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



## **MEDIA MONITORING**

**13 August 2015**

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**DRC**

### **At least 20,000 infected in southeast Congo measles outbreak - UN**

#### NEWS STORY

Source: Reuters

By Aaron Ross

**Kinshasa, 12 August 2015** - A measles outbreak in the copper-mining Katanga province in the Democratic Republic of Congo has killed 315 people and infected at least 20,000, the United Nations said on Wednesday.

Hundreds more deaths have likely not been documented due to difficulties accessing remote areas, The U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) said in a draft report on the province's worst outbreak of the disease since 2010-11.

"The measles epidemic in the province of Katanga is only worsening and gaining ground," said the report seen by Reuters.

More than \$2.4 million will be needed to organize vaccination drives and treat those already infected in the southeastern province, it said.

Some 1,085 people died and about 77,000 were infected in the 2010-11 epidemic, according to a study in the scientific journal BMC Infectious Diseases.

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The industrial copper and cobalt mining zones in the province - Africa's leading producer of both metals - have been largely untouched by the current outbreak as they lie hundreds of kilometers south of the worst affected areas.

Measles is a highly contagious virus that can lead to deadly complications like diarrhea, dehydration, respiratory infection and encephalitis.

Mortality rates are low in developed countries but can rise to as high as 20 percent in poorer countries, according to medical charity Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF).

It costs about \$1 in developing countries to vaccinate a child against measles.

The World Health Organization (WHO) warned last November that progress toward wiping out measles has stalled worldwide due to poor vaccine coverage.

Access to healthcare is low in Congo, which ranks 186 out of 187 on the U.N. Human Development Index.

## République démocratique du Congo: répression avant la présidentielle

### OPINION

Source: El Watan.com

**13 août 2015** - Pays de la région africaine des Grands Lacs, la République démocratique du Congo (RDC) risque de connaître la même situation que son voisin, le Burundi. D'où l'inquiétude de la communauté internationale. Selon l'AFP, les Nations unies ont hier appelé Kinshasa à cesser «immédiatement» les arrestations extrajudiciaires en RDC, estimant qu'elles nuisent à la «crédibilité» du processus électoral. «Chaque arrestation extrajudiciaire de membres de la société civile, acteurs politiques ou média, confirme la tendance à la restriction de l'espace politique» alors que le pays doit entamer en octobre un cycle d'élections, a déclaré le directeur du Bureau conjoint des Nations unies aux droits de l'homme (BCNUDH), José Maria Aranaz. «Il faut arrêter toutes les arrestations extrajudiciaires immédiatement pour éviter l'impact négatif sur la crédibilité du processus électoral», a-t-il ajouté.

Mardi, le BCNUDH s'était dit «très préoccupé» par la disparition depuis samedi à Kinshasa de Bienvenu Matumo, l'un des militants les plus actifs du mouvement Lutte pour le changement (Lucha) et diplômé de la première promotion de la nouvelle Ecole nationale d'administration (ENA). Lucha a indiqué mardi que, en mars, Bienvenu Matumo avait «fait l'objet de recherche par l'Agence nationale de renseignement (ANR),

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parce qu'il avait participé à l'organisation de l'atelier de lancement de Filimbi», qui se présente comme un collectif de mouvements d'éducation à la citoyenneté, non-partisan et non-violent. Le 15 mars, une trentaine de personnes ont été arrêtées lors d'une réunion d'échanges sur la bonne gouvernance en Afrique organisée par Filimbi. Toutes ont été relâchées à l'exception de Fred Bauma, de Lucha, et Yves Makwambala, webmaître et graphiste du groupe Filimbi, qui attendent la reprise de leur procès pour «complot contre la personne ou la vie du chef de l'Etat et tentative de renversement des institutions».

Le porte-parole du gouvernement, Lambert Mende, a indiqué que Kinshasa n'était pas informé de cette affaire : «J'ai l'impression qu'il y a des montages de ces jeunes, de ces petits malins. (...) Nous ne savons rien du tout, rien du tout.» De son côté, dans un appel hier à une «action urgente», Amnesty International estime que la disparition de B. Matumo ressemble à des cas «où de jeunes militants et défenseurs des droits de l'homme ont été soumis à une disparition forcée en RDC, avant qu'ils ne soient relâchés ou formellement inculpés».

L'organisation en question appelle à contacter les ministres concernés (Intérieur, Justice) et le chef de l'ANR afin que, s'il est bien détenu, B. Matumo soit relâché ou inculpé «rapidement», qu'il ait accès à un avocat et ne soit pas exposé à la «torture et autre mauvais traitement».

### **Le mildiou du pouvoir**

Le climat politique est tendu en RDC à l'approche de la présidentielle prévue en novembre 2016, à laquelle le président Joseph Kabila, au pouvoir depuis 2001, ne peut se représenter selon la Constitution.

En janvier, principalement à Kinshasa, plusieurs dizaines de personnes ont été tuées au cours de manifestations violentes, réprimées par les forces de sécurité.

Les manifestants dénonçaient un projet de loi électorale qui aurait pu permettre à J. Kabila de se maintenir au pouvoir au-delà de la fin de son deuxième mandat. Des présidents de pays africains comptent modifier la Constitution pour rester au pouvoir. Au Rwanda, pays voisin de la RDC, le Parlement a donné mardi son feu vert pour réviser la constitution pour permettre au président Paul Kagamé de briguer un troisième mandat. Le même jour, le président tchadien Idriss Deby Itno [a] évoqué sa possible candidature à une réélection dans la perspective de la présidentielle prévue en 2016, alors qu'il est depuis 25 ans au pouvoir suite à un coup d'Etat :

«Vingt-cinq ans, c'est long. Si j'avais la possibilité de m'assurer que le pays marchera après moi, je quitterais aujourd'hui même le pouvoir. Si mon départ pouvait renforcer la

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paix, la sécurité et la concorde, j'aurais pris mes vacances.» Et d'ajouter : «J'appartiens au Mouvement patriotique du salut, le moment venu, il appartiendra à ce parti de désigner son candidat. Toutes les dispositions sont prises de manière à ce que les élections se déroulent dans la transparence libre et démocratique (...). Quitter pour quitter le pouvoir et laisser le Tchad dans le désordre, je ne le ferai pas.» Au Congo Brazaville, les partisans du président Denis Sesso Nguesso activent dans le même sens.

## President Kabila's Plan to 'Slide' Into a Third Term Causes Jitters in DRC

### OPINION

Source: <http://afkinsider.com/101751/president-kabilas-plan-to-slide-into-a-third-term-causes-jitters-in-drc/>

**11 August 2015** - To take the political pulse of this sprawling, mineral-rich country, head to the busiest stretch of Lumumba Boulevard, one of the capital's main roads. On weekdays, a large crowd gathers here to peer at the newspapers posted on an eight-foot-high wall and loudly trade opinions on the news of the day.

Recently, the shouting has been about President Joseph Kabila's plan to carve the country's 11 provinces into 26, which many Congolese see as a ploy to delay the coming presidential election and allow Mr. Kabila to "slide," as people here say, into a third term.

"We already know these are political maneuvers," said Theo Balsomi, an unemployed college graduate, as he jostled with others to get a look at the newspapers on a recent afternoon. "Knowing the reality of our country, we have lived through many regimes. We won't allow Mr. Kabila to slide for even a second. The whole population would oppose that."

Mandated in 2006, the plan to split the provinces lay dormant until the president revived it in March. The new provinces have been named, but elections for governors and other leaders have yet to be held.

Before voting for a new president in 2016, the Democratic Republic of Congo must go through a series of elections on the local and provincial levels. Mayors, village chiefs and councils must be named, and deputies and governors need to be elected in the

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provinces. The longer this process takes, the more likely the presidential race will be postponed.

Under Congo's Constitution, the president is limited to two terms. However, delays in the packed electoral calendar, which is already months behind schedule, are stoking fears that a postponed presidential election could allow Mr. Kabila to stay in power for months or even years longer.

## **Rwandan rebels kidnap 6 Tanzanian Muslim leaders in DR Congo, demand \$20,000 ransom**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Mail & Guardian Africa

**This could be awkward for Tanzania, which in the past called on Rwanda to negotiate with the rebels now turned kidnappers.**

**12 August 2015** - THE kidnappers of six Tanzanian imams and their Congolese driver have asked for a ransom of \$20,000, a source from the Congolese Islamic Community (COMICO) said Tuesday.

The six Tanzanian imams and their Congolese driver were kidnapped on Aug. 2, 2015, by men suspected to be members of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) in Rutshuru territory, North Kivu province in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DR Congo).

"Currently, they have been located in Rutshuru forest. There are people following them. Their kidnappers are asking for a ransom of \$20, 000," COMICO coordinator El Hadji Masudi said.

"We do not have money, but we hope they will be released soon," he said, adding that "our Tanzanian brothers had come to preach." Civil society groups in North Kivu have equally expressed concern over the abduction.

"This is an unfortunate incident because the kidnappers may destroy our country's good relations with Tanzania, making us look like enemies of our Tanzanian brothers," said Thomas Mwiti, the president of North Kivu civil society groups. Mwiti revealed that close to 500 people had been kidnapped in Rutushuru territory since the beginning of this year.

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This development can only [be] awkward for Tanzania. In 2013, Tanzania's President Jakaya Kikwete, called on Rwanda to open political negotiations with the FDLR, drawing a remarkably angry response from Kigali.

Rwanda sees the FDLR as no more than remnants of the forces that carried out the genocide that killed nearly million people in the country in 1994.

Relations between the two East African neighbours soured considerably in the immediate aftermath. Tanzania at that time listed the FDLR as "freedom fighters."

To complicate matters, Tanzania is the lead contingent of the UN's special UN Force Intervention Brigade (FIB) - the first UN peacekeeping unit mandated to neutralise armed groups in the DR Congo - under the wider and much-maligned peacekeeping operation Monusco.

Deadlines to disarm the armed groups, including FDLR, have come and passed without significant action against them. Kigali blames FIB's ineffectiveness against FDLR on the ambivalence of Tanzania and South Africa, another key member of the force, suggesting they have sympathies for the rebels.

## RWANDA

### Rwandan General Expected Home From UK Following Release

#### NEWS STORY

Source: The East African

**11 August 2015** - The head of Rwanda's National Intelligence and Security Services Lt Gen Emmanuel Karenzi Karake is expected to return home in less than 48 hours after a UK court dismissed a case to have him extradited to Spain to face charges.

Gen Karenzi Karake was arrested in June in the UK on a European arrest warrant issued based on indictments of a Spanish Judge accusing the Rwandan General and 39 others of committing crimes against humanity.

On Monday, a court in London dismissed the case on grounds that the Spanish arrest warrants were not connected to Britain in anyway, despite the UK having earlier said that it had a legal obligation as an EU country to effect the arrest warrants.

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According to Rwanda's Justice Minister Johnston Busingye, who was in London to oversee the procedure, the decision by the court means that Mr Karake is free to return home and continue battling the charges from Rwanda.

"We said it from the beginning that this case was flawed and had no basis. We will keep fighting. This was and remains an unjust case," Mr Busingye said from London.

Earlier reports had indicated that the charges had been dropped but it was later confirmed that the case against Mr Karake, who was out on conditional bail, was dismissed under a clause in Britain's Extradition Act, which caters for crimes committed on British soil or against British citizens.

"The case has been discharged today (Monday). It can be permitted if offences specified in the (arrest) warrant are not offences under the meaning of the (Act)," a court official told the media.

The arrest of Mr Karake infuriated Rwanda and threatened to harm diplomatic ties between Rwanda and the UK. President Paul Kagame strongly condemned the arrest of the intelligence official who had travelled to the European country on an official mission with a diplomatic passport.

Rwanda's Minister of Foreign Affairs Louise Mushikiwabo who also previously spoke out against the arrest, said that the arrest of the General was 'unnecessary and abusive' in the first place.

"Delighted! Gen. KK [Karenzi Karake] coming home! This was an unnecessary and abusive process," Minister Mushikiwabo tweeted, extending her thanks to African Union and the AUC Chairperson Dlamini Zuma for standing with Rwanda.

"Rwanda very appreciative of Africa's stand on the abusive arrest of Gen. KK, he is now free," she added.

**Backroom negotiations**

According to sources, there have been ongoing negotiations between Rwanda and the UK to free Gen Karake.

He was scheduled to appear in court on September 26 and October 29 while the full extradition hearing was expected on October 30. However, there was no prior information that the hearing had been brought forward to August 10.

Sources further say there has been backdoor lobbying to have Gen Karake released after the arrest caught senior government officials off guard.

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"Considering that courts in the UK work independently, this had to be done carefully to avoid any consequences not only on the justice system but also on the diplomacy of Britain," the source further said.

Mr Karake's defence team included Cherie Blair, the wife of Britain's former Prime Minister Tony Blair.

Rwanda had promised to fight the Spanish indictments which date back to 2008.

## **Amendment of the Rwandan Constitution and the Future of the Country**

### **OPINION**

Source: News of Rwanda

By Gahiji

**11 August 2015** - The ultimate goal of any living person is happiness but above all is freedom. For many years Africans have lived in situations that not only undermine their freedom but threaten their safety. To some extent Africans have been responsible for their unfortunate fate for decades. Dictatorships, political manipulations, severe and unfair treatment of regimes to their own people have been common stories for a number of decades. Because of such situations, African economic development has been on the fall and peoples' welfare has deteriorated significantly.

However, the role of foreign influence in the political dynamics in Africa cannot be ignored. The colonial era still holds a lot in what transpires in our countries. Yes, Africans did not decide to be traded as slaves across the oceans neither did they invite Europeans to colonize them. The bottom line is about people's role in making their own decisions. The severe implication of this is the denial of a people to determine their own destiny. A destiny of a people is no one else's responsibility but owner's responsibility. It is not a political discourse but a matter of life for any community.

For quite some time, citizens have been debating on the amendment of the Rwandan constitution with a particular emphasis on article 101 of the Rwandan constitution to allow President Paul Kagame a third term. It has been a hotcake but I have my take on this issue. I am personally impressed that Rwandans have no chance to neglect the reality of their past and the focus on their future any more. Yes, people have been informed by what befall them that still rotates in their mind and no one else can tell a better story. This remains the launch pad of the Rwandans' actions when it comes to their national issues.



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A recently frustrated and hopeless community is reviving with great hope to achieve. There must be who, why and how of the story. Who do Rwandans see as their messiah, who did it, who else knows the story than the principal beneficiaries and who should decide otherwise. This is the time that Rwandans should demonstrate their determination to ensure full ownership of their destiny. In history, countries, societies, communities or people have had unique personality in their history who exceptionally shaped and changed their lives and who remain strongly entrenched in their mind across generations. Ask Americans who is George Washington, ask Indians who is Ghandi or South Africans who is Mandela, they will tell their own story.

President Kagame in his early thirties became responsible for his own people, sacrificed his time and life for the good of the country. He has served and demonstrated unique capability that the country and its people enjoy today. The foundation of hope he has shortly laid down is a commodity that Rwandans should not accept to slide back. The democracy concept should be viewed in a real and particular context. The most important and inviolable value is the quest of the people as per their destiny. Rwandans need is no one else's need, criticisms, manipulations, distortions of any nature should be classified irrelevant in the face of Rwandan's own role in shaping their future.

Rwandan people voted their constitution in 2003 and subsequently President Kagame was elected. People had heard of a person called Kagame, he had successfully led a liberation struggle as a commander of ground forces and had never been a head of state to demonstrate his capability to move a country from despair to prosperity as Rwanda looks today. His years in leadership of the country have demanded his people to need him in the position for extra period.

To me Rwandan people have the reason to strengthen their position in defense of retaining the exceptional leader the country has had in their history. Based on the dark history the country registered as well as the hopeful future witnessed today, Rwandans should be left alone to determine their future.

It should be recalled that the Rwandan constitution shall always be amended as long as people need to develop and change their country. Stagnancy and permanence in a dynamic environment cannot serve a people and is basically against natural laws. Let come referendum and people voice their wish.

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## BURUNDI

### UN and international envoys urge Burundi Government to forge 'new path' through dialogue

#### NEWS STORY

Source: UN News Centre

**12 August 2015** - The Government of Burundi should immediately seize the opportunity for dialogue and forge a “new path,” United Nations and international envoys declared today, condemning the wave of recent attacks in the crisis-torn country and urging parties to show “restraint, leadership, and vision.”

“Following months of unrest and the controversial electoral process, the Burundian government can begin to restore credibility through engagement in an inclusive political dialogue with political parties, including opposition and the Frondeurs of the CNDD-FDD, and civil society,” stated the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to the Great Lakes Region, Said Djinnit.

Mr. Djinnit issued that statement jointly with a team of international special envoys, which included African Union’s Special Envoy, Ibrahima Fall, United States Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region of Africa Thomas Perriello; European Union Senior Coordinator for the Great Lakes Region Koen Vervaeke, and Belgian Special Envoy for the African Great Lakes Region Frank De Coninck.

“The Burundian government cannot afford to continue down a road marred by instability, division, extreme economic decline, and humanitarian crisis. Already one of the most fragile economies in the world, Burundi’s economy has plummeted further in recent months and shows little sign that it can recover in the absence of a resolution to the political crisis,” declared the envoys, stressing that donors’ willingness to continue partnering with the Government is dependent on progress towards restoring the country’s democratic credentials.

Calling for an immediate end to violence, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the resumption of an inclusive political dialogue, they condemned the killing of General Adolph Nshimirimana and the attack on human rights defender Pierre Claver Mbonimpa, journalist Esdras Ndikumana and others, and called for those responsible to be held accountable.

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“Violence will not resolve Burundi's political crisis and will only further the instability. Calls for violence will be condemned and will discredit those individuals and parties that make them”, the envoys continued, calling upon the Government of Burundi and other political parties to immediately recommit to a transparent, inclusive, and comprehensive political dialogue.

“The National Assembly’s decision last week to eliminate quotas ensuring ethnic and gender balance in its leadership committee indicate a disturbing intent by the ruling party to repeal one of the fundamental principles of peace and stability that enabled Burundi to emerge from protracted civil war,” the Envoys regretted, while encouraging parties to recommit to the Arusha Agreement and its power-sharing provisions.

The crisis in Burundi continues to spill across borders, with over 200,000 people seeking refuge across the region. The latest numbers show 85,200 Burundian refugees in Tanzania, 71,600 in Rwanda, 28,300 in Uganda, 14,322 in the Democratic republic of Congo (DRC), 7,000 in Kenya, and 3,000 in southern Africa.

Commending these countries for their humanitarian contributions as hosts, the Envoys said that dialogue that brings about a political resolution to the instability in Burundi is the best route to encourage the safe return of refugees and prevent regional instability.

## **Burundi: des envoyés internationaux appellent à la reprise du dialogue**

### ARTICLE

Source: Agence de presse Xinhua

**13 août 2015** - L'envoyé spécial du secrétaire général de l'ONU pour la région des Grands Lacs, Saïd Djinnit, et quatre autres envoyés internationaux ont appelé mercredi à la reprise du dialogue au Burundi qui connaît depuis plusieurs mois une grave crise politique marquée par des violences.

"L'impasse politique et l'instabilité actuelles au Burundi nécessitent retenue, leadership et vision de la part de tous les citoyens concernés du Burundi afin d'empêcher de nouvelles violences. Nous condamnons les récentes attaques et félicitons ceux qui appellent au calme", ont déclaré ces envoyés internationaux dans un communiqué de presse rendu public au siège de l'ONU.

Ils ont appelé à "une fin immédiate de la violence, au respect des droits de l'homme et des libertés fondamentales, et à la reprise d'un dialogue politique inclusif", rappelant

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que "la violence ne résoudra pas la crise politique au Burundi et ne générera que de l'instabilité".

Les envoyés ont également demandé au gouvernement burundais et aux autres parties politiques concernées à reprendre immédiatement un dialogue politique transparent, inclusif et global.

La crise au Burundi dure depuis plusieurs mois suite à la décision du président Pierre Nkurunziza de se représenter pour un troisième mandat. Ce dernier a été réélu lors du scrutin présidentiel organisé le 21 juillet. Depuis le début de la crise, des dizaines de milliers de Burundais ont fui vers les pays voisins pour échapper aux violences.

Suivez [China.org.cn](http://China.org.cn) sur Twitter et Facebook pour rejoindre la conversation.

## ANGOLA

### President's Role in Promoting Peace Stressed

#### NEWS STORY

Source: Angola Press

**11 August 2015** - The Angolan head of State, José Eduardo dos Santos, has been engaged tirelessly in promoting peace and global security, particularly in Africa, said, Tuesday in Luanda the minister of National Defence, João Gonçalves Lourenço.

The Cabinet minister said so while addressing the opening ceremony of journeys of homage to the President of the Republic, José Eduardo dos Santos, on the occasion of his 73rd anniversary, to be marked on 28 August.

In this respect, João Lourenço urged the head of state to stand firm in order to ensure the constitutional principles governing the life of the country, striving to strengthen peace, national reconciliation and reconstruction for the development of the nation, with a determination to provide all security, work, progress and well-being, objectives at the heart of the Angolan Government's attention.

On the other hand, he urged the military to maintain vigilance and cohesion, always working to full compliance with noble tasks as the preservation of independence and national sovereignty, peace and national unity.

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The journeys will take place on 11-23 August, in all organs, units and establishments of the Ministry of National Defence and the FAA.

## CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

### Central African Republic peacekeeper chief fired over sex abuse claims

#### NEWS STORY

Source: CNN

By Jason Hanna and Richard Roth

**12 August 2015** - The head of U.N. peacekeepers in the Central African Republic has been fired following allegations that peacekeepers have sexually exploited civilians there, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon told reporters Wednesday.

Ban said Babacar Gaye resigned at his request, citing "serious allegations ... about the conduct of United Nations troops" in the landlocked African country.

"I believe the disturbing number of allegations we have seen in many countries -- but particularly in the Central African Republic in the period before U.N. peacekeepers were deployed and since -- speaks to the need to take action now," Ban said. "Enough is enough."

Ban's decision came a day after Amnesty International publicized one of the latest allegations -- that a U.N. peacekeeper raped a 12-year-old girl in the Central African Republic's capital, Bangui, this month.

Gaye is not implicated in that incident, but Ban said he had made it clear in the past that he would hold leaders responsible for serious human rights violations committed under their watch.

Ban said he was "anguished, angered and ashamed" of recurrent reports of sexual abuse by U.N. forces, and that the U.N. Security Council would hold a special session on the issue Thursday.

There have been 11 allegations of "possible sex abuse" by U.N. peacekeepers in the Central African Republic since the United Nations established the force there in April 2014, U.N. spokesman Stephane Dujarric said.

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But similar allegations also were made against French peacekeepers who arrived in the country a year before the U.N. force.

This spring, the director of an advocacy group, citing a confidential U.N. report, said that French soldiers forced minors in the Central African Republic to perform sex acts on them in return for food or money between December 2013 and June 2014 -- a time period that straddles the start of the U.N. mission.

The French Defense Ministry and the Paris prosecutor's office have been investigating those allegations.

### **Political violence drew peacekeepers to country**

Peacekeepers' involvement in the Central African Republic, one of the world's poorest nations, stems from political violence that began in 2013.

France and African nations sent peacekeepers after a coalition of mostly Muslim rebels ousted President Francois Bozize in March 2013. Christian and Muslim militias continued to battle for control before a tentative political transition began.

The violence prompted a humanitarian crisis, as hundreds of thousands of people fled their homes. Some sought refuge in neighboring countries, but many others were internally displaced, living in makeshift camps.

After the initial wave of peacekeepers, the United Nations in 2014 formally established a U.N. peacekeeping force of up to 11,800 troops, a force to which Rwanda contributes.

The United Nations warned in May that the Central African Republic was "quickly becoming the largest forgotten humanitarian crisis of our time," with some 60% of the population of 4.6 million still in need of aid, including nearly 900,000 people forcibly displaced by conflict.

## **A la Une: le chef de l'ONU en Centrafrique limogé**

### REPORTAGE

Source: RFI

Par Frédéric Couteau

**13 août 2015** - Le diplomate sénégalais, le général Babacar Gaye, 64 ans, a remis sa démission hier à la demande du secrétaire général de l'ONU Ban Ki-moon. Le chef de

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la Minusca a été renvoyé après une série d'accusations d'abus sexuels contre des enfants commis par des Casques bleus.

« Babacar Gaye, le patron de la Minusma, jette l'éponge », s'exclame Walfadjri. Le quotidien sénégalais note que la démission du patron de la mission de l'Onu en Centrafrique a provoqué la réaction des autorités dakaroises. « Le gouvernement du Sénégal salue le sens du devoir du Général Babacar Gaye », a ainsi affirmé le ministère sénégalais des Affaires étrangères. « M. Gaye a honoré son pays en travaillant au service de la Communauté internationale avec dignité, abnégation et esprit de dépassement, a-t-il poursuivi. Vétéran des opérations onusiennes, rappelle Walfadjri, Babacar Gaye a été sur le terrain, au Liban, en Iraq, en Syrie, en République démocratique du Congo, en Gambie. Il avait été également ambassadeur du Sénégal à Berlin... »

« Il faut dire que l'affaire commençait à devenir bien gênante, commente le quotidien Aujourd'hui à Ouaga, bien gênante pour le distributeur de paix mondial, à savoir l'ONU, tant ses ouailles dans l'ex-Oubangui-Chari prenaient trop de liberté avec les enfants qu'ils étaient pourtant censés aller défendre, en quittant leur pays respectif, pour débarquer sur le sol centrafricain. (...) Il fallait donc agir et sanctionner pour, non seulement l'exemple, mais aussi montrer que les hautes autorités onusiennes ne restaient pas indifférentes à l'avalanche des affaires de viols et d'abus sexuels. On devinait aisément que les grelots allaient tinter sur cette affaire, car les itératifs attouchements coupables de certains soldats onusiens sur des êtres innocents ne pouvaient pas rester impunis. Il y va de la respectabilité de la Maison ONU. »

**Trop tard ?**

« Après une résistance laborieuse, l'Onu a dû se rendre à l'évidence, renchérit le site d'information guinéen Ledjely.com. Au rythme auquel s'accumulaient les accusations de viols et d'abus sexuels contre les casques bleus déployés en République centrafricaine, une réaction était nécessaire, voire obligatoire. Au risque de cautionner l'infamie. Eh bien, cette réaction a fini par arriver. (...) Seulement, s'interroge Ledejely.com, il est à se demander si une telle décision n'arrive pas trop tard? En d'autres termes, au-delà du diplomate sénégalais, n'est-ce pas toute l'instance onusienne qui a pris relativement à la légère le scandale de viol et d'abus sexuels sur des enfants centrafricains, dès au début? N'eut-été notamment l'impertinence salvatrice de notre confrère britannique, The Guardian, qui avait révélé le scandale impliquant des soldats français, aurait-on jamais appris ces pratiques bestiales? »

En tout cas, « Ban Ki-moon peut bien afficher sa colère et sa gêne. Ce n'est pas ce qui permettra de disculper aussi facilement son institution, estime le site guinéen. Pour que

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l'organisation en tant que telle, soit lavée des soupçons de complicité ou de tentative d'étouffement du scandale, les enquêtes annoncées doivent être rigoureuses et avec célérité. De même, quand les coupables auront été identifiés, ils devront subir une sanction à la hauteur des pratiques inhumaines qu'ils ont fait subir à ces innocents enfants centrafricains. »

« Pourvu que l'exemple serve, estime également Guinée Conakry Infos. Mais cela ne nous paraît pas évident, car le général pouvait très peu de choses contre les soldats aux braguettes faciles. Leurs activités parallèles sexuelles s'exerçant certainement à l'ombre de tout regard. A notre avis, estime encore Guinée Conakry Infos, le tri doit être plus sévère en amont. Les Nations unies devraient revisiter les conditions de recrutement des soldats, pour plus de rigueur sélective au niveau de chaque pays participant aux missions de paix et de sécurité. Si cela n'est pas fait, l'ONU sera pas à l'abri de ces 'faits divers' qui prennent des proportions médiatiques et politiques énormes, la preuve de la réprobation morale de l'humanité devant ces comportements qui n'honorent ni leurs auteurs, ni la grande organisation qui les emploient. »

## UN inquiry into Central African Republic child rape claim

### NEWS STORY

Source: BBC

**13 August 2015** - The UN mission in the Central African Republic (CAR) has launched an investigation into allegations its soldiers raped a 12-year-old girl.

It will also focus on accusations by Amnesty International that UN peacekeepers shot dead a 16-year-old boy and his father earlier this month.

UN chief Ban Ki-moon said he was "personally dismayed and disappointed" by the allegations.

A 10,000-strong UN force was deployed last year to help restore order.

France also has soldiers in the country to end the unprecedented violence that escalated in March 2013 when mainly Muslim rebels seized power.

The country descended into ethnic and religious violence, with tens of thousands of people fleeing their homes.

The UK-based rights group said the two incidents happened as peacekeepers from Rwanda and Cameroon were carrying out an operation in the capital, Bangui.



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Amnesty International said it interviewed 15 witnesses in the immediate aftermath of both incidents, as well as the girl and members of her family.

The girl had been hiding in a bathroom during a house search in the early hours of 2 August when a man allegedly wearing a blue helmet and vest of the UN peacekeeping forces took her outside and raped her behind a truck.

"When I cried, he slapped me hard and put his hand over my mouth," the girl told Amnesty International.

The same morning a Cameroonian soldier was also killed and nine other soldiers were injured in clashes with residents, the rights group said.

UN peacekeeping forces returned to the PK5 district the following day and according to witnesses began shooting indiscriminately in the street where the killings had taken place.

Balla Hadji, 61, and his son Souleimane Hadji, 16, were struck by bullets in front of their house, Amnesty said.

The spokesman for the UN mission in CAR, Hamadoun Toure, said he had not been aware of the allegations, the AFP news agency reports.

He said an investigation would be launched to seek "established and verifiable proof".

In June, Mr Ban set up an independent review panel to examine the UN's handling of allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse involving children.

Earlier, the UN had denied allegations it covered up child abuse by French troops serving in CAR.

## **Sénégal: Limogeage du Chef de la Munisca, Macky Sall salue le sens du devoir du Général Babacar Gaye**

ARTICLE

Source: koaci.com

**12 août 2015** - Le Général sénégalais Babacar Gaye Search Babacar Gaye chef de la mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies en Centrafrique (Minusca), a été démis de ses fonctions ce mercredi, selon le secrétaire général des Nations Unies Ban Ki-Moon. Au niveau du Sénégal, les commentaires vont bon train. Le Président de la république a

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salué le sens du devoir du Général Babacar Gaye Search Babacar Gaye à travers un communiqué du ministère des affaires étrangères parvenu à KOACI.

« Le Président de la République du Sénégal, Son Excellence Monsieur Macky SALL, vient d'apprendre la démission du Représentant spécial du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies en République centrafricaine et Chef de la Mission Multidimensionnelle de Stabilisation des Nations Unies en République centrafricaine (MINUSCA), le Général de Corps d'Armée (2S), Babacar GAYE ».

Le communiqué de poursuivre, pour dire que Président de la République tient, à la suite du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies, Monsieur Ban Ki-Moon, à saluer le leadership et le professionnalisme avec lesquels le Général Babacar Gaye Search Babacar Gaye a exercé ses fonctions à la tête de la MINUSCA qui a obtenu des résultats fort appréciables, depuis sa création par le Conseil de sécurité.

« Le Gouvernement du Sénégal salue le sens du devoir du Général Babacar Gaye Search Babacar Gaye qui a honoré son pays en travaillant au service de la Communauté internationale avec dignité, abnégation et esprit de dépassement. Le Général Babacar Gaye Search Babacar Gaye a également eu à servir en République Démocratique du Congo (RDC), en Syrie, au Sinaï ainsi qu'au Secrétariat général des Nations Unies comme Conseiller militaire du Secrétaire général. La décision qu'il vient de prendre s'inscrit parfaitement bien dans les traditions de dévouement et de sacrifice des Forces Armées sénégalaises qu'il a eu à diriger », a conclut le communiqué.

## **La Banque mondiale mobilise 20 millions de dollars pour la création d'emplois en Centrafrique**

ARTICLE

Source: [banquemondiale.org](http://banquemondiale.org) via [Journaldebangui.com](http://Journaldebangui.com)

**12 août 2015** - Le projet profitera à 35 500 habitants des zones rurales de ce pays fragile et déchiré par la guerre en procurant des revenus aux familles

Washington, 30 juillet 2015 — La Banque mondiale a mobilisé 20 millions de dollars auprès de l'Association internationale de développement (IDA) pour aider le gouvernement de la République centrafricaine (RCA) à créer des emplois grâce à la mise en œuvre de travaux d'entretien routier. Le projet profitera à 35 500 habitants des zones rurales de ce pays fragile et déchiré par la guerre en procurant des revenus aux

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familles, en améliorant les moyens de transport et en facilitant l'accès aux marchés et aux services sociaux de base.

Nommé LONDO («debout» en sango, l'une des deux langues officielles de la RCA), le projet financé par le don de l'IDA consiste à fournir des emplois temporaires aux personnes vulnérables dans l'ensemble du pays, à l'exception de la capitale, Bangui. Destiné à faciliter le redressement socioéconomique du pays ainsi que la consolidation de la paix, le projet LONDO prévoit le versement d'allocations à 35 500 hommes et femmes qui accompliront 40 jours de travail chacun. Le projet s'inspire des enseignements du programme de travaux publics à haute intensité de main-d'œuvre réalisé à Bangui et des leçons d'autres programmes de travail contre rémunération mis en œuvre dans des pays fragiles et touchés par un conflit tels que l'Afghanistan, la Côte d'Ivoire et la République démocratique du Congo.

«Une occasion unique de stabilisation et de redressement s'offre aujourd'hui la RCA à la faveur de la poursuite de la mission de maintien de la paix des Nations Unies depuis septembre 2014 et de l'appel pressant lancé par le gouvernement et la population de la CAR à la Banque mondiale pour qu'elle poursuive son action dans le pays et offre de nouvelles opportunités économiques aux populations vulnérables», déclare Jean-Christophe Carret, responsable des opérations pour la République centrafricaine à la Banque mondiale. «Un programme d'emploi à court terme tel que l'initiative soutenue par le projet annoncé aujourd'hui, qui donne aux personnes vulnérables la possibilité d'exercer des activités et un rôle productifs, peut favoriser le rétablissement de la confiance entre l'État et les citoyens. Simultanément, l'injection de liquidités dans une économie centrafricaine au point mort contribuera à réduire un chômage particulièrement élevé et à atténuer la pauvreté dont souffrent des millions de familles rurales de façon chronique».

La RCA traverse actuellement l'une des crises les plus graves observées sur le continent africain : environ le quart de sa population a été déplacé et plus de la moitié a besoin d'aide humanitaire. Les troubles récents ont sérieusement affaibli les institutions publiques au point que les quelque 4,5 millions d'habitants du pays disposent d'un accès limité, voire inexistant, aux services de base, tandis que les investissements étrangers sont en recul et la violence a atteint un niveau dramatique.

Selon le mécanisme d'exécution spécialement créé pour mettre en œuvre le projet, l'Agence d'Exécution des Travaux d'Intérêt Public en Centrafrique (AGETIP-CAF) — organisme public d'envergure nationale — réalisera les travaux routiers plutôt que d'en confier l'exécution à des tiers. Sous la direction de l'AGETIP-CAF, 71 équipes locales de reconstruction, composées de 500 ouvriers, seront chargées d'améliorer et d'entretenir environ 10 000 kilomètres de routes nationales et rurales en mauvais état.

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Le bon fonctionnement des bureaux régionaux de l'AGETIP-CAF pourrait contribuer à attirer des financements supplémentaires dans les provinces rurales.

Le projet LONDO contribuera à la mise en place de systèmes de cantonnement communal visant à assurer la durabilité tant des emplois que de la réfection des routes. Les autorités locales recevront des outils, des équipements et une assistance technique. Des bicyclettes seront distribuées aux ouvriers pour leur permettre de se déplacer entre leur domicile et les chantiers. Durant les heures de travail, il est possible qu'ils puissent suivre de brèves séances de formation et de consultation sur des sujets tels que le VIH/SIDA (lorsque ces services seront disponibles sur place) pour améliorer leur intégration socio-économique.

«En privilégiant la recherche de résultats tangibles tels que le versement d'allocations et la réfection des routes rurales selon la formule des travaux publics à haute intensité de main-d'œuvre, le projet LONDO ira au-delà de la construction d'infrastructures et contribuera à promouvoir un processus collectif de prise de décisions, un esprit de collaboration et l'adhésion de la collectivité à l'action entreprise», commente Paul Bance, chef d'équipe du projet à la Banque mondiale. «LONDO jettera aussi les bases du lancement d'autres projets de développement dans des secteurs de la RCA mal desservis dans le passé».

Le projet LONDO a bénéficié d'une active collaboration entre la Banque et plusieurs autres partenaires internationaux, notamment la mission de maintien de la paix de l'ONU (MINUSCA) et l'Agence française de développement.

Fondée en 1960, l'Association internationale de développement (IDA) est l'institution du Groupe de la Banque mondiale qui aide les pays les plus pauvres de la planète en leur accordant des dons et des crédits sans intérêts ou à faible taux d'intérêt destinés à financer des projets et programmes de nature à stimuler la croissance économique, réduire la pauvreté et améliorer les conditions de vie des populations démunies.

## **Centrafrique: le fonds humanitaire commun alloue 13,2 millions de dollars**

ARTICLE

Source: Centre d'actualités de l'ONU

**New York, 11 août 2015** - Le Fonds humanitaire commun en République centrafricaine a alloué 13,2 millions de dollars pour apporter une assistance vitale aux personnes

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déplacées par la violence, à celles revenues chez elles, aux réfugiés et aux communautés d'accueil les plus vulnérables, a indiqué le Bureau des Nations Unies pour la coordination des affaires humanitaires (OCHA).

L'argent permettra aux organismes d'aide internationaux et locaux de fournir une assistance dans les domaines de l'eau potable et de l'assainissement, de l'éducation, de la fourniture d'abris d'urgence, de la gestion des sites des personnes déplacées, de la nutrition, de la protection, du renforcement des moyens de subsistance, de la sécurité alimentaire et des soins de santé. L'argent permettra également d'offrir une assistance logistique aux travailleurs humanitaires pour qu'ils puissent atteindre les localités difficiles d'accès, a précisé OCHA dans un communiqué de presse publié lundi.

« Grâce aux bailleurs qui ont contribué au Fonds humanitaire commun en 2015, cette allocation permet aux partenaires humanitaires de continuer à aider de milliers de personnes déplacées, de personnes qui sont retournées chez elles et des familles d'accueil », a déclaré le Coordonnateur humanitaire en République centrafricaine, Aurélien A. Agbénonci.

« Cependant, cela représente seulement 3% des 415 millions de dollars dont nous avons encore besoin d'ici la fin de l'année si nous voulons sauver davantage de vies et atteindre toutes les personnes dans le besoin en 2015 », a-t-il poursuivi.

Cette seconde allocation du mécanisme de financement humanitaire multi-bailleurs répondra aux besoins humanitaires les plus critiques dans le pays et complétera les 14,7 millions de dollars alloués par le Fonds depuis le début de l'année.

« Alors que les donateurs donnent plus généreusement chaque année, des fonds supplémentaires sont encore nécessaires afin de continuer à répondre aux besoins des personnes touchées d'ici à la fin de l'année », a ajouté M. Agbénonci.

Le Fonds humanitaire commun a été créé en 2008 à l'initiative des bailleurs de fonds humanitaires. Géré par OCHA, il vise à fournir un financement rapide et flexible aux besoins humanitaires les plus critiques. En juillet 2015, le Fonds a reçu 17,8 millions de dollars de la Belgique, du Danemark, de l'Irlande, du Luxembourg, des Pays-Bas, de la Norvège, de la Suède et du Royaume-Uni. En 2014, un montant total de 27,1 millions de dollars a été versé.

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## Centrafrique: la transition politique prolongée

### ARTICLE

Source: Le figaro.fr

**12 août 2015** - La transition politique mise en place en Centrafrique après la crise sans précédent de 2013-2014, et qui devait prendre fin officiellement le 17 août, sera prolongée jusqu'au 30 décembre, a annoncé aujourd'hui la Communauté économique des Etats d'Afrique centrale (Ceeac). "Cette transition qui est prorogée pour la période allant du 18 août au 30 décembre 2015, vise à permettre aux autorités de la transition d'organiser les élections législatives et présidentielle crédibles et transparentes", affirme la Ceeac dans un communiqué, sans évoquer un report des élections.

Les autorités de transition en Centrafrique ont fixé la tenue des élections présidentielle et législatives au 18 octobre, mais le pays peine à se relever de décennies de troubles incessants ayant abouti en 2013-2014 à des violences intercommunautaires sans précédent. Un éventuel second tour est prévu le 22 novembre.

Quant aux opérations de recensement électoral de la population, qui ont pris fin à Bangui le 27 juillet, elles se poursuivent actuellement en province.

La plus grave crise depuis l'indépendance du pays

Selon l'organisation régionale, dont le Gabon assure actuellement la présidence tournante, le chef de l'Etat gabonais Ali Bongo Ondimba "vient de signer la décision portant prorogation de la transition politique en République Centrafricaine", conformément à ce qui avait été acté lors d'une précédente conférence de chefs d'Etats le 25 mai à N'Djamena. "Un émissaire du secrétaire général de la Ceeac se rendra à Bangui d'ici la fin de la semaine pour transmettre ladite Décision aux autorités" centrafricaines, selon la Ceeac.

Le renversement en mars 2013 du président François Bozizé par une rébellion à dominante musulmane, la Séléka, avait plongé la Centrafrique dans la plus grave crise de son histoire depuis son indépendance en 1960, déclenchant des tueries de masse entre communautés musulmanes et chrétiennes. En représailles aux exactions des Séléka, des milices chrétiennes anti-balaka s'en sont pris aux civils musulmans. Des dizaines de milliers d'entre eux ont ainsi été contraints de s'exiler dans les pays voisins, notamment au Cameroun et au Tchad, pour fuir les exactions dans cette ex-colonie française.

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**REPUBLIC OF CONGO****Congo-Brazzaville: le président Sassou-Nguesso fait le bilan**

## ARTICLE

Source: RFI

**Au Congo-Brazzaville, le président Denis Sassou-Nguesso a tenu un discours sur l'état de la Nation. Un discours traditionnel à quelques jours de la fête de l'indépendance, durant lequel il a dressé un bilan des 15 dernières années et a confirmé la tenue de l'élection présidentielle en juillet 2016, selon les délais constitutionnels. Il n'est cependant pas revenu sur la question du référendum ou celle de son éventuelle candidature.**

**13 août 2015** - Le président Sassou-Nguesso a fait un discours bilan sur les 15 dernières années, à la fois sur le plan politique et sur le plan socio-économique. Au niveau politique, il a confirmé la tenue de l'élection présidentielle en juillet 2016, selon les dispositions constitutionnelles. « Conformément à la Constitution de notre République et à l'usage que nous avons établi, ce message est le dernier de ce septennat. L'année prochaine à la même date ou presque se tiendra ici, devant vous, le président de la République sorti victorieux de l'élection présidentielle de juillet 2016 », a déclaré le chef de l'Etat.

Au dernier dialogue de Sibiti, les recommandations portant sur le référendum lui ont été soumises pour appréciations. Il a effleuré ce sujet dans ce discours, en promettant que les résultats du dialogue « ne manqueront pas d'écho dans le futur ».

Sur le plan socio-économique, le président a noté dans son discours que le pays est « sorti de l'abîme » et considère qu'il vit mieux. Il a annoncé l'augmentation du salaire minimum des fonctionnaires, qui va atteindre pratiquement 111 000 francs CFA. Il a également fait savoir que la production pétrolière devrait connaître une augmentation à partir de 2017 grâce à d'importants investissements dans le secteur.

**Gouvernance électorale**

L'opposition parlementaire qui a suivi avec une attention soutenue le discours du chef de l'Etat, a souligné que les dispositions n'étaient pas toujours prises pour la bonne tenue du scrutin. Elle critique également le fait que jusque là, les problèmes sur la biométrie et la commission indépendante n'ont pas encore été abordés.

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Paul-Marie Mpouele, secrétaire général de l'Alliance pour la République et pour la démocratie, reproche surtout au président Sassou-Nguesso de ne pas être revenu sur la gouvernance électorale. « C'est un discours d'adieu, un discours bilan qui est malheureusement teinté de mensonges, truffé de contre-vérités et de ruses. Nous déplorons par exemple le fait qu'il n'ait pas évoqué la gouvernance électorale qui depuis 2002 ne se passe pas très bien dans notre pays. [...] M. le président de la République laisse un pays dans l'incertitude sur le plan électoral », estime-t-il.

## SOUTH SUDAN

### Struggling to Find Common Ground at South Sudan Peace Talks

#### NEWS STORY

Source: VOA

**12 August 2015** - Negotiators for President Salva Kiir's government and the armed opposition group led by Riek Machar emerged from days of meetings Wednesday with news that the people of South Sudan did not want to hear: disagreements are still barring the way to peace.

The two sides had spent two days cloistered in a room in Addis Ababa for closed-door bilateral talks, but still had a laundry list of issues they do not concur on, government spokesman Michael Makuei said.

"We have disagreed on the structure of the government. We have disagreed on the powers and competencies of the president, and the vice president, or the first vice president, as the rebels call it. We have disagreed on the power-sharing percentages, whether at the national level or the state level. We have disagreed on security issues, on the demilitarization of Juba and other places," Makuei said.

Makuei said there cannot be a peace deal unless the two sides reach a compromise on the outstanding issues.

The chief negotiator for the Machar's SPLM-in-Opposition (SPLM-IO), Taban Deng Gai, said while his side made concessions on several issues, the government delegation failed to budge and brought nothing new to the table.



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Deng called on President Kiir's government to soften its position on areas of discord so that a final deal can be reached by the Monday deadline, which was set weeks ago by the IGAD-Plus mediation team.

**Kiir, Machar expected Thursday**

Lead mediator Seyoum Mesfin said Mr. Kiir and Machar were expected in Addis Ababa on Thursday, and having them at the talks could spur the two sides to find a way around their differences. The Ethiopian diplomat said on national television that he is still hopeful that a deal will be signed on Monday.

But a security analyst for IGAD and the African Union said signing a deal is the easy part. Implementing any deal that is signed will prove difficult, Mehari Taddele Maru said.

The IGAD-Plus mediation team "will have to think about, if there is agreement, how the implementation will go. I'm talking about the warring parties being able to command loyalty and commitment from their followers to implement this," Mehari said.

Mehari said both the government and rebel sides are likely to face opposition from within their ranks to whatever agreement is signed. In particular, he said, incumbent Vice President James Wani Igga and his backers are likely to rail against the part of a compromise agreement proposed by IGAD that names Wani Igga as second vice president -- below Machar.

**Generals split from rebel group**

Mehari also warned that there could be fractures in the armed opposition over a peace deal. Almost as soon as he spoke, two rebel generals issued a statement, announcing they have split from the SPLM-IO and are setting up their own movement.

One of the two generals, Gathoth Gatkuoth, told South Sudan in Focus that the new group's political wing will be called the Federal Democratic Party, and the armed forces associated with it will be called the South Sudan National Army.

Gatkuoth said the group's main gripe is with President Kiir and Machar.

"The two of them are symbols of hatred and division. Salva Kiir and Riek Machar cannot lead the transitional government," Gatkuoth said in a phone interview.

"There's nothing wrong with peace, but the problem is the leadership of the transitional government of national unity based on President Kiir and Riek Machar. That agreement of Addis Ababa is an agreement that will only secure the positions of Riek Machar and President Kiir."

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"The better way for peace to come is for the two of them to step aside," he said.

## **“No tangible result” in ongoing South Sudan talks in Addis Ababa**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Radio Tamazuj

**12 August 2015** - South Sudan's peace talks are still continuing in Addis Ababa amid reports of disagreements on some points in the IGAD-Plus peace proposal.

SPLM-G10 representative and former justice minister John Luk told Radio Tamazuj negotiators were still discussing the proposal until yesterday Tuesday without any progress.

He pointed out that viewpoints of the government and the armed opposition are still apart. "Yes, some committees have done their work, but there is no tangible result until now. It is not clear, the committees are still working," he said.

Before the talks resume, Kiir's government had reservations on some points in the IGAD proposed peace deal to end the ongoing conflict in South Sudan.

According to the proposed agreement, the warring parties will share power in a transitional government of national unity, with the current ruling party maintaining a majority stake in the national government. In three state governments, the rebel group SPLM-IO will take a greater share of power.

IGAD-Plus, which includes the regional mediating bloc IGAD and a consortium of western and African nations and China, has given President Kiir's and the rebellion of Riek Machar until 17 August to strike a peace deal.

## **Split among South Sudan Rebels Threatens Peace Efforts**

### NEWS STORY

Source: Associated Press

**12 August 2015** - Two top rebel generals have defected from South Sudan's rebel movement, a rebel official said Wednesday, as the country's warring factions negotiated in Ethiopia to secure a deal to end war in the world's newest country.

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The rebel generals, identified as Peter Gadet and Gathoth Gatkuoth, defected and fled to Sudan after rebel leader Riek Machar removed them from their senior command positions, Puoch Riek told The Associated Press.

Puoch Riek, a member of the rebel delegation here, said no rebel fighters had defected with the generals and he insisted the rebel movement is still under the command of Machar, the former vice president whose dismissal in July 2013 sparked a political crisis that led to the rebellion against President Salva Kiir.

South Sudan's warring factions face international pressure to reach a comprehensive peace deal by Aug. 17, but several earlier negotiations have failed.

Kiir has made abrupt changes to the board of the national oil company, Nilepet, possibly "to cement his grip on this critical institution in advance of major political changes," the watchdog group Global Witness said Wednesday.

"Mismanagement of oil wealth has long been at the heart of violence and conflict in South Sudan," said Emma Vickers, a South Sudan campaigner with Global Witness. "It is extremely worrying that, at this critical moment in the peace negotiations, President Kiir is bringing in such sweeping changes to the board of this powerful oil company with no apparent justification."

## **Les rebelles du Soudan du Sud se séparent et menacent de rejeter un possible accord de paix**

ARTICLE

Source: Xinhua

**13 août 2015** - Un important commandant rebelle au Soudan du Sud et un groupe d'autres officiers de haut rang ont déclaré mercredi qu'ils se séparaient du mouvement rebelle mené par Riek Machar, menaçant de rejeter tout accord résultant des actuelles négociations de paix dans la capitale éthiopienne Addis-Abeba.

"Nous les généraux du SPLM/A (Mouvement/Armée populaire de libération du Soudan, NDLR) dans l'opposition avons perdu confiance en la direction du Dr. Riek Machar Teny, et dès aujourd'hui il cesse d'être le président et commandant en chef du SPLM/A", a indiqué dans un communiqué Peter Gatdet, le commandant des opérations des rebelles au Soudan du Sud.

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Il a ajouté que tout accord que signerait M. Machar avec le gouvernement sud-soudanais ne serait pas légitime et ne serait pas respecté par les généraux du SPLM/A.

"Le Dr. Riek Machar a déjà accepté de travailler avec Salva Kiir et son vice-président dans le gouvernement de transition et d'union nationale. Ces dirigeants sont devenus des symboles de haine, de division et d'échec de la gouvernance", note le communiqué.

Ce dernier ajoute ensuite que "les deux dirigeants sont responsables du déclenchement de la crise actuelle. Nous rejetons la proposition de l'Autorité intergouvernementale pour le développement (IGAD) qui donne la direction du gouvernement de transition et d'union nationale à la fois au président Kiir et au Dr. Riek Machar".

En juillet dernier, M. Machar a pris une décision relevant M. Gatdet de son poste en tant que chef d'état-major des rebelles pour les opérations et le général Gathoth Gatkuoth de son poste en tant que chef d'état-major pour la logistique.

La capitale éthiopienne Addis-Abeba accueille actuellement des négociations de paix entre le gouvernement sud-soudanais du président Kiir et les rebelles, menés par M. Machar, en se concentrant sur l'accord de paix proposé par l'IGAD.

Le Soudan du Sud a sombré dans la violence en décembre 2013 lorsque des combats ont éclaté entre les troupes fidèles au président Salva Kiir et les transfuges qui ont suivi l'ex-vice-président Riek Machar.

Le conflit s'est rapidement transformé en une véritable guerre. Et la confrontation a pris un tour ethnique, la tribu Dinka dont est issu le président s'opposant au groupe ethnique des Nuer dont est issu M. Machar.

Les affrontements ont fait des milliers de morts et environ 1,9 million de déplacés.

## South Sudan Rebels Deny Split in Ranks

### NEWS STORY

Source: VOA

**12 August 2015** - South Sudan rebels loyal to former Vice President Riek Machar are denying reports of a split in their ranks. This came as Gathoth Gatkuoth and Peter Gadet, top rebel commanders, announced Tuesday that they had split with Machar's forces.

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The two generals said they will now be fighting against both Machar's rebels and the South Sudan army.

Rebel spokesman Stephen Par Kuol said there is no split in the rebel movement but rather a defection by what he calls two "disgruntled" generals who have been reshuffled out of the rebel command hierarchy.

"There is a difference between a split and defections. What we are seeing is defection of some disgruntled generals who have been reshuffled out of our command hierarchy. They have not been dismissed yet as members of the movement, but what we have seen from the way they talk, they irresponsibly issue statements, you have to call it defection not a split," he said.

Maj. General Peter Gadet was one of two South Sudan generals sanctioned last May by the United States Treasury Department because of their roles in the ongoing civil war, which began December 2013.

The rebels fired Gadet and Gathkuoth last month, but Par Kuol said the sacking has nothing to do with the generals being sanctioned.

"This has nothing to do with that. We as a movement, we supported them; they have been part of our fighting force since December 2013, and we have not betrayed them. They are the ones who have betrayed the movement," Par Kuol said.

The two renegade generals have accused rebel leader Machar of seeking power for himself. But Kuol said Machar launched the rebel movement for a better South Sudan.

"Dr. Riek Machar has never taking to the bush of South Sudan to seek power. He was dismissed as a vice president and he was calling for calm and harmony among the people of South Sudan until he was wrongfully accused of a coup which was eventually dismissed in court by the current dictator Salva Kiir Mayardit. Dr. Riek Machar has been seeking peace since then," Kuol said.

He described as a "fairy tale" the announcement by the two renegade generals that they will now fight against both the government and rebel forces.

A new round of peace talks kicked off this month in Addis Ababa but this time under a mandate by once again under the regional eight-nation bloc the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to reach a deal by August 17.

Some of the key differences include demilitarization of the capital, Juba, and how much power each side will wield in a transitional government.

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Gadet and Gathkuoth have also announced their rejection to any peace deal that will come out of the talks.

Par Kuol refused to predict a positive outcome.

“What you and your audience need to understand is that this is not a simple program designed by one person. This is a regional initiative to resolve the conflict in South Sudan,” Par Kuol said.

## Thousands in S. Sudan Flee to Malakal UN Compound

### NEWS STORY

Source: VOA

**12 August 2015** - The International Organization for Migration (IOM) says aid agencies are racing to cope with the rapid influx of thousands of internally displaced South Sudanese at a U.N. compound in Malakal, Upper Nile State.

Since mid-July, more than 16,000 people have fled to the U.N. site in Malakal for protection and assistance. Nearly 10,700 have arrived since August 1. IOM spokesman, Joel Millman told VOA the heavy influx of new arrivals is creating a chaotic and untenable situation for both the displaced and the aid agencies trying to help them.

Millman noted the camp, which was designed for 18,000, now houses 46,500 internally displaced. And, this number, he said is rapidly rising as almost 1,000 new people are arriving every day.

“So, we can imagine that tents are overcrowded, that the passageways between tents are being filled with sort of impromptu settlements, that sanitation is now a huge concern because people relieve themselves very close to their drinking water supply, which we have to maintain in some manner,” Millman said.

### Bracing for impending rains

In addition to these already challenging conditions, Millman said aid agencies now have to cope with impending rains. He said this will worsen the already desperate living conditions in the improvised settlements and make it more difficult to provide assistance.

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He said IOM is doing what it can to provide services to new arrivals. But, he said the current influx is unprecedented and the heavy rains together with increasing congestion are adding to the collective misery.

Millman said the U.N. Mission in South Sudan and humanitarian agencies are working to provide additional space to shelter families in dry areas. But, he said this will not solve the problem of overcrowding.

“The more we build, the faster people come for shelter. We cannot separate families. We cannot turn them away. On the other hand, we cannot expose them to what could be extremely dangerous health conditions. If you do not do proper drainage, what diseases are you attracting? Can you have a new tent city that becomes a flooded tent city and how do you deliver to that?” he said.

Millman said operations are underway to provide safe drinking water and sanitation. He added IOM is digging emergency pit latrines, though not enough to meet demand.

Humanitarian agencies have been unable to provide aid to communities in areas surrounding Malakal for months because of the conflict, which is behind much of the current exodus. To stem the flow of new arrivals into Malakal, the agencies agree they must be allowed to distribute relief immediately to these underserved populations.

## TANZANIA

### **Ebola: la Tanzanie en alerte après la mort d'un réfugié burundais**

#### ARTICLE

Source: Agence de presse Xinhua

**13 août 2015** - Le gouvernement tanzanien a donné mercredi une alerte après la mort, dans la région de Kiogma (ouest), d'un réfugié burundais qui a montré des symptômes semblables à Ebola.

Le réfugié de 39 ans est décédé mardi dans le camp de Nyarugusu. Des échantillons ont été envoyés à Dar es Salaam, a fait savoir le ministère de la Santé, promettant de rendre publics les résultats des analyses.

Ce Burundais n'a jamais voyagé dans les pays touchés par Ebola, et n'a accueilli personne venant de ces pays, selon une déclaration du ministère de la Santé.

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Les populations sont appelées à rester vigilantes et à informer les autorités pertinentes s'il y a des malades suspects.

Toutes les personnes ayant contacté ce réfugié, y compris les travailleurs de la santé, sont sous la surveillance.