



Progress of the Banadir Regional Court, Year 2023

Table of Contents

Introduction.....	1
Court Administration Reform	1
Appointment of an Internal Auditor	2
Appointment of the Court's Asset Registrar	2
Organization of the Court's Tax Revenues.....	2
Construction and Maintenance:	2
Maintenance of the Court Building.....	2
The Central Department Buildings.....	3
The opening of the Court's Central Department."	4
Security of the Court Building:	4
Construction of Speed Bumps.....	4
Control of Roads to the Court	4
Providing an Armored Vehicle.....	5
Establishment of the Court Archive.....	6
Expansion of E-Case Management	8
.....	8
Acceleration of the Enforcement of Court Judgments	8
Training Law Students at Law Faculties:.....	12
Enhancing the Knowledge of Court Staff:.....	13
Establishment of an Official Facebook Page	14
Designating a Public Day.....	14
Broadcasting Court Hearings	15
Conclusion	17

Introduction

The Banaadir Regional Court is the most important court operating in Banaadir, an administrative region in Southeast Somalia, also covering the same area as the city of Mogadishu. It is classified as a first-degree court, and it has jurisdiction over civil cases that exceed the authority of district courts, criminal cases with penalties exceeding three years of imprisonment, and fines over 3000 Somali shillings. It also has exclusive jurisdiction over labor disputes appealed from the Central Committee responsible for mediating conflicts between employees and employers. Additionally, it has special authority to hear cases where the government is a party, as indicated by Article 8 of the Civil Procedure Code. Furthermore, the court has the authority to enforce rulings starting from its own decisions, which can be appealed up to the country's Supreme Court.

The progress made this year was based on the decisive adoption of reforms and constant oversight, increasing accountability and awareness of the smooth operation of the court in serving the public and delivering justice. The President of the Republic, Dr. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, advancing his promise to improve the judiciary, appointed regional court chairs and appellate judges on 18/10/2022, selected from among judges working in the Banaadir regional courts. Notably, the chairperson of the Banaadir Regional Court was chosen from judges who passed the open judiciary exam conducted on 10/9/2019 and were sworn in by the president on 12/5/2020—bringing a new philosophy into the judiciary. The chairpersons assumed office on 24/10/2022. It became clear that it was necessary to establish an annual plan, which was facilitated by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Mr. Bashe Yusuf Ahmed. This enabled the preparation of the 2023

operational plan for the courts to make the year's work clear and well-organized.

Court Administration Reform

Upon assuming office, the chairperson found it necessary to start by organizing the Banaadir Regional Court's administration. He established a new administrative structure different from the previous one, which was part of the overall plan agreed upon by the court leadership. The administrative structure of the Banaadir regional, appellate, and regional courts was aligned. This restructuring aimed at accelerating the operations of the Banaadir Regional Court. It was agreed to adopt the following structure:

1. Three divisional directors.
2. One senior assistant.
3. Department heads.

In the court administration, excluding the chairperson, the top officials are the director of labor and personnel, the director of administration and finance, the director of the chairperson's office, and the senior assistant in the central role. The above-mentioned court administration has greatly improved the court's work, narrowed accountability and made it easier to continuously monitor ongoing work. It also facilitated the weekly reporting to the chairperson's office, enabling easy resolution of operational challenges.

The senior assistant regularly follows up on the files stored in assistants' offices, ensuring that the files are entered into the court's electronic system. Thereafter, these files are handed over to the central office for verification of the file count and consistency between the files and the related inventory documents. If discrepancies are found, they are returned to the assistants for correction. Once the

files are finalized and errors corrected, the senior assistant sends the files to the archives as they come into effect. If an appeal is made, copies of the file are forwarded to the appellate court. This control and follow-up system has simplified the smooth completion of work without any obstacles, which was the reason for reforming the court administration. Each director handles the responsibilities of their respective offices, for example:

- The director of labor and personnel is responsible for monitoring staff file entries and managing the employees' records. He holds accountable anyone who does not perform their duties according to Civil Service Law No. 11.
- The director of administration and finance is responsible for budget allocation, staff salary requests, managing all financial affairs, and coordinating with financial institutions dealing with the budget and salaries. Thus, he responds to all financial needs of the court.

Appointment of an Internal Auditor

Based on the protection of the nation's assets, the Chairperson appointed an internal auditor for the Banaadir Regional Court to have a person who safeguards the assets and works in cooperation with the national auditor general. This was a recommendation previously made by the national auditor general but had not been implemented before. Establishing an internal auditor is important for transparency within the institution to understand how assets are managed.

Appointment of the Court's Asset Registrar

The court possesses both movable and immovable assets intended to serve the court. To record and safeguard these assets, a dedicated staff member was appointed specifically for this task. This

person has registered all the assets owned by the Banaadir Regional Court, and updates are regularly made to add or remove assets as necessary.

Organization of the Court's Tax Revenues

The Banaadir Regional Court is one of the institutions from which tax revenues are collected. Previously, taxes were levied in ways that did not comply with the country's tax laws. For example, taxes were imposed on civil cases, enforcement cases, small claims, labor disputes; fines were levied on defendants in criminal cases; bonds were forfeited and the court would take over these funds as stipulated in Article 62 of the Criminal Procedure Code (XHCS), but many of these funds were not deposited into the government treasury. This non-compliant practice has now been rectified, and all such revenues are deposited into the national treasury. Based on this, a meeting was held with the Minister of the Ministry of Finance regarding the establishment of a standardized tariff for the courts. The Minister issued a new tariff based on recommendations from the Court Presidium. This tariff has been officially adopted by the court.

The tariff stipulates that any poor person must complete a form proving their poverty to receive a tax exemption. This process has been formally implemented, and since the issuance of the tariff, no person claiming poverty has been exempted without such a form. Likewise, there has been no tax revenue collected that has failed to reach the Ministry of Finance's treasury. This has greatly contributed to increasing government revenues and eliminating previous revenue losses.

Construction and Maintenance:

Maintenance of the Court Building

The Banaadir Regional Court building houses about four government agencies. It is said that the



building was constructed in the late 1970s, making it old and requiring regular maintenance. No significant maintenance is reported except during the tenure of the Chairperson of the Banaadir Appellate Court, Abshir Omar Hassan, who conducted repairs approximately six years ago. The building requires consistent care to preserve the working environment for the employees. This prompted the Chairpersons of the two courts to prioritize the building's maintenance. Upon recognizing the necessity, they began planning comprehensive maintenance for the entire court building in November 2023. They

contacted the agencies operating within the building and allocated funds to carry out the repairs.

An engineer in charge of the building was assigned to the project. After signing an agreement, work began in the first week of December 2023 at a cost of \$17,000. The court building maintenance was completed at the beginning of January 2024. The inauguration of the maintenance was performed by the Chief Justice of the country, Mr. Bashe Yusuf Ahmed, on the specified date. See below a picture of the courts.



Judges of the courts work in offices that, in terms of equipment and structure, are inadequate. Meaning that judges work in poor offices, which is avoidable, because a judge entrusted with millions in property and human lives should not work in an unfit place. All the offices of the Banadir Regional Court have been renovated, totaling 6 offices and their restrooms, and 9 offices have been equipped. Similarly, the Office of the Chairman has been renovated in a modern way, fully furnished with office equipment, and a key-controlled cabinet has been added.



The Central Department Buildings

The Central Department is the link between the public and the Court. It is staffed by employees specialized in their duties, led by a senior assistant responsible for the ongoing work, with subordinate assistants such as the assistant for criminal, civil, and enforcement prosecutions, and the system assistant for both criminal and civil prosecutions. Besides the staff, the Central Department manages all the aforementioned cases and serves as the mirror of the Court. The rest of the Court's building, which was old and built a long time ago, was dilapidated and required official repair.



The Chairman of the Court took responsibility for how the Central Department of the Court would be constructed, which ultimately led him to seek supporters to assist with the construction. The “Hormuud Salaam Foundation” pledged to support the construction of this department. A bidding process for construction companies began, and a

company named Ansaar won by quoting a construction cost of \$14,120. The construction officially started on 24/5/2023, and the inauguration was done by the chairman of the Supreme Court on 29/7/2023. This construction was modern and provided all the contracts and equipment needed for the staff working in the department.



The opening of the Court's Central Department."

Security of the Court Building:

Construction of Speed Bumps

In the first few days following the arrival of the chairpersons of the two courts, there was a significant issue related to the security of the courts in general and particularly the security of the Banaadir Regional Court building. This situation meant that nothing could be accomplished without resolving this security matter. To create a security plan, we summoned security officers from the Intelligence Service (Nabad Sugid) and the police. We held meetings with them to develop a security strategy to address court security issues. After thorough discussions, it was decided that a team

consisting of both police and intelligence officers would be assigned to provide recommendations on securing the courts. A few days later, they submitted a security strategy for the courts, which included building speed bumps on the roads in front of the courts. This was intended to reduce and control the speed of vehicles traveling along the road, making it easier to monitor occupants and verify their identities. The implementation of this began, and we contacted the Kulmis Company to construct them. We built eight speed bumps along the road starting from Maleyga Junction to Martini Hospital.

Control of Roads to the Court

The court is accessible by many roads, some of which could pose security risks if not controlled or specifically assigned for oversight. One such road runs behind the court; soldiers were deployed there,

and metal barriers were installed to protect the people using it and to safeguard the interests and security of the court. A checkpoint was also established on the road coming from the Via Roma junction, near the entrance of Martini Hospital, with special guards stationed on-site on alert. Overall security along the roads leading to the courts was strengthened by placing guarded stones and additional guards. For example, the road from Maleyga Junction was reinforced with guards, as was the road coming from the port, where stringent security was deployed. Additionally, all roads leading to the court were closed off with cameras monitoring activities around the court, ensuring public and court security. This initiative greatly alleviated the concerns of those who

seek services at the Banaadir Regional Courts, as well as the court staff, who previously had security fears.

Providing an Armored Vehicle

To protect the judges and court staff at the Banaadir Regional Court, it became essential to consider their security, especially due to the security challenges facing the country. The chairperson of the Banaadir Regional Court took responsibility for acquiring an armored vehicle that is bulletproof. This vehicle is intended to provide better protection to court judges when they go on official visits, improving security in areas where risks are heightened.



The chairperson succeeded in acquiring a bulletproof vehicle owned by the Banaadir Regional Court, marking the first time the court has received such a vehicle. This was achieved because the

chairperson took upon himself the great responsibility of protecting the judges and gave special importance to their security, since they are the driving force behind the court's work.



Establishment of the Court Archive

The Banaadir Regional Court is the busiest court in the Banaadir region in terms of judicial work, handling around 80% of the cases processed by the court. This means many case files are opened regularly. Therefore, there was no proper archive system in place for the Banaadir Regional Court, making it difficult to easily retrieve stored case files.

It became necessary to establish a large archive to store the court's extensive case history. The chairperson of the Banaadir Regional Court established a large, modern archive where all completed case files are stored. After training the staff on how to manage the archive, all documents were entered into a database, enabling anyone who needs access to files in the archive to easily retrieve them from a computer or from the archive shelves. See a picture of the archive below.



It is no longer easy for someone to simply remove files from the archives as used to happen before, where some people would take papers from the files to cause difficulties for certain parties. This was sometimes facilitated by some employees. The memory office's task is to collect every document or historical record that provides information about the completed case files of the Banaadir Regional Court. The purpose of the archiving is to preserve the case file information so that whenever needed, the complete and accurate data can be retrieved. The employees began training on how to electronically

register the case files on 22/11/2022. From 24/11/2022, the files in the office were archived using an electronic system. All this information has been completely secured in the archive system by two people: 1- Dahir Yusuf Omar, 2- C/Naasir Maxamed Xasan. All the records stored in the office start from the year 2008 and continue up to 2023. In total, there are 5516 registered criminal case files completed. Civil files stored are 3096 in the archive, while enforcement case files stored number 731. The total number of stored case files combined is 9343. Table 1 below shows the number of files in the system:

Table 1: The total number of stored case files					
No.	Year	Civil case files	Criminal case files	Enforcement case files	Total
1	2008	36	136	---	172
2	2009	51	53	---	104
3	2010	32	62	1	95
4	2011	165	189	---	354
5	2012	363	238	55	656
6	2013	468	422	63	953
7	2014	301	412	100	813
8	2015	264	363	74	701
9	2016	224	322	55	601
10	2017	402	360	136	898
11	2018	312	349	103	764
12	2019	209	348	79	636
13	2020	114	389	34	537
14	2021	96	711	16	823
15	2022	59	829	15	903



16	2023	-----	333	-----	333
		3096	5516	731	9343

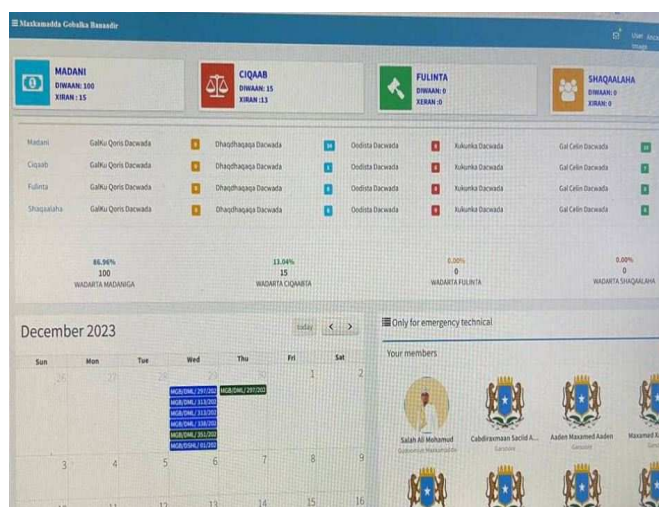
Expansion of E-Case Management

The Banaadir Regional Courts have implemented the electronic system for managing cases, which was first launched in 2018 and introduced significant improvements. Since then, the system has been in a trial phase, going through various stages. It officially began operating in 2021, being formally established in the Banaadir Regional Court, the Court of Appeal, and the Supreme Court of the country. Each judge and their assistants were given a unique user account to manage recorded cases. All judges and assistants were trained starting from 2021, when the system was officially started and used.

When the Chairman of the Regional Court took office, it became clear that the system needed to be expanded. The court leadership discussed the matter and agreed to broaden the case management system. The process of expanding it began, and Engineer Abdikariin, who initially held responsibility for it, was assigned to oversee it. He made an agreement with a team working on the matter, and the cost amounted to \$14,000.

The purpose of this expansion was to move away from the paper-based system used in the courts and transition to the electronic system that courts worldwide use. This system includes the preservation of public documents held by the courts so that, in the event of a natural disaster, the documents held in the courts would be protected. The expansion of the electronic system was officially launched on 6/7/2023. It became effective in the courts and was extended to the district courts of the Banaadir region

that had not previously received it (see the photos attached below).



Acceleration of the Enforcement of Court Judgments

When the Chairman of the Banaadir Regional Court took office, it became apparent that it was important to ensure the enforcement of court judgments so that the person who was sentenced would receive the rights that the court had ordered, in accordance with the advice of Sayyidina Umar bin Khattab to Abu Musa Al-Ash'ari: "(For it is of no benefit to speak a right that has no enforcement)." A strategy was developed to ensure that everyone whose rights the courts safeguarded would receive what the judgment prescribed, after verifying that the enforcement document is valid and meets the necessary requirements as stated in Article 338 of the Civil Procedure Code.

Many meetings were held between the Banaadir Regional Police and the Chairman of the Banaadir Regional Court, resulting in a successful outcome and an agreement that court judgments would be enforced without delay. From these meetings, it was decided that enforcement orders, which were previously addressed to the commanders of district police stations, would instead be addressed to the Banaadir Regional Police Commander, who would then take responsibility for monitoring the enforcement and be accountable to the court for implementing the court's orders.

Subsequently, the Chairman of the court delivered a speech at the judiciary conference held on January 13-14, 2023, stating that he would enforce the court judgments and there would be no exceptions or overrides of the law. He emphasized that enforcement would be mandatory so that citizens could obtain their rights.

The first execution carried out by the chairman took place on 19/3/2023. From that time onwards, a series of executions began, reaching every neighborhood in the city of

Mogadishu. Here, we present a summary of 70 cases executed by the Banadir Regional Court. See the table 2 below.



Table 2: A summary of the cases executed by the Banadir Regional Court

No	File No.	For the Executor(s)	From the Executor(s)	Year
1.	MGB/DFI/81/2014	Dhax. Sh. Nuur Xasan, Wakiil C/raxmaan Sh. Nuur Xasan	Cashar Maxamed Nuur, C/Ilaahi Warsame Guuleed, Gacal Nuur Afrax, C/qaadir Maxamed Diiriye, & Maxamed Xasan Bare	2023
2.	MGB/DFI/20/2015	Cumar Isxaaq C/qaadir, Cawil Maxamed	Qaasim Xaaji Maxamed	2023
3.	MGB/DFI/08/2018	C/Ilaahi Maxamed Bilaal, Hido Nuur Faarax	Nuur Cali Adeer, & Abuukar Maxamed Cali	2023
4.	MGB/DFI/89/2018	Xamsa Xasan Xuseen	Dhax. Nur Axmed Ibraahim	2023
5.	MGB/DFI/79/2018	Maxamed Muumin Suufi, Cabdalla Axmed Sh. Cabdalla	Sahro Axmed Maxamed, Wakiil Shukri Cabdulle Nuur	
6.	MGB/DFI/85/2018	Xasan Caddow Hiraabe, Wakiil C/Ilaahi Maxamed Qaasim	Shuceyb Cabdi GAas	2023
7.	MGB/DFI/34/2018	Maxamed C/Ilaahi Maxamuud & Faadumo Xaaji C/Ilaahi, Wakill Maryan Cabdi Ibraahim	Maxamed Xirsi afrax	2023
8.	MGB/DFI/44/2019	Dhax. Nuur Xussen Maxamuud, Wakiil C/risaaq Xasan Maxamuud	Xasan Xaashi Warsame, Wakiil Garyaqaanka Guud ee Dawladda	2023
9.	MGB/DFI/31/2019	C/rashiid Diiriye Cali, Saciid Maxamuud Maxamed, Foos Diiriye Cali & Axmed Cabdi Giindhe	Maryan Cabdi Xade, Safiyo Cabdi Yuusuf & Jeego Cabdi Warsame	2023
10.	MGB/DFI/53/2019	Dhax. C/nuur Cali, Wakiil C/qaadir Nuur Cali	Madiin Weheliye Afeey, Wakiil Saynab Cali Xasan	2023
11.	MGB/DFI/45/2019	Maxamed Cabdulle Goosaar, Caasho Xasan Sahal, Axmed Nuur Maxamed, Bashiir Nuur Maxamed & Axmed Cabdi Cali, Wakiil Sahro Ceymooy Cali	Abshir Cali Maxamuud, Wakiil Maxamed Axmed Abshir	2023
12.	MGB/DFI/20/2020	Dhax. Caddow Faarax Siicow, Cali Jaamac Caddow	Cumar Calasow Wardheere	2023

13.	MGB/DFI/24/2020	Maryan Maxamed Saalax, Wakiil Axmed Amiin Maxamed	C/kariin Cali Maxamuud & Xasan Faarax Rooble	2023
14.	MGB/DFI/30/2020	Qaasim Faarax Warsame, Wakiil Axmed Xalane Xirsi	Bashiir Ciise Maxamuud	2023
15.	MGB/DFI/45/2020	Cumar Maxamed Sheegow	Nadiifo Xuseen Colow, Abuukar Cusmaan Calasow	2023
16.	MGB/DFI/04/2021	Macalin Maxamuud Sh. Xasan Faarax	Fardowsa Axmed Diiriye, Maxamed Xirsi Aadan & Anisa Cusmaan Diiriye	2023
17.	MGB/DFI/25/2021	Axmed Nuur Xaaji Cali	Cali Jaamac Siyaad	2023
18.	MGB/DFI/31/2021	Dhax. Yuusuf Maxamuud Maxamed & Dhax. Muuse Cadaan Cali, Wakiil Cumar Maxamuud Cali	Dhax. Abiikar Cabdi	2023
19.	MGB/DFI/02/2021	Dhax. Khadiijo Abuukar Maxamed, Wakiil Maxamed C/llaahi Shire	Mocow Maxamuud Calasow, Saynab Caddow, Cabdulle Maxamed Afrax & C/llaahi Xasan Maxamuud	2023
20.	MGB/DFI/01/2021	Daa'uud Cabdi Xasan, Wakill C/llaahi Cabdi Xasan	Cali Xasan Jimcaale	2023
21.	MGB/DFI/04/2022	Cabdi Xaaji Maxamuud Faarax	Saynab Macalin Muuse	2023
22.	MGB/DFI/40/2022	Maxamed Jimcaale Toxow	C/llaahi Maxamed Waasuge	2023
23.	MGB/DFI/49/2022	Ciise Xaaji Axme	Sokoreey Axmed Taakow	2023
24.	MGB/DFI/24/2022	Nadiifo Cali Diini	Maxamed Axmed Yaanbow	2023
25.	MGB/DFI/16/2022	Abuukar Yuusuf Daa'uud	Maxamed Nuur Cadde	2023
26.	MGB/DFI/28/2022	Nuur Mocow Maxamed, Dhax. Khadiija Bare Cosoble, Cabdiwali Bashiir Axmed, Maxamed Shirwac, Dhax. Xasan Cali, Maxamed Taakow Odaxaw, Wakiil Nuur Maxamed Cadow	Dhaxaltooyada Calil Maxamed Raage, Wakiil Maxamed Cabdullaahi Cali & Cabdiraxmaan Cabdullaahi Calasow	2023
27.	MGB/DFI/13/2022	Cali Aadan Maxamed, Wakiil Faadumo Cusmaan Garaad	Dhaxaltooyada Bintoe Abuukar Xasan, Wakiil Saynab Axmed Cali	2023
28.	MGB/DFI/51/2022	Maxamed Cabdullaahi Cabdi	Maxamed Cilmi Maxamuud	2023
29.	MGB/DFI/46/2022	Maxamed Diirshe Cusman	Maryan Cali Kaar	2023
30.	MGB/DFI/29/2022	Shamso Axmed Cabdulle	Carab Maxamed Cadow	2023
31.	MGB/DFI/05/2022	Dhax. Maryan Bare Axmed, Yacquub Maxamed Siyaad	Dhax. C/llaahi Xaaji C/qaadir	2023
32.	MGB/DFI/41/2022	Cali Cismaan Maxamed	C/llaahi Xasan Cismaan	2023
33.	MGB/DFI/62/2023	Madiino Caamir Maxamed	Anbiyo Maxamed Cadaan	2023

34.	MGB/DFI/59/2023	Faadumo C/Ilaahi Cabdi, Wakiil Deejo Cumar Maxamed	Cali Aadan Xasan, Cali Maxamuud Hagar, C/qadir Maxamuud Cabdi, Xasan C/raxmaan Carrabay	2023
35.	MGB/DFI/45/2023	XAsan Maxamed Nuur	Dhax. C/raxmaan Cumar Cali, Wakiil Batuulo Cabdi Cumar	2023
36.	MGB/DFI/08/2023	C/Ilaahi Warsame Ciise, Wakiil Jaamac Ibraahim Warsame	Dhaxaltooyada Maxamed Hilowle Cali	2023
37.	MGB/DFI/25/2023	Axmed Maxamed Kadiye, maxamed Aadan Rooble, & C/rashiir Maxamed Saciid	Xaaji Xasan Sugar Maxamed, Xasan Nuur Xasan, & Xasan Xuubey	2023
38.	MGB/DFI/54/2023	Aadan Xuseen C/Ilaahi	Shirkada Alpayrak	2023
39.	MGB/DFI/28/2023	Cabdi Daahir Maxamed	Maslax Ibraahim Maxamed	2023
40.	MGB/DFI/06/2023	Axmed Cabdulle Yabarow, Cilmi Maxamed Baale & Cabdi Gelle Cali	Mako Sh. Ibraahim	2023
41.	MGB/DFI/16/2023	Sayid Axmed Baa Xasan	Salaad Maxamed Caraale	2023
42.	MGB/DFI/24/2023	Shirkadda Favori LLC	Dukaanka Maisarah	2023
43.	MGB/DFI/12/2023	Dibbad Ceynte Caddow	Shirkadda Alpayrak	2023
44.	MGB/DFI/07/2023	Maxamed Xaashi Dhoore, Wakiil Salaad Mataan Diiriye	Mire Cabdullahi Cali	2023
45.	MGB/DFI/17/2023	Maxamuud Maxamed Tuuryare, Muno Xasan Ibraahim, Maxamed Sh. Cali Cosoble, Axmed Cumar Maxamed, Xasan Maxamed Caddow, Xuseen Maxamed Tuuryare, Mukhtaar Cali Maxamed & Cali Maxamed Xuseen	Maxaadey Xasan Cisman, Binti Xasan Cismaan, Macalin Axmed Shire Shuute, & Raage Xuubey Cabdi	2023
46.	MGB/DFI/05/2023	Xuseen Macalin Cumar Maxamed	Cilmi Maxamuud Xayle	2023
47.	MGB/DFI/29/2023	Axmed Cali Waceys & Axmed Maxamuud Afrax, Wakiil Cilmi Maxamed Baale	Abuukar Weydow Axmed & Maxameed Axmed Weydow	2023
48.	MGB/DFI/20/2023	Maxamed C/wahaab C/waaxid	Cali Xasan Maxamed & Saynab Macalin Muuse	2023

Training Law Students at Law Faculties:

The Banaadir Regional Court handles the highest number of cases filed in courts across the

country, particularly those operating within the Banaadir region. This situation has led the law faculties of universities in Mogadishu to contact the Office of the Court Chairperson with a request for the court to provide training to their law students. The

purpose is to enable these students to gain extensive knowledge about case filing procedures, making it easier for them to understand these procedures and the way cases are managed. The trainers are appointed from among the court judges to deliver training related to case procedures and case management. They also clarify any legal questions raised by the trainees.

The court has recognized the necessity of fostering a legally knowledgeable society that can protect their legal rights and uphold governance. Since government functions are based on laws that need to be safeguarded, without raising public awareness, there is a risk that the government cannot effectively govern its people. Moreover, the court holds a clear view that it is essential for law students to receive training that enhances their skills so that in the future, there will be well-qualified judges, prosecutors, and lawyers. This would also ensure the country has legal experts capable of defending national interests and resources in international courts. This is to avoid relying on foreign lawyers to defend Somalia's international interests, as happened during the maritime dispute between Somalia and Kenya, which had to be taken to the International Court of Justice. This clearly revealed the country's

need for legal experts. To encourage this initiative, the Chairperson of the Banaadir Regional Court has awarded certificates to about 100 students from various law faculties in Mogadishu, recognizing their participation in training conducted by the Banaadir Regional Court.

Enhancing the Knowledge of Court Staff:

In an effort to improve the knowledge of the staff at the Banaadir Regional Court, the chairperson contacted several university administrations operating in Mogadishu to arrange for some staff members to receive free education. Several universities responded positively by assigning several students who received free education supported by the court. Currently, three students studying at the law faculty of Mogadishu University receive free education, as well as one student at Horseed University. This opportunity has allowed the court to seek education for some of its staff members to improve their knowledge and skills. Additionally, the court has sent several of its judges to various seminars focusing on important topics that enhance the knowledge of judges at the Banaadir Regional Court. These seminars were held in countries including Kenya, China, and Turkey.



When the chairperson of the Banaadir Regional Court was appointed, based on the modern advancements in technology and the need for an IT office to handle IT matters, he established such an office. This office was assigned a director who was selected through an open examination and possessed high expertise in that field. This eliminated the need to outsource the repair of equipment such as computers to technicians outside the court whenever they malfunctioned. This success was made possible by the highly skilled IT professionals working within the court's IT office. It became easy to solve software and hardware issues internally within the court, which previously had resulted in loss of data and breaches of confidentiality and information stored on the computer systems.

Establishment of an Official Facebook Page

The Banaadir Regional Court previously did not have a media platform to communicate its information. Although there was a page claimed to be associated with the court, it was created using a Gmail account owned by an individual, making it unofficial and vulnerable to being taken over by that individual whenever they wish. Recognizing the importance of having an official page to share the ongoing work of the court, an official Facebook page was created. This page is currently managed by a person named Caamiraman, who is responsible for its specific administration and development. The page has reached 27,000 followers and has become a meaningful and representative platform for the court's activities, which previously were not visible to the public.

Designating a Public Day

Upon taking office, the Chairperson realized it was essential to listen to the public in identifying

existing challenges and finding solutions. Therefore, a specific day was designated for this purpose. This initiative led to a direct flow of substantial information from various court offices to the Chairperson, which facilitated problem-solving. This approach was based on the popular saying, "He who receives information is guided to a solution." Many issues requiring resolution surfaced, allowing cases to be concluded efficiently and amicably.

Unnecessary delays in hearing cases, which were previously avoidable, were eliminated. Delayed cases finally progressed, contributing to 2023 being the year with the highest number of judgments issued by the Banaadir Regional Court. Moreover, the practice of middlemen operating within the courts disappeared. The office of the Chairperson now opened directly to the public seeking justice, many of whom had significant information to share.

In general, especially at the Banaadir Regional Court, people who came to file complaints were charged bribes, which were mostly suspected to be taken by court officials. When the Chairperson of the court came into office, he began to eliminate this practice so that the court would be free from bribery and corruption. He took several steps, foremost of which was issuing warnings to those suspected of this, informing them that the era of taking bribes was over and that they must start fresh in the court.

The second step was to prosecute and suspend an assistant involved in this, who had turned the court into a place where one could not seek justice. This individual would demand money from anyone seeking to have their case moved forward — if they did not pay, their case would be ignored or shelved. This behavior was beyond the scope of a court official and was a form of corruption meant to extract personal gain from pending cases: those who paid had their cases advanced, and those who did not were forced to lose their cases or have them delayed. This

bribery, which tarnished courts throughout the country, especially the Banaadir Regional Court, led to the prosecution of the first accused person responsible for such acts since the establishment of courts. This trial served as a warning to other officials who might have wanted to engage in similar corruption.



Broadcasting Court Hearings

As usual, courts handle criminal, civil, and other types of cases. According to the laws governing criminal and civil procedures, all court hearings are open to the public unless otherwise specified by law under special circumstances. In this era, the media has become an integral part of people's lives worldwide, with social media gaining significant influence and becoming a part of daily life. The court conducts its usual duties, but the public has little information about what is happening inside. Additionally, many Somali citizens suspected that courts were inactive or ineffective. Sometimes there was a perception that parties involved were not given sufficient time to defend themselves or present their cases, creating doubts about whether courts were truly just. To remove this suspicion, the official court Facebook page was created with the following aims:

1. To inform the public that courts operate with trustworthy justice.
2. To demonstrate to both the world and the public that courts follow the legal procedures prescribed by law.
3. To show that all parties to a case are treated equally before the court, based on Article 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code and the global principles of fair trial.
4. To raise public awareness about legal procedures and case proceedings, significantly changing public understanding.
5. To build public confidence in the courts.
6. To show the public that the success of a party depends on the evidence they present in court.
7. To dispel public suspicion that court judgments are influenced or directed by authorities, implying there is no judicial independence—a misconception that harms national leadership whose duties are already numerous.
8. To allow people to see justice in action and understand that decisions are reached transparently.
9. To show the public that there are judges who possess the intellectual, scholarly, and skillful capacity to handle major cases, and that the judiciary has full authority to adjudicate any cases presented.
10. To reveal the workload that the court and government institutions carry.
11. To establish the trust of society in the national judiciary.

The broadcasting of court cases received praise and indicated growing public trust in the court, dispelling fears of injustice. Many people now believe that the judiciary works fairly, contrary to previous suspicions. This was the very purpose of broadcasting the court's proceedings. Furthermore, this exposure allowed the public to learn how the court operates and how cases are handled. It also helped people better understand the decisions made by the court, showing that verdicts vary based on

evidence, rather than arbitrary reasons. Had these cases been handled behind closed doors but in the same manner, it would have sparked debates about how decisions were made, with many claiming the court was unjust. Public broadcasting helped to treat such critical views by promoting transparency and accountability.

"In the year 2022, the Banadir Regional Court opened case files amounting to the following:

Table 3: Case files	
Civil	227
Punishment	1192
Employee	8
Total	1,427

In the year 2023, the court opened files for cases amounting to the following:

Table 4: Case files	
Civil	495
Punishment	1692
Enforcement	112
Employee	3
Minor lawsuits	---
Total	2,302

It is evident that there has been an increase in cases, caused by several reasons, including the following:

1. Acceleration of the implementation of judgments issued by the courts, which have been vigorously enforced. This has enabled many people to file cases in courts in order to resolve disputes they have with others.
2. Changes in the transparency of the courts, whereby many people who previously believed that courts did not operate freely

without payment now believe that no bribery or favoritism is undermining their rights.

3. The fight against the Al-Shabaab group, whose bases for conducting what they called "cases" were destroyed. This has caused people to turn to the courts for legal redress.
4. The management system of the courts itself plays a role in the increase of court cases, as the court management has informed the public that everyone has the right to file complaints without needing anyone's permission.
5. Administrative memos previously issued by the Office of the Chairperson, which carried the office's reference number and were used to resolve many disputes and reconciliations administratively, have been completely removed so that anyone with a grievance or complaint may open a case file, allowing the court to issue a binding decision following the established procedures.
6. The publication of certain cases, which demonstrated that the courts are transparent and impartial to all parties involved, has increased public trust in the judicial system nationwide, especially the Banaadir Regional Court.

Recruitment of new staff: The Banaadir Regional Court has been part of recruiting new personnel planned to be part of the courts and the Office of the Attorney General, who were subjected to various examinations. These included 30 judges, 20 prosecutors, and 40 assistants. All of these candidates met the legal requirements set by the civil service recruitment law, and their appointments were carried out by a committee working on this matter. Ultimately, they took both written and oral exams, after which the list of successful candidates was announced.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, Mr. Baashe Yuusuf Ahmad, submitted a proposal dated 06/12/2023 for 30 judges who will serve in the

Banaadir Regional Courts. Once the appointment decree is issued, the recruited personnel will proceed through the government's civil service procedures, and they will soon begin working in the courts and the Office of the Attorney General.

Conclusion

Overall, the year 2023 has been marked by significant progress for the Banaadir Regional Courts, including publicity of criminal cases related to corruption and acceleration in the enforcement of civil judgments issued by the country's courts, starting from the courts themselves. Additionally, significant structural expansion took place in the central section of the Banaadir Regional Court, and it was equipped with modern facilities, which became the backbone of the services provided by the court. The court's camera system was also revamped, contributing to securing the court building's safety

and safeguarding the welfare of the staff and the public who will use the services.

To build public trust and guide those seeking services from the court, the court's chairperson designated a specific day to meet with people to gather information and listen to their complaints. Therefore, the courts have progressed in many ways since 2022. First, the courts have judges with new judicial philosophies, and the security of the courts and their working environments has improved. Secondly, the Banaadir Regional Court has a new building; case filing has taken shape with a modern filing strategy, and digitization of the cases is underway. All these improvements uplift the trustworthiness of the court, and many are beginning to trust the Banaadir Regional Court.

