

Joint Security Committee

Draft Terms of Reference

Background

1. The Somali Transitional Federal Government and the Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia reached an Agreement after discussions on 9 June 2008, and subsequently enshrined in the Djibouti Agreement of 19 August 2008. Article 8-c of the Agreement calls for the establishment of a Joint Security Committee (JSC). This Committee will work primarily to ensure the effective implementation of security arrangements.

Mandate

2. The original mandate of the Joint Security Committee (JSC) was the implementation of the Agreement as stipulated in Article 8-c:

“To ensure the effective implementation of this agreement, the Parties agree to: Establish a Joint Security Committee to follow up the implementation of security arrangements within fifteen (15) days of the signing of this Agreement. The composition and mandate of this Committee, chaired by the UN, shall be adopted within the same period.”

3. Following the establishment of a National Unity Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in February 2009, the mandate has been expanded. The joint nature of the JSC now refers to the joint partnership between the TFG and the International Community (IC), whilst its mandate has been expanded to cover transitional security arrangements, security sector governance including DDR activities.

4. The mandate of the JSC will expire one month after the end of the Transitional Period in August 2011.

Composition

5. The composition of the JSC has been adopted as follows:

- TFG:
 - Minister for National Security
 - Minister for Defence
 - Minister of Interior
 - Chief of Army
 - Chief of Police
 - Chief of Intelligence
- IC
 - UNPOS

- AU/AMISOM
- AU/AMISOM
- Representatives of the main development partners
- League of Arab States
- Inter-Governmental Authority on Development.

Responsibilities

6. The Committee shall be responsible, inter-alia, for:

- Establishing a committee mechanism between the TFG and IC for the purpose of completing the implementation of the security elements of the Djibouti Agreement.
- Coordinate tasks related to the establishment and functioning of national security forces, the Somali police service as well as other transitional security arrangements. Technical Working Groups dealing with specific issues will work under the guidance and direction of the JSC.
- Supporting the establishment and functioning of transitional security sector institutions.
- Provide expertise in the planning, coordination, implementation and monitoring of the development of the Somali Security Sector with a view to ensuring transparent, legal and professional security sector in Somalia under the Rule of Law.
- Facilitating humanitarian access and assistance.
- Undertaking any other activities related to the improvement of security.

Reporting

7. The JSC will work very closely with the Somali National Security Council. The JSC will also coordinate with and inform the Parliamentary Security Committee and indeed any other body the parties deem necessary by the JSC. The conclusions and recommendations of the JSC will be brought to the attention of the appropriate respective authorities.

JSC – Technical Working Groups

8. The JSC will be supported by the following technical working groups which are to be established when appropriate to do so:

- Military technical working group
- Police technical working group
- Security Sector Institutions/Strategic Planning technical working group.
- Administrative Support Group.

Decision Making

9. The Committee is co-chaired by the representatives of the Somali Government, the United Nations and the African Union. The Committee is a decision making body and its decisions are made by consensus, or, in the case of a vote, the co-chair will have the casting vote.

Meetings

10. The JSC will meet every two weeks initially (at the specific request of the TFG), and then once a month, preferably in Mogadishu. The fall back could be Djibouti or Nairobi.

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