

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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June 11 – 17, 2013

Headlines

- Newspaper in Somaliland Banned
- Emphasis on Dialogue in Resolving Situation in Kismayu
- Polio Campaign Launched
- Children’s Rights in Somalia Threatened By Labour Practices and Al-Shabaab Recruitment
- Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Somali Federal Government Revisits Strengthening Laws
- Drafting a National Gender Policy

Newspaper in Somaliland Banned

Independent daily suspended indefinitely in Somaliland

Committee to Protect Journalists (Independent Organization), June 12, 2013

<http://www.cpj.org/2013/06/somaliland-authorities-must-reverse-suspension-of.php>

- The independent daily Hubaal has been indefinitely suspended at the request of acting Somaliland attorney general Aden Ahmed Mouse
- Somaliland authorities often ignore their own legal system to censor the press, whether it is arbitrary detentions of journalists or, in this case, an arbitrary suspension order,” said CPJ East Africa Consultant Tom Rhodes

- Journalists at Hubaal said they suspected the suspension was a result of their ongoing coverage of a construction dispute between Egypt and Ethiopia.
- The sources said they suspected authorities feared any media coverage that could tarnish their relationship with Ethiopia.
- Hubaal has also published some hard-hitting anti-corruption articles in the past; the coverage includes a number of articles that expose corruption within Somaliland's banking system.

Emphasis on Dialogue in Resolving Situation in Kismayu

Madobe seeks dialogue with Somali government

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 11, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/11/newsbrief-01

- Jubbaland regional presidency claimant Ahmed Mohamed Islam Madobe said he is willing to meet with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud to seek federal government co-operation to stabilise the escalating situation in Jubbaland
- Madobe maintains that the recent election in Kismayo in which he was elected president was legitimate.
- He said his administration is not seeking secession from Mogadishu, but only wants to create a strong administration in Kismayo.

Federal government plans to reconcile the fighting opponents in Kismayu

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 11, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/federal-government-plans-to-reconcile-the-fighting-opponents-in-kismayu/>

- Defense Minister Mr. Fiqi said that the federal government will now lead talks between rival clan militia fighting in Kismayu. The minister warned rival clans of any future infighting and added the federal government will be forced to take actions if any infighting occurs again.
- Almost 18 people lost the lives and dozens injured during the two day fighting. All the militia groups are now in Kismayu as elders in the region try to intervene.

President Madoobe says Jubaland will move forward

Garowe Online (Pro-Puntland Media), June 12, 2013

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_President_Madoobe_says_Jubaland_will_move_forward_printer.shtml

- Jubaland state President Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Madoobe returned to Kismayo on Wednesday where he held a press conference stating that he didn't oppose President Hassan Sheikh
- "President Hassan and I met; I reassured him that he did not need to be concerned and that he [Hassan] is our President and that there would be no problems from our [Jubaland] side" said Jubaland state President Sheikh Madoobe.

Prof Gandhi: the only solution for Juba land is to form an all-inclusive administration.

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 16, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/prof-gandhi-the-only-solution-for-juba-land-is-to-form-an-all-inclusive-administration/>

- Somalia's prominent Politian Prof Mohamed Abdi Qandhi who hails from the lower Juba region of Somalia has called for the establishment of a new administration in the Juba regions of Somalia which represents descendants of the region
- The Prof said that an all-inclusive administration representing all the communities living in the region is the only solution to calm the situation in Kismayu.

Humanitarian operations resume in Kismayo

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 16, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/16/newsbrief-04

- Humanitarian services have resumed in Kismayo after a temporary halt during clashes in the city last week, the United Nations Office for the Co-ordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) reported Friday
- Nonetheless, aid workers' movement is restricted due to security concerns
- Most schools and humanitarian offices in Kismayo were closed during the clashes but have since re-opened, OCHA said. Kismayo Hospital and the Army Hospital have continued receiving patients throughout, though Kismayo Hospital is operating at reduced capacity

Polio Campaign Launched

4 million targeted in Somali polio campaign

Garowe Online (Pro-Puntland Media), June 11, 2013

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/4_million_targeted_in_Somali_polio_campaign.shtml

- Public Service Development minister Mariam Kassim stated that Somalia was in 2007 declared polio free, but the country was today among the four where the disease had reappeared.
- The vaccination campaign will last 6 days and will attempt to vaccinate 4 million people
- President Mohamoud urged the public to cooperate and welcome the campaign, promising that his government would continue striving for quality public service delivery. "We do not want taboos to prevent people from taking the polio vaccine," stressed the head of state.

Somaliland announces polio vaccination campaigns

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 13, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/13/newsbrief-09

- The Somaliland regional Ministry of Health has warned citizens of the threat from a polio outbreak in Somalia and Kenya and has announced a series of immunisation campaigns
- There have been 14 confirmed cases of polio in Somalia since May 9th, the Somaliland administration said. There have also been at least five confirmed cases in Kenya.

- The ministry urged vaccination for children under 5, which can be done at any health centre. The regional administration will also offer house calls during a series of National Immunisation Days

Children's Rights in Somalia Threatened By Labour Practices and Al-Shabaab Recruitment

Worries grow as child labour violations increase in Somaliland

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 11, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/features/2013/06/11/feature-02

- Child labour has escalated in Somaliland because of the increase in the number of displaced people, recent droughts, urban migration and loss of livestock
- The Juvenile Justice Law in Somaliland addresses only children who break the law and how to penalise them, but it does not address crimes against them.
- Working children aged 11 and under are visible all over Somaliland, toiling away as shoe-shiners, car washers, bus conductors and dishwashers; employers prefer to hire under-age workers because they can put in long hours for low wages
- Last year, the ministry and the international non-governmental organisation Save the Children created income-generating programmes for 85 poor families as a way to prevent parents from sending their children to work. The ministry also collaborated with international non-governmental organisation SOS Children's Villages to finance small-scale business opportunities for 45 more families.

Al-Shabaab recruiting children in Galgadud

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 13, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/13/newsbrief-05

- Ahlu Sunna wal Jamaa (ASWJ) has accused al-Shabaab of torture, violence and forcibly recruiting child soldiers in Somalia's Galgadud region
- Al-Shabaab has been known to recruit Somali children, and was recently accused of recruiting children in Kenya

Human Rights Watch (HRW) and Somali Federal Government Revisits Strengthening Laws

Human Rights Watch Urges Somalia to Strengthen Laws

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 12, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/12/newsbrief-04

- The Somali parliament should strengthen its draft law establishing a human rights commission and involve civil society in the revision process, Human Rights Watch (HRW) said in a report released on June 12th
- "The proposed human rights commission could play a valuable role in helping to tackle Somalia's ongoing human rights crisis," said Leslie Lefkow, deputy director of HRW's Africa division. "But a

weak law will cripple the commission from the start and parliament should make sure that does not happen.”

- The Ministry of Justice and Religious Affairs presented a draft law to parliament on May 30th establishing the commission. The draft will undergo a second reading in parliament before it is presented to the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, Women and Humanitarian Affairs, which can recommend amendments
- HRW said the law should guarantee a “robust, independent body with a broad mandate and enforcement powers”.

Federal Government to establish a court tackling constitutional violations in Somalia

Shabelle (Independent Media) June 13, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/federal-government-to-establish-a-court-tackling-constitutional-violations-in-somalia/>

- The Justice Ministry is proposing plans to form a special court against constitutional violations including non-constitutional changes in drafts
- The court will be under the federal constitution and operate independently from the government.

Drafting a National Gender Policy

Somali government, AMISOM to draft national gender policy

Sabahi Online (Foreign Media), June 13, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/06/13/newsbrief-08

- The Somali federal government will begin drafting its first national gender policy this week during a four-day workshop hosted by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).
- The policy aims "to eradicate gender inequality, empower women and benefit all people of Somalia", AMISOM announced
- Somali politicians, representatives from the Somali Directorate of Women and Social Affairs, women's rights activists and non-governmental organisations will participate, as well as women AMISOM peacekeepers and police, and representatives from the African Union Gender Directorate.

AMISOM concludes Gender Workshop on drafting Somalia National Gender Policy

Shabelle (Independent Media), June 16, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/amisom-concludes-gender-workshop-on-drafting-somalia-national-gender-policy/>

- The workshop mapped out and formulated Somalia's first National Gender Policy to be approved by the Federal Government of Somalia through its parliament. Participants were engaged in role-playing and group work to put in effect the identified economic empowerment, health, education, political participation and decision making as four priority areas.
- The participants adopted strategies to harmonize the Gender policy plans and mitigate challenges in the development of these policies aiming to eradicate gender inequality, empower women and benefit all people of Somalia.