Government with Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama’a (ASWJ), the integration of members of ASWJ into the security services and the establishment of police infrastructure in Galmudug’s capital Dhusamareb. The Galmudug Chief Minister stated during the meeting that Galmudug, being now united, is more capable of encountering terrorist threats and he appealed to AMISOM and the wider international community to support Galmudug forces and security services in terms of resources, capacity building and technical advice. After the meeting the delegation visited the local Police Headquarter and its detention center. The infrastructure as such requires refurbishment and support in terms of equipment. The current Police Headquarters in Dhusamareb should serve in future as Galmudug State Police HQ that may be combined with the Galgaduud Regional Headquarters and might be one of the priority projects presented to the international community for funding through the agreed Somali Police management structure.
On the Puntland Forensic Center

Garowe – Mid February, UNSOM Police together with officers from EUCAP Somalia were invited to the Puntland Forensic Center, where the Chief Scientific Officer gave a briefing about the current status of the center. After discussions with several potential partners, two still missing machines worth 150,000 USD, which would allow to finalize DNA analysis of already collected and in the meantime stored samples, will be funded by UNFPA. All in all five staff members are so far trained in Puntland to collect forensic evidence; three from the Garowe Hospital and two from the Puntland State Police Criminal Investigation Department. In addition the Chief Scientific Officer informed about the start of discussions with the parliament to pass an act, which would give the Forensic Center a legal status. Currently the center is working under the auspices of a Presidential Decree.

Baidoa – On 14th and 15th February the Council of Somali Police Commissioners met in Baidoa. The main topic on the agenda was the agreement on a list of prioritized projects for 2018 which will be presented to the international community for the generation of funding support. The list was developed by the Joint Technical Committee on the basis of the endorsed State Police plans and will be presented to the Conference of Ministers of (Internal) Security for approval. After this step the FGS Ministry of Internal Security, in its coordination role and being the designated point of contact for the donor community in regard to police development projects, will feed the list into the existing support mechanisms. Speaking on behalf of all Police Commissioners, the Acting SPF Commissioner Mukhtar Hassan Afrah in his closing statement expressed appreciation to South West State for the warm welcome of all participants and thanked the SWS Minister of Internal Security for the outstanding organization.
JUBALAND TC NPM DEVELOPS LISTS OF PRIORITIZED PROJECTS

Debaga – A two days’ workshop on a “Stabilization Roadmap” was recently held in South West State.

The objectives of the workshop was to develop a stabilization strategy and a work plan for SWS regarding (1) community recovery, (2) social reconciliation, (3) local governance and (4) the Rule of Law. In total about 60 participants attended the workshop, including elders, staff from various ministries, State Ministers themselves as well as representatives from various state institutions. The first day started with opening remarks on the objectives of the workshop before participants were discussing the four subjects in smaller working-groups. The outcomes of the working-group discussions were presented and discussed in depth at the second day of the workshop. In addition the South West State Police was presenting its numerous activities and the state of affairs in regard to the endorsed State Police Plan and projects emerging from this product.

Somalia’s NPM promoted in new media

Somalia – UNSOM Strategic Communications and Public Affairs Group (SCPAG) is supporting the overall information campaign on Somalia’s New Policing Model by having an animated video produced and sharing the product via new media such as Facebook or Youtube. The video vividly explains the future two-tier police organization in Somalia in words and pictures. The Somali version was viewed already by 41,000 persons while the English version got 28,000 views. The campaign is one of many activities informing about efforts taken to establish effective and efficient policing all over Somalia and has recently been complemented by outreach meetings in various FMS. The video can be seen under https://unsom.unmissions.org, https://youtu.be/uPx719CXFcg and https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z4u_HxqltNE.

HirShabelle State Security Office functional

In February, the HirShabelle State Government gave input for the transition planning on the basis of a standardized questionnaire. The biggest difference to transition planning in the southern FMS is, that there are no regional forces in HirShabelle. It is planned to recruit Darwish using the police recruitment and vetting procedures and to establish a Darwish branch within the State Police coping with the transition challenges ("robust policing") as foreseen in the HirShabelle State Police Plan. Clearing and holding the route from Ferfer via Beletweyne and Jawhar to Mogadishu remains as of highest priority. Thus, the State Government is interested in taking over vacated AMISOM camps to accommodate the newly established Darwish units. Donor support would be necessary to equip the units properly. Flanking stabilization and governance activities are rated to be very important. The key role in regard to coordination and planning of any activities, as well related to the transition planning, is with the new State Security Office as permanent working body of the HirShabelle State Security Council.

Kismayo – The Jubaland TC NPM conducted a series of meetings to identify the most important police development projects for 2018. The Jubaland State Police Plan already clearly identifies projects for each of the four years from 2018 to 2021, nevertheless this annual project compilation requires a sequencing according to the specific priorities within the state to organize funding support. Meanwhile this prioritization process was carried out simultaneously in all five FMS. The finalized Jubaland Project Matrix was approved by the State Government and was presented to the Joint Technical Committee.
Lucien Vermeir is the new UNSOM Police Commissioner

Mogadishu – On 1st February, Chief Superintendent Lucien Vermeir took over the position of UNSOM Police Commissioner. He has 41 years of operational experience in various fields in the Belgian police such as leadership, command and control, strategic and technical assessments, management, planning, operations, investigations, police reform, capacity building, disaster and emergency response. Commissioner Vermeir was Deputy Head of Mission in Palestinian territories from 2007 to 2009 (EUPOL COPPS). As a Team Leader of the UN Standing Police Capacity (2013-2017) he was Head of the Police Components for the start-up phase of MINUSMA in Mali (2013) and MINUSCA in CAR (2014). Commissioner Vermeir has met already the FGS Minister of Internal Security, Mohamed Abukar Islow “Duale”, on transition planning and the workload of the CAS-Strand 2b. On a different occasion, information was exchanged during a courtesy call with the Head of EUCAP Somalia especially on the support for the Somali Maritime Police units.

Police Professional Development Board role rises

Somalia – On 5th February, the Policy & Program Coordinator Bashir Gabiow from the FGS Ministry of Internal Security was briefed on tasks and responsibilities of the Police Professional Development Board (PPDB) as the coordination and synchronization body for training activities of the Somali Police. He was given an overview about different PPDB activities such as the already developed Basic Recruit Curriculum (BRC). The meeting was one in a whole series of consultations on the organization of capacity building measures inter alia between UNSOM Police and the SPF Planning & Training Directorate under the command of General Hasan or the representative of the American Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) on trainings for the Somali Police investigation branch. Bashir Gabiow on his part briefed on his field of work and current developments within the Ministry of Internal Security with regard to training under the umbrella of the funding mechanism called “New Policing Model Support Project”. 

Meeting of capacity building experts from UNSOM Police and the SPF Planning & Training Directorate