

Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report
June 28 – July 4, 2010
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July 5, 2010

State-Operated Media Sources

(Source: Radio Simba, Mogadishu, in Somali 1000 GMT, 5 July 2010)

- Demonstrations organized by Al-Shabab Islamists have been organized in multiple parts of Mogadishu. Under the slogan: "Defending Islam and fighting against infidels", many Somalis including senior officials of Al-Shabab radical Islamists, actively demonstrated against the transitional government and the presence of AU peacekeepers in Somalia.
- Shaykh Mukhtar Robow Abu Mansur addressed hundreds of the demonstrators and called on them to "prepare for fierce fighting against AU peacekeepers and the transitional government".

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 5 July 2010)

- Fishermen in Banaadir Region have leveled allegations of harassment against AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops
- The spokesman for Fishermen in Banaadir Region, Bashir Yusuf Barre, while talking to Shabelle, said that "one of the biggest problems they face is harassment by AMISOM troops whenever they are conducting security operations off the Banaadir coast"
- The spokesman also alleged that "fishermen in Mogadishu are not free to go into the ocean whenever they want and are blocked as from the mid afternoons". "AMISOM troops are responsible for the current shortage of fish in Mogadishu".

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 5 July 2010)

- Pro-Al-Shabab demonstrations led to the closure of business in the area are currently going on in Suuqa Xoolaha neighbourhood in Mogadishu.
- Hundreds of people gathered in Tiida neighbourhood in Dayniile District in Banaadir Region. Al-Shabab movement urged residents to participate in the demonstrations held at Maslax military base and Suuqa Xoolaha area.
- Senior officials from Al-Shabab are present at the venue of the demonstrations and they are expected to deliver sermons to inspire people.

(Source: Goobjoog website, in Somali 0000 GMT, 5 July 2010)

- Somali hard-line Islamist leader threatened Burundi and Ugandan civilians over attacks on Mogadishu residents "carried out by AMISOM troops (AU peacekeepers)," pro-Islamist website goobjoog.com reported.
- In a recorded audio, Al-Shabab leader, Shaykh Abdirahman Abu Zubayr, vowed that his forces will revenge for "the women, children and the Somali people who are massacred". Shaykh Zubayr was "directly speaking to the Ugandan and Burundi civilians," the website said.

- Abu Zubayr vowed that his forces will continue fighting until when the AU forces and government troops are "totally removed" as "the enemy can only be defeated through patience and constant fighting".
- He urged Al-Shabab forces in the front-line to continue the fighting since "they were defending the civilians".

July 4, 2010

State-Operated Media Sources

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 4 July 2010)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] Ministry of Information claimed the government "scored victory in today's fighting in northern Mogadishu".
- The spokesman for the TFG's Ministry of Information, Abdirazak Muhammad Qeylow, spoke on the fighting that broke out in northern Mogadishu earlier between government forces backed by AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops and those of the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin.
- Shaykh Abdirazak Qeylow believed that the fighting in Mogadishu erupted when the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin attacked a base belonging to the government forces in northern Mogadishu. The spokesman said Al-Shabab forces that launched the attacks were badly defeated in the fighting.

July 3, 2010

State-Operated Media Sources

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 3 July 2010)

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] and the Movement for the Al-Shabab Mujahidin have both said that "they will continue with the ongoing fighting in Mogadishu until either one of them is ousted from the capital."
- Meanwhile, the spokesman for the Al-Shabab, Muhammad Shaykh Mahmud Rage, has emphasized that "they will continue with the fighting against TFG forces until they manage to oust it."

July 2, 2010

State-Operated Media Sources

(Source: Radio Simba, Mogadishu, in Somali 1000 GMT, 2 July 2010)

- Reports confirm that moderate Ahlu Sunnah Waljama'a Islamists have imposed new restrictions on local journalists in all parts of central Somalia they control.
- The moderate Islamists have ordered local journalists not to abide with decrees issued by radical insurgent groups.
- Insurgent groups have ordered local journalists not to play songs or air celebrations marking Somalia's [1 July] independence day.

(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 1 July 2010)

- The Chairman of the Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a Executive Council, Shaykh Muhammad Yusuf Hefow, cautioned that "reporters who should follow the orders given by Hisb al-Islam will be banned from working in areas that under their control."
- Shaykh Hefow said their administration would like to ask reporters to be neutral in their coverage of the conflict and not side with any of the warring groups.

- "We are warning reporters operating in areas under our control against taking the orders given by Hisb al-Islam regarding the media. Any of the reporters that abide by their orders will not work in areas under our control," said Shaykh Hefow.

June 29, 2010

State-Operated Media Sources

(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 29 June 2010)

- The Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a administration in Caabud Waaq district, Galguduud Region [central Somalia] shut offices of money transfer and telecommunication businesses in the town.
- Reports reaching indicate that Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a officials ordered the closure of all the money transfer businesses and majority of the telecommunication companies. These businesses have been accused of failing to pay cash meant for repair roads and the town's general improvement.
- Residents of Caabud Waaq whose relatives are abroad and who have used the money transfer services to receive the funds, have expressed concerns over the closure of the businesses. Reports also indicate that Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a officials in the town have ordered journalists in the town not to report the story.