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African Union PSC

Research Report

The Question of:

The future of Somalia and the role of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

Introduction

Britain withdrew from British Somaliland in 1960 to allow its protectorate to join with Italian Somaliland and form the new nation of Somalia. In 1969, a coup headed by Mohamed SIAD Barre ushered in an authoritarian socialist rule characterized by the persecution, jailing, and torture of political opponents and dissidents. After the regime's collapse early in 1991, Somalia descended into turmoil, factional fighting, and anarchy. In May 1991, northern clans declared an independent Republic of Somaliland that now includes the administrative regions of Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool. Although not recognized by any government, this entity has maintained a stable existence and continues efforts to establish a constitutional democracy, including holding municipal, parliamentary, and presidential elections. The regions of Bari, Nugaal, and northern Mudug comprise a neighboring semi-autonomous state of Puntland, which has been self-governing since 1998 but does not aim at independence; it has also made strides toward reconstructing a legitimate, representative government but has suffered some civil strife. Puntland disputes its border with Somaliland as it also claims the regions of Sool and Sanaag and portions of Togdheer. Beginning in 1993, a two-year UN humanitarian effort (primarily in south-central Somalia) was able to alleviate famine conditions, but when the UN withdrew in 1995, having suffered significant casualties, order still had not been restored.

In 2000, the Somalia National Peace Conference (SNPC) held in Djibouti resulted in the formation of an interim government, known as the Transitional National Government (TNG). When the TNG failed to establish adequate security or governing institutions, the Government of Kenya, under the supervision of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), led a subsequent peace process that concluded on October 2004 with the election of Abdullahi YUSUF Ahmed as President of a second interim government, known as the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of the Somali Republic. 2006 marked the formation of the jihadist fundamentalist group Harakat al-Shabaab al-Mujahideen(HSM)/ Al-Shabaab whitch is a major threat in the area of Somalia. In 2007 the African Union with approval of the United Nations Security Council created AMISOM to support the TFG and to replace IGADs. The original mandate of the mission was only six months but has been periodically extended. The current mandate expires on 31 May 2020 with a troop maximum of 19.626 by 28 February 2020.

The Committee

Definition and History

The African Union's Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) is an advanced ad hoc committee. As stated on their website it has the following mission and obligations: " The Peace and Security Council (PSC) is the standing decision-making organ of the AU for the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts. It is collective security and early warning arrangement intended to facilitate timely and efficient responses to conflict and crisis situations in Africa. It is also the key pillar of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), which is the framework for promoting peace, security, and stability in Africa." The AFPSC is comparable to the UN Security Council with the exception of the P5 (*Note: The AU is NOT part of the UN*).

As stated on the AU website: "The Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council was adopted on 9 July 2002 in Durban, South Africa, and entered into force in December 2003. The PSC became fully operational in early 2004. The PSC Protocol, together with the PSC Rules of Procedure, the AU Constitutive Act and the conclusions of various PSC retreats, provide operational guidance to PSC activities." The AU replaced the Organization of African Unity (OAU) which did little to protect citizens' rights and was dominated by dictators. The AU was founded under the leadership of Libyan head of state Muammar al-Gaddafi which together with other OAU members issued the Sirte declaration. The declaration was followed by a summit in Lomé in 2000 where the

constitution of the AU was adopted. In 2001 at Lusaka the plan for the implementation for the AU was established. The AU began operations in 2004.

Procedure

The AU PSC is an ad hoc committee. This means that there will be no lobbying, therefore we ask you to prepare amendments for debates. The resolution will be created during the debate with amendments meaning that we start with a blank page. There are no "P5" countries in the committee and no vetoes. All votes require a two-thirds majority to pass. The AU PSC can take actions which are binding for all members including the deployment of troops. All motions including follow-ups are at the discretion of the chairperson. For more detail relating to procedure during debate please refer to the THIMUN rules of procedure.

Key Terms

Failed State

A failed is a political body that has deteriorated to a point where the basic functions and responsibilities of a functioning government no longer exist. The biggest indicator of a failed state is the lake of a legitimate monopoly of violence. States can also fail if the government loses its legitimacy even if it is performing its functions. The Fund for Peace sets out the following characteristics for failed states:

- Loss of control of its territory, or of the monopoly on the legitimate use of physical force therein
- Erosion of legitimate authority to make collective decisions
- Inability to provide public services
- Inability to interact with other states as a full member of the international community

Military Junta

A Military junta is a government led by a committee of military personnel. A Military Junta is not to be confused with a military dictatorship which has only one leader.

Unilateral declaration of independence (UDI)

A Unilateral declaration of independence (UDI) is a formal process leading to the establishment of a new state by a subnational entity which declares itself independent and sovereign without a formal agreement with the state from which it is seceding.

General Overview

Somalia has had an ongoing civil war since 1991; it arose out of resistance to the military junta led by the Somalian president Jaalle Mohamed Siad Barre. Around the end of the 1980s, various armed rebel groups, including the Somali Armed Forces, the Somali Salvation Democratic Front, the Somali National Movement, and the United Somali Congress, started a coalition to overthrow the Barre regime, which they achieved in 1991. On May 18th, 1991 (shortly after Barre's downfall), led by the Somali National Movement, northern Somalia announced a unilateral declaration of independence and became the Republic of Somaliland.

After this various armed parties competed overtaking power in Somalia, especially in the southern part of the country. This conflict has caused a large famine in Somalia, and even today, famine remains a major problem. On the 24 of April 1992, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 751, which lead to the establishment of UNOSOM I (United Nations Operation in Somalia I). Fifty UN troops were assigned to monitor the ceasefire. Despite this, the fighting not only continued, but also increased, and Somalia became a failed state.
The situation got so out of control on December 1992, that the US decided to intervene with the situation. President Bush wanted to deploy a multinational task force under the supervision of the US, to make it safer to provide humanitarian help. This would only last a short amount of time, just until the UN could take over. After this proposal had been addressed to the UN, the Security Council decided to adapt it on December 3rd, 1992, as resolution 794. The next day President Bush declared that the US was in charge of the multinational task force, the Unified Task Force (UNITAF). This force was authorized 'to use all necessary means', which meant that the UNITAF-troops were, if necessary, allowed to use violence to secure the lives of members of the humanitarian aid organizations. A few days later the task force with 35,000 troops arrived in Somalia under the code-name 'Operation Restore Hope'. UNITAF's biggest goal was to drive back the humanitarian crisis. The troops' mandate was to feed the hungry with food and protect the defenseless. Besides this, they had to clear a path for the political, economic, and social reconstruction of Somalia. Thanks to UNITAF, the number of thefts, extortion, and attacks on social workers decreased. The roads were repaired and landmines were disposed of, which made it possible for food and medicine to safely travel from Mogadishu to other cities in Somalia. Somalia became a safe destination for NGOs to send personnel, and by January 1993 all the cities in the center and south of Somalia were supplied with food and medicine. Now that famine was no longer the biggest problem, the UN could start helping the Somali population with the construction of agriculture and livestock and (re)building infrastructure and schools.

The UNITAF was established as a temporary mission to ensure the safe delivery of humanitarian help, food, and medicine. It was planned that UNITAF would give its responsibility back to the UN after this peacekeeping mission. The Secretary-General, Boutros-Ghali, submitted a report on 3 March 1993 regarding the transition from UNITAF to UNOSOM II, as a result of the unimproved situation in Somalia. The Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 814 on May 26th, 1993, giving consent for a second UNOSOM mission. UNOSOM II was, like UNITAF, mandated to use all necessary means, after certain Somali members of parliament did not abide by the established agreements.
Following the transition from UNITAF to UNOSOM II in May 1993, many incidents occurred that would eventually lead to the withdrawal of the UN troops in 1995. On June 5th, 1993, 25 Pakistani soldiers were killed by General Aidid's soldiers. As a reaction to this, the US decided to arrest General Aidid. On October 3rd, 80 American Rangers and 12 Deltas went to a hotel in Mogadishu close to where Aidid was expected to have a meeting. The mission started well, but after an American helicopter was shot down, chaos ensued. Over 200 Somalis and 18 Americans lost their

lives. The American public saw shocking footage of cheering Somalis dragging dead American soldiers and the bleeding and terrified captured helicopter pilot through the streets of Mogadishu. After this, President Clinton announced that these soldiers would be fortified with air, sea, and land troops and that all troops would be brought back before March 31, 1994. After this many countries announced that they would also withdraw their troops from Somalia. UNOSOM II lost its best-armed troops, including important handling units, after the Americans withdrew. After UNOSOM II lost its strength and no other country wanted to send troops, the SC changed the mandate for UNOSOM II. UNOSOM II was no longer authorized to use force, except as self-defense, and was fully dependent on the collaboration with the Somali factions. On March 31, 1995, this mission came to an end; many countries and Security Council members concluded that the mission had failed, blaming everything on the Somali factions.

Meanwhile, in Mogadishu, General Aidid kept on battling for power against his opponents after the UN troops left. This led to many fights, one of which caused his death. In December 1997 a little bit of hope came to the Somalis; a small group of generals signed the 'Declaration of Principles', in which it was written that there would be a reconciliation between the parties and they would start to form of a new government.

After the turn of the century, Islamic parties became more involved in the conflict. The largest such party was the Islamic Courts Union (ICU), a group of Sharia courts that formed an alliance to defeat the then-current Somali government, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), which was being aided by Ethiopia. Until the end of 2006, they controlled most of the main cities, including the capital Mogadishu, and the overwhelming majority of the population. In December 2006, the ICU lost most of its conquered territories, which led to their split into other militant groups, such as Al-Shabaab and Hizbul Islam, which would continue the war against the TFG.

Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia (ARS) leader Sheikh Ahmed was elected as the new president of the TFG on January 31, 2009. Since then, Al-Shabaab has accused the president of accepting the secular government of the TFG and has continued the civil war after Sheikh Ahmed began his presidency in February.

In the past decade, Somalia has seen many battles to overcome Al-Shabaab, which is affiliated to Al-Qaeda. There have been many foreign interventions from the UN, USA, Ethiopia, and other countries. Now, under the presidency of Donald Trump, the US has permanently sent troops to Somalia, to help the Somali army. The question remains whether this battle is successful. Even though Al-Shabaab does not have control of the big cities, they still harass the capital regularly with fatal guerilla attacks.
In addition, the situation is hard to oversee, as the government's power has only reached inside the capitol.

Major Parties Involved

Somalia

This issue is about the future of Somalia, which means Somalia is the main party that is involved. With the significant and overwhelming events that happened in the past 30 years, Somalia's government is very unstable and gets attacked frequently. Poverty and famine are also a major problem that increased during the civil war. For Somalia and its people, it is very crucial that the terrorists are driven away, the problems in the government are solved, the population is safe, and famine and poverty are decreased.

United Nations

The UN has had many operations in Somalia to restore peace and create a safe environment for social workers and the transportation of food. They sent a lot of help with UNOSOM I, UNITAF and UNOSOM II.

USA

The United States of America is famous for its intervention in countries and their wars. The US has played an important role in the civil war. By leading the UNITAF mission, they helped NGOs and other humanitarian aid workers by making the country safe enough for social workers and restored routes for the distribution of food and medicine. In 1994, the American soldiers left Somalia after the incident with the Rangers. However, in 2017 Donald Trump sent troops permanently to Somalia to help the army with their fight against the terrorism of Al-Shabaab/Al-Qaeda.

Islamic Courts Union (ICU)

The ICU is a group of Sharia courts that formed an alliance to defeat the current Somali government, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG). Until the end of 2006, the ICU was in charge of all the main cities including the capital Mogadishu. After the ICU lost most of the cities, it splintered into different movements such as Al-Shabaab.

Al-Shabaab

Al-Shabaab has attacked Somalia and the TFG since 2006 and has contributed to more chaos in the country. Just like the ICU, Al-Shabaab has tried to turn Somalia into an Islamic state, with inaugurating Sharia law as the first step. Al-Shabaab has an estimated number of between 3,000 and 7,000 active members.

Ethiopia

Ethiopia is a neighboring country of Somalia. Two years before the civil war started, Somalia sought to win back territory in Ethiopia, where a majority of Somalis live, under the leadership of Siad Barre. This war was called the Ogaden war. The Ethiopians received help from fellow communist countries like the Soviet Union and Cuba and pushed the Somalis back from the Ogaden.
After certain changes in the government of Somalia, the relations between Ethiopia and Somalia improved. After the ICU took control of most of southern Somalia, Ethiopia helped the TFG to conquer the ICU and their Sharia law by sending troops.

Timeline of Events

1 July 1960	Somalia became independent
26 January 1991	The start of the Somali Civil War
18 May 1991	Independence of the Republic of Somaliland
April 1992	The United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted the resolution
3 March 1993	751, established UNOSOM I and immediately deployed observers to the capital Mogadishu.
26 March 1993	The SG submitted a report to the Security Council regarding the transition from UNITAF to UNOSOM II.
4 May 1993	The Security Council adopted resolution 814, which gave permission to a second UNOSOM-mission.
31 March 1995	The formal transition from UNITAF to UNOSOM II
19 January 2007	The formal formation of AMISOM

Previous attempts to solve the issue

[In this section, you can include previous attempts to do something about the problem.]

- **SC reso 794**
- **reso 751**
- **reso 842 (unosom 2)**

The Future

The Future of AMISOM is uncertain and depends on the committee's wishes. (To keep this report unbiased we have chosen not to provide any Therios regarding the future of this operation, please view the Future reading section. [The first link contains a video outlining four reasonable possibilities])

Questions a Resolution Must Answer (Q.A.R.M.A.)

Here too it is important to make clear to the delegates that they should **not** limit themselves to only the questions standing here.

• Can the AU PSC comment on the success of the AMISOM and its achievements?

• Is the mandate of the AMISOM still accurate, if not what could be changed?

•Can the AU PSC comment on the downsides and failures of AMISOM and propose actions to rectify set failures?

• Can the committee comment on the future budget and funding parties of AMISOM?

• Should the AMISOM mission be restructured and redefined? If yes what structures should change, what obligations should the new AMISOM have, what are the new goals, and how big should the scope of the mission be?

• Can the AU PSC comment on the effectiveness of the command structure?

• Can the committee asses and comment one the allegations that troop supplying nations are actively pursuing self-interests thereby hindering the mission.

• Can the committee release a future road map reading the deployment of tropes and define the amount of police and military personnel required?

• Can the committee outline operational problems and propose solutions for set problems.

• Can the committee clarify who constitutes as a member of Al-Shabaab and what locations are controlled by Al-Shabaab?

•Should the mandate of AMISOM be extended? (reaproved)

Further Reading

https://www.csis.org/events/future-amisom (Video/Podcast) (I) *Note: We highly recommend that all members watch/ listen to this panel of experts.*
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Administrative_divisions_of_Somalia (II)
http://riftvalley.net/sites/default/files/publication-documents/RVI%20Briefing%20Paper%20-%20AMISOM.pdf (III)
https://www.ipinst.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/1904_Transitioning-in-Somalia.pdf (IV)
https://www.hrw.org/world-report/2019/country-chapters/somalia (V)
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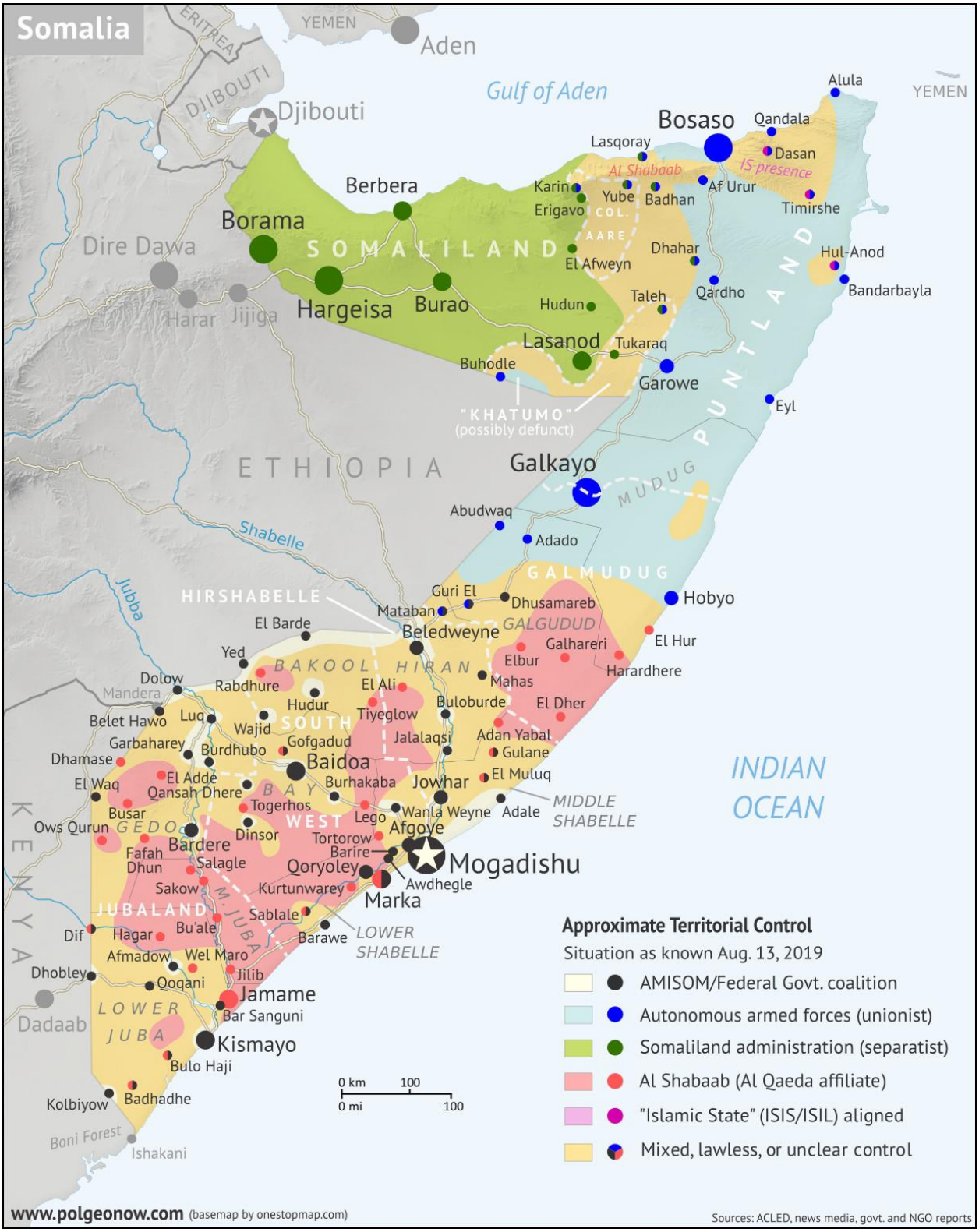
https://amisom-au.org/so/ (VII)



(Map from August of 2019) : https://www.polgeonow.com/2019/08/somalia-control-map-timeline-august-2019.html (VIII)

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