

**Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report**  
**July 5 – 13, 2010**  
**Stacy Topouzova**

**July 13, 2010**

*(Source: Radio HornAfrik, Mogadishu, in Somali 0500 GMT, 13 July 2010)*

Islamists Al-Shabab threatened to carry out attacks in Burundi “if they do not withdraw their troops from Somalia”, reports Radio HornAfrik.

- Spokesman of Al-Shabab movement, Shaykh Ali Mahmud Rage Shaykh Ali Dheere, said "we are telling the people of Burundi that they are weaker and softer than those in Uganda, what has happened in Kampala is an example, if you do not reconsider, we will strike".
- He further said that "we are sending a message to every country that plans to send their troops to Somalia, that they will face what Uganda has experienced".

*(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 13 July 2010)*

- Tension is high between Al-Shabab and Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a group [moderate Islamists] in Mahas and Goobo locality in Hiiraan Region, central Somalia. The tension between the two sides follows yesterday's fighting in Goobo, which was taken over by Al-Shabab. The village was formerly controlled by Ahlu Sunnah.
- Residents in these villages have started fleeing their homes fearing that the two sides might clash. Casualties resulting from yesterday's fighting in Goobo village remain unclear.

**July 12, 2010**

*(Source: Radio Banaadir, Mogadishu, in Somali 1700 GMT, 12 July 2010)*

- The Hawiye clan Islamic elders have “cordially welcomed the explosion attacks in Kampala, Uganda”, and “congratulated Al-Shabab Islamists for revenging for their brothers who are massacred everyday by Ugandan peacekeepers in Mogadishu,” reports Mogadishu-based Radio Banaadir.

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 12 July 2010)*

- [Presenter] “African peacekeepers shelled several villages in Mogadishu killing three people and wounding others”
- “African peacekeepers killed three people and wounded several others after hitting mortar shelling in parts of Somali capital. It is unclear the motive behind these shelling which happened at midnight.”
- The shelling comes at a time when two deadly explosions happened in the Ugandan capital, Kampala, killing nearly sixty people and wounding dozens. Transitional Federal Government of Somalia has not yet commented about these shelling.

*(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 12 July 2010)*

- Somali president condemned the [twin] bombings that rocked Kampala. Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad, the president of the interim government, confirmed that “Al-Qa'idah-backed Al-Shabab was behind the bombings, which killed nearly 70 people and wounded more than that figure.”

### **July 11, 2010**

*(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 11 July 2010)*

- The leaders of Hisb al-Islam and Al-Shabab held an unannounced meeting in Mogadishu in which they are said to have agreed to intensify the fighting with the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] and AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops.
- "The two officials have held a meeting in which they agreed to jointly fight the TFG and AMISOM," said an Al-Shabab official who refrained from being named.
- These two groups that held the meeting control most parts of Somalia and the talks between them come at a time when Al-Shabab recently said they will intensify their attacks on the TFG and AMISOM.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 11 July 2010)*

- Fighting between Ethiopian troops and residents of various small towns in the Somali self governing Regions of Ethiopian broke out today.
- The fighting which broke out early this morning is said to have so far resulted in the killing of civilians and the injury of two others although there are some reports indicating that the losses are a lot higher
- One of the members of the vigilante group fighting Ethiopian troops has told Shabeelle that they killed 12 soldiers in this morning's fighting and that a number of their group members have sustained serious injuries in the fighting.
- He said their group is currently in control of the areas where the Ethiopian troops formerly controlled and that the town's residents have managed to seize a number of vehicles from the soldiers.

*(Source: AllPuntland.com website in Somali 11 July 2010)*

- A senior armed forces commander in Hiiraan Region [central Somalia] was gunned down in Beled Weyne. Members of the religious group, Al-Shabab, have claimed the responsibility for the killing of this armed forces commander named Salad Hareed Farah. Senior officials of the Al-Shabab Movement in Beled Weyne said the commander has in the recent past been hiding in various residential areas in Beled Weyne.

### **July 10, 2010**

*(Source: The Somaliland Times website, Hargeysa, in English 10 July 2010)*

- With international observers describing last week's presidential elections in Somaliland as "free and fair", the United States government on Wednesday praised Somaliland for conducting real democracy.
- In a statement of which Somaliland Times obtained a copy on Wednesday the United States government commends the people of Somaliland, the national electoral commission, and the political parties for conducting a peaceful election on June 26.
- Reports indicate that the election proceedings were generally peaceful and orderly. Saying that the high voter turnout indicated that the citizens of Somaliland are determined to exercise their rights.
- International observers have also indicated that the June 26 election process was largely free and fair.

- "The election marks an important milestone for the people of Somaliland. We congratulate the winner and commend the other candidates for their statesmanlike acceptance of the results," the statement said.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 10 July 2010)*

- President Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad spoke to Mogadishu-based media on his recent meeting with IGAD [Inter-Governmental Authority on Development] leaders and ruled out the possibility of Ethiopian troops making part of forces that have been pledged for deployment in Somalia.
- "We have met with IGAD leaders and discussed what to do about the problems in Somalia. We have agreed that they will fully support the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] and the Somali public and our talks ended well," said President Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad while talking to Shabelle.

### **July 9, 2010**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 9 July 2010)*

- The spokesman of the Al-Shabab Mujahidin, Shaykh Ali Dheere [aka Mahmud Raage], accused President Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad of handing over the country to IGAD [Inter-Governmental Authority on Development] member countries.
- Shaykh Ali Mahmud Raage said the TFG president has handed over the entire country to the regional body, IGAD. Ali Dheere said the Somali public has to oppose the government led by Shaykh Sharif and Al-Shabab supporters at the venue condemned the president's meeting with IGAD.
- He said the additional forces to be deployed in the country are meant to disrupt security in towns that are currently under the control of the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin forces.

### **July 8, 2010**

*(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 8 July 2010)*

- Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a spokesman Shaykh Abdullahi Abdirahman (Abu Yusuf al-Qadi) has said that they have finalized troop mobilization they have been conducting lately. He said they would launch a major offensive, first targeting Ceelbuur town, which, he claimed, Al-Shabaab Mujahidin Movement had been using as a springboard to attack central regions. Abu Yusuf al-Qadi also said that they had readied unflinching men willing to die for their religion and country.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 8 July 2010)*

- The new Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] Minister of Information, Abdirahman Umar Osman alias Yarisow believes that "Shabelle is the only media organization in Mogadishu that is neutral in the conflict."
- The minister said it is important that individuals responsible for the killing of journalists in Somalia be held accountable for their actions at some point. The new minister of information has asked journalists to record the atrocities being committed against them by warring in Somalia.

- The minister also praised Shabelle media network which he said is a good example of an independent media organization in the country. He said the organization has been through difficulties some of which resulted in the loss of employee lives. The

### **July 7, 2010**

*(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 7 July 2010)*

- Senior leaders of Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a declared at their meeting that a power-sharing agreement the group signed with the interim Somali government has collapsed, and blamed the government for its collapse.
- Speaking to the media at the end of the meeting, which was held in Guri Ceel town, Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a executive committee chairman Shaykh Umar Abdikadir Adan said that the group has taken a clear position regarding the power-sharing agreement that was signed in Addis Ababa. He said no single Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a member had been included in the new cabinet of the interim Somali government.

### **July 6, 2010**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 6 July 2010)*

- Somalia's President Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad has appealed for military support from the its neighboring countries in a bid to rescue his government from "the hands of Al-Qa'idah" and Islamic insurgents, privately owned Shabeelle website has reported.
- President Shaykh Ahmad made the appeal to a heads of state meeting of the regional grouping Inter-Governmental Authority for Development (IGAD) being held in Ethiopia. IGAD member states include Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti, as well as, Sudan.
- "Somali is in the hands of Al-Qa'idah and because of that a solution to that problem is needed. I therefore appeal to the IGAD leaders to stress on ways of standing by my government and supporting it," Shaykh Sharif told the summit.
- Shaykh Sharif said "the security situation in the country was in danger since the government HQs was under siege" and urged IGAD leaders "to do something about the deteriorating situation in Somalia"