

DRC Domestic Broadcasting, 6 December, 2010 (27 November– 5 December, 2010)

by Marie Lamensch, MIGS Reporter for the DRC

Government-owned media

(Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise TV, government-owned, Kinshasa, 1530 gmt, 27 November, 2010, in French)

- President Joseph Kabila once called on MPs and residents of Ituri District to be patient over the decentralization process. He added that it would be difficult to implement the process before the elections, as hoped by the MPs.

(The New Times website, Kigali, 29 November, 2010, in English)

“Congo-Kinshasa: Govt Rejects Latest ICG Report” by James Karuhanga

- The DRC has rejected the report published by the International Crisis Group ("Congo: No Stability in Kivu despite Rapprochement with Rwanda") on the continued instability in eastern Congo despite the collaboration between Rwanda and the DRC.
- Minister Menda groups like the ICG are uncomfortable with the fact that African are able to find solutions to their problems without the help of external bodies, budgets and mandates. He believes the two countries have demonstrated that joint action between the FARDC and RDF was possible and fruitful. He indicated that there was no need for foreign interference, arguing that Monusco has been in the Congo for two years without significant results.
- Mende also said he plans to publish a book on attempts by neo-colonialist to keep the DRC Under their control.

(Rwandan news agency RNA, government owned, 30 November, 2010, in English)

“DR Congo Rwandan rebels holding unsold uranium - UN probe report”

According to a UN report, FDLR rebels are said to be keeping hundreds of kilograms of uranium for which they have failed to get a buyer for two years now. The rebels found minerals and uranium in Walikale territory in 2008 after being informed by local leaders.

(The New Vision website, by state-owned Ugandan daily Kampala, 1 December 10, in English)

“Ugandan rebels call for peace talks”

Text of report entitled "Amnesty Commission boss meets ADF leaders"

- Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) met the chairman of the Amnesty Commission and reiterated their demand for peace talks with the government. The government first

doubted the seriousness of the ADF and whether the people were genuine members of the group but they have been persistent with their proposals.

- The ADF offered to release children and women. The rebels were recruiting young people in Uganda and the DRC
- The commission has so far granted amnesty to about 2,000 ADF insurgents.

Privately-owned media

(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 29 November, 2010, in French)

- Governor Medar Autsai Asenga of Orientale urged the central government to look into the request of the elders of Walendu Bindi who are demanding the departure of Bangladeshi UN peacekeepers from their region over claims of aiding local terror armed groups.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 29 November, 2010, in French)

“Dans une déclaration politique. Kakese Malela François plaide pour un nouveau système de gouvernance en RDC”

- URDC (Union pour le réveil et le développement du Congo) President Kakese Malela François Nicéphore said there needed to be a change of governance in the country. This, he said, could be achieved through a cultural, spiritual and moral revolution. He added that he planned for the DRC to be a prosperous country and believes there can be no vision without a revolution.
- The URDC has opted for a Christian democracy enshrined in the words of God and promoting a democratic and pluralistic society.
- A new political era is therefore needed, a new political structure and mode of governance.
- According to the president of the URDC the current president has not changed the country's political structure and mode of governance. He is surrounded by Mobutu supporters, patronage and private gain is rampant.
- Congo is considered is a chaotic force where exclusion, division, corruption, nepotism, and predation are prevalent.
- He also called for the respect of human rights
- He also believed the Congolese themselves have committed mistakes and emphasized the need to consider former colonizers as a friend and partner in order to develop the country.
- His party core values are respect for God, human rights, civil and legal liberties, public interest over private interest, equality of all before the law, transparency, love of the fatherland, solidarity and charity.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 29 November, 2010, in French)

“Le Haut commissaire assistant du HCR satisfaite de sa mission en RDC” par Louis-Paul Eyenga Sana

- After her visit to the DRC, Janet Lim, UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, said she was satisfied with the current situation despite the complex reality on the ground.
- Lim visited refugees and populations victims of violence in North and South Kivu. She said one of the most important challenges for the HCR are the population's security, including refugees and IDPs, and logical constraints. She said the HCR would continue to engage with humanitarian actors, donors and the Congolese government.
- Concerning the repatriation of Rwandan refugees to their country, she explained this was the role of the Congolese authorities but added that the HCR is ready to help.
- Lim launched a 16 days campaign on violence against women and reiterated the HCR willingness to prevent sexual violence and put an end to impunity.
- Concerning the potential influx of refugees from South Sudan, LIM said the HCR was ready to help. On the issue of refugees residing in Congo-Brazza, she applauded the signing of a tripartite agreement planning for their repatriation in April 2011. The HCR will make sure no incidents take place.

(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 1 December, 2010, in French)

- Ituri District commissioner said that land issues continue to threaten peace in parts of the district, causing tensions and regular fighting between communities

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 2 December, 2010, in French)

“Réagissant au dernier rapport de l’ONU. Le gouvernement promet de sanctionner les coupables cités dans le rang des FARDC” by Adelin Makpolo

- Lambert Mende Omalanga, Media and Communication Minister, reacted to a report presented by five UN experts on the illicit exploitation of mineral resources in Eastern Congo by the FARDC and ex-CNDP. He said the government was ready to punish those responsible but nonetheless decried the “media lynching” against the DRC and seemed angry over excessive media coverage of the issue
- The new report is only a reiteration of facts known by the Congolese authorities. The executive informed the military judiciary to start investigations.
- Mende said all offenders would be punished but puts the main blame on ex-CNDP elements currently being reintegrated into the FARDC.
- Mende called on the population not to be frightened by the UN’s catastrophic tone and argues that the international body only wants to renew its mandate.
- The UN report cited high-ranking officers within the FARDC, mainly ex-CNDP elements, arguing that they are fighting over the areas rich mineral resources at the expense of the civilian population.

(Radio Candip, community radio broadcasting funded by Belgian NGO, Bunia, 1530 gmt, 2 December, 2010, in French)

- The outreach office of the ICC in Ituri District met local leaders and members of the district's civil society. A British journalist explained to them the ongoing court trials of Congolese at the ICC.

(Le Potentiel, privately-owned daily, article dated 3 December, 2010, in French)

“Un an après les attaques de Dongo. Sud-Ubangi : la Monusco et les humanitaires évaluent la situation sécuritaire” by Louis-Paul Eyenga Sana

- A year after Enyele insurgent attacks in South-Ubangi, the security situation remains relatively quiet, if unpredictable.
- According to the Monusco spokesman Madnodje Mounoubai, a strong UN delegation stayed in the area for three days and conducted a mission meant to assess the security situation and the different reconciliation and conflict resolution programs led by UN agencies as well as national and international NGOs.
- At the end of the mission, several initiatives have been recommended, including the setting up of a community radio meant to facilitate dialogue between communities. The mission developed a \$70,000 joint project which will allow for communities in conflict to work together toward peace.
- The UNFPA also gave new equipment to the Dongo medical centre.
- FAO gave new agricultural and fishing material to returned refugees.
- Several other projects have also been announced, including the building of new classrooms.
- OCHA revealed that population movements have been noticed along the Ubangi River. After rumours of attacks in Dongo by insurgents, more than 200 people have apparently crossed the river into the DRC.
- IDPs population movement has also been reported in Bubru, Bobongo and Lilanga. These returns are nonetheless rendered difficult by the continued presence of military men who occupy the displaced people's homes