

Rwanda Domestic Media Report (November 22-29, 2010)

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State-Owned Media Sources

*Rwandan Radio—22 November 2010: **Rwanda Burundi, Equatorial Guinea fail to sign UN non-proliferation treaty***

- Rwanda is one of three African countries that have refused to endorse a UN-initiated convention limiting the proliferation of ammunition in the Great Lakes region.
- The conference was held in Congo-Brazzaville; according to UN officials, the Rwandan delegation's reason for not signing was that it had not consulted with its superiors in Kigali.
- The eight countries who did sign the convention include: the Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Gabon, Chad, Angola, Sao Tome and Principe, Central African Republic and Cameroon
- According to UN officials, Rwanda failed to ratify due to "internal reasons."

Privately-Owned Media Sources

*RNA (Rwanda News Agency)—26 November 2010: **Rwandan opposition leader back in jail pending further investigations***

- A court decision ruled in favor of prosecutors in the case against opposition leader Victoire Ingabire over the issue of prolonging the latter's detention.
- Arrested on October 14<sup>th</sup>, she is currently nearing the end of her 30-day detention; prosecutors, however, insisted that she remain in jail, as it "is necessary to allow our international partners to act on the formal requests for legal assistance."
- Ingabire is charged with financing a terrorist group as well as causing state insecurity and divisionism. Specifically, she is accused of wiring money through Western Union to members of the FDLR from various European countries; including Switzerland and the Netherlands, these countries are expected to respond to the formal requests for evidence against Ingabire.

*The New Times website—27 November 2010: **Rwandan journalists told not to copy other countries***

- At a two-day conference held on National Dialogue on Media Development in Kigali, Rwandan journalists were advised to try to understand and address the unique problems in Rwanda and to stop "duplicating the journalism of other countries because it cannot work (in Rwanda)."
- According to Andrew Mwenda, founder and owner of the Ugandan-based magazine, *The Independent*, Rwanda has made remarkable achievements that have been hardly reported on in western media. For example, organizations such as Gallup, Transparency International, and the World Bank have consistently placed Rwanda among the best-governed countries in the world, and yet western media seek to portray a different image.

*Rwandan News Agency (RNA)—29 November 2010: US said to want details on Rwandan military operations*

- Citing WikiLeaks—a political whistleblower website—RNA reported that a cable sent out April 2009 to all U.S embassies including Kigali requested details on military operations and weapons, as well as more personal information on political leaders in the country. Documents allegedly leaked also show U.S Secretary of State Hilary Clinton requesting information on Rwandan government policy toward the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) and the International Criminal Court (ICC).
- These cables were among several hundred thousand leaked, reportedly authored by the U.S embassy. WikiLeaks released the cables to five news organizations: *The Guardian*, *The New York Times*, *El Pais*, *Der Spiegel*, and *Le Monde*.