

# Somalia's Islamists ban UN agencies

Al-Shabab militants thought to be linked to al-Qaeda have declared three UN agencies "enemies of Islam" and shut down their operations in southern Somalia. Al-Shabab and its allies have taken control of large portions of the country in a battle to topple the government in Mogadishu



**Government:**  
Led by moderate Islamist **Sharif Sheikh Ahmed**, (left) who headed **Islamic Courts Union** before it was ousted by Ethiopian troops in 2006

**Protected by 4,300 Ugandan and Burundian AU peacekeepers**

President Sharif has promised to introduce Sharia law but hardliners accuse him of being a western stooge

**Insurgents:** **Al-Shabab** and **Hizbul Islam** groups, backed by foreign fighters, declared war on Sharif after he broke ranks with Islamist hardliners and joined government in January

**Funded from taxes, piracy profits, extortion and donations by Somalis and Arabs in diaspora**

Hizbul Islam chief **Hassan Dahir Aweys** (right), leads insurgency



## ERITREA

Denies intelligence reports it is arming Islamist militants

## DJIBOUTI

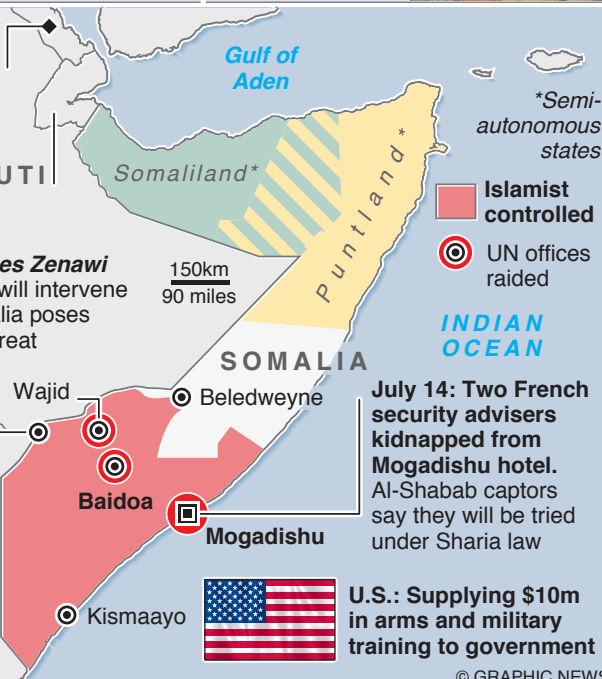
## ETHIOPIA

Prime Minister **Meles Zenawi** says Addis Ababa will intervene if situation in Somalia poses national security threat to his country

## Jul 18, Mandera:

Three foreign aid workers seized. Hizbul Islam blamed for attack

## KENYA



**U.S.:** Supplying \$10m in arms and military training to government