



## Highlights

**One Integrated Route Assessment and Clearance Team (IRACT) continued implementation of the dry season deployment plan. One Patrol Support Team (PST) at TS-21 Tishwin continued to support ground monitoring missions.**

**National Community Liaison Officers are actively communicating within their communities, providing safety messages and collecting information on any explosive hazards found.**

**UNMAS continuously provides familiarisation training for Troop-Contributing Countries' drivers to reinforce their skills and ensure the safe operation of Mine-Protected Vehicles.**



Safety Induction Training



Ground Monitoring Mission at TS-21 Tishwin

## Stats **JANUARY 2026**

**11.7** Kilometers of routes in the Abyei Area assessed and verified as safe from explosives enabling mobility of the mission and safe patrols

**419** Newly arrived uniformed and civilian members of UNISFA received safety induction briefing

**63** Explosive ordnance risk education sessions conducted in the Abyei area

**12** Ground monitoring missions supported by UNMAS ensured full implementation of the JBVMM mandate

## \*\*\* HIGHLIGHTS \*\*\*

### EXPLOSIVE ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION AND EXPLOSIVE ORDNANCE RISK EDUCATION IN RESPONSE

Explosive Remnants of War (ERW) continue to pose a serious threat to communities in the Abyei localities, particularly to children who are frequently exposed during daily livelihood activities such as firewood collection and fetching water. Despite ongoing clearance and risk education efforts, ERW contamination remains a critical safety concern in the Abyei area. On 25 December 2025, an accident involving an ERW occurred in Amiet North injuring two sisters, Rufayda (6 years) and Wadad (10 years). While returning home after collecting firewood, the children picked up a suspected explosive item and threw it, causing it to detonate. Both girls sustained serious injuries to the lower part of their left legs below the knee.

A field investigation was conducted in December 2025 by TDI to establish the circumstances surrounding the incident. The investigation involved coordination with 'Medecins Sans Frontieres' (MSF) hospital, where the second victim was in the operating theatre at the time of the visit. Hospital administration permitted documentation of her injuries only after surgery. Witness accounts and interviews with community members confirmed that the explosive item involved was a 60mm mortar. Fragments consistent with a 60mm mortar fuze were recovered at the accident site, corroborating the identification of the ERW.

Following interviews with local community members on 27 December 2025, the team conducted two immediate Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) sessions in Amiet North, targeting both children and adults. The sessions emphasized the dangers of handling explosive items, safe behaviour practices, and established reporting procedures. The sessions were well received and contributed to increased awareness within the community.

Building on these findings, a structured EORE action plan was implemented in Amiet North and Amiet South localities from 5 to 10 January 2026. During this period, a total of 33 EORE sessions were conducted, reaching 405 participants, comprising 147 boys, 61 girls, 58 men, and 139 women. The sessions focused on high-risk behaviours, particularly during daily routines and reinforced safe practices, recognition of suspicious items, and reporting mechanisms.

A notable positive outcome was observed after the EORE sessions, when children in the community identified a mechanical component from a vehicle and reported it as a suspected explosive item instead of touching or handling it. Although the item was later confirmed to be harmless, it demonstrated improved awareness, positive behavioural change, and trust in reporting procedures. This outcome highlighted the effectiveness of the EORE intervention conducted by UNMAS.

The Amiet North accident underscores the persistent threat posed by ERW and the vulnerability of children in affected communities. Immediate post-incident EORE interventions proved effective in reinforcing safe behaviour, while community engagement and coordination with partners strengthened reporting and response mechanisms. Continued and regular EORE sessions remain essential to prevent similar incidents in the future. UNMAS with Local Community Liaison Officers will continue to conduct EORE sessions in Amiet localities and surrounding areas to ensure sustained awareness, broader community coverage, and long-term risk reduction.

Maj. Muhammad Waleed Aslam from PAKBATT said: **"Although the item itself was non hazardous, the vigilance demonstrated by the children reflects the effectiveness of UNMAS training, which has successfully instilled awareness among the local population. The children, as well as UNMAS, deserve commendation for this positive outcome. The boys travelled from Amiet to the COB to alert UN military personnel and, importantly, refrained from touching or collecting the suspicious object"**



Explosive ordnance risk education in Amiet

**IF YOU SEE AN ITEM OF CONCERN, DO NOT TOUCH IT!  
CONTACT UNMAS UNISFA IMMEDIATELY!  
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