

## III-B. Profile of the European Union

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### 1. Overview

The European approach to security has evolved considerably in the recent years. While the core of European security policy is grounded in the Common Foreign and Security Policy, the EU is increasingly addressing security concerns through “soft policies” as well. Indeed, the various EU policies and strategies in the environment, development and security spheres reflect a growing commitment to the concept of a multi-dimensional and comprehensive notion of security.

This profile takes a look at the EU's foreign and security policies and its environment and development policies in an effort to highlight existing or possible linkages in the EU's external relations among all these spheres.

### 2. Foreign and Security Policies and Practices

#### 2.1. Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) <sup>1</sup>

Following the signing of the Treaties of Rome, European construction focussed on economic aspects, i.e. the creation of a common market, although ideas for cooperation in the field of international policy were already in evidence. For almost forty years of European construction the very expression “common foreign policy” found no place in the Treaties. From October 1970 the Member States of the European Community cooperated and endeavoured to consult one another on major international policy problems. However, this was at intergovernmental level in the context of “**European political cooperation**”. In 1986, the Single European Act formalised this intergovernmental cooperation without changing its nature or methods of operation. The change came at Maastricht where, for the first time, Member States incorporated in the Treaty the objective of a “**common foreign policy**”. Since the Treaty's entry into force on 1 November 1993, the European Union as such can make its voice heard on the international stage, express its position on armed conflicts, human rights and any other subject linked to the fundamental principles and common values which form the basis of the European Union and which it is committed to defend.

The provisions on the CFSP were revised by the Amsterdam Treaty which entered into force in 1999. Articles 11 to 28 of the Treaty on European Union are since then devoted specifically to the CFSP.

An important decision in terms of improving the effectiveness and profile of the Union's foreign policy was the appointment of a High Representative for the CFSP (an innovation of the Treaty of Amsterdam), Mr Javier Solana Madariaga, who took up the post on 18 October 1999 for a period of five years. <sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Source: <http://www.consilium.eu.int/showPage.asp?id=248&lang=en&mode=g>  
See also : [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/intro/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/intro/index.htm)

<sup>2</sup> In July 2004, Mr Solana was appointed for a second 5-year mandate as Secretary-General of the Council of the EU and EU High Representative for the CFSP. It was also decided that Mr Solana would be appointed EU Foreign Minister on the day of entry into force of the Constitutional Treaty for Europe.

The new Treaty of Nice entered into force on 1 February 2003 and contains new CFSP provisions. It notably increases the areas which fall under qualified majority voting and enhances the role of the Political and Security Committee in crisis management operations.

### **The CFSP Objectives**

The Treaty on European Union defines the objective of CFSP as “to preserve peace and strengthen international security, in accordance with the principles of the United Nations Charter, as well as the principles of the Helsinki Final Act and the objectives of the Paris Charter to promote international cooperation”. The CFSP has 5 main aims:

- Safeguard the common values, fundamental interests, independence and integrity of the Union
- Strengthen the security of the Union in all ways
- Preserve peace and strengthen international security
- Promote international co-operation
- Develop and consolidate democracy and the rule of law, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

It can be expected that the CFSP will increasingly address issues linked to environmental security, for example and especially as they pertain to the potential threats of bio-terrorism, including rapid detection and alert concerning chemical agents and surveillance of sensitive areas, such as water reservoirs and nuclear sites. Some of these kinds of concerns are already reflected in information about the EU security research initiative.<sup>3</sup>

### **2.2. European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) <sup>4</sup>**

The ESDP is an extension of the CFSP and was adopted in 2003 as the military component designed to strengthen the EU's overall capacity for dealing with crisis and disaster situations in member countries as well as other regional conflicts. The ESDP makes it possible for the EU to launch humanitarian and peace missions to resolve instances of crisis or conflict. In order to enable the European Union fully to assume its responsibilities for crisis management, the European Council (Nice, December 2000) decided to establish the following permanent political and military structures.

- The Political and Security Committee (PSC) <sup>5</sup>
- The European Union Military Committee (EUMC) <sup>6</sup>
- The European Union Military Staff (EUMS) <sup>7</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> See information on the EU security research initiative at:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/news/memo03\\_192.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/news/memo03_192.htm)

<sup>4</sup> See: [http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3\\_fo/showPage.asp?id=261&lang=en&mode=g](http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3_fo/showPage.asp?id=261&lang=en&mode=g)

<sup>5</sup> See: COUNCIL DECISION of 22 January 2001 setting up the Political and Security Committee at:  
[http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/l\\_02720010130en00010003.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/l_02720010130en00010003.pdf)

<sup>6</sup> For more information on the EUMC see:  
[http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3\\_fo/showPage.asp?id=1065&lang=en](http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3_fo/showPage.asp?id=1065&lang=en) and COUNCIL DECISION of 22 January 2001 setting up the Military Committee of the European Union  
[http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/l\\_02720010130en00040006.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cmsUpload/l_02720010130en00040006.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> For more information on the EUMS see:  
[http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3\\_fo/showPage.asp?id=1039&lang=en](http://www.consilium.eu.int/cms3_fo/showPage.asp?id=1039&lang=en)

According to the Commission's web pages on the CFSP and the ESDP: <sup>8</sup>

*"The fact that security is becoming a wider concept reflects developments underway since at least the energy crisis of the early 1970's. This evolution clearly accelerated after the end of the Cold War. Furthermore, traditionally, security has been analysed and managed from state and alliance perspectives. Now, the geographical pertinence of security issues has widened to include both sub-national and global levels. Similarly, the scope has widened from the purely military to include broader political, economic, social and environmental aspects."*

### **2.3. European Security Strategy (ESS) <sup>9</sup>**

The European Security Strategy was approved by the European Council held in Brussels on 12 December 2003 and drafted under the responsibilities of the EU High Representative Javier Solana.

The ESS is the policy document that guides the EU's international security strategy. It addresses the need for a comprehensive security strategy that encompasses both civil and defence-related security measures. The Strategy itself is not necessarily an operational document with a detailed plan of action. Rather it lays down overall objectives of EU external actions and the principal ways of achieving these. With the emergence of the ESDP, it is the first time that Europe has actually formulated a joint security strategy.

The ESS includes a number of references linking security, development and environment, including the statement that:

*"Security is a precondition of development. Conflict not only destroys infrastructure, including social infrastructure; it also encourages criminality, deters investment and makes normal economic activity impossible. A number of countries and regions are caught in a cycle of conflict, insecurity and poverty.*

*Competition for natural resources - notably water - which will be aggravated by global warming over the next decades, is likely to create further turbulence and migratory movements in various regions."*

According to the Strategy "the development of a stronger international society, well functioning international institutions and a rule-based international order" is one of the strategic objectives of European security policy.

In speaking of the scope of the ESS at the May 2006 GLOBE-EU / IES Symposium on Security and Sustainable Development,<sup>10</sup> Dr. Robert Cooper<sup>11</sup> of the Council of the European Union explained that when the ESS was first drafted, the intention was actually

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and the COUNCIL DECISION of 10 May 2005 on the establishment of the Military Staff of the European Union at:

[http://www.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l\\_132/l\\_13220050526en00170024.pdf](http://www.eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l_132/l_13220050526en00170024.pdf) and

<sup>8</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/esdp/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/esdp/index.htm)

<sup>9</sup> See: A SECURE EUROPE IN A BETTER WORLD - THE EUROPEAN SECURITY STRATEGY at: <http://www.consilium.eu.int/uedocs/cmsUpload/78367.pdf>

<sup>10</sup> See: <http://www.envirosecurity.org/ges/symposium/> The summary report of the symposium is at: <http://www.envirosecurity.org/ges/symposium/SDSSymposiumSummaryReport.pdf>

<sup>11</sup> Dr. Cooper is Director General, DGE-External and Politico Military Affairs, Council of the European Union

to restrict its ambit to those threats caused by humans in order to create a manageable and viable regime. The main types of threats addressed by the ESS include: terrorism, weapons of mass destruction, regional conflicts, state failure.

Despite its rather restricted ambit, Dr. Cooper stressed that the ESS approach has not been entirely conventional. He acknowledged that threats are changing as a result of increased interdependence, with one very big difference emerging from the globalisation phenomenon that “other peoples’ wars and conflicts matter”. As well, there are increasingly clear environmental dimensions to these security threats, which have important implications for the development of peace and security policy. For example, weapons of mass destruction, if used, could have dramatic environmental consequences and regional conflict and state failure are intimately connected to poverty and environmental degradation. Another interesting point raised was that state failure is “a rather peculiar case of underdevelopment”, especially when seen against the broader backdrop of development policy aims, namely “to develop the state, democratic institutions and the rule of law”.

#### **2.4. Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management: <sup>12</sup>**

In its 2001 **Communication on Conflict Prevention**<sup>13</sup>, the Commission addresses the ‘root causes of conflict’ by promoting ‘structural stability’. The latter is defined as ‘sustainable economic development, democracy and respect for human rights, viable political structures and healthy environmental and social conditions, with the capacity to manage change without resort to conflict’. The **EU Programme for the Prevention of Violent Conflicts**<sup>14</sup> that is based on this communication calls for an integrated policy, surpassing the pillar structure, and defines conflict prevention as a priority for all of the EU’s external action. Social and environmental policies are expressly mentioned among the means at the disposal of the EU to support conflict prevention efforts.

In his remarks at the above mentioned symposium, Dr. Cooper outlined the EU’s response in a number of conflict zones, where it is endeavouring to advance security and

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<sup>12</sup> For more information on the EU and **Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management** see the following sources:

Overview on Conflict Prevention and Crisis Management:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/cpcm/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/cpcm/index.htm)

IQSG Programming Fiche on Conflict Prevention:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/cpcm/cp/doc/cp\\_guide.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/cfsp/cpcm/cp/doc/cp_guide.pdf)

Conflict Prevention Partnership, pilot project supported by the EC:

<http://www.conflictprevention.net/>

Civilian instruments for EU crisis management at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/doc/cm03.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/cfsp/doc/cm03.pdf)

Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament – Financing of Civilian Crisis Management Operations, COM(2001) 647 final:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/doc/com01\\_647.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/cfsp/doc/com01_647.pdf)

Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions -- Reinforcing EU Disaster and Crisis Response in third countries, COM(2005) 153 final:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/cpcm/com05\\_153\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/cfsp/cpcm/com05_153_en.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> Communication from the Commission on Conflict Prevention, COM(2001) 211 final:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/news/com2001\\_211\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/cfsp/news/com2001_211_en.pdf)

<sup>14</sup> See: <http://www.eu2001.se/static/eng/pdf/violent.PDF>

stability on the ground. For example, in the occupied territories, where the environmental security issue is very much related to scarce water resources, the EU has been working towards the creation of a two-state solution. In Aceh, where EU officials are monitoring the implementation of the peace agreement that was negotiated by former Finnish President Martti Ahtisaari, the environmental issue has of course been the continuing illegal logging that has provided the revenue engine to finance ongoing conflict in the region.

By contrast, in the Congo, where the illegal trade in gold and diamonds has paid for and has indeed ensured the profitability of the conflict, the EU has addressed its efforts to improve the functioning of the Defence Ministry apparatus, especially to ensure that the army is properly remunerated. This is an important priority since experience has revealed the destabilising role played by an unpaid army or indeed an army paid for by local commanders, a scenario, Dr. Cooper emphasised, facilitates “power grabs” by war-lords. Thus, the EU will continue to assist the UN in establishing multi-party elections as part of a long-term political process of building democratic institutions. Darfur on the other hand, was referred to rather starkly as the “first war of climate change”.

## 2.5. Country and Regional Strategy Papers

The EU has now developed instruments such as the **Country and Regional Strategy Papers**<sup>15</sup>, which outline policy priorities, the **Check-List for Root Causes of Conflict**<sup>16</sup> and the continually revised **Watch List of Priority Countries** (countries where there is a serious risk of conflict).

The CSPs and RSPs are or can be particularly important with regard to the linkages between development and security concerns. Before the end of the preparation of a CSP, the EC staff in each beneficiary country is required to undertake - or contract consultants to undertake - a Country Environmental Profile (CEP) which brings in the environmental dimensions. (See 3.6 below under Environmental Mainstreaming in EC Development Cooperation.)

## 2.6. EU policies with Neighbouring States

A comprehensive approach to security is particularly characteristic of EU policy with respect to neighbouring States, which it attempts to integrate in an encompassing network of relations, for example, the **Stability Pact for the Balkans**<sup>17</sup>, the **Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EMP)**<sup>18</sup>, and the successful transition of Central and Eastern Europe. More specifically, the **EU Neighbourhood Policy (ENP)**<sup>19</sup> provides for an enhanced framework for relations between the EU and its neighbours. The overarching objective of the ENP is to achieve an ‘area of shared prosperity and values’ by creating close partnerships with the EU’s neighbouring States. The comprehensive concept of security is reflected in this track, in light of the ENP’s emphasis on linking in-depth economic integration, close political and cultural relations together with a joint responsibility for conflict prevention.

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<sup>15</sup> The Country and Regional Strategy Papers are available at:

[http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/sp/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/sp/index.htm)

<sup>16</sup> See: Conflict Indicators/ European Commission Check-list for Root Causes of Conflict:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/external\\_relations/cfsp/cpcm/cp/list.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/external_relations/cfsp/cpcm/cp/list.htm)

<sup>17</sup> See: <http://www.stabilitypact.org/>

<sup>18</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/euromed/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/euromed/index.htm)

<sup>19</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/world/enp/index_en.htm)

### 3. Environment and Development Policies and Practices

Environment and development concerns and objectives are increasingly being taken into account within the sphere of EU foreign and security policy, but already for some time security related concerns and objectives have been an important focus of the EU's environment and development policies, programmes and projects. The following are perhaps the most important examples.

#### 3.1. Kimberley Process<sup>20</sup>

The Kimberley Process is a unique initiative by government authorities, the international diamond industry and NGOs to stem the flow of 'conflict diamonds' – rough diamonds which are used by rebel movements to finance wars against legitimate governments, and which have contributed to fuelling devastating conflicts in a number of countries in Africa. The Kimberley Process began in May 2000 in Kimberley (South Africa) as an informal attempt by interested governments, NGOs and industry groups to come up with a practical way of ensuring that illicit diamonds cannot enter the legitimate diamond trade – and thus provide consumers with the confidence that the diamonds they buy are not tainted by having contributed to violent conflict and human rights abuses in their countries of origin.

The Kimberley Process certification scheme (KPCS) has been in operation since January 2003, and now has some 50 participants, including all major diamond producing, trading and processing countries. The European Community (EC), representing the EU as a whole, is a Participant in the KPCS. Within the EC, the KPCS is implemented by a Council Regulation<sup>21</sup>, adopted on 20 December 2002.

#### 3.2. EU Water Initiative (EUWI)<sup>22</sup>

There is evidence of an emerging global water crisis that threatens lives, sustainable development and even peace and security. Population growth coupled with rapid urbanisation, changing lifestyles and economic development has led to increasing pressure on water resources everywhere and especially in developing countries.

Today over 1 billion people lack access to safe drinking water, over 2.4 billion people do not have adequate sanitation, and 2.2 million people in developing countries, most of them children, die every year from diseases associated with lack of access to safe water, inadequate sanitation and poor hygiene, namely preventable diseases.

EU member states are among the most important donors in the water-development sector and can draw on a wealth of experience in international development cooperation and water management.

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<sup>20</sup> Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/kimb/intro/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/kimb/intro/index.htm)

See also: Assessment by the KP Working Group on Monitoring of the impact and effectiveness of the KPCS (submission for the three-year review of the KPCS) at: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/kimb/docs/review\\_150206.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/kimb/docs/review_150206.pdf)

<sup>21</sup> COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 2368/2002 of 20 December 2002 implementing the Kimberley Process certification scheme for the international trade in rough diamonds: [http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2002/l\\_358/l\\_35820021231en00280048.pdf](http://www.europa.eu.int/eur-lex/pri/en/oj/dat/2002/l_358/l_35820021231en00280048.pdf)  
Additional amending Council and Commission Regulations are listed at: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/kimb/intro/legis.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/kimb/intro/legis.htm)

<sup>22</sup> Source: <http://www.euwi.net/>

Against this background the EU Water Initiative (EUWI) was launched at the Johannesburg Summit in 2002. The EU Council resolution of 30 May 2002, which has endorsed the EU Water Initiative and its focus on poverty reduction, also highlights the importance of Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM), emphasises the need to balance human water needs and those of the environment and refers to the EU experience in river basin management.

The EUWI is conceived as a catalyst and a foundation on which future action can be built to contribute to meeting the water and sanitation Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

### **3.3 EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT):**<sup>23</sup>

To build on a commitment taken at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development, in May 2003 the Commission published an **EU Action Plan for Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT)**<sup>24</sup>. Council Conclusions<sup>25</sup> were adopted in October 2003, and the **European Parliament motion on the FLEGT**<sup>26</sup> action plan was adopted in February 2004.

Illegal logging is responsible for vast environmental damage in developing countries, and impoverishes rural communities which depend on forest products for a living. Illegal logging costs governments in developing countries of an estimated €10-15bn every year in lost revenue. It is also closely associated with corruption, and serves to fuel the cycle of bribery and graft which does so much to curtail growth and prosperity in the developing world.

The Action Plan sets out a new and innovative approach to tackling illegal logging, which links the push for good governance in developing countries with the legal instruments and leverage offered by the EU's own internal market.

### **3.4. EU Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development**<sup>27</sup>

Access to modern and affordable energy services is a prerequisite for achieving the Millennium Development Goals, in particular for poverty eradication. The **EU Energy Initiative for Poverty Eradication and Sustainable Development (EUEI)** was launched at the 2002 World Summit for Sustainable Development in Johannesburg as a joint

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<sup>23</sup> Source: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/index_en.htm)

<sup>24</sup> Communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament -- Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) Proposal for an EU Action Plan: COM (2003) 251 final: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc1-FLEGT\\_en.pdf#zoom=100](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc1-FLEGT_en.pdf#zoom=100)

<sup>25</sup> COUNCIL CONCLUSIONS -- Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) (2003/C 268/01): [http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc2-council\\_proceedings\\_0310.pdf#zoom=100](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc2-council_proceedings_0310.pdf#zoom=100)

See also: COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) No 2173/2005 of 20 December 2005 on the establishment of a FLEGT licensing scheme for imports of timber into the European Community: [http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l\\_347/l\\_34720051230en00010006.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/eur-lex/lex/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2005/l_347/l_34720051230en00010006.pdf)

<sup>26</sup> [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc7-EP\\_motion.pdf#zoom=100](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/development/body/theme/forest/initiative/docs/Doc7-EP_motion.pdf#zoom=100)

<sup>27</sup> Source: [http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/energy/initiative/index\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/theme/energy/initiative/index_en.htm)

commitment by the EU Member States and the Commission to give priority to the important role of energy in poverty alleviation, and is a catalyst for action.

The Initiative will raise *political awareness* among high level decision makers, encourage the *coherence and synergy* of energy-related activities and attract *new resources* (capital, technology, human resources) from the private sector, financial institutions, civil society and end-users. The Initiative is a framework for policy dialogue with Developing Countries and other partners, and also for specific actions and partnerships, supported by the Commission and Member States, and developed in close collaboration with Developing Countries.

Through the Initiative, the EU proposes to work with developing countries towards creating the necessary conditions in the energy sector to achieve their national economic, social and environmental objectives, in particular by maximising energy efficiency, including more efficient use of fossil fuels and traditional biomass, and increasing the use of renewable energy.

### 3.5. Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES)<sup>28</sup>

Global Monitoring for Environment and Security (GMES) is a European initiative for the implementation of information services dealing with environment and security.

After the launch of the GMES concept back in 1998 and building on the outcome of an initial exploratory period (2001-2003), the European Commission has outlined an action plan<sup>29</sup> for the period up to 2008, aiming at the delivery of operational user-oriented GMES services by that date. GMES will be based on observation data received from Earth Observation satellites and ground based information.

The GMES initiative is to enable decision makers in Europe to acquire the capacity for global as well as regional monitoring so as to effectively realise the EU's objectives in a wide variety of policy areas. At a time when command of information has geo-strategic implications, investments have been and continue to be made at various levels, without co-ordination, to develop monitoring technologies and data systems. GMES aims at co-ordinating existing as well as new technologies and systems to better meet a structured demand for information on the part of European, national, regional and local decision-makers and users. GMES addresses the (potentially common) needs of public authorities in various policy areas, as, for example, in the case of information on land cover, which will contribute to prediction and management of floods, forest fires and crop yields, as well as monitoring of carbon sinks and sources in the framework of the Kyoto protocol. The implementation plan outlines the necessary steps towards priority services during the period 2004 to 2008.

### 3.6. Environmental Mainstreaming in EC Development Cooperation

The programme phase of EC development cooperation is crucial for environmental integration because key decisions concerning the overall co-operation process are made that can be difficult to adjust in later phases. The main environmental integration tool during programming is the **Country Environmental Profile (CEP)**.

The CEP is a report that includes the analysis of the country's environmental situation, current policies, institutional capacities and environmental co-operation experience with clear recommendations for the integration of the environment during preparation of the **Country Strategy Paper (CSP)** for a beneficiary country.

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<sup>28</sup> Source: <http://www.gmes.info/>

<sup>29</sup> See: <http://www.gmes.info/library/files/Reference%20Documents/COM-2004-065.pdf>

A “tool box” with detailed guidelines on preparing Country Environmental Profiles (CEPs) and Regional Environmental Profiles (REPs) and other support resources, including links to official documents and institutions of the EU and to a variety of information on the relationship between environment and development are provided for EC staff on the **Environmental Mainstreaming in EC Development Cooperation Support and Resource Portal** at <http://www.environment-integration.org/EN/index.php>

### 3.7. EU Green Diplomacy Network – Integrating Environment into Foreign Policy<sup>30</sup>

The EU **Green Diplomacy Network** (GDN) was launched in 2003 to promote the integration of environment into external relations through an informal network of environmental experts within foreign ministries.

The network consists of officials dealing with international environment and sustainable development issues in the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and their diplomatic missions. The network focuses on environmental topics that have significant relevance to the EU’s external relations, such as climate change, biodiversity, land degradation and renewable energy.

The website of the GDN includes links to relevant Member State websites as well as to relevant EU policy documents, EC websites and UN websites dealing with the following themes:

- Climate Change
- Biodiversity
- Desertification
- Cooperation with third countries
- Sustainable Development
- Forests
- Water
- Energy
- Waste Management
- Fisheries and Marine Resources

The functions of the network can be summarised as follows:

- To promote the use of the EU’s extensive diplomatic resources (diplomatic missions, Delegations, development cooperation offices) in support of environmental objectives, orchestrating campaigns and demarches. This is intended to bring the EU messages to third parties all over the world, and also to gather partners’ views
- To exchange views and share experiences on how Member States (in particular Foreign Ministries) are integrating environmental concerns into their diplomatic efforts.

The GDN is a flexible, informal and innovative tool that works towards a better integration of the EU policies, and of two aspects (environment and development), that are closely interlinked and have no proper forum to be discussed.

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<sup>30</sup> See: [http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external\\_relations/env/gdn/index.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/comm/external_relations/env/gdn/index.htm)

The integration of environmental and sustainable development concerns into foreign policy, which is the first objective of the GDN, has especially seen progress in the new EU Member States, who are learning from the exchange inside the GDN.

#### **4. European Parliament – The 1999 Call for a Common Strategy**

In January 1999, the European Parliament adopted a **Report and Resolution on Environment, Security and Foreign Affairs**<sup>31</sup> The Theorin Report and Resolution focus especially on the impact of the military and war on the environment with respect to, for example, nuclear weapons testing and nuclear proliferation, chemical weapons, landmines, non-lethal weapons, etc. as well as the potential use of military resources to assist civilian endeavours to protect the environment.

However, the first operational paragraph of the Resolution has an even broader scope. Here the Parliament called upon the Commission to “present to the Council and Parliament a common strategy, as foreseen by the Amsterdam Treaty, which brings together the CFSP aspects of EU policy with its trade, aid, development and international environmental policies between 2000 and 2010 so as to tackle the following individual issues and the relationships between them:

- a) agricultural and food production and environmental degradation;
- b) water shortages and transfrontier water supply;
- c) deforestation and restoring carbon sinks;
- d) unemployment, underemployment and absolute poverty;
- e) sustainable development and climate change;
- f) deforestation, desertification and population growth;
- g) the link between all of the above and global warming and the humanitarian and environmental impact of increasingly extreme weather events.”

While there are references in EU foreign and security policies to linkages with environment and development concerns and there are important programmes and practices linking environment and development and even security in the overseas activities of the Commission – notably with respect to diamonds, water, forests and energy, as outlined above – to date, the Commission has not yet presented a proposal for a common strategy integrating the CFSP with the environment and development as called for by the Parliament in 1999.

Since 1999, the EP also has taken further action regarding a number of specific situations where linkages exists between, for example, the management and exploitation of natural resources and conflict.

#### **5. EC Study on Inter-linkages between Natural Resources Management and Conflict**

Most recently, the European Commission has begun to carry out a study “addressing the inter-linkages between natural resources management and conflict in the European Commission’s external relations”. The results of the study are expected in early 2007.

The overall objective of the project is to enable the European Commission to formulate informed policy responses for a more coherent and comprehensive external relations approach to potential conflict threats arising from particular patterns of natural resource

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<sup>31</sup> The report and resolution are available at:  
<http://www.envirosecurity.org/ges/TheorinReport14Jan1999.pdf> and  
<http://www.envirosecurity.org/ges/TheorinResolution28Jan1999.pdf>

management. The study will therefore provide clear recommendations on how existing and future policies should better address the links between natural resource management and conflict.

More particularly, the project is intended to

- **promote a better understanding** of the inter-linkages between natural resources management and conflict;
- **increase the transparency and coherence** of relevant COM action, by assessing how these inter-linkages are currently integrated and/or could be better mainstreamed in COM policies;
- **contribute to a more comprehensive Commission response strategy** by pinpointing areas that may not yet have received adequate attention;
- **propose specific means to enhance the visibility and external credibility** of relevant COM activities;
- **identify the unexplored potentials of existing external partnerships and examine the scope for future external synergies.**

The following background note by Commission officials outlining the need for their study provides a fitting concluding summary for this profile:

“The protection of the environment, the prudent use and good management of natural resources are not only free-standing values to be promoted. There can often be a strong cause-effect relationship between the use and management of natural resources and the socio-economic and even the political, including security, situation of a country or region. The degradation of natural resources which can be exacerbated by their unsustainable use, their scarcity, or, on the contrary, abundance and the resulting competition over their control are among the most well-known linkages. The possible effects of climate change on ecosystems, livelihoods and economic development are also worth increased attention when looking at the situation of natural resources from a potential conflict perspective. The dynamics of conflict leading to further environmental degradation should not be overlooked either. This can result directly from military activities or be the consequence of, for example, large refugee influxes and their ecological impacts or the imprudent use of natural resources for reconstruction purposes, etc. On the contrary, common management of shared resource can help building mutual confidence and peaceful relationship.

Valuable commodities (e.g. diamonds, oil, timber) have on many occasions led to or contributed to armed conflict, both by providing funding for armed groups and by exacerbating competition for control over territories with deposits of such commodities. Transparency and accountability in the management of valuable commodities in unstable countries are a crucial challenge, given the need to prevent armed groups from gaining control over their production or trade. Initiatives such as the multilateral Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (for rough diamonds) or the EU's Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) have begun to tackle this issue by seeking to make international trade in the commodities in question conditional on effective internal controls in producer countries. These may be useful models for attempts to cover other potential conflict commodities.

Moreover, good governance of resources is a key issue, as the extraction and sales are both strongly exposed to corruption. Therefore, legislative development, including that of anti-corruption strategies and institutional capacity building are vital for better management. The competing interests of local communities depending on the livelihood provided by forests, for example, and those of companies, operating with or without state concessions – as well as adverse environmental impacts from resource extraction - may

also imply a potential for conflict. Finally, the distribution of wealth deriving from the sales of high value resources also affects the dynamics of conflict. For the above reasons, the involvement of all main stakeholders, local communities, the private sector, the international players, both donors and investors, is required when addressing the issue of better governance.

In the case of land and water, the issues of quality and availability are crucial. The underlying causes of limited or declining supply can be highly diverse: actual scarcity, unfair distribution, unclear access or tenure rights, institutional and infrastructural shortcomings, increasing demands linked to demographic pressures, etc. The availability of resources for the poor, in both rural and urban settings requires specific attention and the gender perspective is in many instances also relevant. A response strategy for conflict prevention would need to address both local and regional contexts, with similar sets of actions. These typically include the institutionalization of decision-making procedures, the strengthening of a wide-ranging participatory approach, with emphasis on the representation of vulnerable groups and the empowerment of local stakeholders, the promotion of dialogue and information exchange, etc.

The European Commission has been involved in many initiatives aiming directly or indirectly at halting or preventing negative trends in the area of natural resource management that have the potential to lead to conflict. The COM's involvement is diversified and accordingly led by various services. It ranges from environmental policies and initiatives through diplomatic channels to development cooperation, trade measures, research activities, etc."

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