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



## **MEDIA MONITORING**

**16 July 2015**

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**DRC**

### **Accord d'Addis-Abeba: la RDC invite l'ONU à mobiliser les pays signataires à respecter leurs engagements**

ARTICLE

Source: Radio Okapi (RDC)

**15 Juillet 2015** - L'Organisation des Nations unies devra accroître sa mobilisation autour des pays signataires de l'Accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba pour la mise en œuvre des engagements auxquels ils ont tous souscrit pour la paix et le développement de la région de Grands lacs. L'ambassadeur de la RDC auprès des Nations unies, Ignace Gata Mavita, a fait cet appel mardi 14 juillet au Conseil de sécurité, à l'occasion de la présentation de la situation sécuritaire de la RDC par le chef de la Monusco, Martin Kobler.

Devant le Conseil de sécurité des Nations unies, l'ambassadeur Ignace Gata Mavita, a indiqué que la RDC a réalisé la majeure partie de ses engagements repris dans l'accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba.

Sur le plan sécuritaire, il a cité par exemple la traque contre les groupes armés étrangers dans les Nord et Sud-Kivu où les FARDC, a-t-il affirmé, sont appuyées par la Monusco afin de sécuriser cette partie de l'Est du pays sous la menace des terroristes ougandais des ADF.

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Dans le même contexte, les FARDC poursuivent seules la lutte contre les rebelles rwandais des FDLR et « les résultats seraient encourageants », a ajouté Ignace Gata Mavita.

L'ambassadeur de la RDC auprès de l'Onu a aussi invité le Conseil de sécurité à ne pas faire de l'amalgame en mettant sur un pied d'égalité le gouvernement à qui on demande de fournir des efforts dans la réforme de son armée et ses services de sécurité, et les groupes armés illégaux qui se procurent librement des armes.

Pour l'ambassadeur, il doit être clairement établi que l'embargo sur les armes concerne uniquement les groupes armés.

Au sujet des relations entre le gouvernement et la Monusco, le représentant permanent de la RDC aux Nations Unies s'est déclaré convaincu de l'aboutissement à un terrain d'entente du dialogue stratégique engagé avec la mission onusienne.

Signé par 11 pays africains le 24 février 2013, l'Accord-cadre d'Addis-Abeba vise le retour de la paix dans la région de Grands Lacs et dans l'Est de la RDC en proie à des groupes armés nationaux et étrangers. Les chefs d'État de Grands Lacs s'étaient engagés à respecter la souveraineté et l'intégrité territoriale des pays voisins ; et à ne pas soutenir, de quelque façon que ce soit, les groupes armés.

Cet accord exigeait au gouvernement de la RDC de poursuivre et d'approfondir les réformes du secteur de la sécurité, en particulier en ce qui concerne l'armée et la police ; à consolider l'autorité de l'État, en particulier dans l'est de son pays, et d'empêcher les groupes armés de déstabiliser les pays voisins.

Il demandait aussi à Kinshasa de promouvoir les réformes structurelles des institutions de l'État, y compris la réforme des finances; et de promouvoir les objectifs de réconciliation nationale, de tolérance, et de démocratisation.

## **Nine killed in Ugandan rebel attack**

### **NEWS STORY**

Source: AFP

**15 July 2015** - Ugandan rebels shot dead or burned alive nine people during an attack in eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, the military and humanitarian sources said Wednesday.

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The attack on Tuesday targeted several villages about 60 kilometres (37 miles) north of Beni, which has been plagued by a string of attacks by the mainly Muslim rebels of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF).

"We are pursuing the enemy," said Lieutenant Make Hazukay.

He confirmed the killing was committed by ADF, which is accused of murdering over 400 people in nine months of massacres in and around the major eastern trading hub of Beni.

The head of an NGO in the Beni area said the attackers struck three villages between 5 pm (1500 GMT) and dawn.

"Six civilians were shot dead, three burned alive and two were reported missing," said Teddy Kataliko, adding that 69 huts were torched.

Kataliko called on DR Congo President Joseph Kabila to launch a large-scale offensive to rid the region of ADF. He said military operations have slackened recently against the rebels, who have been in eastern DR Congo since 1995.

## **Success of UN DR Congo mission hinges on ‘constructive partnership’ with Government, Security Council told**

### **NEWS STORY**

Source: UN News Centre

**14 July 2015** - The capacity of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) to fulfil its mandate rests on “persistent engagement” with the authorities, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of the Mission, Martin Kobler, told the Security Council today.

“The success of our mandate rests on a continued, constructive, partnership with the Government,” in particular regarding the security situation in the East and the electoral process.

On the security situation, there is “a ray of hope on one of the front lines”, he said, describing ongoing military cordon and search operations conducted by the national Congolese army (FARDC) supported by MONUSCO forces against the Force de résistance patriotique en Ituri (FPRI).

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“While the priority is to ensure that the group disarmed voluntarily, the use of force proved inevitable after the lapse of three consecutive deadlines,” he explained.

However, Mr. Kobler said, joint operations against the Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda (FDLR) in North Kivu, South Kivu and Katanga had been at a standstill for five months. While the Congolese Government had made great strides in the past decade in restoring security, the population in East lived at the mercy of a number of armed groups, he explained.

Despite the progress in dislodging the FDLR from some of its strongholds, the FARDC was finding it difficult to consolidate its hold in liberated areas, he said, adding that paralysis had cascaded into other fields of operation. “Waiting is not an option,” he said.

DRC will hold presidential and legislative elections in November 2016, which under the imperatives of a Security Council resolution must be transparent, credible and respectful of the Constitution and the electoral calendar. The responsibility for such elections, however, ultimately rested with the Government and a number of actions were required, Mr. Kobler noted.

“Urgent needs include a budget and a realistic electoral calendar. The voters’ registry need to be updated and political space must be given to the opposition and civil society,” the Special Representative noted. Welcoming President Joseph Kabila’s initiative to reach out to a wide range of stakeholders to ensure consensus, he underlined that such consultations should not delay the elections.

While there had been progress in the fight against sexual violence in the country, violence against women and girls remained endemic, deplored Mr. Kobler. “We must ensure that the women’s bodies are not used as battlegrounds in never-ending wars,” he said, stressing the need to ensure victims had access to justice.

## BURUNDI

### **Crise burundaise: le président ougandais obtient des deux camps la promesse d'un dialogue**

ARTICLE

Source: France 24 avec l'AFP

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**Après 24 heures à Bujumbura, le président ougandais et médiateur dans la crise burundaise, Yoweri Museveni, a obtenu des deux camps l'engagement d'entamer des pourparlers. Jusqu'alors, les protagonistes avaient toujours refusé de dialoguer.**

**16 Juillet 2015** - Médiateur dans la crise burundaise, le président de l'Ouganda, Yoweri Museveni, a passé le relais, mercredi 15 juillet, à son ministre de la Défense, après un séjour de 24 heures à Bujumbura où il a obtenu l'engagement des protagonistes à dialoguer.

Le chef de l'État ougandais, mandaté par les pays de la Communauté est-africaine (EAC) pour tenter de dénouer la crise née de la candidature du président burundais Pierre Nkurunziza à un troisième mandat, a refusé de donner des détails sur les discussions entamées mardi soir à Bujumbura.

"Ce dont nous avons parlé entre nous n'est pas pour les journaux", a-t-il brièvement déclaré à l'issue des travaux. Tout juste a-t-il indiqué que "le parti au pouvoir au Burundi (CNDD-FDD), les partis d'opposition et la société civile s'étaient mis d'accord pour négocier intensément, sans interruption et promptement pour trouver un accord".

"Les gens ont causé et échangé franchement et c'est positif", a de son côté rapporté le principal conseiller en communication du président burundais, Willy Nyamitwe. Agathon Rwasa, principal adversaire politique du chef de l'État, a pour sa part estimé que "d'une façon globale [...] tout le monde est satisfait parce qu'il y a un déblocage", alors que "jusqu'à il y a quelque temps, tout dialogue semblait impossible".

### **Report ou pas report de la présidentielle?**

Aucun des protagonistes n'a toutefois précisé si la présidentielle, déjà repoussée au 21 juillet, allait faire l'objet d'un nouveau report. L'opposition le réclame mais le pouvoir s'y refuse, arguant d'un risque de vide institutionnel à l'expiration du mandat de Pierre Nkurunziza le 26 août.

"Nous sommes ouverts au dialogue mais cela doit se faire parallèlement au processus électoral. Un décret [...] fixe la date des élections et cela devra être respecté", a jugé Pascal Nyabenda, le président du CNDD-FDD. Et d'ajouter: "Nous en avons fini avec la question du troisième mandat".

Reste que les tensions restent vives à Bujumbura, la capitale burundaise. Selon le porte-parole adjoint de la police, Pierre Nkurikiye, dans la nuit de mardi à mercredi cinq grenades ont explosé dans la ville et plusieurs autres à sa périphérie.

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La communauté Internationale estime depuis des semaines que le climat d'intimidation et d'insécurité, ainsi que l'absence de pluralisme médiatique, ne permettent pas des élections crédibles. Mercredi, 17 ONG burundaises et étrangères ont estimé "insuffisant" le report de la présidentielle au 21 juillet, disant craindre que sa tenue ne "déclenche des violences majeures et conduise au déplacement de dizaines de milliers de civils supplémentaires".

La crise, entamée par des protestations fin avril, s'est intensifiée lors de l'officialisation de la candidature de l'actuel chef de l'État, le 8 mai. Les manifestations, dont la régularité quasi quotidienne n'a été interrompue que par une tentative de coup d'État le 13 mai, ont duré environ un mois et demi avant d'être finalement étouffées par une brutale répression policière. Elles ont laissé la place à une nouvelle phase de combats entre armée et rebelles. Plus de 80 personnes sont mortes au cours de ces affrontements.

## Uganda president calls for unity to end Burundi crisis

### NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Clement Manirabarusha

**Bujumbura, 15 July 2015** - Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni urged Burundi's government and its opponents on Wednesday to put aside sectarian and political differences after weeks of violent protests and days of clashes with rebels in the north.

Burundi's political crisis, the worst since a civil war ended in 2005, was triggered by President Pierre Nkurunziza's decision to stand for a third term in an election scheduled for July 21.

Opposition parties say his re-election bid is unconstitutional and are boycotting the race. The president cites a court ruling declaring he can run for five more years in office.

Last week, a rebel general said soldiers loyal to those behind a failed May coup attempt were behind clashes with the army in the north of the African country, one of the world's poorest nations with a history of ethnic conflict.

"I urge the people of Burundi to forget their past sectarian political differences and build their country on unity," Museveni, appointed by east African nations as a mediator to end the crisis, said via Twitter.

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Museveni chaired the opening session of talks in Bujumbura on Monday between the government, the ruling and opposition parties, civil society, religious leaders and others.

He gave few indications of the topics for discussion in his opening public remarks. Ugandan Defence Minister Crispus Kiyonga is expected to lead ongoing discussions.

A senior official in the Amizero y'abarundi opposition coalition, Charles Nditije, said Museveni should demand that Nkurunziza stick to a two-term limit set out in the Arusha peace accords that ended the civil war and create a fair environment for a vote.

Some analysts have questioned Museveni's authority as a mediator. As president he has overseen the scrapping of term limits and Ugandan opposition politicians are often detained. Museveni is expected to run in Uganda's 2016 presidential race.

"Museveni's own disregard for such limits makes him utterly unsuitable for appointment as a mediator," Chris McKeon, Africa analyst at Verisk Maplecroft said in a note.

African efforts to cool the Burundi crisis have stumbled, despite calls by the African Union and regional east African states for dialogue.

In Rwanda, Burundi's neighbour, parliament voted this week to support changing the constitution to allow President Paul Kagame to extend his rule beyond two terms.

## Uganda president leaves Burundi crisis talks without deal

### NEWS STORY

Source: AFP

By Esdras Ndikumana

**15 July 2015** - Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni left crisis talks between Burundi's rival political factions without a deal, but last-ditch efforts following months of violence continued ahead of polls next week.

Burundian President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid to stand for a third consecutive five-year term in an election next Tuesday, despite a constitutional two-term limit, has sparked months of turmoil and an attempted coup in mid-May.

"The ruling party in Burundi and the opposition parties and the civil society have agreed to negotiate expeditiously, intensively... in order to reach an agreement," Museveni told reporters as he left.

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Previous United Nations-mediated efforts have all collapsed.

Ugandan Defence Minister Crispus Kiyonga took over mediation efforts started by Museveni a day earlier, in the latest bid to push stalled talks between Nkurunziza's ruling CNDD-FDD party and opposition groups.

Museveni, who was appointed mediator last week by the five-nation East African Community (EAC), has urged Burundians "to forget their past sectarian political differences".

Around 100 people have been killed in more than two months of protests, with over 158,000 refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries, according to the UN.

Gunfire and grenade explosions have hit the capital in recent nights, as has been common in recent weeks.

With the presidential election now taking place on Tuesday, there are only a few days to seal a deal between the opposing sides, but Burundi presidential communication advisor Willy Nyamitwe said there had been "positive" talks.

Key opposition leader Agathon Rwaswa said talks would continue, adding that "there will be no taboo subjects, everything must be put on the table".

**'Something much worse'**

Polls, originally due on Wednesday, were pushed back by six days amid intense international pressure.

But a group of 17 aid agencies and rights groups warned Wednesday that was "an insufficient gesture that ignores the risk that elections could spark major violence".

Opposition groups say another term would violate a peace deal that paved the way to end a dozen years of civil war in 2006. There are fears the current crisis could plunge the impoverished, landlocked country back into civil war.

"Scores have already been killed, but this could be just the beginning of something much worse," said Ndung'u Wainaina, from the Kenya-based International Center for Policy and Conflict, a member of the coalition demanding further delays.

"In the current context of tensions and credible threats of further violence, holding elections next week could push Burundi into a much deeper crisis," Wainaina added.



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Nkurunziza's ruling party scored a widely-expected landslide win in parliamentary polls held on May 29, but these were boycotted by the opposition and condemned internationally as not free and fair.

Violence has continued in Burundi, where troops clashed with suspected rebel fighters over the weekend in northern regions bordering Rwanda.

Burundian rebel general Leonard Ngendakumana -- who took part in the failed coup in May to topple Nkurunziza -- has confirmed that soldiers loyal to the coup plot were involved in the fighting.

Opposition leader Alexis Sinduhije on Wednesday said a group of exiled Burundian dissidents had created an alliance to force Nkurunziza from power, likely to be based in the Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa.

"The global aim is to get Nkurunziza out," he told France 24.

"Unfortunately, I have the impression the only way will be through violence."

Nkurunziza "can leave now and be thanked by Burundians for saving lives, or he can refuse to go and be forced out", Sinduhije added.

## **East African regional court begins hearing case on Burundi crisis**

### NEWS STORY

Source: APA

**14 July 2015** - The East African Court of Justice has on Tuesday held the first public hearing on the Burundi crisis in Arusha, Tanzania.

The case filed on July 6th involves the Pan-African Lawyers Union together with the East African Civil Society Forum versus the Attorney General of Burundi.

It seeks among other things an interim order staying the elections in Burundi.

They also want the regional court to determine the decision of the constitutional court of Burundi on the list of presidential candidates, breaches of the rule of law and the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi 2000.

The group argues that the current political environment in Burundi is not conducive for a free and fair election, and President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid for a 3rd term is unconstitutional.

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The Pan-African Lawyers Union is a continental membership forum for African lawyers and lawyers' associations.

## **Burundi Civil Society Sues President Over Vote Bid, Nation Says**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Bloomberg Business

**14 July 2015** - The East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum and a group of Burundian lawyers filed a lawsuit challenging President Pierre Nkurunziza's bid to seek re-election for a third term.

The president's attempt to remain in office would be unconstitutional and violate the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement signed in 2000, the Nairobi-based newspaper reported Tuesday, citing lawyer Donald Omondi Deya.

The lawsuit was filed Monday at the East Africa Court of Justice and will be heard Wednesday in Arusha, Tanzania, according to the newspaper.

The East African nation is scheduled to hold presidential elections July 21.

## UGANDA

## **Uganda Opposition Leader Presses for Political Reform**

### NEWS STORY

Source: VOA

**13 July 2015** - Uganda's main opposition leader and past presidential candidate said anyone who believes in democracy must work for reform aimed at a free and fair electoral process.

Kizza Besigye of the Forum for Democratic Change contested three consecutive presidential elections, in 2001, 2006, and 2011. Besigye said all three were marked by voting irregularities. He has announced his candidacy to contest the 2016 election.

Last Thursday, police arrested him, along with former Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi who is seeking the ruling party's nomination, on what they called "preventive" measures.

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Besigye said he plans to resume his campaign Tuesday in spite of the threat of being re-arrested. He said the police have no power under the Public Order Management Act, an old colonial law, to stop political parties from holding meetings.

“My arrest is a clear, undoubted part of persecution of political opponents by [President Yoweri] Museveni and his regime. It is done in complete violation of our laws; it is an act of impunity on the part of regime police, and this is part of the reason we are struggling to have a new system of political management in our country. The struggle in Uganda is not just an electoral contest, it is a liberation struggle,” he said.

Besigye said the law the police used to justify his arrest, and that of Mbabazi, is antiquated and does not apply to today’s political parties.

“That law, on which they based such action, is a law that was enacted in 1957 by the British colonial government. And it’s a law, therefore, that was meant to service the colonial regime and that is the dilemma that we have. We are supposed to be an independent nation, but being run by colonial institutions and colonial systems,” he said.

He said because the three presidential elections he contested were characterized by irregularities, it should be the mission of every Ugandan to demand reforms ahead of next year’s vote.

“And so, in the upcoming elections, we have made it clear that there has to be reforms to the political system that can engender a free and fair election, even it means that the election is not held the time when it is supposed to be held. We are going to be fighting tooth and nail to make sure there are reforms ahead of next year,” Besigye said.

Besigye was arrested last Thursday along with former Ugandan Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi who is seeking the nomination of the ruling National Resistance Movement of Uganda.

Mbabazi, who is seeking the nomination of the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM), told VOA he has been holding discussions with members of the opposition because he doesn’t consider himself an enemy of anyone, and likewise, the opposition should not see him as an enemy.

“We are Ugandans who espouse maybe different ideas about how to run country. It only means that we have different approaches. And this should not really stop us from cooperating with each other,” Mbabazi said.

Besigye said the first task that all democratic forces in Uganda should be working on is to make sure that there is free and fair election. As that process goes on, he said, there

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are discussions on having a common candidate of the democratic forces once a decision has been made to participate in the election.

“Mr. Mbabazi is not yet a signatory of the protocol that established that mechanism, but he has declared support for it. If he certainly appends to that process and becomes part and parcel of that process, then, quite obviously he will be in the pool through which a common candidate can emerge,” Besigye said.

## ANGOLA

### Angola: Intelligence Officer Arrested in Connection With the Alleged Coup Plot

#### NEWS STORY

Source: Maka Angola (<http://allafrica.com/stories/201507150682.html>)

By Rafael Marques De Morais

**15 July 2015** - Captain Zenóbio Lázaro Muhondo Zumba, 34 years old, became the first collateral victim of searches being carried out by the Criminal Investigation Service (SIC) and by Intelligence Services on computers, writings and other documentation seized from the 15 people arrested for allegedly plotting a coup.

On June 30 past, the captain arrived at the headquarters of the Military Intelligence and Security Service (SISM), where he is an analyst at the Information and Analysis department attached to the General Staff of the Angolan Armed Forces (FAA). He thought it was just another normal day at work.

According to information given by his wife, Suzana Zumba, members of the Military Police showed Captain Zumba a photograph of Lieutenant Osvaldo Caholo, who had been arrested at home on June 24. "Zenóbio said that he knew him, since they had both been classmates in the International Relations' degree program in UTANGA [Technical University of Angola]", according to Suzana Zumba.

Then, Ms. Zumba continued: "they showed him a document that establishes a connection between the two of them. He [Captain Zenóbio] reported about his pursuit of a master's degree in International Relations to the head of General Staff of the FAA."

Also according to Ms Zumba's statement, apparently Lieutenant Caholo had a digital copy of the referenced report on his computer, and it was sufficient cause for Captain

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Zenóbio Zumba to be arrested. This is how he was suspected of belonging to the alleged group of conspirators who, according to the accusation levelled by the Attorney General of the Republic, General João Maria de Sousa, were planning to overthrow president José Eduardo dos Santos. On June 20, 13 of the current detainees were arrested while in a book club discussing non-violent theories of protest, mainly inspired by Gene Sharp's book *From Dictatorship to Democracy: A Conceptual Framework for Liberation*.

Since June 30, Captain Zenóbio Zumba has been detained in the headquarters of the Military Region of Luanda. According to Suzana Zumba, he strongly objects to the fact that he remains in detention even though the authorities have never issued a warrant for his arrest, nor has he been questioned by a military prosecutor.

"He [Captain Zenóbio] refused to be registered by the MP without being shown a warrant for his arrest."

"Every time I raise this question with the lawyers who come here, they pay absolutely no attention to me because, according to them, I'm Zé Maria's [head of the Military Intelligence and Security Service] prisoner, and there is no arrest warrant for me", complains Captain Zenóbio Zumba, in a message which was seen by Maka Angola.

Captain Zenóbio Zumba was scheduled to travel to Argentina on July 10, where he is studying for a Masters Degree in International Relations at the University of Social and Business Science (UCES).

Up to the date of publication of this text, the captain has not been allowed to have visitors. His wife is only allowed to bring him food and water, since the army lacks the logistical means to feed its prisoners.

A source within the Military Police, contacted by this portal, anonymously confirmed that Captain Zenóbio Zumba was arrested due to "an order from General Zé Maria, with no other formal expedient for his arrest."

## KENYA

### Scarred by Islamist Attacks, Kenya Set to Re-open Westgate Mall

NEWS STORY

Source: VOA

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**14 July 2015** - Kenya's trendy Westgate shopping mall will reopen on Saturday, nearly two years after gunmen from the Somali militant group al-Shabab massacred at least 67 people inside and held out for four days as security forces laid siege to the complex.

Once a totem of Kenya's growing prosperity, the Westgate building has since become symbolic of growing insecurity in the east African nation and President Uhuru Kenyatta's inability to prevent frequent Islamist attacks on Kenyan soil.

Images beamed across the world during the raid dented Kenya's image abroad and scared off tourists, hurting a vital sector of the economy. Kenya's embarrassment was compounded by Westgate security footage which showed soldiers looting the mall after the Somali militants were killed.

Evans Kidero, the Nairobi governor, said the September 2013 attack was "one of the saddest days in Kenyan history" but touted the re-opening of the mall as a triumph of national resilience in the face of militant attacks.

"They killed... our friends and relatives, but they did not kill our spirit," he told reporters after touring the building where workmen were slapping on final licks of paint and staff were unfurling promotional banners.

Major Western brands, including Subway, KFC and Converse, plan to open stores in the new mall along with Kenyan companies such as Nakumatt, a high-end supermarket chain popular with well-heeled locals and expatriate workers.

**More Attacks**

Al-Shabab has killed more than 400 people on Kenyan soil over the last two years, including 148 in a rampage by masked gunmen at a university in April. Britain and other Western powers have issued several travel advisories warning of more attacks.

But Kidero, like many other Kenyan officials, said security has been stepped up and urged Kenyans to continue shopping in malls as the east African nation was open for business.

"Kenya is safer than ever. If it wasn't, Obama wouldn't be coming," Kidero added, in reference to U.S. President Barack Obama's visit to his father's homeland later this month.

I.R.G., a private Israeli company, has been put in charge of running security in the re-opened mall. It has about 25 specialist staff and will use about 55 guards from security firm G4S, one I.R.G employee told Reuters inside Westgate.

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New security features will include explosive detectors, luggage X-rays, scanners to check underneath cars, bollards to prevent car bombs, and bullet-proof guard towers.

"This will be the safest mall in the world," said Cohen, an I.R.G. employee who did not wish to give his full name.

Outside the mall, several young Kenyans were waiting in hope the re-opening will see new jobs created in a country where poverty remains rife and unemployment high.

"Ninety-nine percent of my worries are about security," said Rosemary Muthoni, a 28-year-old seeking a job at the mall. "But you have to take a chance to survive."

## SOUTH SUDAN

### **SPLM-N says it received no invitation for meeting with AU mediator**

#### NEWS STORY

Source: Sudan Tribune

**15 July 2015** - The rebel group of Sudan People Liberation Movement North (SPLM-N) denied media reports published in Khartoum claiming that the head of the African Union High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) Thabo Mbeki invited the group's Secretary-General Yasir Arman to travel to Addis Ababa for consultations.

SPLM-N spokesperson Ardol Mubarak blamed this report on a member of the Sudanese government negotiating team by the name of Hussein Karshum.

"Hussein Karshum is himself the source of the report.....the report is untrue and has no basis except with the security apparatus, and is intended to stir doubts within the opposition [ranks]" Mubarak said in an emailed statement.

But Karshum denied in an interview with Sudan Tribune Mubarak's accusations, saying that he only commented on the report.

"The SPLM-N is not summoned but consulted. President Mbeki did not ask us to attend any consultation and none of the leaders met Mbeki on his current trip to Addis Ababa, which comes for the purpose of participation in the International Conference on Financing for Development in Africa," SPLM-N spokesperson said.

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He stressed that the SPLM-N is working within the framework of "Sudan Call" charter and is fully committed to what has been agreed upon with its signatories.

The Sudanese army has been fighting SPLM-N rebels in Blue Nile and South Kordofan since 2011 and a group of armed movements in Darfur since 2003.

## **South Sudan vows not to expel UN official from Unity state**

### **NEWS STORY**

Source: Sudan Tribune

**15 July 2015** - The South Sudanese government said it would not expel the United Nations coordinator in its oil-rich Unity state, saying the state administration had no constitutional mandate to expel UN officials or member of the diplomatic community.

In a statement issued through its embassy in Washington, the government faulted Unity state cabinet's decision to expel Mary Cummins.

According to the embassy, the foreign affairs and international cooperation ministry was currently engaged in consultations with the government of Unity state and the leadership of the UN mission (UNMISS) to ascertain facts and resolve the matter.

"The government of the Republic of South Sudan pledges to work very closely with UNMISS and relief organisation present in South Sudan to provide humanitarian relief and help bring lasting peace," the embassy said in a statement issued 14 July, 2015.

"Moreover, those engaged in hampering the work of humanitarian workers and UNMISS, will be brought to account for their actions," it stressed.

The United Nations secretary general, Ban Ki-moon on Monday urged South Sudanese authorities to fully cooperate with its peacekeeping mission by providing support to enable humanitarian workers deliver and have unfettered access to people.

Speaking in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, Ki moon said the world body was accommodating over 150,000 internally displaced persons, something it never designed or planned for.

"We are doing our best to provide life-saving support to them so we expect they [South Sudan authorities] should fully cooperate and provide support," Ki moon said Monday.



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The government of South Sudan's Unity state announced on Sunday it would not allow the return of the UN state coordinator, whom they accused of overseeing a recent report that pins government forces on human rights abuses in its battles against rebels.

Over 1.6 million people, the UN says, have been displaced and more than 600,000 have fled to neighbouring countries, while 4.6 million could face severe food insecurity.

## **Ateny Wek: Unity State responsible for UN staff expulsion**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Radio Tamazuj

**15 July 2015** - South Sudan's Presidential Press Secretary Ateny Wek says that the national government is not responsible for the decision to expel UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) Unity State Coordinator Mary Cummins.

In an interview with Radio Tamazuj he said, "Until this time we did not receive any official notification from Unity State. They made the decision exclusively as Unity State on its own. So until the notification the central government cannot discuss the issue of this UN staff."

Asked whether the expulsion was related to the recent human rights reports released by UNMISS, Ateny Wek responded, "Not only South Sudan can expel a UN staff if the employee is outside the competences of his job, in any country in the world he can be expelled."

The presidency official reiterated that the state council of ministers took the decision to expel Mary Cummins, not the national government.

But Ateny complained that UNMISS and human rights organizations had released human rights reports without consultations with the government. "When the government asked them for some time to be able to form an investigation committee they just anyway put out that report and everybody sees South Sudan as a country that violates human rights."

He mentioned that South Sudan investigates its own human rights violations, claiming some soldiers were still under arrest for the December 2013 events and they would be taken to a military court.

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But Ateny was reluctant to answer questions about forced recruitment of children, the alleged incitement of youths to attack a UN base in Bor, and the failure of 'investigation committees' to release any public reports or prosecute anybody.

“I don't want to talk about the investigation. It is not ready. When it is ready I will be able to talk about it, but not at this time,” said the president's spokesman.

## South Sudan beefs up security in Juba ahead of new cabinet

### NEWS STORY

Source: Sudan Tribune

**14 July 2015** - The South Sudanese capital, Juba on Tuesday an unusually heavy deployment of joint security forces on major streets and surrounding areas, allegedly in preparation for the announcement by president Salva Kiir of new cabinet members.

The unexpected move comes a day after president Kiir held a meeting with state governors and members of his ruling Sudan People's Liberation Movement.

Officers drawn from all police units as well as the army, predominantly members of the presidential guard division as well as plain-clothed security forces could be seen patrolling the streets of the country's capital and surrounding areas within town.

Military aircrafts also flew over some of the areas in town as part of air surveillance. However, as regular officers and army units patrolled the town, some security officers focused their surveillance on hotels and strategic areas and other key installations.

Officers clad in full combat gear with bullet proof vests did the rounds on the streets in patrol cars. Private security firms increased the number of personnel and screening in public places was more thorough. Public business and private vehicles were subjected to thorough checks and travellers too underwent the process.

The move, police said, was in line with the newly introduced regulations to ensure safety.

“So far, we have done well. There have not been any major incidents. Patrols have been increased not only in Juba but all over the country. All officers are on duty to keep our people safe. There is no room for criminals. Security, both uniformed and in civilian clothes were deployed at hotspots,” Central Equatoria State police commissioner, Major Gen. Saed Chawul told reporters when asked to comment on the unusual deployment.

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He urged the residents to cooperate with security officers by providing information on any criminal-related activities, so that action could be taken against those involved.

While meeting the country's governor's Monday, president Kiir told them changes would occur anytime, urging them to accept whatever decision made in the interest of peace.

On 8 July, president Kiir was sworn-in for more three years in office after parliamentary approval.

## SUDAN

### **Sudan summons South Sudan ambassador over hostile media campaign**

#### NEWS STORY

Source: Sudan Tribune

**14 July 2015** - Sudan's foreign ministry on Wednesday has summoned the South Sudanese ambassador, Mayan Dut Waal, to protest against Juba's support to Sudanese rebels besides hostile media campaign against Khartoum.

Khartoum and Juba continue to trade accusations of support to rebel groups from both sides since South Sudan attained independence.

Following the recapture of Malakal by the SPLM-IO fighters by the end of June, the Juba Telegraph, a daily newspaper owned by the press secretary of President Salva Kiir, published a series of opinion articles accusing Sudan of arming, training and providing logistical supports to the armed opposition fighters allied to former vice-president, Riek Machar.

The director of South Sudan department at Sudan's foreign ministry, Abdallah Hassan Issa, has conveyed to Waal Sudan's protest against Juba's support to Sudanese armed groups besides the negative media campaign launched by pro-government newspapers against Khartoum, the foreign ministry said on Wednesday.

Issa stressed to Waal the need to respect the international charters and good neighbourly relations between the two nations, asking him to inform his government to stop the hostile acts and media campaigns against Sudan, the statement further said.

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The South Sudanese ambassador for his part promised to convey Sudan's protest to his government as soon as possible.

Last week, South Sudan's president, Salva Kiir Mayardit, held Khartoum responsible for hindering development in his country in the past, saying it shares oil revenues with the newborn state.

## **Sudan: First Vice President Meets UN Secretary General in Addis Ababa**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Sudan News Agency (Khartoum)

**14 July 2015** - The First Vice - President of the Republic, Lt. Gen. Bakri Hassan Salih, has met with the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-moon, on the sidelines of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

SUNA learned that the meeting tackled a number of issues including the status of the UNAMID forces in Darfur, the humanitarian situation in South Sudan, the UN Secretary General's position concerning the International Criminal Court (ICC) and commitments of Sudan to the United Nations and the UN commitments to Sudan.

The meeting was attended by the Minister of Finance, Badr-Eddin Mahmoud, the State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Kamal Ismail, and Sudan Ambassador to Ethiopia.