

(see p. 341), from 8 to 14 August. Usman Sarki (Nigeria) and Mark Lydall Grant (United Kingdom) would lead the mission in Somalia. Briefing the Council on 19 August [S/PV.7245], the United Kingdom stated that President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, Prime Minister Abdiwali Sheikh Ahmed and Speaker of the Parliament Mohamed Osman Jawari had hailed the United Nations as a key contributor to the protection of the sovereignty of Somalia. The mission had reiterated the importance of holding a referendum on the Constitution in 2015 and democratic elections in 2016, and had underlined the importance of the participation of women in the peace and reconciliation process. It had also reiterated the Council's determination to end the threat posed by Al-Shabaab to Somalia and the region.

**Report of Secretary-General (September).** In response to Security Council resolution 2158(2014) (see p. 354), the Secretary-General submitted a September report on Somalia [S/2014/699] covering major developments during the period from 1 May to 31 August. He stated that in May and June, tensions between State institutions threatened to derail political progress when a group of parliamentarians petitioned the President, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, to resign for failing to implement the Federal Government's six-pillar policy for the political transformation of Somalia, known as Vision 2016. The President's 16 June address to the Federal Parliament helped to defuse the situation. A revised version of Vision 2016 was issued by the Federal Government on 30 June.

On 23 June, the Federal Government brokered an agreement on south-west Somalia between the two rival political initiatives based in Baidoa to establish an interim south-west administration. Key figures in the six-region state initiative, however, opposed the agreement. There were also positive developments in the implementation of the Addis Ababa Agreement of August 2013 [YUN 2013, p. 259]. The militia leader, Barre Adan Shire ("Hiralle"), returned to Mogadishu on 30 August 2014. About 118 members of his militia also returned and surrendered their weapons to AMISOM. Tension in the disputed Sool region grew when "Somaliland" forces seized the town of Taleex on 12 June. On 26 June, "Somaliland" forces withdrew from Taleex, leaving behind a pro-"Somaliland" Dhulbahante militia.

The overall security situation in Somalia remained volatile. In Mogadishu, the number of incidents attributed to Al-Shabaab abated during May and June, but incidents during Ramadan increased. On 24 May, Al-Shabaab fighters stormed the Federal Parliament building. Three AMISOM and 11 Somali troops were killed, while more than 20 others were injured, including a parliamentarian. Al-Shabaab vowed more attacks against the Federal Government and those it termed "invaders", including the United Nations. In July, Mogadishu experienced a surge in targeted assassinations. The victims comprised members of the

Somali security forces and civilians, including two parliamentarians. On 30 August, Al-Shabaab attacked a National Intelligence and Security Agency prison in Mogadishu, resulting in the deaths of seven attackers and three Agency personnel.

Al-Shabaab continued to exert pressure in southern and central Somalia. It intensified guerrilla activities around Ceel Buur and Buulobarde in the Galguduud and Hiraa regions. On 26 June, insurgents carried out a complex attack against a Djiboutian base in Buulobarde, killing two Somali troops. On 8 May, Al-Shabaab fighters clashed with Puntland security forces in Feloja, Bari region. On 4 August, the Police Commissioner for the Bari region was killed in a suicide bombing in Boosaaso.

In support of the implementation of Vision 2016, UNSOM and UNDP deployed a chief electoral adviser and a senior electoral affairs officer to Somalia. UNSOM conducted a baseline survey of small arms and ammunition in Mogadishu. Its results were included in the Federal Government's report to the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751(1992) [YUN 1992, p. 202] and 1907(2009) [YUN 2009, p. 299] concerning Somalia and Eritrea. The Ministry of National Security, supported by UNSOM, convened the first meeting of the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Working Group in Mogadishu on 10 July. Logistical support continued to be provided by the United Nations Support Office for AMISOM, also to the army, as authorized by the Security Council in its resolution 2124(2013) [YUN 2013, p. 256] and the revised AMISOM concept of operations. It made arrangements to support the second joint AMISOM and army offensive, "Operation Indian Ocean", which began in August.

Security within Mogadishu International Airport was bolstered with the deployment of the United Nations Guard Unit, as recommended by the Secretary-General in 2013 [YUN 2013, p. 256]. The Unit's first-phase deployment of 332 personnel within the main compounds at the airport was completed on 15 June. The second-phase deployment of 78 personnel was completed on 8 and 9 July, thereby achieving the mandated strength of 410 troops. The amendment to the status-of-mission agreement, aimed at facilitating the Unit's operations, remained under negotiation with the Federal Government.

The Secretary-General said that it was essential that military operations be followed by efforts to establish or improve governance structures in recovered areas and by the delivery of basic services, including security. He called on the international community to rally behind the Federal Government to consolidate those gains.

**Year-end developments.** In a later report on the situation in Somalia [S/2015/51], covering the period from 1 September to 31 December, the Secretary-General stated that a serious political crisis in the