Phyllis Osei chosen for UN award

UNSOM Police Advisor serving in Kismayo is selected to receive the United Nations Female Police Officer of the Year Award 2018

Kismayo – In October, Police Advisor Phyllis Osei was chosen by a high-level UN panel to receive the 2018 Female Police Officer of the Year Award for her service and achievements within the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia. Phyllis is serving member of the Ghana Police Service and served as commander of the Gender Department responsible for the investigation of cases of sexual and gender based violence (SGBV) and child related offences for seven years.

Working closely with the Ghanaian Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection she was conducting awareness campaigns, developed an in-service training manual on SGBV and conducted lessons at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Center on SGBV during pre-deployment trainings of future peacekeepers. In Somalia, Phyllis is deployed to Kismayo serving as Police Advisor to the Jubaland Ministry of Security and the Jubaland State Police. At the same time, she is UNSOM Police’s focal point for gender related subjects, SGBV and child protection.

On 11th October, Phyllis together with 24 female AMISOM Police officers formed a “Female Peacekeeper Network” in Kismayo. Objective of the network is to establish a coordinated and enhanced approach regarding support given to female police officers of the Jubaland State Police. The contact to 49 female officers was established during a literacy training which Phyllis had initiated earlier this year.

Gender mainstreaming is a relevant strategy within the implementation process of the NEW POLICING MODEL. The endorsed State Police Plans are setting in unison a 20% quota of female police officers within each police service as a first step in the direction of gender equality.
Somali Police Force Leadership and Management Training

**Mogadishu** – Starting at 13th October, AMISOM Police on request of the Commissioner of the Somali Police Force (SPF) facilitated a ten-days’ leadership and management training for thirty high ranking officers drawn from the SPF Headquarters. The intention was to refresh knowledge on leadership and enhance management skills. UNSOM Police was also presenting various subjects to the group. High- and mid-level leadership trainings are key processes while implementing the **NEW POLICING MODEL** and consequently central for the Joint Police Program acknowledging that training of recruits must be complemented by qualifying commanders in parallel. The Minister of Internal Security himself attended the closing ceremony of the course underlining the importance of this approach.

On the Joint Police Program

**Somalia** – The Joint Police Program (JPP), a coordinated funding mechanism of the European Union, Germany and the UK for the implementation of the **NEW POLICING MODEL**, is moving from planning to implementation. In October, work requests of the Federal Police and State Police services were elaborated in detail and will be presented to the JPP Executive Board in early-November. With the anticipated approval, the committed budget will cross 13M USD and the implementation phase will start for UNOPS and UNDP as main implementing partners. In parallel, Somali police services supported by the FGS Ministry of Interior, UNOPS, AMISOM and UNSOM Police, will continue to work on the next tranche of work requests. To spread knowledge, UNSOM Police facilitated a session on the JPP at the UNDP Country Retreat on 2nd October. The presentation gave an overview of the program and the implications of the JPP on the support provided by the UN to the Somali Police, especially on the activities led by UNDP which are in-service training and the development of the police legal framework and accountability mechanisms.

UN Assistant Secretary-General Alexandre Zouev visited Somalia

**Mogadishu** – Late October, Alexandre Zouev, the current Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, visited Somalia. As head of the United Nations Office of Rule of Law and Security Institutions (OROLSI) he is leading five components within the UN: (1) Police Division; (2) Justice and Corrections Service; (3) UN Mine Action Service; (4) Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Section; and (5) Security Sector Reform Unit. Accordingly, the visit program for the ASG envisaged discussing numerous subjects with representatives of these components within UNSOM, as well as to exchange thoughts, views and expectations with the relevant ministries of the Federal Government of Somalia. Thus, ASG Zouev accompanied by Mr. Hans Sachs, the OROLSI Focal Person for Somalia, as part of a UNSOM delegation paid a visit to Director-General Yusuf Ali Mohamed and Mr. Ahmed Abdi (Kooshin) from the Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS). Among other subjects and upon request from the MoIS, it was agreed that a proposal will be developed for a joint assessment team involving the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism and OROLSI to visit Somalia identifying possibilities to improve the Somali capacities regarding preventing and combatting violent extremism.
Sector 3 C-IED Fusion Cell launched in South West State

Baidoa – On 18th October, the new “Sector 3 C-IED Fusion Cell” was launched in Baidoa. It was the first meeting of its kind to update on current threats caused by improvised explosive devices (IED) and on a coordinated way forward to fight this threat. The cell will meet every week on IED prevention and security operations and will establish a permanent communication channel that benefits the Somali and international security forces and finally the population of South West State. Entities working together in the fusion cell are the South West State Police, Special Police and IED authorities, the Somali Police Force, Somali National Army, the National Intelligence and Security Agency, AMISOM Military and Police, UNMAS, UNDSS and UNSOM Police and other international actors.

Examine on EOD in HirShabelle

Beletweyne – Under the lead of the Deputy Police Commissioner of the HirShabelle State Police, Colonel Isaaq Ali Abdulle, stakeholders in the field of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) met to discuss the current situation. The meeting was attended by the Team Leader of the regional EOD, UNMAS, AMISOM and UNSOM Police. The D/PC pointed out that the defusal and collection of unexploded ordnance (UXO) is crucial as UXO are often the basis for improvised explosive devices (IED) of terrorists. Colonel Abdulle agreed with the other participants that more efforts should be taken to educate the public how to react properly when UXO are found. The SPF EOD Team Leader and UNMAS officer briefed on the current operational challenges, especially the lack of technical equipment and material for education campaigns.

Each State Police Plan on the implementation of the NEW POLICING MODEL foresees a State Police EOD. However, during the current transitional phase from a centralized to a federated police model, the regional EOD units continue to operate under the Somali Police Force.

Mogadishu – On 4th October, members of the Police Professional Development Board (PPDB) met under the lead of UNODC to review the Cadet Program. The group analyzed the content of former overseas trainings and decided that a working group of UNODC, SPF, AMISOM and UNSOM Police should merge this content and other input into one unified curriculum to be approved by the full PPDB and endorsed by the relevant bodies within the Somali Police coordination framework.

The Security Sector Governance Project

Mogadishu – On 10th October, the inaugural Project Steering Committee (PSC) meeting of the Integrated (UNDP/UNSOM) Security Sector Governance Project was held in Mogadishu. The meeting was co-chaired by the FGS Minister of Internal Security and the UNDP Country Director, other participants included representatives from the EU as donor of the project and UNSOM. The PSC was provided with an update on the project’s progress including the appointment of ministerial staff to cover administrative functions in the Ministry and the delivery of training to MoIS staff on financial, human resource and asset management and procurement. It was agreed, inter alia, that the MoIS and the Project will continue to discuss means to progress the development of an electronic payroll system for the Somali Police Force.

Police Professional Development Board reviewed Cadet Program

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Mogadishu – On 6th October, the UK Minister of State for Africa at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and Minister of State at the Department for International Development, HE Harriett Baldwin, received a briefing on the police development in Somalia by the FGS Ministry of Internal Security supported by representatives of the Somali Police Force, AMISOM and UNSOM Police, the Embassy of the UK and Saham, a think tank focused on promoting peace, stability and development at the Horn of Africa. Minister Baldwin was briefed on progress made on implementing the federated NEW POLICING MODEL and discussions focused on how the Joint Police Program (JPP), supported by the three donors EU, Germany and the UK, is contributing to the development of police in Somalia. The Minister acknowledged the improved coordination among donors under the JPP and recognized the recent efforts to further align bilateral donors under the work of the CAS-Strand 2b process.

On 9th October, the Deputy German Ambassador and Co-Chair of the CAS2b Sub-Working Group Police, Markus Bollmohr, visited Somalia also to receive updates on the progress made through the JPP.

Review of the AMISOM Concept of Operations started in October

Somalia – The month of October saw a sequence of meetings hosted by AMISOM to prepare for the review of the Concept of Operations (CONOPS). When the planning event started, a Police Working Group was built to elaborate on role and responsibilities of AMISOM Police within the mission, in relation to the development of the Somali Police services in line with the NEW POLICING MODEL and regarding the implementation of the Somali Transition Plan. Besides members of the AMISOM Police section, representatives of inter alia the FGS Ministry of Interior, the Somali Police Force and UNSOM Police participated in the discussions. While the work on the final draft of the AMISOM CONOPS is underway, AMISOM Police will continue to deliver mandated tasks, namely training and mentoring of Somali Police officers as well as delivering operational support to the Somali Police services. One key enabling factor while doing so is the well-functioning cooperation between AMISOM Police and Somali Police services including the respective line ministries, the coordination bodies of the Somali Police, donors, UNSOM Police, UNDP, UNOPS and other programs and agencies.