



Press Release

For immediate release:

UNOPS hands over the newly built Criminal Investigation Directorate Headquarter to the Somali Police Force



Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre cuts the ribbon to officially inaugurate the new CID Headquarters in Mogadishu @UNOPS_Somalia.

Mogadishu, Somalia – March 7, 2024– The Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia, Hamza Abdi Barre, today inaugurated the new headquarters of the Criminal Investigation Directorate (CID) during a ceremony held in Mogadishu. The ceremony marked the official delivery of the facility to the Somali Police Force, providing essential amenities such as a forensics laboratory, training rooms, conference facilities, examination rooms, and a holding facility. These amenities aim to create a conducive working environment for officers, enhancing their ability to investigate crimes and uphold the rule of law.

This state-of-the-art headquarter forms part of the Joint Police Programme (JPP), a Somali-led and Somali-owned initiative aimed at transforming the Somali police force and



building a safer, more secure future for the people of Somalia. With a total budget of \$54.36 million, the JPP is funded by the European Union, Germany, and the United Kingdom and implemented with the support of key partners including the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Police (UNPOL), and the African Union Transitional Mission to Somalia (ATMIS).

Speaking about the project:

Prime Minister Hamza Abdi Barre commended the partnership between the government and UNOPS and Federal Ministry of Internal Security in constructing the CID headquarter.

"There is no question about the importance of criminal investigation for the police.

It is the pillar of governance and the state. A capacitated, professional and disciplined police force is critical to an effective state. We have a long journey ahead, but we hope to complete it with the support from our international partners," said Prime Minister Bare.

"The new CID headquarters is a testament to UNOPS commitment to supporting the rule of law and access to justice for all Somali people," said Ala'a Nemer, UNOPS Country Director in Somalia. "By providing state-of-the-art facilities and necessary infrastructure, we are contributing to empowered law enforcement officers to better serve their communities and uphold human rights."**said Ala'a Nemer, Country Director of UNOPS in Somalia.**

The Deputy Ambassador of the European Union to Somalia, Thomas Kieler, noted that Somalia has made significant strides in delivering justice, addressing insecurity and countering terrorism. "The role of the police and the rule of law sector are a cornerstone for Somalia's ongoing journey towards peace, justice and rule of law. The Criminal Investigations Directorate will be important in this regard for building capacity and providing services to citizens," observed Kieler.

The Commissioner of the Somali Police Force, Brig. Gen. Sulub Ahmed Firin, said the Criminal Investigations Directorate office will be vital to the delivery of justice in the country. "The CID office block that we are unveiling today is the backbone of the criminal



justice system and crime prevention in Somalia,” added Brig. Gen. Sulub.

The ceremony was attended by high-level representatives, including the Commissioner of the Somali Police Force, the Minister of Internal Security, the Minister of Justice, the Governor of Banadir Region, the Deputy Ambassador of the European Union, and a delegation from the United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS).

This initiative forms part of UNOPS broader effort to provide non-lethal support and essential infrastructure to the Somali Police Force, enhancing policing capabilities, facilitating access to justice, and reinforcing law and order across Somalia.

The inauguration of the new CID headquarter marks a significant step forward for Somalia's law enforcement sector, achieved through the collaborative efforts of the JPP stakeholders. With enhanced investigative capabilities and a dedicated workspace, the CID is now better equipped to serve and protect the Somali people.



Ala'a Nemer, Country Director of UNOPS in Somalia (right), hands over signed documents of the CID to the Commissioner of the Somali Police Force, Brig. Gen. Sulub Ahmed Firin. @UNOPS_Somalia.



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Notes to the editors

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