

SUMMARY

During the month of October, 140 civilian casualties (78 killed and 62 injured) were recorded. Al Shabaab was responsible for 46 per cent of the casualties (with 55 out of 65 total casualties recorded in South West State), and 109 reported cases of abductions. AMISOM reportedly caused six casualties (four killed and two injured) in two incidents that occurred in Jubaland. Several security forces-related casualties were reportedly linked to poor crowd control and excessive use of force. In Mogadishu, one female IDP was killed during a registration for food distribution carried out by a local organization and one civilian was injured when police opened fire to disperse participants in a demonstration; in Bossaso, one civilian was killed when police opened fire to disperse vehicles on a road.

KEY FIGURES

CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AND OTHER PROTECTION CONCERNS¹

TOTAL
140

KILLED
78

INJURED
62

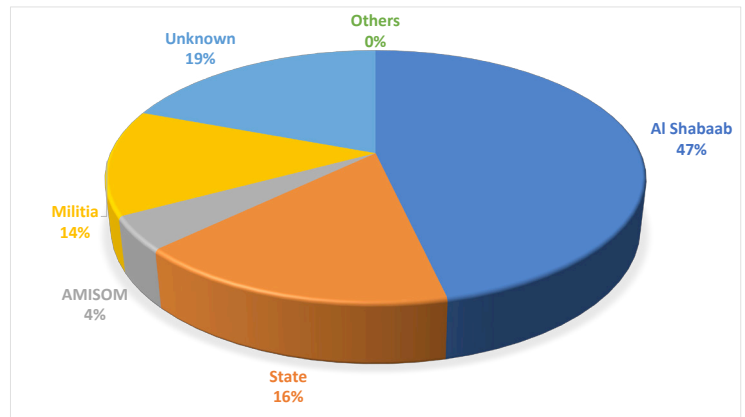
ABDUCTIONS
109

¹ Casualty figures are subject to change due to late reporting and/or additional information received by HRPG after publication of the brief.

HIGHLIGHTS

- AS: **19%** decrease from September
- State Actors: **36%** decrease from September
- Abductions: **18%** decrease from September (which with 133 represented the highest figure in 2018)
- Arbitrary arrests and/or prolonged detention: **383%** decrease from September
- Clan militia: **19%** increase from September
- Airstrikes: three airstrikes by unidentified aircraft reportedly caused seven civilian casualties in Gedo region

PERCENTAGE OF CIVILIAN CASUALTIES BY MAIN PERPETRATOR - OCTOBER 2018



DEATH PENALTY



- One death sentence pronounced in October (by the Bay Regional Civilian Court in South West State).
- Two executions carried out:
 - An Al Shabaab member convicted of being involved in the 14 October 2017 mass casualty attack in Mogadishu;
 - A private guard executed by South West Special Police Forces in Baidoa the same day he was sentenced, despite being granted 30 days to appeal his verdict, which was a violation of his due process and fair trial rights.

FREEDOM OF EXPRESSION



- Among the incidents reported:
- A journalist reportedly shot and killed by unidentified armed men in Lower Shabelle;
 - A cameraman beaten and arrested by Somaliland Police, and subsequently released;
 - A journalist arrested by Somaliland Police in Sanaag region.
- In Puntland:
- The Ministry of Information revoked the license of a local television (SBS TV) and suspended its activities, accusing them of creating insecurity;
 - The Nugaal Regional Governor announced that no conference or meeting would be held in Garowe without prior approval of the Regional Security Committee.

PRISON MONITORING



- HRPG carried out monitoring missions to the prisons of Beletweyne in Hirshabelle, and Borama in Somaliland.
- HRPG observed that both prisons were overcrowded. HRPG was informed that the prison in Beletweyne does not have any medical personnel; in case of medical emergencies, the prisoners are referred to the Somali National Army hospital.

CONCERNS

STRENGTHENING NATIONAL INSTITUTIONS



HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE POLICY (HRDDP)

HRPG briefed the OHCHR Policy Advisory Group on the strategic use of HRDDP in Somalia. OHCHR will follow up on the issues raised, including with the UN Executive Committee, as part of the outcome of the 2018 HRDDP review. The AMISOM-UNSOS-HRPG technical working group on HRDDP met and agreed to organize a joint monitoring mission of measures adopted by AMISOM to reduce risks of civilian harm in AMISOM air operations.

CHILD PROTECTION



The Country Task Force on Monitoring and Reporting (CTFMR) documented a total of **211 incidents** of grave violations affecting **378 children (313 boys and 65 girls)**. The children were victims of recruitment and use (**134**), abduction (**118**), killing and maiming (**100**) and rape (**26**). There were six cases of attack on schools, and six cases of denial of humanitarian access and two cases of attack against hospitals. AS was responsible for most of the violations (61%), followed by unknown armed elements (13%), Somali Police (7%), SNA (4%), while the remaining violations were attributed to Federal Member States forces, AMISOM, Kenya Defence Forces and clan militias. During the same period, the CTFMR documented 14 incidents affecting 29 boys detained by Somali Police (26), SNA (2) and Jubaland forces (1) during security operations mainly conducted in Banadir region (11).

HUMAN RIGHTS TRAINING



- One day human rights training for **18 journalists** (including six women) in Beletweyne.
- Two-day human rights training for **21 Civil Society Organizations (CSO)** members (including 13 women) in Beletweyne.
- Six-day training on human rights and administration of justice for **40 Puntland Police Station Commanders** and Prosecutors.
- Two-day workshop on access to justice for victims of sexual violence in rural areas for **40 participants** (parliamentarians, ministries, CSOs, traditional elders, political parties; 19 of them women) in Hargeisa.
- Three-day training on human rights (with focus on arrest and detention) and international humanitarian law for **50 South West Special Police Forces officers** in Baidoa.
- One-day training on the UN Convention against Torture and its reporting procedure for the Inter-Ministerial Task Force on Human Rights and the Ministry of Women and Human Rights Development (**26 participants, including 10 women**).
- UNSOM HRPG supported Somali Women Disability Association (SOWDA), a local NGO in Mogadishu, to organize a panel discussion to raise awareness for the rights of women with disabilities, for **35 representatives** from CSOs, Banadir Regional Authority and human rights defenders.

IN FOCUS

Signing by Somalia of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) on 2 October



- On 2 October 2018, the Somalia's Minister of Women and Human Rights Development signed the CRPD on behalf of the President of Somalia.
- The Federal Government of Somalia initiated the process to sign the CRPD in June 2018.
- The signing of the CRPD was envisaged by the Somalia Government in the National Disability Road Map, adopted in May 2018 and led by the Ministry of Women and Human Rights.
- During the first Global Disability Summit (24 July 2018), co-hosted by the United Kingdom.
- Government with the International Disability Alliance and the Government of Kenya, Somalia committed to ensuring that people with disabilities can enjoy their rights, enabling full societal participation.