

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

African Union Mission for Somalia
P.O. Box 20182- 00200; Tel:+254(20)7216710, Fax:+254(20)7216775, Nairobi, Kenya
au-amisomhom@africa-union.org

PRESS RELEASE
(for immediate release)

AMISOM concludes police training to help build security in Mogadishu

Mogadishu, July 30th, 2011; The AMISOM Police Component today successfully concluded a course in Traffic and Community Based Policing for fifty Somali police recruits, the first to be held in Mogadishu by the African Union peace support mission.

The course was three weeks long and will help prepare the Police force for taking over law and order responsibility in the government-held areas of Mogadishu. The training took place at Jazeera training facility in the outskirts of Mogadishu. It lasted from 11th July to 30th July with the trainees undergoing oral, practical and class-based courses.

Twenty five trainees who included women and men police officers were taken through the courses of road traffic, investigating traffic accidents, road and traffic signs and their importance as well as how to properly record traffic accidents. The other twenty five trainees were instructed in community policing and learned how to work with the public in maintaining law and order as well as how to resolve local conflicts and manage hostilities among the general public.

Deputy Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (DSRCC) for Somalia, Hon. Wafula Wamunyinyi emphasized the need for fair policing in the government areas of Mogadishu. He stated that a legitimate government that attracts the trust of its citizens is built on protecting law and order, securing life and property and promoting human rights.

DRCC Hon. Wafula said: "I wish to remind all those Somali Police Officers who are graduating today to be proud of the rebirth of the Somali Police Force and to help Somalia support itself. You should protect your tradition and culture that is under threat from violent and brutal militants."

Hon. Wamunyinyi also urged the government and donors to work together to ensure the Police are regularly paid. He also urged the public to support the government in its quest to help restore order and bring back development and prosperity in Somalia.

In closing his speech to the trained officers he said; “You must uphold and honor your national blue flag. The African Union and other partners will continue to support you as you seek peace and stability for your country.”

The closing ceremony was attended by Somalia’s State Minister of Interior- Hon. Mohamed Mahamud, Police Commissioner -Shiiqunaa Maye, Paul Kelett - the European Union Security Advisor on Somalia, as well as other senior AMISOM and Somali government officials.

For more information, please contact;
PIU, Tel:+254(20)7216710, Fax:+254(20)7216775,
Email:amisommediacentre@gmail.com