



[The Hague - Kenya argued on Thursday that putting its top two leaders on trial before the International Criminal Court could compromise security in the often volatile east African region. The indictments for crimes against humanity against Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy William Ruto "create particular problems in the context of regional peace and security", Kenya's attorney-general Githu Muigai said. Muigai was speaking on the second day of an annual meeting of the Hague-based ICC's member states, during a session to discuss whether heads of states should be given immunity from prosecution.]

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

**Uganda hands over Congolese fighters**

Date: Nov 21, 2013/By Cecilia Okoth and Raymond Baguma/newvision.co.ug

Uganda has handed to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) over 46 children affected by recent fighting in Congo.

According to Government spokesperson Ofwono Opondo, the children were screened and verified from a part of a group of over 1,600 M23 fighters who surrendered recently to the Ugandan military and are currently held in a military cantonment in Kasese district.

Lucy Beck, the associate External Relations Officer for UNHCR Mbarara Sub-Office said that although the children were screened from the surrendered fighters, they were found to be civilian and handed over to UNHCR.

"They are all unaccompanied minors and as such as need special attention and protection," said Beck.

The transfer of the fighters to Kasese came after the Congolese FARDC forces backed by the UN Intervention Brigade, drove M23 from its strongholds in eastern DR Congo.

The signing of a peace agreement between the DRC government and M23 was put off after disagreement cropped up over the terms and conditions.

The Congolese government objected to signing a truce with M23 on grounds that there was no peace agreement to sign with a group which had denounced war.

There have been reports of Congo demanding Uganda to handover M23 military head Sultani Makenga to face trial for crimes committed in Congo. However, Ofwono said he was not aware of any such demand from the Congolese.

"Uganda cannot hand over anybody yet," Ofwono said, in a phone interview with The New Vision.

Recently, Ofwono said that Uganda does not expect demands to hand over directly people who have surrendered, to the DRC government. He said Uganda would follow international law, conventions and protocols governing people who have fled danger in their countries.

According to Musa Ecweru, the State Minister for Relief and Disaster Preparedness, there are currently over 236, 000 Congolese refugees currently living in Uganda in the refugee settlements in Hoima, Arua, Isingiro, and Kamwenge districts.

Beck said that the UN body is not involved with the issue of M23 fighters because they have not sought asylum in Uganda.

UNHCR refused to comment on the asylum status of Makenga who is currently in Uganda under the protection of the military.

"In regards to the status of individual members of the M23 leadership – as an organisation our highest duty is to the asylum-seekers and refugees we serve. For this reason we never discuss individual cases - even to confirm or deny whether someone has filed an application with us. I am sure you can understand this is for the protection of the individuals themselves," said Beck.

SOUTH AFRICA :

## Reds and Boers may yet direct South Africa's future

by Anthony Butler/bdlive.co.za/22 novembre 2013

THIRTY years ago, political debate in South Africa revolved around two illusory threats: enduring apartheid domination under National Party (NP) hardliners, and the "red peril" of the South African Communist Party (SACP). This construal of the country's political challenges refuses to go away.

African National Congress (ANC) deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa last week warned a Limpopo audience that the "Boers" might yet "come back to control us". Meanwhile, rumours about the danger posed to South Africa by a resurgent SACP continue to circulate in Democratic Alliance (DA) circles.

Before dismissing such claims as scaremongering, it is worth contemplating whether they contain an element of truth.

The DA, after all, grew rapidly not by advancing liberal values but by absorbing a chunk of the disintegrating NP. Many of the party's funders are white Afrikaners and many DA electors are black Afrikaners.

The ANC is also deeply influenced by former NP leaders. The movement's fundraising arm, the Progressive Business Forum, is run by former "Nats". The idea behind the forum is fairly straightforward: foreign and domestic business alike must donate to the ANC if they want to do business with the state. Or, in President Jacob Zuma's way of putting it, good fortune tends to shine on businesspeople who give money to the movement.

What about the red team? Many historians have claimed that the SACP had an iron grip over the exiled ANC. This is nonsense: if someone had been controlling the ANC, it would have developed some coherent policies and taken some actual decisions.

The SACP recruited the best and the brightest so it was widely represented in the top tier of the ANC leadership. But it was primarily an organisational rather than an ideological vehicle.

What about today? Part of the fallout from the campaign against former president Thabo Mbeki's proposed third term was a huge purge of his loyalists from the SACP in 2007.

For the first time in its history, the key role players in the SACP, such as Blade Nzimande, Jeremy Cronin, and Sdumo Dlamini (central committee member and Cosatu president), now have vaguely leftist ideological leanings.

Earlier this week, Dlamini launched a sweeping broadside against his National Union of Metalworkers of South Africa enemies, who have tried to outflank him on the left. "With every day that passes," he boldly claimed, "glaring evidence faces everyone in the world about the correctness of socialist alternatives and the Marxist-Leninist view of the world as the only scientific theory to analyse the crisis facing contemporary capitalism."

Divisions within Cosatu have been fuelled by SACP manipulation. SACP leaders in the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), in particular, are now very active in ANC politics: Gwede Mantashe is ANC secretary-general; NUM president Senzeni Zokwana (national chairman of the SACP) is a pervasive presence on ANC subcommittees. The NUM general secretary and his deputy are both SACP central committee members.

The NUM's public sector union allies are also SACP-linked. The godfather of the South African

Democratic Teachers Union, Thulas Nxesi, is deputy chairman of the SACP (and, rather hilariously, the Cabinet minister charged with stamping out corruption in public works). The health workers' union is also headed by an SACP politburo member.

Communist leaders in the Cabinet are mostly competent, but they are much more leftist in orientation than SACP ministers under Mbeki.

We should not exaggerate the resurgent power of the Boers and the Reds. But where these two factions overlap in their values and preferences — for example, in their ambivalence about liberal democracy and their instinctive support for parastatal power and state-driven development — they may yet exert an important influence over South Africa's economic and political future.

TANZANIA :

### Tanzania faces 68% power tariff hikes

November 22 2013/By Fumbuka Ng'wanakilala/Reuters

Dar Es Salaam - Tanzania's state-owned power utility was seeking a 67.9 percent hike in electricity tariffs to tackle rising power generation costs, a senior official said this week.

Years of sustained drought have cut hydroelectric output, forcing the company to rely on oil-fired power plants and causing in substantial cost rises.

Tanesco's acting managing director, Felchesmi Mramba, said the financially strapped utility made a loss of 178 billion shillings (R21bn) last year, deteriorating from a 43 billion shillings loss a year earlier.

"If we don't raise power tariffs, our company will not be able to meet costs of running oil-fired power plants," Mramba said, noting that the cost of generation currently exceeded total revenues.

He added: "Without bringing Tanesco to financial sustainability by raising power tariffs, the company will not be able to repay its bank loans and this will also affect its ability to secure new loans."

Tanesco sells electricity at an average price of 197.81 shillings per unit of power, but wants to raise it to 332.06 shillings a unit.

Mramba said the firm was in the final stages of securing a 408 billion shillings syndicated loan from local commercial banks to finance its operations.

Oil-fired power stations make up 45 percent of generation costs, followed by gas-fired plants at 42 percent and hydropower plants at 13 percent.

The International Monetary Fund said this month that one of Tanzania's main priorities was to make its power sector financially sustainable so it could maintain steady economic growth and stem fiscal pressures in the next two years.

Completion of a 532km natural gas pipeline from the south-east of the country to Dar es Salaam would lower power generation costs by allowing the utility to switch to gas-fired plants, Mramba

said. The pipeline would be ready by December next year. – Reuters

KENYA :

ICC trials may threaten regional security – Kenya  
2013-11-22/ AFP

The Hague - Kenya argued on Thursday that putting its top two leaders on trial before the International Criminal Court could compromise security in the often volatile east African region.

The indictments for crimes against humanity against Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy William Ruto "create particular problems in the context of regional peace and security", Kenya's attorney-general Githu Muigai said.

Muigai was speaking on the second day of an annual meeting of the Hague-based ICC's member states, during a session to discuss whether heads of states should be given immunity from prosecution.

"Kenya is the lynchpin in the peace and security of more than 250 million people from Djibouti to the eastern Congo. Kenya is one of the most important pillars in eastern Africa" in the fight against terror, drug trafficking and piracy, Muigai said.

He stressed: "It is not in our humble view a country... the international community should play Russian roulette with."

The United States, Britain and Israel have long had close military and intelligence ties with Nairobi.

Kenya plays a major part in regional military efforts to stamp out al-Qaeda-linked militants who have turned neighbouring Somalia into a major global jihadist hub.

The Shabaab group carried out an attack on a Nairobi mall that killed at least 67 people in September in retaliation for Kenya's involvement in Somalia.

Political unrest

The annual meeting in The Hague is turning into a forum for some African countries to vent their frustration with the world's only permanent court for crimes against humanity and war crimes.

Delegates from the court's 122 member states on Thursday afternoon listened to a special debate on whether the ICC's founding treaty, the Rome Statute, should be changed to say that heads of state cannot be prosecuted while serving in office.

The ICC's Assembly of States Parties (ASP) debate comes at the behest of the African Union which has accused the court of racism because all its current cases involve Africans.

Kenyatta and Ruto are accused of fomenting political unrest in which more than 1 100 people were killed and hundreds of thousands displaced following a disputed 2007 election.

"Africa is worried about the proceedings initiated against sitting heads of states," the AU's legal

representative Djeneba Diarra told delegates.

"We believe indictments could pose a threat to stability and democracy in countries such as in Kenya," Diarra warned.

Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir is also wanted by the ICC for genocide in Darfur.

– AFP

### Refugee world: Kenya camp illustrates a global problem

November 19, 2013/Pittsburgh Post-Gazette

The situation of the East African nation of Kenya face to face with an out-of-control camp of Somali refugees at Dadaab is a signal that the current refugee situation is reaching a problem level stretching the world's capacity to cope.

Dadaab was established in Kenya near the Kenya-Somalia border in 1991, to try to deal with a substantial flow of refugees from Somalia in the wake of the collapse of government and uptick in fighting there. It is hard to measure the degree to which the refugees' displacement from Somalia to Kenya was due to economic reasons as opposed to political developments in that troubled country.

The fighting, and corresponding economic collapse, in Somalia has continued intermittently ever since and the population of Dadaab has risen from its original, anticipated 90,000 to a number estimated at 500,000. The United Nations says it has no idea how many residents the camps have now. In addition, many Somalis in Kenya have settled in the Eastleigh section of Kenya's capital, Nairobi.

The terrorists who attacked the Westgate shopping mall in Nairobi in September, killing 67, were Somalis living in Dadaab and Eastleigh. Some of the refugee families in Dadaab are now in their third generation.

Apart from the refugees in Kenya, there are also still Somalis claiming that status from the 1977-78 Ogaden war. Some refuse to return to Somalia and some even to be counted since the result might be a reduction in their benefits.

Apart from the Somalis, there are also thousands of Syrian refugees in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, displaced Sudanese still in Darfur and refugees who are remnants of other wars around the globe, including the dissolution of Yugoslavia in the 1990s.

The problems for the world are, first, the heavy burden large numbers of refugees place on countries that accept them; second, the financial cost to the international community of supporting them in their places of refuge; and, third, the reluctance of many of them to return to their countries of origin even after things have calmed down, particularly if they fled for economic reasons.

The question may be, when is a refugee really simply an illegal immigrant? There are rules defining refugee status, but it may be that situations like Dadaab in Kenya now require a careful review of those rules.

ANGOLA :

### Angola: Officials Implicated in Killing Protest Organizers

November 22, 2013/hrw.org

#### Fully Investigate Murders; Allow Peaceful Demonstrations

(Johannesburg) – Angolan authorities should prosecute all state security officials responsible for the killing of two protest organizers who have been missing since May 2012, Human Rights Watch said today. A confidential Interior Ministry report leaked to the Angolan media on November 9, 2013, which Human Rights Watch believes is authentic, described the role of police and the domestic intelligence service, SINSE, in the abduction, torture, and killing of António Alves Kamuningue and Isaiás Cassule.

The Angolan attorney-general's office announced an investigation and said that four unidentified officials have been arrested. On November 14, President José Eduardo Dos Santos dismissed the intelligence service director, Sebastião Martins.

“The awful truth about what happened to two people who organized a protest in Angola over unpaid salaries and pensions is finally coming to light,” said Leslie Lefkow, deputy Africa director at Human Rights Watch. “The investigation into the brutal killing of Kamuningue and Cassule will only be meaningful if the government makes a strong commitment to prosecute everyone responsible regardless of rank or position.”

Kamuningue and Cassule, members of the ad hoc United Patriotic Movement (MPU), were separately abducted by unidentified assailants after they organized a protest on May 27, 2012, in Luanda by former presidential guards and war veterans over complaints of unpaid salaries and pensions.

The Angolan online news site Club-K.net, drawing from the leaked document, reported that members of the presidential guard arrested Kamuningue on May 27 and took him to a police station in central Luanda, where he was tortured and eventually killed by a gunshot to the head. His body was left in woods outside the city.

Human Rights Watch research in 2012 found that Cassule was abducted on May 29 while seeking information about Kamuningue's disappearance. Alberto Santos, who was with Cassule, told Human Rights Watch he saw six men drag Cassule into a car. Santos managed to escape and went into hiding but was arrested in March 2013 and detained for six months without charge. Club-K.net reported that Cassule was severely beaten for two days, killed, and his body thrown in a river.

The revelations about the killings have sparked unusual political turmoil in Angola. The country's main opposition party, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola (UNITA), has called for a public demonstration on November 23 to demand that President Dos Santos step down because of his alleged responsibility for the killings. The ruling People's Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) condemned the killings in a statement but warned that UNITA is trying to “create chaos” and is “preparing a new civil war.”

Since 2011, a small, peaceful movement of Angolan activist groups inspired by popular uprisings in the Middle East has sought to protest corruption, restrictions on free speech and other rights, and rising inequality in the oil-rich country.

Over the past two years the Angolan police and security agents have repeatedly used intimidation,

harassment, and excessive force to suppress peaceful protests, generating concerns that the upcoming demonstration could also face a violent crackdown, Human Rights Watch said.

The state media have repeatedly called campaigns calling for any antigovernment protest an attempt to “wage war,” an unfortunate allegation in a country whose long civil war ended just a decade ago, Human Rights Watch said. Journalists and other observers who seek to document the protests and the government’s response have been regularly harassed, detained, and sometimes mistreated.

“The Angolan government should recognize that many people are rightly angered and frustrated by these murders and the long record of crimes by the security forces that have gone unpunished,” Lefkow said. “These concerns need to be addressed openly and lawfully, and not by suppressing protests yet again with intimidation and violence.”

AU/AFRICA :

**Africa News Round Up, November, Friday 22, 2013**

November 22, 2013/by Administrator/independent.co.ug

Kenya government officials have said the International Criminal Court’s case against its two highest elected officials risked destabilizing the entire east African region Reuters reports

At a debate to discuss the crisis resulting from the court’s cases against President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy William Ruto, the Kenyan attorney-general said the court and its member states were playing “Russian roulette” with the country.

“Our country is the linchpin in the peace and security involving more than 250 million people from Djibouti to Eastern Congo and everybody in between,” Githu Muigai told a special debate called at the request of the African Union.

He said Kenya – an ally of the West in the fight against militant Islam in neighboring Somalia – was a “pillar of security” in Eastern Africa, to loud applause from many African delegates at the conference.

Kenya is pressing the ICC’s members for an immediate change in the rules to say that heads of state do not have to attend trials, part of a broader campaign to halt the cases against its political leaders.

Officials also want a longer-term amendment to the founding treaty that would ban the prosecution of heads of state, a campaign which has become a rallying point in Africa, where many leaders say they are the target of an overzealous court in The Hague.

“Africa feels marginalized, like toddlers, whom the international community feels has never learned to walk,” Kenyan Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed told Reuters on Wednesday.

Last week, the African Union lost its bid to have the U.N. Security Council defer the cases for a year so the two could deal with the aftermath of an attack on a shopping mall by al Qaeda-linked Somali militants.

Kenya said the outcome highlighted the need for reform of the Security Council to prevent a few powerful nations imposing their will on the world. It pledged to continue its fight at the ICC’s



annual meeting in The Hague, which started on Wednesday.

Human rights groups oppose the proposed changes as well as apparent compromise solutions such as a British proposal that would make it easier for the accused to participate via video link, saying these would weaken the court's mission to bring to justice those ultimately responsible for war crimes.

"The amendments represent an attempt to recreate the ICC in the image of African justice," said George Kegoro, executive director of the Kenyan section of the International Commission of Jurists.

"Timid, pliable and serving the comfort of leaders rather than justice for victims."

In the Central African Republic, US officials have cast doubt on reports that Ugandan rebel leader Joseph Kony is negotiating his surrender, the BBC reports.

A US State Department official told the BBC that some rebels had been in contact but Kony was not among them.

However, CAR officials later insisted that Kony, who is wanted for alleged war crimes, has been in talks with their government.

The US has offered up to \$5m (£3.3m) for leads resulting in his arrest.

The US official also noted that Kony had previously used "any and every pretext to rest, regroup, and rearm, ultimately returning to kidnapping, killing, displacing and otherwise abusing civilian populations".

Kony was on the verge of signing a peace deal in 2008 but insisted that the International Criminal Court (ICC) first drop its arrest warrant, which it refused to do.

On Wednesday, a CAR government spokesman told the BBC that Kony was in the country but wanted his security to be guaranteed before giving himself up.

According to AFP news agency, CAR leader Michel Djotodia, said: "Joseph Kony wants to come out of the bush. We are negotiating with him."

BBC Africa security correspondent Moses Rono says this is not the first time that a breakthrough has been reported with the LRA.

But he says that Kony is now a shadow of his former self, reportedly in fading health, having lost many fighters and operating in a volatile region, with armed gangs keen to earn the \$5m reward.

Elsewhere in the Central African Republic, France has warned that the country is on the verge of genocide, France24 reports.

This comes as the UN considers sending thousands of peacekeepers to the strife-torn country.

"It's total disorder," French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius told France 2 television, adding that the United Nations was considering authorising African and French troops to intervene in the country.

“You have seven surgeons for a population of five million, an infant mortality rate of 25 percent in some areas and 1.5 million people who have nothing, not even food, and armed gangs, bandits, etc,” he said.

The former French colony, an impoverished country rich in natural resources ranging from gold to uranium, has descended into chaos since a coalition of rebels known as Seleka ousted President Francois Bozize in March.

There are about 400,000 internally displaced people, 64,000 refugees, and burned villages, largely in the western part of the country.

Since seizing power aided by the Seleka alliance, transitional President Michel Djotodia has failed to control the ex-rebel fighters despite being officially dissolved.

In Libya, CNN reports militias surrendered their Tripoli bases to the military on Thursday, nearly a week after growing public anger over the presence of armed groups in the capital sparked deadly clashes.

In a series of ceremonies across the coastal city, militias from Tripoli as well as smaller towns such as Zintan handed over their bases to the authorities, including the Ministry of Defence and Libyan air force. These included the Mitiga airbase, as well as the Islamic Call Center.

Public anger has been growing over the armed groups’ refusal to disarm in the two years since they toppled the North African country’s longtime leader, Moammar Gadhafi.

Last Friday, Tripoli residents marched on the headquarters of militias from the city of Misrata. The militia opened fire on unarmed demonstrators, unleashing heavy clashes that left 47 people dead and more than 500 injured in the worst violence in the city in two years.

Government officials attending the ceremonies nonetheless praised the handover as a major step toward building the Libyan state and its security forces.

During a press conference at one of the ceremonies, Prime Minister Ali Zeidan lashed out at a reporter who asked whether the government had guarantees the handovers were real, and not ceremonial.

“We are not joking here, we are not in a theater to be acting” Zeidan said. “We are serious about this. ... We have a duty to fulfill and we will fulfill it God willing. The weapons that were in the hands of these groups was the security threat and now this threat has disappeared”.

While many Libyans welcomed the move toward disarming militias, the real impact on the ground has yet to be seen.

**Nampak: 50% of profits from Africa in two years**

22 November 2013/moneyweb.co.za

CEO Andrew Marshall on the company's results and the 60% jump in trading profit in Africa.

HILTON TARRANT: Packaging group, Nampak, reporting full year results to September 30 today, revenue up 11% to R18.3bn across the group, with headline earnings per share up 8%, its dividend 10% higher at 98cents/share, making a total of 140cents/share for the year. Andrew Marshall is

outgoing chief executive of Nampak. Andrew, these numbers boosted by a decidedly weaker rand specifically in the second half.

ANDREW MARSHALL: Ja, I think also the growth of our African operations has started to come through, so we've had significantly improved results from Africa, trading profit in Africa is up 60% year on year and Africa is now making up about 36% of our profit. So it really has become a very, very significant contributor to the group's profits.

HILTON TARRANT: Almost 40% of the group's profits in these numbers, where would you like that number to get to?

ANDREW MARSHALL: I think we announced a few days' ago the acquisition of Alucan in Nigeria for about R3bn and we also secured the rights on the largest rigid plastics manufacturer in Nigeria. Then today we announced as part of our results we've got board approval to proceed with a second beverage can line in Angola for about US\$100m. So I think personally I'd be very disappointed if by 2015 Africa wasn't making up about 50% of our profits. That target by 2015 used to be 25%, then we made it 35% and obviously we're already past that but with those three other opportunities that we've just mentioned I think we'll be very disappointed if we don't get to 50% by then.

HILTON TARRANT: Andrew, why not greenfields in Nigeria? Why this transaction?

ANDREW MARSHALL: Ja, we looked at greenfields as well and it took about four and a half years from the start of the process in Angola to get our site up and running. So that was the challenge we had is that if we'd gone the greenfields route it would have taken us about four and a half, five years. It clearly would have been cheaper but one of the benefits we typically have in Africa is the first mover advantage and the numbers and the market demand in Nigeria persuaded us that really it made sense to do this acquisition now.

HILTON TARRANT: Is there competition for these assets on the continent?

ANDREW MARSHALL: There hasn't been to date but we're starting to see it develop. Obviously as Africa is growing all the multi-nationals are investing very heavily in all the markets, not just Nigeria. If you go to Ethiopia, wherever you go, they're investing very heavily. So it is starting to get onto the radar of other packaging companies, it hasn't to date but it is starting.

HILTON TARRANT: And there does seem to be almost insatiable demand for not only cans but packaging across the continent.

ANDREW MARSHALL: Ja, it's remarkable, if you take Angola, two years ago we were selling maybe 20m cans a month out of our Luanda facility with a capacity of 750m cans a year, we're now selling 70m, 80m cans a month and we can't cope, hence, the announcement of a second line. So it's just growing and that's beverage cans, if you take cigarette cartons we're now selling more cigarette cartons in Nigeria than in South Africa. Demand for cigarettes in Nigeria is about 23bn carton cigarettes a year and South Africa it's now about 20bn. So you can see the trends that are out there and for us it's critical that we're in these different markets.

HILTON TARRANT: You're up the west coast of Africa, Angola and now Nigeria, what about the east of Africa?

ANDREW MARSHALL: Ja, we're in all those countries as well, so we're in Kenya, Tanzania, we go up as far north as Ethiopia, so we're all over Africa. Obviously Nigeria and Angola are the big

growth stories at the moment but Zambia, Malawi, all of those countries we operate in as well, they're all very solid performers and interestingly they've all done very well for us this past year. So this isn't just a Nigeria or an Angola story, it's actually an Africa story. Zambia, as an example, is a fantastic success story for us and has been doing exceptionally well over a number of years.

HILTON TARRANT: Here at home you have commissioned your first aluminium beverage can production line in the country. There are already aluminium beverage cans available in the market. What is the benefit, Andrew, of switching to aluminium from tin plate? I presume there's a cost benefit?

ANDREW MARSHALL: There is, typically on an average aluminium line you'll get about 1bn cans a year versus tin plate about 750m. The lines are very similar and obviously operating numbers of people to run them and so on, so that's the main benefit. Obviously it is dependent a little bit on raw prices of aluminium or tin plate but in general there's been a move worldwide to aluminium. So our new line in Angola for example we are going to put aluminium in there because we need all that extra capacity.

HILTON TARRANT: Andrew, just to close off with, you are stepping down at the end of March, leaving on a high.

ANDREW MARSHALL: I hope so and I hope we've got a nice growth trajectory ahead of us, with Africa obviously I think going to be a nice road ahead, I'm hoping.

HILTON TARRANT: Andrew Marshall, the outgoing chief executive of Nampak.

### Election apathy in Africa worries AU

[thezimbabwe.com/21112013](http://thezimbabwe.com/21112013)

DURBAN, South Africa - Chairperson of the African Union, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, says they are worried about the growing trend of apathy towards electoral processes among young people in democracies across Africa.

She was speaking at a gala dinner to mark the 160th anniversary of Adams College in Durban on Wednesday night. Dlamini-Zuma says it is important that young people in Africa become active in shaping the future they are to inherit.

She has encouraged them to participate in elections, policy development initiatives and to hold their governments accountable.

She adds, "It seems to be a trend that young people think internet is enough for them and they are not going to participate in registering in elections. This will weaken democracies across the continent. So, it's important young people do participate so that they can shape the future they want to inherit."

Dlamini-Zuma has also called for investment into skills development to expedite Africa's transformation into a prosperous continent.

She says there is a need for what she calls a 'skills revolution' in order to meet the continent's skills requirement across various sectors of the economy.

"We have an explosively high level of young unemployed youth. Africa therefore does need this skills revolution, but this skill revolution must match the demands of the economy, the demands of

the public sector so that when young people are trained in different skills, so that they are able to be employed.”

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

### US urges global help for stricken Central Africa

AFP/November 22, 2013

Washington (AFP) - The United States is calling for deeper international involvement to halt violence in the Central African Republic, amid growing alarm that the impoverished nation is on the brink of a possible genocide.

US Secretary of State John Kerry on Wednesday unveiled \$40 million in new funding to help the country, with the bulk of the aid going to support the African Union-led peacekeeping mission known as MISCA.

"It's a very, very serious situation right now," a top State Department official told AFP, asking not to be named.

"It will require extensive, continued and deepened international commitment working with the CAR government to address the humanitarian crisis, to strength MISCA so that it can carry out its security mission, civil protection mission and lay the ground work for" elections set to take place in February 2015, the official added.

In the latest in a long line of rebellions and coups, the Seleka rebel coalition ousted president Francois Bozize in March and put the CAR's first Muslim leader, President Michel Djotodia, in power.

But the move has unleashed unprecedented sectarian bloodshed, with fighting between the mainly Muslim former rebels who seized power in March and militia groups set up to protect Christian communities, which make up about 80 percent of the population.

The unrest has displaced almost 400,000 of the country's estimated 4.6 million people, left 2.3 million in need of assistance and some 1.1 million scrambling to find food, according to the latest UN figures.

France's Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said Thursday that the country was "on the verge of genocide," while a Kerry deputy told US lawmakers this week that it was in a "pre-genocidal" phase.

"The needs are so extensive, it's really hard to say one is greater than the others," the US official said in an interview.

"One area there's going to be a serious need in over the coming year is in food aid, and that's

because the population has been so terrorized and traumatized by what's happening in the country, that it's had a serious impact on the planting season and necessarily that's going to cause greater food insecurity in the months ahead."

The US is supporting moves at the United Nations to boost an AU-led force to some 3,652 troops made up of soldiers from Chad, Cameroon, Gabon, Congo-Brazzaville and Equatorial Guinea with a contribution also expected from Burundi.

"The mandate is excessively broad given the very extensive challenge in front of them," the official said, stressing that it was felt the AU force would be better placed to restore order and stability than a UN peacekeeping mission.

Apart from being quicker to set up and equip, "often the UN missions are more peacekeeping and this is not a peacekeeping situation, this is more enforcement," he said.

The UN Security Council plans to vote in early December on a resolution to allow CAR's neighbors, the African Union and France to intervene in the sprawling nation.

French President Francois Hollande said Paris was planning to "significantly increase" its contingent in the country, where it already has 400 soldiers in place to help protect the airport in Bangui and French nationals.

#### Joseph Kony: US doubts LRA rebel leader's surrender

21 November 2013/bbc.co.uk

US officials have cast doubt on reports that Ugandan rebel leader Joseph Kony is negotiating his surrender in the Central African Republic (CAR).

A US State Department official told the BBC that some rebels had been in contact but Kony was not among them.

However, CAR officials later insisted that Kony, who is wanted for alleged war crimes, has been in talks with their government.

The US has offered up to \$5m (£3.3m) for leads resulting in his arrest.

Kony founded the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in northern Uganda more than 20 years ago, and his fighters are notorious for abducting children to serve as sex slaves and child soldiers.

The US official also noted that Kony had previously used "any and every pretext to rest, regroup, and rearm, ultimately returning to kidnapping, killing, displacing and otherwise abusing civilian populations".

The LRA was forced out of Uganda in 2005 and since then has wreaked havoc in CAR, South Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Kony was on the verge of signing a peace deal in 2008 but insisted that the International Criminal Court (ICC) first drop its arrest warrant, which it refused to do.

On Wednesday, a CAR government spokesman told the BBC that Kony was in the country but wanted his security to be guaranteed before giving himself up.

According to AFP news agency, CAR leader Michel Djotodia, said: "Joseph Kony wants to come out of the bush. We are negotiating with him."

A US State Department official said Washington was aware that CAR authorities had "been in contact for several months with a small LRA group in CAR that has expressed interest in surrendering".

But later on Thursday, a spokesman for Mr Djotodia told the BBC's Newshour radio programme that the president had had a phone conversation with Kony, who was in the remote Central African town of Nzoka "with nearly 7,000 people, with his whole group, women and children".

BBC Africa security correspondent Moses Rono says this is not the first time that a breakthrough has been reported with the LRA.

But he says that Kony is now a shadow of his former self, reportedly in fading health, having lost many fighters and operating in a volatile region, with armed gangs keen to earn the \$5m reward.  
map

The African Union's special envoy on the LRA, Francisco Madeira, told the UN Security Council on Wednesday he had seen reports that Kony was suffering from a "serious, uncharacterised illness".

In April the Ugandan army suspended a search for Kony in CAR, blaming "hostility" from the government formed when Mr Djotodia's rebel forces seized power there.

Some 3,000 African troops, backed by 100 US special forces, have been hunting him and his fighters across the region.

Mr Madeira said the military pressure had kept Kony and the LRA "on the run".

Kony claims the LRA's mission is to install a government in Uganda based on the Biblical Ten Commandments.

But he is wanted by the International Criminal Court in The Hague on charges of rape, mutilation and murder of civilians, as well as forcibly recruiting children to serve as soldiers and sex slaves.

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

**Angola: Vice President Analyses Cooperation With Brazilian Ambassador**  
21 November 2013/AngolaPress

Angola and Brazil are likely to intensify their cooperation relations, said the Brazilian ambassador to the Southern African country, Ana Lucy Peterson, at the end of an audience granted to him by the vice-president, Manuel Vicente.

The Brazilian diplomat was speaking to the press after presenting farewell greetings to the Vice President of the Republic at the end of her mission of three and a half years in Angola.

According to the ambassador Ana Peterson, "Brazil wants to be closer to Angola."

She said that during the meeting with the vice president, they discussed the "need for closer approach." "We have many links and can now go for more intensive cooperation."

The Brazilian diplomat said there was a possibility of increased cooperation, particularly in agriculture, as Angola has very fertile soils, and in the fields of defense, health and education.

She explained that the strategic partnership with Angola aimed mainly at encouraging technical cooperation in various fields.

Ana Peterson believes that trade between the two countries could reach this year USD two billion, when in the last three years it was around USD 1.5 billion.

The ambassador Ana Peterson said that she "has spent a very good time" in Angola, during which she witnessed important changes, such as the elections last year and the growth of the country.

The diplomat was appointed Consul - General of Brazil to New York, where about six thousand Brazilians are living.

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