

**SOMALI DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITORING REPORT**  
**SEPTEMBER 13 – 19, 2010**  
**STACY TOPOUZOVA**

**SEPTEMBER 19, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 19 September 2010)*

- A Somali Islamist group has given a new name to a private radio station it forcefully took over, a report by the privately-owned Shabeelle Media Network website said on 19 September.
- The website said the Hisb al-Islam, an Islamist group loosely allied to Al-Shabab, have "taken over GBC Radio and TV" and renamed it "Islamic Radio of GBC".
- The website said the group's leader, Hasan Dahir Aweys, held a meeting with the management and workers of the station and "ordered them to handover the station" to his group.
- The station would now be "working in the name of Hisb al-Islam", the website said. However, the workers of the station would "continue with their work until further notice".
- This is the first time the Hisb al-Islam group is taking over a private radio station.

**SEPTEMBER 17, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 17 September 2010)*

- A Mogadishu-based human rights organization, Elman, condemned the decision by the Al-Shabab Movement to ban selected aid agencies from operating in Somalia.
- The censure follows the banishment of three American aid agencies, which operate in Mogadishu and southern Somalia, by Al-Shabab.

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 17 September 2010)*

- The prime minister of Somalia, Umar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, threatened that he will "take action against his deputies over the recent actions."
- His statement comes after members of parliament agreed that the government of Sharmarke should appear before parliament on Saturday.
- He said that he will take action against Prof Abdirahman Haji Adan Abdi and Shaykh Adan Muhammad Nur aka Shaykh Adan Madobe, who are his deputies, accusing them of involvement issues that are not their business.

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 16 September 2010)*

- An Al-Shabab administration in Hiiraan Region [central Somalia] called on regional clans to surrender their weapons. The Al-Shabab administration told area clans to "hand over their weapons to Al-Shabaab forces by emulating clans in Lower Shabeelle, Middle Shabelele, Bay, and Bakool regions, who had surrendered their weapons to the group".

*(Source: Garoweonline.com in English 16 September 2010)*

- The UN's Deputy High Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms. Kyung-wha Kang, returned to Nairobi on Wednesday after spending three days visiting parts of Somalia, including Puntland:
- "I come away from the past three days with a better understanding of both the despair and the hopes of the Somali people," she wrote in a press statement issued by the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR).

- During her short visit, she noted in a press release that "the impressive progress made towards ability and development by Somalilanders and Puntlanders over the past years should remind us of what is possible and inspire us to do more," adding: "I greatly appreciate the commitment to the protection of human rights made to me by senior Puntland authorities in Garowe as well as those made by the president of Somaliland and the new Somaliland government."
- The OHCHR press statement said: "I am much encouraged by the commitment of the UNPOS SRSG to deploy United Nations staff - including human rights officers - to Somaliland and Puntland in the near future. This reflects the commitment of the United Nations to work shoulder-to-shoulder with Somalis in their country and provide assistance to the maximum extent possible."

### **External Media Source**

*(Source: UN Integrated Regional Information Network, Nairobi, in English 16 September 2010)*

*Text of unattributed report entitled "Afgooye IDPs forced out as 'pirate' landlords move in" published by Nairobi-based online news service of UN regional information network IRIN on 16 September; subheading as published*

- "Property owners in Somalia's Afgooye corridor, near the capital Mogadishu, are selling the land on which thousands of internally displaced persons (IDPs) have been settled for years, displacing them anew", say locals.
- "Hundreds of families have been evicted from their camps by people who bought the land," Asha Sha'ur, a civil society activist, told IRIN on 15 September. "People with money are buying property in the area known as the Afgooye corridor, displacing people who have been displaced so many times and no one is saying anything about it."
- "The [aid] agencies have established water points and other services in the camps around Carbiska and Ceelasha Biyaha [between Mogadishu and Afgooye], because they were close to the main highway."
- Sha'ur said many of the families were not given adequate time to find new homes. "First they were displaced by war and now by greed."
- "They have guns"
- Ilmi said the evictions coincided with increased displacement from Mogadishu following intense fighting between government troops and insurgents.
- "We have had a stream of people arriving for the last three weeks and they don't have a place to shelter."

### **SEPTEMBER 15, 2010**

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

*(Source: Radio Simba website, Mogadishu, in Somali 15 September 2010)*

- The Transitional Federal Government [TFG] administration in Mogadishu's Waberi District imposed a night curfew in the district.
- Government forces arrested many people during a security operation conducted in the district yesterday night. A local resident said the government forces conducted unexpected security operations in the district and arrested about 30 people, mostly youth.

*(Source: Radio Simba website, Mogadishu, in Somali 15 September 2010)*

- Al-Shabab Mujahidin Movement banned aid agencies that are connected to US from operating in Somalia starting from today.
- The spokesman of Al-Shabab, Shaykh Ali Mahmud Rage aka Shaykh Ali Dheere, made the announcement during big demonstrations held in Mogadishu. The demonstrations, which were also held in many parts of the country, were to protest of the US pastor's call to burn the Koran

**SEPTEMBER 14, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Somaaljecel website in Somali 14 September 2010)*

- Radio stations operating in Hiiraan Region, particularly Beled Weyne city, have been ordered not to air sermons by up to four prominent Somali clerics as well as not to attach the title "shaykh" to President Sharif's name. The order, issued by the Al-Shabab office in Beled Weyne city, also bars the stations from overemphasizing military operations by Ahlu Sunnah wal Jama'a [moderate Islamic group].

**SEPTEMBER 13, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Sources**

*(Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 13 September 2010)*

- A report by Somali human rights organization (ELMAN) confirmed that civilians were the most affected victims during the recent fierce fighting in the capital, Mogadishu
- According to the organization "The clashes between government forces backed by African Union forces and Al-Shabab Movement, caused heavy casualties on civilian residents in the capital".
- Somalia Islamists Al-Shabab vowed during the holy month of Ramadan to step up attacks against government installations and African Union bases in the capital.
- In its report, ELMAN organization said "More than 300 people were killed, 650 wounded and 22,000 fled their houses", adding that most of them were civilians.

*(Source: Somali Puntlandpost website in Somali 12 September 2010)*

- The head of the Al-Shabab Movement, Shaykh Mukhtar Abdirahman Abu Zubeyr, addressed the Somali public and proclaimed that "the ongoing fighting throughout the world is interconnected and all have the same purpose."
- "The ongoing Jihad in Somalia is meant to confront those that are opposed to governing according to Islamic teachings. We are now seeing finger pointing and internal wrangling [among government officials] after having been engaged in constant fighting by Mujahidin forces," said the Al-Shabab head.

*(Source: Garoweonline.com in English 12 September 2010)*

- Al-Shabab leader Ahmad Abdi Godane also known as Shaykh Abu Zubeyr released a recorded audio tape, appealing to his fighters to "redouble their attacks against Somali government troops and African Union Peacekeepers", Radio Garowe reports.
- "The clashes in Mogadishu that Al-Shabab carries out is against our enemy; Somali government backed by AU. I appeal to the people to join war against TFG," Abu-Zubeyr said.
- Meanwhile, Hisb al-Islam rebel chief, Shaykh Dahir Aweys urged AMISOM "to leave out of the country" and he claimed "that is the only way to solve the problems."
- "The conflict in Somali is against the religion of Somali people, the world is against the Shari'a (Islamic) law that we are applying now," Aweys said.