



## **Somalia - Researched and compiled by the Refugee Documentation Centre of Ireland on Tuesday 24 June 2014**

### **Information on current internal and external armed conflict**

A paper issued by the *UNHCR* in June 2014 points out that:

...“the security situation in many parts of Southern and Central Somalia continues to be volatile...and the capacity of the State and its institutions to protect civilians residing there remains weak, including at local level...Protracted armed conflict has had devastating consequences, including massive displacement, weakened community structures, gross human rights violations and the breakdown of law and order. Large parts of Southern and Central Somalia remain under the effective control of non-state armed groups” (UNHCR (17 June 2014) *UNHCR Position on Returns to Southern and Central Somalia*).

*Reuters* in May 2014 notes:

“Somalia's government is struggling to impose any sense of order, more than two decades after the fall of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre tipped the country into chaos” (Reuters (24 May 2014) *Al Shabaab attacks Somali parliament, at least 10 dead*).

A report released in May 2014 by *Agence France Presse* points out that:

“Continued conflict, compounded by poor rains and funding shortfalls, are threatening the few gains made in Somalia since an extreme famine less than three years ago, with the United Nations and aid agencies warning the troubled country could be sliding back into a food crisis” (Agence France Presse (12 May 2014) *Five killed in Somalia bombing: police*).

A *United Nations* report published in May 2014 notes:

“Early in March, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the army launched Operation Eagle. During the first phase of the joint operations, significant gains were achieved on multiple fronts in territory controlled by Al-Shabaab. At the same time, protracted insecurity was experienced in Mogadishu” (United Nations Security Council (12 May 2014) *Report of the Secretary General on Somalia*, p.3).

*IRIN News* in June 2014 states:

“Inter-clan clashes over the last week in Somalia's southern Lower Shabelle region have killed approximately 30 and have forced over 250 to take refuge in African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) bases, according to the organization” (IRIN News (11 June 2014) *Clans clash in Somalia's Lower Shabelle*).

In June 2014 *Reuters* states:

“Kenyan fighter jets have attacked two bases belonging to Islamist al Shabaab insurgents in Somalia and killed at least 80 militants, African Union peacekeepers

there said on Monday” (Reuters (23 June 2014) *Kenyan jets hit al Shabaab bases in Somalia, kill 80 - AU force*).

This article also notes:

“Kenya first sent its troops into neighbouring Somalia in 2011 after several attacks inside its territory that it blamed on al Shabaab, and later joined the peacekeeping force. The militants have since carried out a string of assaults to punish Kenya for its intervention. Al Shabaab fighters killed at least 67 people in a raid on a Nairobi shopping mall last year” (ibid).

## References

Agence France Presse (12 May 2014) *Five killed in Somalia bombing: police*  
<http://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/five-killed-somalia-bombing-police>  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

IRIN News (11 June 2014) *Clans clash in Somalia’s Lower Shabelle*  
<http://reliefweb.int/report/somalia/clans-clash-somalia-s-lower-shabelle>  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

Reuters (23 June 2014) *Kenyan jets hit al Shabaab bases in Somalia, kill 80 - AU force*  
<http://www.trust.org/item/20140623111342-vwx9g/?source=search>  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

Reuters (24 May 2014) *Al Shabaab attacks Somali parliament, at least 10 dead*  
<http://www.trust.org/item/20140524154629-g2s5s/?source=search>  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

UNHCR (17 June 2014) *UNHCR Position on Returns to Southern and Central Somalia*  
<http://www.ein.org.uk/members/country-report/unhcr-position-returns-southern-and-central-somalia>  
This is a subscription database  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

United Nations Security Council (12 May 2014) *Report of the Secretary General on Somalia*  
<http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/sgreports/2014.shtml>  
Accessed Tuesday 24 June 2014

This response was prepared after researching publicly accessible information currently available to the Refugee Documentation Centre within time constraints. This response is not and does not purport to be conclusive as to the merit of any particular claim to refugee status or asylum. Please read in full all documents referred to.

Sources Consulted

Amnesty International

BBC News  
Electronic Immigration Network  
European Country of Origin Information Network  
Freedom House  
Google  
Human Rights Watch  
Immigration and Refugee Board of Canada  
Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre  
International Crisis Group  
IRIN News  
Lexis Nexis  
Minority Rights Group International  
Online Newspapers  
Refugee Documentation Centre E-Library  
Refugee Documentation Centre Query Database  
Reliefweb  
Reuters  
United Kingdom Home Office  
United States Department of State  
UNHCR Refworld

This document was created with Win2PDF available at <http://www.win2pdf.com>.  
The unregistered version of Win2PDF is for evaluation or non-commercial use only.  
This page will not be added after purchasing Win2PDF.