

PEACEKEEPING AND PEACEMAKING MINUTES



Wife to Canadian High Commissioner to Kenya, Vanessa Hynes presents a certificate of completion to Captain Daniel Kitheka of the Kenya Air force in the presence of Brigadier Robert Kibochi, (centre) Director of the International Peace Support Training Centre-Kenya at the closing ceremony of the Tactical Operations Staff Course in peacekeeping. http://www.canadainternational.gc.ca/kenya/highlights-faits/peace_course-cours_paix.aspx?lang=eng

Peacemaking at its best: the Canadian Forces Directorate of Military Training and Cooperation Programme (DMTC)

In May 2009, in Embakasi, 32 military officers from 12 African countries attended a Tactical Operations Staff Course delivered by

the Canadian Forces in partnership with the International Peace Support Training Centre in Kenya. Over the past three years over 300 military officers, from the rank of Captain to Lieutenant-Colonel, have acquired the skills necessary to participate in peacekeeping operations in mid—to high—intensity conflict situations in Africa.

The training in 2009 was directed towards junior and field Officers to be deployed to Darfur. Course developer Major Mike Calnan stated, “The Tactical Operations Staff Course is part of a comprehensive response to the crisis in the Darfur Region in Sudan and efforts to restore peace in the region. It is a triumph for Africa that African Military forces through the African Union and the United Nations are playing key roles in restoring peace in counties facing conflict in the continent.”

DMTC is a key instrument in Canada’s foreign policy and defence diplomacy, promoting Canadian interests and values and contributing to international peace and security. According to the DMTC website, “The underlying philosophy of DMTC is capacity building (i.e.: train-the-trainer), under which member states eventually become self-sustaining in leading their militaries democratically while DMTC continues to offer them mentorship on an ongoing basis. This capacity building concept advances Canadian foreign and defence policy interest by utilizing Canada’s experience in peace, order, and good government to build similar governance infrastructures in DMTC member states.”