

AMISOM DISTRIBUTES FOOD IN AFGOYE

During the period, AMISOM received 3.5 tons of food aid donated by the Italian contingent of the European Union Training Mission in Somalia (EUTM), which was in turn distributed to 100 needy families in Afgoye, Southwest State of Somalia.



Officers from the Italian Contingent EUTM - Somalia and AMISOM offload food from a truck during a handover ceremony of food donation to AMISOM for distribution to needy families in Afgoye, Southwest State of Somalia.

The donations which included rice, cooking oil, sugar and beans were officially handed over by the Italian EUTM Somalia Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) Officer, Lt. Colonel Matteo Mineo.

Local representatives from Afgoye witnessed the handover which was also attended by AMISOM Senior Civil Affairs Officer Dr. Opiyo Ododa and AMISOM sector one officers.

Maj. Gen. Fidza Dlundu, the AMISOM Head of Mission Support, who received the items, said it is important for AMISOM to help support vulnerable communities.

Afgoye is an agricultural town located 30km west of Mogadishu. However, climate-change induced conditions of drought, flooding and a locust invasion have negatively impacted crop farming. Also, the COVID-19 pandemic has affected businesses, leaving residents in need of assistance.

"With support from our partners the EUTM, we have been working towards a shared belief and collaboration in the provision and delivery of vital supplies to the people of Somalia," Gen. Fidza said.

Lt. Col. Mineo said they would work jointly with AMISOM and Somali

authorities to assist the people of Somalia.

"Let me feel proud and grateful to be part of such a programme of cooperation between the European and African Union military contingent CIMIC team to support the local authorities and the Somali people," Lt. Col. Mineo said.

Speaking on behalf of the beneficiaries, Mayow Muse Siidow said the food donations were timely since residents in Afgoye continue to feel the impact of the floods, locust invasion and drought.

"Today people have no money or food, for sure this food donation will help them," Siidow said.