



[The UN deputy secretary general has called for urgent action in the Central African Republic (CAR), warning it is descending into "complete chaos". Jan Eliasson urged the UN Security Council to strengthen the African Union-led force in the country ahead of a vote due next week. He said preparations should be made to turn the AU force into a UN peace-keeping operation. The CAR has been in turmoil since rebels seized power in March.]

BURUNDI :

**Le Burundi : Lancement de 16 jours d'activisme contre les violences faites aux filles et femmes**

Mardi 26 novembre 2013/Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - Le Burundi s'est joint lundi au monde entier pour lancer les traditionnels "16 jours d'activisme contre les violences faites aux filles et femmes" initiés par les Nations Unies en 1999

Le Représentant Spécial du Secrétaire Général des Nations Unies au Burundi (RSSGNU) a lancé un appel pressant à tout un chacun dans la lutte contre ces violences et un autre au gouvernement de déclarer la tolérance Zéro contre ce crime.

"Comme les violences faites aux filles et aux femmes menacent la paix et la sécurité internationales, la situation est critique et exige que nous réagissions ensemble. Toutes et tous, jeunes et vieux, femmes et hommes agissons donc maintenant (..). Agissons pour ne plus vivre avec les consciences blessées (..), agissons pour ne plus feindre de ne rien savoir de leurs souffrances (..), agissons enfin et vite parce que nous savons que leurs souffrances sont aussi les nôtres", a insisté dans son appel le RSSNU au Burundi, Parfait Onanga Anyanga.

Il a reconnu les efforts du gouvernement du Burundi dans la lutte contre ces violences faites aux filles et femmes et l'a encouragé à faire plus en déclarant la tolérance Zéro contre ce crime odieux.

"Nous avons à nous féliciter du fait que le Burundi ait mis en place un cadre juridique contre les violences domestiques tout comme il dispose d'un système judiciaire et sécuritaire à mesure de réprimer ce mal. Le pays a pu surmonter pas mal d'autres défis et nous devons nous engager tous pour qu'il en soit de même en déclarant la tolérance Zéro face à ce crime", a souligné P.O. Anyaga.

Il a réitéré l'engagement des Nations Unies à ne ménager aucun effort pour éliminer les violences

faites aux filles et femmes et pour promouvoir la dignité de ces dernières. Il a à ce propos annoncé que les NU vont commencer l'année prochaine un deuxième programme qui visera à renforcer l'efficacité institutionnelle dans la réponse contre les violences sexuelles et celles basées sur le genre.

Le premier programme a été lancé l'année dernière à centre urbain de Gitega au centre du pays avec entre autres la mise en place du centre Humura qui, jusqu'à aujourd'hui, a déjà reçu plus de 1.600 victimes, tandis que des chiffres élevés sont enregistrés dans d'autres centres du pays, sans oublier que beaucoup d'autres victimes n'osent pas se déclarer préférant vivre leurs traumatismes dans la peur.

**Burundi : première caravane du livre pour amener la population de la sous-région à aimer la lecture**  
French.china.org.cn/Source: Agence de presse Xinhua/26-11-2013

La librairie Savoir Plus, Faire Plus du Burundi a lancé lundi la première caravane du livre pour promouvoir la diversité culturelle par le biais d'une meilleure diffusion, un accès facile et une meilleure connaissance des littératures contemporaines d'Afrique et du monde.

"La création d'une première caravane du livre et de la lecture dans la sous-région couvrant le Burundi et le Rwanda permettra non seulement de développer un nouveau rapport de proximité avec le livre mais participera surtout à la promotion de la diversité culturelle par la mise en valeur du patrimoine littéraire régional, continental et international", a indiqué Mme Francine Nahimana, directrice de la librairie Savoir Plus, Faire Plus du Burundi.

Elle a ajouté que l'un des objectifs de cette librairie est d'amener la population burundaise, plus particulièrement la jeunesse, à lire beaucoup plus qu'elles ne le font aujourd'hui afin de promouvoir la culture de l'excellence car, a-t-elle expliqué, "à travers le livre, on apprend, on voyage et on fait la connaissance d'autres cultures".

Au Burundi, l'accès au livre et à la lecture est encore très limité et la présence du livre dans le quotidien du citoyen burundais est quasi inexistante pour des raisons culturelles et économiques mais aussi de la disponibilité.

Pour cette raison, la librairie papeterie Savoir Plus, Faire Plus a ouvert ses portes le 1er août 2012 comme papeterie spécialisée dans la fourniture du matériel scolaire des écoles à programme de la communauté française. F

Source: Agence de presse Xinhua

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

TANZANIA :

### Tanzania: PM Urges Stronger Ties With Chinese Investors

26 November 2013/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)

LOCAL government authorities in the country have been directed to earmark investment opportunities in their areas and share the data with their Chinese counterparts to hasten economic development.

Opening a two-day meeting for local government officials from Tanzania and China in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Prime Minister, Mr Mizengo Pinda, requested them to use the opportunity to learn from each other.

The meeting brought together mayors, regional commissioners, directors, commissioners, businessmen and executive secretaries. A 70-member strong delegation from China is in the country to explore business opportunities, among other activities.

Mr Pinda noted that the ties were important in sharing experience and opportunities that would also give insights on how to engage private sector. "In my recent tour of China, I witnessed how far the Chinese local government authorities have gone in making things happen on their own without dependence from the central government," he said.

He added that the meeting was aimed at sharing experience on how local governments in Tanzania can play role in economic growth and how they can come up with various projects and manage them. Mr Pinda noted that in the meeting local governments will ponder on ways to collaborate in economic sector in which cities, municipals, streets and towns will play part and district councils will earmark investment areas.

He said that the move aims at strengthening the economy of local governments for the wider benefit of people, adding that there was a need to work together to make the objective a reality. The Minister of State in the President's Office (Public Service and Management), Ms Hawa Ghasia, said that ties between the two countries was important for economic growth.

The Chinese Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Lu Youqing, said it was important to also discuss the issues of employment in a bid to see how the people of the two countries can benefit, adding that there are 700 Tanzanians working in Chinese organisations.

KENYA :

ANGOLA :

**Angola government denies it tried to ban Islam**

November 26, 2013/news.com.au

ANGOLAN diplomats in the United States have rejected reports that it has banned Islam - but not before rumours that it had done so alarmed Muslims around the world.

The International Business Times quoted a spokesperson from the Angolan embassy in Washington DC, who said Angola is "a country that does not interfere in religion".

"We have a lot of religions there. It is freedom of religion. We have Catholic, Protestants, Baptists, Muslims and evangelical people."

Over the past few days, the Angolan Minister of Culture, Rosa Cruz e Silva has been quoted in various African and Indian news sites as saying that "The process of legalisation of Islam has not been approved by the Ministry of Justice and Human rights" and that "mosques would be closed until further notice."

The same sites quoted President Jose Eduardo dos Santos saying: "This is the final end of Islamic influence in our country."

News Corp has been unable to trace the source of the information to Angolan sources, but rumours of the supposed ban spread on social media have alarmed Muslims around the world.

Members of the faith have pleaded with their Twitter followers to "pray for Muslims in Angola" and retweeted images of a mosque being knocked down.

But the International Business Times reported that the images of the mosques were not recent, having been taken in 2008.

AU/AFRICA :

**Differing Levels of Progress Make Idea of 'AIDS in Africa' Obsolete**

Reuters/November 26, 2013

LONDON — Progress in the battle against AIDS is widely divergent in different African countries, so much so that to talk about "AIDS in Africa" as one epidemic needing a single approach has become an anachronism, campaigners said on Tuesday.

In an analysis of the state of the global fight against the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) and AIDS, the advocacy group ONE said that while some African countries had reached a "tipping point" against the disease, others lag far behind.

More than 35 million people worldwide are infected with HIV, which causes AIDS. Of that 35 million, 25 million are in sub-Saharan Africa. Yet within Africa, rates of HIV and AIDS vary

widely.

“Our analysis shows major distinctions between leaders and laggards, and that a one-size-fits-all approach to tackling AIDS on the continent does not make sense,” said Erin Hohlfelder, ONE's global health policy director.

“It's no longer useful to talk about AIDS from a continent-wide perspective... It's time to retire the phrase, 'AIDS in Africa',” continued Hohlfelder.

ONE is an advocacy group co-founded by U2 front man Bono, committed to fighting to end poverty and preventable disease, particularly in Africa.

According to its report, 16 countries in sub-Saharan Africa have reached what experts describe as the “beginning of the end of AIDS” - a point when the total number of new HIV infections is lower than the number of patients newly receiving AIDS treatment in the same year.

“Significant Progress”

Leading the pack are countries such as Ghana, Malawi and Zambia, where governments, international donors and civil society leaders have worked together, the report said, and as a result have made dramatic progress against HIV/AIDS.

Yet at the same time, other countries, such as Cameroon, Nigeria and Togo, lag far behind, often hampered by a lack of political will to tackle HIV, inadequate funding, poor delivery systems and stigma against marginalized populations where HIV infections are more frequent.

“Increasingly, both in terms of how we talk about the disease and also how we fight it, it makes more sense to look country by country, even community by community... Then, we can think about what progress we've made, what challenges remain and how best to put resources into tackling them,” said Hohlfelder.

Looking globally, the ONE report found significant progress towards achieving “the beginning of the end of AIDS”.

“If current rates of progress continue, the world can reach that milestone by 2015,” the report stated.

Hohlfelder cautioned, however, that getting there is “not a foregone conclusion”, but depends on donors and affected countries doing more together to ensure HIV treatment and prevention services reach all those who need them.

The ONE report said one of the most serious headwinds in the global HIV/AIDS fight is a lack of money.

According to UNAIDS, there is a \$3 to \$5 billion shortfall in the annual \$22 to \$24 billion needed to turn the tide against the disease.

Funding from international donors for AIDS has reached a plateau, and the majority of African governments are also not meeting their commitments to spend 15 percent of their budgets on health.

“In many ways, the AIDS fight is struggling as a result of its successes,” Hohlfelder said. “Because it is no longer perceived as a global health emergency, but rather a chronic and manageable disease, the fight has lost some of its political momentum.”

## Le PM libyen se rend à Benghazi pour mener des dialogues d'urgence sur la sécurité

2013-11-26/xinhua

Le Premier ministre libyen Ali Zeidan a pris un vol pour Benghazi afin d'y mener lundi soir des dialogues d'urgence avec des responsables de sécurité locaux, suite à des affrontements entre l'armée et la milice salafiste ayant fait neuf morts et environ 50 blessés dans la ville de l'est de la Libye.

Le quotidien en ligne Libya Herald a indiqué que l'armée avait déclaré l'état d'urgence suite à l'affrontement qui a éclaté en matinée avec des activistes d'Ansar Al-Charia.

Des centaines d'habitants de Benghazi ont protesté contre la violence, appelant à une attaque générale "jusqu'à ce qu'Ansar Al-Charia et d'autres groupes armés non officiels soient éliminés de Benghazi".

Plusieurs régions de la Libye souffrent d'une absence de sécurité après la guerre civile de 2011 en raison de l'existence de "conseils militaires" locaux en temps de guerre qui ne sont pas intégrés à l'armée nationale et refusent d'abandonner leurs armes.

Le 15 novembre, un groupe d'activistes a ouvert le feu sur des centaines de manifestants à Tripoli, demandant au groupe armé originaire de la ville de Misrata (ouest) de se retirer de la capitale libyenne, et tuant au moins 43 personnes et en blessant environ 460 autres.

UN/AFRICA :

## Kony 2013? U.N. urges new efforts to capture warlord

AP/November 25, 2013

UNITED NATIONS (AP) — The U.N. Security Council urged new efforts Monday to end attacks by the Lord's Resistance Army, release all people abducted by the brutal African rebel group and send its notorious leader Joseph Kony to the International Criminal Court for prosecution for crimes against humanity.

A presidential statement approved by all 15 council members welcomes a recent program toward ending war crimes in central Africa by the rebel group and pledges "to maintain the current momentum until a permanent end to the threat posed by the LRA has been achieved."

But the council expressed serious concern that the continued instability and security vacuum in the Central African Republic are hampering counter-LRA operations and contributing to the reinforcement of the LRA in the country, which has descended into a state of near-anarchy.

The LRA, which originated in Uganda in the 1980s as a popular tribal uprising against the government, has waged one of Africa's longest and most brutal rebellions. Its fighters are accused by the U.N. and human rights groups of cutting off the tongues and lips of innocent civilians and kidnapping thousands of children and forcing them to be soldiers and sex slaves.

Military pressure forced the LRA out of Uganda in 2005, and the rebels scattered across parts of

central Africa. The LRA insurgency and the Ugandan government's response have left at least 100,000 people dead. The Security Council said in 2011 that more than 440,000 people across the region had been displaced.

The Security Council took note of reports suggesting the existence of an LRA base in the disputed enclave of Kafia Kinga, on the border of the Central African Republic between Sudan and South Sudan. It also noted reports of suspected LRA attacks and abductions in Western Equatoria in South Sudan and reports of the resumption of LRA activity in the Bas-Uele and Haut-Uele regions in Congo.

The council called on the U.N., African Union and Economic Community of Central African States to continue working together to ensure "a common operating picture of the LRA's current capabilities and areas of operation."

The three organizations also should investigate "the LRA's logistical networks and possible sources of military support and illicit financing, including alleged involvement in elephant poaching and related illicit smuggling," the council said.

In his recent report to the council, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said increased poaching activities have contributed to security concerns in the Central African Republic and the wider region and are used to finance transnational criminal networks and armed rebel groups, including the LRA.

The Security Council also called for joint efforts to promote defections from the LRA, noting reports that small groups of LRA fighters in the Central African Republic are seeking to disarm and surrender.

The council urged all countries to help arrest Kony and two other LRA leaders, Okot Odhiambo and Dominic Ongwen, so they can face justice at the International Criminal Court on charges of war crimes and crimes against humanity, including murder, rape and forced enlistment of children.

Last week, the African Union envoy in charge of pursuing the LRA, Francisco Madeira, told reporters that many reports indicate Kony is seriously ill and on the run along the borders of Sudan's western Darfur region and the Central African Republic.

He said pressure from a regional task force — some 3,000 African troops supported by about 100 U.S. military advisers — has led to "a good number" of defections by Kony's followers.

The Security Council welcomed the task force's enhanced operations against LRA camps in recent months "which have increased pressure on the LRA command structure and degraded the LRA's capabilities."

### **Africa: UN Expresses Concern On International Day to End Violence Against Women**

By Joe Decapua/Voice of America (Washington, DC)/25 November 2013

The Joint United Nations Program on HIV/AIDS - UNAIDS - says every hour 50 young women become newly infected with HIV. Many of those infections are related to violence.

"Lots of the gender-based violence [is] sexually related. There is a lot of data right now showing that most of the violence against women happens in the context of intimate partner violence - domestic violence. And many times it takes the face of non-consensual sex, which is a polite way to say rape," said Dr. Mariangela Simao is UNAIDS Director of Rights, Gender, Prevention and

Mobilization.

Simao said gender-based violence is strongly linked to HIV/AIDS.

"In some countries where there's a high prevalence, it's been shown that women who are subjected to intimate partner violence, sexual violence, are 50 percent more likely to be HIV positive than other women. The gender inequality, the gender disparity also, [do not] allow women to negotiate, for example, for safe sex. If, for example, they think that their partner's been fooling around or being unfaithful in different situations, they [cannot] ask for him to use a condom."

Many sexworkers are also frequent victims of violence and are unable to have safe sex.

"There's a recent report from WHO [World Health organization] that shows that one in every three women - that's a global report, ok - experience physical or sexual violence by a partner in their lifetime. One out of three women. So it's not a localized problem in developing countries or least developing countries. It's a global problem," she said.

The World Health Organization report also said up to 45-percent of adolescent girls globally say their first sexual experience was forced. Violence against women includes coerced abortion and forced sterilization.

The UNAIDS official said that many times sexual or gender-based violence happens under the guise of culture or tradition.

"The right of women to live free of violence and inequities is a human right. And it shouldn't be bound by culture and by norms that rule society that are unjust."

She said empowering women would help end the violence. That begins with girls through education and an awareness of their rights. But she also says men must play a big role in solving the problem.

That's the other aspect because this is not a feminist battle. We should be fighting for social justice for a better society. And gender equality is paramount for a better society.

Dr. Simao joined UNAIDS in 2010. She is the former Director of Brazil's Department of Sexually Transmitted Diseases and AIDS.

### Central African Republic 'descending into chaos' - UN

26 November 2013/bbc.co.uk

The UN deputy secretary general has called for urgent action in the Central African Republic (CAR), warning it is descending into "complete chaos".

Jan Eliasson urged the UN Security Council to strengthen the African Union-led force in the country ahead of a vote due next week.

He said preparations should be made to turn the AU force into a UN peace-keeping operation.

The CAR has been in turmoil since rebels seized power in March.  
'Left to fester'

Mr Eliasson said there had been an surge in sexual violence, torture, summary executions and

sectarian violence between Muslims and Christians.

"The CAR is becoming a breeding ground for extremists and armed groups in a region that is already suffering from conflict and instability," he said.

map

"If this situation is left to fester, it may develop into a religious and ethnic conflict with long-standing consequences, even a civil war that could spread into neighbouring countries."

CAR Prime Minister Nicolas Tiangaye earlier said France had agreed to send 800 extra troops to the conflict-torn nation.

He said the deployment would take place after a vote in the Security Council.

France currently has 410 soldiers in the capital Bangui.

The French foreign ministry has not confirmed the increase.

Spiralling

The UN Security Council is expected next week to adopt a resolution authorising the deployment of African Union troops with French support in the impoverished nation.

"A country in the heart of Africa is descending into complete chaos before our eyes," Mr Eliasson told the 15-member council on Monday.

"The situation requires prompt and decisive action."

Earlier this month, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said communal violence in the CAR risked spiralling out of control.

Mr Ban backed the establishment of a UN peacekeeping force before the crisis leads to widespread atrocities.

The rebels - known as the Seleka - have replaced President Bozize with their own commander Michel Djotodia.

Armed gangs, mainly former Seleka rebels, who are mostly Muslim, now control most of the landlocked country.

Mr Djotodia has formally disbanded the rebels and integrated many fighters into the national army.

But former rebels linked to Seleka have continued to launch attacks on scores of villages, prompting the emergence of local civilian protection groups.

The government in Bangui denies targeting any group, but recognises the rise in inter-community violence.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

**Motlanthe arrives in Toronto**

Tuesday 26 November 2013/sabc.co.za

Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe has begun a three-day working visit to Canada as he continues a broad government drive to reposition the country's mining sector as an attractive investment opportunity.

Motlanthe will hold private discussions with the Canada-Southern Africa Chamber of Commerce and meet local mining executives, investors and bankers with an eye on foreign markets.

The Deputy President will settle nerves around the troubled sector and translate strong political ties into greater investment opportunities. South Africa High Commissioner to Canada, Membathisi Mdladlana says they are working towards getting the North American country more involved.

“Canada today has a tendency of stepping back and we want Canada to be more forward looking (and) knowing that as they (have) participated in the anti-apartheid movement in the past, we want them to participate in the development of the Republic of South Africa,” says Mdladlana.

Mining is a big player in the Canadian economy - in a country that has become a centre for exploration around the world. They use cutting edge technologies in their mines, have an enviable safety record and importantly, their workers are highly skilled. Mdladlana believes learning from Canada is critical.

“Today, we must change that mentality from our people, our people must now own, they must have the necessary skills, know how to do it, if we do not do that to this 80% of the population, then in South Africa we are in trouble, we're sitting on a time-bomb,” adds Mdladlana.

A number of the deputy president's meetings will be behind closed doors, which is always an indication that the discussions are expected to be frank. Investors want assurances that there will be a return to predictability in the sector, be it from a labour relations point of view or a policy point of view. Motlanthe will lay out government's plan to allay those fears and encourage a return of confidence in the sector again.

Motlanthe will also travel to the country's capital Ottawa to meet high ranking government officials including a courtesy call on Prime Minister Stephen Harper on Wednesday.

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF, CE 26 Novembre 2013... AGNEWS/ DAM, NY, 26/11/2013