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# Civil – Military Coordination from a practical standpoint: a personal account



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# Outline of key points

- **Definitions of CIMIC/CMCOORD**
- **Use of military forces**
- **Civil Military Coordination— especially during the relief operation in SE Asia**
- **Observations**
- **Summary**



# *Civil-Military Coordination / UN (UN CMCoord)*

**is the system of interaction, involving exchange of information, negotiation, de-confliction, mutual support and planning at all levels between military elements and humanitarian organisations, development organisations or the local civilian population, to achieve respective objectives.”**



# *UN CMCoord*

**Part of the international humanitarian and disaster relief is mapped within OCHA (Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs)/Emergency Services Branch/CMCS (former MCDU)**

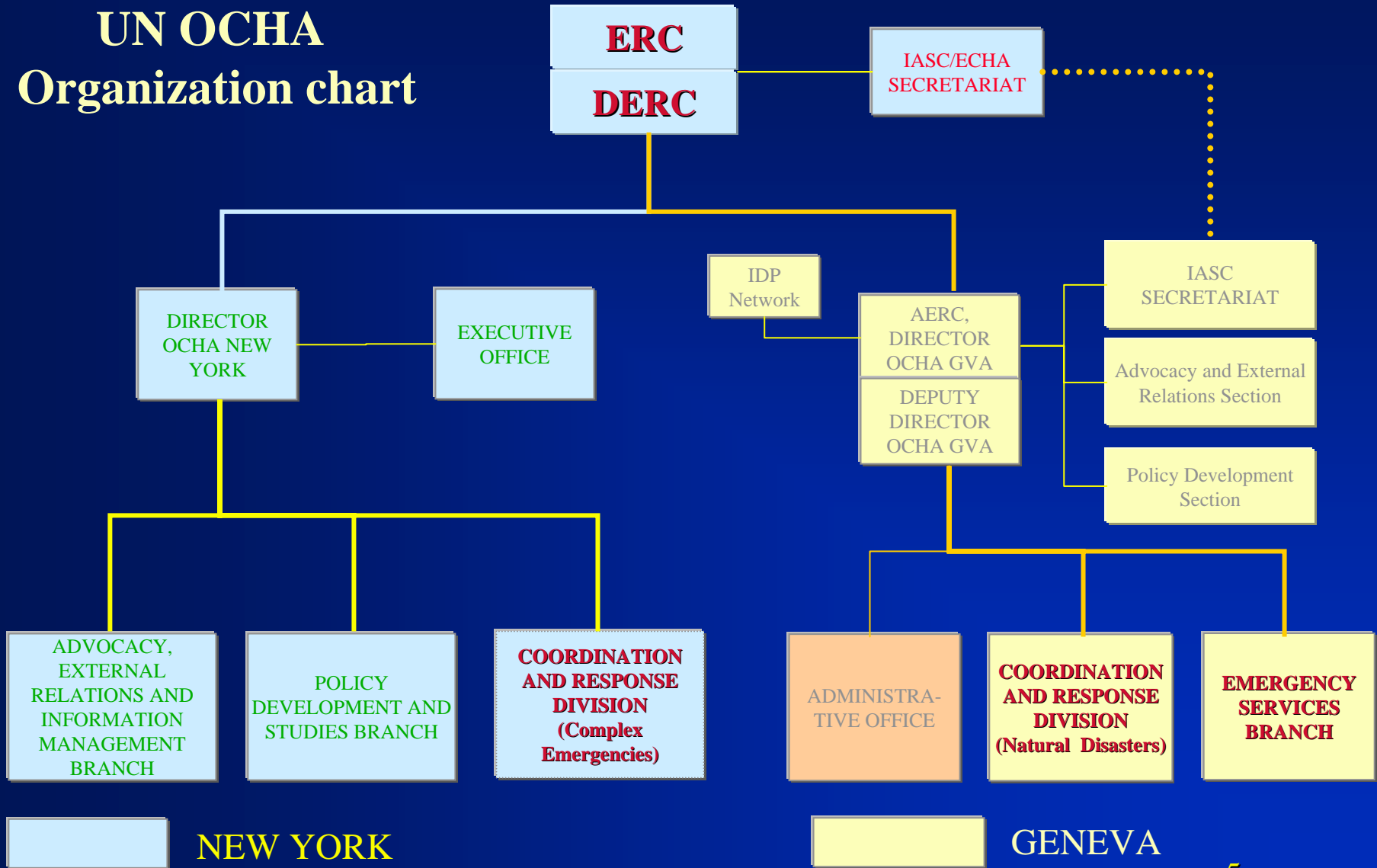
- **MCDA (Military and Civil Defence Assests),**
- **INSARAG (International Search and Rescue Advisory Group)**
- **UNDAC (United Nations Disaster Assessment and Coordination)**



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# UN OCHA Organization chart



NEW YORK

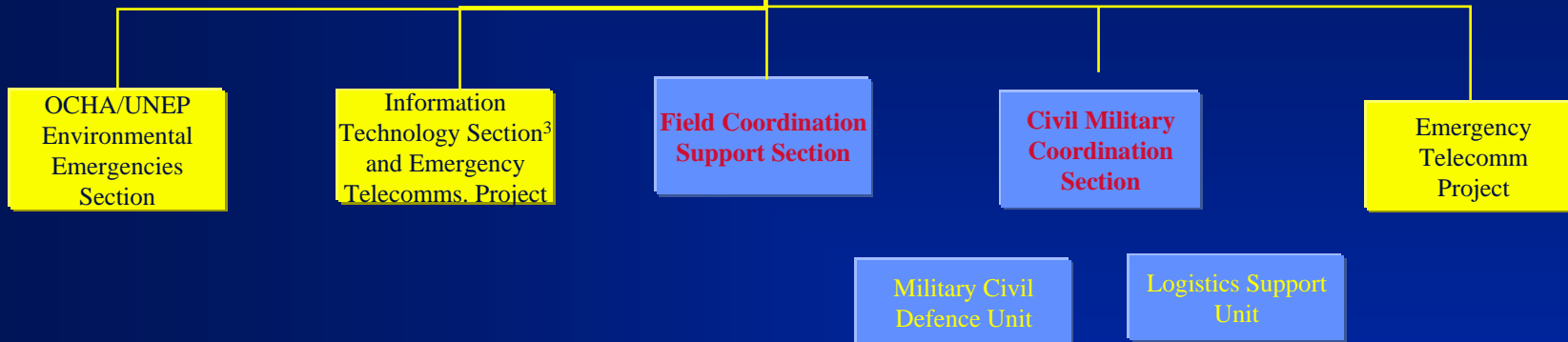
GENEVA



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**EMERGENCY  
SERVICES  
BRANCH**



- ✓ Secretariat for numerous mechanisms UNDAC and UN-CMCoord Training
- ✓ Surge capacity
- ✓ Information management



# *Civil-Military Co-operation* *NATO - CIMIC*

**Is the co-ordination and co-operation,  
in support of the mission, between the NATO –  
Commander and civil actors, including  
national population and local authorities,  
as well as international, national and non-  
governmental organisations and agencies.”**



# *Civil-Military Co-operation*

## *EU - CIMIC*

**is the co-ordination and co-operation,  
in support of the mission, between military  
components of EU-led Crisis Management Operations  
and civil actors (external to the EU), including  
national population and local authorities, as well as  
international, national and non-governmental  
organisations and agencies."**





# *EU - CIMIC*

- **Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC):**  
cooperates only with government offices/IOs/  
**NGOs outside Europe!**  
(Operational/Tactical level)
- **Civil Military Co-ordination (CMCO):**  
**A tool of the commission inside the EU!**  
(Strategic level - **CMCO superior to CIMIC**)



# *CIMIC - AUSTRIA*

**Is the national/international cooperation and coordination which is orientated to the civilian/military tasks, between civilian actors and military forces at all leading levels.**

**It supports - through synergic use of military and civil capacities – the best possible completion of the task or the achievement of the strategic goal.**



# *CIMIC - AUSTRIA*

- **CIMIC-Operations have no military-strategic goal**
- **Dual use of Armed Forces in combination with civilian actors e.g.**

**AFDRU (part of NBC-school) together with civilian rescue dogs organisations ....**





# Civil-Military Relations

## Civilian

*National*

*International*

*National*

Internal  
Civil-Military  
Relations

Traditional Focus  
of Humanitarian  
Actors

**Military**

*International*

Traditional  
Focus of Military  
CIMIC

**International  
Civil- Military  
Relations or  
“UN-  
CMCoord”**

My  
Focus

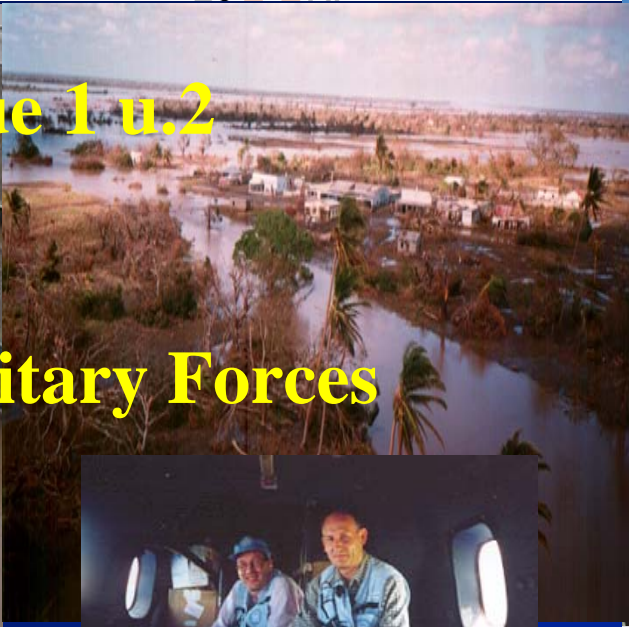


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**Mozambique 1 u.2  
2000**

**Only foreign Military Forces**



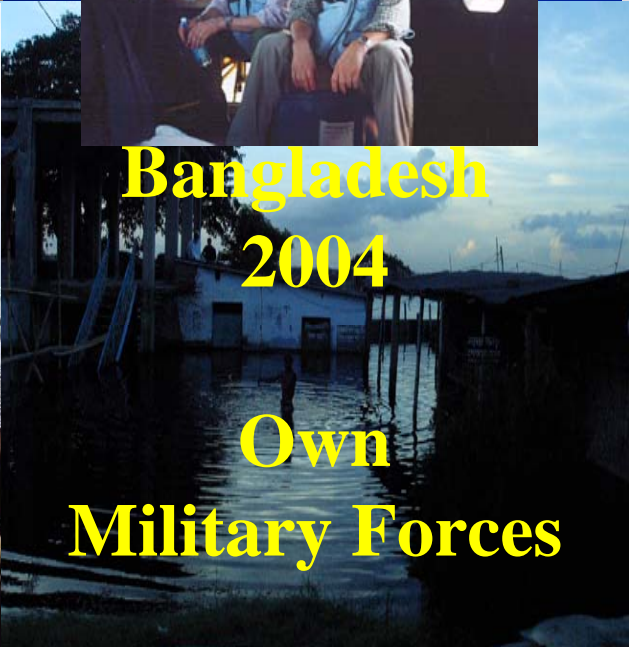
**Algeria  
2003**

**Own and foreign  
Military Forces**



**SE -Asia  
2005**

**Own and foreign  
Military Forces**



**Bangladesh  
2004**

**Own  
Military Forces**

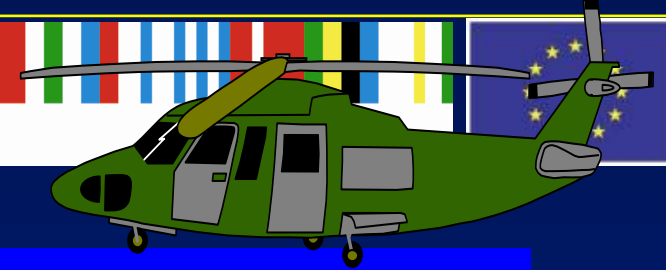


**Iran  
2003/04**

**Own and foreign  
Military Forces**



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*Need for Assistanc*

**Relief**

**Recovery**



Information Sharing  
Task Sharing  
Joint Planning

Military and Civil Defence Assets

International Civilian Relief

Local/National Response

Joint Planning  
Task Sharing  
Information Sharing

*Time*

*MCDA is the last resort!*



# *Criteria for Use of Military Forces*

- **Is the military force capable of the task?**
- **Can they be committed for the duration?**
- **Can they deploy without weapons?**
- **Can they establish neutrality and/or impartiality?**
- **Can they be placed under direction of a civilian actor?**
- **Are they the only or most appropriate option?**
- **What are the consequences for other humanitarian actors?**



# Humanitarian Assistance versus Military Civic Action

Humanitarian acts are guided by humanitarian principles.

...assistance is provided based on need. It is ... impartial without ...political conditions. Humanitarian providers strive to deliver this help in a neutral manner, without taking sides in disputes or political positions on the underlying issues.

Military civic action is conducted based on needs of the force and the mission... (it) is conditional and may cease when the mission changes, the unit moves, or if the population becomes uncooperative.





# Coordination, Cooperation and Coexistence

*Cooperation* is the highest form in Civil-Military Relations. *Coexistence* is another one. Unfortunately *competition* and *conflict* occur.

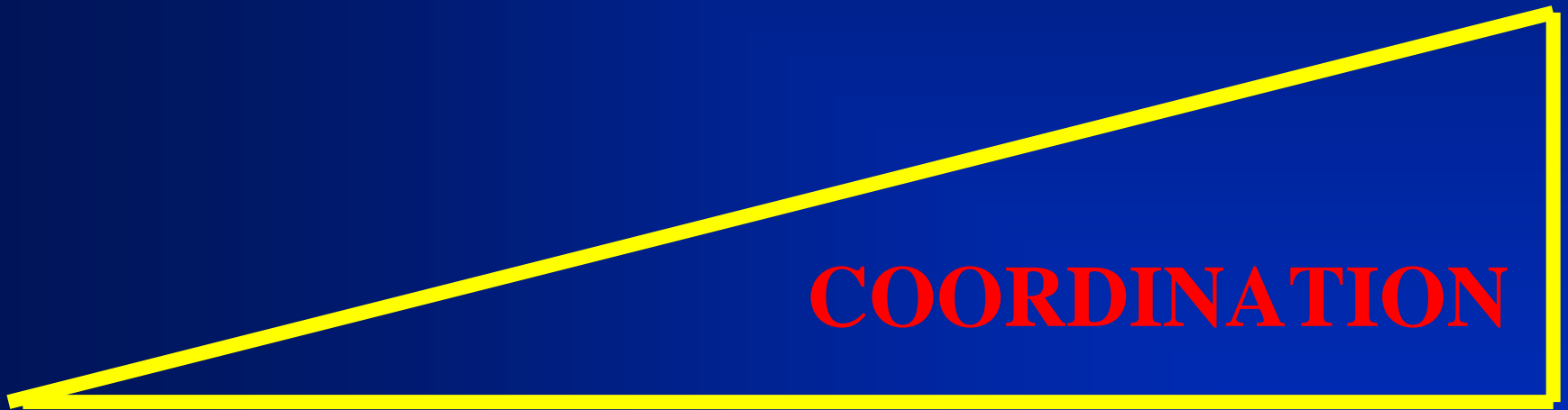
At a **minimum**, the responding military and civilian actors must coordinate in critical areas in order to enhance cooperation and coexistence and minimize competition and conflict.

These areas are: *security, logistics, communications, transportation and information.*



# Spectrum of Civil – Military Relations

Conflict Competition Coexistence **Cooperation**



The higher the cooperation is-  
the more **coordination** is needed!



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## Civil-Military Coordination



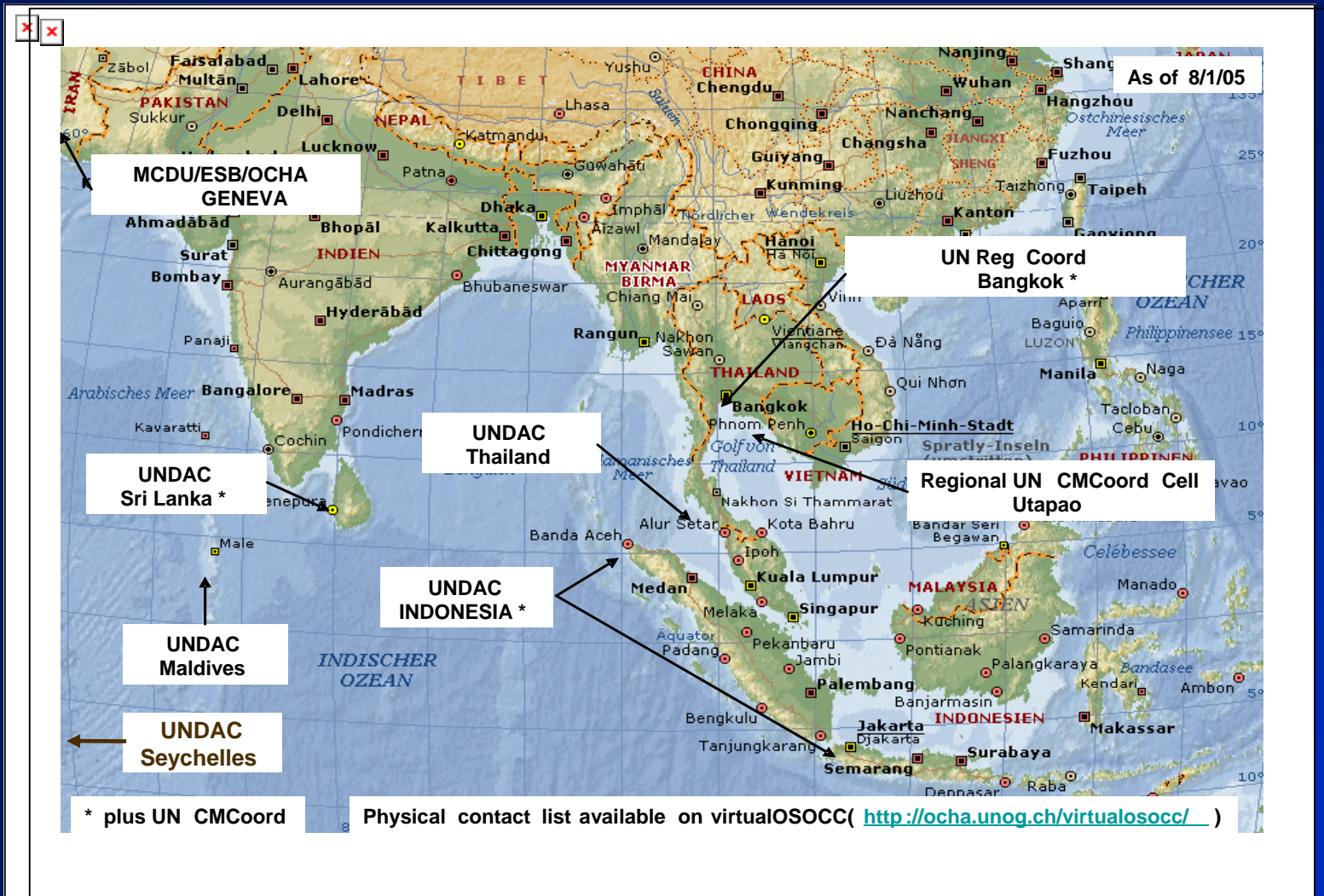
**especially during the relief  
operation in SE-Asia**



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# UNDAC / UN CMCoord deployment





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# UN CMCoord Structure

Military & Civil Defence Unit,  
OCHA, Geneva

CMCoord Officer x 1  
Bangkok, Thailand

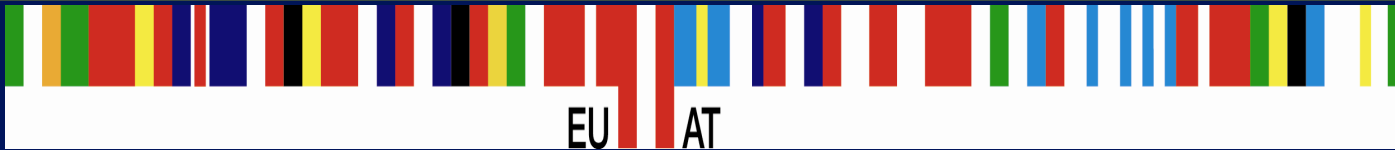
CMCoord Officers x 2  
Colombo, Sri Lanka

CMCoord Officers x 3  
EU Military Staff x 1  
U-Tapao, Thailand

CMCoord Officers x 2  
Banda Aceh, Indonesia

CMCoord Officer x1  
Medan, Indonesia

CMCoord Officer x 1  
Jakarta, Indonesia



**UN Regional  
CMCoord  
Cell/U-Tapao**

**INTERNATIONAL  
COMMUNITY  
MCDA Request**

**MCDU/ESB/OCHA  
GENEVA**

**Regional UN  
CMCoord Cell  
U-Tapao**

**CSF 536 (1)  
(Combined  
CoordCell)**

**Request for military  
assistance (RFA)  
On Site  
Humanitarians**

**UNDAC/  
UNCMCoord**

**CSG or  
other mil. Force  
(1)**

**I  
N  
T**

**R  
E  
G**

**L  
O  
C**

1) If RFA satisfied- no further action



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# Non-US Military



INDIA



Ships x 7  
Helos x 3  
Fixed Wing x 2



U-taj

C-130 x 2  
Ships x 2  
Helos x 3  
Med Team  
Eng Team



Med Team

Ships x 1  
Helos x 1  
Eng Team



SRI LANKA

Colombo



C-130 x 1  
Water System



DART Team  
ROWPU x 4  
Med Team  
Eng Team



C-130 x 1  
Ships x 2

Ship x 1  
Helo x 1



Male



C-130 x 2  
Ships x 2  
Eng Team



Med Team



Ships x 1  
Helos x 1

Ships x 3  
LST/AOE/DD  
CH-47 x 3  
UH-60 x 2  
SH-60 x 2  
Med Team



Helos x 1



Helos x 4

HH-60 x 2  
Field Hospital



Field Hospital  
Eng Team



Hospital Ship  
Helos x 2



LPA - CJTF 629  
Helos x 2



Forensic Team



1 x DVI Team



Field Hosp  
Eng Team x 2  
ALT x 2



Field Hospital



C-160 x 2  
Helos x 5



Helos x 2



Ships X 2  
Med Team  
Eng Team



LST x 2



C-130 x 6  
B-707 x 1  
UH-1 x 4

INDONESIA



RNZAF B-757  
in region



2 x C-130

Darwin



C-130 x 1  
LST to SL  
ETD: 29 Jan



LST: RTHP

211 pax

Khao Lak



Fixed wing x 1  
MP Team



Ship x 1  
C-130 x 2  
Helos x 2  
Med Team  
Eng Team



C-130 x 2



Helos x 1



Helos x 2



C-130 x 5  
CH-47 x 3



AUS	BRN	DEU	IND	MYS	PAK
AUT	CAN	FRA	JPN	NOR	PRC
BGD	CHE	GBR	KOR	NZL	SGP



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# US Military

- Personnel**  
19,500
- Air Assets**  
3 C-17 (USTRANSCOM)  
2 C-5 (USTRANSCOM)  
2 KC-130  
2 P-3  
4 C-2  
13 fixed-wing  
(+52 TACAIR ALSG)  
36 Helos
- Ships**  
6 USN  
3 MPS  
3 USNS Logistics  
1 Survey Ship  
1 HSV

**Logistics Ships**  
SAN JOSE (T-AFS)  
TIPPECANOE (T-AO)  
NOTE: USNS RAINIER w/ALCSG

**Kadena**  
2 KC-135 on alert

**Futenma**  
2 KC-130

INDIA

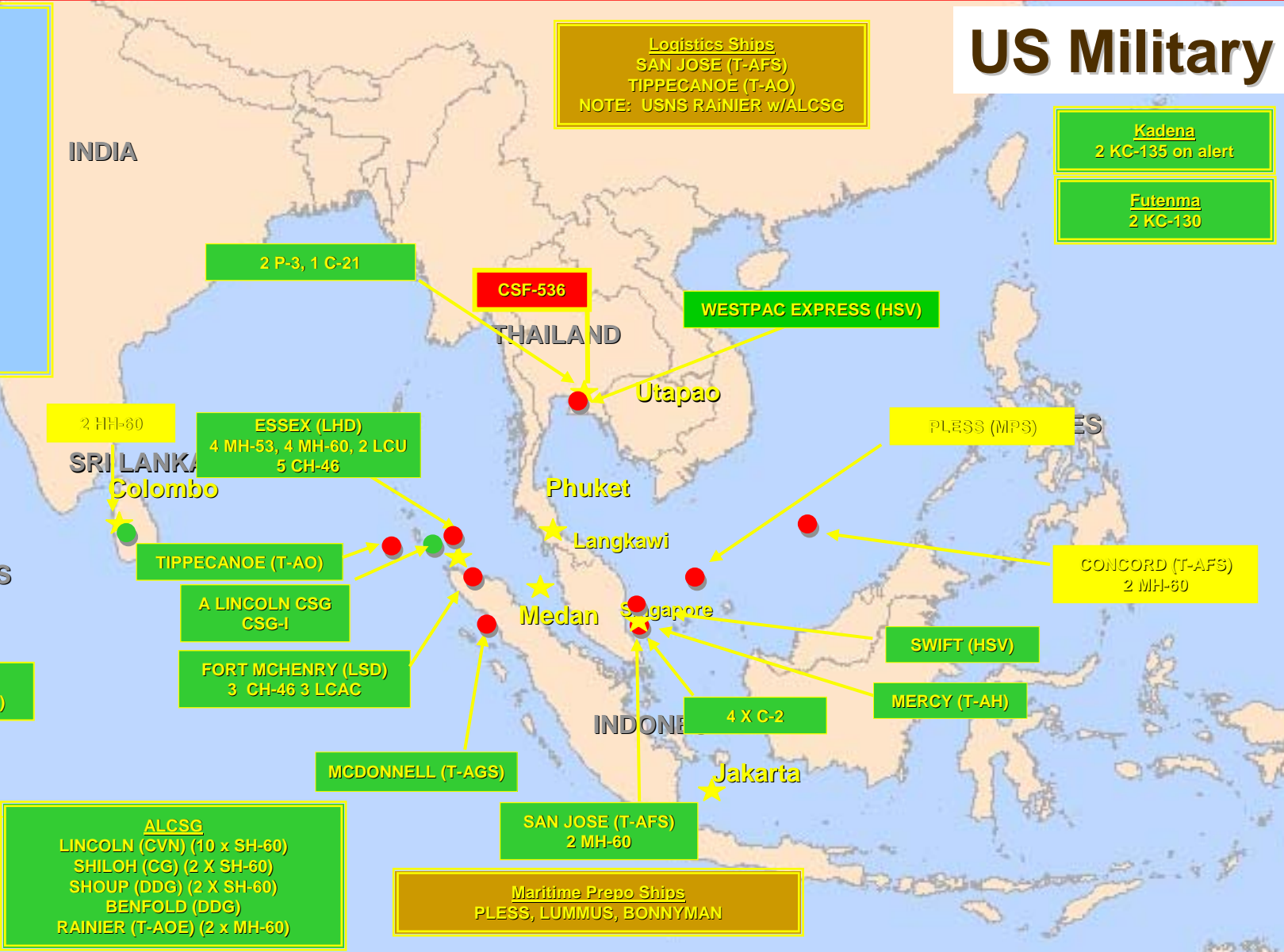
THAILAND

SRI LANKA

PHILIPPINES

MALDIVES

INDONESIA



ON STATION ● CSG ● AIRFIELDS ★ IN BOUND ● OUT BOUND ●



# Cooperation with CSF 536





# Observations

- **Level (Strategic/operational/tactical)**
- **Clear mandate/task and Terms of Reference**
- **Reporting lines**
- **CMCoord network**
- **Combined Coordination Cell**
- **Liasion officers and Combined Support Groups**
- **“In support of” - civilians lead the operation/  
military assists**



# Observations

- **Key elements in the area of Security/Logistics/Information/ Communication/Transport:**
  - **Information sharing (Open Source Information vs. Intelligence)**  
**Collection/ Exchange/Analysis/Dissemination**
  - **Task Division (Facilitates the work/better use of resources....)**
  - **Planning (Use of different expertise/better workload)**



## Conclusion

- **CMCoordO – necessary for good cooperation (“Interpreter” between Civilian/military)**
- **Common training – informal networks (e.g. 1<sup>st</sup> UN/EU OSOCC course March 2006 in Styria/Austria)**
- **Never had problems with civilian/military actors in the field !**



Thank you for your kind attention!  
Any questions?

