**SUMMARY OF PEACE & SECURITY Related Developments in the IGAD Region**

**TIGRAY CONFLICT**

The Tigray conflict that has extended to Amhara and Afar regions has displaced an estimated 229,000 people in Afar. The Tigray Peoples’ Liberation Front (TPLF) is also accused of killing 240 civilians including 107 children as well as looting of farmers’ property and humanitarian aid. Concerns around disruptions of humanitarian aid delivery to displaced populations and others affected continues.

**WIDER HUMANITARIAN CONCERNS IN ETHIOPIA**

According to OCHA, an estd. 1,003,000 people are displaced due to violence in Amhara, Afar, Beni-Shangul Gumuz, Oromia, SNNP and Tigray regions. UNHCR asked for USD164.5 M to urgently assist 5.2M displaced people in Ethiopia and Sudan. Aid delivery is affected by insecurity and logistical challenges related to poor road conditions due to rains and flooding. Access to basic services such as healthcare and clean drinking water is also limited.

**SOMALIA ELECTIONS**

Despite long delays, Somali Elections are progressing. Prime Minister Mohamed Hussein Roble informed his cabinet about a verbal agreement with leaders of the federal member states to conclude the elections. Jubaland and South West State have begun electing Senators to the Upper House with Puntland announcing that they will soon be submitting the list of qualifiable candidates. Galmudug announced that it has formed the Senatorial Election Committee, which will be responsible for overseeing the Upper House election process in the region with a finalized roadmap on elections security, financing and delegate selection. The process will culminate in the election of a new president in October.

**ETHIOPIA REMAINING REGIONAL ELECTIONS**

*In Ethiopia,* the Electoral Board has announced 30 September as the new date for Southwest Referendum as well as elections in Somali and Harari regions despite opposition from some regional political parties.

**KENYA BUILDING BRIDGES INITIATIVE (BBI)**

*Kenya’s Court of Appeal rejected President Uhuru Kenyatta's bid to change the constitution - under the government-backed Building Bridges Initiative (BBI) – calling it unconstitutional. The ruling upheld a previous high court decision in May 2021. The ruling created political uncertainty with major constitutional changes suspended for now, and new alliances taking shape ahead of the 2022 national elections. The BBI secretariat said it will move to the Kenyan Supreme Court to overturn the ruling.*
UPSURGE OF COVID-19 INFECTIONS, FOOD SHORTAGE IN SOMALIA

Officials in Somalia’s Puntland region have warned of an upsurge of COVID-19 infections with the administrative capital Garowe and Qardho town in Bari region most affected. This report came as the Federal Government records over 30 deaths in the one week alone. According to the Ministry of Humanitarian Affairs and Disaster Management, urgent aid needs to be delivered to more than a third of the country’s population that it said is at risk of starvation. An alarming number of people 5.9 million are in need of food and water.

RELATIONS BETWEEN KENYA-SOMALIA IMPROVE AS PIRACY RE-EMERGES

Diplomatic relations between Kenya and Somalia showed signs of improvement following a meeting between President Uhuru Kenyatta and Somali PM Mohamed Roble. Kenya welcomed the restoration of the Kenya-Somalia diplomatic relations and called for an amicable resolution of the maritime border dispute despite Somalia’s insistence on the case being handled by the International Court of Justice (ICJ). On the other hand, after years of declining pirate attacks off Somalia coast, a vessel was attacked in transit whilst six nautical miles offshore of Somalia in a rare incidence of attempted piracy.

VIOLENCE AND INSECURITY CONTINUE TO ESCALATE IN SOUTH SUDAN AMID ONGOING PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

- Deadly clashes between NAS rebels and SSPDF forces in Yei of Otogo Payam in Central Equatorial’s Yei River County have caused women, children, and the elderly to flee to Yei town. Displacement in harvest time has become increasingly common as attackers come every year to loot crops.

- In Warrap State Violent clashes erupted between the communities of Luany-Jang of Tonj East County, Lou Paher community of Tonj North County, and Thiik community of Tonj East County who teamed up with Lou Paher to raid cattle of the Luach Community. Officials say 27 killed, 29 wounded in communal clashes in Romathieng village of Tonj East County.

- Two girls and a boy were abducted from the Iluhum residential area of Torit town in Eastern Equatoria State.

- In Twic County of South Sudan’s Warrap State a 13-year-old boy was seriously injured and more than 700 cattle stolen. The raid at Majok Noon village was conducted by suspected armed youth from neighboring Mayom County in Unity State.

SUDAN-ETHIOPIA AL-FASHAGA BORDER DISPUTE CONTINUED CONCERN

The Sudanese Prime Minister stressed that the Al-Fashaga area is an integral part of Sudan and will not accept bargaining over it. He made the statement during an inaugural event of several infrastructures’ projects including bridges and roads built to link the border area with the rest of the country. Turkey offered to broker a peace deal between Ethiopia and Sudan as well as the Ethiopian Government and TPLF.

HEAVY FLOODS IN SUDAN, SOUTH SUDAN CAUSE DEATHS, DISPLACEMENT

- Heavy rains and flash flooding affected eight out of 18 states across Sudan including Al Jazirah, Gedaref, North Kordofan, River Nile, South Darfur, South Kordofan, West Darfur, and White Nile States. Over 800 homes have been destroyed and over 4,400 homes damaged with over 12,200 people affected. The Humanitarian Aid Commissioner appealed to all local and international organisations to provide urgent humanitarian support. More than 50 people were also killed as swollen Blue Nile disrupts access routes to Ed Damazin, the capital of Blue Nile state.

- Seven people drowned and thousands were displaced by floods in Mayiendit County of Unity state in South Sudan. More than 800 livestock were also killed. In the Alali area of Akobo County in Jonglei State, heavy floods caused by Akobo River bursting its banks destroyed several farms, leaving the residents there without food. Over 1,500 new Internally Displaced Peoples (IDPs) affected by floods are in dire need of humanitarian assistance in South Sudan.

AL-SHABAAB CONTINUES TO POSE SECURITY THREATS IN REGION

- Somali army says airstrike killed 90 Al-Shabaab terrorists in Somalia’s central province of Mudug. The military alongside Galmudug regional forces had liberated the village from the terror group in July. Meanwhile, the Taliban takeover of Afghanistan has caused fears of the repeat of a similar situation in Somalia when international forces decide to hand over security to the Somali government. Security experts also lament the overdependence of the Somali government on international troops.

- Kenyan Special Forces detectives and Anti-Terror Police joint caught two terror suspects in the coastal region at the Likoni-Ferry crossing channel on the mainland side in the morning with AK-47 rifles, mobile phones, ammunition and other items were recovered. The police believe that many Shabab returnees are holed up in the coastal and northeastern regions using improvised explosive devices. In addition, two gunmen were killed in a police shootout at Dadajabula area, Wajir County. Police recovered four AK47 rifles and over 300 bullets.

MONTHLY ROUND UP AUGUST 2021
The infographic reflects a compilation of recorded violent incidents in the IGAD region in August 2021. It’s based on the media report and information from other open sources. Description of incidents and associated details do not necessarily reflect the views of CEWARN/IGAD.

SUDAN

3 killed and 10 others wounded due to fights erupted between former rebel fighters and Arab armed men in North Darfur state.

DJIBOUTI

At least 3 people died after an outbreak of intercommunal violence between Etnic Afar and Issa group in Djibouti.

ETHIOPIA

240 civilians massacred including 107 children by TPLF’s attack in Afar Region.

35 civilians allegedly died of gun shots in a bus at Metekel zone Mandura Woreda by ‘Gnge group of Gumuze ’

>10,000 MACHETES seized by Police arranged for alleged terror plot in Addis Ababa.

SOMALIA

and several others injured in two separate blasts in central and southern Somalia

Somalia’s central region of Mudug

15 Commuters killed on an ambush on Juba-Nimule highway

116 TPLF Infiltrators apprehend by Security Forces in South Wollo zone

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KENYA

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SOUTH SUDAN

16 700+ stolen cattle in Alualuk Payam of Yirol West County.

and tens displaced in fresh clashes between communities from Terekeka County in Juba’s Kwokk-Luri area of Central Equatoria State.

136 cattlest allegedly stolen by Kenya Turkana County raiders from Kapeota East County communities

Somalia’s central region of Mudug

Due to communal fighting in Romathieng Village of Tonj East County

Following an ambush on a convoy of commercial vehicles along the Kapeota-Ngauro road in Budi County, Eastern Equatoria State

SPLA-IO forces loyal to the breakaway faction led by General Simon Gatwich Dual came under a fresh attack by forces allied to Dr. Riek Macher in the Kitgwang area of Magens in Upper Nile State.

South Sudan

3 Militant killed and 432 rounds of ammunition recovered in Manda.

Terror suspects detained in coastal region of Mombasa on suspicion of being members of a terrorist group.

Terror suspects arrested in the coastal region of Mombasa, 2 AK-47 rifles and ammunition seized

Somalia’s central region of Mudug

Due to a conflict between the Rer Jalaf sub clan and the Wagardhac sub clan in Miro-Awleed village along the Somalia-Ethiopia border

15 Commuters killed on an ambush on Juba-Nimule highway

116 TPLF Infiltrators apprehend by Security Forces in South Wollo zone

3 Militant killed and 432 rounds of ammunition recovered in Manda.

7 Terror suspects detained in coastal region of Mombasa on suspicion of being members of a terrorist group.

2 Terror suspects arrested in the coastal region of Mombasa, 2 AK-47 rifles and ammunition seized

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