



MINISTÈRE DES ARMÉES

*Liberté
Égalité
Fraternité*

FRENCH NAVY PRESS RELEASE

Paris, October 10, 2022

Beginning of the exercise Grand African NEMO 2022

From Tuesday the 11th to Sunday the 16th of October 2022, the major exercise Grand African NEMO 2022, organised by the Yaounde structure and the French Navy, will gather 17 out of the 19 nations bordering the Gulf of Guinea and 8 partner nations including France. The exercise will take place in a wide maritime area stretching from Senegal to Angola.

Four French units will participate in this large-scale exercise: the French ship *Germinal* and the French Landing Helicopter Dock *Tonnerre* deployed in the area as part of operation *Corymbe*, a maritime patrol aircraft *Atlantique 2* and maritime surveillance aircraft *Falcon 50*.

This exercise will benefit from the support of the Sub-Regional Fisheries Commission, the Fisheries Committee of The Center West, the United Nations with ONUDC, and also the European programmes GoGIN, PESCAO and WeCaps.

Since 2018, Grand African NEMO has become the most important annual maritime security event in the Gulf of Guinea. This fourth edition, aims to share know-how and improve the operational level of participants in the fight against illegal fishing, piracy, maritime pollution illegal trafficking and rescue at sea.

About forty units at sea, and five aircrafts will be mobilised to take part in the various exercises designed on the basis of the main security stakes faced by the nations in the region.

Through the co-steering of this ambitious exercise, France and its African partners are making a decisive contribution to improve maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea.

Following Grand African NEMO 2022, the chiefs of staff of the navies bordering the Gulf of Guinea will meet in Paris, the 20th of octobre, for a symposium during which three topics will be tackled: training and operational training, sharing of maritime information and environmental safety.

The Gulf of Guinea

Covering 5,707 kilometres of West African coastline from Senegal to Angola, the Gulf of Guinea is a key maritime region. Located at the crossroads of major shipping routes, the region is home to important natural resources, including oil, fish and minerals, which are ripe for greed and illicit activities.

African NEMO exercises

Since the Yaounde summit in 2013, the French Navy has organised three to four times a year the joint patrols African NEMO and a major annual exercise Grand African NEMO, which brings together a larger number of units and operational centres.

Full press kit available [here](#).

Media contacts :

Public affairs department - Atlantic Maritime Head Command (CECLANT)
ocr.astreinte@premar-atlantique.gouv.fr
+33 6 82 28 21 06

SIRPA MARINE
Media Unit
sirpa-marine.relation-presse.fct@intradef.gouv.fr
+33 9 88 68 46 67

French ministry of the Armed Forces - Media center
media@dicod.fr
+33 9 88 67 33 33

à la communication de la défense

DICoD

Centre media du ministère des Armées
60 boulevard du général Martial Valin CS 21623 - 75009 Paris Cedex 15