



[South African ex-President Nelson Mandela is spending a fourth day in a Pretoria hospital where he is being treated for a recurrent lung infection. The office of President Jacob Zuma says the 94-year-old remains in a serious but stable condition. Relatives, including his ex-wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, visited the ailing former leader on Monday. He has been in intensive care since he was admitted to hospital on Saturday, for the third time this year.]

BURUNDI :

Burundi : la grève des enseignants du secondaire largement suivie dans la capitale

French.china.org.cn/Source: Agence de presse Xinhua/ le 11-06-2013

Les enseignants des écoles secondaires publiques ont commencé à observer un arrêt de travail à durée indéterminée sur l'appel du Syndicat Conseil National du Personnel de l'Enseignement Secondaire (CONAPES), qui les a exhorté surtout à ne pas surveiller les examens.

L'appel du CONAPES a été largement suivi à Bujumbura qui regroupe beaucoup d'écoles secondaires d'enseignement public.

Ce mouvement intervient au moment où l'on commençait la passation des examens de fin d'année.

Des directeurs ont dû trouver des astuces pour gérer ce nouveau mouvement de grève. Certains d'entre eux ont surveillé eux-mêmes les examens et se sont faits épauler par les secrétaires, les chargés de discipline, les bibliothécaires et les enseignants non syndiqués au CONAPES.

Certains directeurs ont été obligés de renvoyer les élèves à la maison.

Les enseignants grévistes réclament surtout qu'il y ait correction dans les disparités salariales observées dans les services de l'Etat.

Deux autres syndicats, le Syndicat National du Personnel de l'Enseignement Primaire (SYNAPEP) et le Syndicat des Travailleurs de l'Enseignement du Burundi (STEB), ont menacé d'entamer à leur tour un mouvement de grève dès le 17 juin prochain. F

Source: Agence de presse Xinhua

RWANDA :

Rwanda seals 4G internet deal

by Jenny Clover/Reuters/juin 11 2013

KIGALI — Rwanda on Monday signed a deal with South Korea's largest telecoms provider, KT Corporation, to roll out high-speed 4G internet within three years.

Rwanda has laid more than 3,000km of fibreoptic cable since 2009. This is all in a bid to develop a service-based economy and for the country to become a regional leader in information and communications technology (ICT).

But critics say almost no large investor has come on board yet.

Rwanda's economy grew 9.4% in the 2011-12 fiscal year but only about 8.3% of the population have internet access at the moment, according to Rwandan officials.

Rwanda said KT would inject about \$145m into a joint venture company responsible for rolling out a fast, 4G LTE (long-term evolution) network to 95% of Rwandans. Debt and vendor financing would also be needed.

"This agreement with KT marks a major milestone in Rwanda's drive to become a modern, knowledge-based economy," said Rwandan Youth and ICT Minister Jean Philbert Nsengimana. "By expanding our information infrastructure, we will create jobs, support social progress and propel economic growth."

Rwanda said the government's equity investment in the joint venture, which has a 25-year term, would consist of using its national fibreoptic cable, spectrum and wholesale-only operator licence.

Kigali also invited other mobile network operators to invest in the project and provide retail access to 4G LTE wireless broadband services to about 12-million Rwandans.

Reuters

'Rwanda Is Second World's Most Investment-friendly'

By: Kingsley Oporum/leadership.ng/June 11, 2013

The Rwandan ambassador to Nigeria, Mr. Joseph Habineza, has indepth knowledge about Nigeria having lived and worked in the country before his appointment as an envoy. In this interview with KINGSLEY OPURUM, he speaks exhaustively about the giant strides of the President Paul Kagame administration and how the country has moved on from its dark days of genocide and ethnic war.

Can you tell us about your diplomatic service and the countries you have worked before coming to Nigeria as an ambassador?

First of all, I want to thank you for making out your time to come to my office for us to discuss our countries. Concerning my diplomatic service, actually, I am new. I was posted to Nigeria here on May, 2011, but I arrived in Nigeria on 24th of August, 2011. So, this is my first diplomatic service.

But, before my diplomatic appointment, I was a Minister in the Ministry of Sports, Youth and Culture for seven years. Also, before that, I was not in politics; I was a businessman. I worked for Heineken for about 15 years. I worked for Nigerian Breweries for six years in Lagos as a manager from 1998 to 2004. I also worked for other companies. I have been moving from Rwanda to Nigeria. Thereafter, when I went back to Rwanda, the president then appointed me the Minister and now a Rwandan ambassador to Nigeria.

So far, what is your perception about Nigeria?

Well, my perception was good because of my long stay in Nigeria doing business. I think I knew much about the country, especially in business before coming as an envoy. When you just come for the first time, you would want to leave but when you stay for about a week, you won't like to go again. I remember when I wanted to go back to Rwanda, I told my boss then (Festus Odumegwu) that I would return to Nigeria as ambassador, and after a few years, I am now an ambassador here.

What is the level of bilateral ties between Nigeria and Rwanda?

Before we opened our diplomatic mission, there were good friendships and ties especially in the army. I was even just coming from the Chief of Defence Staff office now. Many of our officers come here for training either at Defence College or Jaji. There are Nigerians who are workers and businessmen in Rwanda. Now we have diplomatic mission in Nigeria, there is also Nigerian diplomatic mission in Rwanda. So far so good, they have been working on some MoUs (Memorandums of Understanding). Actually, there have been some existing agreements between the two countries, which was why President Jonathan visited Rwanda on October, 2011. There are a lot of opportunities in Rwanda and Nigerians are going to invest in Rwanda. We are even planning to organise Rwandan Day here in Abuja, Nigeria, so that West Africans will come and witness probably between October and December.

Are there some Rwandans who come here in Nigeria to do business as well?

Yes, there are some who come, especially the traders who are coming for trading in Nigeria just like the way some Nigerians go to Rwanda to do business.

Today, Rwanda is usually remembered for its genocide, which claimed about one million lives, how can you explain this?

Actually, the genocide took place from April to July and almost hundred people were dying every day, killed by their neighbours, sometimes by their relatives. Some even killed their own kids. It is a long story, but to cut it short Rwanda is not what people think. They say that we have different ethnic groups but it is not really ethnic groups per se because ethnic is about language, culture and the land, and Rwandans have the same language, culture and land. It is a very small land. It was a much organised country; people living peacefully, respecting one king. When these people saw that they were not happy about how such a small country could be so organised and also be loyal to one king who was very tall and strong, they said they were half-Europeans. The conflict was between the Hutus and the Tutsi but they all speak the same language and the same culture, except in some thinking that some are special and others are not. So, the Hutus came to power, they wanted to revenge.

Tutsi were killed. The survived ones went in exile in different countries. So, those who were in exile for more than 30 years, by 1990, they started asking for their rights under their country (Rwanda). The Rwandan government then refused to allow them in and said they were refugees. How can you refuse your citizens? The Tutsi now said 'since you don't want us to come back, then we will come

by violence.’ They reinforced and war broke out between the former refugees (Tutsi) and the so-called Rwandans (Hutus) and even Rwandans who were not happy with the government joined in the fight. So, when they started advancing, the government started threatening them that if they advance any further it will start killing their relatives, which was in 1994. The president of that government was shot in his plane and then massive killing started. Killing with different kinds of weapons like machetes, hoes and so on. They even started killing when they check your ID card and discover you don’t belong to them. Foreigners were even killed, thinking they were Tutsi. That was about the genocide.

Who and who played a pivotal role in halting it?

It was stopped by the army being headed by Paul Kagame. So, when the army came to power, the militias ran away

Is the impact of that genocide still felt on Kagame-led administration?

Since 1994, the government has been first of all rebuilding the country, reconciling the warring parties and re-starting development because the country was completely destroyed. The government now focuses on development, education and so on.

How can you assess Paul Kagame’s administration so far?

Actually, if you visit Rwanda today, you may not know that there was once a genocide or war there, because everything has changed. In fact, there is a total transformation now. The killers now co-exist peacefully with their victims. They have all reconciled. There is free basic education for all Rwandans. On ICT, the whole country is cabled. The government is giving out free laptops to students in school. Each child is entitled to a laptop in school. Currently, Rwanda is second world’s most investment-friendly country. You can open your company and within two hours of registration; you can start operation. President Kagame has done so well and he has continued to change Rwanda every day. There are positive changes in Rwanda everyday. Our growth is over 8 percent and we are trying to make it 11.5 percent. There is accountability. There is zero corruption. Even a policeman on the road can’t accept a dime from you no matter what. If you attempt a bribe, you will be taken to jail. Everybody is disciplined there. White ladies in Rwanda are usually seen jogging on the street in the night; nothing will happen. People walk freely with their belongings safely. Rwanda under President Kagame is very secure and it is the best for tourism. We collect a lot of revenue from tourism.

What system of government does Rwanda practise?

Presidential system of government

What’s your take on Nigerian government’s declaration of state of emergency in the three north-east states and the proscription of Boko Haram in the country?

Let me bring you up to speed. In Rwanda, we grappled with such insurgency in the north after the genocide, when the militias, the former military, were in DR Congo. Some infiltrated back into Rwanda to cause insurgency in the north. So, this kind of thing, you use strategy. Negotiation and violence, if one cannot work. And in any war sometimes, you may be compelled to apply force. What the government is doing is okay but they have to also negotiate before they fight, which I know they have done. The government will also have to understand that, sometimes, some problems of this nature could be caused by poverty and the best way to address such problem is by reducing poverty there. But the problem here is that oppositions in this country will always be

looking for something to criticise the president. Even when they understand the real problem, they will still blame the government. They have to understand that if people are dying, they should not blame President Jonathan. How can you support somebody who goes to bomb a church or a mosque, wasting human lives? The life of one Nigerian is the life of all.

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

Sweden provides \$5m to boost Uganda's exports

Date: Jun 10, 2013/newvision.co.ug/By Joyce Namutebi

Sweden has signed an agreement with Trade Mark East Africa (TMEA) providing 35 million kronor (\$5.3 million) to bolster its Uganda programme to increase exports and sharpen the country's competitive edge in East African integration.

The money will, among others, be used to help operationalise a One Stop Border Post (OSBP) under construction at the key frontier post of Busia, through which most of Uganda's imports and exports must pass along the northern corridor from Kenya, a Press release issued Monday said. This is one of the most expensive trade routes in the world, it added.

The funding is continued core support for TMEA's work to improve Uganda's trade by cutting through some of the procedural and bureaucratic red tape that slows trade between the landlocked East African state and her neighbours, the release issued by TMEA said.

TMEA Chief Executive Officer, Frank Matsaert, said at the signing ceremony on Thursday that "We eagerly look forward to the day when this OSBP becomes operational and reduces the duplication and delays that add to the cost burdens of importers and consumers in Uganda and its neighbours."

The funding by Sweden, one of TMEA's donors, will also help upgrade a customs management system to further save time and to help the Uganda Bureau of Standards implement a modernisation plan, the release said.

TMEA's Uganda Country Director, Annette Mutaawe said, "TMEA Uganda greatly appreciates the funding provided by the Government of Sweden to complement funds available by other partners, namely the UK Department for International Development and the Embassy of the Kingdom of Netherlands in Uganda. This will help consolidate the gains already made in the programme."

In Uganda, TMEA is helping the government and private sector through a number of projects to maximize the potential for economic growth that the integration of the 140-million-strong East African market offers.

SOUTH AFRICA :

Nelson Mandela Remains in Hospital as South Africans Pray for the Anti-Apartheid Icon

By LEEZEL TANGLAO (@leezeltanglao)/abcnews.go.com/June 9, 2013

Nelson Mandela, the former president of South Africa, spent the night in hospital battling a lung infection this weekend.

On Saturday, South Africa officials said Mandela was in "serious but stable condition" with his family by his side.

As of this morning, officials had not released any updates on Mandela's condition.

The 94-year-old Nobel Peace prize winner's "condition deteriorated and he was transferred to a Pretoria hospital," early this morning, according to statement from the office of South African President Jacob Zuma on Saturday.

"The former President is receiving expert medical care and doctors are doing everything possible to make him better and comfortable," the statement said. "President Jacob Zuma, on behalf of government and the nation, wishes Madiba [Mandela's clan nickname] a speedy recovery and requests the media and the public to respect the privacy of Madiba and his family."

In April, Mandela spent 18 days in the hospital due to a lung infection and was treated for gall stones in December 2012.

Families throughout South Africa prayed for Mandela's recovery as they attended church services today.

Priest Sebastian Rousso greeted the faithful at the Regina Mundi church in Soweto, which served as a significant landmark during the anti-apartheid movement. Rousso described Mandela as a symbol of reconciliation and played a key role "not only for ourselves as South Africans, but for the world," The Associated Press reported.

Mandela served as the first black president of South Africa from 1994 to 1999.

In 1993, he received a Nobel Peace Prize for his work in ending apartheid through non-violent means.

ABC News' Gillian Mohny and The Associated Press contributed to this report.

South Africa: family visits Nelson Mandela

June 10, 2013/Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — Nelson Mandela received visits from family members on Sunday at a hospital where the former president and anti-apartheid leader was being treated for a recurring lung infection, while South Africans expressed their appreciation for a man widely regarded as the father of the nation.

There was no official update on 94-year-old Mandela after his second night in the hospital. His condition was described as "serious but stable" on Saturday.

The office of President Jacob Zuma had said that Mandela was taken to a Pretoria hospital after his condition deteriorated at around 1:30 a.m. on Saturday.

The anti-apartheid leader has now been taken to a hospital four times since December, with the last discharge coming on April 6 after doctors diagnosed him with pneumonia and drained fluid from his lung area.

Members of Mandela's family on Sunday were seen visiting the Pretoria hospital where he is believed to be staying. They included Makaziwe Mandela, the eldest of the ex-leader's three surviving children, and Ndileka Mandela, one of his 17 grandchildren.

Worshippers at a Sunday church service in the Johannesburg township of Soweto prayed for the recovery of Mandela, who was freed in 1990 after 27 years as a prisoner of white racist rule and won election to the presidency in all-race elections in 1994. He retired from public life years ago and had received medical care at his Johannesburg home until his latest transfer to a hospital.

At the Regina Mundi church in Soweto, Father Sebastian Rousso said Mandela, seen by many as a symbol of reconciliation for his peacemaking efforts, played a key role "not only for ourselves as South Africans, but for the world."

There is a stained glass image of Mandela with arms raised in the Catholic church, a center of protests and funeral services for activists during the apartheid years.

"We still need him in our lives because he did so much for us," said Mantsho Moralo, a receptionist who was in the congregation. Siyabonga Nyembe, a student, described Mandela as a "pillar of strength" for South Africans.

A stream of tourists visited Mandela's former home, now a museum, on Vilakazi Street in Soweto. Visitors and vendors wished a quick recovery for the man whose sacrifices in the fight against apartheid made their lives better, even if South Africa today is struggling today with high unemployment and other severe challenges.

"He's like one in a million. I don't think we're ever going to get a leader like him. We're living the life that we have because of him and for that we wish him well," said Seponono Kekana, who toured the brick, one-storey house.

On April 29, state television broadcast footage of a visit by Zuma and other leaders of the ruling African National Congress to Mandela's home. Zuma said at the time that Mandela was in good shape, but the footage - the first public images of Mandela in nearly a year - showed him silent and unresponsive, even when Zuma tried to hold his hand.

The Nobel Peace Prize laureate has been particularly vulnerable to respiratory problems since contracting tuberculosis during his long imprisonment. The bulk of that period was spent on Robben Island, an outpost off the coast of Cape Town where Mandela and other prisoners spent part of the time toiling in a stone quarry.

The Sunday Times, a South African newspaper, quoted Andrew Mlangeni, an old friend of Mandela, as saying he wished the former president would get better but noted his infirmity had become a drawn-out process. He said Mandela had been taken to the hospital "too many times" and that there was a possibility he would not be well again.

"The family must release him so that God may have his own way. They must release him spiritually

and put their faith in the hands of God," said Mlangeni, a co-defendant of Mandela in the 1960s trial on sabotage charges that led to a sentence of life imprisonment for them and other anti-apartheid leaders.

"Once the family releases him, the people of South Africa will follow. We will say thank you, God, you have given us this man, and we will release him too," Mlangeni told the newspaper.

Nhlanhla Ngcobobo, a street vendor who works a few steps from the Mandela Family Restaurant next to the former leader's old home, said the ailing Mandela was a kind of psychological anchor for his compatriots. South Africa has held peaceful elections since 1994 and remains an economic powerhouse on the continent, but many worry that the sense of promise that Mandela represented in the early years of democracy is in peril.

"There's a lot of corruption and when Mandela dies, people will start feeling they can do what they like and corruption will be worse than it is," Ngcobobo said. "By him being alive, there's a lot more order."

Nelson Mandela faces fourth day in Pretoria hospital

From: bbc/ June 11, 2013

South African ex-President Nelson Mandela is spending a fourth day in a Pretoria hospital where he is being treated for a recurrent lung infection.

The office of President Jacob Zuma says the 94-year-old remains in a serious but stable condition.

Relatives, including his ex-wife Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, visited the ailing former leader on Monday.

He has been in intensive care since he was admitted to hospital on Saturday, for the third time this year.

In December, Mr Mandela spent 18 days undergoing treatment for a lung infection and gallstones.

Prayers

The foundation led by retired Archbishop Desmond Tutu has issued a statement describing Mr Mandela as an "extraordinary gift".

"As the beloved father of our nation, Nelson Mandela once again endures the ravages of time in hospital," the foundation said.

"Our prayers are for his comfort and his dignity."

There are first signs that his family may have begun to gather at his bedside, the BBC's Andrew Harding, in Pretoria, reports.

On Monday, Mr Mandela's ex-wife, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, visited him. His grand-daughters have also been coming and going, our correspondent says.

The leader's eldest daughter, Zenani Mandela-Dlamini, has returned to South Africa from Argentina, where she is the ambassador, to visit her father.

His wife, Graca Machel, cancelled a scheduled appearance in London on Saturday to remain at her husband's bedside.

In an earlier statement, the government said: "President Jacob Zuma reiterates his call for South Africa to pray for Madiba and the family during this time." Madiba is Mr Mandela's clan name.

Presidency spokesman Mac Maharaj also denied reports that visitors were being barred from seeing Mr Mandela.

He said: "The reality is that the normal procedures when a patient is under intensive care are applying from the medical side.

"When a person is in intensive care the doctors only allow some very close people to be there."

The presidency also said Mr Mandela had been ill for some days at his Johannesburg home, with a recurrence of his long-standing lung problems.

He was admitted to hospital after his condition worsened at 01:30 on Saturday (23:30 GMT Friday).

Nelson Mandela served as president from 1994 to 1999.

He was previously imprisoned for 27 years, and is believed to have suffered damaged lungs while working in a prison quarry.

He contracted tuberculosis in the 1980s while being held in jail on the windswept Robben Island.

He retired from public life in 2004 and has been rarely seen in public since.

TANZANIA :

KENYA :

AU, ICC leaders must find consensus on Kenya warrants

by Nicole Fritz/bdlive.co.za/juin 11 2013

SPARE a thought for African Union (AU) chairwoman Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma and International Criminal Court (ICC) prosecutor Fatou Bensouda. Each has been tasked with providing leadership to prominent, if vulnerable, international bodies and will be judged on their records of leading their respective institutions to robust health.

They are tasked at a time when female global leadership remains a rare phenomenon and African female leadership at the global level is rarer still.

Ironically, each of them faces the risk of sabotage by the macho grandstanding of her peers.

Take Bensouda. She is having to manage a docket of cases shaped, it often seems, by her predecessor Luis Moreno Ocampo's desire to be a Hollywood-style hero — revered by hapless victims, reviled by murderous tyrants; unperturbed that the law often takes more nuanced turns.

Bensouda must now contend with the fallout. Last week, judges at the ICC said prosecutors must better provide stronger evidence against former Côte d'Ivoire president Laurent Gbagbo if the case against him is to proceed.

This follows the ICC's acquittal late last year, of Congolese warlord Mathieu Ngudjolo Chui on the basis of an insufficiently solid case and the decision, this March, of Bensouda's own office to withdraw evidence against a Kenyan accused for lack of evidence.

These developments hardly do justice to an institution charged with handling cases of the world's worst crimes.

Over at the AU, Dlamini-Zuma is not having any easier a time. African heads of state, indignant at an unresponsive United Nations Security Council and swelled with bravado at the "Ascendant Africa" refrain, left the likes of French President Francois Hollande to address empty conference venues and US Secretary of State John Kerry to have to cancel his address at the recent AU summit celebrating the 50th anniversary of its earlier incarnation, the Organisation of African Unity.

Also at the summit, there was the now standard gauntlet throw-down with the ICC — the issuing of an official communique calling for an end to the ICC's indictments of recently elected Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy, William Ruto.

As things stand, both institutions are likely to emerge from the Kenyan indictment saga weakened — shown only to be ineffective, blustery bodies.

In publicly calling for the removal of the indictments, the AU offers the ICC no space to flinch.

To capitulate would destroy the ICC's independence, revealing it to be craven and easy prey for bullies. The only response the AU's call thus invites is a non-response.

Still, it is hard to imagine how the indictments can proceed. At present, Kenyatta and Ruto have indicated that they will co-operate with the ICC.

But that co-operation, if indictments persist, is sure to run out.

In that event, no country — not just the club of African states — will surrender Kenyatta or Ruto to the ICC, so thwarting any realistic prospect of prosecution.

Countries would fear being seen to thumb their noses at the Kenyans who, in spite of the indictments, democratically elected Kenyatta and Ruto to office.

The ICC would be left only to huff and puff on the side lines, shown to be empty of any real power.

So how to go forward?

Liberated from all this brawny posturing, Bensouda and Dlamini-Zuma might retire to a meeting room, far from the public and their peers' glare, and candidly disclose the impossibilities of their respective institutional positions.

Dlamini-Zuma might offer a less combative, confrontational engagement going forward and Bensouda might indicate that her office is considering withdrawing charges against the Kenyan statesmen for the time being.

For a multitude of reasons, not least the obligations owed by both institutions to the victims of mass violence, this would be a very far from perfect agreement.

But for the long-term sustainability and ultimately the reputation and legitimacy of both institutions, some form of workable consensus will have to be negotiated — and that will only happen far from the grandstanding hotheads.

- Fritz is the director of the Southern Africa Litigation Centre.

Kenya Group to Protest Tuesday Against MPs Pay Raise

Peter Clotey/voanews.com/June 10, 2013

Kenyan civil society groups plan to protest Tuesday against the decision by members of parliament (MPs) to increase their own salaries.

Maurice Odhiambo, president of the National Civil Society Congress, says the protest is designed to pressure MPs to cancel their pay increase, which he says violates the constitution. The legislators voted unanimously to increase their salaries, 130 times the legal minimum wage.

“We will be mobilizing as many Kenyans as possible to go outside parliament. It will be a peaceful protest,” said Odhiambo. “If we let members of parliament have their way, then it will be one way of clearly undermining the constitution.

“We will also hold discussions with members of the public, in which case we are going to elaborate why this action is important and why the members of the national assembly must not be allowed to get away with unlawful behavior,” he said.

Odhiambo called on Kenyans displeased with the lawmakers pay increases to join Tuesday’s protest, which he codenamed “Occupy Parliament Reloaded.”

This would be the third time that civil society groups hold demonstrations against the lawmakers. Last month, they paraded pigs outside parliament as part of their protests.

“We are going to have something new, which will be more symbolic than the pigs that we unleashed last time. So that is something that the public will only get to know about this Tuesday on the day of the protest,” said Odhiambo.

He says protesters want the MPs to sign a petition promising not to accept the salary increase.

“We are going to barricade the place and make sure that any members of the National Assembly who want to come through is then prevailed upon by the citizens to sign up saying that they are opposed to the actions of what the National Assembly as a body is attempting to do,” said Odhiambo.

The Law Society of Kenya (LSK) as well as other civil rights groups recently petitioned a High Court seeking to prevent lawmakers from receiving their recently approved salary increases. The groups raised constitutional concerns about the ability of MPs to increase their own pay.

But, lawmaker James Opiyo Wandayi says parliament needs to educate the public about the controversy surrounding lawmakers' pay.

"The Parliamentary Service Commission, which is in charge of the welfare of members of parliament and other staff of parliament, needs to make a clarification or to do a sensitization [campaign] so the public may come to understand the issues as they are," continued Wandayi, "because what is not being told is that [legislators] this time around, unlike in the past, are obligated to pay taxes just like any other members of the public."

Kenya: Deport All Foreign Drug Dealers, Orders Uhuru

By Wambui Ndonga/Capital FM (Nairobi)/10 June 2013

Nairobi — President Uhuru Kenyatta has ordered security forces to deport all foreigners suspected of trafficking drugs in the country.

The Head of State, who was speaking at the opening of the 2nd National Conference on Alcohol and Drug Abuse on Monday, put the country's law enforcement agencies on notice saying the foreigners should be sent packing.

Over 20 foreigners, including controversial Nigerian businessman Antony Chinedu who was facing drug-related charges, have been deported since June 1 when the president first issued the order.

"I have already given a directive that all foreigners who are either suspected or deal with drug trafficking be deported to their own countries to do their business there. They do not need to be here," he stressed.

A visibly irritated Kenyatta further demanded to know what concerned government officers had done to curb drug abuse with the resources they already have.

He also gave County Commissioners three months within which they are required to get back to him with a detailed report on the actual measures they will have taken in the fight against drugs in their respective counties.

Kenyatta argued that it was time to move the rhetoric from boardrooms to the streets noting that underage children were accessing drugs while rogue law enforcers turned a blind eye.

"We have heard a lot of very interesting speeches including my own with a lot of big promises but we must ask ourselves what are we doing with the resources that we have?" he asked.

According to the National Authority for the Campaign Against Drug Abuse (NACADA), 14 percent of Kenyans consume alcohol while 5.5 percent of these are alcoholics.

NACADA CEO William Okedi said the survey conducted in 2012 also found that nine percent of Kenyans smoke tobacco while 4.5 percent of these are addicted.

Okedi also expressed concern over the increased use of shisha, second generation distilled alcohol and muguka - a potent version of miraa.

"We have a phenomenon of shisha. It is a mild type of tobacco and it is mostly associated with the elite. Samples taken by NACADA indicate that traffickers are now lacing shisha with narcotics like

ecstasy," he said.

The president however said he was tired of the grim statistics on drug abuse and related deaths.

"I will no longer entertain a scenario where we are just given statistics of the number of deaths or the number of people who have become drug addicts," he warned.

Okedi had also proposed the establishment of an inter-ministerial committee to fight the menace in addition to calling for the establishment of more rehabilitation facilities.

Kilifi Governor Amason Kingi also implored the government to set up more public rehabilitation centers noting that most of those at the coast region were private.

Nairobi Governor Evans Kidero said he had already cracked down on dens that brew illicit drinks in Makadara constituency promising not to relent in the fight.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

Cameroun: le président de la Fecafoot, Iya Mohamed, sous les verrous

Par RFI/mardi 11 juin 2013

C'est l'un des patrons les plus controversés du Cameroun. Iya Mohamed, le dirigeant de la Fecafoot, la Fédération camerounaise de football et par ailleurs directeur général de la Sodécoton, une entreprise publique, a été arrêté ce lundi 10 juin à Yaoundé pour malversations.

Placé en garde à vue lundi soir, Iya Mohamed est désormais détenu dans une cellule du Sed, le secrétariat d'Etat à la Défense. Le directeur de la Sodécoton a été arrêté plus tôt dans la matinée par la gendarmerie, avant d'être entendu toute la journée sur les faits qui lui sont reprochés : le détournement présumé de fonds dans la gestion de la société publique de coton qu'il dirige.

De sources proches du dossier, cette arrestation fait suite au récent audit public qui lui imputait quelque 20 fautes de gestion. Un préjudice chiffré à 9 milliards de francs CFA par le contrôle supérieur de l'Etat.

Selon les mêmes sources, cette interpellation n'aurait en revanche aucun rapport avec le football dont la Fédération nationale, la Fecafoot, est également dirigée par Iya Mohamed. Il avait en effet été entendu plusieurs fois par la police judiciaire ces dernières années sur des affaires concernant la Fecafoot, dont la gestion est extrêmement critiquée au Cameroun.

Deux cadres de la Sodécoton ont par ailleurs été interpellés au nord du pays ce lundi. Ils étaient attendus dans la nuit à Yaoundé pour être entendus par la gendarmerie.

UN/AFRICA :

UN prepares for Mali force deployment

11 Jun 2013/aljazeera.com

Announcement comes amid reports of deal between government and Tuareg group to allow elections in disputed Kidal region.

The UN is preparing to start deploying a new peacekeeping force in Mali on schedule in three weeks, even though the security situation in the north remains "complex and volatile", the UN chief has said.

Ban Ki-moon's statement on Monday came amid reports that a Malian government delegation and Tuareg MNLA rebels had reached an agreement "in principle" that would allow planned elections in July to go ahead in the disputed northern Kidal region, according to a senior mediator in the talks.

Negotiations in the capital of neighbouring Burkina Faso, Ouagadougou, opened on Saturday, after Mali's army last week began advancing towards Kidal, the MNLA's last stronghold in the remote northeast, in the first direct fighting in months.

In late April, the UN Security Council authorised a UN peacekeeping force comprising 11,200 military personnel and 1,440 international police to replace a 6,000-member African-led mission in Mali on July 1.

It said the date could be delayed if security conditions deteriorate. The council is expected to make a final decision on deployment of the UN force at a meeting on June 25.

Mali fell into turmoil after a March 2012 coup created a security vacuum that allowed secular Tuareg rebels to take over half of the country's north as a new homeland. Months later, the rebels were kicked out by fighters linked to al-Qaeda.

UN chief's report

In the report to the Security Council, Ban said major combat operations have largely ceased, and the increasing presence of Malian, French and African troops in the north "has helped stabilise the situation and significantly hamper the movement and actions of armed groups".

But Ban also cited reports that al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb has intensified activities in Mali's Tamesna region near the border with Niger and Algeria, while armed extremist group training camps have been found east of Timbuktu.

He said the mandate of the new UN force to use all necessary means to protect the population and prevent the return of armed elements to key populated areas "presents complex challenges".

It does not include "peace enforcement or counter-terrorism responsibilities", which will be handled by French forces, which could pose a problem if civilians need immediate protection, he said.

Ban said the UN's current plans are to establish the military headquarters for the force, known as MINUSMA, in June "and progressively deploy additional units as they can be generated for operations commencing from July 1".

He said the bulk of the military units in the African-led mission are expected to be transferred to the UN force on July 1, subject to pre-deployment training and a UN assessment of their capabilities and human rights record.

UN officials said last month that none of the African military units meets the equipment requirements for UN operations.

Ban said they have been given "a grace period of four months" to reach UN standards and he appealed to donors to help equip the force's soldiers.

Agreement 'in principle'

Meanwhile, at the Burkina Faso talks, the Malian government has made it clear that it wants civil administration and the army to return to Kidal before elections scheduled for July 28 and has threatened to seize the town if no agreement is reached by Monday.

"On the point concerning the deployment of Malian armed forces in the region of Kidal, we have obtained an agreement in principle," Djibril Bassole, Burkina's foreign minister, announced after Monday's round of meetings.

"The two sides have requested a few hours to report back to their bases ... in order to be able to come back tomorrow for the final adoption of this document."

Mali's Tuareg community has for decades demanded greater political autonomy from the southern capital, Bamako, and more spending on development for the impoverished region, which they call Azawad.

France has pushed hard for elections to go ahead in order to seal a democratic transition. But the MNLA has so far refused to disarm and rejected the return of Malian soldiers to Kidal.

Bassole said the agreement would establish a mixed commission composed of both sides to monitor security and prepare for the army's deployment in Kidal.

Africa's industrial sector to hit 25 pct of GDP: UN official
Xinhua/ 2013-6-11

The African continent has the potential to expand its industrial sector to contribute at least 25 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), a UN official said on Monday.

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) Director, Bureau for Regional Programs Amita Misra said that the sector on average currently contributes less than 15 percent of the GDP across the continent.

"Africa has all the resources that it requires for its industrial sector to provide 25 percent of GDP," Misra said on the sidelines of the meeting of senior officials of 20th edition of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (CAMI 20).

The five-day event held on June 10-14 will assist the continent to develop its industrialization strategy. The experts meeting is co-hosted by UNIDO, African Union Commission (AUC) and the Kenya Government.

"The conference comes at a time when Africa is developing its post-2015 development agenda, which is supposed to result into the formulation of Sustainable Development Goals," she said.

"Only when a minimum of 25 percent of GDP emanates from the industrial sector, will Africa be able to achieve the desired economic growth rate, jobs creation and economic transformation that is needed to eliminate poverty," Misra said.

The director noted that funds mobilization remains a major hindrance to the realization of set goals of various industrial programs.

"The region should therefore leverage new partnerships and collaboration with the European Union, the emerging nations as well as the growing South-South cooperation in order to bridge the gap," she said.

Misra said that UNIDO is working with various economic blocs in Africa in order to develop industrial projects. "The ones that can be transformed into fundable projects will be submitted to the African Development Bank," she said.

The UNIDO official said that Africa needs to upgrade and modernize its productive capacities so as to spur industrialization.

"This will enhance the accessibility of African products in the international market," Misra said.

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) Director of Regional Integration Stephen Karingi decried Africa's high dependency on exports of primary raw materials.

"This coupled with low use of technology, high energy costs has contributed to Africa's low economic development levels," Karingi said. He noted that the continent needs to take advantage of new opportunities offered by the globalization of industrial production.

"This will assist the continent to convert its agricultural and mineral raw materials resources into finished goods," Karingi said.

The outgoing chair of CAMI, Ould Mohammedi, said successful implementation of the African industrialization strategy will increase intra-Africa trade.

Ministry of Industrialization Permanent Secretary Cyrus Njiru said the meeting is expected to provide the template for discussing the best way to accelerate industrialization in the continent.

He added that experience has indicated that the countries that have prioritized industrialization as the driver of economic development have succeeded in attaining high per capita incomes.

According to Njiru, Kenya has developed a Sessional Paper on an Industrialization Policy. "It will provide a framework that will steer Kenya's industrialization efforts up to the year 2030," Njiru said.

"We have also formulated programs and projects for implementation in order to increase value-addition of raw materials," he said.

He noted that Kenya will also pay close attention to the development of integrated steel mills, because the affordability of steel is a key component of industrialization.

AUC Director of Trade Treasure Maphanga said Africa is the least-developed manufacturing region of the world.

"In fact, only a handful of countries in sub-Saharan Africa have succeeded in developing a sizeable manufacturing sector," she said.

The director urged the continent to take full advantage of new opportunities offered by the globalization of industrial production.

"The experience of east Asia provides ample evidence of the strong link between industrialization and high standards of living, " she said.

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EN BREF, CE 11 Juin 2013... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 11/06/2013

