

Devin Morrow, MIGS Desk Officer for Somalia  
14-19 August 2012



## Report Content

1. Internal violence and conflict
2. Al-Shabab activity
3. Foreign interference (Kenya/Uganda)
4. Humanitarian issues
5. Gender equity
6. Freedom of the press

### 1. Internal violence and conflict

#### Privately-owned media

##### **Radio Shabelle news 0500 gmt**

**14 August 2012**

-Clan clashes in central Somalia left at least two dead and more than 10 wounded

##### **Horn Cable TV (private? Unknown), Hargeysa, Somali language, 2000 gmt**

**14 August 2012**

-Limited water resources in Waraq, in southern Somalia's Lower Jubba region, have led to fighting between rival clans. Fighting resulted in the deaths of three people

##### **Shabelle Media Network website**

**16 August 2012**

*"Somali presidential aspirants cautioned against destabilizing capital"*

-The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia has asked presidential candidates not to contest election results after voting on August 20. The TFGS fears that this will cause unrest and destabilization in Mogadishu.

-The Minister for Planning and International Cooperation Abdulladhi Godax Barre asked civilians not to display images of presidential candidates, as it is parliament, not civilians, who will be electing the next president. He believes demonstrations of political affiliations will only cause unrest, and potentially provide targets for Al-Shabab attacks.

### **Radio Shabelle news 0500 gmt**

**16 August 2012**

-A Somali leader (NB: details unclear) accused the candidates in the presidential election of corruption for illegally being attached to the services of Somali government forces without gaining advance permission.

## **2. Al-Shabab activity**

### Privately-owned media

#### **Radio Shabelle news 0500 gmt**

16 August 2012

-Government forces clashed with Al-Shabab forces in two separate incidents in south and southwestern Somali districts of Xuddur and Fafaxdhuun

#### **Somali Puntland post website (text reprinted from Somali midnimo.com)**

**15 August 2012**

*"Seven Al-Shabab fighters said killed in southern Somalia – government official"*

-Seven Al-Shabab fighters were killed and their weapons seized after a government raid on their base in Kurshale, in southern Somalia

-Al-Shabab has not responded to the statement, and it is unclear how the government was aware of the fighters' presence in the area

#### **Shabelle Media Network**

**17 August 2012**

*"Blast rocks central Somali town, no casualties reported"*

-An explosion attributed to Al-Shabab happened in the central Somali town of Beled Weyne. Reports of the blast say that a number of recent explosions have been assassination attempts on local government officials

#### **Jowhar news portal**

**18 August 2012**

*"Somali govt troops capture Al-Shabab-held areas near southern Somalia port city"*

-In an attempt to take the Al-Shabab stronghold of Kismaayo in southern Somalia, Somali government troops have captured key districts on the road to Kismaayo

-The captured areas in Hagar District, which have until now had been under Al-Shabab control, are likely to be useful in preparing the siege of Kismaayo in coordination with Kenyan forces.

### Foreign media

#### **Radio Bar-Kulan (Nairobi), Somali language, 1600 gmt 15 August 2012**

*"Islamists reportedly detain, torture elders in southwestern Somalia"*

-Al-Shabab allegedly arrested and tortured eight elders in the Buur Hakaba District in Bay Region, southwestern Somalia

### **3. Foreign interference (Kenya/Uganda)**

#### **Somali midnimo.com**

**15 August 2012**

*"Kenyan warship fires missiles in Al-Shabab stronghold in southern Somalia"*

-A warship attributed to Kenyan government forces continued its attack on the Al-Shabab stronghold of Kismaayo, southern Somalia

-Though allegedly not as strong as last week's attack, the ship is said to have fired anti-aircraft missiles in the town.

-Local residents continue to flee as the attacks endanger their lives and livelihoods

### **4. Humanitarian Issues**

### Privately-owned media

#### **Radio Shabelle news 0500 gmt**

**14 August 2012**

-Residents and IDPs in Mogadishu and parts of southern Somalia complained about poor living conditions and appealed for greater humanitarian aid

### UN-backed media

#### **Radio Bar-Kulan news 1600 gmt**

**14 August 2012**

-Reports of Al-Shabab diverting and looting food aid in an unspecified region of central Somalia

#### **Radio Shabelle news 0500 gmt**

**16 August 2012**

-Amnesty International called for the creation of a tribunal to address the deaths of Somali journalists

-The African Union increased its pledges to maintain a larger peacekeeping presence in Somalia

-Other foreign nations, particularly Yemen and the Gulf States, are concerned with growing numbers of IDPs and refugees in Mogadishu and asked for a greater humanitarian effort to bring peace to the country.

## **5. Gender Equity**

### Privately-owned media

#### **Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali**

**15 August 2012**

-Women in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland are frustrated that they are not receiving the gender quota of seats they are entitled to in the upcoming election. The new roadmap for peace in central Africa entitles women to 30 per cent of the parliamentary seats in order to increase gender equity in the region