

**Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report**  
**August 23 – 30, 2010**  
**Stacy Topouzova**

**August 29, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Radio Shabeelle, Mogadishu in Somali 0500 GMT, 29 August 2010)*

- Reports from parts of Gedo Region [southwestern Somalia] confirm that the Al-Shabab Islamic administration for the region has ordered aid organizations to register as soon as possible.
- Al-Shabab Islamist administration in Baardheere District in Gedo Region called aid organizations, civil society groups and both international and local NGOs to register in Al-Shabab's regional administration office in Baardheere District, southwestern Somalia.
- This is the first time that Al-Shabab Islamists have imposed such restrictions on local and international NGOs in Gedo Region.

**August 26, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 26 August 2010)*

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] issued a statement to confirm that it is “now ready for the attacks on their bases and those of Amisom [African Union Mission in Somalia] troops which are being planned by the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin.”
- “Increased confrontation is expected in the next 24 hours as the launching of the much awaited operations in the month of Ramadan commence. Terrorist groups are expected to target heavily populated areas as well as places where government and Amisom troops are based in as part of their attempts to overthrow the government.”
- “The biggest weapon that the civilian population has is to remain vigilant and stay in their homes to look after their children. We realize the importance of this holy month of Ramadan and we should not let Al-Shabab undermine it. Our forces are well prepared and Al-Shabab is expected to resort to hopeless tactics of wearing clothes resembling those of government forces and women and to also load explosives on donkey carts or lorries.”
- “We are also aware that Al-Shabab has forcefully enlisted children and young people with no training to fight alongside their skilled operatives in an attempt to make it seem as though they have large force. We are hopeful that their attacks will not last that long”

**August 25, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Radio Shabeelle, Mogadishu in Somali 0500 GMT, 25 Aug 2010)*

- “Somali moderate Islamist group [Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a] has allegedly tortured Radio Shabeelle reporter in Cabuud Waaq District in central Somalia.”

- “The leadership of Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a also ordered the reporter, Abdihakim Ahmad Bulhan, to [cease] his activities of reporting. Yesterday the reporter claimed that he was tortured by Ahlu Sunna militants.”
- “Reports say the Shabeelle Radio reporter was tortured after he covered demonstrations organized by displaced people, who were complaining about tough living conditions.”

### **August 24, 2010**

#### **State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Radio Shabeelle, Mogadishu in Somali 0500 GMT, 24 August 2010)*

- The casualties in the latest fighting between insurgent groups, AU backed government forces in Mogadishu have reportedly increased.
- [Abdiqadir] Reports confirm that about twenty people were killed, thirty-five others wounded in fighting between insurgent groups, AU backed government forces which started yesterday and continues in Mogadishu.
- In an interview, the head of Mogadishu's ambulance drivers, Ali Muse Shaykh said that they took more than seventy-five people who wounded in yesterday's fighting in Mogadishu [to hospitals] while the death toll reached twenty.
- "Thank you very much, it is really shocking day, the wounded people are about seventy five people whom we admitted to Mogadishu's hospitals, we took most of the wounded people from Mogadishu's Bakaaraha Market, most of the people wounded in the jewellery department were many women were wounded by the artilleries," said Ali Muse Shaykh.

### **August 23, 2010**

#### **State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 23 August, 2010)*

- The Al-Shabab Movement called for “renewed fighting against the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] which has since asked the opposition group to ease the hostilities. Meanwhile, Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a has claimed victory in today's fighting in Mogadishu.”
- The spokesman for the Al-Shabab Movement, while talking to Mogadishu-based media on telephone, said they were calling for fresh fighting against the TFG and Amisom [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops in the capital. The Al-Shabab spokesman said they have named their renewed campaign against the government and Amisom as "eradication of the mercenary force attacking Somalia" and called upon other Al-Shabab administrations in southern Somalia regions to also take part in the fighting.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 24 August 2010)*

- Armed men dressed in government army uniform stormed a hotel in Mogadishu's Hamar Weyne neighbourhood and killed "several members of parliament", reports independent Shabeelle website.
- The gunmen "stormed Muna Hotel in Hamar Weyne and opened fire indiscriminately". Heavy explosion followed which some MPs said "was that of a suicide bomber".

- The number of MPs and other government officials killed in the hotel is not yet known. However, Members of Parliament who spoke to Shabeelle said "several MPs were living in the hotel when the attack occurred this morning".
- Al-Shabab controls most of Somali regions including the capital, Mogadishu, and has been engaging the transitional government forces backed by Ugandan and Burundian peacekeepers in fierce battles for complete control of Somalia.