

## Devin Morrow, MIGS Desk Officer for Somalia 10-16 October 2012



- 1. Internal conflict
- 2. Humanitarian concerns
- 3. Kismaayo aftermath
- 4. International relations

### 1. Internal conflict

### Foreign media

UN-backed, Kenya-based Radio Bar-Kulan, in Somali, 10 October 2012 "Somali government forces capture new locality in southwestern region"

- -Following the Amisom and government capture of Kismaayo, allied forces continue to push against Al-Shabab strongholds across the country
- -They took the Jameeca locality in southwestern Somalia after Al-Shabab retreated yesterday

### **Privately-owned media**

Midnimo.com, in Somali, dated 11 October 2012

- "Al-Shabab appoints new governor for central Somali region"
- -Al-Shabab appointed a new governor for the Galguduud region of central Somalia after the previous one was removed

\*\*This article does not note that this is the same region where three journalists were reported tortured: beaten and robbed after attempting to report on the new administrative 'president' [see section 2. Humanitarian concerns below]



### Mareeg website, in English, dated 11 October 2012

## "Somali clan accuse regional body bias over control of captured regions"

Article written as op-ed by Wagosha clan in Jubbaland regions

- -Accuses various administrative factions in the region as failing to take into consideration the needs of the clans residing there
- -States that unless this information is widely shared, Wagosha people will continue to face discrimination
- -Ends with an implicit suggestion that unless proper consideration is given to the Wagosha people in the management of their region, they will have to act to ensure there is change

## Radio Galkaacyo, in Somali, dated 11 October 2012

- "Drone attack reportedly kills six Islamists official in southern Somalia"
- -A drone attack on a house conducted by the United States reportedly killed six Al-Shabab officials southern Somalia, where they were having a meeting
- \*\*This is the first report of American interference in domestic media observed so far

## 2. Humanitarian/Human rights concerns

#### **Privately-owned media**

# Radio Gaalkacyo, in Somali, dated 10 October 2012, 1015gmt "Somali regional administration forces 'torture' journalists"

- -Three journalists were beaten and had their equipment stolen by Galmudug regional administration while covering a story there, apparently on the previous president of administration
- -One of the journalists works for UN-backed Kenya-based station Radio Bar-Kulan

# Jowhar news portal, in Somali, dated 11 October 2012 "Residents of central Somalia town hit by floods receive aid"

- -The International Committee of the Red Cross is providing aid to approximately 60,000 people affected by floods in central Somalia, including almost 40,000 internally displaced residents
- -The flooding follows a period of conflict that has already decimated the region

#### 3. Kismaayo aftermath

### Foreign media

Kenyan newspaper The Standard, published online, in English, dated 11 October 2012

"Two-tier administration for Kismaayo" by Cyrus Ombati



- -With the stabilization of Kismaayo following its capture by government and Amisom forces comes the first steps in the process to introduce a stable administration
- -The proposed two-tier administration will have a rotational leadership
- -If the Amisom mission is not renewed when it expires it will transition into a peace mission in Kismaayo

## **Privately-owned media**

# Radio Gaalkacyo, in Somali, dated 13 October 2012, 1015 gmt "Al-Shabab claims killing 500 Kenyan soldiers in fighting in southern Somalia"

- -After the Kenyan defence minister reported that Kenyan and Amisom troops had killed up to 3,000 Al-Shabab fighters in southern Somalia, Al-Shabab immediately struck back, reporting the movement had killed 500 Kenyan soldiers
- -Despite the fall of Kismaayo, it is clear Al-Shabab is still fighting in southern Somalia

#### 4. International relations

### Radio Dalsan news, in Somali, dated 11 October 2012, 1300 gmt

- -The end of the broadcast notes that Iran has pledged assistance to Somalia, but does not specify in what capacity this is happening
- \*\*Monitor observation: this follows closely after a report of American drone attacks on Al-Shabab in southern Somalia. They do not yet appear to be related, but monitor would like to note the incident