

Uganda domestic radio and newspapers, September 13th, 2010 (covering September 6th to September 12th 2010)

By Laura Schülke, MIGS reporter for Uganda

1) State-owned media

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. September 8, 2010, in English

"I am not going anywhere -Kiggundu" by Joel Ogwang

- The head of the Electoral Commission, Dr. Badru Kiggundu, has chided his critics, branding them as "irresponsible and cowardly jokers". Reacting to wild calls from the opposition for him to resign, Kiggundu said the EC was keen on democracy and would organize free and fair elections in 2011.
- Constitutionally, it is the president who appoints the head of the electoral body, after approval from parliament. The opposition has, however, accused Kiggundu of favoring the ruling NRM party.
- Youth from the opposition called for the EC chairman to resign. They also queried the EC's claims that over 14 million Ugandans had registered to vote. "We know that 77 per cent of (the 33 million) Ugandans are below 30 years; where did you get those 14 million registered voters?"

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. September 8, 2010, in English

"Kayihura warns militias" by John Semakula and Henry Nsubuga

- Police head Maj-Gen Kale Kayihura has assured Ugandans that the force will provide the necessary security to ensure that the 2011 general elections are held in a free and fair environment. Kayihura said the force had recruited more officers and equipped them with the necessary skills to ensure that there is law and order during the polls.
- He condemned militia groups, which he said have invaded Uganda's politics in the name of providing security during the election period. He said the police were ready to deal with the squads if they dared to cause violence. He distanced the police from the actions of the Kiboko Squad, a group of men who wield sticks and beat up people during city riots.
- Some political party leaders regularly blame the police for orchestrating violence by using excessive force against unarmed members of the public.

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. September 8, 2010, in English

"Museveni blasts NRM leaders as youth fight at Namboole" by Henry Mukasa and Milton Olupot

- President Yoweri Museveni last night lashed out at NRM political leaders who perpetuated violence and bribed voters during the party's primary elections.
- The president, who was addressing NRM special interest groups at Namboole Stadium, warned that any politician who engages in violence, sectarianism and bribery is an enemy to the party and could go to jail.

The New Vision (state-owned, mass-circulation daily) website. September 11, 2010, in English

"Shaykhs condemn Al-Shabab attacks" [Author unknown]

- Muslim leaders in Uganda yesterday condemned terrorists attacks by Somali Islamic insurgents, the Al-Shabab, saying they had departed from the true message of Prophet Muhammad and began fighting wars that are offending Allah. In instructive speeches at different mosques, several sheikhs stressed that Islam is a religion of peace and blamed Al-Shabab for hiding behind the faith to shed "innocent" blood.
- Meanwhile, Muslim leaders also rebuked the NRM party over violence that marred its primaries. Mufti Shabban Mubajje noted that the violence pointed to a bloody situation come the general elections next year. He asked President Yoweri Museveni to punish whoever engaged in rigging.

Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. September 6, 2010, in English

- President Museveni has said he regrets the anomalies that have marred the ruling National Resistance Movement (NRM) party elections.
- Army spokesman has said security guidelines for the 2011 general elections have been issued. The spokesman said the police will be in charge of security matters but the army can be called upon to help.

Uganda Broadcasting Corporation (UBC) Radio Kampala, 0400 GMT. September 9, 2010, in English

- Uganda Human Rights Commission is investigating the Minister of State for Agriculture for torture.

2) Privately owned media

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 9, 2010, in English

"Al-Shabab threaten to attack Kampala again" by Risdal Kasasira

- Somali militant group Al-Shabab has threatened to attack Kampala again if Uganda sends more peacekeepers to Mogadishu. A senior member of the terrorist outfit, according to Shabelle News told hundreds of worshipers in a mosque in Mogadishu that President Museveni was the cause of instability in Somalia.
- But the army spokesperson, Lt-Col Felix Kulayigye, said threats would not divert Uganda's zeal to keep peace in Somalia. Uganda recently sent the additional troops to reinforce the thin presence of the African Union peacekeepers in Mogadishu. Uganda and Burundi make a bulk of 7,000 African peacekeepers.
- Three days before the deadly 11 July attacks, Al-Shabab warned that they would attack Kampala - a threat they lived up to.

The Daily Monitor (leading privately-owned newspaper) website. September 10, 2010, in English

"Government withdraws Tullow's oil license" by Ismail Musa Ladu

- The government has withdrawn Tullow Oil's exploration license for an oil field in western Uganda, after it emerged that the former has not renewed its mandate to exploit the country's most valuable natural resources.
- The withdrawn license is for Block 3A in the Albertine Graben, where some of the country's largest oil finds have been realized.