

# PRESS RELEASE Nr 12/2015

16 March 2015

## European Union Missions Work Together to Support Somali Coast Guard and to Strengthen its Maritime Security Capabilities

As part of the European Union's efforts to enhance regional states' maritime security capabilities in the Horn of Africa, on 15 March EUCAP Nestor handed over six Nissan 4x4 vehicles as well as IT and communications equipment, to the Coast Guard of the Federal Government of Somalia.

The handover of the vehicles and equipment (25 computers and 30 GPS) took place during a ceremony at the EUCAP Nestor compound in Mogadishu, and was attended by EUCAP Nestor's Head of Mission, Etienne de Poncins and the Head of Country Office Somalia, Pierre-Aimé Riccio. Also in attendance was the National Security Advisor of the President of Somalia, General Abdirahman Sheikh Issa, the Chief of Defense Forces, General Dahir Adan Elmi and the Head of Somali Coast Guard, Admiral Nurey. The Commander of the EU's Military Training Mission in Somalia, General Antonio Maggi, as well as representatives of the EU Naval Force -Operation Atalanta- Somalia participated in the ceremony. Both EU sister Missions contributed to the successful conclusion of this donation.

Speaking at the ceremony, Sheikh Issa recalled the good cooperation between the Mission and the Somali Coast Guard and stated *"Somalia has a long coastline that needs to be protected. This is not the first time that EUCAP Nestor has supported the Somali Coast Guard and we greatly appreciate your continued support."*

To fight piracy and other maritime crime in an efficient way, the FGS Coast Guard still lacks basic equipment and training. Speaking at the ceremony, de Poncins stated *"In the past 12 months, EUCAP Nestor, assisted by the EU Naval Force and other partners, has provided navigation, basic maritime skills and maritime investigation training in Djibouti to officers and recruits of the Somali Coast Guard from all over Somalia. The delivery of the vehicles and IT equipment, such as computers and GPS devices, will help to enhance the on-land capability and IT connectivity of the Coast Guard."*



---

### EUCAP Nestor – Somalia Office

Press and Public Information Department  
CBA Centre, Mara and Ragati Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi  
P.O. Box 30475, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: +254 727 106 645

Email: [francesca.marretta@eucap-nestor.eu](mailto:francesca.marretta@eucap-nestor.eu)

Webpage: [www.eucap-nestor.eu](http://www.eucap-nestor.eu)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eucapnestor>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EUCAPNESTOR>

The delivery of the equipment to Mogadishu was another positive example of the EU's comprehensive approach in Somalia, and of the mutual support and good cooperation between the EU sister Missions EUCAP Nestor, EUTM Somalia and the EU Naval Force. The EU Naval Force flagship, HNLMS Johan de Witt, helped to deliver two of the vehicles via their Landing Craft Utility vehicles and EUTM staff helped to provide security at the delivery site.

### Background

**EUCAP Nestor** is a civilian EU mission, under the auspices of the Common Security and Defence Policy, which assists host countries in the Horn of Africa and Western Indian Ocean region in strengthening their capacity to ensure maritime security and in particular to fight piracy.

**EUTM** is a military training mission in Somalia (EUTM Somalia) that has trained over 4,000 Somali soldiers from the Somali National Army.

**EU Naval Force** provides protection at sea to World Food Programme (WFP) vessels delivering aid to the Somali people and deters and disrupts piracy off the coast of Somalia.



### EUCAP Nestor – Somalia Office

Press and Public Information Department  
CBA Centre, Mara and Ragati Road, Upper Hill, Nairobi  
P.O. Box 30475, 00100 Nairobi, Kenya

Phone: +254 727 106 645

Email: [francesca.marretta@eucap-nestor.eu](mailto:francesca.marretta@eucap-nestor.eu)

Webpage: [www.eucap-nestor.eu](http://www.eucap-nestor.eu)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/eucapnestor>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/EUCAPNESTOR>