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Somali Police Force and International Partners Meet in Mogadishu

Mogadishu – The second Somali Police Force (SPF) Commissioner’s Coordination Meeting was convened with international partners on 6 July to strengthen strategic cooperation and operational alignment. The forum underscored a shared commitment to building a professional, accountable, and modern police service dedicated to upholding the rule of law and advancing peace and stability in Somalia.

Participants discussed key priorities under the SPF Strategic Plan (2025–2029), including election security, capacity-building, infrastructure reconstruction in Banadir, Standard Operating Procedures for training and recruitment, and the development of Somali Maritime Police capacity. The event, supported by UNTMIS Police and AUSSOM, reaffirmed the collective resolve to advance police reform and institutional development in Somalia.

Combating Gender-Based Violence: SPF and Partners Enhance Community Policing Skills

Mogadishu – In a move to strengthen efforts to combat sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), the Somali Police Force (SPF) hosted a four-day workshop from 5–8 July at the General Kahiye Police Academy. Supported by UNTMIS Police and UN Women, the training focused on enhancing participants’ capacity to address SGBV and conflict-related sexual violence (CRSV) through effective community policing strategies.

The workshop brought together 30 participants, including 22 women from the SPF and representatives from



civil society organisations. Sessions explored key aspects of SGBV and CRSV, emphasising the crucial roles of both police and communities in prevention and response. Participants examined national and international legal frameworks and engaged in interactive group discussions to foster collaborative learning.

A core objective was to build trust and bridge the gap between the police and the community. By encouraging mutual understanding and cooperation, the initiative aims to strengthen coordinated efforts to prevent and respond to sexual violence.



Strengthening Community Policing Partnerships in Galmudug

Galmudug – From 18–20 August, a joint delegation from UNDP and UNTMIS, accompanied by the JPP II Coordinator, visited Dhusamareb, Galmudug, to review progress under the Joint Police Programme (JPP) Phase II, focusing on advancing community policing. The team held a series of meetings with Galmudug government officials to assess ongoing initiatives and identify future areas of engagement.

Discussions with the Galmudug Minister of Internal Security and the State Police Commissioner focused on strengthening institutional capacity, enhancing community–police collaboration, and expanding gender-responsive services. The Galmudug Minister of Justice shared justice sector priorities, including the revival of the central prison project, while the Minister for Women and Human Rights Development showcased the One Stop Centre, where partners agreed to launch skills training for volunteers supporting survivors of gender-based violence.

The engagement offered valuable insights and paved the way for deeper collaboration to promote accountable and community-oriented policing in Galmudug.



Enhancing Hirshabelle Police Strategic Planning Skills

Belet Weyne – UNTMIS Police and the Hirshabelle Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS) co-hosted a workshop on 2–3 September to enhance the strategic planning capacity of the Hirshabelle State Police Force. The workshop, supported by UNTMIS—through the HRPG, JJCS, DSR, and DDR Sections—brought together twelve police officers, including two women, and was facilitated by Somali trainers from the MoIS and the Hirshabelle Police.

Sessions focused on equipping officers with the skills needed to design, implement, and monitor effective strategic plans, ensuring alignment with national legal frameworks and security priorities. The workshop marked a critical step towards the eventual handover of security responsibilities. In his closing remarks, the UNTMIS Head of Office emphasised the importance of the initiative and the need for a smooth transition to the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), the UN Country Team (UNCT), and other stakeholders.



Hirshabelle Special Police Unit Receives Uniforms

Belet Weyne – On 20 August, the Special Police Unit (SPU) in Belet Weyne held a uniform handover ceremony, marking a key step in strengthening the unit’s operational capacity. The event was attended by UNTMIS Police, the Hiran Region Deputy Police Commander, and the UNDSS Area Security Adviser.

Forty Hirshabelle police officers, specifically nominated

and trained in escort management, received their new police uniforms from the UN. The SPU has already demonstrated its effectiveness, successfully completing its first operational escort for the World Food Programme on 22 June 2025.

During the ceremony, the unit commander expressed gratitude for UNTMIS's role in establishing and training the SPU, pledging that the unit would maintain high standards of professionalism and continue improving its performance.

In parallel, UNTMIS Police coordinated Escort Management Training for the SPU in Jowhar, organised by UNDSS from 8–17 September. The course involved 40 officers, including four women, reflecting a shared commitment to building a capable, professional, and accountable State Police, equipped to provide effective security escort services and strengthen operational readiness.



Commemorating International Day of Police Cooperation: AI and ICT in Policing

Mogadishu – On 7 September, UNTMIS Police, in partnership with the Somali Police Force (SPF), AUSSOM, TURKSOM, UNODC, and EUCAP, commemorated the International Day of Police Cooperation in Mogadishu.

This year's theme, ICT and AI in Policing, highlighted the critical role of technology in modern law enforcement. The event showcased how information and communication technologies (ICTs) and artificial intelligence (AI) are transforming policing—enhancing investigations, improving operational efficiency, and supporting efforts to combat cybercrime.

It also provided a platform for dialogue and knowledge exchange, emphasising how technology can strengthen accountability, foster community trust, and enhance international cooperation. All partners commended the SPF's efforts in securing Somalia and reaffirmed their commitment to building a modern, technology-driven, and community-focused police force.



Southwest State Police Advance Strategic Planning Skills

Baidoa – From 18–19 August, UNTMIS Police, in collaboration with the Southwest State Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS), organised a two-day workshop on 'Strengthening Southwest State Police Capacity in Strategic Planning.' The workshop, led by Somali facilitators including senior officials from the MoIS and police leadership, demonstrated strong national ownership.

Twenty police officers, including nine women, participated, enhancing their skills in designing, implementing, and monitoring strategic police plans aligned with legal frameworks and Somalia's National Security Architecture. The Deputy Minister of Internal Security commended the initiative, emphasising its role in strengthening institutional capacity, promoting inclusive policing, and supporting the development of the Southwest State Police.



The FGS and UNTMIS Police Contribute to the UNTMIS Transition Roadmap

Mogadishu – In July, the FGS and UNTMIS Police played a key role in shaping Somalia's security and rule of law support through two Transition Roadmap Development Workshops.

On 21 July, the workshop focused on Rule of Law,



Justice, Corrections, and Security Sector support, bringing together representatives from Federal Government ministries, the Office of National Security, the Somali Police Force (SPF), and UN agencies. UNTMIS Police co-moderated the police support group, providing strategic guidance on institutional development, capacity-building, and donor coordination.

Building on this, on 29 July, UNTMIS Police participated in a workshop on UNTMIS Electoral Support, co-moderating the group on support for election security providers. Participants, including representatives from the National Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (NIEBC), FGS ministries, SPF, and the UNCT, drafted a roadmap outlining tasks to be transitioned to the FGS and UNCT.

These initiatives demonstrate UNTMIS Police's commitment to aligning international support with SPF priorities and ensuring a smooth Phase 2 transition from November 2026, in line with UNSC Resolution 2753 (2024).



Strengthening Police Reform: JPP-II Progress Evaluation Forum

Mogadishu – On 26–27 August, UNTMIS Police participated in the Progress Evaluation Meeting convened by UNDP to assess the implementation of the Joint Police Programme (JPP-II). The forum brought together key stakeholders, including FMS Ministries of Internal Security, JPP-II Coordinators, UN Women, IOM, and donor representatives, to review implementation progress and reinforce strategic alignment.

Coordinators from the Federal Member States presented comprehensive updates highlighting achievements, persistent challenges, and priority actions ahead. UN Women underscored its efforts to enhance women's representation in policing through specialised SGBV training. UNTMIS Police reaffirmed its support for the continued implementation of JPP-II activities in Mogadishu and across the FMS.



Kismayo Workshop Validates SOP on GBV Response

Kismayo – On 30 July in Kismayo, UNTMIS Police facilitated a validation workshop on the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) for Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Response and Case Investigation.

Twenty-nine participants attended, including Directors General from the Ministries of Internal Security; Justice and Constitutional Affairs; and Women, Family Affairs and Human Rights; senior state police; and representatives from UNHCR, UNTMIS JJCS, and civil society organisations. The SOP—jointly developed by UNTMIS and the Jubaland Police—was recognised as a comprehensive, survivor-centred, and rights-based framework reflecting strong institutional commitment to addressing GBV.

Participants commended the collaborative drafting process as a model of best practice, recommending formal endorsement by the Jubaland Police Commissioner and noting its potential as a replicable framework for other FMS.

Building on this, on 6 August in Kismayo, UNTMIS Police participated in a high-level forum on enhancing access to justice for SGBV survivors. Senior stakeholders, including the Minister of Justice and the Acting Jubaland Police Commissioner, welcomed and formally endorsed the SOP, highlighting strong institutional commitment and a collaborative approach to improving GBV response in Jubaland.

UNTMIS Co-facilitates Strategic Consultations on AUSSOM Benchmarks and Exit Strategy in Mogadishu

Mogadishu – From 26 August to 8 September, the FGS, UN, and AU jointly facilitated technical assessment consultations in Mogadishu. The discussions focused on evaluating progress against key benchmarks and revising the AUSSOM exit strategy, as requested in Security Council Resolution 2767 (OP45).



UNTMIS Police Supports Strategic Crime Prevention Efforts in “Somaliland”

Hargeisa – On 12 July, UNTMIS Police, in collaboration with UNDP and supported by the EU through the Joint Rule of Law Programme (JRoLP), facilitated a high-level stakeholder coordination meeting, marking a significant step in advancing “Somaliland’s” Crime Prevention Strategy (CPS) from consultation to coordinated implementation.

The meeting brought together senior officials from the Ministries of Interior and Justice, police, judiciary, civil society, and international partners. Participants validated key recommendations from five regional workshops and endorsed a national roadmap for CPS implementation. Outcomes included the establishment of a national steering committee, recruitment of an international consultant, and strengthening of the Crime Prevention Unit’s mandate.

Strengthening GBV Response in “Somaliland”

Hargeisa and Berbera – To enhance gender-sensitive policing in “Somaliland”, UNTMIS Police, in collaboration with UNDP’s Joint Rule of Law Programme (JRoLP) and EUCAP, facilitated a two-phase workshop focused on improving first response and investigative capacities in addressing GBV.

The first phase, held from 14–16 September in Hargeisa, brought together 37 participants (36 women), including police officers, representatives from the Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family (MoLSAF), and civil society organisations. The workshop received high-level backing from the Police Commissioner, underscoring growing commitment to gender-responsive law enforcement.

Building on this momentum, the second phase took place from 22–23 September in Berbera, convening 18 female participants from Hargeisa, Burao, and Erigavo. The group included police officers, a medical expert, and a prosecutor from the Attorney General’s Office. This session deepened technical skills, promoted survivor-centred approaches, and reinforced inter-agency collaboration.



Somali Police Force Workshop on Procurement, Finance, and Logistics Management in Mogadishu

Mogadishu – From 20–22 September, the Somali Police Force (SPF) conducted a workshop at the General Kahiye Police Academy focusing on procurement, finance, and logistics management.

The three-day workshop, supported by UNTMIS Police, brought together 30 officers, including 10 women, and



was facilitated by the SPF, reflecting strong national ownership of capacity-building initiatives. Participants gained practical skills in financial systems, audit procedures, and the application of national policies tailored to the realities of police work in Somalia.

The workshop demonstrated the SPF's growing capacity and commitment to transparency—essential for building public trust and sustaining international support. During the closing session, the Head of the UNTMIS Police Section commended the SPF's leadership and emphasised the importance of institutional ownership and professional development in advancing Somalia's policing standards.



UNTMIS Police and AUSSOM Police Met to Enhance Coordination

Mogadishu – UNTMIS Police held a coordination meeting with AUSSOM Police to strengthen collaboration, focusing on transition planning, coordination, and information sharing. The meeting provided an opportunity to brief AUSSOM Police on the UNTMIS Police mandate, ongoing support activities, and transition progress. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to enhance coordination, ensuring effective mandate implementation and continued mutual support for strengthening the police capacity in Somalia.






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