

**DRC Domestic Broadcasting, 9 May, 2011 (02 May– 09 May, 2011)**  
**by Marie Lamensch, MIGS Reporter for the DRC**

**Government-owned media**

**(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 3 May, 2011, in French )**

- National Independent Electoral Commission chairman, Pastor Daniel Ngoy Mulunda arrived in Sankuru District, Kasai Oriental Province, to reopen the voters' registration exercise closed in April.
- National MP Ruphin Kikapa from Gungu territory, Bandundu Province, urged the population to overwhelmingly register for the elections.

**(Rwandan News Agency, Kigali, 4 May, 2011, in French)**

**“German lawmakers hopeful DR Congo-based rebel group leaders to get "fair trial"”**

- On a visit to Kigali, German parliamentarians have expressed their hope that the leader of the Rwandan FDLR Hutu rebels, Ignace Murwanyashyaka, and his deputy, Straton Musoni, will get a fair trial.
- The trial opened in Stuttgart, Germany. Christoph Straesser, the head of the delegation, said victims will testify at the trial.
- The parliamentarians will go the DRC to visit victims of rape and sexual violence committed by the FDLR.
- The two leaders are accused of leading a "terrorist organization" and organizing multiple crimes committed by combatants against hundreds of civilians in eastern DR Congo in 2008-2009

**(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 4 May, 2011, in French )**

- Media professionals in Mbuji Mayi, Kasai Oriental Province held two conferences to celebrate the international press freedom day. UNPC representatives urged media professionals to abide to deontological standards. The international press freedom day was also celebrated in Goma, where the UNPC organized a reflection day. UNPC provincial chairman reminded media professionals to be responsible and professional.

**(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, Kinshasa, 1230 gmt, 5 May, 2011, in French )**

- 366 Congolese living in Burundi voluntarily returned to the DRC since the beginning of the year. The UNCHR has also repatriated more than 2,000 Rwandan refugees living in the DRC.

**Privately-owned media**

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 2 May, 2011, in French)**

- Administrative sources in Farajde Territory, Haut Uele District, reported an attack led over the weekend by the LRA in Aba Location near the border with South Sudan. Five civilians were abducted by before combatants were pushed back

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 3 May, 2011, in French)**

- Colonel Fall Sikabwe, FARDC in Ituri District, reported that his troops clashed with a group of Mai-Mai fighters in Epulu Game Reserve. He accused armed groups coming from Bafwasende Territory and Nord Kivu province of invading the game reserve for poaching.
- The administrator of Mambasa Territory in Ituri District said a serious land conflict has erupted between local inhabitants of Babila area and a group of former IDPs from Nord Kivu. He urged the central government of DR Congo to intervene before the conflict escalates into a tribal clash

**(AFP news agency, Paris, 1602 gmt, 4 May 2011, in English)**

**DR Congo watchdog says 12 journalists jailed over last three months**

- According to Journalists in Danger, Congolese authorities jailed 12 journalists between January and April. 35 direct attacks against journalists and media freedom have been reported
- These include 12 cases of imprisonments, eight cases of assaults and threats against media professionals, nine cases of censorship and six cases of various pressures on media.
- Most attacks were committed by security forces, particularly the intelligence service.
- The group urged journalists "to avoid any surprises during the period of electoral tension."

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 4 May, 2011, in French)**

**« L'Opération Amani Leo en panne à Lubero. Mai-Mai et FDLR attaquent Kanyabayonga »**

- Mai Mai and FDLR combatants have led various attacks in Lubero, North Kivu. The Administrator of Lubero, Dominique Bofombo has voiced his concern over the proliferation of Mai Mai groups in South and North Kivu.
- The combatants come from Virunga national park and Lubero could fall into their hands. Bofombo has therefore called for the deployment of troops to the area, where they are currently absent.
- The spokesman to military operation Amani Lo said deployment would not be possible before the forces and battalions have completed their training. According to observers, the police do not have the human resources and logistical capacity to face the armed groups.

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 5 May, 2011, in French)**

- Governor Medar Autsai Asenga of Orientale Province called on the Babila community to restrain from using violence against a rival community over a land conflict.

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 5 May, 2011, in French)**

**« La Monusco et les FARDC renforcent le dispositif sécuritaire à Mbandaka »**

- Monusco and the FARDC have reinforced their troops in Mbandaka, Equatorial province after rumours of attacks by Enyele rebels, said the UN mission's spokesperson Félix-Prosper Basse.
- He explained that the security situation in the West remains calm, while attacks by LRA fighters in the two Uélé areas have significantly decreased. Rumours that the group would attack various locations in the districts have not materialized.
- Monusco also said that Monusco has admitted 17 children linked to the LRA into its Children Protection Section.
- The 391th battalion of the FARDC trained by the US army has been deployed to Dungu in order to fight the LRA
- In Ituri, the FARDC quickly intervened after attacks committed against population in Aveba-Bukiringi. The prompt reaction was welcomed by locals. Operation Easter Shield conducted in Ituri in late April also sought to ensure the protection of civilians during the Easter period
- In North Kivu, several armed groups have been active in Kalenge et Kalambahiro-Kimua, while incidents of looting and rape have been reported in South Kivu, although the security situation has been relatively calm

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 5 May, 2011, in French)**

**« Vingt-cinq cas des viols seraient enregistrés »**

- 25 cases of rapes have been reported in Baliga. According to OCHA only one of the victims has benefitted from medical help. According to civil society in Shabunda, rapes were committed by Rwanda Hutu rebels and the FDLR

**(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 6 May, 2011, in French)**

- In Haut Uele District, CENI announced that its workers were escorted to the locations of Bitima, Ngilima and Kilifi in Dungu Territory by soldiers of FARDC. The enrolment process in these villages will only start on 10 May 2011 following insecurity caused by the LRA in this area

**(L'Observateur, privately-owned daily, article dated 6 May, 2011, in French)**

**« Suite à l'usage abusif de son signe distinctif » by Blandine Lusimana**

- The Red Cross has called for the respect of its emblem, which has been used/abused by certain actors and institutions. Institutions include various medical associations.

- The Red Cross argues that if the emblem is respected, the NGO will be also. Abuse of the emblem is dangerous in times of conflict since it diminishes its protective value, the goal being to distinguish the NGO from other actors
- While legal action is needed, the population also has a role to play
- In times of conflict, the emblem can be abused by soldiers to protect soldiers and war material.
- In terms of legal action, a draft document already exists. Drafted in 2005, the document is still waiting in parliament.
- The Red Cross asked media of help them in promoting their cause

**(L'Observateur, privately-owned daily, article dated 6 May, 2011, in French)**

**« Province de l'Equateur : Le parc national de la Salonga infesté des bandits armés »**

- In Salongo Reserve in Equatorial Province, armed militiamen are causing insecurity and spreading terror by looting local populations.
- Weak road infrastructure and logistical capacity does not permit police forces to act swiftly
- In Equatorial province, NGO personnel was stopped by a group of militiamen, who then proceeded to steal their fuel

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 7 May, 2011, in French)**

Kasaï Occidental : 5.397 Congolais expulsés de l'Angola

- 5,397 Congolese refugees, among them many women and children, have been thrown out of Angola, according to NGO Caritas-Congo Asbl. 31 women have been raped and cases of torture have also been reported. The refugees live in inhumane conditions and need food and medical assistance and also need to be re-integrated. But the situation has been disregarded by many humanitarian organisations

**(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 9 May, 2011, in French)**

**« Mashako Mamba échappe à la mort à Rutshuru. Les FDLR frappent au cœur dugouvernement »**

- Elements of the FDLR still possess enough capacity despite operations conducted against them. FDLR combatants attacked a member of the government; the Minister of Superior and University Education, Léonard Mashako Mamba. His bodyguard and driver died during the attack
- Although the government has remained silent about the problem, military operations have apparently failed and the government should not minimise the issue. The pacification of the Kivus remains an illusion.
- This latest attack on a government official is a symbol.
- The ICG is right when it urges a new approach to the FDLR. The solution seems to be a regional one, a response which would include the countries of the Great Lakes Region, especially the southern region