



# Weekly Report

## Federal Republic of Somalia

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**MAY 16–23, 2014**

- 1** Somali Military Court accused of denying fair trial rights
- 2** British Embassy in Mogadishu re-opened
- 3** Famine Conditions of 2011 That Resulted in 260,000 Deaths Currently Exist in Somalia

### ***Somali Military Court accused of denying fair trial rights***

- Human Rights Watch has released a report, “Courts of ‘Absolute Power’: Fair Trial Violations by Somalia’s Military Court, which accused the court of denying military and civilian defendants the right to obtain counsel, prepare and present a defence, receive a public hearing, not incriminate themselves, and appeal a conviction to a higher court.
- A state of emergency was declared over areas vacated by al-Shabaab and the military court granted jurisdiction over them.
- The court has sentenced over a dozen individuals to death.
- Source: Human Rights Watch

<http://www.hrw.org/news/2014/05/21/somalia-unfair-trials-military-courts>

### ***British Embassy in Mogadishu re-opened***

- Britain is the first of EU Member States to re-open their embassies in Mogadishu, locating the heavily guarded building behind the barriers of the Mogadishu International Airport.
- Although the Foreign Officer Secretary acknowledged AMISON successes he also reaffirmed the extreme security threat working within the embassy and travelling outside of it poses to British staff.
- Source: The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/public-leaders-network/2014/may/22/britain-newest-embassy-mogadishu-somalia>

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*“The trickle of destitute women with young, malnourished children strapped to their backs arriving at Banadir Hospital worries the medics.”*

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### ***Famine Conditions of 2011 That Resulted in 260,000 Deaths Currently Exist in Somalia***

- Two children died of malnourishment last week in Mogadishu’s Banadir Hospital and doctors fear as many as 50,000 are currently severely malnourished.
- Hunger, the lack of rain, and continued fighting between AMISON and al-Shabaab, which restrict the flow of aid and discourages farmers from planting crops, are returning the conditions of famine.
- Without receiving the funds required, UN humanitarian official Philippe Lazzarini says that food distribution programs will have to shut down, including UNICEFS health services which service more than 2 million people.
- Source: ABC

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/hunger-somalia-familiar-menace-return-23794098>