



Environmental Impact Assessment

United Nations Support Office for AMISOM
(UNSOA)

AMISOM Camps
Mogadishu, Somalia



FOI



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1. Executive Summary

To accommodate planned increases in troop numbers within the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) by several thousand, over ten years, work is underway to develop two new bases in Mogadishu. Following a request from the UN Department for Field Support (UNDFS) a reduced scope environmental impact assessment (EIA) has been conducted to assess key environmental concerns related to the development of these bases.

The two bases are intended for force protection as well as acting as resupply points for the AMISOM troops and are planned to accommodate 1,000 troops each. The bases are intended to be self-reliant concerning the majority of aspects necessary for sustaining the force including on-site water supply, sanitation and waste management, power supply, service areas with workshops, storage of equipment, fuel and medical facilities.

This EIA provides an assessment of potential positive and negative impacts of the construction and operation of proposed bases on the human, physical and ecological environment. This includes (to the extent possible given the resources available) socio-economics; community infrastructure and services; health, safety and security issues; natural resources; pollution of air, soil and water resources; and impacts on biodiversity as well as any endangered species of flora and fauna. Due to the local security situation in Mogadishu, on-site field studies were not possible. The results from this assessment are therefore based on a desk study only. Table below provides a summary of aspects and activities identified to pose either high or very high risk of causing a potentially significant impact on either of these resources are included in this summary. More detailed information on these as well as on all other identified impacts with lower risk ratings is provided in chapter 6.

Mogadishu	Actual and Potential Risk	Mitigation required to reduce/prevent risk
Hazardous waste management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hazardous waste entering into the waste stream • Health impact to workers coming into contact with the waste • Potential impact to the environment at point of deposition (landfill) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop waste management plan with clear identification of hazardous waste storage areas • Appoint and educate a single point of contact to be the waste manager • Understand the consequences of handling and shipping hazardous wastes.
Increased groundwater abstraction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduced capacity for other users • Increased contamination from saline intrusion • Potential conflict situation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduce measures to reduce consumption • Refer to UNSOA report on resource reduction measures and act on recommendations.
Fuel Storage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Release of fuel from the storage tanks and into the groundwater • Release of fuel into the soil from fuel dispensers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place all tanks above ground on impermeable bunded base. • Place dispenser onto impermeable bases • Install collision prevention measures
Sanitary Waste disposal (including septic tank wastes)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contamination of the groundwater from fecal matter • Health impacts from increase of vectors (from the improper disposal of organic wastes) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent use of pit latrines or proper design of latrines • Design soakaways properly
Site drainage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased ponding and mosquito prevalence • Impact to marine environment from surface run off. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Camp management to understand risks – improved drainage • Use interceptors and consider settlement ponds
Natural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Degradation of natural resources through charcoal consumption • Potential conflict over supply 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevent use of charcoal – offer replacements
Ecological sensitivities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact to endangered and sensitive species • Loss of credibility to UN 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prepare an ecological management plan • Understand and prevent impacts

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