

Protection Cluster Update

Monthly Report

June & July 2009

IASC Somalia

- Population Movement Tracking (PMT)
- Protection Monitoring Network (PMN)

UNHCR/B.Bannon

Objective

This monthly update highlights key human rights violations reported in Somalia from 1 June to 31 July 2009 through the IASC Somalia Protection Cluster monitoring systems. Incidents mentioned in this report are not exhaustive. They are intended to highlight credible reports of abuses taking place in order to trigger action by the international community and concerned national authorities, including calling for more detailed investigations that would contribute to establishing exact details and responsibility for such acts.

General Overview

The heightened insecurity emanating from the capital Mogadishu raised serious concerns both at the national and international level. For example the TFG Speaker of Parliament made an appeal on 20th June to the international community for military stance, while the President declared a state of emergency.² Similarly, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) issued a press release condemning insurgent attacks and calling for an immediate cessation of hostilities.³ In another development during the same period, the leader of Hizbul Islam publicly proposed a unification of forces with the Al Shabaab to overthrow the government. Although the Al Shabaab reportedly accepted the temporary unification of military strength, they refused the proposition to share a name with their oppositional counterparts.⁴

Following a series of confrontations with Hizbul Islam forces, the TFG government forces regained full control of the Belet Weyne town in Hiraan.⁵ Similarly, the pro-government forces temporarily regained control of the Jowhar and Mahaday districts of Shabelle Dhexe but only to lose them to oppositional forces shortly after.⁶

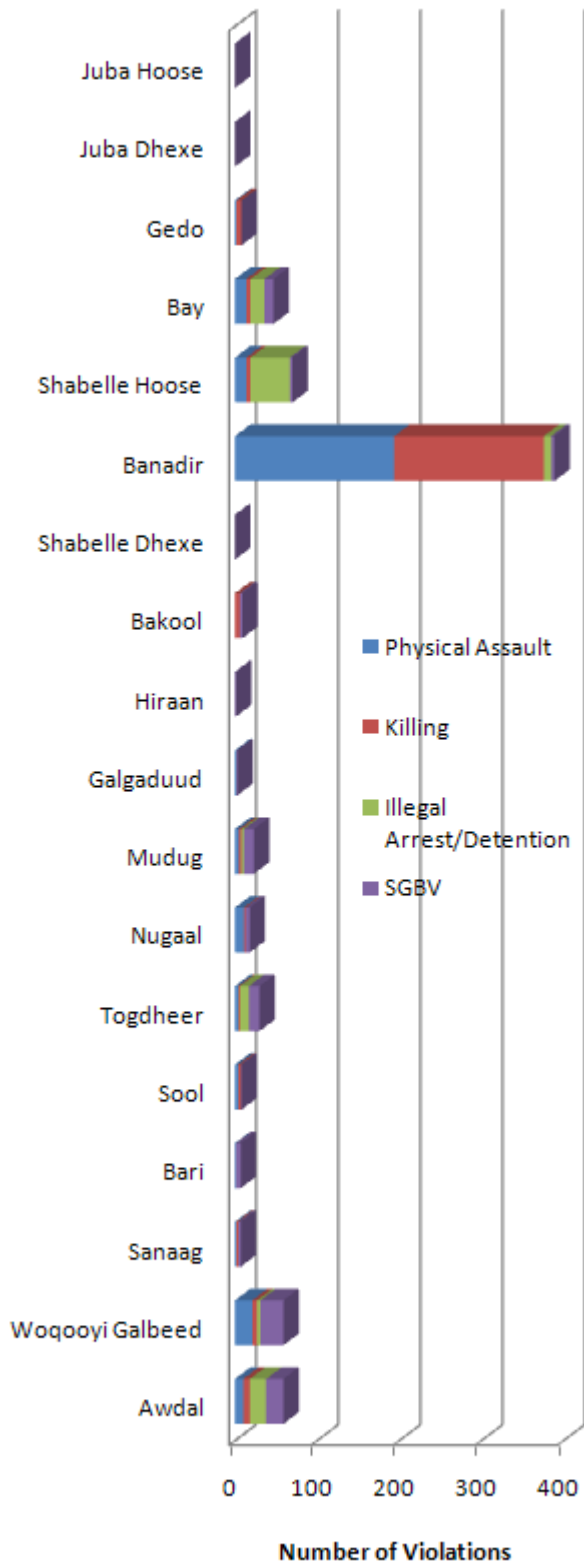
Elsewhere in Somalia, political tensions on the presidential elections continue to rise in the Somaliland.⁹

Violations Against Somali Civilians

From 1 June to 31 July 2009, all protection monitoring reports were assessed to analyze the humanitarian needs as well as the level of violations and determine the regions which these protection issues were recorded. The following is an analysis of the data collected from the Protection Cluster Monitoring partner reports during the period of analysis. A total of 1093 incidents were reported as indicated below:

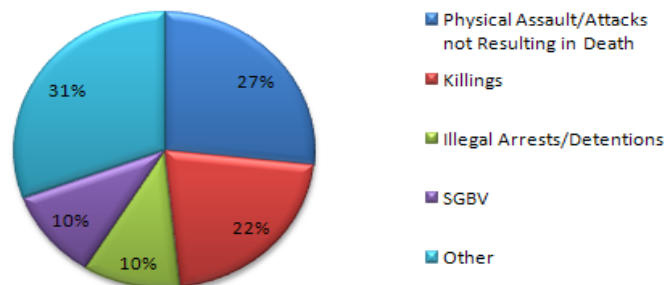
- *Physical assaults and attacks not resulting in death*
- *Killings*
- *Illegal arrest or detention*
- *Rape*
- *Attempted rape and sexual assault*
- *Domestic violence*
- *Child recruitment*
- *Child abandonment*
- *Child labor*
- *Harassment*
- *Kidnapping and abductions*
- *Threats to life or physical integrity*
- *Inhuman and degrading treatment*
- *Illegal or summary executions*
- *Human trafficking*
- *Forced returns*
- *Forced family separation*
- *Forced eviction*
- *Forced labor or slavery*
- *Attacks on schools and health facilities*
- *Demolition of houses or shelters*

Violations by Region



Source: IASC Protection Monitoring Network partners

Top 4 Reported Violations



Source: IASC Protection Monitoring Network partners

Top 4 Violations

Physical assaults/attacks not resulting in death: Physical assaults and attacks not resulting in death had the highest rate of reports, totaling 284 (25.98%). The region with the highest record of physical assault was Banadir with 194 (68.66%) reports.

Killings: There were 230 (21.04%) recorded killings during the analysis period. The region with the highest record of killing was Banadir with 182 (79.13%) reports.

Illegal arrests and detention: There were 112 (10.24%) recorded incidents of illegal arrests and detentions during the period of analysis. The region with the highest record of illegal arrests and detentions was Shabelle Hoose with 48 (42.85%) reports.

SGBV: There were 112 (10.24%) recorded incidents of rape, attempted rape/sexual assault and domestic violence during the period of analysis. There were a total of 85 (75.89%) reported rapes, 14 (12.5%) reported attempted rapes/sexual assaults and 13 (11.6%) reported incidents of domestic violence. The region with the highest record of rape was Woqooyi Galbeed with 22 (25%) reports. The region with the highest record of attempted rape/domestic violence was Mudug with 4 (28.57%) reports. The regions with the highest record of domestic violence was Woqooyi Galbeed and Bay, both having 4 (30.76%) reports.

Violations Against Migrants

In June and July 2009, the Somaliland authorities carried out a series of sweeps on Ethiopian migrants. Groups of Ethiopians were rounded up and forcefully returned in a joint exercise between the Somaliland authorities and Ethiopian government officials. A total of 271 Ethiopian migrants were deported.

The MMTF for Somaliland expressed concerns on the forced returns and the conditions of arrests with the Somaliland authorities. The Somaliland government highlighted that it will continue with the deportation of all illegal migrants. Access to migrants can however be granted to agencies provided this is backed with an official notification to the authorities.¹⁰

Issues to Follow-up:

1. Based on the protection cluster reports, the IASC to analyze the violations perpetuated against civilians and provide guidance to the Protection Cluster on the rules of engagement with perpetrators of the top two violations (physical assault and killings)
2. The SGBV working to come up with a plan of action for the next four months on key interventions and GAP analysis on response to SGBV. This should be shared with the Protection Cluster in Nairobi and the field.
3. The IDP Advocacy Working Group together with UNICEF as the lead to analyze issues affecting child protection in this report and develop a child protection advocating strategy which will be shared and endorsed by the protection cluster.

1. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; Shabelle, *Somalia: parliament asks foreign troops to come within 24 hours*, 20 June 2009, available at <http://allafrica.com/stories/200906200013.html>; Reuters, *Somalia declares state of emergency, calls for help*, 20 June 2009, available at <http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/LK716571.htm>.
2. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; BBC News, *Somali president calls emergency*, 22 June 2009, available at <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/8113029.stm>;
3. UN, *Security Council condemns renewed insurgent attacks against government of Somalia, deplors deteriorating humanitarian situation*, 9 July 2009, available at <http://www.un.org/News/Press/docs/2009/sc9700.doc.htm>.
4. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; Associate Press, *Somali Islamist Claims He's Uniting Insurgents*, 3 June 2009, available at <http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5iMFWFUVL4LIY3IHmKQfl7jqRMdFwD98IN8QO1>.
5. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; Garowe Online, *Al Shabaab Reject Aweys' Unity' Proposal*, 3 June 2009, available at http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Al-Shabaab_reject_Aweys_unity_proposal.shtml.
6. Report Received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; VOA News, *Somali government forces say insurgents pushed from strategic city*, 27 July 2009, available at <http://www.voanews.com/english/2009-07-27-voa25.cfm>.
7. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; AllAfrica.com, *Somalia: Fighting Between Islamists Starts in Southern Town*, 31 May 2009, available at <http://allafrica.com/stories/200906010631.html>; AllAfrica.com, *Somalia: Pro-Government Islamists Capture Mahaday Town*, 4 June 2009, available at <http://allafrica.com/stories/200906040396.html>.
8. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner; Garowe Online, *Puntland parliament passes new constitution*, 29 June 2009, available at http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Puntland_Parliament_passes_new_constitution.shtml; Shabelle, *Somalia: Harakat Al SabaabMujahideen forces conduct operation in Bakara market*, 29 June 2009, available at <http://allafrica.com/stories/200906291365.html>.
9. Garowe Online, *Somaliland opposition warns government against election delays*, 5 July 2009, available at http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Somaliland_opposition_warn_government_against_election_delay.shtml; Afrol News, *Opposition warns government against delayed polls*, 6 July 2009, available at <http://www.afrol.com/articles/33672>; Garowe Online, *Somaliland opposition warns government against election delays*, 5 July 2009, available at http://www.garoweonline.com/artman2/publish/Somalia_27/Somalia_Somaliland_opposition_warn_government_against_election_delay.shtml; Afrol News, *Opposition warns government against delayed polls*, 6 July 2009, available at <http://www.afrol.com/articles/33672>.
10. Report received from a IASC Protection Cluster partner.