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



MEDIA MONITORING

31 July 2014

Secretary-General Appoints Major General Martin Chomu Tumenta (Cameroon) as Force Commander of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)

Source: UN

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon today announced the appointment of Major General Martin Chomu Tumenta (Cameroon) as the Force Commander of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA).

Major General Tumenta will commence his appointment mid September 2014 at the time of the transfer of authority between the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) and MINUSCA.

Major General Tumenta is currently serving as the Force Commander of MISCA following a distinguished career in the Cameroonian Armed Forces Airborne Infantry, which included tenures as Chief of Operations at the Army Headquarters, Commander of the 3rd Joint Task Force Region and Commander of Operations DELTA in the Bakassi peninsula. He also held the appointment of Human Resources Director at the Department of Defence.

Major General Tumenta earned a Bachelor's of Military Arts and Science degree at the Joint Military School in Yaoundé, Cameroon. He attended Staff and Defence colleges in both the United States and France. Born in 1954, Major General Tumenta is married.

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FDLR : La Société civile rejette les propositions du Gouvernement de la RDC

Source : Kongo Times

31 juillet 2014 - Comme annoncé, c'est depuis vendredi dernier que le ministre des Médias et nouvelle citoyenneté, porte-parole du gouvernement, Lambert Mende Omalanga a débarqué dans la métropole Kisangani en Province Orientale. Objet : la difficile relocalisation dans la ville des miliciens hutu rwandais FDLR, coupables des pires exactions et diverses cruautés contre les populations civiles du Nord et Sud-Kivu depuis 1994, donc pendant 20 ans.

La population par le biais de la Société civile de la province ne veut pas de la présence des FDLR. Toute la semaine, la tension est montée de plusieurs crans dans la ville qui a connu des bruyantes manifestations publiques et des ville-morte pour en découdre avec ces personnages sans foi ni loi des FDLR. C'est cette situation délétère que Mende Omalanga est allé décanter sur place. Mais le blocage persiste encore.

En savoir plus>>

AU/UN co-operation must be streamlined

Source: Defence Web

Written by defenceWeb/UN

30 July 2014 - UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon is of the opinion the world body is "in a race against time for the re-hatting" of the AU Mission in the Central African Republic (CAR).

MISCA, the current peacekeeping mission in the strife-torn country, is due to become MINUSCA (UN Multi-dimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission) in September with an initial staffing level of 10 000 military personnel and 1 800 police. Also in its ranks will be 240 military observers and 200 staff officers.

His comment was made during a UN Security Council debate on regional partnerships, focussing on the world body's co-operation with African regional groups as well as with entities under the auspices of the EU. The council wants to "further enhance the relationship between the UN and regional and sub-regional organisations, in particular the AU" according to a resolution adopted by the Council.

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Conflicted UN struggles in global peace efforts

Source: BBC

By Nick Bryant

New York, 30 July 2014 - Why hasn't the United Nations done more to end the violence in Gaza? Or, for that matter, the conflicts in Syria, Iraq, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Libya, Afghanistan or Ukraine?

These are questions that UN officials find themselves fielding not just with mounting frequency but rising passion and frustration. For it is hard to recall a time when the world confronted so many seemingly intractable crises, and when the body designed to resolve and mediate them looked so thoroughly incapable of doing so.

"Why the UN Can't Solve the World's Problems" ran an accusatory headline over the weekend in the New York Times, a newspaper that's something of a parish pump for UN diplomats.

Just hot air?

[Learn more>>](#)

Thousands of CAR children are starving

Source: Al Jazeera

A report by: Haru Mutasa

UN predicts more than 100,000 children will suffer from malnutrition this year despite end of sectarian fighting.

[Learn more>>](#)

Burundi dismisses 'crackdown' report as 'outright lies'

Source: AFP World News

Bujumbura, July 31, 2014 - Burundi's government on Thursday rejected reports the ruling party is carrying out a crackdown against the opposition ahead of elections, calling an Amnesty International report "biased and partisan."

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Amnesty this week accused the government of a "relentless campaign of intimidation" and a "sharp increase in politicised violence" linked to the ruling party, ahead of presidential elections next year.

But government spokesman Philippe Nzobonariba dismissed the report as "outright lies", and insisted political freedoms were respected in the country.

Nzobonariba in turn accused Amnesty of seeking to "inflame the situation as we approach the sensitive election period."

The small nation in Africa's Great Lakes region emerged in 2006 from 13 years of brutal civil war and its political climate remains fractious ahead of presidential polls due in June 2015.

"It remains to be seen why it (Amnesty) wants to pour oil on the fire," Nzobonariba added.

President Pierre Nkurunziza, in power since 2005, is believed to be planning a third term in office, which his opponents claim would violate Burundi's constitution.

Amnesty has said the ruling CNDD-FDD party's youth wing, known as the Imbonerakure, has strong links to the security service, accusing it of "perpetrating human rights abuses with impunity."

A United Nations official was expelled in April after a confidential note reporting the distribution of weapons by the government to the Imbonerakure was leaked.

Le gouvernement burundais répond aux «allégations» d'Amnesty

Source : RFI

29 juillet 2014 - Amnesty International sortait un rapport sur le Burundi qui dénonçait une « campagne incessante d'intimidation » contre l'opposition et les voix critiques, à l'approche de la présidentielle de juin 2015 dans ce pays. Pour Philippe Nzobonariba, porte-parole du gouvernement, ces « allégations » sont de « purs mensonges ».

Dans [le document publié mardi](#), Amnesty International pointe notamment du doigt les restrictions qui frappent de plus en plus l'opposition, la société civile et les médias indépendants, ainsi que les violences politiques croissantes à l'actif des Imbonerakure, les jeunes affiliés au parti au pouvoir. La réponse gouvernementale à ces affirmations ne s'est pas fait attendre. Dans une charge virulente contre l'organisation internationale des droits de l'homme il l'a accusée ce mercredi de s'être mise aux services de ses ennemis.

Le secrétaire général et porte-parole du gouvernement, Philippe Nzobonariba, a ainsi qualifié sur RFI de « *purs mensonges* » ces « *allégations* ». « *D'autant plus, ajoute-t-il, que les libertés d'expression et de réunion s'exercent au grand jour, du côté des partis politiques, comme du côté des associations de la société civile, ou des médias, qui émettent, en toute indépendance et sans ménager l'action du gouvernement.* »

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Pour Philippe Nzobonariba, l'ONG s'est fait l'instrument des adversaires politiques du gouvernement, qui cherchent selon lui à mettre de l'huile sur le feu à quelques mois des élections générales de 2015 au Burundi. « *Le gouvernement n'a pas été étonné d'un rapport tellement tendancieux [et] partisan, poursuit le porte-parole. Il a été rédigé par des groupes politiques, des groupes d'individus de la société civile, qui accablent quotidiennement le gouvernement, et qu'Amnesty International s'est approprié. Il s'agit en fait d'un rapport sans crédibilité aucune aux yeux du gouvernement du Burundi, mais qui cherche à semer la confusion, à envenimer l'environnement électoral qui s'approche, tout comme ils ont tenté de le faire en 2010.* »

Burundi : 38 cas de choléra dans le sud du pays

Source: Agence de presse Xinhua

31 juillet 2014 - Le choléra réapparaît à Rumonge, ville sud du Burundi, située à 72 km de la capitale Bujumbura, avec 29 personnes hospitalisées et alitées dans trois centres d'isolement depuis une semaine, a rapporté la radio nationale burundaise mercredi.

Les quartiers de Nkayamba et d'Iteba sont le plus touchés, a fait savoir Dr Lambert Bigirindavyi, médecin directeur de l'hôpital de Rumonge, ajoutant que les habitants de Rumonge consomment pour la plupart l'eau du lac Tanganyika qui est souillée.

L'administrateur de la commune de Rumonge, Gérard Ndikumana, a suspendu pendant deux semaines la vente de l'eau des robinets pour permettre aux habitants de s'approvisionner en eau potable.

Le médecin directeur de l'hôpital de Rumonge a demandé aux habitants de respecter les règles d'hygiène, affirmant que la ville a besoin de tentes d'isolement, lits de malades et citernes mobiles pour l'approvisionnement en eau potable.

Sommet afro-américain : controverse autour de la participation de Joseph Kabila

Source : Agence d'Information d'Afrique centrale

Par : Alain Diasso

Le déplacement éventuel du chef de l'État à Washington dans le cadre de ce forum prévu du 6 au 7 août est diversement commenté dans son précarré.

30 juillet 2014 - D'après des indiscrétions recueillies en haut lieu, rien à ce stade ne serait encore acquis quant à la participation de Joseph Kabila au prochain sommet afro-américain convoqué par le président des États-Unis, Barack Obama, les 6 et 7 août, à Washington. Aucune option ne serait encore levée au nouveau de sa famille politique quant à l'utilité

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d'effectuer le déplacement de Washington nonobstant l'importance de cette rencontre, apprend-on. Deux camps diamétralement opposés se seraient même constitués au sein de l'entourage du chef de l'État écartelé entre les tenants de la participation de Joseph Kabila à ce forum et les partisans du boycott.

En savoir plus>>

South Sudan downplays lack of direct communication with US

Source: Sudan Tribune

Juba, July 30 2014 - South Sudan has downplayed the significance of the lack of direct communication between President Salva Kiir and his US counterpart, Barack Obama, saying the latter should be more concerned over the situation due to his country's heavy involvement in world affairs.

The last time the two leaders spoke was in 2011.

"Yes, it has been long time ... but I think it is the president of United States who should be more concerned because it is America which is more concerned with the world affairs," presidential spokesperson Ateny Wek Ateny told *Sudan Tribune* on Monday.

He was reacting to reports that president Kiir had complained that Obama had stopped calling him amid growing diplomatic tensions between Juba and Washington.

Learn more>>

S. Sudan Warring Parties Ready for another Round of Talks

Source: VOA

By: Gabe Joselow

Nairobi, 30 July 2014 - New peace talks between South Sudan's warring parties have been delayed by at least a day, as the two sides prepare for another round of negotiations. Hopes for a lasting peace are pinned to the process, which has repeatedly failed to end the seven-month conflict.

The talks between South Sudan's government and the rebel opposition were scheduled to resume Wednesday in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa. ***Learn more>>***