EU pays stipends for HirShabelle

UNOPS is the implementing partner for the EU sponsored stipends program for 400 HirShabelle State Police officers

*Mogadishu* - On invitation of the EU Delegation, representatives of the HirShabelle State Government, the Ministry of Internal Security of the FGS, UNOPS, UNSOM and AMISOM met to agree in principle on a support package for 400 HirShabelle State Police officers including delivery of basic recruit training, uniforms and a future stipend package funded by the EU. Only one day later UNOPS hosted the first planning meeting on the project. Andries Redman as responsible project manager and Adrian Schofield as stipend expert explained in detail all upcoming steps of the project to be planned and decided on by the responsible authorities in HirShabelle in the near future. Decisions have to be taken on recruitment and vetting procedures, the location of the training venue, the details of the training delivery and the criteria and modalities of stipend payments. While the program is to be coordinated with the HirShabelle State Government, the SPF signaled support to deploy qualified trainers. In the course of the meetings DFID informed that they are planning to train additional 400 HirShabelle State Police officers in Beletweyne. Both projects are fully in line with the “HirShabelle State Police Plan” on implementation of the NPM which will be published at the upcoming Security Conference in Mogadishu.
First meeting of CAS2b SWGP commenced

Mogadishu – On 29 November, the inaugural Sub-working Group on Policing (SWGP) conducted under the CAS Strand 2B framework took place. The meeting was co-chaired by the Ministry of Internal Security, the Deputy Commissioner of the Somali Police Force and the German Deputy Ambassador. Other participants included representatives from the FGS and FMS, international donor community and implementing agencies. A key meeting objective was to be updated by the FMS representatives on the State Police plans and by the MoIS on the deliverables for the December Security Conference in Mogadishu. The MoIS representatives stated that they intend to present the findings of the Operational Readiness Assessment (ORA) for the Somali Police Force, the Internal Security Strategy and a comprehensive Somalia Police Plan on the occasion of the conference.

Discussion on Sexual and Gender Based Violence (SGBV) in SWS

Baidoa – According to the plans of Somali State Police services built up following the NPM, prevention and investigation of SGBV is one of the major tasks to fulfill. Therefore representatives of the already existing Gender Desk in Baidoa, the Somali Women Development Center, UNSOM and AMISOM Police and the Danish Demining Group met for a discussion on the way forward. There has been already a service center established in the premises of the Bay Regional Hospital which is funded by UNHCR and UNDP. The cooperation between the center and the Gender Desk investigators is well established. Action points of the meeting were inter alia to extend the intensive cooperation of the present NGOs on the ground from Somali Police to UNSOM and AMISOM Police to align support activities. This message will be transferred also to other NGOs being active on the subject of SGBV. The group decided that the meeting will be regularly repeated.

PUNTLAND STATE POLICE PLAN OFFICIALLY ENDORSED

Garowe – On 19 November, the Puntland State Police Plan was officially signed by the Minister of Security & DDR, Hon. Ahmed Abdullahi Yusuf “Dawlad”, and the Acting Puntland State Police Commissioner, Colonel Abdullahi Shire Doole. The endorsement followed an earlier presentation of the plan to other Puntland State ministries, legal groups, elders and the local business community who widely welcomed the PSPP. The inputs of the Puntland communities were received to be incorporated. Other states are planning similar outreach activities in regard to their plans in the upcoming weeks before getting them signed by the respective officials.

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**Galmudug Government Plans Outreach Meeting in Adado**

Adado – The Galmudug authorities in close cooperation with UNSOM Police are planning to present their State Police Plan during a one-day program to local communities from all over the state. The meeting will be supported by UNDP with Japanese funding and comes in a row with the finalization and publication of the plan on the occasion of the December Conference. With the inputs of the communities the plan will be ready for signature by the President of Galmudug.

**Puntland Security Sector Working Group**

Garowe – In Puntland the monthly Security Sector Working Group meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Security & DDR. The Acting Police Commissioner participated while UNSOM Police was present as advisers. The Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation introduced a draft project plan for strengthening Puntland State Police. The draft was already mainly in line with the Puntland State Police Plan, nevertheless some consultations will be required to avoid duplication before finalizing the project proposal. After these discussions between both ministries it was decided that minor amendments to the Puntland State Police Plan shall be made to align both documents. Those amendments were drafted, agreed on and meanwhile incorporated in the plan before endorsement (see above).

**Jubaland State Security Council met for discussions on recovery**

Kismayo – On 26 November, the Jubaland State Security Council met for the first time and discussed inter alia the overall security situation in the state, troop preparedness and joint recovery activities. The council was chaired by the Jubaland President, Hon. Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Islam “Madobe”. Both Vice Presidents, various state ministers, the Jubaland Darwish Commander as well as the responsible Commander of the SNA Sector 43 were in attendance. The Jubaland State Police Plan elaborates on the role of the state police in the Security Council and in a subordinated “Jubaland Joint Operation Center (JOC)” in Part 5 of the plan. Following the plan the JOC is foreseen as an extensive information exchange platform between all security services on a daily basis and for the joint planning of recovery operations and activities to hold those areas.

**Role of PPDB is becoming more and more crucial**

Mogadishu – Following the State Police Plans, the role of the Professional Police Development Board (PPDB) is becoming more and more important in the context of emerging police services. So far one of the biggest achievements of the PPDB was the endorsement of the “Basic Recruit Curriculum” which is used all over Somalia for the initial training of newly recruited police personnel. The State Police plans are calling in addition for a unified curriculum of a “Refresher Training” for those officers to further qualify them for their demanding profession. This curriculum should be one in an overall modular system and be complemented by other needed courses like a “Basic investigators Course” or trainings for Birmadka and Darwish. According to the plans the most important task for the PPDB will be the design of a Somali-wide valid “Police Recruitment and Vetting Procedure”.

**Garowe** – The Puntland Technical Committee after one of the meetings on the “Puntland State Police Plan” in Garowe (archive)
Somalia – State Police Plans of Galmudug, HirShabelle, Jubaland and South West State in the version as they will be presented to the local communities as well as the already signed Puntland State Police Plan (see above) got printed and saved as soft copies ready for delivery and discussion. All Technical Committees (TCs) had agreed at an early stage that their plan should be shared at a certain time with civil society, Somali partners and the international community, even if some chapters require more detail. The plans are considered as “living documents” that require regular updates following an annual review cycle. The State Police Plans were developed following a three-step system: (1) Description of the current situation in the style of an operational readiness assessment; (2) Description of the desired end-state in 2027; (3) Identification of prioritized activities to be implemented over the next 4 years. The documents are the first products of the TCs, others will be elaborated during the upcoming years. In addition, the TCs will support other processes related to the establishment of the Somali Police including the constitutional review and the development of police related legislation.

PARALLEL TO PLANNING TRAINING CONTINUES

Beletweyne – In the beginning of November, AMISOM Police Training Department delivered a training session for fifteen officers of the Somali Police Force on basic crime scene management in Beletweyne. The course was funded by the Government of Japan. Supt. Emmanuel Ogom, the AMISOM Police training team leader, expressed satisfaction on the overall commitment of the personnel and also assured readiness of the training team to subsequently organize junior and middle management courses for the personnel. Colonel Isaak Ali Abdulle, the Deputy HirShabelle Police Commissioner, informed the course participants on the HirShabelle State Police Plan and stressed out how important their management skills will be while mentoring in the future the recruited personnel of the HirShabelle State Police. The possibility of extending trainings to personnel at Region Middle Shabelle was discussed intensively.