



EUCAP SOMALIA

European Union Capacity Building Mission in Somalia

PRESS RELEASE

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EUCAP SOMALIA: THE EUROPEAN UNION'S CIVILIAN MISSION IN SOMALIA CELEBRATES ITS 10TH ANNIVERSARY

Tuesday, 16th July 2022: IC Camp Mogadishu, Somalia,

The European Union Capacity Building Mission in Somalia (EUCAP Somalia) has just turned ten years old. During its decade of service, the mission has contributed to strengthen Somali institutional capacities in the maritime and police domains, as well as progressed with legal reform and rule of law.

This is thanks to the fruitful collaboration with Somali actors, including Ministry of Internal Security (MoIS), Ministry of Port and Maritime Transport, Somali Police Force (SPF), Somali Maritime Administration (SMA), INTERPOL, National Central Bureau (NCB).

In the Maritime domain, the mission has provided Vessel Boarding Search and Seizure training facilities — the so-called “ship-in-a-box” —, training and equipment in the three main ports and contributed to the construction of the Somali Police Force's maritime unit Headquarters in Mogadishu in collaboration with EU partners. The Mission has also strengthened the Somali Maritime Administration's capacity to set the framework for its initial operational capabilities, with the provision of technical maritime, and supported the accession and domestication of international maritime conventions into Somalia's legal framework. More recently, EUCAP Somalia was the first EU Mission to deploy a specialized team for the provision of tailored maritime training, including on how to maintain maritime equipment.

In the Police domain, in conjunction with other international partners, the mission has promoted police development and increased Somali Security Forces' interoperability.

On the strategic level, the Mission has contributed to the revision of the Somali Transition Plan 2021-2022 in light of the withdrawal of African Union Forces (AMISOM) and African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), with a focus on transitioning from “military to police” to an enhanced provisioning of security through civilian policing.



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The Mission has been working with Somali INTERPOL NCB to increase their ability in combating transnational organized crime and achieving compliance with all 19 INTERPOL policies, of which 11 have already been achieved. The Mission is also supporting the development of the Action Plan for Empowering of Women in the Maritime and Marine Sector. The plan was consolidated and endorsed by the Ministry of Women and Family Affairs in Somalia (MoWFA) and is being implemented at Federal and Federal Member State Level.

“EUCAP Somalia gave the maritime authorities the necessary skills and equipment to conduct a basic coast guard function. Away from the coast, it also helped train some 700 federal Darwish, a robust police force mandated to secure territories freed from Al Shabbah control. Today, Somalia still faces massive internal security challenges. But thanks to our CSDP efforts, piracy is no longer a major threat to international shipping off the Horn of Africa” says HR/VR Josep Borrel in the occasion of the 15th Anniversary to the Common Security and Defence Policy mission in May 2022.

The Mission will continue consolidating on its gains in the next years, strengthen its mandate, scale up initiatives and foster the capabilities of the Police and Maritime Security sectors.

About EUCAP Somalia

EUCAP Somalia is an EU mission that was first established as EUCAP Nestor, a regional civilian maritime capacity building mission focused on counter-piracy, in July 2012 and was renamed as EUCAP Somalia in 2016.

The mission is part of the EU's comprehensive approach to Somalia, which includes diplomatic initiatives, development assistance, humanitarian relief, law enforcement and rule of law engagement.

EUCAP Somalia works closely with the European Union Delegation in Somalia, the two other EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) operations: the military training mission EUTM Somalia and the counter-piracy EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta, as well as with other international partners such as UNODC, UNSOM, UNOPS, IMO and INTERPOL.

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