

Kenya Domestic Media August 9th (covering August 2nd – 8th)
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State-owned media

KBC Radio, Nairobi, in English 1000GMT 2 August 10

- The provincial administration in Nairobi is set to unveil a new SMS service to be used to report cases of insecurity during the referendum period. Nairobi Provincial Commissioner James Waweru says the provincial administration will use the service to monitor and act promptly on all reported cases. He says the SMS project is part of tight security measures adopted by the government to ensure the referendum is held peacefully. Already, more than 50,000 police officers and a further 20,000 from the Kenya Wildlife Service, prisons service and the National Youth Service have been deployed to various parts of the country to maintain security.

Privately-Owned Media

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1800 gmt 8 August 10

- Three more terror suspects arrested in Mombasa in connection with Uganda bombings were deported to Uganda today to face charges of killing close to 80 people. The three were arrested two days ago in the coastal town as the hunt for those behind the bombing intensified. The suspects were flown into Nairobi the day before immigration officials arranged for their deportation to Uganda. The three were arrested on Friday at Mombasa's Kongowea Kokorama village just weeks after similar arrests were made in the city's Eastleigh area. Anti-terrorism police officers raided the village as Ugandan government authorities with the help of the FBI, stepped up its hunt for the masterminds behind the Ugandan terror attack that claimed more than 70 lives. Anti-terrorism police officers handed over three other Kenyan suspects, suspected to have taken part in the terror attack, to Ugandan authorities weeks ago. The suspects were arrested after records from a mobile phone found in an explosive vest were traced to their phones. After the Kamapala bombings, the three returned to Kenya but not before calling their landlords promising to settle outstanding electricity bills.

The Standard, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- Muslim leaders have dismissed calls that negotiations should be reopened to amend issues that were considered contentious by the "No" supporters. In a press conference, Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims Secretary General Adan Wachu said the huge win means Kenyans had given the new constitution a vote of

confidence. "Kenyans have spoken. Your judgment was most balanced and just. We congratulate the brigade led by President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga for leading the campaign for a new constitution", he said. Wachu added that there should not be any amendments to the constitution as the majority of Kenyans have approved it as it is. National Muslim Leaders Forum Chairman Abdullahi Abdi thanked Kenyans for approving the new constitution. "It is a day of joy. We thank God for the outcome. We did our best to ensure the Muslim community supports the constitution," he said.

The Star, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- The more than 10,000 police officers deployed in the Rift Valley Province to maintain security during the Wednesday referendum have been withdrawn. Most of the officers expressed happiness that area residents remained peaceful throughout the referendum period, making their work easier. Eldoret police boss Bernard Muinde said: "Not even a single case of insecurity was reported in the region. Officers who normally work here will continue to maintain security", said Eldoret police boss Bernard Muinde. He said that everything went smoothly and peacefully. Security has been tight in the region for the last one week over fears that the referendum would spark off violence especially in areas that were affected by the post-election violence of 2007-2008. Higher Education Minister William Ruto complained about the presence of the police officers in the area.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- Authorities claim that although Kenyans are safe, they are under growing threat from people within the country. Somalia's terror group Al Shabab continues to recruit young Kenyans for terrorist activities. According to police and intelligence officials, the Kenyans travel to Somalia regularly for training. Nicholas Kamwende, an anti-terror police unit commandant claimed that although some of the suspects have been arrested they cannot be held under Kenyan law. Al Shabab, according to officials, remains a major challenge to Kenya, the region and the rest of the world. The arrest and indictment in a Kampala court of three Kenyans following twin bombings in Kampala last month that killed 76 people is a confirmation of the threat the region is facing from Al Shabab. According to sources, the three, Idris Magondu, 42, Husayn Hasan Agade, 27, and Muhammad Adan Adow, 25, are suicide bombers linked to Al Shabab and had been to and from Kampala on several occasions to supervise and plan the bombings. Kenyan detectives are wary of the manner in which it is recruiting young Kenyans for suicide bombing missions. Officials charged with countering terrorism say they have put in place institutional frameworks to address the issue, but say there is a lack of proper laws to govern such activities. Currently Kenya does not have terrorism laws.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- Two more suspects have been arrested in connection with last month's Kampala bombing which killed over 70 football fans as they watched World Cup finals. This came as the US State Department praised Kenya for cracking down on suspected terrorists in its annual report on terrorism. A Coast Provincial Police Officer, Leo Nyongesa, confirmed that detectives from the Anti-Terrorism Unit in Mombasa raided Kongowea Kwa Karama Village on the morning of Friday August 6th and arrested two people. A witness from one of the families raided, Ms Mariam Husayn, said police forced their way into her house. The officers wrongly arrested her husband Mr Abdulqadir Muhammad Khamis, thinking he was Mr Salmin Muhammad Khamis. After the police ransacked their house for evidence they found his brother Salmin in another room who surrendered and asked the police to release his brother, Abdulkadir. The raid was met with protests from residents, with Muslims for Human Rights Director Hussein Khalid terming the raid illegal.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- The US government could pay 880 million shillings (11 million dollars) to 6,000 victims of the 1998 terrorist attack in Nairobi, if a judge rules in their favour. Mr Philip Musolino, the Washington lawyer representing the survivors, said on Thursday a judge may order more than 11 million dollars in damage payments before the end of this year. The victims were blinded, maimed or bereaved by the attack on the American embassy, 12 years ago. He said some of the survivors, including those financially harmed by the attacks, will likely be asked to give testimony via a video link from Nairobi later this year. This will finally give the victims a way to explain the damages they incurred. One such victim, Mr. Douglas Sidialo, lost his sight in the attack and remains hopeful that the lawyer will succeed in making his case. Justice John Facciola, who has been assigned the case, had earlier planned to travel to Kenya to take testimony from victims, but security concerns led to a decision to hold the trial in Washington, set to begin in November. The question remains whether Kenyan or American damages law will be applied to the case. Some of the money to settle the claims could come from seized Al-Qa'idah assets. Mr Musolino and other lawyers representing Kenyan clients have maintained that American officials knew that an Al-Qa'idah cell was operating in Nairobi yet did nothing to bolster security at the embassy, which should have been seen as a likely target of a terrorist attack. This position has been backed by the former US ambassador, Ms Prudence Bushnell, who recently revealed she was reprimanded by her superiors for raising concerns about the security of her embassy and staff. Ms Bushnell stated that her bosses dismissed her in the belief that Nairobi was not under threat.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- Victorious "Yes" team has raised the red flag over the losing side's demands for re-negotiation of the approved constitution, saying it is a plot to erect barriers in the implementation of the new laws. The team said the demands are likely to

rekindle the animosity witnessed in the countdown to the Wednesday referendum. The group warns the fresh demands for a re-negotiation of the contested clauses are an unnecessary distraction used to give the losing side a lifeline. While conceding defeat before the Interim Independent Electoral Commission announced the final result on Thursday, the NO camp, which has been led by Higher Education Minister William Ruto, said it would not relent in the push to amend contested clauses on land, abortion, Kadhi courts and devolution.

- The church, which was part of the "No" campaign, said it was moving to court to contest the referendum outcome. National Council of Churches of Kenya General Secretary Reverend Peter Karanja, in a statement said the referendum was fraught with irregularities. "We are saddened by the fact the pre-referendum process was marked by malpractices and irregularities, which continued right into the balloting and tallying phases. This calls into question the validity of the process and its outcome," Karanja said. The YES camp worries that their rivals are looking for new barriers to block the approved constitution. As a new storm over the texture of approved constitution looked imminent, Chepalungu MP Isaac Ruto disclosed that the NO team was regrouping and would most likely bring up the divisive issues in Parliament. He said he had lined up 10 amendments that cover the Executive, land issues, devolution, rights and liberties, religion and succession, which he hopes will be passed by Parliament as part of "post-referendum healing." "We are done with Agenda Four that came to an end with the referendum which ratified the new Constitution. We are coming up with a new strategy we are calling Agenda Five. We are serious about giving this country new leadership," Ruto told The Standard On Saturday.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 7 August 10

- Kenya will transit into a new constitutional dispensation in style - the state plans an elaborate public function for 20 August to be attended by foreign dignitaries. During the occasion, President Kibaki will promulgate the new constitution, radically altering governance and institutional face of the republic. The day will be declared a public holiday to allow Kenyans to witness the historic event. The Standard On Saturday claims that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has been instructed to send invitation cards to heads of state and government, as guests to witness the big fete at an undisclosed venue. It is expected the head of state will lead other top constitutional office holders, including the prime minister, vice-president, chief justice, and Speaker of the National Assembly, in taking the oath of allegiance to the new constitution. All members of government who took an oath under the old constitution must take an oath under the new one. The constitution must be promulgated in the next 14 days at which point the parliament must pass upwards of 50 legislations to operationalize the constitution.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 6 August 10

- US President Barack Obama has applauded Kenyans for voting in a new constitution at a referendum held on Wednesday August 4th. On Thursday, he congratulated "the Kenyan people and government on the holding of a peaceful, transparent and credible constitutional referendum". He also called the vote "a significant step forward for Kenya's democracy," adding that the peaceful nature of the election is a testament to the character of the Kenyan People. The landslide victory for the Yes side "reflects the desire of the Kenyan people to put their country on a path toward improved governance, greater stability, and increased prosperity." President Obama pledged US support in implementing the new constitution. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton also commended Kenya on the conduct and outcome of the referendum.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1735GMT 5 August 10

- The Interim Independent Electoral Commission has ratified final results of the 4 August 2010 constitutional referendum. Announcing the results from 207 of the 210 constituencies, the IIEC Chairman Issack Hassan said 5 954 767 voters voted yes representing 67.25 per cent of the total tally; while 2 687 183 voted no, representing 30.35 per cent of the ballots cast. Mr Hassan also hailed the high voter turnout put at over 71 per cent of the 12.4 million registered voters.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1440GMT 5 August 10

- Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki has hailed the adoption of a new constitution as a victory for Kenya and expressed hope that the new reforms would help the country "conquer poverty, disease and ignorance". Speaking in front of a large crowd that had gathered outside Kenyatta International Conference Centre [KICC], in Nairobi, Kibaki said that the new constitution was a victory for Kenya and the people who fought for it. Kibaki also said the proponents of the new constitution will continue dialogue with its opponents as the reforms are implemented. He reassured those who had voted against the proposed constitution that their views would be addressed in the process of implementing the new constitution.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in Swahili 1434GMT 5 August 10

- Kenyan Prime Minister Raila Odinga has thanked all Kenyans who came out to vote in the new constitution. He addressed a huge crowd that had gathered outside Kenyatta International Conference Centre [KICC], in the capital Nairobi, stressing that it is time to unite now ahead of the implementation of the new constitution. He claimed the constitution meant a new and peaceful beginning for Kenyans. Odinga said: "This is not the end, but the beginning. The work starts now. We want to unite together in order to fulfill this big responsibility." Odinga also hailed those opposed to the new constitution for conceding defeat, saying they were just "fulfilling their democratic right". In conclusion, Odinga hailed the

leadership of President Kibaki in uniting the proponents of the new constitution, as well as, the electoral commission for organizing the plebiscite. He also thanked legislators, drafters of the new law, and the citizenry at large for their contributions to the process.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1330GMT 5 August 10

- A huge crowd has gathered in Nairobi's Kenyatta International Conference Centre to listen to the country's political leadership, led by President Mwai Kibaki, declare victory after the just-ended referendum on a new constitution.. At one point the crowd, some of whom are armed with vuvuzelas, was heard chanting in Swahili "all is possible without Ruto" in a direct jibe at the de-facto leader of the "No" camp. A number of church leaders were also seen arriving at the venue despite the church having opposed the proposed constitution on moral grounds. It is normal protocol at Kenyan presidential events to have religious leaders offer prayers ahead of the presidential address.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1022GMT 5 August 10

- Higher Education Minister William Ruto, who was leading groups campaigning against the proposed constitution, has conceded defeat in the 4 August referendum. Conceding defeat, Ruto stated that the Kenyans have spoken. Provisional results show the Yes vote leading with more than 60 per cent of the total votes cast. Ruto, former President Daniel Moi, and Christian church leaders, unhappy with clauses on land reform, abortion and the Muslim Kadhi courts, campaigned against the proposed constitution.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 5 August 10

- The church has not lost its credibility due to the decision by Kenyans to approve the proposed constitution at the referendum. The Kenya Episcopal Conference chairman, John Cardinal Njue, speaking on Thursday August 5th, said that the vote was not about numbers but the truth, which has not changed and that the church will continue to speak about the issues of concern. He said the church, which campaigned against the proposed constitution, respects the outcome of the referendum where majority Kenyans voted for the document. Cardinal Njue, however, said the majority does not necessarily mean the truth. At the Kenya Episcopal Conference offices in Nairobi where he convened a press conference to comment on the results where he claimed that it was not all about numbers, "flawed moral issues" in the constitution warranted moral guidance. In particular, the church was strongly opposed to the clauses on abortion and the kadhi courts. The church says it will remain at the forefront to support the constitution and legal reforms in the country for a better society. The Catholic Church is expected

to give a more comprehensive statement on the results in the coming week

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 5 August 10

- The de-facto leader of the "No" camp and Higher Education Minister William Ruto has led a team of politicians in conceding defeat in Kenya's constitution referendum held on Wednesday August 4th. Mr Ruto congratulated Kenyans for conducting themselves peacefully during the referendum. The minister said: "Kenyans have spoken and we respect the decision. All Kenyans are winners." In spite of this positive statement, the "No" group called for immediate consultations between the two sides with the aim of amending the contentious issues. Mr Ruto said the international threshold for endorsing a new constitution had not been met, showing that more Kenyans needed to be brought on board. "We want to be part of the process of moving Kenya into the future," he said as to emphasize his call for more consultations and national unity.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 4 August 10

- Provisional results released by Kenya's Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC) indicate that the "Yes" side has taken an early lead with 65.8 per cent of the vote while the "No" side has 34.2 per cent, Kenyan privately-owned TV station KTN reported at 1810GMT on 4 August. The poll body says provisional results show that 2,680,672 Kenyans voted "Yes" while 1,393,487 voted "No". Some 12 million Kenyans were registered to vote in the 4 August referendum.

NTV, Nairobi, in English 0720GMT, Daily Nation website 4 August 10

- Some setbacks have taken place with the vote. A boat carrying voting materials and officials of Kenya's electoral commission has capsized in the southeast of the country, as millions in the east African nation troop to polling stations to vote in a referendum on the proposed new constitution. The boat overturned in Tana River this morning, but poll officials "are said to be safe". According to various Kenyan media outlets, voting appears to have started well in most polling stations across the country. Apart from the boat accident, the chairman of the Interim Independent Electoral Commission (IIEC), Ahmed Isaack Hassan, said a vehicle carrying voting materials and IIEC officials had been involved in an accident in Turkana, in northwestern Kenya. Hassan said a helicopter had been dispatched to the area to transport the materials and injured officials. The Daily Nation web site also reported at that voting in North Mugarango Constituency, southwestern Kenya, had been delayed due to a lack of rubber stamps.

The People, Nairobi, in English 4 August 10

- Residents of the volatile Kapkangani in Nandi Central District in the Rift Valley Province are in a state of panic following the resurfacing of hate leaflets early yesterday morning warning of dire consequences if "Yes" votes were found in ballot boxes in today's referendum. The leaflets were typeset and written in "broken English". They were discovered in areas believed to have high numbers of supporters of the new proposed constitution while others were dropped at the doorsteps of individuals perceived to be coordinating campaigns for the proposed constitution.
- The leaflets were distributed in trading centers along the Kapsabet-Kaimosi highway and strategically placed at bus stages. According to the Kapkangani civic leader Councillor Simon Kiprono Rotich, the hate leaflets were found by his electorate early in the morning spread from Kapsasur, Danger Centre, Chemarmar Village, Kapkangani, Chepsonoi and Sirwa Post. Consequently, a team of high powered police officers led by the Nandi Central police boss Paul Munene moved to the areas where the leaflets surfaced in a bid to find the individuals responsible for them, assuring the residents of the government commitment to ensure that peace prevailed during and after the referendum. At the same time, a group of General Service Unit officers have been deployed in Kapsabet to reinforce security and assure everyone in Kapkangani that they would not allow anyone to break the law. They asked residents to ignore the leaflets and continue with their work.

Capital FM radio, Nairobi, in English 1000GMT 3 August 10

- President Mwai Kibaki will this afternoon address the nation ahead of tomorrow's referendum on the proposed constitution. The address will be aired live on Capital FM at 4pm. It is expected to run simultaneously on other radio and television stations. The president has been at the forefront in the recent months in drumming up support for the proposed constitution. In his last two rallies in Kitui and Kiambu, the president called on Kenyans to turn out in large numbers for the vote and remain peaceful

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 3 August 10

- Voters, security agencies and the electoral commission were all set for the Kenyan referendum on Monday. Nearly 70,000 police officers were sent to different parts of the country to guard voting centres and make sure the people are safe during and after the poll. Police have also set up 10 hotlines for people to report any security threats. Up to 63,000 personnel from regular, administration and special police officers will provide security during the referendum. The Independent Interim Electoral Commission (IIEC) decreed an end to campaigns and warned against political advertising and any canvassing for votes. This is in accordance with the law, which requires campaigns to cease 24 hours before

voting day. The government declared August 4th a holiday so that everyone would have the opportunity to vote. The materials, which include ballot papers, will be under police escort and will be guarded until the voting is completed. A police spokesman, Eric Kiraithe, said; “We have made adequate security arrangements around the country for the day. Security personnel will be alert.”

NTV, Nairobi, in English 1000GMT 2 August 10

- A Kenyan court has dismissed a case seeking to stop the referendum vote on a proposed new constitution. Nairobi court dismissed the case filed by NGOs, clearing the last legal hurdle towards the referendum. The case was filed a few days before the referendum by Kenyan activists seeking to stop the plebiscite on grounds that the poll’s body, the attorney general and lawyers who wrote the document, were engaged in partisan civic education on the document. Campaigning on the document ends on 2 August, before over 12 million Kenyans go to the polls to either endorse or reject the proposed new charter. The proposed new law is seeking to retain the current presidential system of government, but with greater checks on power.