

**Uganda domestic radio and newspapers, September 6th, 2010 (covering August 30th to September 5th 2010)**

**By Laura Schülke, MIGS reporter for Uganda**

**1) State-owned media**

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. August 30, 2010, in English**

**"UPC quits opposition coalition" by Barbara Among and Moses Mulondo**

- The Uganda People's Congress party, one of the five political parties that form the Inter-Party Cooperation, has opted out of the coalition over what it called irreconcilable reasons. While UPC wanted the IPC not to participate in any activities organized by the Electoral Commission, other members wanted the coalition to prepare for next year's elections as it continued to fight the commission.

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. August 31, 2010, in English**

**"Chaos, arrests mar NRM polls" by Steven Candia, Richard Adrama, Dradenya Amazia, John Semakula and Henry Nsubuga**

- Violence and chaos played out, and scores were arrested in yesterday's NRM primary elections. The exercise was riddled with irregularities, causing it to be aborted in several parts of the country. In Kibuku district, shots were fired and supporters of two rival camps attacked each other with knives.

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. September 4, 2010, in English**

**"FDC, DP form Kiboko squads" by John Semakula and Chris Ocowun**

- Opposition political parties have started forming youth squads to defend their interests during campaigns for the 2011 elections.
- Three parties have confirmed that they have formed youth brigades to counter the Kiboko Squad that is well known for dispersing opposition demonstrations, rallies and riots. The Kiboko Squad, vows to crash the opposition youths if they dare cause trouble. The police have also warned that they will arrest anyone who will disguise as a member of any of the brigades to cause violence during the elections.
- The government has always disassociated itself from the Kiboko Squad, which consists of men who wield canes during the city riots and beat up suspected rioters. The squad members say they are peace loving, ordinary citizens who will not sit by and watch, while the opposition members riot and disrupt business in the city.
- The Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) special campaign envoy, Reagan Okumu, said the brigades would also deal with soldiers and resident district commissioners (RDCs), who he accused of unlawfully interfering in elections.

**Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. September 1, 2010, in English**

- The Center for Domestic Violence Prevention executive director urges female journalists to be in the forefront in the fight against domestic violence in the country.

**Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. September 5, 2010, in English**

- Africa's first-ever refugee social-network has been launched in Uganda. The network is intended to help refugees and internally displaced persons trace their families or friends through mobile phones. The project, a brainchild of Erickson and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees will be managed by Refugees United, an international non-governmental organization.
- David Mikkelsen, co-founder of Refugees United, explained that the refugee social network would serve as a collaborative tool and empower refugees to become active in the society of missing families.

**Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. September 5, 2010, in English**

- Civil society organizations in Uganda, DR Congo, Central African Republic and Sudan are proposing to broadcast messages appealing to the Lord's Resistance Army rebels to put down their weapons and surrender. The organizers of the initiative said it is necessary for the militiamen to know there is a disarmament and reintegration program in place which can help them.
- In the past few months, there has also been an increase in the number of LRA teenagers to fuel the rebellion and regain strength. A few months ago, the US Senate announced that it would offer military aid to these countries to defeat the LRA, though no aid has come yet. In August, the Central African Republic asked France for help.

**2) Privately owned media**

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 1, 2010, in English**

**"IPC endorses Besigye for third battle with Museveni" by Gerald Bareebe and Emmanuel Mulondo**

- Forum for Democratic Change President Dr. Kizza Besigye was yesterday endorsed as a joint opposition flag bearer to lead the four parties to challenge President Museveni in 2011. Dr. Besigye, who has twice lost to Museveni, was presented to delegates of his party, the FDC, the Justice Forum Party, the Conservative Party and the Social Democratic Party at Namboole Stadium.
- The FDC leader sought to reassure opposition supporters that he can be an electable candidate on the third attempt. "I pray that we all appreciate that pushing a dictatorship from power is a challenging situation and it is not one man's mission," Dr Besigye said.
- Dr Besigye took 29% of the vote in 2001 when he stood under the Reform Agenda pressure group, and 37% in 2006 when he stood under the FDC. The Supreme Court found widespread irregularities in both elections but ruled, in 2006, that these were not substantial enough to change the outcome of the result.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 1, 2010, in English**

**"NRM primaries were an 'embarrassment'" [Author unknown]**

- When the NRM went to the polls on Monday to choose party flag bearers for parliamentary and local government positions, it was expected to be a moment of democratic celebration, considering that the voting was moving from the electoral colleges to the more-encompassing adult suffrage.
- However, judging from what transpired in most parts of the country, that day's events could as well go down as some of the saddest in Uganda's political history. The blatant

stuffing of ballot boxes, ministers being cornered with thousands of pre-ticked ballots, the total absence of voting materials in some areas, flawed voters registers that were sent to wrong parts of the country - all said one thing about this election - that it was a farce.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 4, 2010, in English**

**"Britain arrests top LRA negotiator" by Tabu Butagira**

- A former top envoy of the Lord's Resistance Army rebels at the failed Juba peace talks has been arrested at Heathrow International Airport in London. Mr. Willy Oryem was the last administrator of the LRA peace team.
- However, the permanent secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Amb. James Mugume said yesterday that Mr. Oryem is not among LRA suspects Uganda is pursuing.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 5, 2010, in English**

**"Kenyan Muslims oppose extradition of terror suspects" by Ridel Kasasira**

- The Muslim community in Kenya has protested the extradition of 11 July Kampala terror suspects from Kenya to Uganda. The Muslim Human Rights Forum (Mhrf), based in Kenya, said in a statement yesterday that the suspects, who were recently arrested in Tanzania and taken to Kenya, should not be brought to Kampala for trial.
- "Mhrf has learned with shock and dismay that Tanzania recently handed over two terrorism suspects to Kenya who are in turn in the process of handing them over to Uganda without any extradition proceedings taking place as the laws of the three countries require," the statement said.
- The coordinator of Mhrf, Al-Amin Kimathi described the transfer of the suspects to Uganda as kidnapping and abuse of human rights. "These disguised extradition amount to kidnappings by security agencies of the three countries and are a violation of the suspects' human rights, particularly their rights to fair trial," he said.