

**SOMALI DOMESTIC BROADCASTING
MEDIA MONITORING PROJECT – MIGS**

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**HUMANITARIAN CRISIS
PRIVATE MEDIA REPORTS:**



Photo: Woman stands in Mogadishu camp with her children

(Source: The Guardian - guardian.co.uk)

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 30th Sept 2011)

- As the number of internally displaced people grows significantly in the capital of Somalia, the issue of security ranks high on the agenda of the Somali National Disaster Management team.
- There have been problems of looting for aid and food, harassment, and even rape in and outside of the camps.
- Due to the lack of security for these IDP's, many injuries and deaths have been reported.
- In a press conference held in Mogadishu, the deputy chairman of the National Disaster Management team, Abdihakim Yusuf Guled said that they will ensure that more efforts be made in

order to provide security and protection in the camps.

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 29th Sept 2011)

- As accusations of corruption within the management and distribution of humanitarian aid continue, the Somali National Disaster Management Agency for the TFG confronts the accusations in an interview with the Shabelle Media Network.
- The chairman for the agency, Abdullahi Muhammed Shirwa, challenges the accusations and said there has been no corruption, and all such claims are false. He states that, "the critics are needed to bring full evidence showing the corruption they are charging the agency."
- He also said that all the recent aid they have been given has been distributed in the southern regions of Somalia, for they are most affected by the drought, and the problem is not that of corruption, but rather that the needs of those suffering greatly surpasses the amount of aid that is being delivered into Somalia.

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 28th Sept 2011)

- As the drought continues to devastate Somalia, hundreds of internally displaced families continue to flock to the capital, Mogadishu, on a daily basis.
- Most of the families have young children, many of which have died, or are gravely ill, suffering

from things such as measles, cholera and diarrhoea.

- The critical conditions of these families were described by a woman who spoke to Shabelle media about her dire living situation. She told Shabelle that basic needs including water and food or shelter are not available for most if not all families.
- Civilians continue to appeal to TFG officials and international humanitarian aid agencies for additional help.

INTERNAL SECURITY

PRIVATE MEDIA REPORTS:

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia Oct 3rd 2011) IS

- In an interview with Shabelle Media, Professor Xersi Labo Garre, the Charman of the Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a Administration in Central Somalia, said that Al-Shabab forces have been, "weakened and their powers substantially reduced," by the TFG, and are unable to continue fighting.
- However, as a result, Al-Shabab forces have turned towards Somali clans in the region and began hostilities.

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 28th Sept 2011)

- Somalia continues to face constant clashes between government forces and anti-government islamist group Al-Shabab.
- Reports have been made from Garbahareey, Gedo Region, which is located in south western Somalia, indicating that the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) has been involved in armed conflict with Al-Shabab for several days.
- There have been contradicting accounts of the situation, some sources claiming that it was Somali government forces along with Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a forces that launched the attacks, while others claim that it was in actuality Al-Shabab fighters that were the aggressors, and commenced the conflict after attacking government vehicles.
- Although there is no official confirmation, sources on the ground reported that both sides sustained losses, but Al-Shabab official, Abdullahi Azhari said that Al-Shabab attained overall victory.

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 28th Sept 2011)

- After efforts to oust Al-Shabab groups from Mogadishu, the capital of Somalia have been successful thus far, leaders in other areas of Somalia that are still occupied by Al-Shabab forces are attempting to do the same thing.
- Members of the Federal Somali Parliament have held meetings in order to establish a plan that will extend operations to remove Al-Shabab forces from the entire Gedo Region, in south western Somalia.
- MP's also discussed plans of securitization in the region.
- MP, Abdirahman Yusuf Diriye, told Shabelle Media that, "a third group of Somali government

soldiers have now finished their training and were planning to start operations and also ensure security once these towns are captured from Al-Shabab."

GOVERNMENT MEDIA REPORTS:

(Source: Garoweonline.com, Puntland, Somalia, Oct 1st, 2011)

- As heavy fighting continues and intensifies in Somalia's southern regions between pro-government militias, led by Shaykh Ahmad Muhammad Islam, the Raas Kaambooni fighters, allies to the TFG, and Al-Shabab forces, the number of casualties continue to grow.
- It is reported that more than 43 people have been killed, and 77 have been wounded during the armed clashes, most of the casualties being civilians.

INTERNAL GOVERNANCE MATTERS

PRIVATE MEDIA REPORTS:



Photo: President of TFG urges Somaliland Administration to re-join Somalia during a conference in Mogadishu

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website)

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 29th Sept 2011)

- On the 28th of Sept, 2011, President of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG), Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad pleaded with the Somaliland Administration to re-join the rest of Somalia and unite the country as a whole once again; arguing that it is an important step needed for Somalia's progression. He also made it clear of their willingness to address and resolve the grievances between the two.

- As a response, the president of the Somaliland Administration, Amhad Muhammad Silanyo, held a news conference in Hargeysa and declared that Somalia land, "would not reconsider its decision to succeed from the rest of Somalia."
- He added that the humanitarian efforts made by the Somaliland Administration, and their operations in delivering humanitarian aid to the people of Somalia, should not be misconstrued as an attempt to re-join and unite with the country, and that they maintain their political position and their decision to be a sovereign state.

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 29th Sept 2011)

- After the recent conflicts that occurred between Puntland forces and militias in Gaalkayo, Mudug Region in central Somalia, reports have surfaced that an agreement has finally been reached between the rival groups.
- A ceasefire was finally declared after a meeting occurred between the Puntland Administration and militias affiliated with opposing clans in the region.
- MP Ali Ismail Abdil Giir mediated the negotiations, and followed them up with separate meetings with both traditional elders and religious scholars, encouraging them in to maintain a peaceful atmosphere.
- A resolution was also passed that ensured that the clan be appointed to be a part of the Puntland Administration

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somalia 28th Sept 2011)

- Although there has been bitter conflict and high tension between the TFG and Al-Shabab for many years in Somalia, the Organization for Somali Religious Scholars still dedicates efforts to resolving the 20 years of conflict; not for political benefit, but rather for the sake of Somali civilians and their safety.
- The Chairman of the organization, Shaykh Bashir, told Shabelle Media that they are working on reconciling the two groups, and plan to mediate negotiations.
- This may prove to be a difficult task at the present time because the possibility for negotiations and a future reconciliation remains very unclear due to the bitter fighting that has been occurring around the country recently. Furthermore, Al-Shabab has rejected negotiations with the government in the past, and have not agreed to any in the future as of yet.

GOVERNMENT MEDIA REPORTS:

(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website, Puntland, in Somalia 30th Sept 2011)

- The second phase of the Somali Consultation Meetings is still scheduled to take place as previously planned.
- The meetings are to be held in October in Garowe, Nugaal Region, in north eastern Somalia in order to further discuss the end of the conflict and the transitional period in Somalia, and to build upon and solidify the 'road-map' to Somalia's future development.
- Representatives from various regions of Somalia are all expected to attend the upcoming meeting.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS PRIVATE MEDIA REPORTS:



Photo: Members of ICG for Somalia during conference in Copenhagen
(Source: puntlandi.com)

(Source: Shabelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, In Somalia 30th Sept- 1st Oct 2011)

- A two day meeting was recently held in Copenhagen, from the 29th to the 30th of September, in which the International Contact Group for Somalia (ICG) met, in order to discuss the current situation in Somalia and plans for the future of the country.

- National, regional and international stakeholders from Africa, Europe, and the United States were all in attendance, along with Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General, Dr. Augustine Mahiga, who chaired the meeting.

- The goal of the meeting was to discuss the following issues: "The Road Map outlining

the priority tasks, which include security, the constitution, reconciliation and good governance, to be accomplished over the coming 11 months."

- In order to achieve these goals, participants stated the importance of establishing development programmes, continuing the humanitarian assistance, and supporting the African Union Mission in Somalia.

- The humanitarian crisis, the ousting of Al-Shabab from Somalia, and the ongoing problem of piracy, were also topics discussed in the meeting.

- Grave concern was expressed regarding the wide-spread famine, for it has now affected approximately four million Somalis, and could leave up to 750, 000 dead. They urged the international community to continue with all their, "lifesaving activities."

- As for the Al-Shabab Islamist group, it was made clear that all their actions are strongly condemned by all participants of the meeting. They also urged Al-Shabab to, 'renounce violence and join the peace process.'

- With the closing of this meeting, another step towards progress was made, one that will hopefully result in the long-awaited reconstruction and stabilization of Somalia.

(Source: BBC World Service, London, in Somali 1100 GMT 27th Sept 2011)

- During the 66th session of the United Nations Security Council General Assembly, that took place between the 13th and the 26th of September this year, Prime Minister of the Transition Federal Government of Somali (TFG) was interviewed by the BBC.

- During the interview, he spoke of Somalia's progression and the humanitarian crisis brought on by the drought.

- Mr. Ali Gas stated that at the national level, the reconciliation process was progressing smoothly as that TFG continues to engage in dialogue with several different 'Somali stakeholders' such as the leaders of the Puntland and Gal-Mudug regional governments, and Somali paramilitary group, Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a.
- He went on to emphasize that Somaliland is indeed part of Somalia, and the TFG plans to begin dialogue with Somaliland leaders in the near future.
- The Prime Minister concluded the interview by recognizing and thanking the international community for their efforts and support with their continuous aid, both politically and in the field of humanitarian relief.