



# BLUE BERET

## UNFICYP Fire Safety Management

With summer temperatures soaring above 45C this year, managing fires becomes a serious business for UNFICYP's Security Section/Fire Unit. Last year, 170 fires were reported within UNFICYP, 133 of which threatened the lives of UNFICYP personnel, or endangered property, equipment or the mission's operations.

In August 2015, UNFICYP's Security Section/Fire Unit received a welcome boost with the delivery of a new state of the art fire engine made by Rosenbauer. "The fire engine has been named "Beauty for Beast-Fire/BFBF" for its' sleek good looks and capacity to meet the wide variety of fire challenges the mission may be called upon to deal with," said Nadeem P Qadir, UNFICYP Fire Officer.

In the past the mission has been dependent on the host Government's fire resources which haven't always been sufficient to meet the mission's operational requirements. In 2015 there have already been more than 117 fires reported so far. The Security Section/Fire Unit has had to respond to incidents ranging from major grass fires caused by the dry summer conditions to kitchen fires in peacekeeper's accommodation. "No matter how big or small the reported incident UNFICYP's Security Section/Fire Unit has to be ready to respond promptly and effectively to ensure the safety of all personnel and allow the continuation of the mission's operations. Keeping the mission's ammunition compound safe from fire threats is also a top priority for the Security Section/Fire Unit." Added Mr Qadir.

UNFICYP's Fire Officers have been hard at work learning how to operate and maintain the new fire engine. A Field Service Manager from the manufacturer provided three days of training to UNFICYP's Fire Officers and two designated drivers who have now been certified to operate the "BFBF". Six designated personnel from the Mobile Force Reserve (MFR) have also qualified as "Fire Pickets" after completing a real firefighting exercise with UNFICYP Security Section/Fire Unit.

With the new fire engine now in full operation it will provide fire cover for all UN-Flights in line with ICAO requirements while UNFICYP's old fire engine will also resume active service after its full refurbishment by the end of year-2015.

### "Beauty For Beast-Fire / BFBF"

The fire engine has the capacity of 6100 liters of water, 750 liters of foam and 250 liters of dry powder. The top monitor output capacity may be controlled from 2500 liters/minute to 1600 liters/minute with 70 meters range and bumper monitor output capacity of 1500 liters/minute with 55 meters range, connections for four hoses, 30 meters side hose reel with output capacity of 200 liters/minute and dry powder fire-fighting systems with its own 30 meters hose-reel with discharge rate of 2.5 kg per second, not finish yet, there are five under truck nozzle with the output capacity of 75 liters/minute to keep the fire-safety all around. The best part the UNFICYP Security Section/Fire Unit liked are the joy-sticks which controls the monitors, it means the fireman/ monitor operator has the full control of the two monitors from in-side the driver's cabin.



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