

**SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT**  
**NOVEMBER 15 – 21, 2010**  
**STACY TOPOUZOVA**

**NOVEMBER 18, 2010**

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 18 November 2010)*

- The administration of the moderate Islamists of Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a has shut down two radio stations in the Cabuud Waaq District of Galguduud Region, central Somalia.
- Reports from Cabuud Waaq District confirmed that fighters loyal to Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a closed down the two privately-owned local radio stations known as Radio Cabuud Waaq and Radio Badbaado.
- The director of Radio Badbaado, Abdiweli Awke, told the media that the closure of the two stations is part of the constant threats and intimidation to privately-owned broadcasting stations in the region by officials of Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a. Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a has previously arrested several journalists in areas they control and issued orders to journalists on how to work.

*(Source: Radio Banaadir, Mogadishu, in Somali 1700 GMT, 18 November 2010)*

- Twenty-one civilians were killed and 48 others were wounded following fighting in Somali capital, Mogadishu, reports privately-owned Radio Banaadir.
- According to reports fighting erupted after "a roadside explosion was targeted at a convoy of AU peacekeepers near the former Jalle Siyad military academy"
- Continuous fighting between insurgent groups linked to Al-Qa'idah and pro-government security forces backed by AU peacekeepers has killed thousands and displaced hundreds of thousands more, mostly from the capital, Mogadishu.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 18 November 2010)*

- Banaadir Regional Administration's Secretary General, Abdikafi Hilowle Osman, has said armed opposition groups fighting the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] and particularly Al-Shabab are planning to close off the only road in Mogadishu that connects the two sides that the capital is divided [the side controlled by government and other by opposition] and is also the main access road to Bakaaraha market.
- "We as Banaadir Regional Administration intend to ensure security in this road and will deploy soldiers in areas near Siinka Dheer which is one of the areas where they normally plant land mines. We will do this together with AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops and God willing there will be no more land mines planted in this road and it will be secure for use," said Abdikafi Hilowle.

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*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 17 November 2010)*

- The chairman of the Hisb al-Islam faction, Shaykh Hasan Dahir Aweys, called on the Somali people to learn Arabic rather than English which he said will help them understand the themes and meaning of Shari'a law and its teachings.
- Speaking to the thousand of people in Mogadishu after the performance of Id al-Adha prayers, the leader urged Somalis to put more effort in learning Arabic.
- Meanwhile, Shaykh Aweys has reiterated that his faction will step up attacks against the Transitional Federal Government and Amisom [African Union Peacekeeping Mission in Somalia], and called on Muslims to take part in what he termed the holy war in the country.

- He strongly accused AU peacekeepers for indiscriminately shelling civilian populated areas in the Somali capital, adding that Somalis will revenge over the killings of innocent people by Amisom.

### **NOVEMBER 16, 2010**

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 16 November 2010)*

- Somali MPs condemned Amisom's alleged discrimination against local Journalists in Mogadishu.
- Parliamentary committee on Information today condemned AU peacekeepers based in Mogadishu for discriminating against local journalists and favoring foreign journalists at Aden Adde Airport in Mogadishu [on 14 Nov]. This is said to have happened when British couple who were released by Somali pirates in central Somalia arrived at the airport.
- In a news conference held in Mogadishu, the chairman of the parliamentary committee on information, Awad Ahmad Ashare, has condemned the act and described the move as illegal.
- The chairman has called on Journalists who were harassed by Amisom in the Somali capital to hire lawyers so as to deal with the AU peacekeepers' violations.

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*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 15 November 2010)*

- Somalia's foreign minister, also the deputy prime minister, Muhammad Abdullahi Omar, has accused Al-Shabab and Hisb al-Islam of being a regional threat to the security
- The foreign minister of Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Muhammad Abdullahi Omar, accused Al-Shabab Islamic Movement and Hisb al-Islam of being a threat to the security and peace of Somalia and called on the international community for assistance to restore law and order in the country.

*(Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali 1015 GMT, 15 November 2010)*

- "The African peacekeepers in Mogadishu yesterday tortured two journalists who were trying to shoot pictures of the released British couple who arrived in Mogadishu from Cadaado district of Galguduud region, central Somalia."(Direct excerpt)
- The troops reportedly refused the journalists to take pictures of the released couple and locked them up at the airport. The two journalists who are identified as Farah Aabi and Ibrahim Shelare told the media that the AU troops beat them with their guns and tortured for trying to record voices of the released British couple at Adan Adde international airport.
- "Some of us were beaten and others lost their working equipments while the rest were mistreated," said by Farah Aabi who is one of the journalists tortured at the airport.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 15 November 2010)*

- Demonstrations against the formation of new Somali cabinet led by Prime Minister Muhammad Abdullahi Muhammad took place in Garowe, the capital of Puntland regional administration.
- The demonstrations have been organized by the administration of Puntland administration of Nugaal Region.

*(Source: Garoweonline.com in English 15 November 2010)*

- Somalia's most powerful militant group, Al-Shabab vowed to carry out more attacks against the country's new cabinet which they refer as "weak government", Radio Garowe reports.
- "The new cabinet has no ability to defeat us compare to the previous once led by Sharmarke, all are from the Diaspora who don't have any knowledge about Somali politics and they joined our enemies," said top Al-Shabab official Shaykh Husayn Ali Fidow.

- Shaykh Husayn urged for more attacks against the Somali pro-government bases and other places, until an Islamic state is formed in Somalia