

COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

European Union Training Mission – Somalia

Updated: November 2023

Mission Background

The European Union Training Mission in Somalia (EUTM-S) was launched on 7 April 2010, since then its Mandate has been extended seven times, with changes reflecting circumstances on the ground. Due to the political and security situation in Somalia at the time, the Mission initially conducted training in Uganda. This 1st Mandate (2010) was focused on tactical training up to platoon level. The 2nd mandate (2011) was also focused on tactical training but up to company level, introducing specialists training and some train the trainers. The 3rd Mandate (2013) contained a significant change in location relocating the Mission Headquarters in Mogadishu and in focus, with the addition of strategic advisory and mentoring activities to complement the training role. The 4th Mandate (2015) introduced as new tasks the mentoring at the training center, whilst maintaining its training capability focused on leadership and specialized courses defined jointly with the Somali authorities. The Mission also increased the focus of its advisory component on building long term capability and capacity within the Somali Ministry of Defense (MoD) and SNA General Staff (GS). The 5th Mandate (2017) kept the trace of the precedent Mandate adding the role of mentoring J7 GS. The 6th Mandate introduced the idea of Somali Owned Training System and opened the door to extend the actions to the sectors. The 7th Mandate started on 01 January 2021 keeping the main tasks introduced since 2015 but putting the focus on specialized training and decentralized activities. We are currently in the 8th Mandate, which began on 1st January 2022 and will end on 31st December 2024.

Mandate and Objectives

In its 8th Mandate, the EUTM Somalia contributes to building up the Somali Security Forces (SSF) accountable to the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), in line with Somali needs and priorities, providing strategic level advice to Somali authorities within the Security Institutions in the Mogadishu Area as well as specific mentoring, advice and capacity building in the training domain. Furthermore when conditions permitting and pending EU PSC approval, EUTM-S should be prepared to expand their activities to Regional HQ's. EUTM-S will also provide support, within means and capabilities, to other EU and international actors in the implementation of their respective mandates following PSC guidance and given their values/ principles/ aims and interests aligned with the EU's.

FACTS and FIGURES	
Mission HQ Location:	Brussels (Belgium)
Mission Commander:	LtGen Michiel VAN DER LAAN
Mission Force HQ Location:	Mogadishu (Somalia)
Mission Force Commander:	BG Fulvio POLI
Mandate started:	7 April 2010
8 th Mandate:	from 1 st January 2023 to 31 st December 2024
Authorized Mission strength:	209
Troop Contributing Nations:	7 Member States (ITA, ESP, FIN, SWE, ROM, POR, HEL) and 1 third State (SRB)
Mission Budget:	euro 14,8 million for 2023 euro 15,3 million for 2024



Activities

EUTM-S personnel, in liaison with Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS) Strand 2A partners, ATMIS, UNSOM and other international partners play an active role in supporting the Somali military authorities in the design and development of a Somali owned training system. During the 8th Mandate the Training Team (TT) primarily delivers specialized training courses to enhance enabling SNA and Somali Police Forces capabilities, Trainer the Trainers (TtT) courses and staff and leadership courses up to Brigade Commander Level. It also provides advice and mentoring to General Dhabagaban training Centre (GDTC) Commander and their staff. Furthermore, the team mentors the SNA planning branch. The Advisory Team (AT) is tasked to provide strategic and operational advice to the Somali MoD and SNAF General Staff, supporting the establishment of MoD oversight of SSF, contributing to build an effective SNA GS to plan, supporting SNA in Somalia Transition Plan and coordinating with the International Community through CAS Strand 2A.

Political Control and Strategic Direction

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) exercises the political control and strategic direction under the responsibility of the Council of the European Union and of the High Representative.

Military Direction

For its part, the Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) Director, LtGen Michiel VAN DER LAAN, monitors the correct planning and execution of the mission, conducted under the responsibility of the Mission Force Commander, BG Fulvio POLI, as the rest of non-executive missions carried out by the EU.

The EU's integrated approach

The EU supports the Somali institutions in the process towards a peaceful Somalia. It continues to engage with the Somali Federal Government and supports its efforts towards improving the living conditions of the population, including in the field of security and the delivery of basic services. The EU supports the principles laid down in the Djibouti Peace Agreement, including the spirit of reconciliation and the search for an inclusive process in Somalia. The Mission supports its sister missions EUCAP – Somalia and EU Naval Force (EU NAVFOR) – Operation ATALANTA, maintains close linkages with EU representations across the area and contributes to the implementation of EU programs. In addition to EUTM Somalia, there are a number of international partners contributing to the development of the security sector in Somalia, with which there is close cooperation. The above is always in accordance with the provisions of the EU Delegation to the Federal Republic of Somalia.

The EU's Common Security and Defense Policy (CSDP) provides the European Union with an operational capacity to deploy civilian and military missions and operations abroad. The range of tasks is set out in the EU Treaties, ranging from conflict prevention and peace-keeping, crisis management, joint disarmament operations, and military advice and assistance tasks to humanitarian and rescue and post-conflict stabilization tasks.

More information and background documents available on:

https://www.eeas.europa.eu/eeas/missions-and-operations_en#9620