



2026/2320

16.10.2026

POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE DECISION (CFSP) 2026/2320

of 13 October 2026

on the appointment of the Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of the European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea (EUSDI Gulf of Guinea) (EUSDI/2/2026)

THE POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 38, third paragraph, thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision (CFSP) 2023/1599 of 3 August 2023 on a European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea ⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 3 thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Pursuant to Article 3(1) of Decision (CFSP) 2023/1599, the Political and Security Committee (PSC) is authorised, in accordance with Article 38, third paragraph, of the Treaty, to take the relevant decisions for the purpose of exercising the political control and strategic direction of the European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea (EUSDI Gulf of Guinea), including decisions on the appointment of the Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell.
- (2) On 4 December 2025, the Council adopted Decision (CFSP) 2025/2472 ⁽²⁾, amending Decision (CFSP) 2023/1599 and extending the mandate of EUSDI Gulf of Guinea from 11 December 2025 to 31 December 2027.
- (3) On 9 December 2025, the PSC adopted Decision (CFSP) 2025/2533 ⁽³⁾, extending the mandate of Mr Philippe CHEVET as Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of EUSDI Gulf of Guinea from 11 December 2025 to 19 October 2026.
- (4) On 22 September 2026, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy proposed the appointment of Mr Paulo Antonio PEREIRA SOARES as Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of EUSDI Gulf of Guinea from 20 October 2026 to 19 October 2027.
- (5) A decision on the appointment of Mr Paulo Antonio PEREIRA SOARES as Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of EUSDI Gulf of Guinea from 20 October 2026 to 19 October 2027 should be taken,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

Mr Paulo Antonio PEREIRA SOARES is appointed as Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of the European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea (EUSDI Gulf of Guinea) from 20 October 2026 to 19 October 2027.

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 196, 4.8.2023, p. 25, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2023/1599/oj>.

⁽²⁾ Council Decision (CFSP) 2025/2472 of 4 December 2025 amending Decision (CFSP) 2023/1599 on a European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea (OJ L, 2025/2472, 5.12.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/2472/oj>).

⁽³⁾ Political and Security Committee Decision (CFSP) 2025/2533 of 9 December 2025 extending the mandate of the Head of the Civilian Command and Support Cell of the European Union Security and Defence Initiative in support of West African countries of the Gulf of Guinea (EUSDI/3/2025) (OJ L, 2025/2533, 11.12.2025, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/dec/2025/2533/oj>).

Article 2

This Decision shall enter into force on the date of its adoption.

Done at Brussels, 13 October 2026.

For the Political and Security Committee

The Chairperson

L. FEENEY
