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



MEDIA MONITORING

10 September 2015

GENERAL NEWS

Sinking currencies reflect grim African prospects

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Ed Cropley

9 September 2015 - A slump in commodity prices and flight by global investors from risky "frontier" markets has hammered currencies and state budgets across Africa, increasing dollar borrowing costs and raising the prospect of political instability.

From Nigeria and Ghana in the west to Kenya in the east and South Africa and Zambia in the south, currencies have all fallen against the dollar, and in many cases crashed through historic lows plumbed in the 2008-09 financial crisis.

Things took a turn for the worse in mid-2014 when prices of oil and other commodities, the export mainstay of many African economies, dived largely due to a sharp slowdown in one of the biggest consuming countries, China.

This accelerated a flow of funds out of frontier markets, a less developed set of emerging markets, as investors anticipated a rise in U.S. interest rates which has yet to happen.

Although the decline in prices and prospects has been less precipitous than during the global crisis, the fallout from China could be even worse for Africa since state finances have failed to recover from the last upheaval.

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African budgets were broadly in balance before the crisis but this year governments are on track for an average fiscal deficit of 4.2 percent of GDP, almost twice the shortfall in 2010, according to Barclays Africa.

As such, they have no scope to boost spending to counteract slowing growth. "The economic fundamentals of the region are much weaker than back in 2008, which makes riding this current storm so much more challenging," said Barclays Africa regional economist Ridle Markus.

Africa's growth era of the 2000s, fuelled by high commodity prices, improved governance and the spread of technology such as the mobile phones, is fading fast. The IMF now predicts average sub-Saharan economic growth of 4.4 percent for 2015, down from the 5.8 percent forecast a year ago.

South Africa's rand, Zambia's kwacha, Uganda's shilling, Tanzania's shilling and Ghana's cedi have all set record lows in the last three months.

Nigeria, Africa's biggest economy and top oil producer, has limited the naira's losses only by freezing its foreign exchange market, a move that cost it inclusion this week in an influential JP Morgan bond index.

RISING DEBT

More worryingly, government debt is climbing steeply, threatening another driver of growth: the debt forgiveness a decade ago which freed up funds for social and infrastructure investment, rather than interest payments.

Although domestic capital markets have been slowly deepening, much of the growth in borrowing has been in dollars as African governments tapped Eurobond markets awash with cash printed by the U.S. and European central banks.

Ghana, a Eurobond trailblazer in 2007, has issued two more dollar bonds since then. It has plans for another \$1.5 billion issue this year, putting its public debt at around two thirds of annual gross domestic product - well above levels before Nelson Mandela and anti-poverty activists Bono and Bob Geldof persuaded the rich world to forgive Africa's crushing debts.

Zambia, until recently Africa's top copper producer, has also been piling into the Eurobond market, most recently in July when it had to pay a hefty 9.375 percent for a \$1.25 billion bond earmarked to finance a yawning deficit.

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With the kwacha down more than 20 percent since the bond was issued, the effective local cost of servicing that debt is now over 30 percent, squeezing out other spending in a budget already under pressure from the collapse in copper prices.

BAD HABITS

Elections are due in both Zambia and Ghana next year, raising suspicions that some African countries are slipping back into the bad old habits of borrowing to fund vanity projects and political ambition rather than long-term growth.

"There is a concern with a lot of the African dollar debt market," said Anders Faergemann, senior sovereign portfolio manager at PineBridge Investments. "We have this return of original sin with potential for sharp devaluation in local currencies and the governments still having to pay back in dollars."

With African populations growing faster than their economies can create jobs, analysts expect the squeeze on state spending to spill over into political unrest at some point.

New York-based DaMina Advisors has even developed an African "Commodity Price Collapse Instability Index" - nicknamed Hades - based on its estimate that 87 percent of African government revenues are directly or indirectly linked to commodities.

DaMina lists three states - South Sudan, Libya and Central African Republic - as being at "extremely" or "very" high risk of collapse, and a further five - Equatorial Guinea, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho and Guinea - as high risk.

DRC

UN says rights violations escalating in Congo ahead of elections

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Aaron Ross

Kinshasa, 9 September 2015 - The United Nations said on Wednesday human rights violations by authorities in Democratic Republic of Congo are escalating ahead of a round of elections during which President Joseph Kabila is set to step down.

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The U.N. Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) documented 24 election-related violations in August, including arbitrary arrests and threats, compared with 14 such incidents in July, said the director of the office Jose Maria Aranaz.

Journalists were targeted in eight cases while the same number involved activists, the U.N. body said, without giving details on the remainder.

"This has a negative impact on the credibility of elections ... and it confirms a worrying trend," Aranaz told Reuters after a news conference.

"The UNJHRO remains deeply concerned about the restrictions on liberty of expression in the country and the security of those who express criticisms of the government and its actions," he said.

Political tensions in Congo are rising before local, provincial and national elections over the next 14 months, meant to culminate in a presidential vote in Nov. 2016.

Kabila, who took power after his father's assassination in 2001, is required by the constitution to stand down, but critics accuse him of trying to hold onto power. At least 40 people were killed in anti-government protests in January.

Kabila has refused to comment on his political future, although a spokesman has said he intends to respect the constitution.

Aranaz said he was alarmed by abuses by Congo's intelligence agency, which was responsible for nine of the 24 violations.

Domestic and international rights groups have accused the government of using the intelligence service to jail and intimidate political opponents and young activists.

Four young activists in the eastern city of Goma could be sentenced to three years each in prison on Friday after they were arrested in April for encouraging local residents to protest the detentions of fellow activists.

The government did not comment on the U.N. statement but has previously said that law enforcement only targets people who break the country's laws and that any arrests are not politically motivated.

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RWANDA

Rwanda court agrees to hear case to block president's third term

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Clement Uwiringiyimana

Kigali, 9 September 2015 - Rwanda's Supreme Court said it would hear a case brought by the main opposition party that aims to block changing the constitution to allow President Paul Kagame to run for a third, seven-year term.

The debate about term limits has flared in several countries in Africa. The United States, a major donor to Rwanda, said last week it was concerned by the country's decision to set up a commission that could lead to changing the constitution.

Judge Immaculee Nyirinkwaya, who heads a panel of eight judges, said the Supreme Court rejected the government attorney's argument that the case should be thrown out and the next hearing was set for Sept. 23.

The Democratic Green Party, the tiny but main political opposition group in a nation where rights groups and activists say opponents of the ruling Rwandan Patriotic Front are stifled.

Officials dismiss such charges, saying the government guarantees free speech.

Kagame, a rebel leader-turned-statesman, has won international praise and local popularity for rebuilding the small nation after it was shattered by genocide in 1994, when 800,000 mostly Tutsis and also moderate Hutus were massacred.

But Washington and other donors have voiced concerns about moves to change the constitution, pointing to the political crisis that rumbles on in neighboring Burundi after President Pierre Nkurunziza secured a third term in a disputed election.

The U.S. State Department said in a statement on Sept. 4, "We do not support those in positions of power changing constitutions solely for their political self-interest."

Rwanda's parliament, controlled by Kagame's supporters, backed a motion in July to let Kagame run again, a move expected to lead to a referendum on the constitution.

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That decision followed the submission to parliament of a petition supporting a change signed by 3.8 million people in the country whose population is about 12 million.

Kagame has not directly said he wants to run again but has said he was open to persuasion about changing the constitution.

BURUNDI

Two killed in Burundi army clashes

NEWS STORY

Source: AFP

9 September 2015 - Burundi troops have killed two gunmen in separate clashes in recent days, the army said Wednesday, the latest unrest following the president's controversial re-election.

Army spokesman Gaspard Baratuza said that "unidentified criminals" had staged attacks on military posts, including on Tuesday night, when one gunman was killed in the rural district of Buringa some eight kilometres (five miles) southeast of the capital Bujumbura.

Tensions remain high following President Pierre Nkurunziza's successful bid for a third term in power in July.

Gunmen also attacked a military post in Gihanga, some 15 kilometres (nine miles) northeast of Bujumbura overnight Sunday.

"There was an exchange of fire as a criminal group wanted to rob the people, a criminal was killed," Baratuza added.

Witnesses, who asked not to be named, said that in both attacks the gunmen were well armed and dressed in military uniforms.

Nkurunziza won a highly-controversial third term in July in polls the United Nations said were not free or fair. His bid sparked an attempted coup and months of civil unrest led by opposition groups, who condemned his re-election bid as unconstitutional.

There has also been a string of killings since his re-election, including the assassination of his top security chief in a rocket attack last month.

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Many have raised alarm bells at the risk of renewed conflict in Burundi, which lies in the heart of central Africa's troubled Great Lakes region. At least 300,000 people were killed in a civil war there which ran from 1993-2006.

UGANDA

Opposition says Uganda government trains militias to harass them

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Elias Biryabarema

Kampala, 8 September 2015 - Uganda's opposition and rights groups on Tuesday accused President Yoweri Museveni's government of training militias to intimidate opposition supporters during next year's elections, a claim denied by the government.

In recent weeks, Ugandan police have been training thousands of civilian youths across the country as "crime preventers" to help with intelligence gathering and security among the local population.

Shaban Bantariza, deputy government spokesperson, said the young men being trained were part of community policing efforts, adding: "There's no militia either existing or being trained anywhere in Uganda".

But the opposition fears the newly-trained contingents could be used to prop up veteran leader Museveni, who is seeking another five-year term in the polls due to be held between February and March 2016.

"Museveni wants to use these militias as a weapon of terror to coerce opposition people into submission," opposition legislator Medard Lubega Sseggoni told Reuters.

"Whenever Museveni feels threatened he resorts to violence."

Nicholas Opio, executive director of the Chapter Four group that champions civil liberties, said Museveni was creating a civilian "parallel force" that has no hierarchy or clear command to be used in elections.

"They can commit crimes and they can't attributed to the government," he added.

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Last month, NTV Uganda local television carried a report in which retired major and presidential advisor Kakoza Mutale was shown training hundreds of youths at a camp in central Uganda.

Mutale said in the report the youths would ensure Museveni wins in the coming election.

Spokesman Bantariza dismissed the opposition accusations as unwarranted but added the government was investigating the group allegedly being trained by Mutale.

"If we find Mutale has violated any laws, he will be brought to book," he said.

The Ugandan opposition frequently complains about intimidation by the police and security agencies, something the government strongly denies.

Analysts say Museveni was likely to face a tough challenge at the 2016 polls from his former prime minister, Amama Mbabazi, who was sacked last year amidst a power struggle with Museveni in the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM) party.

Kizza Besigye, who has stood and lost the previous three elections against Museveni, also plans to contest the presidential poll for the fourth time.

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

UN creates weapons-free zone in CAR

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

Bangui, 9 September 2015 - The United Nations has established a "weapons-free zone" in a town in Central African Republic to protect civilians from armed groups involved in inter-religious clashes that killed more than 10 people last month, the head of peacekeeping operations said.

Thousands of Central Africans have died and more than 800 000 remain displaced following two years of violence that erupted after mainly Muslim Seleka rebels seized power in the majority Christian country in 2013.

Fighting in the town of Bambari, a Seleka stronghold, began when members of the mainly Christian "anti-balaka" militias, which have emerged in response to Seleka abuses, beheaded a Muslim youth. Reprisals by Muslims followed.

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"The UN took the decision to set up a weapons-free zone in Bambari to ensure the physical security and free circulation of the civilian population as well as access for humanitarian workers," Herve Ladsous said during a visit to the country.

Peacekeepers from the country's UN mission Minusca had begun enforcing the measure, a response to calls from civilians for protection against armed groups, at 17:00 on Tuesday.

Around 3 000 people fleeing the violence last month have sought protection inside Minusca's base in Bambari, according to the national refugee commission.

The UN's High Commissioner for Human Rights Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein last week lamented the failure to prosecute those responsible for the worst crimes and said rebel and militia leaders should be arrested regardless of their position.

Voters are due to go to the polls on October 18 to choose a new president and parliament that will replace the current caretaker authorities, whose mandate runs out at the end of the year, and restore democratic rule.

However, preparations for the elections, including voter registration, have been delayed. The head of the country's interim parliament said earlier this month that it was likely the polls, which have already been postponed several times, will be pushed back again.

SOUTH AFRICA

South Africa watching suspects after U.S. alert, sees no imminent threat

NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Peroshni Govender

Johannesburg, 9 September 2015 - The South African government is monitoring a number of people linked to a reported threat to U.S. interests but was satisfied that no one faced any imminent danger, the security minister said on Wednesday.

The U.S. Embassy warned its citizens on Tuesday of a possible attack by militants, a rare security alert in a stable democracy seldom associated with Islamist militancy.

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State Security Minister David Mahlobo told Talk Radio 702 on Wednesday the U.S. Embassy had shared information linked to the warning with his officials.

"This is not a new information, the information has been shared over the past few days, the information has been acted upon," he said.

"In terms of our own threat analysis, we had to do a threat analysis, who is the source and what is happening, and came to the conclusion that there is no immediate danger."

In Washington, a State Department official said the security message was to inform U.S. citizens that militants may be targeting U.S. interests in South Africa, including U.S. government facilities and businesses.

"There is no additional information as to timing or potential targeting," the official said. "U.S. citizens should be vigilant and take appropriate steps to enhance their personal security."

The embassy and consulates in Johannesburg, Durban and Cape Town closed for several days in 2009 after what U.S. officials described as a specific threat to diplomatic missions in South Africa.

SOUTH SUDAN

S/Sudan President warns army against violating cease fire

NEWS STORY

Source: APA

8 September 2015 - Any South Sudan national army soldier or officer who violated the cease fire in the country will be hold accountable, South Sudan's President Salva Kiir said Tuesday. Kiir who addressed the council of elders has threatened to punish whoever violates the permanent ceasefire, which was declared after the signing of the IGAD-Plus compromise peace agreement.

President Kiir pointed out that there are some SPLA officers whose actions aimed at sabotaging the peace agreement by taking advantage of the 'reservations' that his government expressed when signing the deal.

There are people who want to take advantage of our genuine concerns and reservations" the president said.

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Both warring parties in the torn state have traded accusations of violating the cease fire.

Kiir has expressed many reservations on the peace agreement he signed this month in Juba, a week after his rival Riek Machar signed it.

Kiir has further warned of probable setback of the agreement if the regional and international community will not address the concerns he raised.

UN agencies boost effort to avoid ‘catastrophic loss’ of young children’s lives in South Sudan

NEWS STORY

Source: UN News Centre

9 September 2015 - Two United Nations agencies are intensifying their efforts to reverse “dire” malnutrition in South Sudan, where every two minutes another child becomes severely malnourished and brutal conflict has displaced millions of people, destroyed basic services and increased disease.

“Last year we helped avert a famine. Now we must increase our efforts to avoid a catastrophic loss of young children’s lives,” said Jonathan Veitch, the Representative of the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) in South Sudan.

UNICEF and the World Food Programme (WFP) jointly announced the launch of an enhanced joint nutrition response plan covering all states in South Sudan, which will see both agencies and their partners assist over two million people – children, pregnant women and new mothers – for the treatment and prevention of acute malnutrition in the country until May 2016.

The two agencies began the joint nutrition approach last year, helping to avert famine and save lives by reaching one million people using joint rapid response teams in the conflict-affected states and ramping up the response in non-conflict states, according to the announcement.

“In the first year, we worked under extremely difficult conditions to bring much needed nutrition assistance to as many people and as many places in the country as we possibly could,” said Joyce Luma, the WFP Country Director in South Sudan. “Looking forward, we want to improve on the quality of nutrition services to continue to prevent and treat acute malnutrition.”

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The nutrition response plan will work to address the root causes of malnutrition, such as poverty, inadequate water and sanitation, and infant and young child feeding practices.

“While a peace agreement signed in August provides hope for the new country, basic health and nutrition services remain out of reach for much of the population,” said the announcement. Since April, intense fighting has forced hundreds of thousands to flee into the bush or swamps for protection, where they are cut off from humanitarian assistance.

“Basic services that were re-established over the past year have been destroyed, including hospitals, clean water, nutrition treatment sites – both out-patient and in-patient facilities,” the announcement added.

Since fighting broke out in December 2013, more than two million people have been uprooted from their homes in South Sudan, more than half of them children.

UNICEF said with another child becoming severely malnourished every two minutes in South Sudan, humanitarian agencies continue facing challenges to reach and provide sustained nutrition services to this affected population.

The nutrition programme in South Sudan is funded by, among others, the European Commission, Japan, Norway, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

South Sudan parliament hints rejecting peace agreement over sovereignty

NEWS STORY

Source: Sudan Tribune

8 September 2015 - South Sudanese parliament warned on Tuesday it would reject the deal if it will be found to have infringed on national sovereignty when it is tabled before the legislators, sparking concerns of delays or backtracking by the national legislature after the executive council of ministers approved the deal and said it would be presented to the house for ratification this week.

In accordance with the peace agreement, the national parliament in Juba and the armed opposition’s national liberation council in Pagak would ratify the accord a week after signing of the peace deal so that implementation of its provisions can begin as an endorsed document.

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South Sudanese rebels said they will ratify it by Thursday so that the next step of implementing the security arrangements would start in a workshop to be organized by IGAD in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa, where senior military officers from the two warring parties will participate in.

Speaker of the national legislative assembly in Juba, Magok Rundial, told Sudan Tribune on Tuesday that peace and reconciliation has been placed as the top agenda of all activities of public institutions in the country but warned that the peace deal could be rejected by the parliament if found to have infringed on the national sovereignty.

"The parliament can reject it if it infringes [on] sovereignty, why not. The sovereignty is not about individuals. It is about the country and it cannot be compromised whatever differences and it is the responsibility to every citizen to protect it," warned Rundial before pointing out "unity of the people and the country was paramount."

The top legislator, who will lose his position in December according to the peace agreement, however said he hoped ratification of the deal would allow the rival forces to cease fighting in violation of the permanent ceasefire declared by the rival leaders after appending their signatures.

"We know this peace has been imposed which means there is something behind it. We can reject it but still those who will suffer will be our people who have always paid the price of political differences over issues they do not know," said parliament speaker Rundial, stressing that president Kiir and the government cared much about the lives and the suffering of the citizens and so wanted to put an end to the conflict.

President Kiir and the government, he said, want this conflict to stop and the leadership of the assembly stands ready to mobilise the members to go back to their constituencies immediately after the agreement is ratified to sensitise and educate the people and the state governments as well as local people in their different capacities, whether as community leaders, youth, women to support the implementation of the agreement.

Rundial explained that the assembly was waiting for day when the deal would be presented to the house by a representative of the executive organ of the government. He blamed the executive for the delay in tabling the peace agreement before the parliament.

"The members are waiting for the day when it will be tabled. We are told it will be tabled soon, may be this week or next week. There is no fixed date. May be this is because the concerned institutions are preparing to present it," he said.

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“We don’t know the date yet but what we know is that it will be tabled because this is a requirement in the agreement. Once it is tabled, it will follow normal parliamentary procedures. The members will be divided into groups of specialised committees to study the agreement chapter by chapter and word by word in order to understand every single word and context before they can come up with the final resolution on the adoption of the agreement,” Rundial further explained to Sudan Tribune.

Analysts however predict that the parliament will have no other option but to ratify the peace agreement, owing it to the same heavy international pressures which made it possible for president Kiir to sign it on 26 August in order to avoid tough measures on the young nation.

They say the contradicting signals on whether to ratify it or not could only be meant to temporarily try to appease voices in rejection of the peace deal as the government is divided with some senior political and military officials opposed to the agreement.

South Sudan Army Chief In Rwanda

NEWS STORY

Source: News of Rwanda

8 September 2015 - The Chief of General Staff of Sudanese Peoples Liberation Army (SPLA), Gen Paul Malong Awan and his delegation is in Rwanda on a four day official visit from 7-10 September 2015.

On Tuesday 8 September 2015, the SPLA CGS paid courtesy calls on Hon Minister of Defence, Gen James Kabarebe and the Chief of Defence Staff, Gen Patrick Nyamvumba at RDF Headquarters, Kimihurura. The SPLA delegation was briefed on RDF and its role in post-conflict and national development.

The SPLA CGS said “ My visit is very selective, I have selected to visit Rwanda Defence Forces, to share with them their experience, see their facilities with confidence that what we get will serve our purpose as we build our young nation, because we share a common background of armed struggle” said Gen Paul Malong Awan.

The SPLA CGS and delegation visited Rwanda Military Academy Gako where they toured the Academy and had a presentation on the vision and mission of the Military Academy. RMA Gako conducts a 4 year cadet degree program, a 1 year cadet course, and the Peace Support Operations pre-deployment training program.

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The SPLA which trains some of its Officers at RDF Military Institutions is seeking to enhance military partnership with Rwanda Defence Forces.

On Monday 7 September 15, the CGS and his delegation visited Kigali Genocide Memorial Center where they paid respect to the victims of 1994 Genocide against Tutsi and learnt more on how the genocide was planned and executed.

During their four day visit, they will visit other Defence Institutions and Installations including Zigama CSS, Military Medical Insurance, Rwanda Military Hospital and RDF Command and Staff College at Nyakinama.

Rwanda maintains two Infantry Battalions and Aviation Unit in United Nations peacekeeping mission in South Sudan (UNMISS).

SUDAN

HRW accuses Sudan govt militia of Darfur rape, killing 'sprees'

NEWS STORY

Source: AFP

10 September 2015 - Human Rights Watch on Wednesday accused a controversial Sudanese counter-insurgency unit of having carried out "two sprees of killings and mass rape" of civilians in conflict-riven Darfur since February 2014.

The Rapid Support Forces, a government-backed militia, carried out the abuses during two campaigns against rebels in the western region, the rights watchdog said.

"The RSF led two counter-insurgency campaigns in the long-embattled region of Darfur in 2014 and 2015 in which its forces repeatedly attacked villages, burned and looted homes, beating, raping and executing villagers," HRW charged.

Bashir -- who is wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for alleged war crimes in the region -- announced a new drive to crush the Darfur rebellion in February 2014, called "Decisive Summer".

A follow-up offensive was announced in December, dubbed by Bashir "Decisive Summer 2," and it was during these campaigns that the abuses were committed, according to HRW.

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The New York-based watchdog interviewed victims and defectors from the Rapid Support and armed forces.

"Among the most egregious abuses against civilians were torture, extrajudicial killings and mass rapes," the watchdog said.

Other abuses included mass displacements and the destruction of wells and food stores, HRW said, adding that the violations "amount to war crimes".

HRW's UN and crisis advocacy chief Philippe Bolopion said it was "hard to believe that the Sudanese authorities are unaware of what the RSF are doing".

Khartoum sees "the RSF as one of their best tools to fight the rebels", Bolopion said at a press conference in New York.

- 'Killed for resisting' -

One of the worst incidents the watchdog reported was an attack on the rebel-held town of Golo, in the Jebel Marra area straddling North, Central and South Darfur states.

Rapid Support troops took over the town on January 24, killing and raping civilians and burning and looting properties, HRW said based on witness testimonies from 21 people present during the attack.

The interviewees told HRW they had seen "killing, rape, and widespread beating and looting, including the rape of scores of women in Golo's hospital".

"Many of the women were gang raped, often in front of community members who were forced to watch. Some of those who resisted were killed," HRW's report said.

Jebel Marra has been a stronghold for the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid, one of the groups battling Bashir since 2003, when mostly black, African rebels mounted a campaign against Khartoum's Arab-dominated government, complaining of marginalisation.

Access to Jebel Marra has been strictly limited even to humanitarian organisations.

HRW Africa director Daniel Bekele said Rapid Support troops had "killed, raped and tortured civilians in scores of villages in an organised, deliberate, and systematic way" during the campaigns, urging Sudan's government to disarm them.

The force was formed to combat rebels in Darfur as well as in South Kordofan and Blue Nile states.

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The Rapid Support troops are officially under the control of Sudan's powerful National Intelligence and Security Forces.

In New York, Bolopion urged Britain, France and the United States "to be much more aggressive in the Security Council and push for action against those kinds of abuses that are happening before the eyes of Blue Helmets".

A joint UN-AU peacekeeping forces (UNAMID) was deployed in Darfur in 2007 tasked with protecting civilians and securing aid deliveries.

More than 300,000 people have been killed in Darfur since 2003, the United Nations says, and some 2.5 million forced to flee their homes.

The ICC indicted Bashir in 2009 for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity and in 2010 on genocide charges related to the Darfur conflict.