

**Mikhala Lantz-Simmons: MIGS Media Monitor Reporter for Kenya
August 15th to 22nd 2011**

Kenyan Domestic Media Monitoring

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1. International Criminal Court: new prosecution evidence against suspects of 2007 post-election violence

“ICC dossier on Kenya links State House to chaos”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

August 20th 2011

The Hague has released new prosecution evidence against the six men suspected of orchestrating the 2007 post-election violence. International Criminal Court prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo alleges that during the peak of the violence, members of the outlawed Mungiki sect were transported to the State House to plan attacks. Ocampo says that members of the illegal group were then transported in military trucks to carry out the killings. Ocampo will try to convince the judges to commit Deputy Prime Minister Uhuru Kenyatta, Civil Service Head Francis Muthaura and Postmaster General Hussein Ali to a full trial for crimes against humanity. Eldoret Noth MP William Ruto and Tinderet MP Henry Kosgey will answer to charges of organising a militia to kill and evict people. Radio presenter Joshua Sang faces charges of spreading hate speech and directing people on where to attack. The confirmation hearings will start on September 1st.

2. Human Rights Watch accuses Kenyan police of raping and extorting Somali refugees

“Rights report accuses police of raping Somalis seeking refuge”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

August 16th 2011

The Human Rights Watch issued a report accusing Kenyan police of human rights violations including gang raping and extorting money from refugees. The report also accused the Kenyan government of providing military assistance to Somali militias without bothering to ensure accountability for abuses perpetrated by their troops or by the militias they support.

3. World Bank report on the rising price of food and its impact on the food crisis in the Horn of Africa

“World Bank sounds alert on food prices”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

August 17th 2011

According to the World Bank, the price of maize in the Horn of Africa has doubled over the last year. In Kenya, the price has increased by 89 per cent. While the Horn of Africa’s current food crisis was triggered by droughts, food prices at near record highs have also contributed to the situation, said the recent World Bank Report. The UN has declared the drought the worst in 60 years and the refugee situation as the worst humanitarian crisis seen in the Horn of Africa.

4. Kenyan government: new bills on citizenship and immigration; cabinet proposes to drop affirmative action measure for women

“Kenyan cabinet approves bills in deadline rush”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

August 20th 2011

In a meeting chaired by President Kibaki, the cabinet approved the Urban Areas and Cities Bill, the Environment and Land Court Bill, the Kenya Citizens and Foreign Nationals Bill as well as the Citizenship and Immigration Bill. The last two create laws related to births and deaths, identification and the registration of persons. The Citizenship and Immigration Bill provides a legal framework to administer matters of citizenship, travel documents, and immigration. After

publication, the bills will be tabled in parliament for debate.

** This is of particular interest due to the influx of Somali refugees into Kenya and various government promises to provide the refugees with Kenyan citizenship.*

“Storm rages over proposal to drop women seats”

Daily Nation, privately-owned newspaper

August 20th 2011

A Cabinet plan to drop the requirement that a third of elective posts be held by women caused uproar on Friday, notably at a national women’s constitutional conference.

Catherine Muma of the Commission for the Implementation of the Constitution says she fears this amendment would open the “floodgates” to other changes “which could mutilate the Constitution.”

5. Presidential Election: Prime Minister Raila ahead in the polls
– question over the poll’s validity

“Raila remains the candidate to beat in 2012 elections”

The Standard, privately-owned newspaper

August 16th 2011

A new opinion poll by Smart Octopus surveyed 2,000 Kenyans last month. The results suggest that Prime Minister Raila Odinga is still the most popular of the presidential candidates but that he would lose the election if placed up against an alliance between Deputy PM and Finance Minister Uhuru Kenyatta and Eldoret North MP William Ruto. [Both members of the alliance are suspects in the International Criminal Court’s case concerning crimes against humanity committed during the 2007 post-election violence].

The polling firm’s officials quickly defended themselves against accusations of having being financed by people wanting to skew the outcome of the poll.