

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

Brett Collins, Country Desk officer for Somalia



August 13 – 20th, 2013

Headlines:

- **Al Shabaab loot Bay Region MSF offices**
- **MSF pulls out of Somalia due to 'extreme attacks'**
- **Gunmen Kill Somali Public Radio Worker**
- **Rape, GBV rampant in Somalia**
- **Security Operations conducted in Marka, lower Shabelle Region**
- **The mayor of Mogadishu accuses some politicians of undermining peace in Mogadishu**
- **Somalia: Puntland bans Government-run Media**
- **Somalia: Somaliland President Lifts Ban On Local Newspaper**

[Al-Shabaab loots Bay Region MSF Offices](#)

Garowe Online, August 14, 2013

- Somalia's Al Qaeda linked Al Shabaab group reportedly looted Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) offices in Bay regional district of Dinsoor on Wednesday afternoon

- "The militias broke into the offices of MSF and Dinsoor hospital, they took away office equipment including computers and also medical drugs," an eyewitness said.
- Dinsoor remains under the control of Al-Shabaab currently while MSF has pulled out of the country due to similar violent and destructive attacks on staff and facilities.

[MSF Closes Operations in Somalia over 'extreme attacks'](#)

Shabelle News, independent and private media, August 15, 2013

- Medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) is closing all its programmes in Somalia after 22 years working in the war-torn country.
- Armed groups and civilian leaders increasingly "support, tolerate or condone the killing, assaulting, and abducting of humanitarian aid workers".
- The BBC's international development correspondent Mark Doyle says in many parts of Somalia the charity is the only provider of health care ranging from basic medical supplies to major surgery.

[Gunmen Kill Somali Public Radio Worker](#)

Hiiraan Online, Foreign, August 18, 2013

- Two gunmen shot dead a technician employed at Somalia's state-run broadcaster Radio Mogadishu on Saturday, the sixth media professional killed in the country this year, officials and a colleague said.
- Watchdog group Reporters Without Borders (RSF) has called the security situation for media personnel in Somalia's cities "deplorable".
- Somalia ranks 175th out of 179 in the Press Freedom Index 2013.
- Eighteen media professionals were killed in 2012 and 50 have been killed since 2006.
- Reporters without borders have repeatedly warned Somalia that it "cannot continue to be abandoned... to the killers who are decimating civil society."

[Rape, Gender-based violence rampant in Somalia](#)

Hiiraan Online, Foreign, August 17, 2013

- Sexual and gender-based violence has been pervasive in Somalia for many years and appears to be growing.
- Many cases go unreported because of stigma and fear of reprisal. An example was last year when a woman and the journalist who brought light to the story were arrested for a year. They were released after 2 months due to international pressure.
- Presently there is an active investigation into the alleged gang-rape by AMISOM soldiers in Mogadishu.

Security Operations conducted in Marka, lower Shabelle Region

Shabelle News, independent and private media, August 19, 2013

- Government troops conducted security operations today in some parts of Marka, lower Shabelle region.
- Many youth allegedly part of Al-Shabaab were arrested.
- The operations were conducted after security officials received information about planned attacks on the town.

The mayor of Mogadishu accuses some politicians of undermining peace in Mogadishu

Shabelle News, independent and private media, August 19, 2013

- Mogadishu Mohamud Ahmed Nur Tarsan who is the mayor of Mogadishu has accused some Somali politicians of undermining the relative peace in Mogadishu.
- The mayor has stated_“They use media stations to divide the Somali public and we shall hold (Media stations) them accountable”

Somalia: Puntland bans Government-run Media

Sabahi, Foreign media, August 19, 2013

- The Puntland regional government has banned federal government-run Somali National Television and Radio Mogadishu from broadcasting in the region, Somalia's Radio Dalsan reported Monday.
- Journalists working for state-run media have also been ordered as of August 18th to stop working in Puntland.
- In March 3 humanitarian radio stations were banned from Puntland which was protested by the National Union of Somali Journalists for being repressive.

Somalia: Somaliland President Lifts Ban On Local Newspaper

Garowe Online, Pro-Puntland Media, Foreign, August 19, 2013

- The President of Somalia's separatist administration of Somaliland, Ahmed Mohamed Silanyo lifted a ban on Hubaal newspaper on Sunday
- President Silanyo offered a presidential pardon to the edit-in-chief and manager of the paper.
- Silanyo stated “My government is ready to respect the freedom of speech but we have to together safeguard our interests”.
- The paper was previously charged with creating tensions with Ethiopia.

MIGS

Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies

- The Somaliland Journalists Association hailed it as a bold move.