

**DRC Domestic Broadcasting, 2 May, 2011 (25 April– 1 May, 2011)**

**by Marie Lamensch, MIGS Reporter for the DRC**

**Government-owned media**

**(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 27 April, 2011, in French )**

- Prime Minister Adolphe Muzito assured traditional chiefs that the government would support the National Electoral Independent Electoral Commission and ensure the security of elections. Nord-Kivu Province traditional chiefs' spokesman, Mwami Sanguli, called for rehabilitation of roads in the province.

**Privately-owned media**

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 0000 gmt, 24 April, 2011, in French)**

- In Orientale Province, human rights activists have expressed their scepticism over the electoral process and claim that many irregularities have been recorded in various enrolment centres. There have also been delays in the electoral law by the National Assembly and a failure by the National Independent Electoral Commission to set dates for the various elections.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 25 April, 2011, in French)**

**« La CENI confirme la tenue de l'élection présidentielle avant le 6 décembre 2011 » by Stephane Etinga**

- The presidential and legislative election will take place before 6 December, according to the president of CENI, Pastor Daniel Ngoy Mulunda. The electoral calendar will be revealed shortly.
- Ngoy Mulunda called on civil society to play an important role during the election period, a role which consists in educating the population as well as political parties and organizations. According to Mulunda, civil society should encourage people to participate and promote stability, peace, rule of law, and democracy in the DRC. He does not want the country to slip in chaos and war after or because of the elections.
- He will meet with civil society, a move which will reinforce dialogue and allow him to have knowledge of opinions and critiques.
- He said financial means should be found to reinforce sensitization and educational programmes regarding the electoral process.

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 25 April, 2011, in French)**

- The Peace and Justice Commission of Dungu Catholic Diocese denied allegation that Catholic priests left Doruma Location in Dungu Territory after an attack led the LRA last week. Father Benoit Kinalegu said Catholic priests are still present even though most of the humanitarian workers have left.

- The FARDC in Ituri District announced that its troops are in control of areas such as Najui, Amisi and others after these were occupied by the ADF/ NALU. The commander called on civilians to return to their villages.

## **L Observateur**

**Lundi 25 avril 2011**

### **Exercice conjoint entre l' USAFA et les FARDC à Kinshasa**

- The United States Air Force Academy (USAFA) will start a new program, Medlite, that seeks to increase the capacity of the FARDC. The program inscribes itself within the reform of the security sector. 50 American soldiers and 200 Congolese soldiers will participate. The goal is to synchronise efforts and inter-operational activities.
- The US has already contributed to the formation of a small battalion of 1300 men near Kisangani which seeks to maintain law and order in the area. The battalion has also been involved in various development activities, especially in the area of agriculture.

(Marcelline Tshiyamba and Luc-Roger Mbala Bemba)

## **L'Observateur**

**Lundi 25 avril 2011**

### **Vingt et un ans après l'ouverture démocratique en RDC**

- The DRC celebrated 21 years since Mobutu Sese Seko announced multiparty in the country.
- Since then, the country has been engulfed in a cycle of political conflicts between the presidency who controls resources and coercion, and the badly organized and fragile opposition.
- Multiparty revealed the mediocrity and lack of maturity of Congolese politics and politicians. With Mobutu's fall, Congolese people believe a culture of excellence would emerge among politicians but today's political elite still suffers from a lack of responsibility as corruption and patronage remain widespread. Many politicians suffer from a lack of ideology and cultivate hate and tribalism instead in order to serve their own interests.
- The upcoming elections should serve as an occasion to put aside self-interested politicians

(Luc-Roger Mbala Bemba)

## **L'Observateur**

**Mardi 26 avril 2011**

### **Flux de mouvements des populations en RDC**

- Latest statistics on population movement in the DRC show a slight increase in the number of IDPs during the first trimester. According to OCHA, the number of IDPs went from 1 676 457 in December 2010 to 1 734 790 at the end of March. This increase is the result of an increase of IDPs in Katanga; North Kivu and Orientale Province, with North Kivu being the most affected area.
- Various operations led by the FARDC in the region explain this trend. Another explanation is renewed insecurity caused by rebel groups. Populations also leave villages pre-emptively when they hear that military operations against rebel groups will take place.

- In Oriental Province, the LRA led several violent attacks in Dungu, Faradje and Niangara.

(Dovin Ntelolo Diasonga)

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 26 April, 2011, in French)**

- Civil society in Ituri announced that the Popular Front for Resistance in Ituri attacked Sisa village, south of Bunia town. They looted several houses before being chased by the FARDC.
- The military court in Bunia jailed four FQRDC soldiers for 20 years after they were found guilty of rape.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 28 April, 2011, in French)**

**« Des éléments de la Police nationale et de l'armée régulière »**

- Elements of the PNC and FARDC have been deployed to Mbandaka, Equateur province, in order to ensure the security of people and goods in the area. According to sources, the deployment of these forces has caused some level of panic among residents, who now avoid leaving or arriving early.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 29 April, 2011, in French)**

**« Walikale : les FDLR se retirent de la carrière minière de Bisiyé »**

- The FDLR and Mai Mai militiamen have left Bisiyé mining site in Walikale which they occupied on Tuesday. The belligerents held a meeting headed by a former FARDC officer and decided to leave the area.
- The residents who were being held hostage were forced to pay a ransom
- The administrator of Walikale said measures had been taken to ensure security on the mining site. Those responsible for security, the mining sites police, had left the area just before the occupation
- At least 1000 people currently live in Bisiyé and most are involved in the mining business
- The occupation by the FDLR and the Mai Mai caused panic among residence of neighbouring mining sites.
- According the head of Operation Armani Leo, the FARDC and Mai Mai decided to leave because FARDC soldiers are currently being trained in Walikale-centre

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 29 April, 2011, in French)**

- The head of Monusco's Bureau in Kasai oriental, chaik Bangura, condemned some of the politicians behaviour, which consists of displacing populations from the city of Mbuji-May to the interior of the province in order to get more votes in their circumscription.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 29 April, 2011, in French)**

**« Avec l'appui de la MONUSCO : La PNC en formation sur la sécurisation des élections »**

- In the face of upcoming elections, MONUSCO announced that elements of National Police would be trained across several provinces in order ensure security during the elections and reinforce the capacity of the PNC and Rapid Intervention Police
- 45 Judicial officers are currently being trained in Lower Congo, especially in terms of sexual violence. Emphasis in being on law and order, human rights and management.
- Besides training PNC elements, MONUSCO has also organized the formation of Congolese public administrators. These sessions inscribe themselves within STAREC and emphasis was put on organization and management of the budget of decentralized territories as well as public financing in chiefdoms and sectors.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 30 April, 2011, in French)**

**« Justice : les failles qui bloquent la 'Tolérance zéro' » by Angelo Mobateli**

- Operation « Tolerance zero » promoted by Joseph Kabila in 2006 still faces major obstacles, something which Justice Minister Emmanuel Luzolo Bambi Lessa intends to solve.
- Flawed trials, the disappearance of documents, the absence of denunciations of magistrates suspected of incapacity, the corruption and inexperience of young magistrates in areas of justice and administration, and appeal without judicial decision are six of the major challenges still blocking the implementation of the policy.
- According to the Justice Minister the law is a necessary basis for the establishment of the rule of law in the DRC. Congolese people, in public and private, should be driven by rationality, equity and honesty.
- The Constitution of 2006 demands the independence of tribunals and courts, and therefore poses problems to the Minister of Justice would like to have more control of judicial decisions. He cannot sanction and suspend magistrates suspect of denial of justice. He then nonetheless send magistrates letters reminding them of their role.
- The six challenges illustrate the promulgation of a law which would reinforce the responsibility of magistrates, regardless of their social and financial status. The law, which has already been debated, should fill current gaps in the system and ensure that magistrates act according to the law.
- Since the Minister of Justice does not have all the political means to ensure the application of "Tolerance Zero", the legislative branch should help him in this major task

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 30 April, 2011, in French)**

**« Clôture des travaux du 8ème forum à Kinshasa. Les défenseurs des droits de l'Homme exigent l'extradition de Laurent Nkunda » by Stephane Etinga**

- Human Rights defenders from across the country took part in the 8<sup>th</sup> Forum organized by Renahdoc (Réseau national des ONG des droits de l'Homme). The Minister of Justice and Human rights as well as the Dutch Ambassador to the DRC took part in the closing ceremony.

- A series of recommendations concerning the human rights situation in the DRC were made, especially concerning impunity, the on-going electoral process, and the extradition of Laurent Nkunda from Kigali to Kinshasa. Human rights activists also called for the arrest of General John Numbi, inspector of the PNC, suspected of murdering Floribert Chebeya and de Fidèle Bazana Edadi. They also called for the arrest of General Bosco Ntaganda for crimes committed in North Kivu and Orientale Province
- According to human rights groups, the government should promulgate a law for the promotion and protection of human rights in the DRC and facilitate the opening of just and equitable trials concerning crimes committed against them.
- They also urged CENI to remain neutral, transparent and independent in the organization of the elections and publication of the results. Civil society should play a role in supervising the electoral and democratic process, and called on the international community to support civil society.
- The Dutch ambassador encouraged NGOs to continue their work, while the minister emphasized his zero tolerance policy concerning corruption.