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Press release

AMISOM forces launch a military offensive to consolidate security in Mogadishu

(Mogadishu, 20th January 2012): AU Mission in Somalia troops successfully advanced to consolidate their positions in Northern areas of Mogadishu, Somalia today. The push forward enabled AMISOM, and the TFG forces, to secure the northern edges of the city.

AMISOM can confirm that Mogadishu University and Barakaat Cemetery are now under the Somali government's control.

The Force Commander said that the operation started well, and the forces were able to quickly achieve their objective, "Our troops fought bravely, achieving their objective to secure the Northern frontier of the city."

Two AMISOM soldiers were injured. This is the first time AMISOM has been able to secure an area outside the parameters of the city allowing them to defend greater Mogadishu from the exterior.

Recently, the African Union requested the UN Security council to increase troop levels to 17,000 soldiers and provide force enablers for them to secure the entire country.

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