

African Union

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## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **THE AU SECURES EU FUNDS FOR THE AU MISSION IN SOMALIA**

**Addis Ababa, 22 September 2016:** On 21<sup>st</sup> September 2016, the Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui, on behalf of the African Union, signed with the European Union the fifteenth contract for financial support to the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).

The latest contract covers the period from 1<sup>st</sup> January to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 and provides funds amounting to 178 million Euro (one hundred seventy eighth million Euro). The EU fund will be used to cover allowances for AMISOM troops and police, international and local civilian staff salaries, as well as operational costs of the Mission.

The African Union welcomes this encouraging development which is the result of the continuous and fruitful consultations between AU and EU on the enhancement of the logistical and financial support to AMISOM. It should be reiterated that this renewed financial support to AMISOM comes at a critical moment when AMISOM is engaged in major offensive operations and the preparation of the elections in Somalia.

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