

## Somalia Domestic Media Monitoring

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## Headlines:

- Journalists Survive Bomb Attack on Puntland Radio Station
- Draft Media Law is Still Too Oppressive, Says National Union of Somali Journalists
- UN Security Council Condemns Attack on UNAMID Peacekeepers
- Government Soldiers Spray Indiscriminately at Aid Distribution Camp

**Journalists Survive Bomb Attack on Puntland Radio Station**

October 16, 2013 IFEX Toronto (Foreign Media)

- The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) is shocked by the latest violent attack on the media in Puntland [an autonomous region of Somalia] which involved a double bomb strike on a private radio station in Galkayo.
- According to the information received from Galkayo, gunmen hurled two hand bombs at Radio Daljir at around 20:00 on 15 October 2013, before speeding off.
- "[The] daily life [of] a journalist in Somalia, especially in Galkayo, [the] second deadliest city for journalists in the country, continues to be a hazardous business,

and the Puntland authorities, including the Mudug administration, must do more to develop a safe environment for media practitioners," Omar Faruk Osman, NUSOJ Secretary General has said.

## **Draft Media Law is Still Too Oppressive, Says National Union of Somali Journalists**

October 15, 2013 IFEX Toronto (Foreign Media)

- Minister Abdullahi Ilmooge Hersi declared through the media on Sunday, 13 October, his intention to submit draft laws on media and telecommunications to the federal government.
- NUSOJ criticizes the draft media law as it lacks adequate safeguards to ensure respect of a number of media rights, including freedom of expression. The latest draft consists of superficial improvements to a 11 July draft, but still envisages repressive provisions. A number of provisions are insufficiently clear and leave room for broad interpretation that can be used against journalists.
- "The drafting process has not been transparent, and the possibility of independent media stakeholders' input and views has been extremely restricted due to a hostile attitude by the officials at the Ministry to injudiciously want to pass this law ... [They have] excluded the independent media community; encouraged by foreigners who have vested interests in controlling the process of the drafting". Claims NUSOJ.
- The draft version of the law has not been publically available and the independent media community have not been able to contribute to the discussion of the draft text. NUSOJ perceives that the lack of such a process has led to widespread denunciation of the draft law, and to questions of its legitimacy.
- The union further calls on regional and international press freedom advocacy groups to extend their solidarity to Somalia's independent media, and to support resistance against media rights suppression in the draft media law.

## **UN Security Council Condemns Attack on UNAMID Peacekeepers**

October 16, 2013 Government of Ethiopia (Foreign Governmental Media)

- The UN Security Council issued a statement on Monday (October 14) condemning in the strongest terms attacks by unidentified armed assailants on a UNAMID convoy near El Geneina, in West Darfur, on Sunday, in which three Senegalese peacekeepers were killed and one was wounded, and the earlier killing of an UNAMID military observer from Zambia.
- They called on the Government of Sudan swiftly to investigate the incidents and bring the perpetrators to justice. The Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, also condemned "these cowardly and criminal acts

against UNAMID peacekeepers who are paying the ultimate price to bring peace to Darfur." The Chairperson stressed the urgent need to identify and bring the perpetrators of these criminal acts to justice.

## **Government Soldiers Spray Indiscriminately at Aid Distribution Camp**

Shabelle Media Network Mogadishu (Domestic Media)

- Government soldiers have opened fire indiscriminately into a group of civilians at an aid distribution point in Mogadishu.
- At least one is dead and two wounded.
- It has also been confirmed that the soldiers looted the aid meant for the civilians.
- Government officials have not responded to the incident, but it proves there is work to be done with the police force in Mogadishu.