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Office of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes in Africa



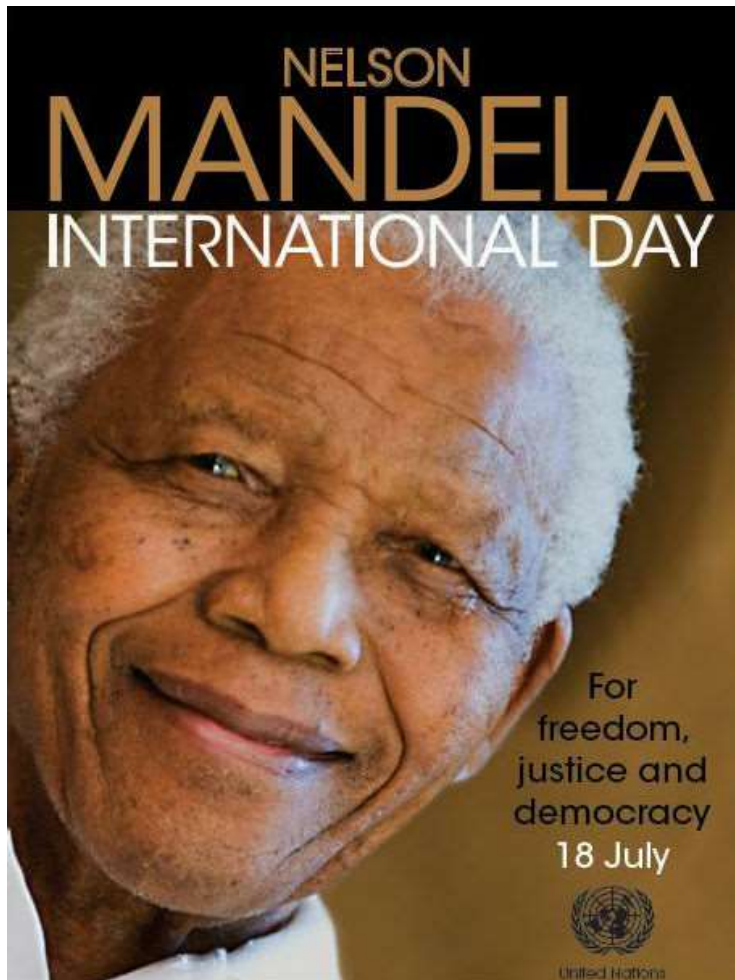
## MEDIA MONITORING

17 July 2014

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**Heads up! Tomorrow, Friday, 18 July 2014, is Nelson Mandela International Day**

In honor of his contribution to the culture of peace and freedom, [\*find out more here>>\*](#)



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## Climate change role for Robinson

Irish News

**15 July 2014** - Former president Mary Robinson has been charged with overseeing global efforts to tackle climate change.

United Nations secretary general Ban Ki-moon has appointed Ms Robinson as special envoy for climate change in an urgent move ahead of an international summit on the crisis in September.

Her unexpected assignment means she has to immediately stand down from her role as special envoy to the Great Lakes, where she had responsibility for trying to bring peace to one of Africa's most troubled regions.

"I have mixed emotions at handing over the role in the Great Lakes region when I make my final report to the Security Council on August 7, but ultimately I feel it is appropriate that I respond positively to the request of the secretary-general," she said.

"His focus on climate change and his faith in my capacity to help make progress on the challenges it presents is, I believe, an affirmation of the work of the Foundation I lead."

Ms Robinson set up The Mary Robinson Foundation - Climate Justice in 2010 to campaign for justice for victims of climate change.

"Our work on climate justice emphasises the urgency of action on climate change from a people's perspective and I intend to take this approach in my new mandate as special envoy for climate change," she said.

In a statement, the UN said Ms Robinson's roles as foundation president and special envoy will be kept separate.

"There was a degree of urgency in the appointment because of the 2014 Climate Summit which the secretary-general will host in September with heads of state and government, business, civil society amongst those invited to attend," it said.

Ms Robinson (70), was president from 1990 to 1997. She was a UN high commissioner for human rights between 1997 and 2002.

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## Robinson wins top UN job on climate change

Source: The Independent (Ireland)

**15 July 2014** - UN Secretary General Ban Ki Moon (...) made the appointment due to the "degree of urgency" involved in preparing for an international summit next month to help prepare for a global agreement reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

Ms Robinson, who was Special Envoy for the Great Lakes region of Africa, has accepted the role with immediate effect. She will remain in the position until at least December 2015, when climate talks are held in Paris.

She will continue with her work as president of the Mary Robinson Foundation – Climate Justice.

"I have mixed emotions at handing over the role in the Great Lakes region when I make my final report to the Security Council on August 7, but ultimately I feel it is appropriate that I respond positively to the request of the Secretary-General," she said.

"His faith in my capacity to help make progress on the challenges it presents is, I believe, an affirmation of the work of the foundation I lead.

"Our work on climate justice emphasises the urgency of action on climate change from a people's perspective and I intend to take this approach in my mandate as Special Envoy for Climate Change."

Aid agency Trocaire said: "Mary Robinson's appointment is of global significance and should be welcomed by everybody who cares about the future of our planet."

Taoiseach Enda Kenny said: "I would like to pay tribute to Mary for all the work she has done to date; I am confident she will bring an unparalleled drive and ambition to the UN's work on climate change."

## Stabilité dans la région des Grands Lacs : L'accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba peine à se mettre en œuvre

Source : Kongo Times

**17 juillet 2014** - Après les Etats-Unis qui ont exigé des Etats signataires une nette implication dans la mise en œuvre de l'accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba, les Nations unies viennent à leur tour de donner de la voix à un accord qui peine à se mettre en œuvre. Le secrétaire général, Ban Ki-moon pense cependant que cet accord est « un pilier de la consolidation de la paix et de la stabilité en République démocratique du Congo et dans la région ». Il félicite, par ailleurs, « des progrès réalisés dans la mise en œuvre de notre (Ndlr : Nations unies) stratégie visant à faire

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face aux cycles récurrents de violence dans l'Est de la République démocratique du Congo et à promouvoir la stabilité dans la région des Grands Lacs ».

***En savoir plus>>***

## **Secretary-General appoints Babacar Gaye of Senegal as Special Representative for the Central African Republic**

Source: UN

**6 July 2014** - United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today announced the appointment of Babacar Gaye of Senegal as his Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). MINUSCA was established by Security Council resolution 2149 (2014) of 10 April 2014.

Mr. Gaye is currently the acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA. Until April 2014, he served as Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office for the Central African Republic (BINUCA).

Mr. Gaye brings to this position many years of diplomatic, political and military experience with the United Nations system particularly in the field of peacekeeping and his national Government. He served as Assistant Secretary-General and Military Adviser to the Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations from 2010-2013 at the United Nations Headquarters. He also served as Force Commander for the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO and previously the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo, or MONUC) from 2005-2010, and in several peace missions including in Lebanon and Iraq.

A graduate of the École spéciale militaire de Saint-Cyr in France, he holds several national and international decorations.

Mr. Gaye is married and has two children.

## **Burundi: Halt Crackdown on Opponents, Critics**

Source: Human Rights Watch

**16 July 2014 - (Nairobi)** – Burundian authorities should halt their crackdown on opposition party members. Officials should also quash a March 21, 2014 verdict in which 48 people were handed sentences ranging from two years to life in prison.

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The trial of 70 people, most of them opposition party members, lasted no more than one day, and neither the defendants nor their lawyers were able to prepare their defense properly, Human Rights Watch said. Those charged with credible offenses should receive a retrial that meets international fair trial standards.

[Learn more>>](#)

## **Kidnapped women, children are 'sex slaves' in DR Congo: MSF**

Source: Agence France Presse.

**Kinshasa, July 16, 2014 (AFP)** - Women and children are being kidnapped by armed gangs and forced to work as sex slaves in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the medical charity Doctors Without Borders (MSF) said Wednesday.

"Victims have been held as sex slaves -- sometimes for months at a time -- and sexually assaulted violently by several men, several times a day," MSF psychologist Ana Maria Tijerino said in a statement.

The aid group also warned that men are being kidnapped and put to work as labourers in the gold and diamond mining region of Okapi, in the east of the vast, mineral-rich nation.

In just one village between May and early July, MSF said its medical teams provided consultations for 3,586 people and treated 143 women, three men and two children who had suffered sexual violence.

Last month a team treated 20 women in a single village who had been raped, it said.

"Violence and sexual violence are nothing new in DR Congo," Tijerino said. "But for the victims, these atrocities are not normal. No one should have to accept violence on this level."

MSF warned that many of the victims of sexual violence kept captive for weeks were not receiving vital medical aid that could protect against HIV, sexually transmitted infections or pregnancy.

"Months after an assault, the physical and psychological trauma is still apparent in the survivors," Tijerino said. "Many suffer from pain, infected wounds, stress, depression and nightmares. They are scared for the future and haunted by what they have lived through."

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## **Emergency Relief Coordinator and Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Valerie Amos Statement to the Press Security Council Briefing on Sudan/South Sudan New York**

Source: UN

**16 July 2014** -I have just briefed the Security Council on the humanitarian situation in Sudan and South Sudan, which continues to deteriorate for hundreds of thousands of people in both countries.

It is more than two years since the Council adopted resolution 2046 in May 2012, expressing deep concern at the humanitarian impact of fighting between the Government of Sudan and the SPLM-North in South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

Hundreds of thousands of innocent people in South Kordofan and Blue Nile continue to be affected by war, and no progress has been made in ensuring that they have access to even the most basic humanitarian assistance.

I told Council members that this suffering is taking place in an increasingly complex environment.

Reputable sources cite estimates of some 170,000 people displaced within SPLM-North areas in the first half of this year.

Humanitarian premises, including hospitals, have been bombed. Attacks on medical facilities, whether deliberate or indiscriminate, are clearly unacceptable and in direct contravention of resolution 2046 and international humanitarian law.

I noted my deep concern that intensified bombing and fighting during the planting season – May, June and July – is likely to have an impact on the harvest and families' ability to feed themselves.

The consequences of this conflict include failure to vaccinate children against polio in SPLM-North controlled areas of South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

Under the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator, humanitarian workers in Sudan have continued to appeal to the parties to allow basic assistance to be provided to people who most need it.

We are seeing significant inter-connections between the humanitarian situations between the two countries.

Deepening conflict in Darfur. Continuing deterioration of the humanitarian situation in South Sudan. Refugee outflows; and worrying food insecurity across the region.

We have already heard that the Famine Early Warning Systems Network has forecast that emergency levels of food insecurity are likely to persist among the internally displaced and host communities in SPLM-N controlled areas of South Kordofan between now and September.

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I warned the Council that if aerial bombardment continues to disrupt agricultural activities, we can expect the impact to extend well beyond the harvest in September.

Food security assessments in May and June this year indicate acute food and livelihoods crisis or an emergency situation in ten counties in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile States. A warning of possible famine over the months of July and August was also given.

The conflict in South Sudan has effectively blocked off traditional areas of refuge across the border.

It has also disrupted the cross-border movement of goods and services coming into South Kordofan and Blue Nile.

And it has compounded the suffering of more than 200,000 Sudanese refugees in Upper Nile and Unity States.

There are also currently close to 83,000 refugees from South Sudan in Sudan as a result of the ongoing fighting.

Given the dire situation in South Kordofan, Blue Nile and Darfur and the unfolding humanitarian disaster in South Sudan, it is clear that urgent action is needed now.

I appealed to the Council to take action to ensure immediate and unhindered access for the United Nations and our humanitarian partners, as called for under Resolution 2046.

I also asked the Council to call on the parties to unequivocally welcome the renewed vaccination proposal and ensure a conducive environment – including issuance of the necessary permits and security guarantees – for the safe and efficient implementation of this critical humanitarian operation.

I also warned the Council that, if we don't take action now, we will see a major humanitarian crisis unfolding in South Sudan with respect to food security and the possibility of famine.

Thank you very much.

## **People flee clashes in CAR's Bambari, storm Bangui**

Source: Press TV

**People displaced by the recent clashes in the Central African Republic (CAR) town of Bambari have flocked into the capital, Bangui.**

**17 July 2014** - Local press reports indicated that thousands of people entered Bangui on Tuesday following fresh clashes between the so-called anti-Balaka Christian militants and Muslim Seleka forces in Bambari, which forced them to leave their homes. [\*\*Learn more>>\*\*](#)



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## Central Africa Republic death toll higher than thought - refugee survey

Source: Thomson Reuters Foundation

By Misha Hussain

**Dakar, 16 July 2014** - The death toll in Central African Republic may be higher than initial estimates because many Muslim victims were never taken to state hospitals and families buried their dead at home because of security fears, aid workers say.

Medical charity MSF said on Wednesday that a survey of nearly 33,000 Central African refugees in neighbouring Chad had shown 8 percent of those questioned had lost at least one member of their family.

[\*\*Learn more>>\*\*](#)

## Central African Republic: Retrospective mortality study reveals massive levels of death due to violence against Muslims during peak of conflict

Source: Médecins sans Frontières

**Paris/Bangui, July 16, 2014** - A retrospective mortality study conducted by the international medical humanitarian organization Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) among Central African refugees in Sido, Chad, found that 2,599 people died between November 2013 and April 2014, during the violent crackdown against the Central African Republic's (CAR) Muslim minority. The survey also revealed that among these deaths, 2,100 people were killed while still in CAR and 95 percent of the deaths were the result of gunshot, machete, grenade, or other blast wounds.

[\*\*Learn more>>\*\*](#)

## RD Congo : La CENI lance un avis d'appel d'offres pour la sensibilisation des électeurs par SMS

Source : Agence Ecofin

**17 juillet 2014** - La Commission électorale nationale indépendante (CENI) de la République démocratique du Congo organise une opération de fiabilisation du fichier électoral et de stabilisation des cartographies opérationnelles. Afin d'assurer le succès de cette opération qui passe par la pleine participation des électeurs, l'institution que dirige l'Abbé Apollinaire Muholungu



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Malumalu a lancé un avis d'appel d'offres pour le recrutement d'un fournisseur de technologie Short Message Service qui sera chargé de la sensibilisation des électeurs par SMS.

***En savoir plus>>***

## **200.000 euros de Paris pour les élections générales au Burundi**

Source : StarAfrica.com

Par APA

**16 juillet 2014** - L'ambassadeur de France au Burundi, Gerrit Van Ressem, a signé, mercredi à Bujumbura, avec le Représentant pays du PNUD, Xavier Michon, une convention de financement au terme Paris contribue pour 200.000 euros à l'organisation des élections générales burundaises.

Ce montant qui sera versé dans le "Basket Fund » ou panier commun des partenaires au développement géré et cofinancé par le PNUD, est le premier engagement fait par un partenaire à dix mois des élections de 2015.

Les besoins totaux pour le déroulement du cycle électoral de 2015 sont de 60 millions de dollars, selon le président de la CENI, Pierre Claver Ndayicariye. Il a précisé que sur ce montant, les partenaires au développement du Burundi se sont engagés à contribuer pour une enveloppe de 39 millions de dollars.

***En savoir plus>>***

## **Kenya: UN Applauds Kenya's Role in Joint Anti-Ivory Smuggling Operation**

Source: All Africa

By Paul Udoto in The Star (Kenya)

**17 July 2014** - Some conservationists could not believe it when news from Geneva, Switzerland, started trickling in at the weekend that Kenya's law enforcement against wildlife crime had won recognition at a United Nations meeting.

Four Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora Secretary General's Certificates of Commendation were awarded to Nepal, China, Kenya and Nairobi-based regional agency Lusaka Agreement Task Force for exemplary wildlife law enforcement efforts.

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## South Sudan: Machar Unveils Plan to Create More States

Source: All Africa

**Addis Ababa, 16 July 2014** - South Sudan's former vice-president, Riek Machar, who for the last seven months has been leading an armed opposition faction of the ruling SPLM party has unveiled his group's plan to create more states in implementing a resolution on federal system of governance in the country.

The proposal calls for restructuring South Sudan into more administrative units, transforming the former 21 British colonial districts into new states. Currently South Sudan has 10 states which Khartoum created in 1994 when the two countries were still one.

[Learn more>>](#)

## South Sudan acquires more weapons amid rebel protests

Source: Sudan Tribune

**Addis Ababa, 15 July 2014** - South Sudanese rebels have protested against the recent acquisition of more weapons from China by the South Sudanese government, describing it as a preparation for more violence to further destroy the country.

[Learn more>>](#)

## S. Sudan rebels accuse president of calling for tribal war

Source: Sudan Tribune

By Tesfa-Alem Tekle

**July 15, 2014 (Addis Ababa)** – A senior official from South Sudan's SPLM/A in Opposition has accused president Salva Kiir of calling for a tribal war between Dinkas and Nuers.

Miyong Kuon, who is aide to the group's leader, former vice-president Riek Machar, told Sudan Tribune on Tuesday that Kiir had encouraged members of the Dinka tribe to which he belongs to stand up and fight against the Nuers.

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## With oil in Uganda means there is huge deposits in Rwanda too – say experts

Source: KT Press/ Rwanda Eye

By Bosco K. Hitimana

**17 July 2014** - Rwanda is preparing a call for proposals from oil companies to bid for exploration rights at Lake Kivu to continue from where Canadian Vanoil Energy Ltd had reached – after more than four years of operations.

Already about six companies have expressed interest to resume the exercise in the Lake in western Rwanda which various experts have suggested could be having huge petroleum deposits.

[\*Learn more>>\*](#)