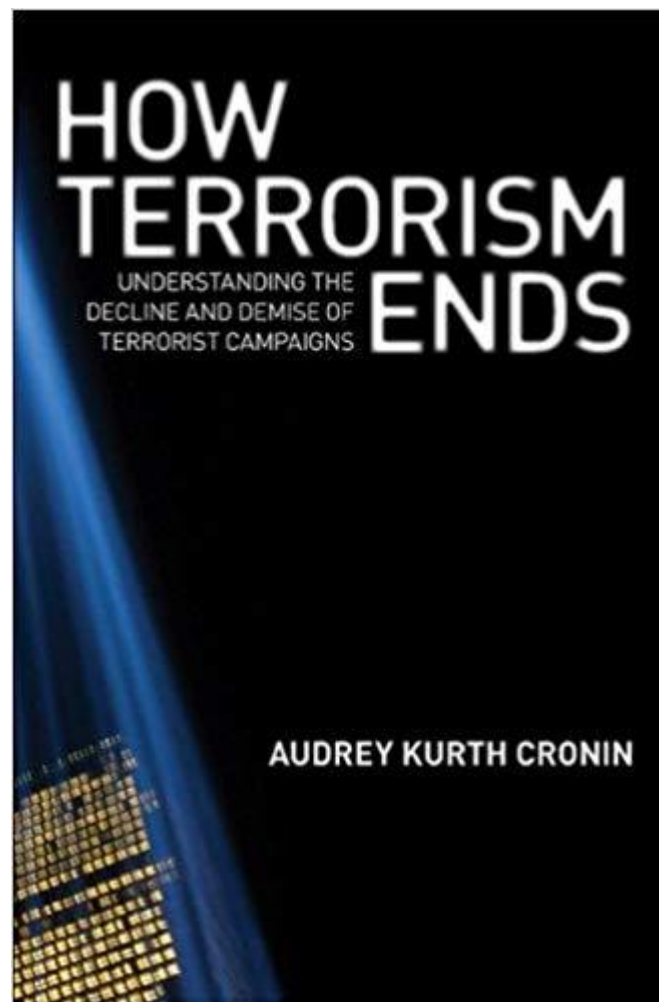


Although confrontations between the military and the terrorists have increased in the past four months, civilian casualties have continued to decrease largely due to the interposition of the military force.

- Major General C.O. Ude, Force Commander

Published Date Jul 22, 2019 12:25 PM

<https://www.dailytrust.com.ng/boko-haram-security-has-improved-in-lake-chad-region-mnjtf.html>



# 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.





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