

**Mikhala Lantz-Simmons: MIGS Media Monitor Reporter for Kenya**  
**Kenyan Domestic Media Report**  
**July 25<sup>th</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011**

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1. Horn of Africa drought : Where is the relief food?

**"World Bank sets aside 665m dollars for Horn of Africa drought efforts"**  
**NTV, privately-owned television station**  
**July 29<sup>th</sup> 2011**

The World Bank has set aside over 60bn shillings (665m dollars) in response to the current drought in the Horn of Africa. A World Bank official issued a statement saying that if the current situation is not better by January or February, the World Bank will continue its emergency response. The official also specified that the World Bank is not a humanitarian agency but a development bank. Accordingly, the bulk of their financial assistance will be geared toward building drought resistance, installing drought resilient agriculture, improving water production and storage, and providing help to the increasing number of people who are traditionally affected by drought and the fear of famine.

**"In Turkana there is no food but in Njabini potatoes rot on the farms"**  
**The Standard, privately-owned newspaper**  
**July 29<sup>th</sup> 2011**

In the fertile Nyandarua Country (north-central Kenya) farmers are watching helplessly as their cabbages go to waste. The farmers say they would much rather donate the cabbages to the hungry however the poor state of roads means that the cost of transporting vegetables would wipe out the farmers' income. When the local market is flooded, the farmers have no means for transporting their goods to other markets because the roads are in shambles. Most feeder roads are washed away and impassable for motor vehicles.

The farmers blamed local leaders for ignoring their plight. Kinang'op MP David Ngugi places the blame on the government, "It is disappointing and shocking that we have abundant food in some areas and which is going to waste, while thousands of Kenyans elsewhere are starving." He said the extra harvests should be bought by the government and given to those faced with hunger in the rest of the country. Joseph Ndung'u, a farmer at Mbako village in Kinang'op, said the government should send officers to the region to mop up the bumper harvests and save the farmers losses.

Heavy rains continue to hit the region, "a total contrast to the scenes of hungry and emaciated children and adults in areas ravaged by famine, and which are being beamed on national and international media."

**"Govt. steps up relief efforts to Northern Kenya"**

**KBC, government-owned broadcasting company**

**July 30<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Relief food will soon be landing in Northern Kenya to alleviate the hunger crisis. The military will distribute more than 10 military lorries loaded with rice, beans and maize in Garissa. The military is officially out of the barracks and will be distributing relief food in the worst hit areas. According to Special Programs Minister Esther Murugi, preference will be given to children during the food distribution. According to the article, many have pointed "accusing fingers" at the government, blaming it for "failing to protect its citizenry rights such as the basic right to food."

**"Kenyan spokesman berates journalists, NGOs over drought"**

**Capital FM, privately-owned radio station**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> 2011**

During his weekly media conference, Government Spokesman Alfred Mutua said the government does not have any official reports of a Kenyan who has died as a result of hunger. According to Mutua, the government has enough food to feed all Kenyans and the only challenge they are facing is the distribution of relief food. Mutua claims that foreign journalists and non-government organizations are tarnishing the image of the government by exaggerating the effects of the drought.

**"Govt has no records of Kenyans dying of hunger, says Mutua"**

**Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper**

**July 28<sup>th</sup> 2011**

Speaking at his weekly press briefing at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre in Nairobi, Government Spokesman Alfred Mutua said the number of needy Kenyans is expected to rise to 4.5 million in the next few months. Mutua said the government had set aside 10.5bn shillings (115m dollars) to feed hungry Kenyans however it requires about 30bn shillings (328m dollars) to meet the demands of the starving citizens. He blames the current distribution and

logistics system for delaying the delivery of relief food. Mutua also warned that the government would take action against those who would try to benefit from the current drought.

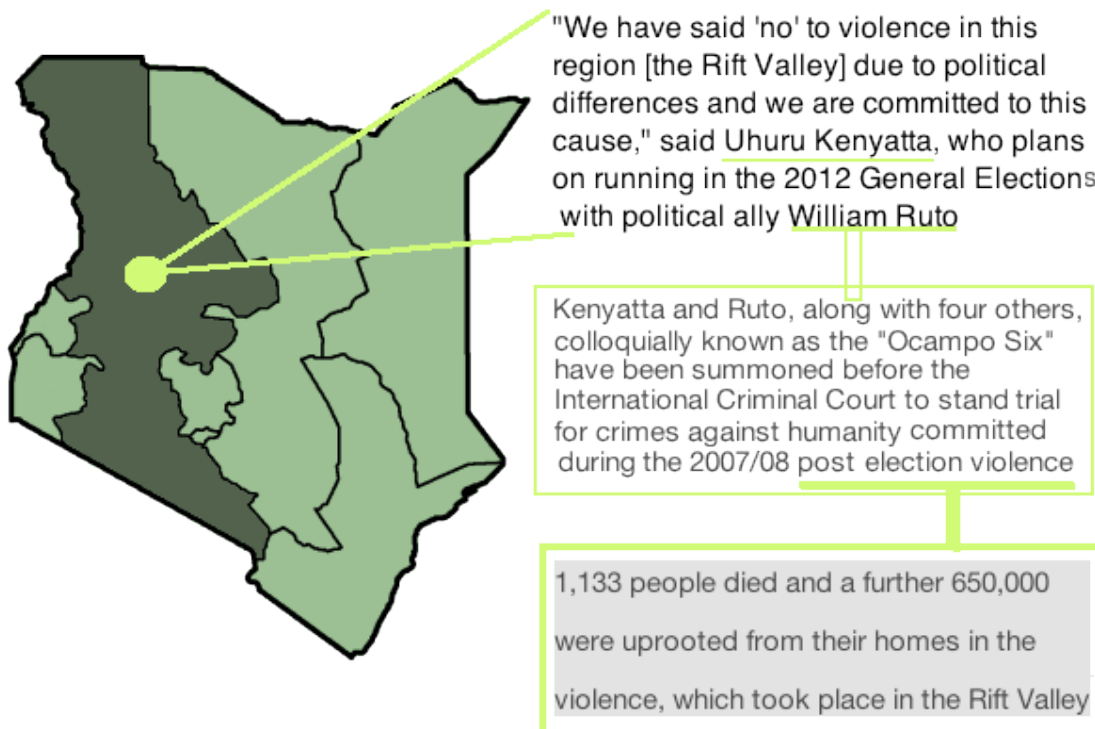
2. 2012 General Elections: calls for peace;  
new runners; and should ICC suspects be allowed to run?

**“Uhuru, Ruto call for peace ahead of polls”**  
KBC, government-owned broadcasting system  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011

At a GEMA council of elders meeting, political allies, Uhuru Kenyatta and William Ruto promised to unite for the sake of peace in the volatile Rift Valley. Speaking to the press, Uhuru said the meeting was called to address the political violence that hits the Rift Valley after every general election. “We have said ‘no’ to violence in this region due to political differences and we are committed to this cause,” said Uhuru.

**“2012 battle gains momentum”**  
KBC, government-owned broadcasting company  
July 23<sup>rd</sup> 2011

“Political daggers” have been drawn after the declaration of some political leaders to support Uhuru Kenyatta for president. NARC Kenya candidate Martha Karua asked Kenyans to reject Uhuru and William Ruto’s presidential bid until they are cleared by the International Criminal Court. She further stated that the two should behave like Hague bound suspects and not political stars.



*Numbers taken from Daily Nation, privately-owned Kenyan newspaper.*

**“Jirongo bids for 2012 Presidency”**  
**KBC, government-owned broadcasting company**  
**July 30<sup>th</sup> 2011**

KADU leader and Member of Parliament Cyrus Jirongo is the newest contender for Kenya’s presidential election. Jirongo said that once elected, he will ensure equitable distribution of resources to all Kenyans. Jirongo is the first to officially launch a bid although several candidates have expressed their desire to run. He warned that unless leaders and voters shun tribalism in the run up to the general elections, the country is likely to experience the chaos witnessed in 2008. Jirongo also challenged other leaders to support a candidate from the region in order to form a winning combination before the 2012 polls.

3. ICC rejects Kenya’s latest attempt to have the Ocampo Six suspects tried at home; Ocampo releases damning evidence against three of the suspects

**“ICC gives second blow to govt. on Ocampo six”**  
**KBC, government-owned broadcasting system**  
**July 29<sup>th</sup> 2011**

The International Criminal Court (ICC)’s Appeals Chamber unanimously rejected Kenya’s latest effort to present new information on national investigations into the Ocampo Six. The Kenyan government submitted an “Updated Investigation Report” to the Appeals Chamber, contending that this proved ongoing national investigations into the six suspects of the 2007/08 post-election violence are taking place. However the Appeals Chamber rejected the report saying it would not consider facts that took place after the relevant pre-trial proceedings.

At the end of last March, the Kenyan government tried to challenge the admissibility of the ICC Prosecution’s two cases against Eldoret North legislator William Ruto, Tinderet MP Henry Kosgey, radio journalist Joshua Sang, head of public services Francis Muthaura, Finance minister Uhuru Kenyatta and former police boss Major Gen. Hussein Ali. The ICC’s Pre-Trial Chamber II issued a decision May 30<sup>th</sup>, which found both cases admissible. The government appealed this decision on the 6<sup>th</sup> of June.

**“Ocampo: ‘Ruto, Kosgey, Sang have a case to answer’”**  
**KBC, government-owned broadcasting company**  
**August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2011**

The International Criminal Court (ICC) Chief Prosecutor Luis Moreno Ocampo has released damning evidence against three of “Ocampo Six” suspects. The 38-page document released to the public contains evidence gathered against Eldoret North MP William Ruto, Tinderet MP Henry Kosgey, and radio journalist Joshua arap Sang. The document outlines the events that led

to the post election violence in Kenya from the 30<sup>th</sup> of December 2007 to the 31<sup>st</sup> of January and contains an account of the three suspects' involvement in the violence. The document alleges that Ruto, Kosgey and Sang knew that their conduct was part of, or intended to be, part of a widespread systematic attack.

Ocampo describes their actions as two fold. First aiming to punish and expel from the Rift Valley those perceived to support the Party of National Unity (PNU), namely Kikuyu, Kamba and Kisii civilians; and second to gain power and create a uniform Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) voting block.

Ocampo alleges that the three suspects targeted PNU supporters by inflicting fear, killing them and systematically destroying their property, leaving them with no alternative but to flee. The charges against the three include murder, deportation or forcible transfer of population and persecution, all of which constitute crimes against humanity. Ocampo released this evidence a week after the ICC ruled against the Kenyan government's appeal to have the cases tried locally.

#### 4. Kenya's first vernacular TV station: audiences in villages also need to be informed

**"Kass media to launch Kenya's first vernacular TV station"**

**The Standard, privately-owned daily newspaper**

**July 29<sup>th</sup> 2011**

For the first time in the history of Kenyan broadcasting, Kenyans will have a vernacular television station with one hundred per cent local content. Kass TV will soon be launched, broadcasting in the Kalenjin language. The station will be broadcasting in Kenya and Washington DC, USA. The move was a response to requests by the "massive followers" of Kass FM radio station in the Rift Valley and Diaspora populations. Joshua Chepkwony, chairman of Kass Media, said the idea is to reach all kinds of audiences without limitation of language. According to Chepkwony, current broadcasting favors only the educated and excludes a sizable audience in villages who also need to be informed. Chepkwony is optimistic that lives broadcasts through the seven counties of the Rift Valley will begin by December.

