



POLICE, DEFENCE AND INTELLIGENCE

The fight against crime is part of an integrated approach to achieve the goal of a better life for all.

The appointment of the new Executive in 2009 brought some changes to the Justice, Crime Prevention and Security (JPCS) Cluster. The Ministry of Safety and Security changed to the Ministry of Police.

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The aim of the South African Police Service (SAPS) is to prevent, combat and investigate crime, maintain public order, protect and secure the inhabitants of South Africa and their property, and uphold law enforcement.

The National Commissioner heads the SAPS. Five deputy national commissioners (under whom the divisions and components of the SAPS fall) and nine provincial commissioners (under whom the provinces fall) report to the National Commissioner.

As part of its commitment to fight crime, government has redeployed more resources to the various police stations in the country.

The policy documents governing policing in South Africa include the SAPS Act, 1995 and the 1996 National Crime-Prevention Strategy.

2010 FIFA World Cup™

South Africa is ready to ensure a safe and secure 2010 FIFA World Cup™. The Government is responsible for general security, while the Organising Committee (OC) is responsible for venue security.

In June 2008, the OC submitted a comprehensive security plan to FIFA, which was reviewed and endorsed.

Government has invested about R1,3 billion in World Cup security.

The SAPS is set to deploy 41 000 police officers for the World Cup, made up of 31 000 permanent members and 10 000 police reservists. About 700 officers will be deployed around the stadiums for each match.

Reducing crime

Crime prevention in South Africa is based on the principles of community policing; that is, partnerships between the community and the SAPS. Partnerships between police officers (who are appointed as sector managers) and communities strengthen existing community policing forums (CPFs), which have been in place since 1993. By July 2009, CPFs were 95% operating at 1 116 police stations.

CPFs are actively involved in crime-prevention and awareness programmes, allowing the police to mobilise and involve

communities in the fight against crime, as well as forming partnerships with businesses and other stakeholders in communities to address concerns about crime.

The building of partnerships between the SAPS and communities gained momentum and included entities such as the Big Business Working Group, Churches Against Crime, Community-Building Credible Ownership, the Consumer Goods Council Crime-Prevention Programme, crime reporting boards and a partnership with the University of Pretoria aimed at alerting students to the concept of CPFs.

The strength of the Reserve Police Force stood at 53 200 active reservists on 31 March 2009.

A total of 14 011 reservists were trained in 2008/09, of whom 12 541 were found competent.

Sector policing was implemented at 129 of the 169 high-contact crime police stations by the end of March 2009. It is a policing model that focuses on the geographical division of a police-station area into smaller manageable sectors, based on the geographical constraints, the composition and diversity of communities and the specific interests and needs of a community.

The success of sector policing depends on, among other things, dedicated and well-trained sector commanders, active participation of community role players and sufficient resources on a 24-hour basis.

The SAPS contributes to various social-crime prevention initiatives relating to the Anti-Rape Strategy, the Domestic Violence Programme, youth crime-prevention capacity-building programmes, violence-prevention programmes, the Victim-Empowerment Programme and community-based crime-prevention projects in the Integrated Sustainable Rural Development Programme and Urban Renewal Programme nodes.

Fighting crime

In September 2009, the Minister of Police, Mr Nathi Mthethwa, introduced the 2009 crime statistics.

Contact crime accounted for 32% of all crime. Murder was down by 3,4% to 18 148 during the 12 months ending in March 2009,

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compared to the previous year and attempted murder dropped by 4,3%. More than 70% of business robberies target small and informal businesses and there was a 41,5% increase in this sector. Truck hijacking increased by 15,4% and car hijacking by 5%. Bank robberies were down by 29,2% and automated teller machine attacks by 10%. Cash-in-transit robberies declined by 2,3%. House robberies increased by 27%. Violent crime was down by 2,8%, common assault decreased by 4,3% and violent assault was down by 4,7%. Sexual offences increased by 10,1%.

Forensic Science Services (FSS) and Criminal Record Centre (CRC)

The function of the CRC is primarily the provisioning of previous conviction reports to courts, while the FSS provides scientific support in the investigation of crime.

Various technologies have been implemented in the forensic science environment, including the installation of the national Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) database. This has improved case turnaround time and examination quality. The Genetic Sample Processing System has increased the capacity to process more DNA-related entries. A three-dimensional correlation system has been implemented as part of the IBIS, and has improved the accuracy of firearms identification.

The Forensic Amendment Bill was introduced in 2008/09. The Bill is aimed at focusing on real evidence, namely fingerprints, DNA and other forensic exhibit material to improve the conviction rate in South African courts. The legislation will provide the legislative framework for building a national DNA database in South Africa.

Detective Service

The Detective Service is responsible for maintaining an effective crime-investigation service. It investigates crimes and gathers all related evidence required by the prosecuting authority to redress crime.

Visible Policing

Visible Policing is responsible for providing a proactive and reactive policing service. It is regarded as a line function and its components are Visible Policing, Social-Crime Prevention, Police Emergency Services, Specialised Operations, Firearm and Liquor Control, Borderline Operations and Crime-Combating Operations.

Defence

The name of the Department of Defence was changed to the Department of Defence and Military Veterans. This is in acknowledgement of the veterans' role in attaining peace and democracy in South Africa.

The mission of the Department of Defence and Military Veterans is to defend and protect South Africa, its territorial integrity and its people.

The department, under the auspices of the New Partnership for Africa's Development, participates in various initiatives to secure peace and stability on the continent.

A number of initiatives are underway to overhaul the criminal justice system to make it more efficient and effective. These interventions include the following:

- Police personnel will be increased by 24 680 from 180 180 to 204 860 over the next three years.
- The capacity of the Forensic Science Laboratory was increased by an additional funding of R150 million for the 2008/09 financial year, and a further R50 million per year is planned for the 2011/12 financial year.
- A total of 14 977 new constables will be allocated to the Detective Services in the provinces after completing in-service training during 2009/10.
- The number of awaiting-trial detainees was reduced by 1 802 from 48 547 to 46 745 between April and July 2009.
- By November 2009, the number of prosecutors increased by 83 since April 2009, from 2 488 to 2 571.
- To assist the speedy resolution of trials, 45 backlog courts have been established countrywide to finalise long-outstanding, trial-ready cases. At the end of August 2009, a total of 10 799 cases were finalised at an average of 10,8 cases per court per month.



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The South Africa National Defence Force (SANDF) is an all-volunteer force consisting of a regular core force and a reserve force. In addition to military matters, the Department of Defence and Military Veterans is involved in search-and-rescue operations, hydrography and securing national key points.

Uniformed members of the SANDF have the right to join trade unions, but may not go on strike or picket.

Peace support

The promotion of peace and security is one of South Africa's most important objectives. This includes strengthening the region's conflict-prevention and resolution capabilities, rendering assistance in monitoring and addressing domestic issues that affect stability.

South Africa remains a significant participant and a major contributor to peacekeeping operations on the continent and elsewhere in the world.

The SANDF has formed part of and participated in various peace missions on the continent since 1994. These include:

- capacity-building of the Central African Republic Defence Force
- the United Nations (UN) Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)
- integration and training assistance in the DRC
- the African Union (AU) Special Task Force in Burundi
- the UN Mission and AU Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea
- the AU/UN Hybrid Mission in Darfur

The South African National Defence Force Specialist Contingent, which was deployed as part of the African Union Special Task Force in Burundi, formally withdrew its troops and lowered its flag on 8 August 2009.

The primary function of this military force was to provide high-quality protection to the returning leaders participating in the Burundi Transitional Government. The signing of a number of ceasefire agreements between the belligerents involved provided a new momentum for the implementation of the peace process in Burundi. The withdrawal of troops was completed in September 2009.



In September 2009, Cabinet approved the establishment of the National Defence Force Service Commission. The commission is an independent body established to provide expert advice to the Minister of Defence and Military Veterans on all matters pertaining to the conditions of service of the members of the military.

Members of the commission comprise experts from civil society, academia and business. In doing its work, the commission carries out interviews with members of the military, conducts research and embarks on international benchmarking exercises to ensure that the conditions of service are in line with international best practice.

- security sector reform in the DRC
- the deployment of military observers to the AU Mission in Northern Uganda/Southern Sudan
- the Specialist Advisory Team in the DRC.

In addition to these deployments on the continent, South Africa had also deployed observers to be in support of the UN Political Mission in Nepal.

Intelligence services

South Africa has two civilian intelligence structures: the National Intelligence Agency (NIA) and the South African Secret Service (SASS).

The NIA's mission is to provide government with domestic intelligence and counter-intelligence. The NIA's mandate has been divided into seven areas of interest: counter-intelligence; political, economic and border intelligence; terrorism; organised crime and corruption.

Denel, under the political direction of the Ministry of Public Enterprises, has been restructured and reorganised. Armscor, under the political direction of the Ministry of Defence and Military Veterans, has been streamlined as an acquisition division of the Department of Defence and Military Veterans. The research divisions of both Denel and Armscor will be located in a new body called the Defence Evaluation and Research Institute.

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The SASS is South Africa's foreign-intelligence capacity. A civilian ministry and a Cabinet committee exercise executive control.

The SASS' objective is to forewarn, inform and advise government on real and potential threats to South Africa's security, and on socio-economic opportunities for the country.