

Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

Brett Collins, Country Desk Officer for Somalia



November 28th – December 3rd, 2013

Headlines:

- Government Judge Shot Dead in Mogadishu
- Harassment of Radio Shabelle Journalist Continues
- Somali PM Loses Parliamentary Vote
- Government holds Abdimalik and Mohamed Bashir in a solitary and inhumane condition
- Mogadishu Residents Complain of Raw Sewage Waste Transported from AMISOM Bases and Dumped in Their Neighbourhoods

Government Judge Shot Dead in Mogadishu

December 1, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- Unknown gunmen have shot dead a government judge in Yaqshid district in Mogadishu.
- Witnesses say that masked gunmen shot the judge dead while he made his way home.
- Somali security forces immediately arrived on the scene and began a large manhunt for the perpetrators but no arrests have been made at this point.

Harassment of Radio Shabelle Journalist Continues

December 2, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- Reporters Without Borders condemns leading journalist Abdiimalik Yusuf's arbitrary detention since 24 November, when security forces arrested him in the capital, Mogadishu.
- The head of Shabelle Media Network and owner of Radio Shabelle, Yusuf is being held in the same Mogadishu prison where Radio Shabelle reporter Mohamed Bashir has been held since 20 November.
- "The prolonged detention of these two journalists and the broadcasting ban imposed on Radio Shabelle testify to a government determination to gag independent journalists," Reporters Without Borders said. "It is unacceptable that Yusuf and Bashir have not yet been brought before a judge."
- Both prisoners have started a hunger strike on the 27th of November.
- The two journalists with state-owned Radio Mogadishu who had been accused of rape in an interview conducted by Bashir were arrested by the Criminal Investigation Department on 24 November but were released within hours.
- Yusuf had been released and later arrested the same day, as he spoke to BBC Somali Service correspondent, which was considered a breach of his release on bail on November 20th.

Somali PM Loses Parliamentary Confidence Vote

December 2, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- Somali lawmakers voted to oust the prime minister Monday amid furious power struggles among top leaders that could undermine efforts to rebuild the war-torn nation and tackle Islamist insurgents.
- Abdi Farah Shirdon, Prime Minister of the Horn of Africa nation for just over a year, lost the confidence vote in parliament after he resisted President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud's demand that he resign.
- "The motion has passed," said speaker Mohamed Osman Jawari, noting that 184 out of 249 lawmakers in parliament voted to sack Shirdon.
- Shirdon, who left the parliament building before the vote, spoke out angrily saying he had been barred from making a speech in his defence.
- "They refused to let me talk... and that is unacceptable, even the accused has the right to defend himself," Shirdon told reporters minutes before the vote took place.

Government and AMISOM Troops Clash with Al-Shabaab in Baidoa

December 2, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- News reports from Bay region suggest that heavy clash broke out between Gov't troops backed by AMISOM forces and Al Shabaab in Baidoa, the capital of Bay region
- The witnesses told Shabelle Media that the battle flared up after Al Qaeda associated Al Shabaab militants launched an ambush attack on an armored personnel carrier with Dozen Somali and AMISOM forces, moving between Baidoa and Awdiinle towns, causing unconfirmed casualties.
- Al-Shabaab has been continuously carrying out hit and run attacks on AMISOM troops in the Bay Region.

Mogadishu Residents Complain of Raw Sewage Waste Transported from AMISOM Bases and Dumped in Their Neighbourhoods

December 1, 2013 Shabelle Media Network (Domestic Independent Media)

- Communities from different parts of Banaadir region worry of an environmental disaster caused from the untreated liquid waste transported from AMISOM Halane base and illegally dumped in the residential areas mainly populated by an impoverished people most of whom are IDP's, its feared that an epidemic of diseases may break out in the affected communities.
- Huge liquid waste tankers transport the untreated raw sewage waste from the Halane academic training base in Mogadishu currently housed by Amisom forces; the tankers dump their sewage waste illegally at residential areas in Mogadishu.
- The areas where the liquid sewage waste is illegally dumped include the beach along the Jasira road near the huge Jasira Idp camp in Wadajir distric of Mogadishu, Gubadley neighborhood in Huriwa district and other parts of the city.
- It's not known yet the reasons behind the illegal dumping of the raw sewage from Amisom bases in the populated areas of the city but it's known that a Somali companies contracted by Amisom to safely dispose the raw sewage away from the populated areas of the city are behind the illegal dumping of the raw sewage waste in the residential areas of the city.