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PRESS RELEASE

During the afternoon of 20 August 2020, the Federal Government of Somalia, in partnership with the United States Africa Command (AFRICOM), conducted an airstrike against an al-Shabaab terrorist in the vicinity of Kurtunwarrey in Lower Shebelle in Somalia. The precision airstrike killed one (1) al-Shabaab militant. This terrorist has a history of working with explosives and was preparing to use Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) on a public road.

The Federal Government of Somalia and U.S. AFRICOM take great measures to prevent civilian casualties in the fight against terrorist groups and investigate each reported allegation fully. At this time, no civilians are assessed to have been killed or injured in the attack.

This strike is part of the FGS efforts, in coordination with AFRICOM, to rid Somalia of the atrocities of al-Shabaab who prey upon our Somali brothers and sisters indiscriminately while providing trying to provide a better future for the Somali people.

The Federal Government of Somalia, the Somali National Army, Danab, and its United States partners and allies are committed to fighting al-Shabaab terrorists, and preventing the deaths of innocent civilians that include men, women, and children in Somalia and its neighboring countries. The efforts we take to protect and safeguard civilians starkly contrasts the indiscriminate attacks that al-Shabaab regularly conduct against the civilian populace of Somalia.

This airstrike demonstrates that al-Shabaab cannot hide. The FGS and its US AFRICOM partners resolve to defeat those who terrorize and exploit the people of Somalia. The FGS with its U.S. partners look to enhance governance and economic development while preventing al-Shabaab's desire to expand their reach and further export violence.



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