RELEASE IN FULL

From:

Sullivan, Jacob J <SullivanJJ@state.gov>

Sent:

Wednesday, February 22, 2012 11:16 AM

To:

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Subject:

FW: UN votes to increase African force in Somalia (AP)

AMISOM increase passed, along with other UNSCR elements.

From: Walsh, Matthew P

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 10:53 AM

To: Sullivan, Jacob J

Subject: FW: UN votes to increase African force in Somalia (AP)

The AMISOM increase UNSCR just passed 15-0.

Further to my other email on Baidoa, AF is trying to confirm the accuracy of the media reports. Embassy Nairobi is reporting that the Ethiopians and Somalis have captured the city, while Embassy Addis reports the Ethiopians and Somalis have not reached Baidoa yet.

From: OpsNewsTicker

Sent: Wednesday, February 22, 2012 10:50 AM

To: NEWS-AF; NEWS-IO Cc: SES-O_Shift-II

Subject: UN votes to increase African force in Somalia (AP)

UNITED NATIONS (AP) - The U.N. Security Council has voted unanimously to authorize an increase in the African Union force in Somalia from 12,000 to about 17,700 and expand its areas of operation in an effort to intensify pressure on al-Shabab militants.

A resolution adopted Wednesday by the U.N.'s most powerful body also orders a ban on the export and import of charcoal from Somalia, which is a significant revenue source for al-Shabab.

The council adopted the resolution on the eve of a conference on Somalia in London on Thursday, where senior representatives from more than 40 governments and international organizations are expected to adopt a new international approach to the country's myriad problems.

NewsTickers alert senior Department officials to breaking news. This item appears as it did in its original publication and does not contain analysis or commentary by Department sources.