

## **SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT**

**7 – 14 MARCH 2011**

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### **14 MARCH 2011**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 14 March 2011)*

- There has been increased military activity in Beled Weyne by forces loyal to Shabelle Valley and the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin in the town.
- Reports from Beled Weyne indicate that there is heightened military activity between Al-Shabab Mujahidin Movement forces and those loyal to the Shabelle Valley Administration who are based at the Kalabeyrka Junction on the outskirts of Beled Weyne. Al-Shabab forces are said to be conducting operations in areas surrounding Beled Weyne and setting up a number of checkpoints towards Kalabeyrka junction.
- There are increasing concerns over possible confrontation between the two forces in the town.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 14 March 2011)*

- Kenya has deployed forces at the border with Somalia because of fears over possible attacks from Somalia's Al-Shabab militants.
- Army spokesman Bogita Ongeru has said a big number of Kenyan forces have been deployed at the border in order to prevent any attacks from Al-Shabab militants, who threatened to attack Kenya.
- He said tight security measures have been put in place in several Kenyan towns including the capital, Nairobi.
- Kenya fears that Al-Shabab militants might cross the border and cause insecurity in its territory.

### **12 MARCH 2011**

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 12 March 2011)*

- [Presenter] The Islamic administration of Al-Shabab in Gedo region, southwestern Somalia, has imposed night time curfew on Baardheere district. The reason behind this urgent night curfew remains unclear but sources say that the curfew was meant to improve security of the town and to be vigilant of any ambush attack from pro-government troops who had captured several Al-Shabab controlled areas in southwestern Somalia. Commercial and public movements have been restricted during night.

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 12 March 2011)*

- Somali Islamist group Al-Shabab confirmed that it has "killed 20 fighters loyal to Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a in the recent fighting in Galguduud Region".
- Addressing a media briefing in Mogadishu, the spokesman of Al-Shabab, Shaykh Abdiasis Abu Mus'ab, said that the "Ethiopian troops were defeated" in the recent fighting in Dhuusa Mareeb District and that this "led to their pullout from Somalia".

### **11 MARCH 2011**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 11 March 2011)*

- The movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin forces in Baydhabo, Bay Region [south western Somalia] began the registration of members of the public that are to take part in the ongoing fighting with the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] forces
- The Al-Shabab Movement has opened a recruitment centre in Baydhabo where individuals register.

- This registration exercise by the Al-Shabab Movement comes at a time when the group is under attack from TFG forces backed by those of AMISOM, Ethiopian troops and Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jama'a forces in various parts of the country.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 11 March 2011)*

- Tensions continue to rise in the town of Doblai located along Lower Jubba [southern Somalia] border with Kenya as Al-Shabab forces who are currently in control of the town and those of Raas Kaambooni [former Hisb al-Islam splinter group] led by Shaykh Ahmad Madobe prepare for confrontations in the next few hours.
- Civilians have been fleeing from their homes as early as yesterday afternoon and through to this morning many of them seeking refuges in parts of Lower Jubba earlier hit by the severe drought. Those fleeing from the renewed hostilities in the town are mostly women, children and elderly.

### **8 MARCH 2011**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 8 March 2011)*

- The president of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad called on members of public to join the war against Al-Shabab.
- President Sharif said the country has entered a new phase in the war against Al-Shabab. He called on Somali civilians to support the government forces wherever they are.
- The government announced major offensives against Al-Shabab which controls the larger part of southern and central Somalia. There are ongoing clashes between government forces and Al-Shabab militants in the some parts of the country.