



This update provides information on the protection environment in Somalia, including apparent violations of Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law as reported during the last two weeks through the IASC Somalia Protection Cluster monitoring systems. Incidents mentioned in this report are not exhaustive. They are intended to highlight credible reports to inform and prompt programming and advocacy initiatives by the humanitarian community and national authorities.

General Overview

During the reporting period fighting and displacement continued to impact negatively on the protection situation in the country. Sources indicate that internally displaced persons (IDPs) and more particularly IDP women and minorities suffer from the lack of access to justice and due process in all three zones of Somalia. According to PMT data approximately 6,200 people were displaced during the reporting period mainly due to insecurity and evictions.

On 30 April a new wave of evictions took place in Mogadishu both by private landlords and the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) forces. The evictions took place in Wadajir district of Mogadishu with approximately 1,700 people being evicted over the past two weeks. Authorities stated that the reason for the evictions was the need to secure the area for the upcoming conference of the Elders, while landlords claimed that they needed to sell their land. IDPs have temporarily relocated to other nearby IDP settlements including Jiiro-Maskiin, Keynaan and Ex-US Embassy IDP settlements in Wadajir. Following interventions by the humanitarian community, it was agreed with the authorities that further evictions would be conducted in accordance with internationally applicable standards and principles.

Security and the protection situation deteriorated significantly¹ in Bay, Bakool and Hiraan regions despite some of the districts of the regions now being controlled by the TFG and its allied forces. IED and suicide attacks, arbitrary arrests and targeted killings by parties to the conflict were reported in all these districts.² Meanwhile Al Shabaab continued restricting the movement of people, as well as goods and services in and out of Xudur district.

MOGADISHU (BANADIR)

Somali journalists marked World Press Freedom Day in Mogadishu on 3rd May; following the killing of a fifth journalist on 2 May.³ A new wave of evictions was reported in Mogadishu. PMT data indicates that as of 30 April at least 1,400 IDPs living in Kowsar and Al Cadaala IDP camps in Wadajir district had been evicted by private landlords. Some IDPs living in the former Ministry of Planning building were also evicted by the authorities. The majority of the evicted IDPs relocated to Jabouti, Keynaan and Jiiro-Maskiin IDPs camps in Wadajir.

Heavy rains in Mogadishu caused flooding and damaged a number of IDP shelters located in Horsed and Siigaale areas of Wardhiigleey district.⁴



- A man was reportedly shot and killed by men dressed in TFG uniforms who were based in the Al Baraka building in Hodan district. The man was shot when he was walking to his home late at night in Buulo-Wagac area of Hodan district.⁵(8 May). As at the time of publication, it appears that no action has been taken by the authorities to investigate the case.
- A man working for TFG immigration department was shot and killed by an unidentified man as he left a Mosque in Titiinleey area of Wadajir district. Sources indicate that the killing may have been politically motivated.⁶ (7 May)
- A taxi driver was shot and killed by a TFG officer in Helane village, Shibis district after they got into an argument ⁷(3 May). PMN and other sources reported eight similar incidents of intentional killings perpetrated by men dressed in TFG uniform since January 2012.
- A man was reportedly shot and killed by TFG soldiers after he refused to hand over his mobile phone in Juungal neighbourhood of Yaaqshiid district.⁸(1 May)
- One IDP was killed and two others injured when TFG soldiers exchanged gunfire during an aid distribution in Banadir Secondary School in Hodan district. The TFG soldiers were reportedly attempting to loot some of the food supplies.⁹ (29 April) Six similar cases of civilians getting caught in the cross fire between TFG forces have been recorded since January 2012.
- Four people were killed and at least five people injured when a bomb exploded at a cinema in Trabuunka, Hodan district. No one has claimed responsibility for the attack, although the TFG police have arrested several people suspected of involvement in the attack. ¹⁰ (28 April)

NORTH-WEST (AWDAL, WOQOYI GALBEED & TOGDHEER)

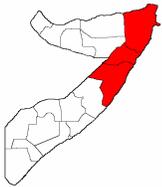
Political tensions continued in North Eastern regions as the government banned all political demonstrations. Three opposition leaders Ali Borsed deputy leader of the Democratic party, Fowzia Haji Aden, leader of the Nabaad Dimoqradiyad iyo Barwaaqo (NDB) and the leader of the Jamhuriya party, Mohamed Odawa were arrested by Somaliland authorities in Hargeisa after the Somaliland electoral commission rejected their right to register their political parties. The leaders were released a few hours after the arrest.¹¹ A case of human trafficking was reported in Somaliland.



- An Ethiopian male domestic worker was beaten by a gang near Qudhac Dheer School in Mahmoud Haybe area, Hargeisa, Woqooyi Galbeed region. The perpetrators fled.¹²(5 May)
- An abandoned infant was found the bush in Faarax Omaar area of Burco district, Togdheer region. Since January, 38 cases of child abandonment have been recorded in Somaliland.¹³ (4 May)
- A couple, accompanied by nine Oromo children was arrested in Berbera district, Woqooyi Galbeed region on suspicion of trafficking.¹⁴(27 April)

NORTH-EAST (MUDUG, NUGAAL & BARI)

Security incidents involving humanitarian workers and journalists persist in Puntland following the recent assassination of a Somali journalist in Gaalkacyo town, Mudug region and the killing of a South African security training officer. While a recent report by the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) states that piracy remains a major problem in the area, the same report also indicated a decrease in the number of attacks involving Somali pirates in the first quarter of this year from 97 to 43 incidents in the same period last year. Cases of rape, attempted rape and domestic violence, particularly against IDP women, were reported during the reporting period; the Protection Monitoring Network (PMN) has recorded a total number of 43 such cases committed against IDP women in Puntland since January.



- Two unidentified gunmen assassinated a reporter for Radio Daljir in Garsoor neighbourhood of North Gaalkacyo, Mudug region.¹⁵ The incident brings the number of targeted killings of journalists in Somalia to five since January 2012. (2 May)
- Eight students were injured in Al Badriya boarding school in Lanta Hawada neighborhood of Bossasso town, Bari region when an unidentified person fired shots during a brawl between students. Police arrested some of the staff and students following the incident. The injured students were sent to Bossasso General Hospital for medical treatment.¹⁶ This is the first report of a shooting at a boarding school in Puntland. (30 April)
- A 32 year old IDP woman living in Halabokhad IDP settlement in Gaalkacyo district of Mudug region was severely beaten and injured with a knife by her intoxicated husband. The survivor was referred to a medical centre.¹⁷ PMN data recorded 23 cases of domestic violence against IDP women since January 2012. (30 April)
- A five year old IDP girl was raped in Halabokhad IDP settlement in Gaalkacyo, Mudug region. The child was referred to a medical centre and is being supported by a local NGO. The case has been reported to the police.¹⁸ (30 April)
- A South African security training officer was killed during a mission targeting pirates in a coastal area of Puntland by unidentified gunmen. Following the incident apparently Sheikh Ali Mohamud Rage, the spokesman for Al Shabaab publicly encouraged attacks against foreigners but did not claim responsibility.¹⁹ (29 April)
- A 35 year old IDP woman and mother of seven children living in Afarta Kaare IDP settlement in Garsoor village, Gaalkacyo district of Mudug region suffered a rape attempt by unidentified perpetrator while on her way home. The perpetrator escaped.²⁰ (28 April)

HIRAAN & GALGADUUD

Reports suggest that summary executions, torture, arbitrary arrests and restriction of movement are the main protection issues faced by the civilian population living in Belet Weyne town of Hiraan region.

Tensions in Galgaduud districts increased when a suicide bomber attacked a cafe where a TFG delegation led by Ahmed Abdi Salan Haji Adan(MP) were meeting in Dhuusamarreeb district on 1 May. A night curfew was imposed by Ahlul Sunna Wal Jama'a (ASWJ) authorities in town following the incident. The attack resulted in the killing of 10 civilians and an unconfirmed number of injured.



- ASWJ militias summarily executed two men suspected of involvement in a suicide attack in Dhuusamarreeb town of Galgaduud region on 1 May.²¹ (3 May)
- 60 people were reportedly injured and some 300 families lost their property in Mirjicley village located 25 km outside Herale district of Galgaduud region as a result of heavy rainfall which flooded the area. The families are currently in need of emergency shelter and humanitarian actors are responding to the crisis.²² (3 May)

- At least eight people, including two MPs, two security officers and other civilians were killed and scores more injured after a suicide bomber detonated himself inside a cafe where the TFG delegation were resting in Dhuusamarreeb district of Galgaduud region. Al Shabaab claimed responsibility for the attack.²³ (1 May)
- A truck driver carrying food aid for ICRC was shot and killed by Shabelle Valley State (SVS) militias in Dhagaxjibis village, Belet Weyne town of Hiraan region, reportedly after he refused to pay additional money to the militias.²⁴ (1 May)
- Ethiopian soldiers shot and killed a man in Belet Weyne market when he was spotted walking in the streets during the curfew hours. It was reported that he was shot when he pulled out a knife to defend himself.²⁵(1 May)
- A driver and two pedestrians were shot and wounded by SVS militias at Bundaweyn Bridge in Belet Weyne district, Hiraan region allegedly over the collection of taxes of passing vehicles. The driver was shot when he refused to pay. The two others were caught in the cross fire.²⁶ (29 April)

LOWER & MIDDLE SHABELLE (SHABELLE HOOSE & DHEXE)

Fighting and consequent displacement continued in Afgooye corridor resulting in approximately 2,000 displacements mainly to Mogadishu during the reporting period.



- The body of a beheaded man was found in Afgooye town, Lower Shabelle region. The report indicates that that the victim had been executed by Al Shabaab forces after being accused of spying.²⁷ (1 May)
- Al Shabaab militias manning a checkpoint in the Bar-Ismaail area of Afgooye District executed a young man who was travelling in a vehicle from Mogadishu to Afgooye after accusing him of spying for the TFG.²⁸ (1 May)

BAY, BAKOOL & GEDO

The security situation in Bay and Bakool remain tense since TFG and allied forces took over control of Xudur district of Bakool and Bay and Qansax Dheree districts of Bay region. Over the past two weeks, tensions persist in Xudur district following sporadic and unpredictable armed clashes between Al Shabaab and the TFG-allied forces, resulting in a number of civilian casualties²⁹. Reports also indicate that few local residents are able to flee Xudur district despite rumours of reinforcements on both sides could lead to an escalation in the fighting. While ongoing fighting is impeding freedom of movement, Al Shabaab's control of the surroundings of Xudur is also a factor.



- A humanitarian staff member working for Islamic Relief was killed by an unidentified person in Baidoa district of Bay region as he left a local mosque.³⁰ (9 May)
- A shopkeeper who reportedly used to provide financial support to Al Shabaab authorities in Baidoa was shot and killed in his store by undercover Al Shabaab members in Isha village, after they discovered that the man had been summoned by TFG officers to provide information.³¹ (7 May)
- A staff member of a local NGO was arrested in Isha village in Baidoa town by TFG police who apparently suspected him of supporting Al Shabaab. The man was reportedly tortured by the police to provide information about Al Shabaab and remains in detention. Since February 2012 PMN has recorded 20 cases of torture and arbitrary arrest of suspected Al Shabaab members allegedly committed by the TFG and its allied forces in Bay region.³² (6 May)
- At least 11 people were killed after clashes erupted between TFG allied forces and Al Shabaab in Xudur district of Bakool region.³³ (1 May)
- A civilian was hit by a stray bullet when heavy fighting broke out between Al Shabab and the TFG allied forces in Qansax Dheree district of Bay region. An unconfirmed number of residents fled the surrounding villages of the district fearing increased fighting.³⁴ (5 May)
- A 20-year old man believed to be an Al Shabaab supporter was reportedly detained for 16 days and tortured by TFG-and allied security forces in Bardale town of Baidoa district of Bay region to confess his involvement with the group. It was reported that following his interrogation and severe physical condition he was transferred to the hospital. After his short recovery he was returned to detention.³⁵ (5 May)

LOWER & MIDDLE JUBA (JUBA HOOSE & DHEXE)

Military operations, including air raids continued between Al Shabaab and pro-TFG forces in the towns of Baadhede, Bilis Qooqani, Afmadow and Tabta in Lower Juba region, resulting in at least 1,000 displacements mainly within Lower Juba districts.

PMN reports indicate an increase in the number of arrests of khat sellers in the Juba regions since Al Shabaab banned the selling and use of the drug in Jubas. The majority of those affected are women for whom the selling of khat constitutes their main source of income.



- The body of a male khat seller who had been missing for three days in Kismaayo town, Lower Juba region was reportedly found in the Khat Market in Farajano village. The perpetrators are believed to be Al Shabaab.³⁶ Over the past three weeks seven similar cases of killing of khat sellers have been reported. Five of seven victims were women.(4 May)
- A female khat seller was arrested by Al Shabaab militias in Jamaame district. Her body was later discovered near the mouth of the river in Hawlwadag area of Jamaame district, Lower Juba region.³⁷ (1 May)
- A woman was raped and severely injured by a man dressed in a TFG uniform when she was on her way home to Baadhede main town, Lower Juba region. She died of her injuries. The perpetrator fled. Some of the elders and the Baadhede district authorities are looking for the perpetrator.³⁸ (30 April)
- A female khat seller was harassed and arrested in her house in Fanole village, Kismaayo, Lower Juba region for selling khat after the Al Shabaab authorities recently banned the drug. She was later released, following negotiation between Al Shabaab and her family members.³⁹ (29 April)
- At least 120 male youths who claimed to have fled forced recruitment by Al Shabaab in Buale and Jilib towns of Middle Juba have arrived in Diif. (5-10 May)

¹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 9 May

² Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 7 May

³ Associated press, Somber World Press Day in Somalia after 5th death , 3 May, available at http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5gwMTqVw61OzK_0bR3Y93pH9Q6azA?docId=ff69e97edb5e435cabf31b8265036db9

⁴ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 1 May

⁵ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 10 May

⁶ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 9 May

⁷ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 5 May

⁸ Report recorded by organization conducting security analysis in Somalia. Source name withheld

⁹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 5 May

Report recorded by organization conducting security analysis in Somalia. Source name withheld

¹⁰ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 4 May

Washingtonpost, Grenade attack wounds 5 in Somalia's capital, 2 seriously hurt, 29 April, available at http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/africa/official-grenade-attack-wounds-5-in-somalias-capital-2-seriously-hurt/2012/04/29/gIQAxoBNpT_story.html

¹¹ Garowe Online, Somaliland bans political demonstrations, 3 May, available at

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Somaliland_ban_political_demonstrations.shtml

¹² Report by IASC protection cluster partner received on, 06/05/2012

¹³ Report by IASC protection cluster partner received on, 05/05/2012

¹⁴ Report by IASC protection cluster partner received on, 3 May 2012

¹⁵ Report recorded by organization conducting security analysis in Somalia. Source name withheld

¹⁶ Garowe Online, Boarding school shooting, 30 April, available at

http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Boarding_school_shooting.shtml

¹⁷ Report by IASC protection cluster partner received on, 03/05/2012

¹⁸ Report by IASC Protection Cluster Partner on 3 May

-
- ¹⁹ Reuters, *S.African security officer killed in Somalia - local govt*, 29 April, available at <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/04/29/somalia-conflict-idUSL5E8FT19520120429>
- ²⁰ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 30 April
- ²¹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 4 May
- ²² Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 3 May
- ²³ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 1 May
- Associated press, *2 lawmakers killed in Somalia suicide blast*, 1 May, available at <http://www.ajc.com/news/nation-world/2-lawmakers-killed-in-1429154.html>
- ²⁴ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 1 May
- ²⁵ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 1 May
- ²⁶ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 30 April
- ²⁷ Report recorded by organization conducting security analysis in Somalia. Source name withheld
- ²⁸ Report recorded by organization conducting security analysis in Somalia. Source name withheld
- ²⁹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 1 May
- ³⁰ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 9 May
- ³¹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 9 May
- ³² Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 9 May
- ³³ Somaliland Press , *11 Killed in Bloody Battle Against Ethiopian Forces*, 1 May, available at <http://somalilandpress.com/somalia-11-killed-in-bloody-battle-against-ethiopian-forces-27924>
- ³⁴ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 8 May
- ³⁵ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 8 May
- ³⁶ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 7 May
- ³⁷ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 5 May
- ³⁸ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 2 May
- ³⁹ Report received by IASC protection Cluster partner on 30 April