Gender equality is a crucial goal

Gender equality is one of the cross-cutting themes counted in the implementation process of the NEW POLICING MODEL.

Somalia – UN Security Council Resolution 1325 in 2000, recognizes the importance of women’s contributions to sustainable peace and seeks to ensure that women fully participate in peace and conflict management processes equally. The resolution is essential for leveraging strategic actions for equitable and sustainable interventions in peacebuilding processes through the involvement of women and girls. A central principle of 2030 Agenda “Leaving no one behind” commits the UN to ensure that all people benefit from development. The “Sustainable Development Goal 5” of the agenda is to achieve gender equality and to empower all women and girls. One of the various targets under this goal is to ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life. Thus, UNSOM ROlSIG and Integrated Gender Office met for the second time with Somali women and civil society actors to update each other on gender mainstreaming related activities. The recent broadcast of the HirShabelle State Police to motivate young female state citizens to apply for the service as well as the literacy training for female officers in Jubaland were mentioned in this context. The forum was informed also that the endorsed State Police plans are aiming at a quota of 20% female police officers with in the service as a first step in the direction of gender equality and that the plans indicate the elaboration of more detailed gender mainstreaming concepts. The meeting came soon after the endorsement of the UN internal “UN Somalia Gender Strategy 2018 – 2020” on 7th August, which has not only an internal impact on UNSOM but also manifests continuous support of Somali authorities in gender related activities.
On Police Bills

Somalia – Article 4 of the agreement on Somalia’s NEW POLICING MODEL is demanding a Federal Police Bill passed through the federal parliament and State Police Bills to be passed through the respective state assemblies. Consequently, the FGS Ministry of Internal Security – in its coordination role regarding the establishment of the federated police set-up as well as in its role as line ministry for the future Federal Police emerging from the current Somali Police Force – took the topic up and initiated together with UNDP and UNSOM Police a discussion on the way forward. All stakeholders agreed that the already existing coordination mechanisms should be used to kick-off the necessary discussions on those subjects which the NEW POLICING MODEL agreement is not elaborating in detail on and which have to be decided on appropriate political level first before legal experts will be able to start the drafting of the laws. While the Drafting Team might act as a sub-working group under the Somali Police Technical Working Group, requests for decisions will then have to be transferred through the Council of Police Commissioners at least to the Conference of Ministers of Internal Security and possibly even further.

Somali authorities strengthening the fight against corruption

Somalia – Somali authorities started to scale up efforts in fighting corruption. In August, UNSOM met representatives from the Federal Government of Somalia to discuss the initiative “Action against Corruption in Somalia”, a project of the UN anti-corruption platform designed to support the relevant Somali offices in their efforts. The platform was established in 2017 and comprises various entities across UNSOM and UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, with International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and other development partners providing technical and advisory services to relevant FGS bodies in their efforts to curb corruption. Central idea of the new support project is to shift the narrative from anti-corruption to systematic integrity. Thus, police services are affected in two ways: First, and following its legal mandate, police together with judiciary and the attorney general is responsible for the enforcement of anti-corruption measures. Secondly and equally important, the implementation process of the NEW POLICING MODEL must ensure that integrity is a lasting guiding principle for the new police services themselves. This year February, Transparency International published the “Corruption Perceptions Index 2017” which places Somalia on the lowest position of 180 countries.
Management trainings in HirShabelle

**Beletweyne** – In August one training for twenty junior managers and one program for twenty-five mid-level commanders were delivered in Beletweyne. Both trainings were supported by Japanese funding, conducted with UNDP support and delivered by AMISOM. Participants were taken through various management and leadership styles and received lectures on communication skills, delegation, decision making and problem solving, motivation, team building, delegation, time and change management. Capacity building is a central theme in all State Police plans. While basic trainings and trainings on-the-job are foreseen to be in future delivered by the State Police service’s own Training Department, specialized trainings should be centralized for the sake of cost-efficiency. The Police Professional Development Board is currently developing one by one the necessary curricula for basic and specialized courses. At the same time the board is coordinating the trainings for the Somali Police as the just founded State Police services are yet lacking State Police services.

**Mogadishu** - On 29th August, AMISOM Sector 1 Commander handed over the responsibility for security at the Mogadishu Stadium to the Somali Police Force. Responsibility was taken over by the respective Mogadishu District Police Station backed up by units from the Federal Darwish Police trained and equipped by the Italian Carabinieri. This handover was the very first in a sequence foreseen in the Transition Plan. UNSOM and AMISOM were reaffirming the readiness for continuous support. AMISOM Police will continue the operational support at the stadium. The Executive Board of the Joint Police Program signalled in principle support to the procurement of ten patrol vehicles and 150 radios for the use of the units at the stadium as well as to the refurbishment of the three neighbouring police stations.

**Expansion of international support needed**

**Nairobi** – On 10th August in Nairobi, UNSOM Police met a South Korean police delegation and visited the Embassy of Switzerland. UNSOM Police provided at both meetings a general overview on policing developments in Somalia and informed on the Joint Police Program (JPP). The South Korean delegation showed great interest in the international support concept for the Somali Police and will transfer the information to the next meeting of the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA). As well Switzerland is interested in increasing its profile in Somalia. The JPP is currently funded with approx. 45m USD from the EU, UK and Germany for prioritized police developments projects emerging from the strategic police plans. Other urgent activities, e.g. the country-wide establishment of Maritime Police coverage, need extra funding.

**SPF National Central Bureau will receive further support**

**Mogadishu** – In August, the National Central Bureau (NCB), Somalia’s Interpol Office located in the SPF Headquarters, was visited by UNSOM Police and the Risk Management Unit. The objective of the meeting was to gain an understanding of the current NCB capacities and to discuss future support in addition to the already delivered support by EUCAP. The idea of contacting the Interpol Headquarters in Lyon/France on the integration of Somalia into the support program for all African NCBs was discussed. The **NEW POLICING MODEL** is assigning “International relations such as with Interpol” in its Article 1 to the Federal Police, which will emerge from the current Somali Police Force.
Somalia – On 30 July, the Ministry of Interior, Federal Affairs & Reconciliation (MoIFAR) and UNSOM were chairing the bi-monthly meeting of CAS-Strand 3 which is coordinating activities related to community recovery and the extension of state authority and accountability (CRESTA/A). Representatives of all FMS and the international community were present. The Director General of the MoIFAR informed about the relocation of the offices after the attack on 7th July had destroyed the government building shared by MoIFAR and the Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS). For all FMS’s governments, community oriented policing is an integral and critical part of their stabilization strategy. Puntland wants to roll-out a state-wide community-policing concept and is planning on capacity building regarding the protection of Human Rights. Jubaland calls for a presence of the Jubaland State Police in Sungooni, a village which is a prioritized location for the state’s stabilization activities. HirShabelle includes the rehabilitation of Police Stations into their overall plan on community recovery. The representative from Banadir Region informed that there is a plan to launch a neighbourhood-watch campaign. The representative of the MoIS in his speech explained the police planning connected to the Transition Plan. As community oriented policing is rated by national and international stakeholders as integral and vital part of stabilization concepts, the community oriented portion of the police plan will be mirrored in the list of stabilization activities at the location prioritized for the transfer or security responsibilities while the military will have to align its plan with the security related content of the police plan following the agreed principle of the primacy of police during the hold and build phase.

INL supports the NEW POLICING MODEL

Mogadishu – The US State Department’s Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL) is in the process of finalizing its Criminal Investigation Program (CIP). Under the umbrella of the Joint Police Program (JPP), the CIP plans to deliver training and equipment to support and develop the investigation capabilities at the federal and state level. INL's program alignment with the JPP is important to ensure a coordinated approach to the development of specialised police services throughout Somalia. INL's coordination and support to other multi-national or bi-lateral partners, in support of police investigations, remains an essential component in the modernizing of the Somali police and strengthens the Rule of Law under the broader context of Security Sector Reform.