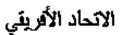
## **AFRICAN UNION**





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# PRESS RELEASE (for immediate release)

# Somali Police Officers Commence Refresher Training in Mogadishu

**Mogadishu, 10 November, 2011**-22 Mid-Level Management Officers of the Somali Police Force have begun a four —week refresher training course in Mogadishu as the capital continues to rise from the ashes of the past twenty years.

The training was launched in a colourful ceremony on Tuesday at the Police Academy and attended by Interior Minister, Abdisamad Moalin Mohamad. It will be conducted by Somali police trainers with the help of AMISOM police mentors at facilities in Hamar Jajab district. Courses covered will include: Human Rights, Community Based Policing, Gender Based Violence and Public Order Management.

Mr. Benson Oyo Nyeko, acting head of the AMISOM Police Component congratulated the Interior Ministry and the senior management of the Somali Police Force for initiating the programme and pledged AMISOM's full support for their efforts to restructure and professionalize the force. On his part, the Interior Minister thanked AMISOM for its help.

Ever since Al-Qaeda linked extremist terrorists were forced out of Mogadishu by the Somali National Army with the support of AMISOM troops in August, there have been major improvements made in security. City residents are taking to the beaches for the first time in years and shops are open late into the night, despite the continuing threat of terrorist attack. The AMISOM Police Component has 35 officers in Mogadishu, helping to train and mentor over 5000 members of the Somali Police Force.

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