

[Rwanda will replace South Africa on the UN Security Council when the latter relinquishes its non-permanent seat at the end of the year. Rwanda, who had the backing of the African Union, joins Australia, South Korea, Luxembourg and Finland for two years terms starting on January 1. But Rwanda's was the most controversial of the lot - with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) objecting to their candidacy over a UN-report that accuses the country of supporting M23-rebels fighting the Kinshasa government.]

BURUNDI :

Burundi : un projet contre la violence avec l'appui de l'Allemagne et de l'ONU
(Xinhua)/19.10.2012

La mairie de Bujumbura, en partenariat avec la coopération internationale allemande GIZ et l'ONU-Habitat, a initié un projet appelé "Bujumbura plus sûre" pour prévenir la violence et la criminalité et consolider la paix et le développement dans la municipalité de Bujumbura.

"Le projet compte soutenir les Comités Mixtes de Sécurité (CMS) dans leur institutionnalisation ainsi que dans leur travail à travers le renforcement des capacités, collaborer avec le projet + éthique policière+ appuyée par la Coopération Technique Belge dans la vulgarisation du concept de la police de proximité, améliorer la situation socio-économique des groupes à risque et promouvoir une infrastructure favorable à la sécurité", a fait savoir jeudi Evrard Giswaswa, maire de Bujumbura, au cours d'une conférence de presse.

Le projet envisage l'encadrement de la jeunesse en vue de prévenir les actes de désespoir auxquels les jeunes risquent de se livrer, l'accès à l'eau potable, l'assainissement, la protection de l'environnement, le plaidoyer pour un éclairage public des zones à risque ainsi que la promotion d'une culture de citoyenneté responsable.

Pour ce qui est des CMS, une importance particulière sera portée à la sensibilisation des bénéficiaires sur le cahier des charges de ces CMS, leur compétence, leurs limites ainsi que l'aspect inclusif de leurs membres.

Conçu pour une période de quatre ans et sous le thème "la sécurité est une affaire de tous", le projet se veut inclusif et le maire de la ville de Bujumbura a invité la population municipale, la police, l'administration, la société civile et les media à communiquer d'une façon cohérente et permanente pour la réussite du projet.

RWANDA :

Rwanda eyes UN Security Council seat
Publish Date: Oct 18, 2012/Source: Reuters

UNITED NATIONS - Rwanda appears likely to win one of five U.N. Security Council seats up for election on Thursday, despite accusations by a U.N. expert panel that the country's defense minister is commanding a rebellion in neighboring Democratic Republic of Congo.

Rwanda is unopposed in its bid for the African seat on the Security Council, which is currently held by South Africa, but it still needs to be approved by two-thirds of the U.N. General Assembly members present to secure a two-year term.

U.N. diplomats said it was theoretically possible that Rwanda would fail to secure the necessary votes for election, although they said that was highly unlikely.

The confidential U.N. report, seen by Reuters on Tuesday, has cast a shadow over the East African country's plan to join the 15-member U.N. powerhouse - which has the ability to impose sanctions and authorize military interventions.

There are five veto-holding permanent members of the council - the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China - and 10 temporary members without vetoes. Thursday's election is for the term from Jan. 1, 2013, to Dec. 31, 2014.

The Security Council's "Group of Experts" said that Rwanda and Uganda - despite their strong denials - continued to support M23 rebels in their six-month fight against Congolese government troops in the east of the country.[D:nL1E8LGF87]

Rwandan U.N. diplomat Olivier Nduhungirehe said Rwanda was not worried about the report harming its Security Council bid.

"The members of the General Assembly know exactly what our record is and they cannot be deterred or swayed by a baseless report, which has no credibility," said Nduhungirehe.

"We are the sixth (biggest) troop-contributing country for peacekeeping, we are a leading country in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, we have a record in post-conflict reconstruction and peace building," he said.

Argentina is running unopposed for the Latin American and Caribbean states' seat, but there is a three-way competition in both the Asia-Pacific group and the "Western European and Others" group.

Finland and Australia are expected by some diplomats to edge out Luxembourg for the two seats available in their group, but they said it could take several rounds of voting for those countries to reach the two-thirds' majority needed.

They said Luxembourg might still surprise people and win a seat in the secret-ballot vote in the 193-member assembly.

South Korea, Bhutan and Cambodia are all competing for one Asia-Pacific seat. Envoys said that race was too close to call.

'Positive effect'

The countries leaving the council in December are Colombia, Germany, India, South Africa and Portugal. The five current council members remaining until the end of 2013 are Azerbaijan, Guatemala, Pakistan, Togo and Morocco.

The last time Rwanda was on the council was in 1994-95. That coincided with the 1994 genocide in which 800,000 people were killed when the Hutu-led government and ethnic militias went on a 100-day killing spree, killing Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

A senior Western diplomat said on condition of anonymity that he hoped Rwanda's presence on the council would have a "positive effect" on the body's handling of Congo, although he acknowledged it was possible the opposite would be the case.

He said getting unanimity among the 15 council members on Congo's rebellion might be difficult with Rwanda in the room.

The Congolese government on Wednesday demanded targeted sanctions against Rwandan and Ugandan officials named in the U.N. experts report.

According to the U.N. experts, who monitor compliance with sanctions and an arms embargo on the Congo, Rwandan Defense Minister General James Kabarebe was ultimately commanding the rebellion and both Rwanda and Uganda were providing weapons, troops and military and political aid to the insurgency.

Rwanda: Argentina, Australia and Rwanda Obtain Non-Permanent Seats on Security Council

18 October 2012/UN News Service

The United Nations General Assembly has elected Argentina, Australia and Rwanda to serve as non-permanent members on the Security Council for two-year terms beginning on 1 January 2013.

The three countries obtained the required two-thirds majority of those Member States present and voting in the secret ballot held at UN Headquarters in New York.

The 193-member Assembly will hold a second round of balloting to remain the remaining two non-permanent seats. Balloting will continue until enough candidates reach that threshold, even if only one country is competing for a seat in a particular region.

Bhutan, Cambodia and the Republic of Korea are vying for the Asian seat, while Finland and Luxembourg are competing for the remaining seat from the Western European and Others category.

The five newly-elected members will replace Colombia, Germany, India, Portugal and South Africa, whose terms end on 31 December 2012.

The five permanent Council members, which each wield the power of veto, are China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom and the United States. Non-permanent members Azerbaijan, Guatemala, Morocco, Pakistan and Togo will remain on the Council until the end of 2013.

Rwanda: Supreme Court Rejects Ingabire's Petition

By Eric Didier Karinganire/Rwanda Focus (Kigali)/18 October 2012

The Supreme Court yesterday dismissed a case filed by Victoire Umuhoza Ingabire petitioning that some articles of the law on genocide ideology be revoked; saying that the articles are unconstitutional.

The chairperson of the United Democratic Forces FDU-Inkingi, the yet to be registered political party, challenged the court to revoke articles under which she was being prosecuted at the High Court in a trial against her where she is accused of spreading genocide ideology among others.

In the petition, Ingabire was requesting the Supreme Court to nullify articles 2- 9 of the law repressing genocide ideology; under reasons that they are unconstitutional.

The accused and her lawyer Gatera Gashabana had told the court that articles 2 and 3 of the law contradict articles 20, 33 and 34 of the constitution guaranteeing freedom of expression. They were saying that the articles are too vague; thus denying the rights to give opinion on the genocide.

Article 33 of the constitution states that "freedom of thought, opinion, conscience, religion, worship and the public manifestation thereof is guaranteed by the State in accordance with conditions determined by law."

On the other side, it mentions that "propagation of ethnic, regional, racial or discrimination or any other form of division is punishable by law."

It was against this background that the court ruled that they found Ingabire's arguments baseless, saying that the scope of the law is meaningful, though it can requires more clarifications in some cases.

"The court found baseless the request to revoke articles 2 and 3 because their scope is meaningful," said Sylvie Zainab, the presiding judge.

The judge mentioned that the court rejected the requests to nullify articles 4 to 9 on the law repressing genocide ideology and article 4 of the law on war crimes and crimes against humanity, saying that the articles no longer exist in the current code of laws.

Ingabire is charged with genocide ideology, divisionism, conspiracy, planning to cause state insecurity and supporting armed group among others, accusations that he has been saying are politically motivated.

Speaking on behalf of the FDU-Inkingi, Boniface Twagirimana, the vice president, said they were unhappy with the court ruling, though he said that they stay determined fighting.

Ingabire is accused alongside with other four former FDLR combatants namely Major Vital Uwumuremyi, Colonel Tharcisse Nditurende, Lieutenant Jean Marie Karuta and Lt Colonel Noeli Habiwaremye.

Their verdict at is set today the High Court at 11: am.

RDC CONGO :

RDC: Le M23 menace de reprendre l'offensive en l'absence de négociations directes
jeudi 18 octobre 2012/Belga

(Belga) Le président de la branche politique du mouvement rebelle M23, actif dans l'est de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC), a menacé de reprendre l'offensive si des "négociations directes" ne s'ouvrent pas "le plus tôt possible" avec les autorités congolaises, dans des déclarations à l'AFP.

"S'il n'y a pas de négociations qui se font le plus tôt possible, il y a un risque qu'il y ait des

affrontements dans les jours qui viennent", a déclaré Jean-Marie Runiga mercredi à Bunagana, une localité située à la frontière avec l'Ouganda, dans l'est de la RDC. "Jusque-là, on a fait des négociations indirectes. Malheureusement, monsieur (le président congolais Joseph) Kabila n'est pas pressé de faire ces négociations-là. Nous, nous disons: "que ces négociations directes se fassent le plus tôt possible pour épargner tout ce qui se passe aujourd'hui", a dit M. Runiga, de retour de Kampala où le président Yoweri Museveni a assuré une médiation indirecte entre la RDC et le M23. "Si les morts continuent à Goma (est de la RDC), si le gouvernement continue à se montrer incapable de sécuriser la population dans les territoires qui sont sous son contrôle, le M23 se réserve le droit de pouvoir marcher et entrer, et sécuriser cette population", a-t-il ajouté. Le Mouvement du 23 mars (M23) est composé d'anciens rebelles qui, après avoir été intégrés en 2009 dans l'armée congolaise aux termes d'un accord de paix, se sont ensuite mutinés et affrontent depuis mai dernier l'armée régulière de la RDC. (JAV)

La RDC réclame des sanctions contre le Rwanda et l'Ouganda, accusés de soutenir la rébellion

Le Monde.fr avec Reuters / 18.10.2012

La République démocratique du Congo a réclamé, mercredi 17 octobre, des sanctions à l'encontre du Rwanda et de l'Ouganda, deux pays voisins accusés par un groupe d'experts des Nations unies de soutenir les rebelles congolais du M23 au Nord-Kivu, dans l'est de la RDC. D'après les conclusions d'un document confidentiel, chargé de vérifier le respect en RDC des sanctions et de l'embargo sur les armes décrété par les Nations unies, Kigali et Kampala continuent, malgré leur démenti, d'aider les rebelles tutsis congolais du M23. Cette année, près d'un demi-million de personnes ont été déplacées à la suite des combats entre cette milice rebelle et l'armée congolaise.

Le rapport cible plus particulièrement le ministre rwandais de la défense, le général James Kabarebe, présenté comme coiffant de facto la chaîne de commandement du M23. Or, d'après un article du Guardian, James Kabarebe est "l'un des plus proches alliés du président [du Rwanda] Paul Kagamé". Il était notamment à ses côtés lors de la campagne militaire qui a abouti au génocide des Tutsis, qui a fait 800 000 morts en 1994. Selon les experts de l'ONU, la rébellion congolaise est aujourd'hui contrôlée par le général Bosco Ntaganda et par Sultani Makenga, tous deux recevant leurs instructions du général de l'armée rwandaise (FRD) Charles Kayonga, lui-même sous les ordres du ministre de la défense.

James Kabarebe dirigerait donc "une milice rebelle congolaise accusée de meurtres, de viols et autres atrocités". Pour le Guardian, ces révélations exigent du Royaume-Uni, "le principal donateur du Rwanda, à reconsidérer son soutien de plus en plus controversé à Kagamé". Dans une interview au quotidien belge Le Soir, en août, James Kabarebe démentait toutefois cette thèse. "Le Rwanda est puni car il n'a pas coopéré avec la Cour pénale internationale ; cela, c'est le fond du problème. Tout le monde sait que le Rwanda n'a pas un seul soldat au sein du M23, ne lui donne aucun soutien", affirmait-il alors.

DES "CRIMINELS OCCUPANT DES POSITIONS DE POUVOIR"

Le rapport de l'ONU affirme aussi que des responsables ougandais de haut rang ont fourni aux insurgés congolais "des renforts de troupes (...), des armes, de l'assistance technique, de la planification conjointe, des conseils politiques ainsi qu'une aide dans le domaine des relations extérieures".

Le porte-parole du gouvernement de Kinshasa, Lambert Mende, a demandé mercredi que les personnalités mentionnées dans le rapport de l'ONU comme soutenant la rébellion fassent l'objet de sanctions des Nations unies. "C'est plus important que jamais, étant donné que nous disposons

aujourd'hui des preuves que le drame qui se joue actuellement au Nord-Kivu est l'objet de manipulations de criminels occupant des positions de pouvoir", a-t-il dit à Reuters.

A Kampala, le porte-parole de l'état-major ougandais, Felix Kulayigye, a rejeté les conclusions des experts de l'ONU en parlant à leur sujet de "sottises totales". Bien que la RDC accuse régulièrement son voisin ougandais de s'ingérer dans ses affaires intérieures, depuis qu'un rapport d'étape de l'ONU a mis au jour, en juin, des liens entre Kampala et le M23, l'Ouganda a récemment cherché à faciliter une solution négociée au conflit. Un diplomate rwandais de haut rang, Olivier Nduhungirehe, a estimé de son côté que les experts de l'ONU avaient été "autorisés à suivre un ordre du jour politique".

UGANDA :

Uganda: UN Report Won't Deter Regional Peace Efforts - Minister

By Gashegu Muramira/The New Times/19 October 2012

Uganda's State Minister for International relations, Henry Oryem Okello, has reiterated his country's commitment to continue pursuing efforts aimed at finding a regional solution to the eastern DRC conflict.

Early this week, a UN Group of Experts leaked a report to the media with allegations that Rwanda and Uganda are supporting the M23, a military rebellion in the neighbouring DRC.

Uganda is the current chair of the International Conference for the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), which has championed regional efforts to resolve the crisis in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

"Uganda as the chair of ICGLR and neighbour remains fully committed to spearhead the regional efforts to ensure security and stability in eastern DRC as mandated by the ICGLR Heads of State and Government under the 2006 Pact on Security, Stability and Development in the Region," he told reporters.

He said that the leaking of the report by the "Group of Experts" can only be in bad faith and intended to cause mischief and undermine the regional efforts to find a durable solution to the conflict in Eastern DRC.

Referring to the expanded Joint Verification Mechanism (JVM) which all the eleven ICGLR member states contributed officers, Okello said efforts were already on to verify and monitor accusations and counter accusations.

"It is disheartening for any DRC government official to undermine the spirit and efforts of the regional leaders to realise the objective of security and stability in the region," he added.

The Military Assessment Team (MAT), led by an officer at the rank of Brigadier General from Tanzania, has been meeting as per the terms of reference agreed on by the regional heads of state to operationalise the establishment of a proposed neutral international force.

At the last ICGLR summit in Kampala earlier this month, the team was given two weeks to come up with a report on the strength of negative forces operating in the eastern part of DRC which include FDLR, the militia group largely responsible for the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi in

Rwanda.

SOUTH AFRICA :

Case for miners to split local, international assets

by Ron Derby/bdlive.co.za/19 October 2012

LOOKING at the difficulty faced by South African gold miners, the case to separate their local assets and their less problematic international operations looks to be growing stronger by the day.

US investors who follow South African gold companies are getting very edgy on the local operations of Gold Fields, AngloGold Ashanti and Harmony.

"I have advised the companies we know very well in South Africa that they should think of a way to separate their South African assets away from the rest of their portfolio," John Hathaway, MD of a US asset management company, was quoted as saying by Bloomberg on Thursday.

"There is an excessive discount on the assets they have outside South Africa because of the news in South Africa."

South African gold miners have under-performed the price of the metal by a significant margin over the past 10 years. Bullion has gained more than five times its value in that time, while AngloGold shares have risen only 26%. Harmony's shares have fallen 47% and Gold Fields stock has barely moved.

Harmony has the biggest exposure to South Africa, with more than 90% of revenues coming from what was once the world's biggest gold source. AngloGold has the best geographical spread, which Gold Fields has been trying to match with its South American expansion.

When you consider that Harmony still has to develop its promising Papua New Guinea assets, the idea of separately listing South African assets from international operations looks more and more likely as the final solution.

The wildcat strikes have already raised talk of restructuring in the gold sector, it may mean much more than just job cuts.

...

SOMEWHERE in the world right now there is a corporate results presentation happening at which a CEO is talking up the advantages of increasing exposure to emerging markets.

This has especially been the case since the global credit crunch of 2008, which squeezed the life out of Europe, US and Japan.

Over the course of this year, the emerging market growth story has changed. And it all started with a slowdown in China, the world's second-biggest economy, whose growth slowed for seven quarters.

On Thursday, China reported 7.4% growth for the three months to end September, from 7.6% in the second period. The slowdown was better than markets were expecting, allaying fears of a hard landing, which would push the world into another recession.

The more optimistic analysts see current growth rates as near the bottom of the cycle, but with China's competitiveness being eaten away as the population ages and wages rise to high double digits, there's room to be surprised.

A sluggish Europe has seen a fall in demand for emerging market exports from places such as South Africa and Brazil. Up until the middle of this year, China's high growth provided a cushion.

Declining growth there has heightened concerns over growth across emerging market economies, especially for commodity-based countries as China, the biggest consumer of resources.

Emerging-market gross domestic product appears to have grown by about 4.5% year on year in the past quarter, according to London-based Capital Economics. That's well below the 8% growth rates seen in 2010.

No region has escaped the slowdown but Asia, the Middle East and Africa have outperformed Latin America, the agency said.

"There is very little evidence to suggest that industrial production growth will accelerate over the coming months."

The slowing tide in emerging markets is starting to tell in some of the major companies with an impressive exposure to the region, including London-listed SABMiller. The brewer reported sales in Latin America and Africa that missed analysts' estimates yesterday, while its performance in Europe improved. In the six months through September, the world's second-largest brewer reported gains of 4% in Latin America and 6% in Africa, below median estimates of 5.5% and 8.5%, respectively. European volumes rose 9%, above a 6% estimate.

Nestlé, the world's biggest food company, on Thursday also listed problems with its emerging market operations, which represent more than a quarter of its sales.

"We can no longer afford to be complacent when it comes to emerging market opportunity, weaknesses are emerging. This is especially the case for South African companies whose management is only now speaking of the benefits of expansion into the rest of the continent," it said.

South African Mine Strife Returns to Origin

By DEVON MAYLIE And JAMES HERRON /online.wsj.com/ October 18, 2012

RUSTENBURG, South Africa—South Africa's long-running labor dispute returned to its origin at Lonmin LMI.LN +0.39% PLC's Marikana mine late Wednesday as 4,000 employees at the facility refused to work, a spokeswoman for the company said Thursday.

The return of strikes to Marikana is an ominous signal for South Africa's troubled mining industry. The Lonmin facility was the original flash point back in August for a labor dispute that has badly affected the crucial gold and platinum mining industries in South Africa. The strikes have weakened South Africa's economy and created serious political problems for President Jacob Zuma.

The original Marikana strike was the scene of the most violent clashes between police and workers since the end of apartheid. At the height of the dispute in August, police opened fire on striking workers at the mine, killing 34 people.

Some production of platinum ore continues at Marikana, but around eight different work areas within the facility have been affected by the latest work stoppages, said Lonmin spokeswoman Sue Vey. A total of 28,000 people are employed at Marikana.

Workers refused to go underground to protest the arrest of three mine employees in connection with the killing of a National Union of Mineworkers' representative two weeks ago, she said.

The Marikana miners' strike started as a power struggle between two unions seeking to represent disgruntled workers living in cramped hostels or in shacks without running water or electricity. When the strike started in August, the National Union of Mineworkers, a political ally of the ruling African National Congress, blamed an attempt by its young rival, the Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union, to recruit new members.

The new Marikana strike broke out as tens of thousands of workers at other facilities in the country waited to find out if they would lose their jobs for undertaking unauthorized work stoppages at other mines.

Many companies have resorted to dismissals to try to end the weeklong strikes that have turned violent and cut substantial amounts of output.

Gold Fields Ltd. GFI.JO -1.17% has extended to Friday its deadline for workers to return to their jobs or face immediate dismissal, the company said. Around 11,000 Gold Fields employees have been on strike since September.

Another 8,500 workers at Gold Fields' KDC East mine could still be dismissed, but the company said it needs a court order to be able to do so.

Anglo American Platinum Ltd., AMS.JO +0.05% said Thursday it still planned to fire 12,000 miners at its Rustenburg facility, but is willing to discuss their status as part of a broader engagement with labor unions. Dismissal procedures for workers at the company's Union and Amandelbult mines have been put on hold to allow wage negotiations to proceed, it said.

Attendance levels at its mines remain below 20%, the company said.

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TANZANIA :

Tanzania: State Outlines Gas Exploitation Strategies

By Anne Robi/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/19 October 2012

DEPUTY Minister for Energy and Minerals George Simbachawene has said that Tanzania prefers adopting Production Sharing Agreement (PSA) as a model for developing oil and gas sector because it attracts foreign capital and ensures state ownership of resources.

Mr Simbachawene said this in Dar es Salaam during the Tanzania oil and gas conference jointly organised by the University of Dar es salaam's College of Engineering and Technology, Ministry of

energy and Minerals Resources and Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA).

He said through such a model, oil companies bear all the risks from exploration to production phases. He said while the approach was rewarding in attracting foreign capital due to the fact that the state remains the owner of the resources, it often involves considerable risk to host countries due to limitation in human capital to provide proper oversight leading into lost revenue.

The conference brought together local and foreign experts in oil and gas to create a platform for sharing views, experiences and ways to develop, manage and finally achieve win-win situation solution in exploration, exploitation and utilization of gas.

He said according to the Tanzania Petroleum Development Cooperation (TPDC), about 61 wells have so far been drilled in the country both offshore and onshore during the past 60 years and the country has recently discovered large amounts of natural gas about 33 trillion cubic feet (tcf).

Mr Simbachawene said such large discoveries have made the country a major player in natural gas production at global level. He said if properly managed, current resources could bring about major revolution of the country's economy.

Tanzania: Barlow Stood Firm to Combat Crimes in Mwanza

By Dassu Stephen/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/19 October 2012

Mwanza — JUST a few days ago, Mwanza residents and a nation at large lost one of the strongest men who stood firm in fighting crimes. This is none other than Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) Liberatus Barlow (53).

The late Assistant Commissioner of Police (ACP) was killed on Saturday midnight by unknown assailants at Kitangili area in Ilemela district. Reliable sources say the RPC was said to have stopped in the area to drop one passenger, and suddenly surrounded by unknown people, and one of them shot dead the RPC.

One of the residents Mashaka Kizito (23) at Kitangiri area where the incident occurred had this to say, "It was in the late night around 1.30 a.m. when I heard a bang like that of a rifle, and when I wanted to get outside to see what was happening over there, my mother told me not to go because it looked like a criminal incident. "When we woke up early in the morning we heard information that it was the Mwanza RPC who was shot dead during that night.

This incident has really shocked all the people who live in this area," explained Mr Kizito. ACP Barlow is no more but his legacy among his colleagues, residents remains indelible. Just few days before his demise, RPC Barlow when addressing local private security guards here in Mwanza city was quoted as saying, "You (security guards) should always remember that fighting criminals require not only your physical strengths but also need to employ modern tactics in identifying fast changing techniques being used by criminals.

"Never be afraid to fight all forms, manifestations of crimes in this country because the people have always faith on your capability, competence and courage." The above statement indicate that the late RPC Barlow was not only aware of the fast changing tactics orchestrated by criminals, but was also striving to guide, direct and motivate his colleagues in fighting such crimes.

The ability to co-ordinate, organize and spearhead a relentless cause to fighting crimes are some of the qualities that make a good leader. The Mwanza regional Commissioner (RC) describes the late

ACP Barrow as a highly committed, trustworthy, diligent person, and, "Seven hours before he was killed, I as a regional security committee chairperson invited him (Barlow) with other colleagues to attend a meeting at my office.

He was cheerful and gave several useful comments on how to maintain security and fight crimes in our region. "What I can say is that we have lost a man who still had the potential to serve not only the police forces, but also his family and the nation at large," says RC Eng Evarist Ndikilo. Born on 26 December 1959, ACP Barlow was a third child in his family. He pursued primary school in Rural Moshi and thereafter he joined Maua Seminary secondary school located in the same district.

In 1982 he joined the Moshi Police Academy and started his career in the migration department. In 1984-1987 he pursued his degree in public administration at the University of Dar es Salaam. Within the police department he has also been upgraded to various posts. These include, OCD in Tabora, Mwanza and Bukoba. Before being transferred to Mwanza as the new RPC, he had previously served in the same post in Tabora and Mara regions.

"As a matter of fact, many Mwanza residents would remember the late Barlow as unrelenting, dedicated character in fighting crimes. Under Barlow's leadership, crime related incidents have significantly declined here in Mwanza. This is an indication that he did very well in curbing crimes in the region," says Eng Ndikilo.

The Inspector General of Police (IGP) Said Mwema has pledged thorough investigations to circumstances that led to indiscriminate killing of the ACP Liberatus Barrow. Same sentiments are echoed by RC Ndikilo who stated, "Those who perpetrated such a criminal, barbaric act will have no place to hide." The late Barlow is survived with a widow, and three children. May the Almighty God rest his soul in RPC Liberatus Barlow eternal peace.

KENYA :

Kenya: Sheikh Dor Arrested Over MRC Remarks

18 October 2012/The Star (Nairobi)

NOMINATED MP Sheikh Mohammed Dor will this morning appear in court on charges of intention to finance criminal activities.

Sheikh Dor told the media last week, "There is no problem in funding MRC because it's a legal outfit and I will be ready to fund them if they approach me."

In July a Mombasa court upheld a suit by the MRC that they were not an illegal organisation. He was arrested along Standard Street in Nairobi on his way to Jogoo House to deliver Muslims' views on the Education Bill to Education minister Mutula Kilonzo.

Detectives then took Dor to his house in Runda estate where they spent hours searching for paper evidence to link him to MRC.

He was briefly taken to CID headquarters and Mazingira house and then driven to an unknown destination for questioning.

Yesterday CID deputy Director Gideon Kimilu told the Star that Dor will be charged after he

declared in the media that he was ready to finance secession by the Mombasa Republic Council.

He declined to reveal where the police were holding the MP. Dor's wife Nuru Abdalla Tabaya yesterday said she was worried because her husband had not communicated to her since his arrest and police might "do something bad."

Speaking to the press yesterday with family members, she said Sheikh Dor has always been a peaceful member of society.

"The authorities are using their earthly powers, but I believe Allah's powers will prevail. I leave everything to him," said Tabaya.

Neighbours called her and informed her of Sheikh Dor's arrest. Muslim leaders yesterday said they were furious over the arrest.

Sheikh Dor is the secretary general of the Council of Imams and Preachers of Kenya and an imam at Mbaruki mosque Mombasa.

The Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (Supkem), National Muslim Leaders' Forum (Namlef), Jamia Mosque Committee and Ummah Foundation convened an emergency meeting at Jamia Mosque Nairobi.

"Muslims leaders are alarmed by the arbitrary and barbaric arrest of our leaders even without an arrest warrant. We are angry at what happened. We demand a full explanation from the government on why the Imam was manhandled on the streets as if a most wanted criminal," said Dr Abdullahi Abdi, Namlef secretary general.

"We know the government has no religion but it should have respect on our leaders. It is shameful, humiliating for him to have been rounded up in the streets and bundled into the car as if he was a street child," CIPK chairman Mohamed Idris said.

The leaders called on Muslims across the country to exercise restraint. They said they had summoned all their religious leaders from the 47 counties to determine the next course of action in the next 48 hours.

"There is a growing trend aimed at intimidating Kenyans into fear and silence. I don't hold a brief for MRC but the torture and the beatings by the security agents are a violation of human rights. They are suspects who should be taken to court to face criminal proceedings if they are suspected of perpetrating violence or breaking the law," Abdullahi said.

At the press conference Mvita MP Najib Balala distanced himself, Sheikh Dor and other coast politicians from allegations that they were funding the secessionist group.

Last week, CID director Ndegwa Muhoro said three Coast MPs and two businessmen are being investigated for financing the MRC.

Kenya National Muslim Advisory Council (Kenmac) and Pwani Ni Kenya lobby group however said Dor should be investigated over his remarks that financing the MRC is not a crime.

"MRC has in the past engaged in criminal activities and should be treated as a criminal gang," Pwani ni Kenya chairman Alex Kasuku said.

Kenmac chairman Sheikh Juma Ngao said Sheikh Dor's remarks may provoke Mijikenda youth to cause chaos at the Coast.

"His words must be investigated. He must explain exactly what he meant by saying anyone can finance the group," said Sheikh Ngao in Mombasa.

Ngao said MRC grievances can be addressed through the new county governments under the constitution. Muslim leaders from Mombasa will meet today at Masjid Mbarouk where Sheikh Dor preaches.

Supkem Coast chairman Sheikh Muhdhar Khitamy said the police violated Sheikh Dor's rights by not allowing him to communicate with his family. "Is this the constitution we voted for?," he said at Masjid Mbarouk.

"Police will use reasonable force to the resistance they encounter. We will use slightly more compared to the quality that will be used against. We will not treat the MRC with kid gloves. If for instance they resist using AK 47 rifles, we will use slightly higher quality of force to be sure to overpower them. So don't come with anything and expect us to be less prepared," deputy police spokesman Charles Owino Wahong'o yesterday told the Star.

"We can't target people by their colour, tribe or religion. We are dealing with individuals who are committing crimes not a group," Wahong'o said.

Kenya: Resignation Entitles Baraza to All Financial Dues

By Wambui Ndonga/Capital FM (Nairobi)/18 October 2012

Nairobi — Former Deputy Chief Justice Nancy Baraza, who resigned on Thursday afternoon, will get all her benefits as outlined in the contract she signed with the Judicial Service Commission (JSC).

A legal expert interviewed by Capital FM News said Baraza would only have lost her terminal dues if she lost the appeal she had filed at the Supreme Court.

Baraza had sought the intervention of the Supreme Court following a decision by a tribunal calling for her dismissal from duty, after she was accused of assaulting a security guard.

Lawyer Patrick Kahonge however noted that it would be difficult to estimate the amount of money that Baraza was entitled to owing to the fact that the public was not privy to the discussions contained in her contract with the JSC.

"She will be entitled to her terminal dues, which are spelt out in her contract document but you know none of us has the advantage of knowing what is in it and we will have to go back to the contract. However her dues will also include her pension benefits," he said.

Kahonge added that the JSC would have to advertise the vacancy to get a replacement.

The Judicial Service Act (2011) states that the Chief Justice shall within 14 days from the resignation date place a notice in the Kenya Gazette announcing the vacancy before the JSC can take up the matter.

The JSC will then place a notice on its website in addition to notifying the professional lawyers'

association and invite members of the public to apply for the available position.

"Because there is a vacancy the JSC has established a procedure of how to hire the Judges so in this case the commission will put up a public advertisement and they will vet the candidates they get," Kahonge explained.

He also argued that there was a high possibility that the candidate chosen would be a woman so as to ensure that the Supreme Court adhered to the constitutional gender balance rule.

He added that if Lady Justice Njoki Ndung'u or any other judge, who sits in the Supreme Court, showed interest in the position they would also have to apply.

"And it doesn't necessarily have to be those that had applied before and going by what the Constitution provides on gender and given the current composition of the Supreme Court it is most likely that the JSC will appoint a female candidate," he argued.

Kahonge further pointed out that the JSC could also pick a female candidate who sits in the Court of Appeal or the High Court.

Baraza withdrew her appeal before the Supreme Court and instead chose to resign saying she had no faith in the process due to the court's current composition.

"Two of the judges sat at the Judicial Service Commission which petitioned the president to appoint the tribunal that probed my conduct. They cannot therefore, logically and legally sit on my appeal," she argued.

"I still reject the tribunal findings which I found most injudicious and not founded in known principles of law. However, our country is bigger and greater than any one of us," she added.

The former Deputy Chief Justice had been accused of pinching a guard's nose at the Village Market in Nairobi, on New Year's Eve, in addition to threatening her with a gun after the guard attempted to frisk her.

A seven member tribunal, under the leadership of former Chief Justice of Tanzania Augustino Ramadhani, was then formed to investigate her conduct upon which it advised President Mwai Kibaki to remove her from office.

The president could however not act on the recommendation after Baraza filed the appeal against the tribunal's decision.

The hearing was scheduled to take place on Wednesday but failed to materialise after Baraza's lawyer failed to show up. It was then moved to October 23.

Kenya: Marende Orders Sonko Probed

By Francis Mureithi/The Star (Nairobi)/ 18 October 2012

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Kenneth Marende has asked the DPP Keriako Tobiko and the police to hurriedly investigate allegations of assault by Makadara MP Mike Sonko at Parliament Buildings.

Marende has also summoned a meeting of Committee of Privileges which he chairs to discuss the

matter next Thursday at 2.30 pm.

Marende said a senior Sergeant-at-Arms in Parliament was injured in the scuffle and has already recorded a statement with a medical examination report.

Last Thursday Sonko had just been evicted by temporary Speaker Joyce Laboso for disorderly conduct after shouting 'Mwizi' (thief) during debate.

Just outside the chamber, Sonko got into an altercation with Attorney General Githu Muigai. Sonko was angry that the AG had ordered investigations into allegations that he had tried to extort money over a one acre plot of land next to Muthangari police station in Nairobi.

On Tuesday the Law Society of Kenya asked the Speaker Kenneth Marende to take disciplinary action against Sonko for getting into a fracas with the AG.

Yesterday Prof Githu told the Star that he had not been slapped by Sonko in the incident but a sergeant at arms was injured on the hand.

"I wish to inform the people of Kenya that my Office is not only aware but fully seized of the alleged incident. The parliamentary officer who is alleged to have been assaulted and who is a Senior Sergeant-at-Arms in Parliament recorded a statement at the Parliament Police Station on 11th October, 2012 under Occurrence Book entry number 21 of that date. He has also obtained a Medical Examination Report (P3) from the Kenya Police Surgeon. The officers of the Parliament Police Station have been actively engaged in investigating the matter," Marende said in a statement.

Marende said he has directed all parliamentary officers who may have witnessed the alleged assault to record statements at the Parliament Police Station forthwith.

The Speaker further appealed to MPs who may have witnessed the alleged assault to also record their statements within the next three days.

"I call upon the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions to expedite investigations into this matter and to take all necessary measures," said Marende.

Marende said his office has continually sought to ensure that the parliamentary powers and privileges set out in the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act are observed.

"My Office takes seriously any breach or abuse of parliamentary powers or privileges," he said.

The Speaker said as a result of the incident, he has summoned the members of the Committee of Privileges. The members are Marende as the chairman, the AG Githu Muigai, ministers Mutula Kilonzo, Eugene Wamalwa, Peter Munya, and MPs Millie Odhiambo, Martha Karua, James Gesami, Nuh Nassir, Chris Okemo, and Fred Kapondi.

The committee is empowered to inquire into any alleged breach by any member of the Assembly of the Code of Conduct, or into any conduct of any member of the Assembly within the precincts of Parliament other than the Chamber which might reflect adversely on the dignity of Parliament.

After the inquiry, the committee is supposed to report to the whole House together with its recommendations. The House will then consider the report and may take disciplinary action against the member concerned.

Disciplinary action may include suspension when an MP is deemed a stranger and is not allowed to enter Parliament without the Speaker's consent.

ANGOLA :

Angola: Ruling Party Congratulates Public Television On Restructuring Process

18 October 2012/AngolaPress

Luanda — The secretariat of the ruling MPLA party's politburo Thursday in Luanda encouraged the managing board and professionals of the Public Television of Angola (TPA) to continue with the process of restructuring, modernisation and legal adjustment of its structures with a view to ensuring a better public information service, working and living conditions of the staff.

The recognition is expressed in a congratulation message that reached ANGOP, on the occasion of the celebration of the 37th anniversary of TPA, on 18 October.

In the note, MPLA wishes success in its relentless pursuit of improvement of the skills of the staff and employees to the contributions required from this organ in education and formation of the new generations.

In this date, the secretariat of MPLA's politburo expresses its recognition of the relevant work performed by TPA-EP toward its affirmation in a national sector of competitive television, that values the cultural and linguistic diversity of our people, open to the initiatives and new challenges, "reads the message.

Angola: Lunda Norte Governor Defends Expansion of New Supermarket Network

18 October 2012/AngolaPress

Dundo — The governor of the north-eastern Lunda Norte Province, Ernesto Muangala, last Wednesday defended that it is necessary to expand the New Network of Angolan Supermarkets (NRSA), in the whole province, having into account its potential.

Ernesto Muangala said so on the fringe of the re-inauguration of the Nosso Super supermarket, in Dundo City, which was

closed for two years due to technical and administrative reasons.

In emphasizing the advantages of the services provided by the NRSA, the governor guaranteed that the executive will give all

the necessary support to the institution's board, so that the project can be extended to other places.

Africa: Angola Joins the Rich Kids in the Sovereign Wealth Fund Club

By Simon Allison/Daily Maverick/19 October 2012

analysis

Sovereign wealth funds are the must-have fashion accessory for every rich and autocratic regime. Angola is late to the party, and its \$5-billion in seed money is paltry compared to the big boys.

Nonetheless, this will make Angola's the second largest such fund in sub-Saharan Africa, and maybe, just maybe, diversify its oil-dependent economy.

It was only a matter of time before Angola set up a sovereign wealth fund. Given the southern African country's vast but finite oil reserves, it makes good business sense to invest some of its billions in other, less volatile areas, and sovereign wealth funds are currently the favourite way for resource-rich states to do just that.

Angola's fund, to be known as the Fundo Soberano de Angola (FSDEA), will start with \$5-billion in assets, immediately making it the second-largest fund in sub-Saharan Africa behind Botswana's Pula Fund (\$6.9-billion). Botswana established its fund in 1994 as a way to invest revenues from diamonds and minerals, and it has taken them all this time to build it up; few doubt that Angola, with its exponentially greater resources, will swiftly overtake it. Both countries, however, have a long way to go before they can match Algeria (\$56.7-billion) and Libya (\$65-billion) in Africa. Even these are small, compared to major global players in the sovereign wealth fund game like China (with a fund of \$1.4-trillion), the United Arab Emirates (\$804-billion) and Saudi Arabia (\$538-billion).

"The economy is very one sided and very correlated to the volatility of oil prices," José Filomeno de Sousa dos Santos, a member of the Angolan fund's board, told *The New York Times*. "The aim is to create wealth for future generations." He did not specify whether he meant generations of Angolans, or generations of the ruling Dos Santos family, of which he, as a son of president Jose Eduardo dos Santos, is a member.

In a country with one of the highest levels of financial inequality in the world – where a cheeseburger in a hotel costs as much as most people earn in a month – this is a fair question. And in fairness to Dos Santos junior, he did clarify his position in another statement: "There are still considerable challenges facing the country. However, we are committed to promoting social and economic development by investing in projects that create opportunities that will positively impact the lives of all Angolans today and to generate wealth for future generations."

The FSDEA will take on the role as the state's official investment vehicle, taking over from another fund managed by the state oil agency, Sonangol. This fund already has an impressive portfolio, particularly in Portugal where it owns significant shares in a number of banks and energy companies. Other Angolan investment funds have prospered over the last few years, none more so than the one managed by the president's daughter, Isabel dos Santos (which also has close links with Sonangol).

The Dos Santos family either has a flair for financial management, or there's a little nepotism going on.

The latter makes more sense, taking Angola's poor record on corruption into account. "The government's bookkeeping is notoriously opaque," *The New York Times* reported. Earlier this year, the IMF identified \$32 billion missing from Sonangol's books, and rights groups regularly describe corruption in Angola as "pervasive". Not helping this perception is that even before the fund has been officially launched, Angola has employed global PR firm Grayling to manage its reputation for a hefty \$500,000 fee. Most recently, Grayling has been in the news as the target of protests against its dealings with Belarus, Europe's last dictatorship.

All of which begs the question: who is the new sovereign wealth fund really for? Will it help to redress Angola's vast wealth imbalance, or merely make the gap even bigger?

Promisingly, Angola has indicated that in implementing the fund it will apply the Santiago Principles, a voluntary set of 24 regulations designed to keep sovereign wealth funds transparent and accountable.

According to these, Angola will have to set very specific investment policies and publicly justify whenever it wishes to withdraw money from the fund.

There's likely to be a long lead-in time between the announcement of the fund and any actual investment (in August last year, the Daily Maverick reported on the launch of Nigeria's sovereign wealth fund; it has yet to disburse a single naira), meaning it will be a long time before we see any returns on investment, or how those returns will be used.

The Daily Maverick is a unique blend of news, information, analysis and opinion delivered from our newsroom in Johannesburg, South Africa.

AU/AFRICA :

Lesotho leader backs SA's new AU head

by Nick Kotch/bdlive.co.za/19 October 2012

FEARS in some African capitals that Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma would be a bully as head of the African Union (AU) Commission were unfounded, Lesotho's Prime Minister Tom Thabane said on Thursday.

"They thought, 'The South Africans will bully us.' I know her well and I don't think she'll bully anybody," he said in an interview.

Ms Dlamini-Zuma was elected to head the commission in July, after a bruising battle that mainly pitted West African and French-speaking governments against Southern Africa and its supporters, diplomats say. South Africa's former foreign minister took over in Addis Ababa on Monday. Two days later she flew to Mali to help seek a solution to the de facto partition of the Sahelian country.

"We want Mali to go back to its original democratic, united and developing country status," Ms Dlamini-Zuma said in Bamako on Thursday ahead of talks with the government and officials from the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas).

Ms Dlamini-Zuma, Mali's interim President Dioncounda Traore, and United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon's special envoy for the region, Romano Prodi, are all expected at today's talks.

On October 12, the UN Security Council passed a resolution asking West African nations to speed up preparations for an international intervention, and giving them 45 days to lay out detailed plans.

Ecowas has said it has 3,000 troops on standby for a mission to reclaim the north.

Mr Thabane said Southern African leaders would help Ms Dlamini-Zuma in her new job.

"There is a lot of work to do. That (AU) seat had become a bit of a monopoly for the West Africans and in particular the francophones."

Ms Dlamini-Zuma's two predecessors were Jean Ping of Gabon and Alpha Omar Konare of Mali, both former French colonies.

The African Union replaced the former Organisation of African Unity in 2002 but has been heavily criticised for underperformance, particularly in handling conflicts and ending its reliance on donors to cover its budget.

But Mr Thabane dismissed speculation that Ms Dlamini-Zuma would start axing personnel at the AU headquarters. "I don't think that she is going there to remove anybody."

International officials meet on Mali crisis

By Faith Karimi, CNN/October 19, 2012

(CNN) -- International leaders meet in Mali's capital Friday to discuss military intervention as al Qaeda-linked rebels tighten their grip in the nation's north.

The meeting will include regional African leaders and United Nations officials.

"We want Mali to go back to its original democratic, united and developing country status," said Dlamini Zuma, the African Union commission chairwoman.

"The crisis has the potential of spreading beyond the region. So it is a very important issue for the African Union, for the continent and for peace in the world."

Zuma is among a contingent of officials attending the meeting in Bamako.

Last week, the U.N. Security Council approved a resolution that gives regional leaders 45 days to provide detailed plans for an international military intervention. The meeting is a followup to the resolution.

Mali plunged into chaos in March after a military ruler overthrew the president, shaking one of West Africa's most stable democracies.

The coup leader stepped down in May and transferred power to a civilian transitional government. However, uncertainty looms as Islamist militants roaming the north wage a campaign of destruction.

Soon after the coup, ethnic Tuareg rebels and Islamist militants took advantage of the power vacuum to seize the northern part of the country.

Two groups with ties to al Qaeda later toppled the Tuareg movement, and now control two-thirds of northern Mali, an area the size of France.

West African leaders and the transitional government have asked the United Nations Security Council to authorize military intervention to oust the rebels.

The resolution approved last week tasked U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon with working with

African leaders to submit to the Security Council within 45 days "detailed and actionable recommendations" in preparation for the deployment of an international military force in Mali.

As leaders work to find a solution, grim reports of human rights violations are emerging in the north.

Radical Islamists are compiling a list of unmarried mothers, raising fears of cruel punishments such as stoning, amputations and executions, a senior United Nations official said this month.

The list will include women who have had children out of wedlock and those who are unmarried and pregnant, according to Ivan Simonovic, the U.N. assistant secretary-general for human rights.

The Islamists have vowed to impose a stricter form of Islamic law, or sharia. They say the law condemns relationships outside marriage.

Extremists have conducted public executions, amputations, floggings and other punishments.

In addition to human rights violations, Islamists razed tombs near the desert city of Timbuktu on Thursday -- the latest attacks targeting cultural heritage sites in the north.

The rebels have destroyed tombs and shrines in the past few months in the city, which features various ancient and prominent burial sites.

They regard such shrines as idolatrous and thus prohibited by their religion. They have targeted Sufi shrines, which they consider sacrilegious. Sufism is a mystical dimension of Islam considered offbeat by Islamic hardliners.

UN/AFRICA :

Conflict over Rwanda's rise in UN

Friday 19 October 2012/Sherwin Bryce-Pease/sabc.co.za

Rwanda will replace South Africa on the UN Security Council when the latter relinquishes its non-permanent seat at the end of the year. Rwanda, who had the backing of the African Union, joins Australia, South Korea, Luxembourg and Finland for two years terms starting on January 1.

But Rwanda's was the most controversial of the lot - with the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) objecting to their candidacy over a UN-report that accuses the country of supporting M23-rebels fighting the Kinshasa government.

According to the UN General Assembly, because of the destabilising role in the DRC, Rwanda today is an oasis for peace for all criminals operating in the Eastern part of the DRC and who are being sought by international justice - as such UN General Assembly delegation objects to Rwanda being part of the Security Council as a non permanent member.

A leaked UN report by a group of experts accuses Rwanda and Uganda of military and political support of the rebel M23 in the DRC's East. The findings are due to be presented to the Security Council before Rwanda takes up its seat next year.

It's not a matter of the UN system as a whole and we have made it clear that the coordinator of this group of experts is a man who is problematic

Rwanda Foreign Minister, Louise Mushikiwabo says: "This report is flawed because of individuals. It's not a matter of the UN system as a whole and we have made it clear that the coordinator of this group of experts is a man who's problematic. But we will deal with that within the appropriate channels"

Human Rights Watch has also slammed Rwanda's election.

Under a dark cloud, Rwanda ascends to the most powerful decision-making body at the UN, rejecting the findings of the leaked report and promising rather to be a force for good in a region it stands accused of destabilising.

Under fire over Congo rebels, Rwanda wins Security Council seat

By Michelle Nichols and Louis Charbonneau/Reuters/Thu Oct 18, 2012

UNITED NATIONS

(Reuters) - Rwanda won a seat on the U.N. Security Council on Thursday, despite accusations by a U.N. panel that Rwanda's defense minister commands a rebellion in Democratic Republic of Congo, and warned countries against cutting off aid over the charges.

Rwanda was unopposed in its bid for the African seat on the council that South Africa will vacate at the end of December, but still needed approval from two-thirds of the U.N. General Assembly members present to secure the two-year term. It won 148 votes in the 193-nation assembly.

Argentina was also elected to the council unopposed, winning 182 votes. Australia won a seat with 140 votes, Luxembourg with 131 votes and South Korea with 149. Cambodia, Bhutan and Finland failed to secure two-year seats on the council.

There are five veto-holding permanent members of the council - the United States, Britain, France, Russia and China - and 10 temporary members without veto power. Thursday's election was for the term from January 1, 2013, to December 31, 2014.

Rwanda's government said that it would work with all members of the council to ensure "it is responsive and reflective of the views and aspirations of the developing world."

"Rwanda's troubling and tragic past allows it to bring to the UNSC a unique perspective on matters of war and peace," it posted on a Twitter account created for its Security Council term (@RwandaUNSC).

Before the vote, the Congolese delegation told the General Assembly it objected to Rwanda joining the Security Council, accusing its neighbor of harboring "war criminals operating in the eastern part of the DRC and who are being sought by international justice."

A confidential U.N. report, seen by Reuters on Tuesday, cast a shadow over Rwanda's election to the United Nations' 15-member power center - which has the ability to impose sanctions and authorize military interventions.

The Security Council's "Group of Experts" said that Rwanda and Uganda - despite their strong

denials - continued to support M23 rebels in their six-month fight against Congolese government troops in the east of the country.

RWANDA WARNS AGAINST CUTTING OFF AID

Rwandan President Paul Kagame posted a declaration on Twitter welcoming the result: "No matter what haters say ... justice&truth will prevail!!! Sometimes it just requires a bit of good fight for all that...!!!"

In an interview with Reuters, Rwandan Foreign Minister Louise Mushikiwabo warned countries against cutting off aid to Rwanda because of the U.N. report.

"It would be the biggest mistake that any donor country could make for Rwanda," Foreign Minister Louise Mushikiwabo told Reuters at the United Nations, shortly after Rwanda won a seat on the U.N. Security Council. "Rwanda is deserving of aid."

The United States, Sweden and the Netherlands have all suspended some aid to Rwanda, which relies on donors for about 40 percent of its budget. Last month the European Union froze further budgetary support to Rwanda.

However, Britain unblocked part of its cash in September, praising Rwanda for constructively pursuing peace. Mushikiwabo also rejected Congo's calls for sanctions against individuals named in the U.N. experts report, a 44-page document that she described as untrue and highly problematic.

She also sought to assure Congo that Rwanda would be a responsible council member and add value to it.

Philippe Bolopion of the advocacy group Human Rights Watch criticized the inclusion of Rwanda on the Security Council

"After blatantly violating the Security Council's arms embargo and undermining the work of the U.N. by propping up the abusive M23 rebels, Rwanda is rewarded with a seat at the table," he said.

"Kigali is now in a position to try to shield its own officials implicated in abuses from U.N. sanctions, which is a flagrant conflict of interest," Bolopion said in a statement. "Other Security Council members now have an even greater responsibility to hold Rwanda to account."

Britain's Deputy U.N. Ambassador Philip Parham put a more positive spin on Rwanda's election, saying: "We look forward to working with them on issues of international peace and security including the efforts to try to end the cycle of violence in the eastern DRC."

U.S. Ambassador Susan Rice issued a brief statement congratulating the incoming council members but did not mention Congo. The U.S. State Department has declined to comment on the U.N. experts' report, which has not been officially released.

Australian Foreign Minister Bob Carr described Australia's election as a "big juicy, decisive win" that endorsed the country as a good global citizen.

"For us as a middle power a long way from the centers of clout in the world, the centers of power in the world, this is a lovely moment," Carr told reporters after the vote.

South Africa, Colombia, Germany, India and Portugal are leaving the Security Council in

December. Azerbaijan, Guatemala, Pakistan, Togo and Morocco will remain until the end of 2013.

The last time Rwanda was on the council was in 1994-95. That coincided with a genocide in which 800,000 people were killed when Rwanda's Hutu-led government and ethnic militias went on a 100-day killing spree, massacring Tutsis and moderate Hutus.

The Congolese government on Wednesday demanded targeted sanctions against Rwandan and Ugandan officials named in the U.N. experts report.

According to the U.N. experts, who monitor compliance with sanctions and an arms embargo on the Congo, Rwandan Defense Minister General James Kabarebe was ultimately commanding the rebellion and both Rwanda and Uganda were providing weapons, troops and military and political aid to the insurgency.

(Additional reporting by Jenny Clover in Kigali and Yara Bayoumy in Nairobi; Editing by Paul Simao and Eric Walsh)

US/AFRICA :

Lt. Gen. David Rodriguez nominated to head U.S. Africa command

Pentagon/examiner.com/ By: Robert Tilford/ October 18, 2012

Secretary of Defense Leon Panetta held a news conference today at the Pentagon and announced that President Obama will nominate General David Rodriguez to succeed General Carter Ham as commander of U.S. Africa Command.

"General Rodriguez currently leads U.S. Army Forces Command, and as I think many of you know, he has served in a variety of key leadership roles on the battlefield. While serving as commander of ISAF Joint Command, he oversaw the coalition and Afghan forces during the surge, and was a key architect of the successful campaign plan that we are now implementing. He's a proven leader, extremely well prepared to serve as the next AFRICOM commander, if confirmed, and I believe he will be."

According to his service record, Rodriguez has commanded at every level, most recently the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command (IJC) in Afghanistan. Additional commands include the 82nd Airborne Division; 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division; and 2nd Battalion, 502nd Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault).

He commanded companies in 1st Armored Division, 75th Ranger Regiment, and led a platoon in the 5th Infantry Division (Mechanized).

Rodriguez's extensive combat experiences include: G-3 Planner, XVIII Airborne Corps, Operation Just Cause, 1989-1990; Operations Officer, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Desert Shield/Desert Storm, 1990-1991; Assistant Division Commander, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), 2002-2003; Commander, Multi-National Division-Northwest, 2005; Special Assistant to the Commander, Multi-National Corps-Iraq, 2006; Commander, Joint Task Force-82 in Afghanistan, 2007-2008; and Deputy Commander, United States Forces Afghanistan and Commander, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command.

White House urged to boost CIA drone fleet

Published: Oct. 19, 2012/UPI

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19 (UPI) -- The CIA has urged the White House to boost the agency's armed drone fleet to fight new North Africa al-Qaida threats, U.S. officials told The Washington Post.

The request by CIA Director David H. Petraeus for up to 10 remotely piloted drones would strengthen Washington's ability to stop the growth of an increasingly aggressive al-Qaida affiliate known as al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, White House officials said.

The insurgency group, based in the landlocked West Africa country of Mali, seeks to overthrow the neighboring Algerian government and institute an Islamic state.

U.S. spy agencies have linked the group, which has declared its intention to attack U.S. targets, to the deadly Sept. 11 attack on the U.S. Consulate in Benghazi, Libya. But officials have not said it was involved in the attack.

The group, which the State Department has labeled a foreign terrorist organization, has also vowed to attack Spanish and French targets.

It has gained weapons and territory following the collapse of regimes in Libya and Mali, officials said.

The regime of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi was overthrown in October 2011. The Malian government was overthrown in a coup in March.

The Maghreb refers to a region of Northwest Africa west of Egypt, notably Algeria, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco and Tunisia.

The Petraeus proposal was recently submitted to the White House National Security Council, but no decision has been made, the officials told the Post.

It is being evaluated by a White House panel known as the Counterterrorism Security Group, chaired by President Barack Obama's chief counterterrorism adviser, John O. Brennan, officials said.

The Pentagon did not oppose the plan, a senior Defense official told the Post. The Pentagon and other departments in the past expressed concerns about the CIA's expanding arsenal and growing involvement in lethal paramilitary operations.

The CIA started out as a civilian intelligence agency.

"With what happened in Libya, we're realizing that these places are going to heat up," an official told the newspaper, referring to the Sept. 11 Benghazi attack.

"I think we're actually looking forward a little bit," the official said, pointing out that officials have begun to map out contingencies but have made no decision about moving armed CIA drones into new regions.

The CIA, which currently has 30 to 35 drones, would still conduct lethal-strike campaigns in Pakistan and Yemen, officials said.

A drone strike in Yemen Thursday -- the 35th this year -- killed at least seven al-Qaida-linked militants near Jaar, a southern town previously controlled by al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula, a militant Islamist organization active mostly in Yemen and Saudi Arabia.

This al-Qaida branch has generally been the most active al-Qaida franchise as Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida organization weakened, the Council on Foreign Relations foreign-policy think tank says.

White House, CIA and Pentagon officials declined to comment on the Petraeus proposal.

The U.S. military has a drone fleet separate from the CIA's that is much larger.

A Pentagon report issued this year counted 246 MQ-1 Predator, MQ-9 Reapers and RQ-4 Global Hawks in the Air Force inventory alone, the Post said. Hundreds of other remotely piloted aircraft are distributed among the Army, Navy and Marines, the report said.

CIA found militant links a day after Libya attack

By KIMBERLY DOZIER, AP Intelligence Writer /19102012

WASHINGTON (AP) — The CIA station chief in Libya reported to Washington within 24 hours of last month's deadly attack on the U.S. Consulate that there was evidence it was carried out by militants, not a spontaneous mob upset about an American-made video ridiculing Islam's Prophet Muhammad, U.S. officials have told The Associated Press.

It is unclear who, if anyone, saw the cable outside the CIA at that point and how high up in the agency the information went. The Obama administration maintained publicly for a week that the attack on the diplomatic mission in Benghazi that killed U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens and three other Americans was a result of the mobs that staged less-deadly protests across the Muslim world around the 11th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks on the U.S.

Those statements have become highly charged political fodder as the presidential election approaches. A Republican-led House committee questioned State Department officials for hours about what GOP lawmakers said was lax security at the consulate, given the growth of extremist Islamic militants in North Africa.

And in their debate on Tuesday, President Barack Obama and Republican challenger Mitt Romney argued over when Obama first said it was a terror attack. In his Rose Garden address the morning after the killings, Obama said, "No acts of terror will ever shake the resolve of this great nation, alter that character or eclipse the light of the values that we stand for."

But Republicans say he was speaking generally and didn't specifically call the Benghazi attack a terror attack until weeks later, with the president and other key members of his administration referring at first to the anti-Muslim movie circulating on the Internet as a precipitating event.

Now congressional intelligence committees are demanding documents to show what the spy agencies knew and when, before, during and after the attacks.

The White House now says the attack probably was carried out by an al Qaida-linked group, with no public demonstration beforehand. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton blamed the "fog of war" for the early conflicting accounts.

The officials who told the AP about the CIA cable spoke anonymously because they were not authorized to release such information publicly.

Congressional aides say they expect to get the documents by the end of this week to build a timeline of what the intelligence community knew and compare that to what the White House was telling the public about the attack. That could give Romney ammunition to use in his foreign policy debate with Obama on Monday night.

The two U.S. officials said the CIA station chief in Libya compiled intelligence reports from eyewitnesses within 24 hours of the assault on the consulate that indicated militants launched the violence, using the pretext of demonstrations against U.S. facilities in Egypt against the film to cover their intent. The report from the station chief was written late Wednesday, Sept. 12, and reached intelligence agencies in Washington the next day, intelligence officials said.

Yet, on Saturday of that week, briefing points sent by the CIA to Congress said "demonstrations in Benghazi were spontaneously inspired by the protests at the U.S. Embassy in Cairo and evolved into a direct assault."

The briefing points, obtained by the AP, added: "There are indications that extremists participated in the violent demonstrations" but did not mention eyewitness accounts that blamed militants alone.

Such raw intelligence reports by the CIA on the ground would normally be sent first to analysts at the headquarters in Langley, Va., for vetting and comparing against other intelligence derived from eavesdropping drones and satellite images. Only then would such intelligence generally be shared with the White House and later, Congress, a process that can take hours, or days if the intelligence is coming only from one or two sources who may or may not be trusted.

U.S. intelligence officials say in this case the delay was due in part to the time it took to analyze various conflicting accounts. One official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he wasn't authorized to discuss the incident publicly, explained that "it was clear a group of people gathered that evening" in Benghazi, but that the early question was "whether extremists took over a crowd or they were the crowd."

But that explanation has been met with concern in Congress.

"The early sense from the intelligence community differs from what we are hearing now," Rep. Adam Schiff, D-Calif., said. "It ended up being pretty far afield, so we want to figure out why ... though we don't want to deter the intelligence community from sharing their best first impressions" after such events in the future.

"The intelligence briefings we got a week to 10 days after were consistent with what the administration was saying," said Rep. William Thornberry, R-Texas, a member of the House Intelligence and Armed Services committees. Thornberry would not confirm the existence of the early CIA report but voiced skepticism over how sure intelligence officials, including CIA Director David Petraeus, seemed of their original account when they briefed lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

"How could they be so certain immediately after such events, I just don't know," he said. "That raises suspicions that there was political motivation."

National Security Council spokesman Tommy Vietor declined comment. The Office of the Director of National Intelligence did not respond to requests for comment.

Two officials who witnessed Petraeus' closed-door testimony to lawmakers in the week after the attack said that during questioning he acknowledged that there were some intelligence analysts who disagreed with the conclusion that an unruly mob angry over the video had initiated the violence. But those officials said Petraeus did not mention the CIA's early eyewitness reports. He did warn legislators that the account could change as more intelligence was uncovered, they said, speaking on condition of anonymity because the hearing was closed.

Beyond the question of what was known immediately after the attack, it's also proving difficult to pinpoint those who set the fire that apparently killed Stevens and his communications aide or launched the mortars that killed two ex-Navy SEALs who were working as contract security guards at a fallback location. That delay is prompting lawmakers to question whether the intelligence community has the resources it needs to investigate this attack in particular or to wage the larger fight against al-Qaida in Libya or across Africa.

Intelligence officials say the leading suspected culprit is a local Benghazi militia, Ansar al-Shariah. The group denies responsibility for the attack but is known to have ties to a leading African terror group, al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb. Some of its leaders and fighters were spotted by Libyan locals at the consulate during the violence, and intelligence intercepts show the militants were in contact with AQIM militants before and after the attack, one U.S. intelligence official said.

But U.S. intelligence has not been able to match those reported sightings with the faces of attackers caught on security camera recordings during the attack since many U.S. intelligence agents were pulled out of Benghazi in the aftermath of the violence, the two U.S. intelligence officials said.

Nor have they found proof to back up their suspicion that the attack was preplanned, as indicated by the military-style tactics the attackers used, setting up a perimeter of roadblocks around the consulate and the backup compounds, then attacking the main entrance to distract, while sending a larger force to assault the rear.

Clear-cut answers may prove elusive because such an attack is not hard to bring about relatively swiftly with little preplanning or coordination in a post-revolutionary country awash with weapons, where the government is so new it still relies on armed militants to keep the peace. Plus, the location of U.S. diplomat enclaves is an open secret for the locals.

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

Iran, Israel key to Australia's UN win

October 19, 2012/Paul McGeough and Daniel Flitton/smh.com.au

The backing of unlikely bed fellows Iran and Israel was key to Australia's stunning victory in the Security Council campaign.

Great achievement for a country so far from the corridors of world power

But the emphatic win was delivered mostly thanks to the support of African nations who overwhelmingly swung their votes behind Australia.

Canberra's \$25 million campaign for a seat at the world's top table paid off early today, when Australia raced ahead of Luxembourg and Finland in voting at UN headquarters to win membership of the UN Security Council.

A triumphant Foreign Minister Bob Carr told reporters in the UN lobby: "It's always good to see Australia win - and this is a big, juicy, decisive win."

Australia's stint on the Security Council will begin on January 1 and will last for two years.

Finland — the early favourite eventually beaten by European minnow Luxembourg and left without a seat - is thought to have simply underestimated Australia's support, thinking it had Africa's votes stitched up.

Israel was among the first to publicly pledge backing for Australia's bid back in 2008, with the Iranians only indicating in the past couple of weeks they would also vote Australia's way.

The secret ballot means the identity of 140 countries that delivered the prized seat on the council to Australia cannot be definitely known - but the final tally, winning beyond the required two-thirds of votes in the first round, has come as a shock to those close to the campaign.

"Beyond the most optimistic of our most confident predictions," said one insider.

Prime Minister Julia Gillard visited the Foreign Affairs and Trade headquarters in Canberra this morning to thank public servants involved in the campaign.

"This group of people knows that it's really hard and it takes a lot of work," Ms Gillard said.

She thanked a long list of people involved in the successful bid, including former prime minister Kevin Rudd, who had the "foresight" to launch Australia's diplomatic push five years ago, and the tenacity to pursue it when foreign affairs minister.

Ms Gillard thanked former foreign affairs minister Stephen Smith and Trade Minister Craig Emerson, as well as Mr Carr, who is still in New York.

"I think the fact that we came through is not only a tribute to Australia's diplomacy but to Australia's reputation around the world," she said.

Ms Gillard told reporters today the seat would help Australia pursue its goals, including for peace.

"Australians care about living on a planet that is a peaceful planet. That relates to the work of the Security Council," she said.

Ms Gillard said Australia could not afford not to engage with the international community.

"It's never been true that you can be just your own island and a fortress. You've always had to engage with the world."

Australia's priorities in the two years it will be a non-permanent council member would include advocating for action to protect Syrian civilians, continued engagement in East Timor, the fight

against terrorism and non-proliferation, she said.

“We do believe there needs to be action to address the violence in Syria, so we will certainly advocate for that,” Ms Gillard said.

“We will be dealing with issues of importance to our nation including the UN engagement with the mission in Afghanistan and the future of that mission beyond 2014.

“And it is the Security Council which will have to continue to wrestle with the violence in Syria and the way in which that violence can be brought to an end.”

She said it was disappointing that the Opposition “hasn’t had the generosity of spirit to say, ‘this is a great thing’”.

Shadow Treasurer Joe Hockey suggested that now Australia was on the Security Council, the UN could help Australia “stop the boats”.

“If the UN helps us stop the boats, then it’s a worthy investment,” he told reporters in Sydney.

Senator Carr signalled that the Security Council business in most need of attention by Australia and four other new non-permanent members included the Syrian civil war. He hedged on a bid by Palestinians for greater representation in the UN and he urged greater acknowledgement for the reform process in Burma.

In Australian domestic politics, the vote amounts to a vindication of Mr Rudd's decision to bid for the seat - five years after both Finland and Luxembourg had begun campaigning. Also, it was a rebuke for Opposition Leader Tony Abbott who last month ridiculed the Prime Minister for "swanning around New York" with Africans when she attended the UN.

Senator Carr this morning praised Ms Gillard for her work lobbying other nations, and also recognised Mr Rudd's early work on the campaign.

He said the Coalition should now embrace Australia's victory.

"This is an unequivocal win for Australia and we couldn't have done it without the prime minister's lobbying," Senator told ABC Radio.

"Julia Gillard engaged in intensive diplomacy with heads of government and heads of state and made a big hit in the UN last month."

Mr Abbott welcomed the win, but said this morning it came at the cost of many tens of millions of dollars and some dislocation of ordinary diplomatic processes.

"It was an expensive win and I think it probably owes as much to Kevin Rudd as to Julia Gillard, but nevertheless a win's a win," he told the Nine Network.

"Let's hope we put the next two years on the security council to good use."

After weeks of seeming anxiety driven by the opaque uncertainty of the secretive UN voting system, Canberra's ambassador to the UN, Gary Quinlan, acknowledged that Australia might have had a better sense of voting trends than it was letting on. He told reporters: "People voted the way they told us they would vote."

But in explaining the victory vote, Mr Quinlan said that in past votes as much as 25 per cent of promised votes failed to materialise. In the lead-up to today's vote, Australia had been pledged about 150 votes which meant that, after taking account of a possible 25 per cent discount, the race was going to be close.

The seat won by Australia is one of two allocated to what it known as the West European and Other Group of UN countries, which included Australia for reasons of its membership of the Commonwealth.

Celebrating the win as a victory for Australian diplomacy and values, Mr Carr argued that Canberra's margin was greater than that won by Germany two years ago - "great achievement for a country so far from the corridors of world power."

Australia was elected on the first of what had been expected to be at least several rounds of voting before any of the candidates registered the required two-thirds majority.

In the first poll, Australia secured an 11-vote buffer against a precarious run-off vote. Finland, the favourite in the field, was left floundering, as Luxembourg outpolled it - 128-108.

In a spill vote, Luxembourg defeated the stunned Finns by 131 to 60 votes.

with Bianca Hall, AAP

EU/AFRICA :

African and EU leaders to hold Mali summit

19 Oct 2012/aljazeera.com

ECOWAS and European leaders to meet in Bamako to make plans for foreign military intervention in Islamist-held north.

African and European leaders will meet in Bamako to work on plans for a military intervention to seize back Mali's desert north from armed Islamist groups who control the region.

Friday's summit comes a week after the United Nations Security Council passed a resolution asking West African nations to speed up preparations for the intervention, giving them 45 days to lay out detailed plans.

Rebels from the al-Qaeda-allied group Ansar Dine (Defenders of the Faith) on Thursday used pickaxes and other tools to destroy Muslim saints' tombs in the ancient city of Timbuktu, their latest attack on its cultural treasures.

Since seizing control of Mali's north in the chaos following a March coup, several Islamist groups have imposed a strict interpretation of sharia law. They have arrested unveiled women, stoned an unmarried couple to death and amputated the limbs of suspected thieves, according to residents and rights groups.

The global community has been in talks to intervene, with the Economic Community of West

African States (ECOWAS) saying it has 3,000 troops on standby for the purpose.

Among those expected at the meeting on Friday are Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, the new African Union commission chief, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan and Dioncounda Traore, Mali's interim president.

The number-two EU diplomat Pierre Vimont, France's envoy to the Sahel Jean Felix-Paganon, and UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's special envoy for the region, former Italian prime minister Romano Prodi, will also take part.

Strategy talks

Representatives from ECOWAS countries, the only ones expected to send troops to Mali, will begin laying out their strategy for the intervention.

They will set out their military needs and take note of what ammunition and ground troops Mali has available, according to Western diplomatic sources.

"We need to know where we're going with this," one diplomatic source said.

"It has to be very well thought-out, otherwise the Security Council won't be on board if it deems the plan to be flawed," the source added.

On Thursday, Guinea said it was ready to deliver to Mali weapons purchased by the regime of president Amadou Toumani Toure before he was overthrown in March.

ECOWAS has blocked delivery since late July. Guinea said it wanted to make sure the weapons fell into the right hands in Mali.

Underlining the importance of the meeting, Malian presidential advisor Moussa Diakite told the AFP news agency "it will be for us, Malians, and for our partners from the international community an opportunity to agree upon a plan to kick out the terrorists".

Increasing pressure

Also expected to be involved "in one way or another" according to his entourage is Captain Amadou Haya Sanogo, the leader of the March 22 coup. The instability that coup caused allowed the Islamists to seize the north. He said last month that he backed the country's efforts to reclaim the region.

Alongside details of the military intervention, the meeting's attendees will also discuss the option of negotiating with some of the armed groups occupying the north.

"What we don't want is to hold dialogue with the people who have shown themselves capable of carrying out amputations" and the other actions committed in the name of sharia law, a French source said.

"Negotiations are under way, but he who wants peace has to prepare for war," a Bamako-based African diplomat added.

The negotiations are currently being conducted mainly with Ansar Dine, the group behind the Timbuktu destruction.

With witnesses saying Wednesday that the armed Islamists were becoming "more and more barbarian", the meeting comes amid increasing pressure to wrest back control of the north.
Source:Agencies

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

Nigeria: UN, Brazil Sign U.S.\$20 Million Pact to Help Farmers in Developing Countries

By Abiodun Oluwarotimi/Leadership (Abuja)/18 October 2012

A \$20 million agreement signed during the week by the United Nations and Brazil will seek to transfer the expertise of the South American country to support cotton farmers in developing economies.

"This agreement represents an excellent opportunity to demonstrate the effectiveness of South-South cooperation between developing world partners as a vehicle for sustainable economic growth," said the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), José Graziano da Silva, at the signing ceremony at the agency's headquarters in Rome.

Cotton is fundamental to the economies of many developing nations, particularly in West and Central Africa, where around 10 million small farmers depend on the sector for their income, according to FAO. As a result, the sector occupies a strategic position in the development and poverty-reduction strategies of a number of governments in Africa, Asia and Latin America.

The four year project will target participating countries with technical assistance and training in best practice in cotton cultivation and marketing. Experiences, technologies and techniques acquired through the initiative will be captured and disseminated to promote further knowledge- and skills transfer, FAO said in a new release.

As one of the major producers of cotton in the world, Brazil also has considerable experience in devising new technologies for the cotton production chain, including through cooperative rural development efforts undertaken with other cotton producers such as Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali. The project seeks to capitalize on these experiences to strengthen the agricultural sectors in developing countries and foster cooperation on rural development.

Initially, the project will focus on Haiti and countries in the MERCOSUR zone (South America's 'Southern Common Market'), with the possibility of extending it to other developing countries in Latin America and Africa.

The Brazilian Cotton Institute will provide \$10 million in financial support, while the Brazilian Cooperation Agency will supply an additional \$10 million.

FAO's Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean will contribute \$200,000 worth of non-financial support, including the provision of expertise and technical information, as well as mobilizing its international networks in support of the project.

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