



African Union Mission for Somalia
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PRESS RELEASE

(for immediate release)

AMISOM signs an agreement with Somali Women Development Center (SWDC) to launch a quick humanitarian impact project

Mogadishu, 2 August 2011-A signing ceremony organized to launch a quick impact project took place at AMISOM base camp in Mogadishu. The ceremony was attended by the Deputy Special Representative of the African Union Commission, the Deputy district Commissioner of Medina, Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer, AMISOM Seniors Officers, a representative of Civil Military Coordination unit (CIMIC), representatives of SWDC (a local NGO), and representatives of IDP camps.

Although AMISOM mandate is limited to facilitation of provision of humanitarian assistance, it has since 2007 provided a wide range of services such as free medical care, distribution of clean water, etc.

AMISOM Senior Humanitarian Affairs Officer, Abdul Diabagate, reiterated that more needs to be done during the current situation and he urged the international community and the African countries to take advantage of AMISOM's presence and intensify efforts to alleviate the suffering of the Somali people.

Speaking at the ceremony, the Deputy Commissioner of Medina welcomed and thanked members of AMISOM for the support they have been providing to the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) in Mogadishu.

"Thousands more households are still in need of shelter, food, and other basic needs. The influx of people and the increased movements to seek those basic needs can pose a security threat if proper attention is not paid to those in need. But I can assure you that community leaders and local organizations will work hand in hand with AMISOM to contain the threat and support those in need", he said.

On behalf of the African Union, Honorable Wafula Wamuyinyi, Deputy Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, expressed his satisfaction for this initiative which is a concrete example of how good coordination and collaboration can be a viable way to find solutions to issues at the community level.

"I trust that the results of these types of quick impact project will pave the way for long-term and more sustainable projects that will benefit our brothers and sisters of all communities in Mogadishu, and other parts of Somalia. This also complements the

efforts of the military in providing a safe space in which such initiatives can take place”, he said.

The project which is a provision of basic needs to Halane and Dalmar 2 IDP camps in Medina district will be implemented by SWDC in collaboration with AMISOM Humanitarian Affairs Unit, and with the assistance of CIMIC over a period of three months.

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