

Terrorist Financing Targeting Center Designates Al-Shabaab Networks in Somalia

Today, the seven members of the Terrorist Financing Targeting Center (TFTC) announced joint designations of 15 al-Shabaab leaders, operatives, and financial facilitators operating in Somalia. These targets were involved in a wide range of activities in support of al-Shabaab, including fundraising and proliferation of Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). This is the eighth round of joint designations by the TFTC.

BACKGROUND ON AL-SHABAAB FUNDRAISING AND OPERATIONAL NETWORKS IN SOMALIA

The following 15 individuals have served as key regional leaders and members of the terrorist group in the Lower Shabelle, Lower Juba, and Middle Juba regions of Somalia. They have been involved in extensive revenue generation and other activities in support of al-Shabaab through illegal fee collection from local Somalis; coercing local residents to follow al-Shabaab's directions through its illegitimate "police force," known as the Hisbah; kidnappings; and facilitating the manufacture and placement of IEDs.

Hasaan Abshir Xuuroow (Xuuroow) is an al-Shabaab intelligence and finance officer who has led a group of other al-Shabaab associates to collect mandatory "donations" from civilians in Kismayo, Somalia. Xuuroow has taken livestock from owners as donations for al-Shabaab, later auctioning them off to make a profit for personal financial gain.

Aadan Yusuf Saciid Ibrahim (Ibrahim) is an al-Shabaab mandatory donations collector in Lower Shabelle, Somalia. Specifically, Ibrahim has been responsible for enforcing the collection of fees associated with livestock and market sales. Ibrahim has levied heavy charges on behalf of al-Shabaab but retains at least some of those profits for his personal enrichment.

As of early 2022, **Mumin Dheere (Dheere)** was deputy emir of Wayanta, Lower Juba, Somalia and has coordinated retaliatory attacks for al-Shabaab by targeting Somali and African Union Mission in Somalia security forces, and has planned to use vehicle borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) and mortars in the attacks. Separately, Dheere has also planned to attack Kismayo International Airport.

In late 2021, **Macalin Burhan (Burhan)** was appointed as the al-Shabaab Hisbah commander of the Wayanta area in Lower Juba, Somalia. As recently as mid-2022, al-Shabaab had imprisoned more than 80 civilians in the Wayanta area. Burhan, in his position as the al-Shabaab regional Hisbah commander, has refused to release the civilians.

Ali Ahmed Hussein (Hussein) is an al-Shabaab emir in the Lower Shabelle region of Somalia. Hussein has demanded payment from local clans, assisted in the movement of al-Shabaab fighters who kidnapped citizens in Lower Shabelle, and purchased and stored weapons for al-Shabaab militants in the region.

Maxamed Cali (Cali) is al-Shabaab company commander in charge of 100 fighters. Cali reports to **Dheere** and has regularly associated with **Roobow, Burhan, and Xuuroow**.

Ahmed Kabadhe (Kabadhe) was the al-Shabaab emir in Jubaland, Somalia, and has ordered al-Shabaab fighters under his command to attack and continually harass local security

forces. In late 2022, he plotted an attack using VBIEDs and suicide bombers with al-Shabaab members **Kabadhe, Dheere, Cali, and Burhan.**

Siyaat Ayuto (Ayuto) was appointed as the al-Shabaab Hisbah commander for the Wiliyat area, Lower Juba, Somalia. Previously, Ayuto served as the Hisbah commander of Beer Xaani, Somalia. Ayuto has also served as the al-Shabaab emir for Kismayo operations.

Hassan Yariisow Aadan (Aadan) is an al-Shabaab commander who has collected fees from locals in the Lower Shabelle area to support al-Shabaab.

Siciid Abdullahi Aadan (Aadan) is an al-Shabaab member who has operated as an IED expert and facilitator. Separately, Aadan has also extracted fees from the local population on behalf of al-Shabaab.

Mohamed Abdullah Hirey (Hirey) is al-Shabaab Governor of the Juba Region and has participated in pro-al-Shabaab propaganda.

Cabdi Roobow (Roobow) was a mid-level al-Shabaab commander in charge of the Wayanta area in Lower Juba, Somalia and has planned attacks against Abdi Biroole, Lower Juba, Somalia with **Dheere** and another al-Shabaab official.

Shiek Aadan Abuukar Malayle (Malayle) is an al-Shabaab leader who oversees the collection of fees from the local population in Lower Shabelle, Somalia. The money collected by al-Shabaab is then used to purchase weapons, ammunition, and supplies for the group.

Aadan Jiss (Jiss) serves as a Hisbah commander for al-Shabaab. Jiss has also managed a detention center and handled detainments for al-Shabaab's so-called "courts."

Cumar Guhaad is an al-Shabaab commander in the Lower Shabelle, Somalia, who has used his leadership position in al-Shabaab to order clans in the region to pay large sums of money to support the terrorist group.

As a result of today's action, all property and interests in property of the designated persons described above that are in the United States or in the possession or control of U.S. persons are blocked and must be reported to OFAC. In addition, any entities that are owned, directly or indirectly, individually or in the aggregate, 50 percent or more by one or more blocked persons are also blocked.

Dated 14 April, 2025

