

Kenya Domestic Media, April 11th 2011 (Covering Apr 5th – Apr 11th)

By Fatima Arkin, MIGS Reporter for Kenya

State Owned Media

KBC Radio, Nairobi, in English 0400 gmt 9 Apr 2011

“Kenya reportedly set to harness nuclear power”

Chief Executive of the National Council for Science and Technology Shaukat Abdulrazak said Kenya’s first national policy on nuclear energy will be published soon. Setting up the commission will be a big step for Kenya as it prepares to present its case to the International Atomic Energy Agency for approval. Abdulrazak also said that study tours will be conducted in order to come up with an implementation mechanism.

Kenya State House governmental website, Nairobi, in English 7 Apr 2011

“Employment of staff at State House” by Dr. Nelson Githinji

State House employees are ordinarily seconded from relevant ministries. State House is not directly involved in the recruitment of staffers, but occasionally requests for secondment of staff from various ministries. Due to NCIC’s findings that employees are heavily skewed in favour of one community, State House will be requesting that relevant ministries act more sensitively with future secondments. The policy of State House is under the general principles of the 2007 Employment Act.

KBC Radio, Nairobi, in English 1600 gmt 6 Apr 2011

“Kenyan premier calls for unity as post-poll violence suspects appear before ICC”

PM Odinga appealed to Kenyans to remain united as the Ocampo Six face formal charges tomorrow. He emphasized the need for the country to reflect and heal past wounds. Starting Friday, prayers will be held countrywide for the victims. Odinga assured the international community of Kenya’s security and stability.

Private Media

Kameme FM, Nairobi, in English 0500 gmt 11 Apr 2011

“ICC prosecutor "confident" court to okay trials of Kenya poll chaos suspects”

Ocampo said that he "has the evidence" against the six individuals accused of post election violence. He said that the violence was "planned" and expressed confidence that he will prove his case. Kenya will be an "example" to the rest of the world.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 11 Apr 2011

“Grave danger in nuclear power” by Joy Wanja

Nobel Laureate Wangari Maathai called for the phasing out of atomic power reactors and abolition of nuclear weapons globally. A statement issued with 49 other laureates of the Right Livelihood Award and members of the World Future Council cited the hazardous nature of nuclear material to humans and the environment.

“Feuding parties plan rival meetings” by Peter Leftie

Members of the PNU and ODM political parties claimed to have permission to hold prayer rallies at Uhuru Park although police say they have no knowledge of any rallies. PNU supporters declined to say which of the Ocampo Six will turn up even as it became apparent that most of the suspects may stay away following the ICC’s warning against making inflammatory speeches. Government Spokesman Alfred Mutua said ODM deputy party leader Musalia Mudavadi had been asked to prevail on supporters not to disrupt the homecoming rally for the Ocampo Six. He accused the party of playing dirty politics.

“African states threaten to leave ICC” by Walter Menya

The AU will consider withdrawing from the Rome Statute en masse should Kenya's request for deferral fail. Chairman of the AU Commission, Jean Ping said that the ICC has double standards. IGAD also hinted at a mass withdrawal.

“Al-Shabaab recruits ‘a security threat’” by Galgalo Bocha

Police Commissioner Mathew Iteere said that the recruitment of Kenyan youths by Al-Shabab is a serious security threat to the country. Dozens of women from Mombasa, Kwale and Kilifi counties held demonstrations to condemn the recruitment of their sons into the terror group. Iteere also revealed that police department had acquired three new marine patrol boats to bolster the fight against trade in illicit drugs.

NTV, Nairobi, in English 1800 gmt 10 Apr 2011

“Opposition expressed against planned reception for Ocampo Six in Kenya”

As plans get under way for what organizers term a Grand Reception for the Ocampo Six, dissenting voices to the reception are increasing with the main argument being that the plans go against the ICC process. US ambassador Michael Ranneberger, COTU Central Organization of Trade Unions (COTU) Secretary General Francis Atwoli and Justice Mutula Kilonzo are among those opposed to the plans.

NTV, Nairobi, in English 1000 gmt 9 Apr 2011

“UNSC refuses to defer cases against Kenya's Ocampo Six”

UNSC officially declared that it will not defer cases against the Ocampo Six at the ICC. The council failed to agree on the matter with most of the members saying that conditions for the implementation of article 16 were not fulfilled.

The Star, Nairobi, in English 9 Apr 2011

“Six Pakistanis ‘linked’ to Al-Shabab detained in Kenya”

Six Pakistani nationals suspected of having ties to Al-Shabab militia are being held at Shimo La Tewa prison due to lack of Kenyan sureties to stand for bond. The six claim they are in Kenya on a missionary trip and produced a letter from the immigration office in Nairobi indicating the purpose of the tour.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 1235 gmt 8 Apr 2011

“Kenyan TV stations give live coverage to ICC appearance by nationals”

Top Kenyan TV stations including NTV, KTN, Citizen TV, K24 and KBC TV carried live feeds from the ICC on April 8th. Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, former police commissioner Maj-Gen Hussein Ali and head of the civil service and secretary to the cabinet, Francis Muthaura appeared before the court.

Capital FM radio website, Nairobi, in English 1000 gmt 8 Apr 2011

“German envoy tells Kenyans to focus on fate of post-poll victims”

German ambassador to Kenya Margit Hellwig Boette said that the country reverted back to the ethnic balkanisation that led to post election violence. Kenyans need to stop politicizing the ICC process. Hellwig asked that Kenya fast track its reform agenda and also establish a local tribunal to try other perpetrators of post election violence who have not been targeted by the ICC. She challenged the media to self-regulate and ensure statements that incite tribal passions will not be broadcast.

Kiss FM, Nairobi, in English 0900 gmt 8 Apr 2011

“Kenyan politicians suspend plans to launch new party ‘until next year’”

MPs led by Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta and Eldoret North MP William Ruto postponed plans to launch a new political party until next year. Dujis MP Aden Duale said it could be premature to launch the party before expected political realignments shape up.

“Kenyans in Netherlands to hold demos over plight of post-poll victims”

Kenyans living in the Netherlands are planning to hold another round of demonstrations to show solidarity with victims of post-election violence. The protesters are annoyed with MPs who accompanied the Ocampo Six to The Hague while victims were forgotten. They are also

unhappy with the government's failure to address the plight of the victims four years after the violence.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 8 Apr 2011

“MPs: ICC's handling of suspects okay” by Njeri Rugene

MPs allied to Kenyatta and Ruto said the ICC acted “professional” while handling Ruto, Kosgey and arap Sang’s cases. The MPs said they’re satisfied and confident that justice will be served. Confirmation hearing of the Ocampo Six will start on September 1st. Separately, Central Kenya MPs Association Chairman Ephraim Maina and ODM Chief Whip Jakoyo Midiwo pleaded with MPs to embark on a national reconciliation and healing effort. Maina asked MPs to ensure parliament fast-tracks reform bills key to the establishment of a credible judiciary and police force.

“Security to be boosted along Somali border” by Galgalo Bocha

Top security officials from Coast and North Eastern provinces decided to increase security along the Kenya-Somali border. The team agreed on proper coordination of intelligence and community policing. They also recommended proper, daily screening of aliens fleeing Somalia. The recruitment of youth in Somali-based insurgency groups was discussed.

The Star, Nairobi, in English 8 Apr 2011

“Raila assures Somalia government of support” by Abdilatif Maalim

PM Odinga said that Kenya will stand by Somalia's Transitional Federal Government’s efforts to bring about peace and stability. Odinga and Somalia PM Muhammad Abdullahi held closed-door discussions regarding border security and other issues. Abdullahi said that his country will not participate in a high level meeting scheduled for Nairobi, but suggested that the meeting be held in Mogadishu instead. He thanked Kenya for its support.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 8 Apr 2011

“Ocampo Six should read the signs”

Presiding Judge Ekaterina-Trendafilova warned Ruto, Kosgey, and Sang not to violate any conditions stipulated by the court, lest their summonses be substituted with arrest warrants. She informed the three that the court was aware of attempts in Kenya to trigger violence if all six get charged with crimes against humanity.

Kiss FM, Nairobi, in English 0900 gmt 7 Apr 2011

“Kenyan police arrests four over Al-Shabab recruitment”

Anti-terror police in Mombasa arrested four suspects linked to the recruitment of Muslim youth for militia groups in Somalia. Coast Provincial Investigation Officer Ambrose Munyasia said

that police are investigating reports that some radical Muslim clerics are misleading youth to join jihadists groups.

KTN TV, Nairobi, in English 0740 gmt 7 Apr 2011

“Kenyan TV stations give live coverage to ICC appearance by nationals”

Top Kenyan TV stations including NTV, KTN, Citizen TV, K24 and KBC TV carried live feeds from the ICC on April 7th. Suspended Higher Education Minister William Ruto, ex-Industrialization Minister Henry Kosgey and radio journalist Joshua arap Sang appeared before the court.

Daily Nation website, Nairobi, in English 7 Apr 2011

“US pledges Sh300m to fight drugs” by Nation Reporter

According to the International Narcotic Control Strategy report, 332 million shillings will be released to Kenya between 2011 and 2012. Additionally, the US Drug enforcement agency will establish a permanent office in Nairobi to fight heroin and cocaine trafficking routes.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 7 Apr 2011

“MP sues US envoy over drugs ‘dossier’” by Peter Orengo

Kilome MP Harun Mwau sued US Ambassador Michael Ranneberger for linking him to drug trafficking. Mwau wants a declaration from the government that his fundamental rights will be protected from infringement by the US ambassador.

“Rude shock lying in wait at Hague” by Evelyn Kwamboka

Ocampo ordered the six to provide, under oath: their financial statements, bond of personal security, contact information including telephone and e-mail addresses, as well as a commitment to appear at The Hague at least once every six months. If Ocampo has his way, the six will need to vow not to make statements that can be interpreted as threats to potential witnesses nor tamper with prosecution evidence. Due to the senior positions held by Uhuru, Muthaura and Ali, Ocampo wants a gag order to prevent the three from making public statements regarding the case. The ICC instructed lawyers representing the Ocampo Six to contact ICC's Victims and Witness Unit before approaching a witness.

Kameme FM, Nairobi, in Kikuyu 0500 gmt 6 Apr 2011

“Kenyan radio audience expresses hopes, doubts over new political alliance”

Uhuru and Ruto forged an alliance promising to run against Odinga in the 2012 election. When asked if the alliance will last, viewers were more or less equally divided between those who feel that the coalition has a future and those who believe that it's solely based on their common predicament and therefore will not endure. Others were very suspicious, especially about Ruto.

The Standard website, Nairobi, in English 6 Apr 2011

“Government drops plan to resettle IDPs in Mau Narok” by Cyrus Ombati and Vincent Mabatuk

According to Internal Security Minister George Saitoti, the disputed land of Mau Narok will now be used for agricultural research. Professor Maitemei Olol Dapash accused the government of arm twisting the community by including non-Maasai people in re-settlement talks. Dapash demanded the immediate removal of security agents as well as the cessation of surveying and demarcation of the Rose Farm. The government is appealing for new land offers from the public.

“ICC orders suspects to declare wealth” by Peter Atsiaya and Vitalis Kimutai

Sang confirmed that the ICC ordered him to declare his wealth and provide supporting documentation. *The Standard* couldn't confirm if Ruto and Kosgey received similar requests. Sang added that the court ordered him to declare his relationship to those who donated money to fund his trip to The Hague. Following a request, the ICC offered him legal help.

“Tears as Ruto, Kosgey, Sang leave for The Hague” by Augustine Oduor

Sang was the first to arrive, hugging his wife, friends and relatives. Kosgey arrived to a warm reception from several MPs and friends. When asked to speak to the media he said “I am going to The Hague, relax.” The crowd held a brief moment of prayer for Ruto with shouts of “rais talk to us” (president, talk to us) filling the air. Ruto said going to The Hague is an opportunity for him to set the record straight. Several MPs gathered earlier at the city Cabanas resort for a brief meeting.