

August 22, 2015

COMMENDATION

The Eastern Africa Journalists Association (EAJA) congratulates Investigative Journalist from Somalia, Mr Dahir Abdulle Alasow, for his outstanding achievements as an investigative journalist.

Mr Alasow has published investigative stories contributing to transparency and reported on societal issues related to abuse of power and fundamental rights, corruption and organised crime, such as terrorism activities, that otherwise would not have been brought to the public's attention.

He always fought very hard to find valuable clues in a dangerous and complicated situation. His courageous reporting provided additional valuable context about perilous conditions in which terrorist groups, like Al-Shabaab and armed gangs, operate.

Mr Dahir Abdulle Alasow received numerous life-threatening threats. In 2006, he was reportedly sentenced to death by Al-Shabaab but Alasow run away from the country. In 2007, Al-Shabaab terrorist group published Alasow's picture on their website in which they stated that he is their prime target.

EAJA commends the journalism work of investigative journalist, Dahir Abdulle Alasow, not only for his fine reporting but his superb storytelling and in-depth investigations to unearth important issues.

EAJA condemns firmly all acts to criminalize journalism, including persecution of Dahir Abdulle Alasow under criminal defamation, which is purely meant to silent and punish independent and critical voice of a journalist.



Omar Faruk Osman
SECRETARY-GENERAL