



RWANDA DOMESTIC MEDIA MONITOR REPORT FOR THE WEEK OF: JUNE 29TH-JULY 5TH, 2011

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A. PAUL KAGAME RECEIVES CHELLO HUMANITARIAN AWARD

Radio Rwanda—2 July: President Kagame receives Chello award (state-owned source)

Rwandan President Paul Kagame was the recipient of the British Chello Foundation award for Humanitarianism this weekend. According to Chello chairman Shane O’Neill, President Kagame has proven to be “one of the most progressive African leaders,” as a result of his “exemplary leadership in the fields of education, promotion of women, and health care.”

ORINFOR website—2 July: President Paul Kagame receives Humanitarian Award from Chello Foundation (state-owned source)

President Kagame was yesterday awarded the Chello Foundation Humanitarian Award 2011 for his “outstanding leadership of the Republic of Rwanda since 1994”, according to chairman Shane O’Neill. In a statement on the event issued by the President’s office, Rwanda under Kagame’s leadership has transformed into a nation that is globally recognized for its rapid socio-economic development; areas of improvement have included education—where 96% of children are enrolled in school—and the decrease in the prevalence of Aids—from 11.2% to 3% since Kagame took office in 1994.

At the ceremony, former British Prime Minister Tony Blair introduced President Kagame as “an inspirational leader for Africa and for people around the world.”

B. UN COURT TRANSFERS FIRST SUSPECT FOR TRIAL TO RWANDA

The New Times website—29 June: ICTR refers first trial to Rwanda (private, pro government source)

The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda has, for the first time, transferred a genocide suspect back to Rwanda for trial. The suspect, Jean Uwinkindi, was arrested in 2010 in Uganda on an ICTR indictment and has been detained in a facility in Arusha, Tanzania. The decision was made after the ICTR Referral Chambers determined that Rwanda “possesses the ability to accept and prosecute Uwinkindi’s case,” after making material changes in its laws and “adhering to internationally recognized fair trial standards enshrined in the ICTR Statute and other human rights institutes.”

Uwinkindi is a former pastor of the Pentecostal Church in the Kanzenze commune (Kigali-Rural prefecture) and was arrested in Uganda in June 2010. He is accused of being responsible for attacks against the Tutsi at the Kayenzi Church and at Biyimana and Rwankeri cellules. He is being charged with genocide, conspiracy to commit genocide, and extermination as a crime against humanity.

La Nouvelle Releve—5 July 2011: *The ICTR salutes capacity of Rwandan courts* (**state-owned source**)

In a decision announced on 28 June, the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda has, for the first time, transferred a fugitive of the 1994 Genocide back to Rwanda. The Rwandan government had previously requested that the Pentecostal pastor, Jean Uwinkindi, be tried in the country, but had been rejected five times. According to the ICTR, past requests were rejected due to the body's concern over the sanctity of the judicial process in Rwanda. This is just the third time that the ICTR has transferred suspects back to the country of jurisdiction; however, according to ICTR chef Hassan Bubacar Jallow, five more similar cases will be reviewed this month. The transfers are considered vital in the completion of the Tribunal's work before the deadline of 2014.

C. EXTRADITION OF AGATHE HABYARIMANA

Rwanda News Agency (RNA)—30 June 2011: *Extradition of Agathe Habyarimana-Decision to be reached on 28 September*

The Paris Court of Appeal will decide on 28 September the outcome of the extradition request by the Rwandan government of Agathe Habyarimana, the widow of former Rwandan President, Juvenal Habyarimana. She has been wanted by the Rwandan government since October 2009 for genocide and crimes against humanity through her alleged role as a head of the Hutu "akazu" party, thought to have initiated the 1994 genocide.

Habyarimana's lawyers, however, argue that the extradition request is largely political; they state that the ex-First Lady is willing to stand trial, but only in a court respectful of the rights of the defendant. For her part, Habyarimana told the Court that "everything is false" and that she is a "victim of manipulation and lies".

D. ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION

The New Times website—5 July: *Locals have restored their dignity-Kagame* (**private, pro-government source**)

President Paul Kagame, in a speech to commemorate Rwanda's Liberation struggle 17 years ago, said that the country has since shaken off a dark history and is embarking on a road to development. He noted that over the years, Rwanda has been able to confront persecutors on all fronts, and that at no time did Rwandans fear critics because they knew the truth was on their side. The President emphasized that Rwandans and only Rwandans can shape their destiny, although they will cooperate with any international actors who wish to help. The ceremony to mark the event was held at Amahoro National Stadium and included a parade by the Rwanda Defense Forces (RDF) and the Rwandan National Police.

E. MISCELLANEOUS

The New Times website—1 July: *New Times, Xinhua to strengthen ties* (**private, pro-government source**)

The New Times Publications and Chinese news agency Xinhua are set to deepen relations, announced during a meeting between both organizations' managing directors in Kimihurura. The plan will focus on strengthening their partnership through news exchange programmes and capacity building. The announcement comes on the same day that Xinhua opened a regional office in Kigali, which will report on events in Rwanda, Burundi, and western DR Congo.