

**Somali Domestic Media Monitoring Report**  
**September 5 – 12, 2010**  
**Stacy Topouzova**

**September 12, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

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

- Al-Shabab leader Ahmad Abdi Godane released a recorded audio tape, appealing to his fighters to “redouble their attacks against Somali government troops and African Union Peacekeepers”, Radio Garowe reported.
- Abu Zubeyr claimed victories from the deadly clashes between Somali government troops backed by AMISOM troops and Al-Shabab militias which left claimed nearly 300 people dead in the last three weeks.
- "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.

*(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 through the media and said the ongoing fighting throughout the world are interconnected and all have the same purpose.
- Shaykh Muqtar said “the ongoing fighting in Somalia, Iraq, Chechnya, Afghanistan, Yemen and other Islamic countries around the world all have the same purpose” which, he said, is “to ensure that these countries are ruled according to Islamic Shari'ah”.
- "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.

**September 11, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

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

- The Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] has said that “an American national was among those killed in the attack at the Mogadishu airport in which civilians, AMISOM [African Union's Mission in Somalia] troops and TFG forces were killed.”
- The TFG Ministry of Information released a statement in which it said that “an Al-Shabab official with American citizenship was a 35-year-old man identified as Dahir Shaykh Ali Guled alias Dahir Gurey.”

- "The government would like to ask the international community to assist our forces and those of AMISOM in ending the fight with the Al-Shabab Movement," said the minister in the statement.
- "The only way to stop jihadists from flocking into Somalia is through the formation of educational institutions where the youth are taught about the importance of stability in the country."

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

- The president of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia, Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad, called on Al-Shabab and Hisb al-Islam insurgent groups to "stop the suffering they are causing to civilians."
- The president, who was addressing the press in Mogadishu, said that "it was unfortunate that the lives, property and dignity of the Somali people are being destroyed in the name of religion."
- He said that "it is an obligation to defend the country against the invaders and youth, which he said have been misled."
- The president condemned the [Mogadishu airport] explosions that were carried out by Al-Shabab, saying that "they are against the Somali culture and Islam". He urged the opposition groups "to stop the suffering in the country in order to establish a government".

### **September 10, 2010**

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

*(Source: Radio Mogadishu, in Somali 1600 GMT, 10 September 2010)*

- "A big demonstration against a US Christian church, which announced that it plans to burn the Holy Koran, took place in Gaalkacyo town, the provincial headquarters of Mudug Region, central Somalia", reports Radio Mogadishu.
- The protest, which went on for four hours, was attended by elders, religious leaders, politicians and intellectuals from the region. The protesters chanted slogans condemning the plans by a US church to burn the Holy Koran on 11 September on the occasion to mark the suicide bombings by Al-Qai'dah of the twin towers in New York.

### **September 9, 2010**

#### **External Media Source**

*(Source: The New Vision website, Kampala, in English 9 September 2010)*

- "Ugandan security is on full alert ahead of Id festivities, which mark the end of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan slated for tomorrow."
- Al-Shabab on Tuesday demanded that Uganda withdraws her peacekeeping troops from the war-torn Somalia, or face more attacks. Accordingly, security has been stepped up to counter the threats, said police spokesperson Judith Nabakooba.
- The latest threat was issued by the Islamists' radical leader Shaykh Fu'ad Muhammad Khalaf 'Shongole' at a mosque in Mogadishu.
- Defence spokesperson Felix Kulayigye yesterday said violence will not work.

- "Our troops will not leave Somalia as long as the African Union wants them there," he said. "The people of Somalia want peace and that is what took us there."
- He added: "We are not in Somalia for adventure; it is by conviction to ensure the return of peace for our brothers. We have been defending Uganda since 6 February 1981 and we have never backslid on that. Ugandans should remain vigilant and let us know of suspicious people."

**September 8, 2010**

**State-Facilitated Media Source**

*(Source: Garoweonline.com in English 8 September 2010)*

- A Cabinet minister in Somalia's separatist region of Somaliland expressed "worries about a group of militants fighting against Puntland government", Radio Garowe reported.
- Dr. Muhammad Abdi Gabose, Somaliland's interior minister, told a press conference Tuesday in Hargeysa that "the security situation in Somaliland is stable and that security forces are aware of all movements".
- Dr. Gabose was asked by Hargeysa journalists what the Somaliland government thinks of the Galgala militants allied to Al-Shabab, who are led by a man named Muhammad Said Atom.
- "They [Galgala militants] are a threat to Somaliland if they are defeated by Puntland or not," Somaliland Interior Minister Dr. Gabose responded to the reporter's question.
- He explained that if the Galgala militants are not defeated, they are a serious threat to Somaliland security "because they are an armed force," adding: "If they are defeated, their remnants can commit acts of terrorism inside Somaliland."
- Dr. Gabose alleged that Somaliland's administration "does not have a clear strategy" to face off the Galgala militants but indicated that the administration was "very worried" about developments in Golis mountain range that connect Somaliland and Puntland.

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

- The international community has embarked on plans to end the conflict between the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia [TFG] President, Shaykh Sharif Shaykh Ahmad, and Prime Minister Umar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, over the new proposed constitution.
- A conflict over the proposed new constitution has emerged between top TFG officials in the last few days. A delegation led by Prime Minister Sharmarke has since departed to Nairobi and the international community is now making attempts to reconcile the President Sharif and Prime Minister Sharmarke over the new constitution.
- This is the second time that the TFG president and prime minister have been in conflict since the formation of the government.

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

- The Al-Shabab Mujahidin Movement has once again warned the Ugandan government “against deploying additional troops in Somalia” and threatened that “it would carry out more attacks in Kampala if the government in that country continued deploying their troops to Somalia.”
- Shaykh Fu'ad Muhammad Khalaf, who is a senior Al-Shabab official, accused the Ugandan leader of “being the obstacle that is preventing Somalia from attaining any stability and warned him against deploying additional troops in Somalia.”
- Shaykh Fu'ad threatened that “if more Ugandan troops continue arriving in Somalia, they will carry out more attacks that are similar to the ones carried out in Kampala on the 11th of July.”

### **September 7, 2010**

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

*(Source: Garoweonline.com in English 7 September 2010)*

- At least 230 people have been killed, 400 people wounded and 23,000 displaced in fighting between government forces and insurgents in Somalia, the UN Commissioner for Refugees reported Tuesday, Radio Garowe reports.
- "People who have been able to reach northern Somalia and neighbouring countries are mostly arriving on foot and by small buses and travelling without shelter. They tell our staff that the streets of Mogadishu are completely deserted and that people are too afraid to leave their houses. In these dangerous and difficult conditions, aid distributions are becoming rare and those who venture out are risking their lives," the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees said.

### **September 6, 2010**

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

*(Source: Radio HornAfrik, Mogadishu, in Somali 0500 GMT, 6 September 2010)*

- The Al-Shabab Islamic Movement said that “it is not worried about deployment of more AU peacekeepers in Mogadishu”, they say that “they are ready to fight against them”.
- Shaykh Ali Mahmud Raage, Al-Shabab spokesman addressing hundreds of fighters who have completed in Mogadishu-, declared that they are in “a better position to fight against AU peacekeepers in Mogadishu.”
- "We tell to the Christian world that we wouldn't compromise on our believe whatever you bring to Somalia, whether you bring more forces or use every kind of force," Ali Dheere said.
- "You leave us and our religion alone, let's implement it in our country, you could live in here and there in Somalia as we implement, but since you halt our intention to implement our [Islamic] religion in our country, we wouldn't stop fighting," Ali Dheere added.