

**African Union Mission In Somalia (AMISOM)**

Mogadishu, Somalia

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(For Immediate Release)

***AMISOM Liberates Kuday Island in Kismayo.***

**Mogadishu, 22 March 2015** - Somalia National Army together with troops of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) have liberated the island of Kuday, in Kismayo, in the Lower Juba region, in the latest offensive undertaken against the Al Shabaab in Somalia.

Kuday was the remaining Al Shabaab stronghold in the region and has been a key logistical and operational base used to launch attacks in Southern Somalia. It also served as a key point for entry of contraband goods into the area.

The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (SRCC) for Somalia Amb. Maman Sidikou has congratulated the troops upon yet another milestone, in ensuring the security of the Somali people.

“The town of Kuday is very strategic and its liberation will greatly contribute to improved security in the Lower Juba region. We will continue to pursue Al Shabaab from every corner, until the entire Somalia is pacified,” he said.

The adjacent islands of Mdoa and Dagazi are already under the control of the SNA and AMISOM and the fall of Kuday now pushes the enemy from all key ports in the region.

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