

**Uganda domestic radio and newspapers, February 21st, 2011 (covering February 14<sup>th</sup> 2011 to February 20<sup>th</sup> 2011)**

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

**1) State-owned media**

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. February 14, 2011, in English**

**"Interpol issues red notice for ADF leader" by Steven Candia**

- Jamil Mukulu, the mastermind of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) rebels faces arrest and possible extradition after the International Police (Interpol) issued a red notice for him in connection with terrorism.
- Interpol issued the notice for Mukulu and posted his photographs on its website, adding him on a list of hundreds of international fugitives wanted over terrorism. A red notice, one of the numerous notices that can be issued by Interpol, seeks the arrest or provisional arrest of wanted persons with a view to extradition.
- The issuance of the notice on request by Uganda is a culmination of efforts by the government to have Mukulu arrested and extradited. The issuance of the notice comes amid reports of the ADF regrouping, according to security sources.

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. February 15, 2011, in English**

**"Deployment is an assurance of safety" [Author unknown]**

- Civil society organizations have expressed concern over the heavy deployment of security across the country ahead of the general elections that kick off on Friday [18 February]. They argue that the presence of security personnel may scare away voters.
- While the civil society groups are free to voice their concerns, it is absurd that they are apparently living in the past where security agencies were synonymous with brutality. They might wish to know that state-inspired violence is part of Uganda's dark history and the country now has a relatively disciplined security force, both the army and the police.

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. February 15, 2011, in English**

**"Parliament Speaker kicks out 77 MPs" by Mary Karugaba**

- The Speaker of Parliament, Edward Ssekandi, has directed 77 MPs affected by the Constitutional Court ruling to vacate their seats immediately. Parliament spokesperson Helen Kawesa told New Vision yesterday that the members are also required to refund all the salary they had received since their nomination in November 2010.
- Ssekandi quoting article 83 1 (g) and (h) of the constitution, said by seeking re-election on the party tickets different from those on which they were elected in 2006, the members were deemed to have lost their seats on the day of nomination.

**The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. February 17, 2011, in English**

**"Museveni predicts landslide victory" by Milton Olupot**

- President Yoweri Museveni has said he will have a landslide victory in the presidential elections slated for tomorrow. "We have been winning elections when we had wars within the country. Now the whole country is peaceful. We shall win with a big

majority," he said. Museveni dismissed claims from the opposition political parties that the NRM was dishing out money to bribe voters.

- "Unless they are worried about our programs to modernize agriculture, we have been giving revolving funds to groups. If that is what they are talking about, yes, it is called the Prosperity-for-All Program."
- Museveni noted that the Egyptian scenario would not occur in Uganda because the government here was in touch with the people, and that there were transparent democratic practices.

**Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. February 19, 2011, in English**

- Voting ends at all polling stations countrywide and counting of votes has started.
- Uganda Red Cross gives emergency care to 11 people injured in clashes between armed men and supporters of incumbent Budadiri West MP Nandali Mafabi.
- Police in Nwoya District arrest former chairman of Lord's Resistance Army rebels' peace delegation over allegations that he was bribing voters.
- Senior presidential advisor on political affairs commends Electoral Commission for organizing a peaceful election.
- More than 40 people were arrested for alleged involvement in voter bribery.

**Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. February 20, 2011, in English**

- Less than 10 out of 1117 districts have reported cases of poll violence. Police say offenders have been arrested, or already charged.
- Mbarara District poll official says campaigns, polling days ended peacefully.
- IPC presidential flag bearer Besigye rules out going to court if he loses presidential bid.

**2) Privately owned media**

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 17, 2011, in English**

**"Register has 140,000 dead voters - report" by Tabu Butagira & Sheila Naturinda**

- The National Voters Register to be used for tomorrow's presidential and parliamentary elections likely contains 139,541 dead persons, more than half a million "unknown people" and 1.9 million voters who have since changed location, a new report shows.
- The Electoral Commission, however, said the highlighted anomalies, part of several others, were not enough to damage the credibility of the register to be used to identify voters to participate in the elections.
- Democracy Monitoring Group (DEMG), a consortium of four civil society organizations, says they carried out field surveys from 6 January to 8 February and another on 27 January to 5 February, and found at least 418,623 of the registered voters are foreigners.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 18, 2011, in English**

**"Police arrest 45 FDC polling agents in Ntungamo District" by Robert Mwanje and Perez Rumanzi**

- At least 45 Forum for Democratic Change polling agents have been arrested at Kataraka village, Ntungamo District over alleged bribery of voters, which they deny as a trumped-up charge.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 18, 2011, in English**

**"Stick-wielding police storm Gulu streets" by James Eriku**

- The thrills of the campaign-ender on Wednesday turned into chills as police personnel wielding sticks and AK47 rifles literally took over the streets of Gulu Town.
- The deployment took most residents by surprise. Some told Daily Monitor that the sight reminds them of the LRA days when insecurity was at its peak in the region. They also said the blanket deployment is intimidating ahead of Friday's polls.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 18, 2011, in English**

**"Two killed during election skirmishes in eastern Uganda" [Author unknown]**

- State Minister for Housing Michael Werikhe and Mbale district chairman, Bernard Mujasi, are engaged in running battles that have so far cost two lives. Mujasi visited the area where voter bribery was reportedly taking place. Instead of addressing the malpractice, police reportedly wanted to beat Mujasi who then drove away leading to a chase between him and Werikhe's supporters.
- During the chase, Werikhe's vehicles knocked two people dead and injured four others at forestry area just near Mbale town.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 20, 2011, in English**

**"Museveni in lead with over 70 per cent votes" by Emmanuel Gyezaho and Sheila Naturinda**

- Provisional results released by the Electoral Commission yesterday showed incumbent Yoweri Museveni in the lead and the frame for a fourth elective term in office. The electoral body had received results from 10,324 polling stations out of the total 23,968 countrywide.
- Mr. Museveni, the ruling party's presidential flag bearer, had received at least 71.38 per cent of the vote while his closest and three time challenger Dr Kizza Besigye of the Interparty Cooperation was staring defeat, trailing in second place with 22.92 per cent of the vote.
- Of the votes submitted, Mr. Museveni received 2,432,864 votes while Dr Besigye has garnered 781,353 votes. In third place stood Uganda People's Congress candidate Olara Otunnu, who curiously did not participate in yesterday's polling. He received 70,611 votes, while in fourth place stood Mr. Nibert Mao, the Democratic Party candidate with 50,027 votes, followed by the only female candidate in the race, Ms Beti Olive Kamya of the Uganda Federal Alliance with 20,316 votes.
- The results show Mr. Museveni has gained support in key opposition strong holds, areas where he has previously performed poorly. The NRM leader, whose campaign rode on the promise of transforming Uganda into a middle income country, emerged victorious in several urban areas as well as in the sub-regions of Busoga, Acholi and West Nile.
- Mr. Mao emerged victorious in the northern Uganda district of Gulu, where he has been serving as district chairman.

- Some 13,954,129 million people were registered to take part in the country's second multiparty election in more than two decades with observers noting a high voter turnout of more than 70percent.

**The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. February 20, 2011, in English**

**Ugandan main opposition party rejects poll results [Text of statement by Inter-Party Cooperation of presidential candidate DrKizza Besigye]**

- “The election was characterized by:
  - a) An obscene and open use of money to corrupt the whole process. The unprecedented bribery no doubt subverted the will of people. To clarify the extent, 76 out of 80 districts we have sampled reported this kind of bribery.
  - b) Multiple voting and ballot stuffing resulting from use of bloated voters register. In the 80 districts we sampled more than half reported this malpractice.
  - c) Voters turned away without voting. This was reported in 61 out of 80 districts.
  - d) Biased presiding officers and polling assistants as a result of appointment of movement cadres into the electoral commission system. [...]
  - f) Widespread deployment of armoured vehicles and troops in the whole country who were even patrolling polling areas and causing fear in the population.
  - g) Arrests, detention and removal of our polling agents from polling station. This was reported in 34 of the 80 districts sampled so far.
  - h) Pre-ticked ballots in favor of Museveni were caught outside polling stations in 28 out of 80 districts sampled.
  - i) In 19 out of 80 districts we received reports of ghost polling stations.
- An election conducted under such environment cannot reflect the will of the people. Clearly the institutions of the state charged with the management of the election have failed the country. We therefore categorically reject the outcome of the elections. We also have resolved to consult other political actors, religious leaders, civil society and the public to determine how to bring an end to the illegitimate government that may be installed there by bringing the country back to the path of constitutional rule. We will keep the country informed of the next steps. [...]