Democratic Republic of Congo: Domestic Media Monitoring Report

Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies

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Content

- **1. Election Update**
- 2. Security Update
- 3. ICC postpones Callixte Mbarushimana trial
- 4. Parliament to discuss bill on Specialized Human Rights Courts
- 5. Journalist arrested and interrogated
- 6. Forum on sexual violence
- 7. Promulgation of SSR bill
- 8. Displaced populations in Haut-Uélé: more humanitarian assistance needed
- 9. Embezzlement and victims: concerns about Walikale hospital
- **10. AFRICOM representative in the DRC**

11. Foreign media

1. Election Update: Kabila signs electoral seats allocation bill

Government-owned media

(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, government-owned, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 17 August, 2011, in French)

- MPs passed two bills including the bill on the distribution of seats in various electoral circumscriptions, allowing the CENI to start receiving candidacies for the elections
- At the launch of its Convention for United Congolese (CCU) the party's national chairman, Lambert Mende Omalanga, called for peaceful elections and praised CENI for its hard work and transparency.
- The party Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD) also opened its congress. National chairman, Azarias Ruberwa, said presidential candidates should promote democracy, social life and development.
- Lumumbist Unified Party (Palu) women held a forum in Kinshasa. National chairman, Antoine Gizenga, announced his will not have a candidate but instead from an alliance with other parties

(Agence Congolaise de Presse, République Démocratique du Congo, government-owned news agency, Kinshasa, article dated 18 August 2011, in French)

"Le congrès du RCD encourage une seule candidature de l'opposition à la présidentielle

- At its congress, the Rassemblement congolais pour la démocratie (RCD) encouraged the opposition to choose a single candidate in order to contribute to democracy in the DRC.
- During its two-day forum, the party focused on moral, spiritual and intellectual values to be promoted in the DRC. Participants emphasized their will to reinforce the rule of law and ensure the separation of the three powers. The RCD also wants to establish federalism and would like republican institutions to be more decentralized

Privately-owned media

Jeudi 18 août 2011

"Si l'opposition claquait la porte de la Ceni : le pire se prepare" by Shaah G.

- CENI has established a rigid calendar meant to ensure that everything will be ready on time to the satisfaction of everyone involved. Yet several Congolese politicians and international observers believe that elections are unlikely to take place. Some also even see Daniel Ngoy Mulunda will to hold on to the constitutional calendar as suspicious.
- L'Avenir suspects several people of wanting to block the entire process. The opposition wants to check the voters' registration lists, especially since CENI seems to have close links to the government and the majority. The institution is supposed to be impartial and transparent.

- Just when the opposition demanded to go over the electoral lists, it was announced that several documents and data had been lost. It is crucial to find out whether or not this is due to technical difficulties. The opposition is also trying to cause divisions within CENI, which would endanger the electoral process.
- The opposition is particularly opposed to Daniel Ngoy Mulunda, whom it holds responsible for every misstep. It is important for the opposition not to leave CENI and to support the elections. If the electoral calendar is not respected and if people act irresponsibly, the DRC could end up in the same situation as the Ivory Coast. Some of those responsible for the post-electoral violence in Côte d'Ivoire now have to face the ICC

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"CENI: Lancement de l'appel à candidature pour le scrutin de 2011" by Emmanuel Badibanga

- After president Kabila promulgated the law on the allocation of electoral seats, CENI held a conference in Kinshasa in order to officially launch the registration of candidates for the presidential and legislative elections. Candidates have until 15th September to register.
- One of the main preoccupations remains the electoral calendar. A large number of important dates still figure on the calendar and must be respected. Internal divisions and frustrations, a lack of cooperation between CENI and opposition parties could compromise the process. Mulunda says money is not missing but collaboration and dialogue must be privileged and improved

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"A l'issue de son premier congrès : La Ccu déclare son soutien à Joseph Kabila" by Yassa



- The Convention des Congolais Unis (Ccu) has chosen President Joseph Kabila as presidential candidate. Lambert Mende Omalanga, Minister of Communication and Media, said the party would support the president for another 5-year mandate.
- At the Congress, the party also discussed other issues, including compulsory education. According to the party's spokesman, the DRC is a democratic unitary state and the Ccu is a lumumbist party which seeks to promote the development of Congolese people.
- Mende said a presidential candidate needed to be representative and rally different opinions an groups, be capable of setting his own ego aside, and a person who looks towards the future and does not try to settle past conflicts. As such, Mende expressed his will to organize peaceful elections
- Mende praised CENI for its neutrality and transparency, and urged the body to continue in this direction by respecting the Constitution and the law, especially as political parties are putting increased pressure on the commission. Mende criticized political parties to demand elections while at the saw time trying to block the whole process by contesting various issues. According the Ccu's leader, the refusal to sign the Electoral Code of Conduct is symbolic of this kind of behaviors.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 17 August, 2011, in French)

"Les assurances de la CENI"

- The president of CENI assured DRC officials that no major obstacles remain to the organization of the elections. Pasteur Daniel Ngoy Mulunda urged all national institutions to support the electoral process.
- Concerning the budget, CENI was expecting the government to take care of 57,74% of the costs (42,26% for international partners).
- Le Potentiel wonders whether funds have been rightly allocated and if CENI has all the logistical material needed.
- Other obstacles remain, especially in terms of security and politics. There is a great lack of consensus on the rules of the game and a lack of republican dialogue. The postponement of the signing of the Code of Conduct proves it. Nothing really ensures that elections will be peaceful, especially in the east.

(L'Observateur, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"Elections: report en vue ?" by Rombaut Ot

- Reality on the ground shows that CENI will struggle to organize the election on November 28th. Beyond tensions between the body and the opposition, technical problems have continued. Registration lists have apparently disappeared, which risks causing more tensions, especially once results are known.
- There is also the problem of application for candidacy as the signing of the electoral law annex and its promulgation by the president of the Republic led to a two-week delay. Now that the law has been signed, candidates will probably rush to registration offices.
- The budget also remains an obstacle to the body's transparency and credibility.

- The deployment of European monitors will not necessarily guarantee the credibility of the elections.
- While CENI absolutely wants to hold elections in November the main aim should be to ensure peaceful elections. Le Potentiel urges CENI to tell Congolese people the truth and remain realistic. The CENI and the government should not impose their views on opposition parties: a lack of independence by CENI could undermine the already fragile legitimacy of the state, which will lead to a lack of interest in the elections.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 20 August, 2011, in French)

"Nettoyage du Fichier electoral. CENI et partis politiques en concertation"

- CENI and opposition parties are still conducting talks in order to settle their differences regarding the electoral process. Pasteur Ngoy Mulunda to appease participants and said CENI allows the majority and the opposition to send experts responsible for reviewing the Electoral List. This should put an end to rumors relating the transparency of the process. Lately, there have been rumors of lost electoral lists containing the names of thousands of voters.
- CENI will ask Monusco for support. The aim is to institute a climate of confidence and security in order to ensure peaceful elections. Parties have shown unprecedented interest in these elections and have been official congresses.
- International partners and observers have also been increasingly worried about the process, leading to a decline in interest. The international community also wants these elections to be owned by Congolese people in order to be more credible.
- The next elections will determine Congo's future.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"Joseph Kabila promulgue la loi portant répartition des sièges électoraux" by Pitshou Mulumba

- On Wednesday, the president has promulgated the law for the repartition of electoral constituency seats for the next legislative, national and provincial elections. The law regards the allocation of 500 seats for the future national deputies, 774 seats for provincial deputies
- The promulgation of the law means that CENI is now allowed to follow its electoral calendar. Yet CENI also called on all parties and political groups to respect the calendar, particularly concerning electoral campaigning.

2. Security Situation

Government-owned media

(Agence Congolaise de Presse, République Démocratique du Congo, government-owned news agency, Kinshasa, article dated 18 August 2011, in French)

"Déploiement du 42ème bataillon des forces spéciales d'intervention rapide à Bendera"

• The Minister of National Defence and Veterans, Charles Mwando Nsimba, has urged the FARDC 42th batallion to set up and deploy rapid intervention forces in order to neutralize the FDLR and other rebel groups in Bendera. To achieve this goal, the minister has increased the battalions' financial and logistical means. Attacks by the FDLR have led to displacement and IDPS are highly vulnerable to diseases, famine and bad weather. The minister provided help and comfort, and said everything would be done for them to return to their homes

(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, government-owned, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 15 August, 2011, in French)

• On a visit in Kalemie and Bendera, Katanga Province Minister of Defense Charles Mwando Nsimba deplored FDLR attacks. The FRDC has been deployed to the area.

Privately-owned media

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

- Monusco's spokesman, lieutenant-colonel Diop, said the military situation remains relatively calm. LRA attacks have decreased in Orientale province and other armed groups. In Ituri, however, rebel groups have committed looting and FARDC soldiers have been arrested. In North Kivu, the FDLR remains active, leading to sporadic violence in Lubero and Rutshuru, particularly between the FARDC and militia groups.
- The security situation in Shabunda is relatively calm but FDLR elements remain active in Mwenga, Kalehe and Walungu. Mai Mai Yakutumba combatants activities have increased south of Fizi and in Lulima.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 15 August, 2011, in French)

"Selon le chef de la collectivité de Kabare. Les attaques armées sont l'œuvre des déserteurs des FARDC"

- According the civil society and local leaders in Kabare attack committed on civilians are the work of deserted FARDC soldiers, not FDLR combatants.
- Mwami Désiré Rugemaninzi said military authorities are aware of the problem.
- The deserters know the terrain well. Moreover, local residents have been acting as informers, sometimes forming alliances with them. The Mwami therefore urged military authorities to dismantle the group and arrest informers. The military said investigation had been launched.
- Insecurity has increased in the territory and the population demands the deployment of governmental troops.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"Poches' d'insécurité"

- Insecurity in both Kivus has long been one of the DRC's most important problems. National and provincial authorities have been working harder to bring back security to the region. The government says pockets of insecurity remain. The FDLR is mainly responsible for the situation. Recently, they raped a young Congolese girl multiple times. Greater government efforts are therefore welcomed
- Security is also crucial to ensure that the elections will not simply be held, but to ensure the transparency and credibility of this democratic process.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 15 August, 2011, in French)

"Sud-Kivu: les FDLR tuent et pillent à Kabare" by T.M.

- The FDLR has allegedly attacked Lukayu village in Kabare. Two people have been killed and had their goods stolen. According to civil society groups, the FDLR also attacked a village in Katana where they killed a man and a child who refused to open their door to the assailants. The men stole cattle and money before taking ten people hostage. They were freed a few hours later. The FARDC was informed too late and the population fled the area, especially because the rebels said they would come back to loot some more.
- This is not the first attack of the kind. Three days before Chibimdi village was attacked by the FDLR as well.

(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 18 August, 2011, in French)

• MPs from Orientale Province urged the government to restore authority and security in Haut Uele and Bas Uele districts where the LRA remains active and conducting attacks against civilians

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"Selon la Monusco. Sud-Kivu: la situation sécuritaire demeure calme à Shabunda" Ludi Cardoso

- In Shabunda, the security situation remains relatively calm. However, according to Monusco, the FDLR continues to be active in the territories of Mwenga, Kalehe and Walungu.
- Mai Mai combatants have also increased their attacks in Fizi and Lulimba. They kidnapped 16 residents of Lwakoy village. However, 13 of them managed to escape and 3 others were freed by the FARDC
- About forty Mai Mai Yakutumba rebels attacked the FARDC based in Lubondja, and a dozen Mai Mai Rahiya Mutomboki attacked a PNC post North East of Shabunda.
- Monusco has conducted patrols in Tanganyika in order to evaluate the security situation on the ground and to act as a deterent for groups operating on the link and on the Uvira-Mukunga road.
- The FARDC has conducted operations against the FDLR and pushed them back into the forest situated between Mwenga and Shabunda.

(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 15 August, 2011, in French)

• In Kisangani, Orientale Province, victims of the clashes the LRA and the RDF in 2003 today started a four-day sit-in.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 19 August, 2011, in French)

"Sud-Kivu : des rebelles FDLR brûlent un marché à Tchonka"

- The FDLR attacked Tchonka town, in South Kivu, where they set fire to the market. No one was injured or killed.
- The rebel group also set up control barriers in Chabene, where they fine passers-by
- Mai Mai rebels conducted attacks in Ikama Kasanza: two people were killed, houses looted and set on fire
- The territorial council met on Thursday n Shabunda centre in order to find a solution to insecurity. The council recommended the deployment of FARDC forces and Monusco.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"Nord-Kivu : la vie reprend à Lubero"

- Thanks to the demilitarization of urban centers and deployment of FARDC troops in zones formerly occupied by the FDLR, calm has returned to Lubero. IDPs have slowly been coming back and can now attend to their daily economic and commercial activities.
- Since 2004, the residents of Lubero were regularly attacked by the FDLR and other rebel groups. Although the situation is now peaceful, civil society groups nonetheless said that "pockets of insecurity" remain on the western coast of the Lake Edward.
- Relationships between indigenous people, particularly Hutus, and the new residents seem peaceful.
- According to NGO Mission d'Aide aux Déplacés more than 500 displaced families have not yet returned to their villages and live in foster families in Butembo or Kipese.

3. ICC postpones Callixte Mbarushimana trial



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Privately-owned media

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"CPI: L'audience de callixte Mbarushimana reportée au 16 septembre" by Des

• The International Criminal Court (ICC) postponed the trial of Callixte Mbarushimana to mid-September. The reason for the postponement is the fact that certain elements of proof are in English, a language the suspect and the Defence do not understand and therefore have not had enough time to examine. The aim is ensure a fair trial.

4. Parliament to discuss bill on Specialized Human Rights Courts

Privately-owned media

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"La cours spécialisée des droits de l'homme en gestation"

- The Congolese parliament will soon discuss the establishment of a bill regarding the creation of a specialized court for human rights. Specialists, the Minister of Justice and Human Rights, and international bodies are involved in the process. The aim is to reinforce the judicial system by allowing it to deal with cases of sexual violence, looting and other human rights violations. It would also contribute the fight against Congo's culture of impunity. *L'Avenir* believes the court will contribute to the complete eradication of impunity.
- United States Ambassador-at-Large for War Crimes Issues and former attorney and chief of prosecutions at the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, Stephen J. Rapp, arrived in the Congo. He said he wanted to support the setting up of a military justice system in order to train and improve the skills of magistrates and investigators. Logistical help will be provided.

- There is a lot to be done. More than 700 cases of sexual violence implicating military officials and soldiers are currently waiting for trial.
- The ambassador's main concern is the adoption of the bill in due time for it to be transmitted to senators and deputies for amendments, and to the president for its promulgation.
- Concerning sexual violence crimes, only violation committed since 1990 will be taken into account. Congolese people are eagerly waiting for the specialized court.

5. Journalist arrested and interrogated

Privately-owned media

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"Kasaï-Occidental : Un réseau de liberté de la presse condamne l'interpellation d'un journaliste à Tshimbulu" by Lepetit Baende

• Kabasele Wamba Wanfua, a radio presenter in Tshimbulu (Kasai Occidental) has been arrested by the local ANR (l'Agence nationale des renseignements - National Intelligence Agency) after the presenter condemned arbitrary arrests of civilians by the PNC. The journalist was interrogated by the ANR who accused him of campaigning for the political opposition. He was released after four hours. OLPA (Observatoire de la liberté de la presse en Afrique) condemns this interpellation, arguing that it violates freedom of the press guaranteed by Congolese law and international human rights. Consequently, OLPA urges local authorities to guarantee freedom of the press and democracy, especially during this electoral period.

6. Forum on sexual violence

Privately-owned media

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 15 August, 2011, in French)

"Kimbanseke. Violences sexuelles: restitution de la formation sur la validation des modalités d'interventions et harmonisation des outils de lutte" by St. Augustin Kinienzi

- The Coalition des femmes pour la paix et le développement (CFPD) organized a forum on the harmonization and terms of intervention regarding sexual violence. It is clear that women are the main targets of gender-based violence in the Great Lakes Region. Widows, prisoners, sexual slaves and women responsible for carrying ammunitions or cooking for rebel groups are particularly at risks.
- A synergy of several NGOs and charity groups was started in 2006 between the DRC, Burundi and Rwanda. The aim is to involve women as much as possible and to develop specific goals for women living in Zambia, Uganda, the DRC, the Republic of the Congo, CAR, Tanzania, Kenya, Sudan, Angola, Burundi and Rwanda).

- International partners, particularly Canada, the Netherlands, Sweden, Germany and the US, have provided significant help.
- Project PLUVIF (Projet de lutte contre les violences faites à la femme et à la jeune fille –
 project against violence perpetrated against women and girls) organized a training session
 in Bukavu. The aim was to train participants on issues like budget keeping, sensitization
 and service to the victims. PLUVIF also seeks to involve authorities as much as possible.
 Focusing on issues of mental and physical health, the programme does not take into
 account the economic situation of women affected by sexual violence

7. Promulgation of SSR bill

Government-owned media

(Agence Congolaise de Presse, République Démocratique du Congo, government-owned news agency, Kinshasa, article dated 18 August 2011, in French)

"Promulgation des lois organiques sur l'organisation et le fonctionnement des Forces armées et la Police nationale congolaise"

- The President signed two laws regarding the reform, organization and functions of the armed forces and the PNC (Congolese National Police). Organic Law n° 11/012 seeks to reinforce the FARDC past and current experience in the DRC and takes into consideration the geopolitical and geo-strategic situation of the country. The laws revolve around the importance of the rule of law, the setting up of specific missions and organization of the armed forces, and leadership mechanisms. The law reiterates the subordination of the armed forces to civilian authorities.
- The second law, Organic law n°11/013, seeks to equip the DRC with a republican, unified, efficient, neutral and professional Police Force. Judicial and administrative forces are under the responsibility of high-ranking government officials from a single department in order to ensure its good functioning. The law unifies several officer corps, the judicial police and former national police into one single homogenous structure.

Privately-owned media

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 20 August, 2011, in French)

"Réforme du secteur de la sécurité. Le président Kabila promulgue deux lois organiques sur l'armée et la police" by Stephane Etinga

- The President promulgated two laws on the reform, organization and functioning of the FARDC and the Congolese National Police (PNC). The first law seeks to strengthen and reaffirm the rule of law, improve leadership mechanisms and special FARDC missions. The FARDC remains under the authority of civil authorities
- The second seeks to provide the DRC with a unified, efficient, civic, apolitical and professional police force capable for transcending political tensions. The police remains under the authority and responsible of the government. It has been unified into a single homogenous structure in order to improve operations.

• The DRC has made the reform of the FARDC, the National Police and the justice system on of its priorities. Monusco and other foreign partners will provide support. For more than a year now, China, France, the US, the UK, Belgium and the UN mission have been contributing to the reinforcement of the capacity of soldiers and police authorities.

8. Displaced populations in Haut-Uélé: more humanitarian assistance needed

Privately-owned media



Copyright: public domain

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"Haut –Uélé : Une aide humanitaire d'urgence s'avère indispensable" by Des

- Humanitarian action is needed in Dungu, Haut Uélé, as many residents do not have sufficient access to their basic needs, particularly because populations are regularly attacked by the LRA. Caritas has provided agricultural and educational material. The pastor of the Diocese, Richard Domaba, says more help is needed. More agricultural help is needed in order to ensure food security, especially for displaced and recently returned families. Medical assistance is also needed as many essential drugs and medical equipment is lacking.
- The administrator of the territory supports these calls and says agricultural production has been low as local population fear LRA attacks and cannot attend to their fields. He also called for assistance to victims of the LRA. Attacks by the Ugandan rebel group has led to widespread displacement in the region. Essential foodstuff is also necessary

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 15 August, 2011, in French) "Haut-Uélé: plus de 4 800 ménages de déplacés de guerre sans assistance humanitaire à Kiliwa"

• Caritas Bunia said it is currently helping 4 800 IDP families in Kiliwa (Dungu), Haut Uélé after new waves of families arrived in June. Caritas cannot attend to all their basic needs. Water, food, medical equipment and staff remain the biggest challenge. The central government has not been providing any assistance.

9. Embezzlement and victims: Concerns about Walikale hospitals

Government-owned media

(Agence Congolaise de Presse, République Démocratique du Congo, government-owned news agency, Kinshasa, article dated 17 August 2011, in French)

"Neuf morts à l'hôpital général de Walikale par manque de medicaments"

• Nine patients died in Walikale due to a lack of drugs. According to local sources, the hospital's managers are embezzling drugs. As a result, many patients seek help elsewhere, including in Lubutu, oriental province, where treatment is free or less expensive. Walikale resident want pharmaceutical assistance to be provided to their hospital and for medical staff to be better paid

10. AFRICOM representative in the DRC

Privately-owned media

(L'Avenir, privately-owned daily, article dated 18 August, 2011, in French)

"AFRICOM : Le Général Ham en visite en Rd Congo"

- General Carter F. Ham, who serves as Commander of U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM), arrived in Kinshasa where he will meet government officials and representatives of the American embassy. This is the General's first visit in the DRC since he took over the post in March.
- AFRICOM is currently helping the FARDC. The reform of the security sector and professionalization of the FARDC military operations are one of its main goals. In 2010, AFRICOM concluded its 8-months mission and training of troops near Kinsangani. Soldiers were also trained regarding issues of sexual violence.
- The US army also conducted two military exercises in Kinshasa, which sought to improve the capacity of the US and the DRC is respond to medical emergencies.
- AFRICOM is determined to continue its work and Ham's visit will improve a good coordination of military operations. His visit will also allow him to be directly informed about remaining security and defense challenges in the country.

<u>11. Foreign media</u>

(Journaliste En Danger (Kinshasa) – Press release dated 18 August 2011, in English)

"Congo-Kinshasa: Community Radio Director Released After Four Days in Custody"

• JED condemns the arrest of Alpha Manzanza, director of the community radio station Etoile de Bolobo, who was detained by the National Intelligence Agency (ANR) for four days. The radio station was accused of broadcasting without proper documentation but Manzanza said that the station was given permission to operate last April and, for the moment, only broadcasts press releases and hosts request line shows. It is believed that Manzanza was arrested for his support of the foreign press

(Lubanga Trial Website, The Hague, analysis article dated 19th August 2011, in English)

"Congo-Kinshasa: The ICC's First Trial - Milestones Mixed With Near-Disasters" by Alison Cole

- The trial of Thomas Lubanga Dyilo, accused on enlisting child soldiers in the DRC, opened at The Hague in January 2009 and is now nearing its end.
- The trial has known ups and down.

Positive:

- \rightarrow The ICC strengthened its status as more countries have signed the Status
- \rightarrow "Positive complementarity": increased efforts have been made to ensure that the ICC complements national courts, which should be responsible for prosecuting human rights violations
- \rightarrow Lubanga's case brought more attention to issue of child soldiers and need to stop this epidemic. Seven other child soldier cases are currently under investigation at the ICC

Negative:

- \rightarrow The Lubanga trial also failed several times. In 2008, judges ordered the release of Lubanga as prosecutors found that prosecution has failed to disclose some information to the defence, information which could have been favorable to the defendant
- \rightarrow The trial was delayed again in July last year as judges ordered the release of Lubanga after another refusal of the prosecution to comply with a court order. The prosecution refused to disclose the identity of an intermediary who could have helped locate potential witnesses. The defense argued the intermediary was encouraging witnesses to lie and used to incident to claim that investigations were flawed. It was argued that several child soldiers had lied about their identity, especially after two witnesses admitted they had fabricated evidence. The prosecution was accused of abusing the process.
- → The case also showed that conducting investigation in countries still suffering from conflict poses particular challenges as insecurity limits access to witnesses and evidence. Intermediaries also lack local knowledge. New guidelines will be established regarding how to deal with intermediaries, who are paid for their work and must be protected.
- \rightarrow Particularly worrying is the failure of the prosecution to charge sexual violence, despite widespread evidence.