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## P R E S S   R E L E A S E

### **EUTM Somalia starts its training activities in Mogadishu**

On 24 February, the EU's military training mission for Somalia (EUTM Somalia) started its first "Train the Trainers" course at the Jazeera Training Camp in Mogadishu. The previous day, EUTM Somalia's new Mission Commander, Brigadier General Massimo Mingiardi, was joined for an official ceremony by Somalia's Deputy Minister for Defence, Abdallah Hussein Ali.

This is the first training carried out in Mogadishu by EUTM Somalia since its redeployment from Uganda in December 2013. High Representative Ashton said: "*This event is a milestone in the history of EUTM Somalia. Having since 2010 contributed to the training of approximately 3,600 Somali soldiers in Uganda, we are now working fully on Somali soil, hand in hand with the Somali army. Through training, mentoring and advising, the armies of EU Member States are bringing a significant contribution to the country's and the international community's efforts towards security in the long term and a better future for all Somalis.*"

The training will be conducted by 16 trainers – 8 from Italy, 6 from Sweden, and 2 from Hungary. The trainees will be 60 military personnel of the Somali National Army who had been previously trained by EUTM in Uganda. The refresher course will last four weeks and will train the trainers on infantry techniques and procedures, also including elements of International Humanitarian Law and Military Ethics. At the end of the Course, the Somali personnel will be qualified as instructor and will train Somali National Army recruits with the

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mentoring of the EUTM Somalia personnel. This train-the trainer approach and the following mentoring continues to assist the Somali authorities in developing sustainable local capacities.

In 2014 EUTM Somalia plans to train and mentor in Mogadishu a total of 1,850 personnel of the Somali national defence forces. This support continues to take place within the framework of the EU's comprehensive engagement in Somalia, with a view to responding to the priority needs of the Somali people and its government as well as stabilizing Somalia.

More information on [EUTM Somalia](#)

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## COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

### EUTM Somalia

#### EU military mission to contribute to the building up and strengthening of the Somali National Armed Forces

Updated: December 2013

On 10 April 2010, the European Union launched a military training mission in Somalia (EUTM Somalia) in order to contribute to strengthening the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the institutions of Somalia. This support is part of the EU's comprehensive engagement in Somalia, which aims to support stabilising the country and to respond to the needs of the Somali people.

Since 2010, EUTM Somalia has contributed to the training of approximately 3,600 Somali soldiers with a focus on the training of Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs), Junior Officers, specialists and trainers. Training has been provided in Uganda due to the political and security situation in Somalia, in close collaboration with the Uganda People's Defence Forces (UPDF). EUTM Somalia has become well known and highly respected by the International Community, and has established enduring cooperation with stakeholders and key players in the region.

On 22 January 2013, the Council of the European Union extended the mandate of EUTM Somalia to March 2015. This third mandate implies a significant change of focus for the Mission. Until this point, EUTM Somalia has operated mainly in Uganda where the Mission Headquarters (Kampala) and the training camp (Bihanga, Western Uganda), are located. The Mission also has a Liaison Office in Nairobi (Kenya), a Support Cell in Brussels and a Mentoring Advisory and Training Element (MATE HQ) in Mogadishu. This structure will change in the first months of 2014 when all EUTM advisory, mentoring and training activities will be conducted in Mogadishu, Somalia.

The training of the Somali National Armed Forces is focused on commander up to battalion and company level, in addition to specialist training in the areas of military police, civilian-military cooperation, intelligence, company commander and combat engineering. Modules on international humanitarian law and human rights, and the protection of civilians are also delivered.

In EUTM MATE HQ in Mogadishu, a team of EUTM Somalia advisors is providing strategic advice to the Somali authorities within the security institutions (Ministry of Defence and General Staff). Specific mentoring, advice and capacity building in the training domain and support and advice on security sector development issues is foreseen for 2014.

#### FACTS AND FIGURES

**Mission area:** Uganda/Somalia  
**Headquarters:** Kampala  
**Starting date of new mandate:** 1 February 2013  
**Mission Commander:** Brigadier General Gerald Aherne (Ireland)  
**Troop strength:** 125  
**Mission budget:** € 11.6 million  
**Contributing states:** 12 member states (BE,DE,ES,FI,FR,HU,IE,IT,NL,PT,SE,UK) and 1 third state (Serbia).



EUTM Somalia operates in close cooperation and coordination with other international actors; in particular the United Nations, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), the Uganda People's Defence Forces and the United States of America.

Brigadier General Gerald Aherne (Ireland) has been the Mission Commander from 01 February 2013, succeeding Colonel Michael Beary (Ireland) and Colonel Ricardo Gonzalez Elul (Spain).

The common funding of the mission amounts to €11.6 million for the period February 2013-March 2015.

## **POLITICAL CONTROL AND MILITARY DIRECTION**

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises the political control and strategic direction of EUTM Somalia, under the responsibility of the Council of the European Union and of the High Representative. For its part, the European Union Military Committee (EUMC) monitors the correct execution of the mission conducted under the responsibility of the Mission Commander.

## **THE EUROPEAN UNION'S COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH TO SOMALIA**

The EU supports the Somali institutions in the process towards a peaceful Somalia. It continues to engage with the Somali Federal Government and supports its efforts towards improving the living conditions of the population, including in the field of security and the delivery of basic services. The EU supports the principles laid down in the Djibouti Peace Agreement, including the spirit of reconciliation and the search for an inclusive process in Somalia. The EU took a leading role endorsing the agreement ("Compact") between Somalia and the International Community, on the basis of Somali priorities, at a high level conference on 16 September 2013 in Brussels. €1.8 billion were pledged in total; including €650 million from the EU in support of the priorities of the Compact.

The Joint Strategy Paper for Somalia for 2008-2013 has been implemented through an allocation of €412 million under the 10<sup>th</sup> European Development Fund (EDF) managed by the European Commission. It covers three main sectors of cooperation: governance and security, education and economic development.

### *Other EU activities to support the Security Sector in Somalia*

In addition to EUTM Somalia, a range of EU instruments are contributing to the build-up and strengthening of the security sector in Somalia, in cooperation with international partners. The EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) - Operation ATALANTA contributes to the prevention and deterrence of piracy and the protection of vulnerable shipping. The EU also contributes to build the capacities of coastal police and the judiciary in Somalia, among other countries, through its regional civilian mission EUCAP Nestor. In addition, EU development aid (as e.g. education, job creation programmes) supports alternative livelihoods, thus contributing to deter piracy recruitment.

The EU is a major sponsor of AMISOM, the African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia, both financially and on planning and capacity building. The EU has contributed over €580 million to AMISOM since its launch in March 2007 through the African Peace Facility (APF). Furthermore, €13 million have been provided to support an environment free from explosive threats and €1.3 million for assisting central and local authorities to design and implement tangible activities in the Newly Accessible Areas of South-Central Somalia.

The EU is also planning an additional €15 million from the European Development Fund to the

Somali police force and justice sector, making the total amount of EU support in this area €104 million. An additional €6 million will be provided for effective anti-money laundering and counter-terrorism, as well as capacity building and networking.

Since 2009, the Critical Maritime Routes (CMR) programme has focused on the security and safety of essential maritime routes in areas affected by piracy to help to secure shipping and trading lines of communication. The long-term objective addressed by the programme is to improve maritime governance. The emphasis is on capacity building at regional and trans-regional level for exchange of information, cooperation and subsequent implementation at national level. A total of €16.5 million has been committed in the period 2009-2013 for the Indian Ocean region, including Somalia.

*The European Union's **Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)** includes the gradual framing of a common defence policy which might in time lead to a common defence. The CSDP allows the Union to develop its civilian and military capacities for crisis management and conflict prevention at international level, thus helping to maintain peace and international security, in accordance with the United Nations Charter. The CSDP includes a strong conflict prevention component.*

**More information and background documents available on:**

**[www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eutm-somalia](http://www.eeas.europa.eu/csdp/missions-and-operations/eutm-somalia) - [www.eeas.europa.eu](http://www.eeas.europa.eu)**



## Ongoing missions and operations

FEBRUARY 2014

See the completed EU missions and operations

