

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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Headlines

- Responding to Threat Posed by al-Shabaab
- Addressing the Issue of Gender in Puntland
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[Responding to Threats Posed by al-Shabaab](#)

Deadly battles in central Somalia between Al Shabaab and nomads

Garowe Online, Pro-Puntland Media, dated May 24, 2013

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

- Heavy fighting erupted on Thursday in central Somalia after Al Shabaab militants attacked nomadic communities
- Al Shabaab militants "killed a number of nomads" in a village approximately 50km west of Beledweyne, capital of Hiran region, after a dispute as Al Shabaab wanted to collect some of the nomad's livestock as "payment"

- Nomadic communities organized themselves and launched a counter-attack, killing 12 and seizing weapons

Several people arrested after a security operation in Mogadishu

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 20, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/several-people-arrested-after-a-security-operation-in-mogadishu/>

- Several people who were suspected to have connections with Alshabab were arrested during the security operation in Wardigle district in Banadir region
- This security operation follows similar operations conducted by government officials in the past few days in the capital. This is part of the government plans to ensure security in the capital is upheld.

PM Shirdon: We will conduct house to house security search in Mogadishu

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 24, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/pm-shirdon-we-will-conduct-house-to-house-security-search-in-mogadishu/>

- Mr. Shirdon said that the troops will conduct a house to house security search in the capital to ensure security in the city is assured
- Mr. Shirdon finally said that he hoped for an improved security in the city and members of the public will live in a peaceful and conducive environment.

Addressing the Issue of Gender in Puntland

Meeting held over women's participation in Puntland elections

Garowe Online, Pro-Puntland Media, dated May 22, 2013

[http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia Meeting held to encourage women s participation in Puntland elections.shtml](http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Meeting_held_to_encourage_women_s_participation_in_Puntland_elections.shtml)

- A meeting was held Tuesday in Puntland state, northern Somalia, over the women's participation in the upcoming Local Council elections
- The aim is to strategize the role and participation of women in the upcoming Local Elections, slated for July 2013.
- The meeting's participants "agreed to set a quota for women" and recognize a special role for women in the Puntland elections.
- Mr. Koen Toonen, head of UNDP office in Garowe, said the U.N. agencies are ready to support women's participation in the upcoming elections, while noting that U.N. agencies will continue to support ongoing projects in security, justice, social development sectors
- According to the published statement, the three levels of Puntland district councils will each have women's quota ranging 26% to 29%
- It is the first meeting on women's participation in elections to be held in Puntland since the elections process began in 2012.

Puntland police receive training on gender-based violence

Sabahi Online, Foreign-Based Media, dated May 20, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/05/20/newsbrief-07

- The Puntland Ministry of Women and Family Affairs began an eight-day training Sunday (May 19th) on gender-based violence for 30 officers from the Puntland Police Force and the Criminal Investigation Department (CID)
- "Somali women have been victims of gender-based violence and so it is a must that we cooperate to prevent such crimes," said head of Muslim Aid in Puntland Abdirahman Hassan Mohamed.
- The training comes after a Human Rights Watch report alleged that members of the Somali security forces have been raping and committing other abuses against women and girls at camps for internally displaced persons in Mogadishu.

Lawmakers' Position On PM Shirdon Oscillates After Thousands Protest in Support

Thousands protest in support of PM

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 21, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/thousands-protest-in-support-of-pm/>

- Thousands of demonstrators in support of PM Shirdon gathered today outside the parliament buildings.
- They carried posters with writing "Mooshin keene iyo Miino Aase waa isku mid" meaning "Motion proposers and land mine creators are the same"

Galmudug state criticizes the motion against the prime minister

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 20, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/galmudug-state-criticizes-the-motion-against-the-prime-minister/>

- The administration of Galmudug state has criticized the move by some parliamentarians to pass a vote of no confidence against the cabinet of the federal republic of Somalia.
- Galmudug state has cautioned the parliamentarians of the move as this may derail the work done by various ministries during their six month in office.
- They urged the MPs to be patient and give time to the members of the cabinet who held office for only six months.

Somali lawmakers abandon motion against Shirdon, cabinet

Sabahi Online, Foreign-Based Media, dated May 21, 2013

http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2013/05/21/newsbrief-01

- "Parliament has the right to file a motion against the government, but that does not mean to dismantle the recovery process of the nation," said former Prime Minister Mohamed Abdi Yusuf, one of more than 90 lawmakers who initially supported the motion. "We want to rebuild our country and that is why we backed down."
- "If you have problems against some ministries the parliament can summon them one by one and sort out the problems but destroying what we have been working for the past six months is a big mistake," Lawmaker Keynaan said

MPs say the recently proposed motion against Cabinet was a political plot

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 23, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/mps-say-the-recently-proposed-motion-against-cabinet-was-a-political-plot/>

- Mohamed Omar Talha who is a member of parliament said that political bindings were attached to the motion.
- Mr. Talha said that small arguments should not result to motions against the cabinet. He added that politicians should work on their responsibilities positively and aim for national development.
- Another MP, Mr. Soyan warned parliamentarians to refrain from politicized motions because they were suicidal against development.

Myriad Security Issues in Kismayu

Military commander: there are no government troops based in Kismayu

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 21, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/military-commander-there-are-no-government-troops-based-in-kismayu/>

- Colonel Farah Makombo who is the newly appointed military commander in charge of federal governments troops in the Juba regions said that there were no government troops in the city of Kismayu.
- The commander pleaded with the federal government to deploy troops to the region and informed the government that the troops based in Kismayu were clan militia.
- The commander's call comes days after four politicians residing from the region declared themselves as the presidents of the region.

Jubaland president accuses Federal Gov of 'organizing clan violence'

Garowe Online, Pro-Puntland Media, dated May 25, 2013

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

- The president of Somalia's Jubaland state Sheikh Ahmed Mohamed Islam (Madobe) has accused the Somali Federal Government of "organizing clan violence" in Kismayo and the Jubba regions

- “We invited the Federal Government to the Jubaland conference. However, the Federal Government is interfering directly by organizing meetings with local clans and even military officials,” said President Ahmed Madobe.
- He blamed the Somali Federal Government in Mogadishu for “funding persons to declare themselves ‘president’” including former Kismayo warlord Barre Hirale, who declared himself ‘Jubaland president’ on the same day as Ahmed Madobe’s election on May 15, 2013.

Top Military Official in Kismayu Warns the Kenyan Troops to Stop Their Blind Political Aggression in the Region

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 26, 2013

Accessed from: <http://allafrica.com/stories/201305270232.html>

- Abdi Bule who is a top military commander in Kismayu has warned the Kenya troops to stop the political interference and stick to peacekeeping mission in the region
- He accused the Kenya troops for unlawfully detaining top government officials in the region and warned of a possible aggression against them if they continue that way.
- The commander also called for the AMISOM top officials to stop the Kenyan interference and order them to stick to the mandate under which AMISOM forces operate.

[The Kismayu Conference: What is Next?](#)

PM welcomes progress in parliament and outlines road ahead on Jubaland

Shabelle, Independent Media, dated May 23, 2013

<http://shabelle.net/pm-welcomes-progress-in-parliament-and-outlines-road-ahead-on-jubaland-and-somaliland/>

- The Prime Minister said he completely shared the region’s desires to build a federal state and reiterated the government position that this process needs to evolve within the constitutional framework.
- “Let me be quite clear about this. As a government we want a united, federal, stable Somalia. We support reconciliation, we support the fight against Al Shabaab, we want Jubaland to become a federal state but this must happen in a legal way according to the constitution”

IGAD proposes a deal between the Somali Government and Kismayo administration

Raxanreeb, Independent Media, dated May 25, 2013

<http://www.raxanreeb.com/2013/05/somalia-igad-proposes-a-deal-between-the-somali-government-and-kismayo-administra%E2%80%8Btion/>

- IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) tasked Somali Federal Government to “timely convene and lead reconciliation conference with the support of IGAD while consulting key stakeholders in the Juba Regions with a view to chart out a roadmap on the establishment of interim administration and formation of a permanent regional

administration in accordance with the Provisional Constitution with IGAD playing a supporting role.”

- IGAD urged Somali Federal Government to integrate various militias. In essence, what is known as Somali National Army
- IGAD. Some analysts view this move as a realisation that Somalis are unable to solve the Jubaland crisis, and that prolonged political stand-off may rejuvenate weakened Al Shabab. The onus seems to be more on Somalia’s external stakeholders.