



ATMIS

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Magazine



ATMIS
AFRICAN UNION TRANSITION MISSION IN SOMALIA





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NFPU-10 management team

Foreword by the ATMIS Police Commissioner AIGP Augustine Magnus Kailie



On behalf of the police component of the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS), I wish to salute the officers, men, and women of the Nigeria Formed Police Unit-10 (NFPU-10), contingent for completing a successful tour of duty in ATMIS.

You deployed to the mission in April 2021 under the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), which has since transitioned into ATMIS.

You went beyond the call of duty to serve longer on the mission. Also, your extended stay was partly due to disruptions brought about by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to secure the electoral processes. Yet, despite the challenges, you selflessly served and contributed to ongoing efforts to restore peace and stability in Somalia.

You have diligently provided operational support to the ATMIS police component deployed to secure vital installations and the Somali Police Force (SPF), with whom you conducted joint patrols.

You also assisted in public order management and provided guard and escort duties to VIPs and individual Police Officers (IPOs) during collocation,

contributing to the implementation of the AU Police mandate.

Working alongside your counterparts from the other FPU contributing countries of Ghana, Sierra Leone and Uganda, you supported the Somali Police Force to secure the parliamentary and presidential elections.

We hope the incoming Nigeria FPU-11 contingent will follow in your footsteps with equal or greater enthusiasm.

Specifically, we pay tribute to the late Deputy Commissioner of Police Daniel Ali Gwambal, who died early this year. He had served as the AU police component's Operations and FPU Coordinator for nearly five years. DCP Gwambal was a distinguished Nigerian officer who served with courage, dedication and charisma. ATMIS will forever cherish his contribution.

The ATMIS police component is grateful to the leadership of the Nigeria Police Force for supporting African peace initiatives. To the personnel of the Nigeria FPU-10, thank you for contributing to a safe and secure Somalia and Africa.

Interview with the ATMIS Police Chief of Staff, Commissioner of Police (CP) **Rex Dundun.**

In your assessment, what impact has Nigeria Formed Police Unit-10 (NFPU-10) made towards the fulfillment of the ATMIS Police Mandate?



ATMIS Police has a mandate of capacity building of the Somalia Police Force (SPF) through training, mentoring, and police reforms advising. ATMIS Police also provides operational support through the Formed Police Units (FPUs) to SPF in terms of patrol activities, cordon, stop and search operations, and crowd control duties.

The NFPU 10 is based in Mogadishu. Due to the operational support of NFPU-10, Mogadishu is now enjoying relative peace. Economic activities and social developments are on the increase. Many refugees and internally displaced persons are returning back to the Capital. NFPU-10 is also supporting the mentoring programme of SPF through on-the-job training. All operational activities are jointly conducted, ensuring that knowledge and skills are transferred to the SPF. The goal is that by the end of 2022, SPF will be able to take charge of the internal security of Mogadishu without any external assistance and support.

Lastly, NFPU-10 supported the security coverage

of the just-concluded Somalia General Election 2021/2022. The contingent ensured that the Upper and Lower House as well as the presidential elections were hitch-free, not only in Mogadishu but also in Hirshabelle State where a platoon each was deployed to Jowhar and Beletwyene. Their impact on election security is highly commendable



What is your general assessment of the performance of NFPU-10 during their tour of duty



The performance of NFPU-10 has been excellent, outstanding and exemplary. Excellent and outstanding in terms of ATMIS Police mandate implementation, and exemplary in terms of conduct and discipline. They have exceeded expectations in spite of the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic. The Unit have been worthy ambassadors of the African Union. The ATMIS family is very proud of the contingent.

What tasks have they been undertaking and how has it impacted on efforts to restore peace and stability in Somalia



NFPU-10 was deployed on 17 April 2021. The Unit is tasked with providing operational support to the SPF in Mogadishu through Joint Patrol, Cordon, Stop and Search, Joint Snap Checks and Crowd control duties. Furthermore, the unit is involved in protection of key government installations and vulnerable points in Mogadishu. Some of the high profile government establishments under protection by the Unit include the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Justice Ministry, and the Somali Parliament.

(NFPU-10), was also tasked with supporting Election security duties in Mogadishu, Jowhar and Beletwyene. This role was excellently executed with no adverse incident recorded. Lastly NFPU-10 is also involved in mentoring the SPF on Police operational activities to ensure knowledge and skills transfer.



President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud joins hands with the former presidents during his inauguration in Mogadishu



Deputy Head of ATMIS, Fiona Lortan congratulates President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, after he won the presidential election on 15 May 2022

Message from the NFPU-10 Contingent Commander, **SP. Samuel Ita.**



The Nigeria Formed Police Unit (NFPU) became operational here in Somalia in 2012. NFPU – 10 under my watch, led 15 other Officers as advance party and arrived March 19, 2021 into the warm embrace of the management team of Contingent 9 ably headed by

SP. Shehu Ahmed Gani.

April 17 2021, DSP Elizabeth Ochalla, the Contingent 2i/C, led 143 Officers and other ranks as main body, arrived at Aden Abdulle International Airport (AAIA), Mogadishu. The mandatory two weeks quarantine was observed at the AMISOM transit camp, preceded by another two weeks induction training at Aljazeera II camp to fully prepare the Contingent for the odious task ahead.

May 11, 2021, Alpha platoon (30 personnel) – commanded by ASP Nwamodoh Benedict was immediately dispatched to Beletwyne, in Hirshabelle state, Sector 4 to hit the ground running as the security situation demands. I have in my candid tradition consistently rotated the platoons after three months as the security situation demands.

October 28, 2021, saw the movement of another special platoon of 30 personnel (all male) being deployed to Jowhar, same Hirshabelle state, Sector 4, to beef up election security.

Recall that ATMIS Police component is saddled with training, mentoring and advising the Somalia Police Force (SPF) on basic Police duties such as human rights observation, crime prevention strategies, community policing, search procedures and investigations etc to meet up with international best practices.

Nigeria Formed Police Unit, in a bid to achieve these onerous tasks, have the roles of providing escort

and protection to the Individual Police Officers (IPO's) in the daily tasks of co – location with the Somalia Police Force. Other direct support services includes guarding of strategic infrastructures in Somalia, public order management, joint confidence building patrols and joint operations such as check point duties, cordon and search operations and trainings. The Unit tremendously provided VIP Escort and necessary protection to AMISOM senior leadership from Addis Ababa, Mission Leadership, International partners and the Federal Government of Somalia as the need arises.

I want to live in a world where people become famous because of their work for peace and justice and care. I want the famous to be inspiring, their lives an example of what every human being has it in them to do out of love.

“Without enough troops, win the war, secure the peace and earn the respect of the world,” Barack Obama - 44th US President.

To God be the glory for he let us know in the Holy book that there is a time for every activity under heaven; time to destroy and time to build up, time to born and time to die and importantly, time for conflict, war and time for peace. He further let us know that blessed are the peace makers, for they shall be called children of God.”

The above quotes were my reference points when I left home with Nigeria Formed Police Unit (NFPU-10) to Somalia. I am indeed thrilled and overjoyed to be part of the narrative to serve my country, Africa and the world towards restoring lasting peace to the Horn of Africa.



ATMIS Police senior leadership brief Formed Police Units

The AMISOM Police Operations and Formed Police Unit headed by DCP. Daniel Ali Gwambal, ably represented by ACP. Anthony Placid and ACP. Agapitus Ecotu, on their arrival of the lecture with both the Ugandan formed police unit (UFPU) Contingent-9 and the Nigerian formed police unit (NFPU) Contingent-10, ACP Anthony Placid in his opening speech, thanked the officers, men and women of both contingents for their resilience, resolute, perseverance and tolerance in upholding the convivial and camaraderie that has been existing within the AMISOM police component.

He said that the AMISOM Police Commissioner AIGP. Augustine Magnus Kailie, AMISOM Chief of Staff and the AMISOM Coordinator of operations extend their heartfelt pleasure to the two Contingents over their performance so far.

He once again reminded the officers and men of their aims of coming to Somalia under AMISOM as a peacekeeper. He urged them to remain focused on executing the AMISOM mandate, such as; Escort of the individual police officers (IPO'S), protecting and guarding them to and fro for team site visits to the Somali police force stations for training, mentorship and advice. He further said that the officers and men should be battle ready as the Somalis prepare for their forthcoming elections for both the Lower and Upper house of Parliament, to help them for peaceful elections and transitions, by guarding the election observers

and the electorate which stand as panacea for holding the sanctity of Somalia government and sustaining the existing peace therein. He further reiterated by reminding the officers and men on the AMISOM mandate and SOP'S which bothers on discipline and professionalism as the bedrock of the force. He advised that the officers and men should eschew from their countries interest and work harmoniously with each other to achieve the AMISOM mandate and the dream of Africa at large. He also advised officers and men to Ecker themselves out from those acts that can dent their image and the image of their countries; such as alcoholic consumption and sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) which can result to repatriation back to their countries, to avoid dragging the person to appear before the (BOI) Board Of Inquiry.

He finally thanked the officers and men once again for their conduct during the interaction. After, both the two Contingent Commanders thanked them for deeming it fit for coming to have this party with them and pray that the almighty God will guard and protect them as they go back to the Base Camp.



An officer of the Nigerian FPU-10 speaks during a meeting in Mogadishu.

Deployment, the tool of Command and Control

BY ASP. ODIO KINGSLEY C. OPERATION OFFICER



DEFINITION: Deployment is the movement of troops, equipment, and ration to a particular place or position for security purpose or action, (Military/Police) it should be able to provide answers to THE WHY, WHO, WHEN, WHAT, WHERE AND HOW. A good deployment should have a detail operation order that defines the Situation, Mission, Execution, Administration and Command/control (SMEAC).

ILLUMINATE DEPLOYMENT A TOOL: It refers to Vehicle, Personnel, Arms and Ammunition, Welfare, Strategic area, Safety Zone/flash point. It must meet all demands on Plan Proportionate, Legality, Accountability and Necessity. It can be a process of distributing information and update to the commander.

It must identify the accepted way of a secure mode of communication and information during operation in other to keep the field commander focus on the task at hand.

EFFECTIVE: Successful operation depends on timely communication and information to ensure that deployment is without failure. The following must be considered also.

1. Knowledge of the terrain
2. Escape Route
3. Safe Zone
4. Communication
5. Logistic/Equipment needed for deployment.

On emergency situation, filed commander must be able to weigh their chances and make specific directive and it must be clear. The form or pattern of information/communication to be used that will ensure appropriate deployment without any hitch.

CHALLENGES IN DEPLOYMENT

LACK OF ADEQUATE PLANNING: UN/AU have carefully analyzed operational challenges and while the guiding principle is SOP, when one factor is missing, it affects the whole system which will bring poor performance.

POOR/WEAK NETWORK: Communication as a tool remain the first key to consider for a successful operation.

EQUIPMENT: Even with good operational view, lack of equipment cripples the whole plan.

SUCCESS RECORDED

1. Peace Summit
2. Election in Somalia
3. Effective patrolling which have reduced violence and crime in Somalia
4. Mediating and Mentoring of SPF which is a key tool ATMIS and personnel are using to resolve conflict

COMMAND AND CONTROL: The personnel deployed must be under the control of the contingent commander who receives specific directive/instruction from above to the operation officer for execution or action. It is for proper accountability and respect to chain of command. N.B: Posting of personnel remains the responsibility of the operation officer.

The command and control change immediately when troops or personnel arrive at Base Camp, and they are under JOCC for strategic deployment according to the SOP.

N:B The success of every operation lies on teamwork, as everyone needs to understand their roles, responsibility and mandate as stated in SOP.

“I choose dialogue instead of war/fighting, Let’s make peace and live peacefully for a better today and tomorrow.”





The NFPU-10 contingent commander SP. Samuel Ita receives ATMIS Police Commissioner, AIGP Augustine Magnus Kallie at Al-Jazeera camp



NFPU-10 personnel during a soccer game at Al-Jazeera camp



IP. Camuel Omata, Assistant Armourer during weapon cleaning exercise



NFPU-10 medical team



NFPU-10 Administrative personnel



NFPU-10 SPOs



NFPU-10 Platoon Alpha



NFPU-10 Platoon Bravo



NFPU-10 Platoon Charlie



NFPU-10 Platoon Delta



NFPU-10 VS UFPU-10 Football Match. NGR 4 : UGD 2



CITS/Focal Point Officer of NFPU-10 Sgt. Inguran Terkimbi



NFPU-10 personnel working out in the gym



Cpl. Toyin Ogunwa at work



NFPU-10 Administration personnel on duty

NFPU mission experience in administration “a different ball game” in Somalia

BY: IP. VERONICA WILLIAMS ADMIN OFFICER



Despite the constant passion and enthusiasm in ensuring that there is a total restoration of peace in Somalia, the Nigeria Formed Police Unit were able to put in together all its resources, manpower and its best in all aspect of operation and otherwise, to contribute its quota for the people of Somalia to experience and enjoy a long lasting peace in their beloved country.

The Nigeria Contingent arrived in mission ground on the 17th of April 2021 with a total number of 160 personnel, and since then, has been carrying out its duties effectively and efficiently in regards to operations, election duties, escort duty, all aforementioned will not be possible without the Administrative Department having a headway.

In a nutshell, administrative experience on mission ground cannot be overemphasized and farfetched considering the environment as a first timer in mission, nevertheless cultural and language barriers are one of the major challenges, but the Somalis are good people to coexist with, as they provide the contingent with Language Assistance through the help of ATMIS leadership. ATMIS has done great in previous years and even doing more to restore a long-lasting peace in Somalia. The Contingent was divided into Four (4) platoons of Thirty (30) members from each Platoon of Alpha - Delta, UN/AU Peacekeepers are from different nations and background, but are able to work together in unity and harmony to achieve a common goal. Also, having strong partnership for peace and security in Somalia through the African Peace Facility, is the AFRICAN UNION AND ATMIS MANDATES. The Administrative duties involved is to ensure that all activities are well carried out and ranges from daily sending of situation reports,

encoding and decoding of communication activities of the Operative/Warriors who are the stronghold of the unit, sending and receiving of mails across ATMIS Police Headquarters, Addis Ababa and to the end user, keeping and getting information with current activities from the Somali people, partaking in special duties such as Elections, Escorts duties for visitation of AU Envoys or VIPs to Mogadishu, monitoring the movement of warriors and its personnel to various places of operation and also ensuring that information are being relayed to the proper channels both in the mission ground and back home in Nigeria.

The above mentioned would not have been possible without a father-figure, an Astute Leader and ever supportive Contingent Commander SP. Samuel Ita, who always ensure a cordial and peaceful working environment with all the contingent members down to the ATMIS Headquarters, the Administration experience is a bit challenging but interesting and committed in making sure that every activity of the contingent is a success and always ensuring that the Mission's Standard Operations (SOP) mandates and guidelines are strictly adhered to and observed by all.

The administrative task of the mission was possible through the dedicated and committed officers from the ATMIS Police Headquarters ASP. Ruwa Lindsay and our Admin personnel, such as our workaholic Computer Operator and Sgt. Admin Anietie Ubaha, Admin Clerks Sgt. Taiwo Obanla and Cpl. Jean Agaku. I am grateful to God Almighty for wonderful spirited teamwork.



NFPU-10 personnel perform drills



FPU personnel attend a lecture on gender at Al-jazeera II camp in Mogadishu

The media's contribution to the effectiveness of peacekeeping missions

By: ASP. Danfulani Victoria Toghan NFPU-10 PIO



The African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), and other regional blocs maintain the three largest peacekeeping and security missions, in Somalia (ATMIS), the Lake Chad Basin Commission's Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF), and the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel) Joint Force. The media's participation in peacekeeping deployments is crucial and information has the capacity to alter public opinion, because media access can change people's perceptions. Media represents freedom of expression, access to knowledge, and the diversity of society.

The media shapes our perceptions of war, and its viewpoints influence the stories covered. Observations and judgements inform journalistic thinking. In many nations, expanding corporate media dominance influences the news written and depicted. Countries that prioritize public safety, peace and democracy favour effective and democratic media. However, a news article does not provide all of the relevant details, and one cannot make an intelligent conclusion until all facts are obtained.

Pluralistic, free, and independent media allow for discussion and expression of opposing views. Conversely, the media may incite violence by spreading disinformation and hostility. The media serves several purposes in our lives. Some of these vocations are advantageous, while others are detrimental. Recognizing the diversity of media professionals is the first step toward critically assessing how the media might best aid in conflict prevention and peacebuilding. The media as a source of information and a translator.

The media teaches individuals about their surroundings (for example, political, cultural, and social issues) and answers to more urgent crises. People make decisions depending on what they see in the media, at least in part. The media's position as a watchdog: The media can sometimes act as a third-party 'watchdog,' informing the public about local concerns. The media has the power to reveal previously undisclosed stories, through investigative reporting that brings public concerns to light. Media productions may support

other post-conflict reconciliation activities by raising awareness of key societal issues and bringing them into the public eye so that they can be addressed. The Media as a Public Policy Instrument: The media wields considerable influence over politicians, particularly in terms of avoiding and responding to violent conflict. Policymakers, too, disseminate their messages through the media. During peacekeeping missions, the media can convey the team's victories, swaying public opinion in favour of the country's counterinsurgency campaign. Diplomacy via the Media: The media is occasionally used to report diplomatic efforts and send messages between disputing parties, as well as to assist in establishing bridges between antagonists and develop the confidence required to begin discussions.

The Media as a Peace Promoter: To establish an atmosphere favourable to negotiation, media engagements can be utilized at the start of talks to boost confidence, facilitate negotiations, or break diplomatic deadlocks. Press releases and radio programmes, for example, can be used to commemorate peace accords and discussions, which will serve to promote and mobilize public support for agreements aimed at eradicating insurgency. The media may help accomplish conflict prevention and peacebuilding aims when paired with peacekeeping methods and strategies. Highly sensitive conversations, for example, are often best kept private to minimize the media's temptation to highlight differences rather than foster the emphasis on common ground, problem-solving orientation, and hopefulness important to diplomacy. As a result, the media can play a unique role in influencing large-scale cognitive, attitudinal, and behavioural change. Particularly for conflict prevention and peacekeeping efforts, where the media may be used in conjunction with other programmes; provided they know: when, why and how to utilize the media for the most strategic value in reducing faction violence.



Public Information Officers in a group photo at the end of a strategic communications masterclass training

African Union Formed Police as a cohesive unit by ASP. Clement Asilamah Michael



African Union Formed Police Unit is a cohesive mobile police unit, providing support to African Union Operations and ensuring the safety and security of African Union personnel and mission, primarily in public order management by delivery professional response and more robust policing in accordance with the mandate.

Our task and responsibilities include; Public Order Management, Protections of AU facilities, supporting police operations that requires a formed response and may involve a higher risk operation, confidence building and visibility patrol, static guard duties includes protections of Somali Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Justice to mention but a few.

Our principles based on the necessity, proportionality, accountability and legality are the ultimate purpose actions of protection and preservation of human life, liberty and dignity.

African Union peacekeeping operations are frequently to assist in the reforming, restructuring and rebuilding of host country (Somali Police Force). Based on the principle that police can only be successful if it operates in close cooperation with the community, the community-based policing concept is regards as key to effective policing.

Due to the conflict in Somalia, the citizen generally has little or no confidence in the ability and capacity of the state security forces to provide for their individual safety and security, ATMIS has to introduces community policing there FPU has a tremendous role to engage both the Somali Police Force and the populates in community policing.

In order to re-establish confidence in the rule of law, AU Formed Police units have a great responsibility to ensure that law enforcement is exercised lawfully and effectively.

The role of peace keepers in Somali elections and transition By: SGT Nworie Emmanuel



Over three decades now, the enclave called Somalia have been on the precipice due to the intractable disease of institutional failures which leads to the government and leadership collapse.

This is as a result of claims and counter claims by the leaders of the various regions and the continued political struggle between the president and the prime minister on who will control the government which gives fillips to the Al-Shabaab

terrorist group to wreak havoc on the countries leadership, economy and cultural existence.

Coupled with the claims by the clan heads and elders on marginalization and other sundry issues which lead the country to the political turmoil. Based on these, the attention of the international communities such as the United Nations, European Union and African Union was drawn. In this regard, the security council of the above-mentioned World Leading Organizations' sat down to proffer a panacea to the situation by mandating the African Union to take the lead as the mother organization of the African Continent. In 2010, African heads of states and government met in Addis Ababa Ethiopia to discuss the way forward for the troubled Horn of Africa, on how to repackage the convoluted and pulverized government of Somalia through peacekeeping,

peace building, mediations, reconciliations and negotiations between the warring parties to enable the government to forge ahead through peaceful and credible elections in line with their election system. In 2011, a detachment of both military and police were drawn from different countries of Africa to give security support to the Somali government for effective election and transitional process. With the mandate to give security support to government and the good people of Somalia through, effective advice, mediation, negotiation and to guide them to have a hitch free election and transition. To achieve this noble cause, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was mandated to lead and deliver these initiatives through concerted efforts and support from the United Nations Support Mission in Somalia (UNISOM) and the European Union (EU) and other countries of the World who deemed it fit that Somalia achieve peace and tranquility to thrive.

In recent times from August to November, 2021, during the election of both Lower and Upper House of Parliament in the various regions of Somalia, ATMIS peacekeepers were busy scheduled to provide election security to protect both the electorate and the foreign election observers, training and technical support to the Somalia security forces (SSF) especially the Somali Police Force (SPF). During this process, a lot of meetings were held in mediation and negotiations for peaceful elections and transition.

To midwife this herculean task, the ATMIS components of peacekeepers which comprises the Police, both individual Police officers (IPO) and Formed Police Units (FPU) that was drawn from Nigeria, Uganda, Zambia, Kenya, Ghana and Sierra-Leone, their military counterpart from Djoubuti, Uganda, Kenya, Burundi and Ethiopia, the Media, Civilian Counterparts, Somali Police Force and the Somali National Army and the Civil Society Organizations all collaborated together to make sure that the Election was conducted in a free and fair atmosphere, without any hitches whatsoever.

It was a thing of joy that during all this process, before, during and after the Elections that the Somali environment remains serene and salubrious without much casualties of attacks either through bombs, mines and other physical attacks from the Al-Shabaab terrorist group.

In seeing to the fruition to this effect, by giving

arms support to the Somali security forces and in protection of civilian staff and UN/ATMIS facilities and personnel, Election observers and Civil Society Organizations, a detachment of 30 operatives each of (NFPU-10), was sent to the lower Shabelle of Beletyweene and Johwar respectively to tighten-up security in lower Shabelle region. In collaboration with Somali Security Forces and United Nations Support Mission and ATMIS mandate in line with the UN Security and AU Charter/SOP's of peacekeeping, to enable the peacekeepers to be guided, in observing the human rights of the host country. In further view of this strategies, and other collaborative efforts of the Amisom with other countries in mission such as Ghana, Sierra-Leone and Uganda who have other FPU personnel's posted to some regions such as Juberland, Kismayo and Submarine of Mogadishu regions of Somalia to make sure that security are tight in the above mentioned regions before, during and after Elections. These proactive measures yielded a very huge success and applause, which was received by ATMIS from various countries of the globe for this adroit, meticulous and articulate ideas.

It is equally worthy to note, the virile and scrupulous nature of FPU's all over the regions, especially the NFPU-10 for their perseverance and meticulous in collaboration and cooperation with other contingents especially the UFPU-9 working together to bring this huge success to the mainstream spotlight of the global media who in equivocation attribute the success to the ATMIS police component in general and FPU in particular. During this period of aplomb, we were faced with a lot of challenges; such as; linguistic barrier in the area of effective communication, cultural barrier, atmospheric condition and logistics, of which, to the glory of God we have been able to navigate and soar above it.

Peace Support Operations led threat awareness and understanding

By SGT. Adekoya Bidemi Nigeria NFPU-10



The threat of militant attack remains predominant in Somalia. Militants have perpetrated improvised devices IED's attacks in Somalia for them to get access to fortified areas and civilians are reported to be the main casualties of these attacks; especially in Mogadishu. In support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)'s efforts in dealing with IED's and other explosives devices, the United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) has also trained peace keepers, police and soldiers on IED awareness and other related causes which help in the day-to-day operations.

The knowledge and information on IEDs help to

understand the scope of the threat. This has been the focus to effectively control the widespread use of such explosives by terror organizations such as Al-Shabaab.

To reduce the threat of IED's, a combination of education, training, good reporting, exchange of information, degrading the network of the terrorists and investment in equipment to defeat the IED's is required.

There is need to focus on eliminating the IED threat through the development of a clear and effective counter IED strategy and the use of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) systems.

The best weapons of course against IED's is well-trained peacekeepers who practices correct drills, maintains conscious situational awareness of his environment during the convoy movement, consciousness of the threat, listens to the intelligence and feedback, understanding and reconcile the fact that this threat is real.

THE ROLE OF NFPU-10 CONTINGENT IN THE SOMALIA GENERAL ELECTIONS AND INAUGURATION

ASP NWAMODOH BENEDICT, ALPHA PLATOON COMMANDER, NFPU - 10



African Union Transition Mission in Somalia [ATMIS] recorded landmark achievements by providing the much needed security in the Somalia general elections which climaxed with the election of President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud at the Afisoni Tent, Airport Hanger, Mogadishu, May 15, 2022.

Somalia electoral process, though protracted and convoluted commenced since 2021 and was marred with setbacks, political intrigues, and internal conflicts.

Recall that AMISOM which has since transformed metamorphosed into ATMIS have been in Somalia since 2007 with a mandate of debasing Al - Shabaab to the barest minimum. Having been generally classified as a failed state, portrays the following indices:

She is generally recognized to have geographical sovereignty without empirical sovereignty; Can't control most of her neighboring cities near Mogadishu; 75% of her youth force under the age of 30 years have no living memory of what the state's obligation towards her citizens are; Her top citizens, key assets and institutions are currently being protected by ATMIS.

Presently, has six (6) security Brigades who have received extensive support, salaries, arms and ammunitions from foreign powers. These Brigades

are Clan based, not answerable to central Commander nor nationally integrated. Police also is not left out. No central control but clan based. The Capital, Mogadishu alone has sixteen (16) districts. Each with a Commissioner who controls a clan paramilitary or militia, most times, even more powerful than the Mayor.

There also exists neighborhood watch groups – comprising of people who are displaced, business militias, Private security companies and regional militias. The question here is, how long will all these continue?

It is pertinent to state at this juncture that, state building is hard, expensive, slow and sometimes doubtful. The imperative is to get it right. Besides, the road to a peaceful transfer of power is often not easy.

The 10th Democratic dispensation started from the Clans to the Regions, Districts, States, thereafter, to the Federal level. These processes produced Delegates



Voting for Speakers of the Federal Parliament of Somalia. The event was secured by NFPU-10

who elected members of the lower and upper chambers of the Legislature (275/54) including their speakers. ATMIS was visible all – through. Recording huge successes that resonates globally amidst threats of all kind.

A paradigm shift in Somalia’s security architecture was recorded when the joint parliamentary committee tasked with organizing the Presidential election had announced the security guidelines ahead of May 15 and setting the venue to be the Afisioni Tent, Airport Hanger, Mogadishu.

Worthy of note is the fact that most political elites in Somalia do not fully trust the public, the political process and the entire security architecture which has been greatly polarized along ethnic divide hence,



Newly inaugurated Members of the Federal Parliament take oath of office. The event was secured by NFPU-10

much reliance on ATMIS for the provision of security for this all – important election.

Recall that a total of thirty nine (39) candidates jostled for the number one job including, the 7th, 8th and 9th Presidents, Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and Mohammed Abdullahi Mohammed ‘Farmajo’, making it the highest, fairest and popularly accepted in the annals of history of Somalia.

ATMIS successfully concludes this electoral process which was won by a decisive margin (214 – 110) by President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud.

Outgone President, Mohammed Abdullahi Mohammed “Farmajo” graciously conceded defeat and wished the new leader well in his tenure.

The victor, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was then immediately sworn in.

His victory speech reads thus; “Let us think about tomorrow, not yesterday and what happened. I will work on a brilliant tomorrow and a beautiful future for the sake of my people to live with dignity in the world. I will implement my motto: “Somalia at peace with itself and with the world”.

Hassan Sheikh Mohamud was officially inaugurated June 9 2022 as Somalia’s 10th President with most Presidents/Heads of Governments, members of the Diplomatic core, Delegation from the African Union in attendance.

Coincidentally, May 15, 2022 marks the 79th anniversary of the formation of the Somali Youth League (SYL) on 15 May 1943, referring to the youths who fought for the country’s independence and also sends a powerful message that the Somali’s are committed to restoring their statehood and national pride.

It is expected that the prevalent political narrative has to be tremendously changed especially by the new administration and the entire Somalia citizens.

Encomiums have continually been showered on ATMIS – whose window period is very limited, from within and from international community.

Worthy of mention is the noble and prompt recognition by the former Prime Minister, Mohammed Hussein Roble, May 18, 2022 who appreciated the leadership and administrators of ATMIS tasked with ensuring

security in Somalia amidst threats from the Al-Qaeda affiliated group, Al-Shabaab.

May 22, 2022, Somalia Police Force (SPF) Commissioner, General Hassan Mohammed expressed his profound gratitude to ATMIS personnel at the General Kaihye Police Training Academy for the key role played in securing the Somalia electoral process. This climaxed with presentation of certificate of appreciation.



Nigeria's 61st Independence Day celebrations in Mogadishu



ATMIS Police Commissioner, AIGP Augustine Magnus Kallie, inspects a guard of honour mounted by NFPU-10

The Involvement of Women in Peacekeeping

BY: DSP. OCHALLA ELIZABETH SUSIE



Over recent years, women have broken records on military gender barriers by getting into peacekeeping missions that are classified as male-dominated mission jobs. The female peacekeepers have proven to be brave and courageous enough to fight and achieve greater seniority and leadership like their male counterparts. In the fields of peacekeeping, female peacekeepers have performed exceptionally well; even sometimes more than their male counterparts. Women are warriors who defend core feminine values and possess as much strength, determination and fortitude as any male counterparts in operation.

Women in peacekeeping are also essential to enable build trust and confidence with local communities and help improve access support for local women, for example by interacting with women in societies where men are prohibited from speaking to women. The UN/AU encourages

and advocates for the deployment of women to perform these functions. It is the responsibility of member states to deploy women to mission areas.

The uniformed gender parity strategy (UGPS) was introduced in 2018 to set targets and provide strategies for increasing the participation of women in military, police, justice and corrections roles in peacekeeping.

It acknowledged that the strategies introduced to increase the employment of civilian women in the UN were simply not suitable for the unique circumstances facing uniformed women. There has been a significant increase in the number of women deployed in recent years in individual staff officer or expert on mission positions, thanks to the strategies implemented under the UGPS.

And there has been improvement in formed contingents as well, though this is much slower of the 74,009 military personnel currently deployed in peacekeeping, 70,738 are part of formed contingents, largely made up of infantry troops (which are overwhelmingly male) only 5% or 3,405 troops in formed units, are women. Significantly, changing these figures will require every contributing country to make real changes to their cultures/policies to encourage women into these roles and address the barriers to their participation.



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CONTINGENT PIO



SP. SAMUEL ITA
CONTINGENT COMMANDER



DSP. OCHALLA SUSIE E.
DEPUTY CONTINGENT COMMANDER



ASP. ODIO KINGSLEY C.
OPERATIONS OFFICER



INSP. VERONICA WILLIAMS
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