

SCRIPT AMISOM MOGADISHU

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PRESENTATION

The international community has to step in fast in Somalia, otherwise things might go totally out of hand.

The president of the embattled East African country has said this.

Extremist islamist are trying to oust the Western backed Somali government.

Resulting in hundreds of deaths in the last few months, and another 200,000 refugees.

The extremists seem to advance, but the weak Somali government still gets backup by a ill equipped peace keeping mission AMISOM.

A gathering of the leaders of the African Union last week didn't lead to enforcement of the mission.

AMISOM now guards for two years a non existing peace, and the situation in the country seems to get worse by the day.

Correspondent Ruud Elmendorp traveled to Mogadishu and filed this report.

BETA lengte: max 2'11"

AIREAL SHOT MOGADISHU, DRIVE BY DESTROYED BUILDING, STREET WITH GRAZING GOATS

Mogadishu, capital of a country where a battle has been raging for 18 years.

The centre changed into an open air museum of destruction.

Streets are deserted, and side walks are domain to grazing goats.

SOUNDBITE SOLDIER DRIVING WITH GUN

DRIVE BY PICKUP WITH HEAVILY ARMED YOUNG MEN

The battle recently flared up by the upsurge of extremist Islamists.

Apart from violence, they engage in propaganda by self made videos.

SOUNDBITE PROPAGANDA VIDEO LOGO AL-SHABAAB, KORAN VERSES

MAP SOMALIA

They now control most of Southern Somalia, apart from Mogadishu.

In the fighting 300 people died since May, and another 1,000 got injured.

MAP WITH LOGO AL-SHABAAB, MARCHING EXTREMISTS

They call themselves 'Al Shabaab', which means youth in Arabic.
Consisting of 3,000 young men who systematically impose terror.

SOUNDBITE PROPAGANDA VIDEO SHOOTING MORTAR, KORAN VERSE

DRIVING IN ARMORED VEHICLE, MACHINE GUN, SOLDIERS IN VEHICLE
The weakened Somali government is still able to defend itself.
Supported by AMISOM troops, but they are also a target.
On this Al Shabaab video one of their soldiers steps on a mine.

SOUNDBITE EXPLODING MINE

PATROLLING SOLDIERS, PORT, UNLOADING CARGO SHIP, HOSPITAL TENT, BOY WITH FRESH
GUN SHOT WOUND
AMISOM is able to guard a few locations.
Like the port of Mogadishu
Here food aid for 3 million people is unloaded.
Then they have a medical post.
Where this boy is brought in with a shot wound.

QUOTE

JOSEPH ASEA

head medical post

90 per cent of the cases are related to the war.

PEOPLE SITTING IN ROWS ON THE GROUND

The baffled population has fled by the masses.
They're afraid to talk, fearing the extremists.

QUOTE MOTHER

***I am a women. I cannot talk about these things.
That will give me problems.***

SOUNDBITE SOLDIER WALKING STAIRS, GENERAL VIEW STREETS, MOUNTED MACHINE GUNS

AMISOM would love to do more, but they lack personnel.

QUOTE MAJOR BA-HOKU BARIGYE, AMISOM

- Isn't that frustrating?

It's frustrating. The Somalis expected some much from us, and we were not able to deliver that to them.

EXTERIOR STATE HOUSE PRESIDENT, ARMORED VEHICLE, PRESIDENT WALKING IN

The president of Somalia only has his state house as his territory.

The international community now really has to step in, he says.

QUOTE

SHEIK SHARIF AHMED

president Somalia

We know the influx of Al Qaeda here continues.

If they succeed to take over this country you can understand what could be the results from that.

GV's STREETS, DUST, GOATS

Even if reinforcements come.

The threath of Al Shabaab won't easily go.

So it can take a while before a bit of peace comes back to these streets.