



# FACT SHEET

## U.S. AFRICA COMMAND

## COMBINED JOINT TASK FORCE—HORN OF AFRICA

### Mission

CJTF-HOA, in partnership with our joint, interagency, intergovernmental, and multinational teammates, conducts theater security cooperation activities to enable regional actors to neutralize violent extremist organizations and enable regional access and freedom of movement within East Africa in order to protect and defend United States interests. Plan, prepare and on order, execute crisis response within East Africa in order to protect and defend the United States military, diplomatic, and civilian personnel, facilities and interests.

### Vision

- CJTF-HOA secures United States interests, East African Interests and regional stability through joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational collaboration and teamwork.
- CJTF-HOA enables neutralization of violent extremist organizations, strategic access and freedom of movement through coordinated, synchronized and deliberate theater security operations with regional partners.
- CJTF-HOA Strengthens regional military capability, regional security, and regional partnerships through synchronized and relevant joint, interagency, intergovernmental and multinational actions.
- CJTF-HOA shapes regional development; safety, security and stability; and the future of East Africa through enduring relationships based on common goals and shared understanding and trust.

### Means

The military operations, activities, and exercises of CJTF-HOA focus on the populations, security capacity and basic human needs of its East African partners. The command conducts military-to-military engagements (e.g. training, military exercises, and advising), key leader engagements, and civil-military operations; provides enabling support; and uses outreach and communication to enable security and stability, and to counter violent extremism in the region.

### Background

CJTF-HOA was established at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Oct. 19, 2002. In November 2002, service members embarked on a 28-day training cruise aboard USS Mount Whitney, and arrived in the Horn of Africa Dec. 8, 2002. CJTF-HOA operated from the Mount Whitney until May 13, 2003, when the mission transitioned ashore to Camp Lemonnier in Djibouti, Djibouti, as one of several tenants. The CJTF-HOA mission has evolved from an initial focus on using civil-military operations as the cornerstone of countering violent extremism to the current focus on strengthening partner military capacity and building strategic partnerships with African militaries. As one component of the United States' whole-of-government approach in East Africa, CJTF-HOA personnel employ their defense expertise in close cooperation with the efforts of other U.S. government agencies, such as the diplomatic initiatives of the U.S. State Department and the development projects of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Service members from each branch of the U.S. military, civilian employees and representatives of coalition and partner countries serve on behalf of CJTF-HOA. The command, along with coalition and other U.S. defense components, provide support to regional organizations to help foster cooperation, enhance collective peace keeping, improve humanitarian assistance and support civil-military operations. The CJTF-HOA area of operations includes the countries of Burundi, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Rwanda, Seychelles, Somalia, Tanzania, and Uganda. The CJTF-HOA area of interest includes Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Mauritius, Madagascar, Mozambique, Sudan, South Sudan, and Yemen.