



[The United Nations has evacuated almost 100 Muslims from the capital of the crisis-torn Central African Republic to "save their lives", according to officials. Supported by staff from the UN's refugee agency, 93 Muslims were transported east from Bangui to the town of Bambari, according to El Hadj Abacar ben Ousmane, senior official in the town some 300 kilometres (185 miles) from the capital. Sectarian violence in the former French colony has killed thousands in the last year.]

BURUNDI :

**Burundi: un opposant devant la justice après un courrier à Ban Ki-moon**  
par RFI /22-04-2014

Le président de l'ADC-Ikibiri, une coalition de l'opposition extra-parlementaire, a été entendu par le parquet de Bujumbura, ce lundi. Il est visé par une plainte du CNDD-FDD, le parti au pouvoir, et la radio Rema FM après un courrier adressé à Ban Ki-moon l'alertant sur une « catastrophe humanitaire qui pourrait se jouer bientôt » au Burundi.

Léonce Ngendakumana, le président de l'Alliance démocratique pour le changement (ADC-Ikibiri), avait adressé le 6 février un courrier au secrétaire général de l'ONU pour attirer son attention sur « la catastrophe humanitaire qui pourrait se jouer bientôt » dans ce pays, écrivait-il alors. Un véritable pamphlet contre le pouvoir du parti CNDD-FDD et contre la radio Rema FM, qu'il accusait de jouer le rôle de la Radio Mille collines (RTLM) en 1994 au Rwanda. Le CNDD-FDD avait porté plainte dans la foulée, mais la justice n'avait pas donné suite, jusqu'ici. Les événements se sont accélérés depuis une semaine, suite aux mises en garde répétées des Nations unies et, surtout, après la divulgation de la note interne à l'ONU qui accuse le pouvoir burundais de distribuer des armes à ses jeunes militants, les Imbonerakure. Depuis, le président de l'ADC-Ikibiri est dans le viseur de la justice burundaise.

Six heures dans le bureau du procureur

Léonce Ngendakumana avait déjà été entendu jeudi. Il a passé cette fois six heures dans le bureau du substitut du procureur de Bujumbura chargé d'instruire cette affaire. Six longues heures, pendant lesquelles il a été confronté à ses accusateurs du parti CNDD-FDD et de la radio Rema FM, proche du parti au pouvoir. A sa sortie du parquet, Léonce Ngendakumana a été accueilli triomphalement par la centaine de militants venus le soutenir. Puis, son avocat, Me François Nyamoya a dit son étonnement de le voir comparaître devant le parquet. « Cela montre les limites de la compréhension de ce que serait une démocratie. On ne peut pas porter plainte devant le parquet pour une lettre écrite officiellement au secrétaire général des Nations unies. Ça, c'est se ridiculiser », estime ce ténor du barreau de Bujumbura, qui juge que contester ces accusations par la même voie aurait suffi.

Le CNDD demande « des preuves »

Un point de vue que ne partage pas le porte-parole du parti au pouvoir, pour qui les accusations de génocide sont très graves. Le CNDD-FDD se devait de porter plainte, assure Onésime Nduwiman. « C'est une question de procédure. Il a été demandé au ministère public de statuer sur l'affaire. Mais il est de plein droit, pour l'avocat, de demander que l'affaire soit portée directement devant le juge. D'une façon ou d'une autre, monsieur Léonce Ngendakumana sera obligé de donner ses preuves », insiste Onésime Nduwiman. Le parquet de Bujumbura a donné au leader de l'opposition extra-parlementaire jusqu'à vendredi 25 avril pour qu'il lui apporte toutes les preuves de ses allégations.

### Burundi : les fonctionnaires retraités bénéficieront désormais de la totalisation des périodes d'assurance

( Xinhua )/22.04.2014

Les fonctionnaires retraités et leurs ayants droits bénéficieront désormais de la totalisation des périodes d'assurance pour la détermination de leurs droits d' assurés en matière de pensions servies par l'Institut National de Sécurité Sociale (INSS) et l'Office National des Pensions et Risques Professionnels, des Magistrats et des Agents de l'Ordre Judiciaire (ONPR), a révélé M. Onesphore Baroreraho, directeur général de cet office.

M. Baroreraho, qui s'exprimait lors d'une conférence de presse, a précisé que cette convention signée le 17 janvier dernier entre l'ONPR et l'INSS, vise la protection et la continuité du droit aux prestations.

D'après M. Baroreraho, il a fallu faire justice aux milliers de fonctionnaires placés aujourd'hui sous un statut privé en cotisant à l'INSS après avoir passé une longue période sous le régime du statut général des fonctionnaires.

M. Baroreraho a fait remarquer que même si la convention entre l'ONPR et l'INSS a été signée en janvier dernier, elle revêt cependant un caractère rétroactif.

### Le Burundi lance un projet de biofortification des aliments

21/04/14/scidev.net

Lecture rapide

Quatre variétés à haut rendement et à haute qualité nutritionnelle ont récemment été approuvées par les chercheurs du "programme haricot" à l'institut des sciences agronomiques du Burundi (Isabu)

Les premiers champs seront visibles à partir de septembre prochain à Muyinga, dans le nord-est du pays

La supplémentation et la fortification, autres approches traditionnelles, ne sont pas oubliées.

Le haricot, principale culture de base au Burundi, est le premier aliment sur lequel les techniques de biofortification seront appliquées, dès le mois de septembre prochain.

Les initiateurs espèrent que les aliments produits seront disponibles dans les repas dès le mois de décembre.

Quatre variétés, dont le VCB81013, le MAC 44, le Nakaja et le Gasirida, sont reconnues très riches en fer et en zinc.

Capitoline Ruraduma, coordinateur national du programme haricot à l'Institut des Sciences Agronomiques du Burundi (Isabu), "ces variétés sont très performantes et adaptées aux différentes zones écologiques du pays, notamment, le Kirimiro, le Buyenzi, le Bweru, le Buyogoma, le Mumirwa et le Buragane", considérés comme les régions à forte densité humaine du pays.

L'ONG World Vision Burundi, une organisation humanitaire qui travaille pour le bien-être des enfants, en collaboration avec l'Isabu et le ministère de l'agriculture et de l'élevage, planche déjà sur un plan de multiplication des semences. Trois tonnes de semences de haricot biofortifié ont déjà été importées du Rwanda voisin et attendent la saison culturale.

"Dès septembre prochain, les agriculteurs de Muyinga pourront planter du haricot biofortifié", a déclaré à SciDev.Net Aristide Madagasha, nutritionniste à World Vision Burundi. "Très vite, ce programme sera étendu à cinq autres provinces (Karuzi, Gitega, Muramvya, Cankuzo et Rutana) où nous intervenons. Tout est mis en place, de l'approvisionnement des semences jusqu'à la commercialisation, selon une chaîne de valeurs que nous avons mise en place", assure Aristide Madagasha.

Pour Marthe Mbengue, chargée du développement des ressources à World Vision Burundi, "la biofortification est une excellente opportunité pour lutter efficacement contre la malnutrition. Elle nous permettra d'aider les ménages les plus pauvres à produire plus de récoltes riches en micronutriments et à gagner plus d'argent, grâce au surplus."

Ce surplus est rendu possible parce qu'un "hectare de haricot biofortifié génère 2 à 2,5 tonnes, tandis qu'un hectare de haricot traditionnel ne produit qu'une tonne", indique Capitoline Ruraduma, de l'Isabu.

Quant à Béatrice Ekesa-Onyango, nutritionniste à Biodiversity International, un des centres de recherche du Groupe Consultatif pour la Recherche Agricole Internationale (CGIAR), souvent en mission au Burundi, "le fait que la biofortification cible les cultures de substance comme le haricot est une excellente idée, parce que cela permet d'obtenir du fer et du zinc, en plus des protéines que contient normalement le haricot.

Et si on parvient à avoir la banane, le haricot et la patate douce biofortifiés au Burundi, cela permettra à la population d'avoir un package alimentaire biofortifié et diminuera sensiblement les carences alimentaires", assure Ekesa-Onyango.

Cependant, précise-t-elle, "même si la biofortification apporte de la plus-value, elle ne doit pas se substituer aux autres approches traditionnelles, telles que la fortification et la supplémentation", prévient-elle.

Cette technique de biofortification est menée par HaverstPlus, un projet du GIAR cogéré par l'Institut International de Recherche sur les Politiques Alimentaires (IFPRI) et le Centre International pour l'Agriculture Tropicale (CIAT).

HaverstPlus opère déjà dans plus de quarante pays d'Asie et d'Afrique, dont la Zambie, le Nigéria, la République Démocratique du Congo, l'Ouganda et le Rwanda.

### **Burundi : Les attraits touristiques du parc national de la Ruvubu non valorisés**

Lundi 21 avril 2014/Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - Le Parc national de la Ruvubu ( PNR), situé dans l'est du pays, présente des attraits touristiques non valorisés par le pays, a déclaré lundi à Xinhua M. Dieudonné Ndagijimana, coordonnateur du projet "Biodiversité", financé par le Programme des Nations Unies pour le développement (PNUD).

Le Parc national de la Ruvubu, qui couvre 50.800 hectares, constitue un échantillon d'écosystèmes naturels originaux de moyenne altitude sous la forme d'une mosaïque de savanes, forêts galeries, îlots de forêt dense et marais à papyrus.

D'après lui, son intérêt dépasse les frontières du Burundi puisqu'il s'agit d'un rare témoin de la transition entre forêt dense et savanes humides. Ces paysages lui donnent plusieurs sites à vocation touristiques tels que les collines et les plaines. Un autre atout touristique du PNR est la rivière Ruvubu qui regorge une richesse en biodiversité aquatique et des papyraies, a-t-il fait remarquer.

Considéré comme le dernier refuge des grands mammifères disparus du reste du Burundi comme le buffle, le parc est en dégradation continue à cause de la chasse et aux feux de brousse, les défrichements culturels, de l'extraction des mines, du pacage du bétail, et de la pollution de la rivière Ruvubu, a indiqué M. Ndagijimana.

Alors que l'effectif des buffles vivant dans ce parc était de 2. 400 individus en 2002, on estime actuellement que la moitié aurait succombé à la chasse, a-t-il noté

RWANDA :

### **Rwanda Hutu rebels condemn 'terror plot' arrests**

Date: Apr 21, 2014/newvision.co.ug

Rwandan Hutu rebels exiled in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo have condemned the arrest of a group accused of plotting a grenade attack against the government in Kigali.

Police in Rwanda arrested three men last Monday -- well-known musician Kizito Mihigo, radio journalist Cassien Ntamuhanga and former soldier Jean Paul Dukuzumuremyi -- accusing them of planning to attack the country's leaders in revenge for the assassination of Patrick Karegeya, a

former spy chief and fierce critic of President Paul Kagame.

The three men were said to have ties to the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a rebel group that includes remnants of the militia that carried out the 1994 genocide of Tutsis and is now based over the border in DR Congo.

In a statement on Sunday, the FDLR described the government's decision to arrest the men as an "effort to silence those who refuse to adhere to its sectarian and undemocratic agenda".

"Many more were arrested with false accusations of collaborating with FDLR. FDLR condemns these acts of inhuman treatment of Rwandans by their own government," said the statement, signed by Colonel Willy Irategeka, interim head of the FDLR's armed wing.

Police also accused the arrested men of having ties to the South Africa-based Rwanda National Congress, an exiled opposition group.

The RNC denied any links to the men in a statement last Monday, but accused the government of concocting the terrorist plot to silence its critics.

Karegeya, who lived in exile in South Africa, was found strangled to death in a Johannesburg luxury hotel on New Year's Day.

The FDLR has around 1,500 men, according to UN estimates, or 4,000, according to Kigali. They are scattered across Kivu province in the east of DR Congo, where they have been accused of widespread violence and rights abuses.

The group's armed wing again promised to lay down arms in late 2013 but the Rwandan government has refused to hold talks.

"FDLR is committed to political negotiations and peaceful resolution for Rwanda problems, therefore we have no intention of starting conflicts or creating insecurity in Rwanda," the group's statement said. AFP

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

Uganda: The Netherlands-Uganda Relations Are Broader Than the Anti-Homosexuality Law  
By Ronald Musoke/The Independent (Kampala)/19 April 2014

The Dutch Ambassador to Uganda, Alphons Hennekens, spoke to The Independent's Ronald Musoke

How would you describe the current relations between the Netherlands and Uganda?

The Netherlands and Uganda enjoy broad and active bilateral relations. The Netherlands has been a

solid and trusted development partner for Uganda over the last 15 years and this partnership in development is gradually shifting towards a trade and investments relationship. In recent years trade and investments between the two countries have grown, and this embassy is prepared and willing to play an active role in this.

Over the years, Dutch investments in Uganda have grown tremendously. How big is the current investment portfolio in the country?

Trade between Uganda and the Netherlands has indeed more than doubled in the past few years. (In 2012 alone, Uganda received the highest Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in flows among the EAC partner states).

This trend reflects the policy of the Ugandan government to increase investments and jobs in Uganda. The Netherlands especially links development cooperation in agriculture to economic cooperation in the productive sectors. Dutch public support will serve as a catalyst to Dutch private investments, leading to socially and environmentally responsible and inclusive growth.

The Dutch government has over the years supported Uganda's justice, law and order, and the agriculture sectors. Why have you specifically focused on these two sectors?

The Dutch focus on justice, law and order and food security aligns well with the focus of the Ugandan government on regional and national stability and its drive to market-based economic growth. Through a focus on security, rule of law and governance programmes, the Netherlands has been supporting key activities underpinning the transition of Uganda towards its social economic development in Uganda, and the Netherlands has been happy to share its own experiences in this field with Uganda.

The second pillar of Dutch involvement in Uganda is support to food security. Dutch efforts are focusing on adding value to agricultural product chains, especially in dairy, on rural financial inclusion, especially for small farmers and on raising incomes of small farmers, in particular youth and women. This programme also facilitates inroads for Dutch expertise, technology and investments in a vast and commercially undiscovered area; an example of how trade and aid can come together.

Following the enactment of the Anti-Homosexuality law in February, the Dutch government was one of the first donor countries to cut or suspend aid to Uganda. What was the basis of your government's decision?

The Netherlands has suspended, but not cut aid. This decision by the Dutch government underlines the importance it attaches to the sanctity of universal human rights. We firmly believe that freedom of sexual orientation is a basic human right.

The Anti Homosexuality Act discriminates and victimises, and infringes on that basic human right. In this light, the Dutch government decided to suspend our cooperation with the Ugandan Ministry of Justice to avoid supporting the implementation of this law. I do realise that we disagree on this issue with the Ugandan government notwithstanding that Uganda has committed itself to international human rights treaties, but our bilateral relations are broader than this issue.

Isn't your recent aid suspension an unfortunate punishment to ordinary Ugandans since many of your funding priorities have tended to focus more on increasing their productivity?

The Netherlands always has been and still is supporting initiatives aimed at inclusive growth in

close cooperation with the Ugandan government. Many Ugandans, especially in the agricultural sector, reap the benefits of these initiatives. Where the Netherlands suspended part of its aid, it has been specifically directed at the central government in the justice sector responsible for the law and not at Ugandan citizens.

Ugandans understood when the Dutch government cut aid to Uganda over corruption a couple of years ago but they did not comprehend your recent decision in regard to the Anti-Homosexuality law. Can you understand the frustration of the common Ugandan?

Both in the case of corruption and in the case of the Anti Homosexuality Law, accountability is at stake. The Dutch government is accountable to its taxpayers whose support to Uganda underlines the democratic principles of transparency, accountability and human rights. We might disagree with Uganda on some issues, but we have to be accountable to our own taxpayers. I might add however, that in both cases the Netherlands did not cut aid, but suspended or redirected aid.

I am sure, you have heard both the government officials and ordinary Ugandans say, 'on the issue of homosexuality, the West can keep their aid.' Isn't this a clear message to the Western governments?

I would not necessarily describe this as a clear message. Like I said before, the relation between the Netherlands and Uganda is broader than this issue. We work together on a range of issues aligned to the vision of the Ugandan government on social economic development.

Upon which parameters does the Netherlands give and maintain aid to developing countries like Uganda?

The main aim of the Netherlands' development cooperation worldwide is poverty alleviation and sustainable inclusive growth. However, where possible, like in Uganda, the Netherlands will align its support to the transition to market driven inclusive growth. Parallel to the changing social economic development in Uganda itself, the focus in our bilateral relations will develop as well from aid to trade.

How much do you believe this law will now affect programmes between your government and Uganda?

Like I stated before, aid has been suspended in the area where we disagree with the Ugandan government on universal human rights. We suspended aid in the field of implementation of the Anti Homosexuality law. Other fields of cooperation in our bilateral relation are not (yet) affected. If, however, contrary to the assurances of government officials, blatant human rights violations occur, the position of the Dutch government will be under further review.

SOUTH AFRICA :

**Analysis: The South African election 2014 – sound and fury signifying... nothing?**  
J Brooks Spector/dailymaverick.co.za/ 21 Apr 2014

With just two weeks left to run, J. BROOKS SPECTOR looks at the national electoral campaign and senses a gap in the way the election has failed to serve as an teachable moment – but how it might still rise to fill that need.

This year's national election in South Africa is arguably the country's most important election since the advent of the universal franchise in 1994. While that earlier election was enormously important in confirming the negotiated settlement that had ended the National Party's whites-only domination, it was a foregone conclusion that the ANC would be the big victor. This time around, while the ANC is almost certainly going to win a sizeable majority yet again (at least nationally), in the absence of a totally unanticipated, magnitude 8 electoral earthquake, the real core of this election is an increasingly vigorous debate over South Africa's economic future circumstances.

And yet, with the possible exception of a website or two like South Africa Votes 2014 and some often interesting, informative, even challenging writing by columnists like Steve Friedman, Judith February and Eusebius McKaiser, most of the media attention over this election has been in the form of reporting that mostly can be tabbed as either a kind of "horserace" or "insider trading" coverage. Even the various broadcast and open forum debates that have been held have, too often, been opportunities for the rolling out of the usual media-friendly sound bites and snappy retorts – rather than any sustained, substantive analyses of the economic policies the various candidates and parties have been proposing as panaceas to address the country's current malaise.

But these are not normal, not easy times. The country's economy continues to lurch forward as employment continues to languish, strikes continue to occur in critical industries, land reform efforts stumble, foreign direct investment continues to slow, domestic investment stalls, the government deficit continues to grow towards unsustainable levels (along with the rising costs of the civil service), economic growth slips further and further into the doldrums – and the country has now, most recently, been forced to yield its pride of place as the continent's economic engine. And these issues don't even encompass the economically related questions of the country's faltering educational system, its overburdened and under-performing health sector, the baleful costs of increasingly systemic, endemic corruption, erratic and often dangerous police performance, along with the nation's reluctance to deal with the local effects of global changes in the labour sector.

Instead of any hard, unblinking focus on this litany of issues, more usually we are treated to an unceasing stream of reporting on the campaign horserace and that political party insider trading. The reporting keeps telling us who's up and who's down; which party is merging or cooperating with (or splitting from) which other group; the eruption of new parties of dissatisfaction like Agang and the EFF (among still others); the emergence of the Kasrils/Madlala-Routledge "Vote No" campaign; and the increasingly likely emergence of fissiparous tendencies within the ANC and its increasingly tattered tri-partite alliance - once the party faces its "day after" on 8 May. But what neither the media nor academia has been doing very much of has been any sustained effort to educate the electorate on the complexity of those crucial issues.

But real voter education must also include a great deal more than simply allowing free rein for political advertisements - even though that modest step almost seemed beyond the capabilities of the SABC, the national public broadcaster. And substantive voter education, of course, is much more than hosting broadcast media, all-party, "debate" free-for-alls.

Of course it may already be too late for any kind of full-on substantive debate between the leaders of the major parties for a series of debates that would have focused, sequentially, on domestic economic and political issues, or foreign policy concerns. These are now-foregone chances of opportunities that would have served to educate would-be voters about the rationality or plausibility of a party's economic plans and promises. But, instead, what voters have witnessed these past several months have been pep rally-style, screaming and shouting matches between miscellaneous party reps and audience members. Yes, these have been wildly entertaining sometimes, what with those short per-party speeches, but within those there has been very little articulation of the actual choices that will inevitably be faced by whoever ultimately ends up in charge of things.

The challenge, of course, is that real economic issues are usually problematic for candidates. They don't call economics the dismal science for nothing. Government policy and economics is almost always about painful choices, rather than beautifully delivered, technicolour promises.

Instead, what voters have heard has almost always been that ritualised chanting of: "We can deliver it better because we say we can"; "Get the government off our backs and the unfettered market will provide"; and "Nationalise the banks and the mines and God will provide for us all." But this is where the media, together with academia, have – for the most part - let us down. Maybe this writer has missed it, but virtually every party has been left off the hook of any tough-minded reality testing of their promises.

The EFF has not been pinned down about the actual benefits of nationalisation to the average citizen and the lack of any serious cost analysis from its promise to double civil servants' pay and social grants. But, similarly, the DA has been left to wriggle away from their broad assertion that a less restrictive workplace, fewer government regulations and less government interference in industrial development will unleash the awesome power of the marketplace. And, of course, the ANC has rarely been challenged to explain how the next five years will see less corruption, lower levels of self-enrichment, less politicisation of government institutions - and a massive increase in employment.

It would have been a signal contribution – and eminently do-able – to set up thoughtfully guided events where there was a rigorous focus by communication-savvy, economics-smart interlocutors to force candidates or party representatives to explain themselves in depth and with the nuances needed to show they actually understand what they are promising. They would be challenged on how their economic choices would actually be implemented, paid for and managed; what would have to be foregone as a result of any such choices; and how they would deal with the inevitable fallout from these choices.

And beyond a discussion on economics, this same style could be applied to foreign relations, government management, health care and education as well. And it certainly should be. But the key would be a format – the long-running US gold standard of a news discussion program, "Meet the Press," comes to mind here as a kind of model – where politician guests get caught out for running for cover back to their same old tired sound bites and gauzy platitudes.

But to do this would require a real commitment from broadcasters to dedicate the broadcast time needed to carry out such a programme properly and the willingness of experts to be prepared to be merciless to political favourites, without fear or favour. But isn't what the national broadcaster is supposed to be doing in the first place? It needs to make sure a chunk of time on all its channels would be dedicated to this exercise; it is more important than the latest soap opera episode, after all.

Maybe it is too late to do it this time around, but, at the minimum, it must become a high priority for the next election in such a way that the rhythm of the actual election campaign is shaped towards participation in such events. They need to become a key part of the overall campaign – just as presidential or prime ministerial debates have become routine in so many other nations overseas.

If the national will is there to accept the idea that an election is a national civic act of education as well as voter choice, it might still be possible to start this between now and 7 May. Or, as the rabbinical teaching has it, "If I am not for myself, then who will be for me? And if I am only for myself, then what am I? And if not now, when?" When, indeed? DM

## South Africa to honour five Indians with National Orders

April 22, 2014/ndtv.com

Johannesburg: Five Indian-South Africans will be conferred South Africa's highest awards, National Orders, by President Jacob Zuma for their bravery and sacrifice during the country's freedom struggle.

They are among 54 people to be conferred the honour at the Union Buildings in Pretoria on Sunday.

The Order of Mendi for Bravery will be bestowed on three Indian-South African veterans of the freedom struggle.

Indres Naidoo, Shirish Nanabhai and Reggie Vandeyar will receive the Order for their contribution in the fight against unjust laws of apartheid and for striving for a free and democratic South Africa.

The Order of Luthuli, given to those who have contributed to the struggle for human rights and nation-building, will be bestowed on Abdhulhay Jassat.

Mr Jasat has contributed significantly to the struggle for liberation and advancing democracy among all South African citizens through selfless sacrifice.

The Order of Mapungubwe in Bronze will be bestowed on Namrita Lall - an associate professor in the Department of Plant Science at the University of Pretoria - for her contribution in the field of medical sciences.

National Orders are the highest awards that South Africa bestows on its citizens who have made a significant impact on improving the lives of its citizens.

Some of the international figures to be honoured are Lord Richard Attenborough of the United Kingdom and American film celebrities Danny Glover and Quincy Jones for their support in fighting apartheid.

TANZANIA :

## Tanzania: Foreign Direct Investment From China to Surge 50 Percent

By Abduel Elinaza/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/22 April 2014

Beijing — CHINA'S Foreign Direct Investments (FDIs) to Tanzania are expected to increase by 50 per cent this year, thanks to the energy and mining sectors.

The FDIs last year were expected to clock 2.0 billion US dollars and are projected to hit 3.0 billion US dollars this year.

The Tanzania's Ambassador to China, Lt Gen (rtd) Abdulrahman A. Shimbo told 'Business Standard' that Chinese firms areas of investment have been in energy, infrastructure, ICT, and mining industry.

"It is expected that not long Tanzania (As the results of FDIs) will be exporting Liquid Natural Gas (LNG), agriculture produce, minerals and industrial manufactured products," Amb Shimbo said.

The Ambassador said the FDIs would assist to bridge trade deficit between China and Tanzania, where last year was 3.7 billion US dollars in favour of Beijing.

Dar es Salaam's share was 600 million US dollars. "Tanzania is blessed with abundant natural resources which are about to be exploited together with the development of infrastructure," General Shimbo said.

Trade deficit between Tanzania and China in favour of China is natural when comparing the level of development, the market and industrial exports of China to the world market.

"Challenges to Tanzania economy and exports had been, poor agriculture, lack of agri-processing industry, energy, and poor infrastructure," General Shimbo said, adding "These development challenges are being addressed".

"The Tsinghua University, Dean of School of Economics and Management, Prof Li D. David says Beijing's FDIs to Dar es Salaam would also increased following the financial reforms measures which started to be implemented by China. "The reforms will have positive impact to Tanzania or in any other overseas country.

This will make Chinese companies more competitive (on acquiring financial products),"Prof Li said. The Prof, who is also the Director of Schwartzman School at Tsinghua University, said the financial reforms geared to limit China's the expansion of debt ratio to GDP even though it has yet to reach alarming stage.

"This reforms will have an important indication for Chinese companies and institutions investing abroad especially in African countries, the purpose is to improve china firms into modern market economy.

"These new financial reforms are like an athlete exercising in sport field to know the rule of the game, before entering an overseas (investment) competition. This will make them more competitive,"Prof Li said at a news conference organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The reforms' key pillars are to limit the debt level from increasing further by restructuring it to avoid default, unemployment and financial risks; privatisation--priority should be given the workers, private sector to retain profits for investments.

"Bad debts and non performing loans are like poison in the body and has to be removed," Prof Li said referring to the importance of the financial reforms to China economy.

In the recently days, Sino-Tanzania economic relations increase to result into Beijing to become one of the leading trading and investing partners in Dar es Salaam.

Efforts, according to Amb Shimbo, are already under way for more Tanzania agriculture products to enter the Chinese markets.

### **Tanzania: Sovereign Wealth Fund Comes Aboard in October**

By Alvar Mwakyusa/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/21 April 2014

THE government is formulating legislation for the establishment of a Sovereign Wealth Fund in a bid to manage the proceeds from natural gas.

The upshot is ensuring that the resource benefits current and future generations, President Jakaya Kikwete has said.

The president has revealed that the government would by October, this year or February, next year, move a Bill in the National Assembly for establishment of the fund.

The country has so far discovered 43.1 trillion cubic feet (tcf) of natural gas in offshore and onshore gas fields and exploration is still ongoing.

"Natural gas is not renewable and thus we want to make sure that generations benefit from it through the fund which will be managed by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT)," Mr Kikwete said during a special interview with journalists in Dar es Salaam last week, ahead of the 50th Anniversary of the Union.

He added: "Now that we have already formulated the National Gas Policy, the next move is to formulate the wealth fund." Each year, it will be stipulated through the legislation, a percentage of funds from the wealth fund to be pumped into the national budget, according to President Kikwete.

"We want to avoid what is described in economics as 'the Dutch-Disease.' Following massive discoveries of natural gas in The Netherlands in the 1950s, a lot of focus was put on the sub-sector at the expense of other sectors of the economy," he noted.

In economics, the Dutch disease is the apparent relationship between the increase in exploitation of natural resources and a decline in the manufacturing sector and agriculture.

The term was coined in 1977 by The Economist to describe the decline of the manufacturing sector in the Netherlands after the discovery of a large natural gas field in 1959.

Discovery of natural gas as well as ongoing exploration offshore and onshore is expected to boost the economy of Tanzania in few years to come, as the resource has multiplier effects in the economy.

During the interview, Mr Kikwete reiterated that Tanzania will only export the gas after exhausting local demand in power generation, producing fertiliser, industrial production and domestic use, among others.

Regarding plans to establish a plant to produce Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) in the country, President Kikwete said the government has put it to the companies engaged in sub-sector to identify a site to put up the plant, preferably onshore. On the other hand, the president hinted also that plans are underway to set aside one centre of the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) to exclusively train artisans and technicians in the gas sector.

He expressed concerns that the majority of higher learning institutions in the country have of late developed a tendency of training professionals at bachelor degree level and disregarding lower levels.

"An engineer would require an artisan or technician to work with and thus as we train engineers we also have to remember the other lesser experts," he noted.

He added: "Now that University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and University of Dodoma (UDOM) are offering bachelor degrees on natural gas, the government may consider having one centre of

VETA to train the lower ranks."

The locals also have to benefit from the natural resource through employment much as there is lack of expertise in field and thus need to train more professionals in natural gas and petroleum. "At present, we are sending our people abroad to be trained in the area.

Professionals such as accountants and lawyers are among those trained to be able to manage the resource," he explained.

According to Mr Kikwete, enhancing the capacity of the locals and putting in place a proper monitoring system are high on the agenda to ensure the resource is well managed.

KENYA :

ANGOLA :

**Nigeria may be dethroned as Angola's oil production set to hit 2 mbpd**

April 22, 2014/ Author: PATRICK ATUANYA/businessdayonline.com

Prospects for oil exploration and production are bright in Angola, according to ratings firm Moody's as a number of deep offshore oil projects are set to come on stream.

This will see the Central African nation boosting oil output to 2 million barrels a day by 2015, which may help it eclipse Nigeria as Africa's largest producer.

"Total's (Aa1 negative) large (\$16 billion) investment in the Kaombo oil project in ultra-deep waters off the coast of Angola (Ba3 positive) reaffirms Angola as a stable operating environment for international oil companies and stands to boost the Central African country's oil production and is thus credit positive," said Aurelien Mali, VP-Senior Analyst, Moody's in a note released last week.

Nigeria produced an average of 1.9 million barrels a day of crude oil in 2013, according to Central Bank figures.

Once operational in 2017, the Kaombo oil project will be the largest of several hydrocarbon projects currently underway in the Lower Congo Basin. Kaombo has estimated reserves of 650 million barrels of oil and a projected daily output in the vicinity of 230,000 bpd.

A further 300,000 bpd is about to come on stream over the next 18 months from other projects in the basin.

One of them, CLOV – operated by Total in Block 17 – is expected to start extraction in May 2014 and will likely yield 160,000 bpd, according to Moody's.

It will raise the output of Total – already the largest oil producer in Angola – above 700,000 bpd, constituting more than a third of national production.

The remaining 140,000 bpd will come from two projects in Block 15 operated by ENI and ESSO, where production is due to begin in 2015.

“Excluding Kaombo, these projects alone are likely to propel Angola’s total oil output to two million bpd by the end of 2015. Kaombo will ensure that production remains above 2 million bpd until 2020,” said Mali

In the Kwanza Basin, south of the Lower Congo Basin, the government has auctioned several licenses for rights to explore pre-salt blocks, and seven discoveries have already been made. Production potential will become clear by the end of this year, but is currently estimated at around two billion barrels from those discoveries.

PATRICK ATUANYA

AU/AFRICA :

**In Nigeria, the mass abduction of schoolgirls isn't shocking**

By Holly Yan and Vladimir Duthiers, CNN/April 22, 2014

Abuja, Nigeria (CNN) -- The heavily armed militants stormed the girls dormitory in the middle of the night, herding more than 200 students on to vehicles and burning down nearby buildings as they made their escape.

That was a week ago Monday.

Of the 230 students abducted from the Government Girls Secondary School in the Nigerian town of Chibok, about 190 are still missing, one official said.

The number of girls taken from the school has been revised by officials several times, and on Monday, CNN spoke with Principal Asabe Kwambura, who said a new figure of at least 230 was determined after reviewing records and taking reports from parents.

Isa Umar Gusau, a spokesman for the Borno provincial governor's office, put the number at 234 -- 129 science students and 105 art students.

He said in a written statement that the confusion resulted because the art students didn't leave campus as expected on the day of the attack. The head of the dormitory initially didn't count them among the missing.

No one knows where the missing girls are. And even more surprising, no one's particularly shocked.

"All the community are sympathizing with the parents," Kwambura told CNN earlier. But, she said, "the people in the villages are not surprised."

Such is life in the lawless Borno province.

Tucked away near the border with Cameroon, with phone services cut off and travel strongly discouraged, this poor corner of Nigeria is no stranger to such brazen, violent acts.

For 11 months, the provinces of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa have been under a state of emergency due to relentless assaults blamed on Boko Haram.

The Islamist militant group has bombed churches and mosques; kidnapped women and children; and assassinated politicians and religious leaders.

Boko Haram -- whose name means "Western education is sin" in the local Hausa language -- says it wants to impose a stricter enforcement of Sharia law across Africa's most populous nation.

The group has gone about its misguided mission with such depressing regularity that residents have become somewhat numb.

Where's the president?

Nigerians marvel that U.S. President Barack Obama traveled to Massachusetts after the Boston Marathon bombings that killed three people last year.

Boko Haram-related violence killed 1,500 in the first three months of this year alone. And yet, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan has not visited the region recently.

Part of it may have to do with geographic divisions.

Jonathan is from the predominantly Christian south. That's not just geographically distant but also culturally different from the Muslim-dominated, violence-wracked north.

To put things in perspective, none of Jonathan's major political rivals from the north attended his inauguration in 2011. And widespread violence broke out in the north when his presidential win was announced, with some residents claiming the election was rigged.

It's the opposite of what happened with Jonathan's predecessor.

The previous president, Umaru Yar'Adua, was from the north. During his tenure, violence ravaged the country's oil-rich, southern Niger Delta, with militant groups saying they wanted a fairer distribution of the region's oil wealth.

Where's the military?

The Nigerian military has been engaged in a brutal, ever-escalating fight with Boko Haram. Rights group accuse both sides of ruthlessness -- Boko Haram of indiscriminate attacks, and the military of extrajudicial killings.

But when it comes to the abductions of girls -- and there have been many -- the military has had a difficult time.

Last week, the defense ministry erroneously reported that all but eight of the girls from the latest kidnapping were free. It retracted a day later.

Lawan Zanna, the father of one of the students, said the government turned from using "blatant propaganda" to making a "blatant lie."

Part of the reason the military is loath to respond mightily may be because the girls who are kidnapped are raped, forced into servitude -- but rarely killed.

In February, 29 college students in the northern Yobe province were killed after an attack authorities blamed on Boko Haram. All of them were males. The women were spared.

In other instances, kidnapped girls were later rescued while working on farms. Many were pregnant or had babies -- the result of rape.

The spate of kidnappings began in May 2013 when Boko Haram leader Abubakar Shekau announced in a video that this was part of its latest bloody campaign. The kidnappings, he said, were retaliation for Nigerian security forces nabbing the wives and children of group members.

Those kidnapped, he said, would begin a new life as a "servant."

But the latest incident has ratcheted up the pressure on the military.

The military said "ongoing, frantic efforts" of security forces, vigilante groups and hunters are attempting to find and free the students.

But a week later, the fate of 190 girls remain unknown.

### **S Sudan rebel leader rejects massacre claims**

22 Apr 2014 /Source:Al Jazeera

Rebel commander Riek Machar says his forces were not behind the killing of hundreds in the contested town of Bentui.

South Sudan's rebel commander Riek Machar has said his forces were not behind the massacre of hundreds of people in the contested town of Bentiu.

The United Nations has accused them of killing more than 200 people in one mosque alone when they re-captured the town last week after a battle with government forces.

Machar, who was dismissed as vice president by President Salva Kiir in July 2013, told Al Jazeera on Tuesday that his rebels would not kill their own people.

"I contacted the field military commander in Bentiu who told me that such accusation is false. First of all we respect our people, and the majority of the forces are from the region and we can't kill our citizens," Machar said.

### **Failed coup charge**

Thousands of people in South Sudan have been killed in violence and more than one million people have been forced to leave their homes since December when pro-Kiir troops and those loyal to Machar began to fight along ethnic lines.

Machar was accused by Kiir of a failed coup in December.

Though Machar denied being involved he praised the rebel movement that he is leading.

South Sudan's foreign minister, Barnaba Marial Benjamin, told Al Jazeera on Tuesday that he believed Machar's rebels were responsible for the Bentui killings.

"It is his responsibility because these are his rebels," Benjamin said.

The UN condemned what it called the "targeted killings" and wounding of hundreds of civilians based on their ethnic origins in Bentiu.

The UN's mission in South Sudan said on Monday hundreds of civilians were killed or wounded after rebel forces took control of the capital of the oil-producing Unity state last week.

Toby Lanzer, the UN's top humanitarian official in South Sudan, said in Twitter posts late on Sunday that there were shocking scenes of atrocities, with "bodies of people executed" lying in Bentiu's streets.

FM station used

Lanzer told Al Jazeera on Monday that people "associated with the opposition" had used an FM radio station to broadcast hate speech in the town.

"With hate speech and violence continuing as they are, we're going to have an even greater catastrophe on our hands at the end of this year," he said.

"I think the saddest testament to the current situation is that we have had members of all communities, even those accused of perpetrating these crimes, fleeing to the UN base."

"We had 5,000 civilians a week ago in our base, now we have 22,000 people. We have just one litre of portable water per person for today.

"It is hard to believe that just a few months ago South Sudan was at peace.

"People are on the brink of disaster. It is imperative the leaders recognise the crisis into which they have plunged their nation."

### Algérie: Benflis ne lâche pas prise

L'Économiste/2014/04/21

Douche froide pour Ali Benflis qui s'est incliné face à Abdelaziz Bouteflika qui a recueilli plus de 85% des suffrages. La réélection de Bouteflika à la tête de l'Algérie pour un quatrième mandat laisse un goût amer pour son principal rival. Benflis n'a d'ailleurs pas cessé de contester les résultats aux moments des élections. Arrivé deuxième avec 12,18% des suffrages, Ali Benflis a déclaré après l'annonce des résultats officiels, qu'il ne reconnaissait pas la victoire de Bouteflika, en dénonçant une élection «planifiée et préparée par une alliance entre la fraude, de l'argent suspect et des médias vendus». Pour une partie de la presse algérienne, c'est le «bouteflikisme qui a gagné». Avec cette victoire, «on perd la chance d'une belle transition et d'une rupture douce, on repousse l'avenir», indique le journal d'Oran. Après sa défaite, Benflis a immédiatement annoncé une éventuelle création d'un nouveau parti politique à travers lequel la parole serait donnée majoritairement aux jeunes. La nouvelle formation politique devrait capitaliser sur la dynamique créée par la campagne électorale. Pour l'heure, les concertations se poursuivent et se verront même amplifiées les prochains jours, a-t-il précisé. Sans surprise, Bouteflika rempile pour quatre ans. Malgré sa faiblesse physique, il a su conserver l'appui des Algériens pour s'assurer une confortable victoire lors de ces élections. Ce dernier dispose toujours du soutien d'une large partie de la population inquiète de voir ressurgir les violences islamistes au milieu des années 90. Au pouvoir depuis 15 ans mais affaibli après son accident vasculaire du printemps dernier, le président algérien

est resté tout de même le grand favori de l'élection face à une opposition divisée entre boycott et participation au scrutin. D'ailleurs, le taux de participation s'est limité à 51,7%. A la suite des résultats, Bouteflika n'a souhaité faire aucune déclaration.

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UN/AFRICA :

### UN evacuates 100 Muslims from C Africa capital

AFP/April 22, 2014

Bangui, Central African Republic,

The United Nations has evacuated almost 100 Muslims from the capital of the crisis-torn Central African Republic to "save their lives", according to officials.

Supported by staff from the UN's refugee agency, 93 Muslims were transported east from Bangui to the town of Bambari, according to El Hadj Abacar ben Ousmane, senior official in the town some 300 kilometres (185 miles) from the capital.

Sectarian violence in the former French colony has killed thousands in the last year.

The Muslim group travelled to Bambari from Sunday through to Monday in a two trucks, accompanied by a convoy of vehicles from the French peacekeeping force Sangaris, the UNHCR refugee agency and the International Organization for Migration.

The convoy was pelted with stones as it passed through the town of Sibut, a member of the African-led MISCA peacekeeping force told AFP.

"This is a measure to save their lives, taken as a last resort after a long time considering their case," said Tammi Sharpe, deputy head of the UNHCR in the Central Africa Republic.

She said the evacuated Muslims had been "constantly attacked" in their northern Bangui neighbourhood of PK 12, where conditions at the moment are "particularly tense".

In Bambari, a Christian-majority town of 45,000 people, El Hadj Abacar ben Ousmane said Muslims and Christians could live in "harmony".

"We would have no objection to welcoming others. We have no problems with each other," he said.

The Central African Republic, one of the poorest countries in the world, plunged into a crisis after a coup by the mostly Muslim Seleka rebels in March last year.

After seizing power, some of the rebels went rogue and embarked on a campaign of killing, raping and looting.

The abuses prompted members of the Christian majority to form vigilante groups, unleashing a wave of brutal tit-for-tat killings -- leaving thousands dead, close to a million displaced, and warnings that the country is on the brink of genocide.

## Rebels kill hundreds in South Sudan massacre, says UN

Mon, Apr 21, 2014/Reuters

Men, women and children hunted down after rebels seize oil hub of Bentiu

Rebels slaughtered hundreds of civilians when they seized the South Sudan oil hub of Bentiu, hunting down men, women and children who had sought refuge in a hospital, mosque and Catholic church, the United Nations said yesterday.

Rebel troops overran Bentiu, the capital of the oil producing Unity State, on Tuesday. More than one million people have fled their homes since fighting erupted in December between troops backing President Salva Kiir and soldiers loyal to his sacked vice-president, Riek Machar. The fighting has exacerbated ethnic tensions between Mr Kiir's Dinka people and Mr Machar's Nuer.

The UN peacekeeping mission in South Sudan said its human rights investigators confirmed that rebels "searched a number of places where hundreds of South Sudanese and foreign civilians had taken refuge and killed hundreds of the civilians after determining their ethnicity or nationality".

The UN mission strongly condemned the targeted killings on April 15th-16th and the use of Radio Bentiu FM to broadcast hate speech.

While some rebel commanders broadcast calls for unity, "others broadcast hate messages declaring that certain ethnic groups should not stay in Bentiu and even calling on men from one community to commit vengeful sexual violence against women from another community," the UN said. At Bentiu hospital, Nuer men, women and children were killed for hiding and not joining other Nuers in cheering the rebels as they entered the town. People from other South Sudanese communities and from Darfur in Sudan were also killed, the UN said.

Rebels also entered the Kali-Ballee mosque, a Catholic church and an empty World Food Programme compound where civilians had sought refuge and separated them by nationalities and ethnicities – escorting some to safety and killing others. "More than 200 civilians were reportedly killed and over 400 wounded at the mosque," the UN said.

– (Reuters)

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

Espagne: 18 tonnes de haschich saisies dans un bateau

Afp/21 Avril 2014

Les douanes espagnoles ont annoncé lundi avoir intercepté un bateau qui transportait 18 tonnes de haschich au sud de l'Espagne et arrêté les sept membres d'équipage.

Le bateau sous pavillon de complaisance "a été intercepté samedi au large de l'île d'Alboran, au sud-ouest d'Almeria", ont indiqué les douanes dans un communiqué.

Le bateau, qui avait chargé des marchandises à Casablanca (Maroc), a été abordé par deux vedettes rapides des douanes qui lui ont ordonné de se diriger vers Almeria après avoir repéré "une manoeuvre de l'équipage destinée à couler le bateau".

A Almeria, le navire a été perquisitionné et les autorités ont découvert un grand nombre de paquets de haschich "qui pourraient approcher les 18 tonnes".

Il s'agit de la 7e opération de ce genre depuis juin dernier, et au total 90 tonnes de haschich ont été saisies grâce à "un dispositif d'analyse et de contrôle en Méditerranée mis en place par les autorités de France, d'Italie et d'Espagne".

La dernière opération a eu lieu à la mi-mars et les autorités ont alors saisi dans un bateau 12 tonnes de haschich et arrêté ses huit membres d'équipage.

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF, CE 22 Avril 2014... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 22/04/2014