



[La communauté internationale s'est engagée à débloquer 1,8 milliard d'euros en faveur de la reconstruction de la Somalie, a annoncé, ce lundi 16 septembre, le président de la Commission européenne, José Manuel Barroso, à l'issue d'une conférence à Bruxelles. « C'est un jour historique pour la Somalie », a lancé le président somalien, Hassan Cheikh Mohamoud. « Nous avons des engagements pour 1,8 milliard d'euros », soit près du double de ce que l'UE espérait mobiliser, s'est félicité le président de la Commission européenne.]

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

Rwandan ruling party headed for huge poll win

17 Sep 2013/aljazeera.com

President's coalition has scored 76 percent of the vote with three-quarters of the ballots counted.

The ruling party of Rwandan President Paul Kagame is headed for a widely-predicted landslide win in parliamentary elections, officials have said.

Rwanda's National Election Commission on Tuesday said the Rwandan Patriotic Front (RPF), which has dominated the central African nation since ending the genocide nearly 20 years ago, has scored 76 percent of the vote with three-quarters of the ballots counted.

Analysts said the RPF faced no serious opposition in Monday's poll, with only a handful of small parties or independent candidates hoping to scrape a few seats in parliament, and prominent opposition figures sidelined.

Out of the 80 seats in parliament, 53 are directly elected. The remaining 27 are reserved for women, the youth and handicapped, and will be indirectly appointed by local and national councils on Tuesday and Wednesday.

This configuration has ensured that Rwanda has the only parliament in the world where women are in a majority - 56.3 percent after the last elections.

At the school where Kagame cast his vote security was tight, with a sniffer dog on hand to inspect bags and security checks for voters going through a metal-detector gate and an x-ray machine set up specially for the occasion.

Asked whether he expected the RPF to win comfortably, Kagame said: "I guess so. I don't see any reason why the RPF should not win with a big margin."

Questioned about accusations of political repression in Rwanda, Kagame retorted: "Is that what you see around you in the voting? You have eyes. Use them to see what is happening and you'll get the answer."

Orderly voting

Voting was marked by orderly lines outside booths draped in the sky blue, green and yellow of the Rwandan flag, with some playing music.

Cars with loudspeakers cruised the pristine streets of the capital, neatly lined with palm trees, reminding voters not to forget their ID cards.

This relative calmness was despite the explosion of two grenades that killed two people over the weekend in a market in Kigali, a city reputed to be among Africa's safest.

The Rwandan government blamed dissidents linked to the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a rebel group operating from across the border in Democratic Republic of Congo.

The FDLR includes remnants of Hutu militia who carried out the 1994 genocide in Rwanda but who were pushed out by Kagame's RPF, at the time a rebel army.

With Rwanda's economy one of the continent's fastest growing, the government is keen to show off the elections as a badge of national unity and democratic health.

The small nation was left in ruins by the brutal genocide of 1994, in which close to a million people, mostly from the ethnic Tutsi minority, were butchered by Hutu fighters before RPF rebels managed to take control of the country.

Rwanda has undergone a dramatic transformation in the past two decades, with robust economic growth and the strangling of corruption credited to the strong rule of Kagame.

Critics say the economic growth and security have come at the expense of freedom of expression.

Rwanda defends military deployment along Congo border

by Nicholas Kotch /bdlive.co.za/16 September 2013

RWANDA has responded to regional criticism about its military deployment along the frontier with the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo saying its territory had been repeatedly hit by cross-border shelling.

"Rwanda did not deploy along the border for the sake of it. During a 10-day period our country was

shelled 34 times," Rwanda's ambassador to South Africa, Vincent Karega, told BDLive on Monday.

"That was an invitation for Rwanda to intervene," he said, suggesting that the stray shelling was not accidental but a ploy to try to suck Rwanda into the continuing conflict. It pits Congolese troops, supported by United Nations (UN) "peace enforcers", against the Rwandan-backed Congolese rebels called M23.

Rwanda first complained about the shelling during August's intense fighting in areas north of the eastern Congo city of Goma. The M23 rebels were forced to retreat and there have been no reports of cross-border incursions by Rwanda's army, one of Africa's best.

But Rwanda was criticised at a special summit of the Southern African Development Community (Sadc) in Windhoek last Wednesday. Rwanda is not a Sadc member.

"(The) summit expressed concern at the deployment of Rwandan troops along the common border with the DRC and also expressed the hope that Rwanda is not contemplating to invade the DRC, for that will complicate the already delicate situation," a communiqué after the one-day meeting said.

The summit of Sadc's troika — Namibia, Lesotho and Tanzania — was also attended by the Congo, Malawi and South Africa, the communiqué said. It was issued 48 hours after the summit, accounting for the scant publicity which the meeting attracted.

The leaders praised the efforts of the 3,000-strong UN force in the Congo, the UN Organisation Stabilisation Mission (Monusco), which is supporting the government army against the M23 rebels.

The brigade has a contingent of 1,345 troops from the South African National Defence Force, three of whom were lightly wounded in August, and units from Tanzania and Malawi.

The brigade's aggressive mandate, agreed by the UN Security Council in March and extended to other Monusco units, is to clear all "negative forces" from the eastern Congo.

The goal is to put an end to the chronic instability and attacks on civilians that have continued since the 1994 genocide in Rwanda when up to 1-million people, mostly minority Tutsi, were put to death by majority Hutu extremists.

Rwanda is concerned the target is only the M23, while the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) — exiled remnants of the former government army in Rwanda that helped to commit the genocide — are being left unscathed.

"Up to now it is only one group that is targeted. If the FDLR does not feel targeted, it will be dangerous," Mr Karega said.

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

Uganda: Opposition MPs of Uganda Are Problematic

By Peter Gai Manyuon/South Sudan News Agency/16 September 2013

Since the newly appointed Minister of Interior of the Republic of South Sudan gave an order to stop Ugandans, especially the bodabodas (Ugandans) riders who were operating in the country for the last eight years beginning from 2006-2013. But, most Ugandans took the message wrongly even up to date they still conflict the actual message of the interior ministry.

These Ugandans have been in South Sudan illegally without proper licenses and documents, number of crimes have increased in the new nation due to Ugandans and nothing have been taken seriously. They have been carrying most of the South Sudanese on their bodabodas and they rided with high speed that have reduced the population of the new nation in one way and or another, and nothing have been taken seriously by the government of South Sudan.

Since the time South Sudanese people took arms against the northern Sudan from 1945 to 2005, most of the South Sudanese have been studying in different East Africans countries for some times. Up to date, majority of the citizens of South Sudan are still studying in universities, colleges, secondary, and primary schools in East Africa, particularly in Kampala, Uganda.

The population of South Sudanese in Kampala is more than the number South Sudanese in Kenya due to many reasons. There are many reasons as to why Uganda is prefer by most the citizens of South; one of these reasons is a mistreatment of the people of South Sudanese by Kenyan police forces. Free movement in Kenyan towns was restricted during Daniel Arab Moi's regime and too many illegal charges were used by Kenyan police and their associates to mistreat South Sudanese-most of those charges were meant to cause fear in the South Sudanese communities and ultimately ended up paying bribes to Kenyan police officers. This is one of the reasons why most South Sudanese prefer Uganda over Kenya.

The hospitality that was given to South Sudanese by Ugandans was wonderful and should be appreciated, even though they are trying to complicate simple issues here and there. However, God almighty mentioned in the bible where he said 'if someone did some things wrong to you, you should not response with bad thing'.

Based on the above history between the people of South Sudan and the Ugandans, you can see that the situation can get worse unless the two countries do something for the decency of the two nations.

Looking at Uganda, first of all, you find that most of Ugandans are doing business in South Sudan, especially they are washing clothes, selling second hand clothes, shoes and ridding bodabodas that caused a big tension recently where by five South Sudanese were killed by Ugandans in Kampala. In response, the minister of interior ordered the police Officers to arrest those who are ridding illegally without documents due to the current security issues that are taking place in South Sudan.

Ugandans have benefits in South Sudan no one will dispute that, most of them have rise their building in Kampala base on the huge Sum of money that they got from the new nation.

Coming to South Sudan; most of the people have studied in higher institutions in the Republic of Uganda for the last twenty one (21) years and the hospitality that has been shown to the South Sudanese by the Ugandans is very much appreciated and acknowledged without a doubt. Likewise, South Sudanese people are also good in term of socialization, togetherness and etcetera.

But right now, since there is serious tension from Ugandans people, I think South Sudanese might

go back to their country one by one and therefore, very soon Ugandans will go to its originality where they were depending on begging on the streets all over the country for the last ten years and most of them are still begging.

Situation Analysis in Kampala:

Most of Ugandans especially people from Ugandan opposition groups are the ones mistreating South Sudanese in Kampala; these opposition factions use useless accusations against South Sudanese people for many years. Most of them are not happy with the current relation between South Sudan and Uganda.

After the decree was issued by the South Sudanese Interior Minister, some few Ugandans begun harassing South Sudanese people who are studying in Uganda and about five people have been killed during night times and up to now, citizens of South Sudan live in fear.

More Ugandan Mps from the oppositions, especially those of the Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) are the ones who are now spearheading the initiative of suggesting to other parliamentarians to only give twenty four (24) hours to South Sudanese to leave Uganda for their Country. And the two Mps who are behind this are Nadala Mafabi and Olanya of Forum for Democratic Change (FDC). And these very Mps are the ones who always complicate issues in Ugandan parliament; they are known in Uganda as people who lack good reasoning and diplomacy capacities. The FDC's MPs have raised many motions in Ugandan parliament due to the issue of South Sudanese being in Uganda but the National Resistance Movement (NRM) MPs have regarded their motions as something that lack realities and facts.

What can happen if all South Sudanese leave Uganda?

Most of Ugandans If not all, have benefited from South Sudanese in many ways, especially, in the educational sector. This is true and can be witnessed from Primary schools up to the Tertiary Institutions of higher learning. South Sudanese have been paying school fees in hard currency because of the word "international".

South Sudanese have been paying rents for their houses they live in, and most of the rents ranged from 350,000 Shillings up to millions respectively; you cannot rent below these amounts in Uganda.

The question is, will Ugandans forego all those beneficial issues and send South Sudanese to their country?

Realistically, Ugandans are sometimes behaving like kids of 5-10 years. They don't acknowledge what is good for them. Most of Ugandans who were poor and poor since the originality of Uganda have become billionaires and they have built very big houses or buildings due to the good relationship between the governments of South Sudan and Uganda.

Uganda: Govt Asks Teachers to Return to Class

By Anne Mugisa and Abdulkarim Ssendendo/The New Vision/16 September 2013

Kampala — Education ministers have asked teachers to return to class as the teachers' union insists on a sit-down strike today.

Education minister Jessica Alupo said it is unfair for the teachers to stay out of class since

negotiations for the pay rise are still ongoing. District authorities, she said, have been asked to register those on duty today.

Alupo said the inter-ministerial technical committee appointed for the purpose presents its report to President Yoweri Museveni today.

The Uganda National Teachers Union (UNATU), however, insists on a 90- day strike claiming that the negotiations ended without results for the teachers.

On Friday, UNATU refused to endorse the report vowing to write their minority report.

The union is also angry that the ministry wants them to move countrywide and convince their members that there is no money for their salary increment this financial year.

On Sunday, Alupo said UNATU worked with the committee and only dissociated themselves from the report after realising that there is no money in other budgetary areas.

The minister of State for Higher Education, Dr. Chrysostom Muyingo, appealed to teachers to open for what he described as the most important school term.

"Negotiations for a pay rise are continuing. A ministerial committee (Finance and Public Service) was instituted to handle this issue," Muyingo stated.

"I appeal to all teachers in the country to report to their respective schools and teach. We acknowledge the demand for a pay rise by the teachers and the commitment made by Government to that effect. However, a sailor doesn't abandon a ship in the deep waters. This is what the teachers will be doing when they abandon pupils, in form of a strike, during this critical promotional term.

He asked the teachers to be patient for a little while as the matter is being handled.

MINISTER'S APPEAL TO TEACHERS NATIONWIDE AS NEW TERM BEGINS:

As the new and most important term begins tomorrow, I appeal to all teachers in the country to report to their respective schools and teach.

We acknowledge the demand for a pay rise by the teachers and the commitment made by Government to that effect. However, a sailor doesn't abandon a ship in the deep waters. This is what the teachers will be doing when they abandon pupils, in form of a strike, during this critical promotional term.

The negotiations for a pay rise are continuing at all levels of Government. A ministerial committee (MOF, MOES and MOPS) was instituted to handle this issue and before long some good news will come out. It's a matter of time.

We therefore appeal to the teachers to be patience for a little while and be of good cheers as this matter is being handled. There has been a lot of despondence being preached and government being painted in bad light as insensitive. This will not be helpful in this delicate matter.

Let's have the country and the innocent students at heart as we solve this matter.

HON. DR JC MUYINGO (MP)

MINISTER OF STATE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

SOUTH AFRICA :

Special South Africa-India relations turn sour

September 17, 2013/thenews.com.pk

CAPE TOWN: At the dawn of what became popularly known as the new South Africa, there was a special relationship between the country's cricket officials and their counterparts from India.

It is a relationship that Cricket South Africa (CSA) chief executive Haroon Lorgat and Sanjay Patel, secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), will try to repair this week.

The two men are attending the International Cricket Council (ICC) chief executives meeting in Dubai, where they will discuss "scheduling issues" that threaten India's tour of South Africa at the end of the year.

India were the first country to host South Africa after the formation of a racially unified board in 1991, ending 21 years of isolation caused by the South African government's apartheid policy.

India were also the first country to make a Test tour of South Africa in the post-unity era. Both events were heavy with symbolism and bonhomie.

India had been in the forefront of nations that imposed sanctions on the apartheid government, and the two countries had never played cricket against each other.

But when South Africa's new United Cricket Board (UCB) put its case for membership of the ICC in July 1991 -- more than two years before the country's first fully democratic elections -- it was India that proposed a motion in favour of admission, opening the way for the longtime pariahs to return to the international game.

Four months later, a UCB delegation, which included former Test captain Ali Bacher, arrived in India as part of a "get to know you" tour of cricketing nations which had not previously had ties with South Africa.

A planned tour by Pakistan had fallen through and the Indians invited South Africa to fill the gap by playing three one-day internationals.

The first match was played at the cavernous Eden Gardens stadium in Calcutta, stronghold of Jagmohan Dalmiya, president of the Bengal cricket association, who went on to become president of the BCCI and later the ICC.

Dalmiya and Bacher had struck up a friendship on the fringes of the ICC meeting in London, and the Indians went all out to make the South African players, officials and supporters welcome.

The hospitality was reciprocated in 1992-93 when India visited South Africa in what was officially labelled the "Friendship Tour".

In subsequent years the friendship was cemented when South Africa hosted the Indian Premier

League at short notice in 2009 when it had to be moved from India.

South Africa and Australia became partners of the BCCI in the lucrative Champions League Twenty20.

The first hint of trouble came when it emerged that the Indians were not happy about the prospect of Lorgat being appointed chief executive of CSA. He had seemingly upset them while filling the same post at the ICC.

CSA announced in July an itinerary that included three Tests, seven one-day internationals and two Twenty20 internationals. The number of matches was in accordance with the Future Tours Programme (FTP) agreed by ICC member countries more than three years ago.

The Indians complained that they had not agreed to the itinerary -- although South African officials claim they have correspondence proving that there were detailed negotiations about the fixtures.

It came as a shock to CSA when India unilaterally announced a tour by the West Indies -- which was not part of the FTP -- which will end on November 27, nine days after the tour of South Africa is due to start.

A further shock came when it was announced that India's scheduled tour of New Zealand would start with a one-day international on January 19 --the day when the third and final Test in South Africa is due to finish.

An Indian tour is a massive money-spinner, and South African officials are wary about making any public comment that could jeopardise it. But there is a belief that it would be possible to condense the tour and play most if not all of the international matches by cutting down on warm-up games and rest days.

It was reported that the BCCI was working on back-up plans for a triangular one-day series in case the South African tour was cancelled -- although this would place the Indians in breach of their obligations under the FTP. (AFP)

TANZANIA :

Tanzania refutes xenophobic attacks on Malawians living there

By Nyasa Times Reporter/September 17, 2013

The Tanzanian Government has denied reports that Malawians living in that country were being targeted in xenophobic attacks amid tension over the lake boarder wrangle.

However, the government has clarified that some 1,030 Malawians were netted in a clean-up operation against illegal immigrants from Malawi and other neighbouring countries.

Over the weekend Malawi News reported it had received distress calls from a number of Malawians living in Tanzania that they were being beaten up, raped, robbed and have their houses looted and burnt down.

Malawi's Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Minister, Ephraim Mganda Chiume, also

confirmed receiving reports of such incidents from the Malawian Embassy in Dar es Salaam but played them down saying calling them xenophobic attacks was an exaggeration.

The newspaper further reported that the Malawians targeted were those living in high-density areas of the commercial city and it was not established whether the attacks had anything to do with the current wrangle where Tanzania is claiming part of the lake while Malawi claims the entire lake is hers.

The matter is currently under mediation by the SADC former heads of state forum.

But Tanzania media quoted that country's Director of Information Services, Assah Mwambene saying no Malawian had been harassed during their clean up operation.

"These reports are false as there is no single Malawian who has been harassed as it has been suggested," he said.

According to Mwambene, those nabbed were given the option to fill out immigration papers to state whether they still wanted to remain in the country or not.

During the operation some 25,000 illegal immigrants from Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) were sent back to their home countries after being found living in that country illegally.

The Immigration Officer for Dar es Salaam, Grace Hokororo, also reiterated that no Malawian had been harassed by the law enforcers during the operation.

"Since 2001 we have been registering illegal immigrants living in Tanzania and we found out that over 1,000 Malawians were living here illegally," she said.

The government has declared a crackdown against illegal immigrants in an operation codenamed 'Kimbunga', meaning whirlwind, which was kicked off recently by President Jakaya Kikwete largely as a response to a rising wave of foreign instigated crime in the country.

Since the issue was first reported, the Malawi Embassy in Dar es Salaam has apparently been on top of the situation with officials visiting all the troubled spots but they are yet to issue a report.

Lake row update

Meanwhile, Malawi and Tanzania have been given three weeks to analyse and respond to a report produced by the Forum of Former Heads of State and Government mediating on the Lake Malawi border dispute.

The mediating team led by former presidents Joaquim Chissano (Mozambique) and Thabo Mbeki (South Africa) on Friday met Malawi President Joyce Banda at the Kamuzu Palace in the capital, Lilongwe where they submitted their findings of consultations conducted with the governments of Malawi and Tanzania.

President Joyce Banda, after meeting Chissano and Mbeki on Friday, said Malawi will study the report and respond within three weeks.

She was accompanied to the meeting by representatives of opposition political parties, civil society organisations (CSOs) and some members of her Cabinet.

Said Banda: “The two leaders came into the country to update us on the lake wrangle. I am pleased to have received the report on behalf of Malawians. We will study the report and give feedback as requested by the mediation team.”

In July, the President told mediators on the dispute between Tanzania and Malawi on Lake Malawi about the border on Lake Malawi will not accept any interim agreement.

Banda also warned that if the countries fail to resolve the lake dispute by September 30 this year, she will take the matter to the International Court of Justice.

Tanzania: Emirates Top Others in Tasota Awards

17 September 2013/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)

EMIRATES airline shone at Tanzania Society of Travel Agents' (TASOTA) awards night in Dar es Salaam over the weekend after scooping eight awards.

The airline, a subsidiary of Dubai-based Emirates Group, was named the international airline, operating in Tanzania, with the best economy class products, in a draw that PricewaterhouseCoopers, a multinational professional services firm, conducted. Emirates was also named as an international airline with the best premium product, beating Qatar Airways and Swissair.

It was also named an airline with the best onwards connections to Middle East, Indian sub-continent and the Far East ahead of Qatar Airways and Oman Air.

In the TASOTA 2013 award night gala graced by the Deputy Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Lazaro Nyalandu, Emirates Airline also won the award of the airline with the best in-flight service and entertainment ahead of KLM and Qatar Airways.

The Dubai based airline was also named as the airline with the best complaint settlement system, an airline with the best airport customer service and the airline with the best reservation team. Kenya Airways scooped three awards in the night.

It was named as an African airline with the best economy class product operating out of Tanzania, beating South African Airways and Rwanda Air. Kenya Airways was also named as an African airline with the best premium class product and the airline with the best onward connections within Africa.

Precision Air scooped one award after being named the best domestic scheduled airline ahead of Air Tanzania and Fast Jet, the low cost African airline that won the 'New Kid on the Block Award.'

KENYA :

Investors upbeat on Kenya despite ICC trials, says IMF

Sep 17, 2013/newvision.co.ug

NAIROBI - Kenya's economic upturn provides a bullish case for foreign investors even though the

country's leadership is being hauled before the International Criminal Court, the IMF said Monday.

Speaking ahead of a conference to promote East Africa's largest economy, the International Monetary Fund praised what it said was Kenya's strong track record on reform, robust growth and "sound monetary and fiscal policies".

"Based on what I've heard from private sector people since I've been here and certainly just from the numbers... investors are very gung-ho on Kenya these days," said Antoinette Sayeh, Director of the IMF's African Department.

"Certainly I think everybody is aware that there is a trial going on," she said. "They're certainly continuing to see Kenya has very good economic prospects, focussing on the economic returns that can be theirs from engaging with Kenya."

Last week the trial began in The Hague of Kenya's Vice President William Ruto, who pleaded not guilty to masterminding some of the 2007-2008 post-election unrest that left at least 1,100 dead and more than 600,000 homeless.

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta is also facing charges of stoking the worst violence in the east African country since independence in 1963, and his own trial begins at the international court on November 12. He also denies the accusations.

For the moment the two are cooperating with the court, but the country could be plunged into a political crisis if either are convicted and jailed, or face international isolation if they drop out of the proceedings and trigger arrest warrants.

The IMF official, however, refused to be drawn on how the cases could play out and signalled that investors did not appear to be nervous.

"The government is certainly making strong signals that it will continue very strong (economic) policies, that's what the investors are looking at first and foremost," she told reporters.

"What investors know at this stage is that Kenya is a good place to do business."

The IMF and Kenyan government are hosting a high level conference in Nairobi on Tuesday and Wednesday entitled "Ready for Take Off: Kenya's Economic Successes, Prospects and Challenges".

AFP

ANGOLA :

Chinese, Angolan FMs hold talks on ties

English.news.cn/Xinhua/ Editor: Yang Yi/2013-09-17

BEIJING, Sept. 17 (Xinhua) -- Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday held talks with visiting Angolan counterpart Georges Rebelo Chikoti to promote bilateral ties.

Wang said that China-Angola cooperation in agriculture, energy, infrastructure and other fields has seen significant results and the two countries enjoy a fraternal friendship, according to a Foreign

Ministry press release.

China is willing to work with Angola to promote the bilateral strategic partnership to a new level as well as make greater contributions to Africa's peaceful development, the minister said, calling the 30th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic ties between the countries a new starting point.

Hailing bilateral friendship and cooperation, Chikoti said Angola sincerely appreciates China for its support for Angola's post-war reconstruction and is ready to further expand bilateral cooperation and deepen the strategic partnership.

The two sides signed a document on the exchange of ratifications of their bilateral extradition treaty, according to the press release.

They also exchanged views on regional and international affairs of common concern.

AU/AFRICA :

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

Sudanese President Applies for US Visa to Attend UNGA

VOA News/September 16, 2013

The U.S. government says Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir has applied for a U.S. visa to attend the United Nations General Assembly, but says he should not make the trip because he is wanted for war crimes.

State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf declined to comment Monday on whether the visa would be granted but said "we condemn any potential effort" by him to attend the U.N. meeting.

She said before visiting the United Nations in New York, Bashir should present himself to the International Criminal Court [ICC] in the Hague, which has indicted him for war crimes in Sudan's Darfur region.

The U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, Samantha Power, echoed those comments, saying Bashir's proposed trip would be "deplorable, cynical and hugely inappropriate."

Human rights activists have pressured countries not to admit Bashir, and the Sudanese president is careful to visit only nations that are not members of the ICC or have guaranteed his safety.

The ICC accuses Bashir of orchestrating crimes including murder, rape and extermination against civilians in Darfur, where rebel groups have been fighting the Bashir government since 2003.

Bashir denies the charges.

Several African countries including Kenya, Chad, and Djibouti have granted entry to Bashir, while others, including South Africa, have refused to let him in.

Last month, Sudan said Saudi Arabia blocked Bashir's plane from entering its airspace as he tried to fly to Iran for the inauguration of President Hassan Rouhani.

In July, the Sudanese president left Nigeria's capital less than 24 hours he arrived for an African Union summit, after activists pressured the government to arrest him.

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

Somalie: Bruxelles débloque 1,8 milliards d'euros de dons

Par RFI/mardi 17 septembre 2013

La communauté internationale s'est engagée à débloquer 1,8 milliard d'euros en faveur de la reconstruction de la Somalie, a annoncé, ce lundi 16 septembre, le président de la Commission européenne, José Manuel Barroso, à l'issue d'une conférence à Bruxelles. « C'est un jour historique pour la Somalie », a lancé le président somalien, Hassan Cheikh Mohamoud.

« Nous avons des engagements pour 1,8 milliard d'euros », soit près du double de ce que l'UE espérait mobiliser, s'est félicité le président de la Commission européenne.

« C'est un jour historique », a de son côté lancé le président somalien, coorganisateur - avec l'Union Européenne (UE) - de cette conférence, visant à soutenir le redressement de ce pays de la Corne de l'Afrique, après 20 ans de guerre civile.

Voilà donc un chèque en forme d'encouragement. Selon José Manuel Barroso, le new deal proposé par les pays donateurs vise à récompenser les « importants progrès » de la Somalie, ces douze derniers mois. Depuis l'élection - en septembre 2012 - du président Hassan Cheikh Mohamoud qui a marqué la fin d'une longue période de transition, le pays tente d'organiser son redressement.

Le président somalien l'a rappelé à Bruxelles : l'objectif est de réformer la Sécurité, la Justice, les Finances publiques et de relancer la croissance. Quatre piliers sur lesquels les Somaliens veulent ériger un état structuré.

Après plus de vingt ans de guerre civile, le pays ne doit sa survie qu'à la présence de la force africaine de maintien de la paix - l'Amisom - et aux fonds internationaux qui lui ont permis à la fois

de repousser la menace des miliciens shebabs et de retrouver un embryon d'armée nationale.

Même si la sécurité est encore loin de régner en Somalie, les européens et - plus largement - les bailleurs de fonds avaient promis, en juin dernier, un geste d'encouragement. Le président somalien avait lancé une grande concertation entre les clans et les régions avant de présenter à Bruxelles ses priorités. Reste cependant à éviter de nombreux écueils sur cette voie du redressement, au premier rang desquels figure la corruption endémique, récemment dénoncée par l'ONU.

Renforcer l'Etat

Depuis son élection à la présidence - en septembre 2012 - Hassan Cheikh Mohamoud a entamé un processus de reconstruction nationale. Au-delà des accords passés entre clans, pour le partage du pouvoir, et de la lutte contre les miliciens shebabs, le gouvernement central se bat pour réformer la Justice, les Finances publiques ainsi que les secteurs de la Santé et de l'Education.

Une tâche d'autant plus difficile que ces dernières années, la corruption a battu des records. En effet, l'ONU révélait, cette année, que 70% des revenus de l'Etat disparaissaient dans la nature sous le précédent gouvernement. Sans les fonds de la diaspora - évalués à un milliard de dollars par an - l'économie somalienne n'aurait jamais résisté.

Et si le pays a compensé le chaos étatique par un secteur privé très vivace, il reste désormais à financer la reconstruction de services publics adaptés. A titre d'exemple, l'UE souhaite scolariser un million d'enfants dans un pays où seul un enfant sur quatre va à l'école.

Int'l donors pledge 1.8 bln euros for Somalia's reconstruction: Barroso

English.news.cn/Xinhua/2013-09-17

BRUSSELS, Sept. 16 (Xinhua) -- International donors have pledged 1.8 billion euros (2.4 billion U.S. dollars) on Monday at a conference to back Somalia's reconstruction efforts.

"I'm glad to note that pledges today reached 1.8 billion euros from donors, backing with means, financial means, these new priorities and framework," European Commission President, Jose Manuel Barroso announced at the end of "New Deal for Somalia" conference in Brussels.

At the conference, Somali leaders and some 50 international delegations endorsed the "New Deal" compact, which focuses on peace and state-building after decades of war in Somalia.

"Through the Compact we now have a clear and agreed roadmap of how Somalia can address its most urgent priorities while moving towards a full constitution and elections in 2016," Barroso said.

Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said "1.8 billion euros is a huge amount", which was a "very clear indication that our international partners are serious in sustaining the current progress and development in Somalia."

Earlier Monday, Barroso announced the European Union (EU) would pledge additional 650 million euros for Somalia on top of 1.2 billion euros it had already provided since 2008.

Editor: yan

CHINA/AFRICA :

China-Africa Cooperation Reduces Conflicts

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Africa has gradually gained the importance and recognition it deserves in the complex play of international relations in the contemporary world, speaking with its own distinct voice and having its own clear objectives. Africa, then is a continent which suffers from the scourge wars and violence, this means that peace and security are inseparable from economic and social development. Traditionally, African conflicts have been the focus of preferential attention by the international community, mainly the United Nations, however, over recent years major headway has been made as regards achieving a raised awareness among and shouldering of responsibilities by African governments and institutions themselves, in relation to the need for a greater degree of in-house involvement in peace building and consolidation. It is becoming increasingly evident that the solutions to African conflicts must emerge and be led from within the continent itself, with the international community providing financial and logistical aid. Within this context, the African Union (AU) has made a concerted effort to build the African peace and security Architecture, creating the Peace and Security Council in 2002. Now the African continent is enabled to create a strong relationship with the People's Republic of China in all aspects.

This relation enhances the integration and cooperation between the two sides therefore they succeeded to find real cooperation under the new circumstances , to jointly meet the challenge of economic globalization and to promote common development , and in light of suggestions of some African countries , the result of the cooperation is that , the Chinese government made the proposal on the convocation of the Forum on China -Africa Cooperation in order to assist the African countries and develop their economies which were and still are suffering from the savage conflicts and civil war .

The programme for China - Africa Cooperation in economic and social development put forward at the first ministerial conference of the forum on China -Africa cooperation stipulates that the two sides agreed to set up a joint follow up mechanism to evaluate the progress in the implementation of the programme regularly. In July 2001, China and Africa held a ministerial consultation in Lusaka, capital of Zambia, in which the procedures of the follow up mechanism of the forum on China-Africa cooperation was discussed. The follow -up mechanism of the FOCAC is built on three levels : ministerial conference which is held every three years , the senior officials meeting and the senior officials preparatory meeting for the ministerial conference which was held a year before and several days before ministerial conference respectively . China and Africa shall hold a ministerial conference and senior officials meeting in turn, and this will pave the way for creating cooperation in all domains and strengthen the Sino-African economic cooperation and trade under the new circumstances, the forum on China -Africa cooperation and programme for China-Africa cooperation in economy and the direction for the new China-Africa strategic partnership of long -term stability and mutual benefits. China undertakes to reduce or cancel the debt amounting to 10 billion owed by the heavy indebted poor countries and least developed countries in Africa, in addition to that China set aside special funds to support and encourage investment by well -established Chinese enterprises in African countries to set up joint equity or co-operation projects. The African human resource development fund is established to help African countries with the training of professionals.

INDIA/AFRICA :

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