## SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT 31 JANUARY – 6 FEBRUARY 2011 STACY TOPOUZOVA

#### 5 FEBRUARY 2011

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 5 February 2011)

- Shaykh Fuad Shongole, an Al-Shabab official, gave a sermon at Nasrudin Mosque in Mogadishu, during which he spoke about the killing of those working for AMISOM and the TFG.
- He said that it was acceptable to kill and confiscate the property of those working for both AMISOM and the TFG, adding even their wives are no longer spouses. Shongole said such people should be killed on sight.

#### (Source: Radio Simba website, Mogadishu, in Somali 5 February 2011)

- An official of Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a group opposed the extension of the tenure of parliament for another three years.
- The chairman of the executive council of Ahlu Sunnah, Shaykh Mahmud Hefow, said the extension will not bring any new development.
- "Forget about extension. You need to initiate developments and ensure free, and fair elections," said Shaykh Hefow.

#### 4 FEBRUARY 2011

(Source: AFP news agency, Paris, in English 1716 GMT, 4 February 2011)

- "Somalia's Al-Qa'idah-inspired Shebab group has launched a terrestrial news channel in its latest effort to expand its propaganda activities", the SITE monitoring group said on Friday.
- "Al-Kataib News Channel's pilot showed the confessions of an alleged CIA spy who was executed on Sunday", said SITE Intelligence Group, which carried a translation of a Shebab statement circulated on jihadi Internet forums.
- "This broadcast success represents an advanced media leap in the mujahedeen's (holy warriors) media in general and in Somalia in particular," the statement said.
- The Shebab, who have pledged allegiance to Osama bin Laden and control most of southern and central Somalia, also boasted acquiring a terrestrial TV channel before Somalia's Western-backed transitional federal government.
- "The first film shown on this channel is a new release of Al-Kataib Foundation, and it is a recording of confessions of one of the most dangerous spies in Somalia, who is named Ahmad Kisi," the statement said.
- "The Shebab's news channel was launched online last year and the group has released several long and well-produced propaganda features reminiscent of the material aired by Al-Qa'idah in recent years."

## 3 FEBRUARY 2011

(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 3 February 2011) Direct Excerpts:

- "It really is laughable the way the international community is messing around with Somali politicians and the public's perception of things. It was less than two weeks ago when the United Nations special envoy to Somalia said the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] term will not be extended once it is over in August of 2011. The envoy had said the international community was going to consult the Somali public and its politicians about what to do once the second term for the TFG lapses."
- "The question is, just who does this country belong to and who is that has the right to debate and decide on its fate? Who elected this so called parliamentarians and why has Dr. Mahiga reneged on earlier decision to consult the Somali public both in the country and abroad, Regional Administrations and intellectuals? A Decision that was very wise. Who is responsible for Dr. Mahiga's change of tact which seemingly dashes any hopes of solution to the anarchy in Somalia."
- "We are in era where there is civilian uprising against dictators in Africa as can be seen in Tunisia, Yemen, Egypt and Sudan. Why are the Somali people too timid and unpatriotic to stand up to these forces making decisions on their behalf without consulting them? Where are the reformists and activists known for the sharpness of their knives and their pens. Where did they go?"

# (Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 3 February 2011)

- The Federal Somali Parliament Committee on Humanitarian Aid alleges that "food aid brought into the country by the World Food Programme is sold by their contractors."
- The Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee on Humanitarian Aid, Mahmud Abdi Aliyow, told Shabelle that "there is widespread corruption in the handling of food aid brought into the country".
- Mahmud Abdi Aliyow also asked the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin to allow the delivery of aid to civilians in areas under their control in south and central Somalia Regions.

## (Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 3 February 2011)

- The leader of Hisb al-Islam alleged that the minister of defense "should be held responsible for the recent incident in Banaadir junction". He called for his dismissal and subsequent prosecution.
- The leader of Hisb al-Islam, Shaykh Yusuf Muhammad Siyad Indha Ade spoke to Shabeelle and accused the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] minister of defense of "being responsible for the incident in Banaadir Region in which government forces killed many civilians...government forces that were responsible for the civilian deaths are part of the armed forces who are based at Villa Baydhabo and under the ministry of defense".
- "...government forces deliberately massacred civilians at the Banaadir Junction and that the TFG itself has done little to assist civilians wounded in the incident who are now admitted at Mogadishu hospitals."

## (Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 3 February 2011)

• Militants of Al-Shabab Islamic Movement killed two officials from Somali Transitional government at border with Kenya, Shabeelle Media Network reports.

 "Al-Shabab militants armed with pistols have ambushed a home located at the border between Kenyan Mandera town and Buulo Xaawo of Somalia, where they killed the district commissioner of Waajid Malim Jis and another official called Dhagey" Muhammad Abdi Kalil, Regional Commissioner of Gedo in south-western Somalia told Shabeelle.

#### 2 FEBRUARY 2011

(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 2 February 2011)

- The Al-Shabab administration in Beled Weyne city, Hiiraan Region, yesterday afternoon publicly flogged 50 people accused of breaking Al-Shabab rules.
- Twenty-five of them were women, who were accused of ignoring the administration's order to wear veils. They were given 30 lashes each. The men were given 30 lashes each as well. They were accused of not following the sunnah [practices of Prophet Muhammad P.B.U.H], after they shaved their beards, grew their moustaches, and wore trousers bellow their ankles.

## 31 JANUARY 2011

(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 31 January 2011)

- Al-Shabab Islamic Movement fighters executed a man accused of spying for the USA. The man identified as Ahmad Musa was accused of working for the USA and collecting anti-Al-Shabab information in Mogadishu and elsewhere in the country.
- It is not the first time that Al Shabab has executed people it accused of spying.

#### (Source: Garoweonline.com in English 31 January 2011)

- At least one person was killed and a half a dozen wounded in a northern Somali city of Laas Caanood as anti-Somaliland protests turned violent, Radio Garowe reports.
- The protests started around 11a.m. [local time] Monday [31 January] after local demonstrators began burning tires and closing off roads.
- Security forces loyal to Somaliland, a separatist region in northwest Somalia, began fighting back the rioters and the situation soon turned violent. Local sources reported that at least two police vehicles were burned, with medical workers reportedly treating six wounded civilians.
- Protesters chanted anti-Somaliland slogans and demanded the withdrawal of Somaliland troops, who militarily seized control of Laas Caanood in October 2007 as Puntland troops withdrew.