



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **EUTM SOMALIA HEADQUARTERS**

#### **MEDAL PARADE FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION TRAINING MISSION IN SOMALIA IN MOGADISHU**

On 2<sup>nd</sup> August, the Medal Parade of the European Union Training Mission Somalia (EUTM Somalia) took place at the Mission HQ in the International Campus within the Mogadishu International Airport. The ceremony was attended by the Italian Ambassador Fabrizio Marcelli and the EUTM Somalia Mission Commander Brigadier General Massimo Mingiardi.

The Common Security and Defense Policy Service Medal for Somalia has been awarded to eighty six (86) members of EUTM Somalia. The EUTM Somalia members receiving the Medal came from several European countries: Italy, Germany, Sweden, Netherlands, Hungary, Spain, Serbia, Belgium, Finland, and Portugal.

During his address to the parade, General Mingiardi, expressed his congratulations to the whole EUTM Somalia personnel for their effort and their dedication to the mission, which allowed the achievement of all the objectives set. While in his speech, Ambassador Marcelli thanked all personnel for the excellent work done, remembering that EUTM Somalia is one of the main instruments established in order to help Somalia regain peace and security, and that all staff must be very proud of participating in this effort, as indeed he is of the Mission and its accomplishments.

The aim of EUTM Somalia is to support the Somali Government in the building of a national army committed to respect the Somali culture, and in which each soldier is treated equally. Additionally, EUTM Somalia is a key partner in advising the Somali authorities to build up a professional and accountable security and defence apparatus.

EUTM Somalia activities take place within the framework of the EU's comprehensive engagement in Somalia, which has been developed with a view to better respond to the priority needs of the Somali people and its government, as well as to the stabilisation of Somalia.

EUTM SOMALIA UNCLASSIFIED

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