



AMISOM Soldiers Go Unpaid



Ugandan soldiers serving with AMISOM.

Source: AMISOM/Flickr, <https://flickr.com/photos/61765479@N08/6243479086>, Public Domain

Many of the TCCs have found that supplying troops to AMISOM as well as other peacekeeping missions can be quite lucrative. Indeed several threatened to quit AMISOM when funding was reduced even though that would have left Somalia in an extremely perilous state. The donor largesse is also frequently quite beneficial to the TCC militaries as poor countries would not be able to afford such a large force if not for that money. However, this monetary incentive for politicians and military leaders to keep troops in certain peacekeeping missions sometimes runs counter to the desires of their own citizens.

The EU, as well as other AMISOM donors, including the UN, will be making further cuts to AMISOM as the mission winds down. Undoubtedly the charges of misallocation of funds did not help AMISOM's cause. Meanwhile, it is unknown if the TCC soldiers who have gone unpaid will ever receive their back salaries in full. **End OE Watch Commentary (Feldman)**

“... the [Ugandan] soldiers deployed in Somalia to protect a 12-year weak government, have not been paid their full allowances for several months.”

Source: “Djibouti forces under AMISOM have not been paid for months,” *Shabelle Media Network (Somalia)*, 6 October 2019. <https://www.radioshabelle.com/djibouti-forces-under-amisom-have-not-been-paid-for-months/>

Djiboutian forces serving under AMISOM deployed in Jalalqsi in the Hiiraan region have not been paid their salaries since last December last year despite the government receiving the funds from the African Union, according to Indian Ocean Newsletter.

The EU cut by 20% the stipends in February 2016 lowering the figure from \$1020 to \$800. Troops Contributing Countries (TCCs) governments retain 20% of the pay for administrative costs.

Source: “Nganda warns on militarised politics, missing Amisom pay,” *Edge.UG (Uganda)*, 7 October 2019. <http://edge.ug/2019/10/07/nganda-warns-on-militarised-politics-missing-amisom-pay/>

Nganda said the soldiers deployed in Somalia to protect a 12-year weak government, have not paid all their allowances for several months.

A group of 530 soldiers under an operation name UNGU deployed in Somalia for 12 months between July 2018 and July 2019, were paid for only five months.

They did not receive payment for seven months yet UN and AU paid all the money.

Another contingent of 1830 soldiers under the name UGABAG 25 deployed during the same period have also not been paid their full allowance.