

State Owned Media Sources

Zambia Daily Mail website—13 April 2011: Deputy Justice Minister says Zambia “not” harboring Rwandan genocide suspects

- Zambian Deputy Justice Minister Todd Chilembo said in an interview in Lusaka that Zambia is *not* harboring genocide suspects wanted by the Rwandan government, and is committed to upholding the statute of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR).
- The announcement was a response to the appeal last week by the Rwandan government to African countries to extradite or prosecute the 1994 Genocide suspects. According to Rwanda’s National Public Prosecution Authority (RNPPA), European countries have been more accommodating and cooperative in the matter of extradition than their African counterparts.
- Six genocide fugitives have been identified as living in Zambia, but no investigations have taken place so far. Similarly, six outstanding indictments have been issued to the Democratic Republic of Congo, five to Malawi, eight to Mozambique, three to Uganda, and one to the Ivory Coast.
- According to the RNPPA deputy prosecutor general, Hitiyaremye Alphonse, “we are not given reason as to why these African countries do not cooperate. Sometimes we feel that it is a lack of will, or maybe it is because these countries do not have the capacity to track these cases because most of the fugitives move from one place to another using forged documentation”.
- The Rwandan Genocide tracking unit has 1,059 total suspects, of which 104 have been indicted, 274 have been arrested and are ready for indictment, and 681 are outstanding and pending further investigation.

Privately Owned Media Sources

The New Times website—6 April 2011: Rwanda freezes assets of Libyan government-owned hotel

- The Rwandan government has frozen all assets belonging to LAICO Umubano, the management company in charge of the Hotel Laico, in Kacyiru, Rwanda.
- LAICO is a state-owned company, run through the Libya African Investment portfolio.
- The decision is in accordance with recent UN resolution 1973 to freeze the funds and financial assets owned and controlled by the Libyan government.

The New Times website—7 April 2011: Ex-Habyarimana adviser in court on charges of genocide

- Former foreign affairs advisor to President Juvenal Habyarimana is being charged by the Huye Intermediate Court with several charges relating to the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.
- Dr. Runyinya Barabwiriza is accused of masterminding the Genocide, forming a criminal gang, and distributing arms to the Interahamwe militia in the years leading up to the Genocide.
- According to the prosecution, in 1992 Barabwiriza allegedly founded a “Groupe de reflexion”, an assembly of intellectuals dedicated to planning how the genocide would be executed. He was denied bail by the court until the end of the trial, which will resume session on April 21st.

The Daily Nation (Kenyan privately-owned newspaper)—8 April 2011: UN chief calls for “speedy” arrest, trial of Rwandan genocide fugitives

- Ban Ki-moon, the UN Secretary-General has urged the international community to expedite the process of arresting and prosecuting the remaining fugitives of the 1994 Genocide.
- Mr Ban’s remarks came in a message to the UN office in Nairobi, Kenya, in honor of the International Day of Reflection on the genocide, in which more than a million people were massacred in 100 days. The guiding theme for this year’s commemoration is “upholding the truth, preserving our dignity”.
- So far, Kenya has surrendered 11 key suspects of Genocide, including wartime Prime Minister Jean Kambanda.

The New Times website—9 April 2011: Regional journalists’ body said welcomes media self-regulation

- In a recent cabinet meeting, a resolution passed by the Government of Rwanda will now allow media professionals to set up an independent body to oversee media self regulation.
- The move was welcomed by the East Africa Journalists Association (EAJA) as a change that will, according to EAJA secretary general, Omar Faruk, “promote freedom of the press...enhance media professionalism and credibility, hence the need for the government to act quickly and facilitate its being set up”.
- Until the process of setting up the self-regulatory body is initiated, the Media High Council will, however, continue to play the role of capacity building, advocacy, and handle accreditation and issuance of press cards.
- On April 13th, an eight-member committee was established to oversee the process of shifting responsibility to regulate the media from government to practitioners. The committee was selected at a meeting organized by the Ministry of Information, the former of whom will begin by adopting articles of association and setting up a code of ethics to guide the body.
- In a related article from April 16th, the government is also in the midst of filing a proposal to parliament to amend several laws (namely, the media law) to facilitate self-regulation of the media industry. The revised laws will allow journalists to form a press association that will issue codes covering journalistic ethics and editorial standards.
- Under the new standards, the association will arbitrate between the newspaper and the complainant in disputes and resort to law if necessary.
- The government has also devised a plan to change ORINFOR (The Rwandan Bureau of Information and Broadcasting) from a state to a public broadcaster.