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UGANDA :

#### President receives Dutch Envoy

Saturday, 21st September 2013/mediacentre.go.ug

President Yoweri Museveni has held discussions with the Dutch Envoy to Uganda, H.E. Alphonse Hennekens.

During the meeting that took place yesterday at the President's country home in Rwakitura, Kiruhuura district, Mr. Museveni and the Dutch Ambassador delved issues of bilateral interest between Uganda and the Netherlands.

Trade between Uganda and the Netherlands has grown in the recent years courtesy of the increased volume of Ugandan exports to Holland.

The trade boom in the trade sector in the recent past years is mainly due to export of flowers, fish fillets and tobacco from Uganda to Holland while Dutch investments in Uganda are mainly in the mobile telephone sector and the processing of agricultural produce.

President Yoweri Museveni has met and held discussions with the Netherlands Ambassador to

Uganda, Alphonse Hennekens, at his country home Rwakitura, in Kiruhura district.

Uganda and the Netherlands have an investment protection agreement that aims at protecting the investments in each other's country.

According to recent statistics, Dutch exports to Uganda in 2010 totaled to US\$59 million while imports from Uganda came to US\$133 million.

TANZANIA :

### **Tanzania: Experts Call for More Credit to Private Sector**

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

THE government should focus on raising finance to the private sector to stimulate growth as the Bank of Tanzania relaxes its tight monetary control to increase money supply in the economy, financial experts have said.

The experts said that the increased money supply would be more meaningful if the government would focus on increasing credit facilities to the private sector instead of directing the windfall to consumption.

"The government should increase credit facilitation to the private sector through microfinance institutions for small and medium entrepreneurs and through other arrangements for big investors," Prof Haji Semboja of the University of Dar es Salaam told the 'Business Standard' in an interview.

He said local big investors should be enabled to undertake major strategic development projects under public private partnership arrangement to boost the economy.

"This can be done in the fast growing sectors such as mining and energy," he said. Dr Honest Ngowi of Mzumbe University's Dar es Salaam Business School said he believed the government and the central bank had calculated well before relaxing the monetary controls to ensure it brings in positive impacts to the economy.

He also said the government should consider increasing credits facilities to the private sector in the list of its priorities. If the increased money supply will lead to increased credits to the private sector, that will be good as it will stimulate the economy.

If it is for consumption only then it will fuel inflation. The Bank of Tanzania said in its latest monthly economic review that money supply had gone up in July compared to June this year, maintaining the upward trend since last year.

It said the annual growth of extended broad money supply (M3) was 17.6 per cent in July 2013 up from 15.6 per cent recorded in June 2013 and 12.8 per cent recorded in the corresponding period in 2012. The increase was explained by a sizable increase in net government borrowing from the banking system, the bank says.

During the period under review, there was a significant increase in net credit to the government by the banking system to the tune of 1,240bn/- in the year ending July 2013, compared to a repayment of 22.9bn/- recorded in the corresponding period in 2012.

The Bank of Tanzania, Director of Economic Policy and Research, Dr Joe Massawe, said it implied that the monetary policy had a positive impact to the economy as money supply increases when inflation is declining and the economy is steadily growing. "It is impacting the economy very positively. We have increased supply when the inflation is declining and the economy is growing," he said.

"Here money supply increases and the economy growth increases too... the efficiency of the economy keeps on improving as the increased money supply is used to generate growth," he said. Dr Massawe said it was expected that with the economy maintaining a robust growth more money would be needed to buy the output of the economy.

Dr Johaveness Aikaeli of the University of Dar es Salaam also supported the Bank of Tanzania's monetary policy saying it led to positive impact to the economy. He said with the current monetary policy, money supply increase financed increased output of the growing economy.

"There are only two things here. Either it (increased money supply) finances output or inflation. In our case, it is financing output as the economy is growing." He said the growth of the economy was not in statistics only as some skeptics would believe because the growth could be seen with increased economic activities. "The growth is not abstract. It is happening and is seen.

You can see the increased level of economic activities in construction, for instance," he said. The Bank of Tanzania's monetary policy for 2013/14 seeks to achieve annual growth of average reserve money not exceeding 14 per cent, annual growth of M3 of 15 per cent and annual growth of private sector credit of 19.6 per cent.

The policy supports the broader macroeconomic policy objectives of the government and focuses on setting monetary targets which are consistent with the objective of maintaining low and stable inflation, while continuing to enhance access to banking services for the unbanked and the under banked.

KENYA :

### **Kenyan police vow to 'finish and punish' Westgate Mall terrorists**

By Michael Pearson. Zain Verjee and Nima Elbagir, CNN/Mon September 23, 2013

Nairobi, Kenya (CNN) -- Several gunmen remain inside a besieged mall in Nairobi, Kenya, two senior officials said, as a deadly standoff between Kenyan forces and terrorists stretches into a fourth day.

Kenya's Interior Ministry tweeted late Monday that authorities were in control of the Westgate Shopping Mall -- the latest in a series of social media posts from officials reassuring a nervous public that there was little chance of escape for any surviving Al-Shabaab gunmen who had terrorized the mall, killing at least 62 people.

"Taken control of all the floors. We're not here to feed the attackers with pastries but to finish and punish them," Kenyan police Inspector General David Kimaiyo said on Twitter.

But even as police stressed on Twitter that they were in charge of the situation, two senior Kenyan

officials told CNN that gunmen -- including snipers -- were still inside the four-story mall.

It wasn't clear whether any hostages remained. The Kenya Red Cross said 65 people were missing after the attack.

Gunfire echoed from the mall sporadically during the day, sending journalists and aid workers scrambling for cover. Thick heavy smoke -- from a fire set by terrorists, according to Kenyan authorities -- billowed into the air much of the afternoon.

Kenya assault raises new fears about Somali recruitment

Three terrorists have been confirmed killed since Saturday, the Interior Ministry said Monday. Eleven Kenyan soldiers have been wounded, according to the Kenya Defence Forces. More than 200 civilians have been rescued, the military said.

Away from the mall, Kenyan authorities said they had arrested more than 10 people for questioning in connection with the attack, including at least four taken into custody at an airport.

Authorities urged law enforcement officers to closely scrutinize travelers' documents, and the country's Immigration Department said in a tweet that it had increased security at entry and exit points.

Surviving the Nairobi mall massacre: 'Just lucky'

Americans involved?

Kenyan Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed told "PBS NewsHour" that some of the attackers had come from the United States. She said they were originally from Minnesota and Missouri, PBS reported Monday.

"As you know, both the victims and the perpetrators came from Kenya, the United Kingdom and the United States," she said. "From the information that we have, two or three Americans, and I think so far I've heard of one Brit" as being among the attackers.

"The Americans, from the information we have, are young men, about between maybe 18 and 19, of Somalia origin or Arab origin," Mohamed told PBS. She offered no other specifics.

Her comments seemed to expound on those of Gen. Julius Karangi, chief of Defense Forces.

"We have an idea who these people are and they are clearly a multinational collection from all over the world," he told reporters in Nairobi. "This is not clearly a local event. We are fighting global terrorism here."

Before its Twitter account was suspended, Al-Shabaab issued a list of the names of nine people it said were among the attackers. It said three were from the United States, two from Somalia and one each from Canada, Finland, Kenya and the United Kingdom.

Sources within Al-Shabaab also told CNN that the nine names published on Twitter were among the alleged hostage-takers, but CNN has not been able to independently confirm that.

U.S. officials don't have any confirmation of Americans having been involved in the attack, according to Deputy National Security Adviser Ben Rhodes and another senior official.

Intelligence analysts are poring over electronic intercepts in an effort to verify the terror group's claims, two law enforcement sources told CNN.

The FBI also was looking into the claims, law enforcement officials told CNN.

"At this point we have no definitive evidence of the nationalities or identities of the perpetrators," State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Monday.

In the past, federal officials and Somali-American leaders in Minneapolis have reported that Al-Shabaab has recruited young men there to go to Africa to fight.

U.S. President Barack Obama expressed condolences over the attack after a meeting on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly Monday. He didn't specify whether Americans had been involved, but he pledged U.S. support and described the situation as a matter of global concern.

"This, I think, underscores the degree to which all of us as an international community have to stand against the kind of senseless violence that these kinds of groups represent," Obama said.

### The siege

The terrorist attack began at midday Saturday, Nairobi time, with an estimated 10 to 15 gunmen taking over the mall in what hospital volunteer Abiti Shah said witnesses told her was "like a Hollywood action scene."

"They just started firing in the air," Shah said, retelling the witness accounts.

A youth cooking competition was taking place at the mall at the time, and terrified shoppers fled for their lives as gunfire echoed through the building.

Witnesses said the gunmen went from store to store, shooting people, and then took hostages.

Survivor Bendita Malakia, a North Carolina woman who moved to Nairobi in July, told CNN affiliate WAVY that she took refuge behind the closed metal gates of a store with dozens of others.

### The Kenyan spirit cannot be broken, says eyewitness resident

"While we were back there, you could hear them methodically going from store to store, talking to people and asking questions," she said. "They were shooting, screaming. Then it would stop for a while and they would go to another store."

Al-Shabaab has claimed that the attackers targeted non-Muslims and vowed they would not negotiate for the hostages' lives. CNN security analyst Peter Bergen said the terrorists apparently took hostages only to prolong the siege and win more media attention.

### The dead

Most of the dead were said to be Kenyans.

Six British citizens, two French nationals, two Indians and two Canadians, including a diplomat, also died, their governments said.

Those killed include:

- Elif Yavuz, a senior vaccines researcher for the Clinton Health Access Initiative based in Tanzania. Yavuz, a Dutch national, was pregnant and expecting her first child in October, according to Julio Frenk, dean of faculty at the Harvard School of Public Health. "Elif was brilliant, dedicated, and deeply admired by her colleagues, who will miss her terribly," the Clinton family said in a statement. The Dutch Foreign Affairs Ministry confirmed a 33-year-old Dutch woman had been killed.
- A major African poet, author and Ghanaian statesman, Kofi Awoonor, Ghana's president said. Awoonor received his Ph.D. from New York's Stony Brook University and was a professor of literature there in the 1970s.
- The nephew of Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and the man's fiancée.
- A Peruvian doctor, Juan Jesus Ortiz, who had previously worked for the United Nations Fund for Children and lived in Kenya doing consulting work, the country's Foreign Affairs Ministry said.
- Sridhar Natarajan, 40, an Indian national and employee of a local pharmaceutical firm, and 8-year-old Paramshu Jain, the son of a bank branch manager, CNN sister network CNN-IBN reported, citing government officials in New Delhi.

The wounded

Kenyatta said more than 175 people had been wounded. Five were Americans, the State Department said Sunday.

Elaine Dang, 26, a University of California, Berkeley, graduate from San Diego, underwent surgery to her chest, arms and legs.

"I'm OK, I'm very grateful to be alive," she told CNN affiliate KFMB-TV

She said two friends died in the attack.

Al-Shabaab breaks new ground with complex Nairobi attack

The terrorists

The Somalia-based Al-Shabaab terror group had said on Twitter that it had sent the gunmen to the mall in retaliation for Kenya's involvement in an African Union military effort against the group, which is al Qaeda's proxy in Somalia.

Last year, the Kenyan military was part of a peacekeeping force that defeated Al-Shabaab forces to liberate the key Somali port of Kismayo.

Since Kenya launched attacks against Al-Shabaab in Somalia in 2011, the group has hurled grenades at Kenyan churches, bus stops and other public places.

The mall attack is the deadliest terror attack in Kenya since al Qaeda blew up the U.S. Embassy there in 1998, killing 213 people.

On Monday, Kenya's foreign minister told CNN it's clear that Al-Shabaab was not acting alone.

"This bares the hallmarks of al Qaeda. This is not just Al-Shabaab. In fact, the leaders are not Somali, as you may have heard. This was al Qaeda. It was a very well-coordinated effort, it was very well planned," Mohamed said.

But the attackers' national origins are irrelevant, she said.

"It doesn't matter where they come from. There are some Americans. There are some Brits. There are some others. It has nothing to do with the nationality of people," Mohamed said. "They are all evil and we must deal with them as such."

Al-Shabaab grew amid Somalia's lawlessness

The investigation

Lenku said that Monday's effort to roust the terrorists was a Kenyan operation, but government sources told CNN that Israeli special forces also were at the scene.

Kenyatta, the Kenyan president, vowed Sunday to punish those responsible for the attacks.

"They shall not get away with their despicable, beastly acts. Like the cowardly perpetrators now cornered in the building, we will punish the masterminds swiftly and indeed very painfully," he said.

U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry promised an American investigation.

Kenya bloodshed: World leaders react

"Obviously, it's an enormous offense against everybody's sense of right and wrong," Kerry said. "It represents the seriousness and the breadth of the challenge we face with ruthless and completely reckless terrorists, and we're going to pursue them."

**International prosecutor says she is ready to help Kenya bring mall attackers to justice**

September 24, 2013/Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands – The International Criminal Court prosecutor says she is prepared to work with Kenya to bring to justice those responsible for the deadly attack on an upscale Nairobi shopping mall.

Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda said in a statement Tuesday that while Kenya has primary jurisdiction in the slaying of civilians in the Westgate Mall, the atrocity could also fall under the court's jurisdiction.

Bensouda's statement came a day after the Hague-based court adjourned the trial of Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto and let him fly home to help deal with the mall crisis.

Ruto is on trial for allegedly orchestrating violence in the aftermath of Kenya's 2007 presidential election. He has pleaded not guilty to all charges.

**Pregnant Harvard grad killed in Kenyan terror attacks just two weeks from giving birth**

By Doyle Murphy / NEW YORK DAILY NEWS/Monday, September 23, 2013

Elif Yavuz landed a job with the Clinton Foundation after graduation and was looking forward to family life with architect boyfriend, Ross Langdon, when militants attacked. 'Elif was brilliant, dedicated, and deeply admired by her colleagues, who will miss her terribly,' the Clinton family said in a release.

Elif Yavuz had just two weeks to go.

The 33-year-old Harvard grad, who landed a job with the Clinton Foundation after graduation, planned to spend the last days of her pregnancy near the good hospitals of Nairobi, choosing what she thought was one of the safest spots in east Africa to give birth to her first child, a friend told the Daily News. But she walked into a deathtrap.

The Clinton family was shocked to learn that Yavuz and her architect boyfriend, Ross Langdon, 33, were among the 69 people confirmed dead after Islamic militants ambushed shoppers at Westgate Mall in the Kenyan city.

"We were shocked and terribly saddened to learn of the death of Elif Yavuz in the senseless attacks in Nairobi," former President Clinton, former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and Chelsea Clinton said in a release. "Elif devoted her life to helping others, particularly people in developing countries suffering from malaria and HIV/AIDS."

Yavuz and Langdon were a pair of rising stars among the humanitarian workers and researchers in the region. Langdon was an award-winning architect who sought out projects that could make a difference. Yavuz was focused on fighting disease.

"Elif was brilliant, dedicated, and deeply admired by her colleagues, who will miss her terribly," the Clintons said.

Harvard Assistant Professor Jessica Cohen met Yavuz four years ago in Cambridge and quickly recognized the spark of a talented researcher and friend. She picked Yavuz as an on-site researcher for a malaria project in Uganda. She remembers the first day the the stylish native of the Netherlands arrived for work with a giant flower fixed in her hair and high heels.

"She would walk around dusty towns with these great clothes and a big smile," Cohen said.

Yavuz taught Ugandan children the "Thriller" dance from the Michael Jackson video in the few hours she wasn't working on malaria prevention. She and Cohen searched for ways to make sure patients stayed with treatment programs, and she designed her own project around using mosquito nets to prevent infection.

"She was a force," Cohen said.

Cohen said the hours were long, and Yavuz was looking forward to building a personal life after graduation.

"I think she was ready," Cohen said. "She had a great job and a great partner."

The baby was the next step in the plan.

Yavuz was working as a vaccine researcher in Tanzania for the Clinton Foundation, but she and



Langdon headed north into Kenya as the October due date neared. Cohen said that part of Nairobi was "like a bubble" — a pocket of calm and safety in the region.

On Saturday at the upscale Westgate Mall, Yavuz and Langdon strolled among shoppers that included diplomats, ex-pats and even the poet Kofi Awoonor, a literary legend from Ghana who taught poetry at SUNY Stony Brook in the 1970s.

Langdon was a star in his own right. A native of Tasmania, the 33-year-old had designed an AIDS hospital in Kenya and delivered a speech on sustainable architecture for the popular TED Talks series. He had plans for a new \$35 million museum.

"They were agents-of-change in the best sense," friend Peter Adams wrote on his blog. "Both had dedicated their lives to working for a peaceful world. Both had so much to offer."

Witnesses would later report a grenade explosion on the roof of the mall as armed men and women stormed inside the Westgate and opened fire. The gunbattles lasted through the weekend and into Monday as Kenyan military forces sought to flush out the rebels and rescue hostages.

Yavuz and Langdon were listed among the first casualties, inspiring dozens of Facebook tributes from friends and mournful public statements from all corners. The Clintons said they were happy when she joined their project in Tanzania.

Julio Frenk, dean of Harvard's School of Public Health, said "Elif committed her career and her life to helping those in need. Her compassion was an inspiration to everyone she touched at HSPH and the broader global community in which she lived and worked. She will be deeply missed by all who knew her."

Langdon's colleagues at the architectural firm Regional Associates posted a statement on the company's Website: "We are deeply saddened by the tragic loss our friend and colleague Ross Langdon and his partner, Elif Yavuz.

"Profoundly talented and full of life, Ross enriched the lives of all those around him. Ross's leadership on projects throughout East Africa was inspirational, and he will be very, very sorely missed by us all. Our deepest condolences and thoughts are with Ross and Elif's families at this very difficult time."

Cohen and Yavuz had talked less and less about work in recent weeks. Cohen recently had a baby, and their e-mails drifted toward personal life — Yavuz's was just starting.

"She was really looking forward to starting a family," Cohen said.

**Group behind Kenya mall attack claims militants still holding out**  
September 24, 2013/FoxNews.com

The Islamist militant group behind a deadly terror attack on a shopping mall in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi said Tuesday that its fighters were still holding out despite claims by authorities that Kenyan security forces had regained control of the building.

The group al-Shabab's Twitter account was quoted by Reuters as saying, "There are countless number of dead bodies still scattered inside the mall, and the Mujahideen are still holding their ground. #Westgate"

That was followed by a tweet that said, "The hostages who were being held by the Mujahideen inside #Westgate are still alive, looking quite disconcerted but, nevertheless, alive."

Despite Kenyan government assurances of success on Twitter, another explosion and more gunfire could be heard coming from the mall at around 6:30 a.m. local time on Tuesday, Associated Press reporters at the scene said. Security forces carried a body out of the mall, which remained on fire, with flames and smoke visible.

While the government announced Sunday that "most" hostages had been released, at least 10 were still being held by a band of attackers described as "a multinational collection from all over the world," a security expert with contacts inside the mall told The Associated Press. Al-Shabab, a group allied with Al Qaeda, has claimed responsibility for the attacks, which it has called retaliation for Kenya's involvement in a crackdown on Islamic militants in neighboring Somalia.

Meanwhile, Kenya's foreign minister claimed in a television interview Monday that two or three Americans and one Briton were among those behind the attack.

The foreign minister, Amina Mohamed, said in an interview with PBS' "NewsHour" program that the Americans were 18 to 19 years old, of Somali or Arab origin and lived "in Minnesota and one other place" in the U.S. The attacker from Britain was a woman who has "done this many times before," Mohamed said.

For their part, al-Shabab denied Mohamed's statement, telling Reuters that "Those who describe the attackers as Americans and British are people who do not know what is going on in Westgate building."

Mohamed's statement fueled speculation in the British press that a 29-year-old woman named Samantha Lewthwaite was involved in the attacks. Lewthwaite, a native of Buckinghamshire who converted to Islam at age 15 and was believed by Western intelligence agencies to be in East Africa, is the widow of Germaine Lindsay, one of the perpetrators of the July 7, 2005 suicide attacks on London's transport system during the morning rush hour. British security sources contacted by Reuters said that Lewthwaite's involvement in the attack was possible, but cautioned that no definitive information had been received.

The FBI and U.S. intelligence officials are "aggressively" investigating whether or not Americans were among the militants who attacked the mall, a federal law enforcement source told Fox News.

FBI officials told Fox they cannot yet confirm or deny whether any of the assailants are or were Americans. "We just don't know yet. We're still trying to figure it out," said the source.

State Department spokeswoman Jen Psaki said Monday the department had "no definitive evidence of the nationalities or the identities" of the attackers.

White House spokesman Ben Rhodes said U.S. officials have seen "reports coming out of al-Shabab that indicate information along those lines," referring to possible involvement of Americans in the attack.

"But we have to run those to ground, of course," he said. "We do monitor very carefully and have for some time been concerned about efforts by al-Shabab to recruit Americans or U.S. persons to come to Somalia.

"This is an issue that has been tracked very closely by the U.S. government, and it's one that we'll be looking into in the days ahead."

There was no answer at the Kenyan Mission at the United Nations on Monday night.

Mohamed said Kenya needs to work with other governments to fight the increasing terrorist threat and "much more with the U.S and the U.K., because both the victims and the perpetrators came from Kenya, the United Kingdom and the United States. From the information we have, two or three Americans and so far I've heard of one Brit."

She added: "That just goes to underline the global nature of this war that we are fighting."

Sources tell Fox News that Kenyan security forces exchanged fire with what was believed to be 10 to 15 gunmen hiding on the top floor of the building for several hours Monday morning, neutralizing most of them. Kenya's chief of defense forces says troops are in control of all floors inside the mall -- though he says terrorists could still be hiding inside.

Interior Minister Joseph Ole Lenku told the press that three militants died and more hostages were freed in the efforts to end the ongoing siege waged since Saturday by al-Shabab. Lenku said the evacuation of hostages has gone "very, very well" and that Kenyan officials are "very certain" that there are few if any hostages left in the building. The government has never said how many hostages they believe were being held.

Officials say at least 62 people were killed and 200 wounded in the weekend attack, while 63 were reported missing.

Four booming blasts shook the building Monday morning, sending plumes of thick smoke into the sky. The gunmen holed up inside the mall had caused the smoke by setting mattresses on fire in a supermarket as a decoy, according to a Reuters report.

By evening, Kenyan security officials claimed the upper hand.

"Taken control of all the floors. We're not here to feed the attackers with pastries but to finish and punish them," Police Inspector General David Kimaiyo said on Twitter.

Kenya's Interior Minister Joseph Ole Lenku said the evacuation of hostages had gone "very, very well" and that Kenyan officials were "very certain" that few if any hostages were left in the building.

But with the mall cordoned off and under heavy security it was not possible to independently verify the assertions. Similar claims of a quick resolution were made by Kenyan officials on Sunday and the siege continued. Authorities have also not provided any details on how many hostages were freed or how many still remain captive.

Three attackers were killed in the fighting Monday, Kenyan authorities said, and more than 10 suspects arrested. Eleven Kenyan soldiers were wounded in the running gun battles.

Somalia's al-Qaida-linked rebel group, al-Shabab, which claimed responsibility for the attack, said the hostage-takers were well-armed and ready to take on the Kenyan forces.

An al-Shabab spokesman, Sheik Ali Mohamud Rage, said in an audio file posted on a militant website that the attackers had been ordered to "take punitive action against the hostages" if force

was used to try to rescue them.

The attackers have lots of ammunition, the militant group said in a Twitter feed, adding that Kenya's government would be responsible for any loss of hostages' lives.

A Western security official in Nairobi who insisted on not being named to share information about the rescue operation said the only reason the siege hadn't yet ended would be because hostages were still inside.

President Obama said the U.S. was providing all the cooperation possible to Kenya. "I want to express personally not only my condolences to President Kenyatta who lost two family members in the attack, but to the Kenyan people. We stand with them against this terrible outrage that's occurred. We will provide them with whatever law enforcement support that is necessary," Obama said during a meeting with Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan in New York Monday.

The militants specifically targeted non-Muslims, and at least 18 foreigners were among the dead, including six Britons, as well as citizens from France, Canada, the Netherlands, Australia, Peru, India, Ghana, South Africa and China. Nearly 200 people were wounded, including five Americans.

The al-Shabab extremist Islamic terrorist force grew out of the anarchy that crippled Somalia after warlords ousted a longtime dictator in 1991. Its name means "The Youth" in Arabic, and it was a splinter youth wing of a weak Islamic Courts Union government created in 2006 to establish a fundamentalist Islamic state in the East African nation.

Al-Shabab is estimated to have several thousand fighters, including a few hundred foreign fighters. Some of the insurgents' foreign fighters are from the Middle East with experience in the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts. Others are young, raw recruits from Somali communities in the United States and Europe.

AU/AFRICA :

**Egypt court bans Muslim Brotherhood 'activities'**

23 September 2013/bbc.co.uk

A court in Egypt has banned "all activities" by the Muslim Brotherhood.

The Cairo Court for Urgent Matters said the ruling applied to the Islamist movement, its non-governmental organisation and any affiliated groups.

It also ordered the interim government to seize the Brotherhood's funds and form a panel to administer its frozen assets until any appeal had been heard.

The military authorities have launched a crackdown on the group since ousting President Mohammed Morsi on 3 July.

Dozens of senior figures, including its general guide Mohammed Badie, have been detained on suspicion of inciting violence and murder.

Hundreds of people demanding Mr Morsi's reinstatement, most of them Brotherhood members, have also been killed in clashes with security forces, who portray the crackdown as a struggle against "terrorism".

'Totalitarian decision'

The 85-year-old Islamist movement was banned by Egypt's military rulers in 1954, but registered an NGO called the Muslim Brotherhood Association in March in response to a court case bought by opponents who contested its legal status.

The Brotherhood also has a legally registered political wing, the Freedom and Justice Party (FJP), which was set up in 2011 as a "non-theocratic" group after the uprising that forced President Hosni Mubarak from power.

Following Mr Morsi's overthrow and the suspension of the Islamist-friendly 2012 constitution, the Cairo administrative court and the social solidarity ministry were tasked with reviewing the Brotherhood's legal status.

Monday's ruling by the Cairo Court for Urgent Matters bans the Brotherhood itself, the NGO, as well as "any institution derived from or belonging to the Brotherhood" or "receiving financial support from it". It is not clear if it applies to the charities and social services linked to the Brotherhood, including schools and hospitals.

A leading Brotherhood member, Ibrahim Mounir, described the ruling as a "totalitarian decision" but insisted the group would not disappear.

"It will remain with God's help, not by the orders by the judiciary of al-Sisi," he told al-Jazeera Mubashir Misr TV, referring to the head of the armed forces Gen Abdul Fattah al-Sisi.

The court did not reveal the grounds for the ruling, but it was prompted by a lawsuit filed by the leftist National Progressive Unionist Party, also known as Tagammu, which accused the Brotherhood of being "terrorist" and "exploiting religion in political slogans".

Earlier this month, a judicial panel issued a non-binding recommendation to an administrative court supporting one legal challenge, which argued that the NGO registration was illegal because the Brotherhood-led government had effectively issued a licence to itself.

Social Solidarity Minister Ahmed al-Borai is also reported to have decided separately to dissolve the Brotherhood's NGO. He told Dream TV on Saturday that he would soon publish a statement outlining his reasons.

**Egypte : muselés par la justice, les Frères musulmans promettent de rester "sur le terrain"**

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters/23.09.2013

La justice égyptienne a officiellement interdit, lundi 23 septembre, toutes les "activités" des Frères musulmans et ordonné la confiscation des biens de la confrérie. Selon un arrêt lu par la télévision d'Etat :

"La cour interdit les activités de l'organisation des Frères musulmans (...) et toutes les activités auxquelles elle participe et toute organisation qui en dérive."

Le jugement s'applique à la confrérie, qui n'a aucune existence légale, mais surtout à l'Association

des Frères musulmans, une ONG créée sous la présidence Morsi et accusée de servir de façade à la confrérie, et à "toute organisation qui en émane ou est financée par eux". Les Frères musulmans ont réagi en dénonçant un jugement "politique et entaché de corruption", et promis de rester "présents sur le terrain".

## "BATAILLE CONTRE LE TERRORISME"

Parmi les organisations qui pourraient être interdites figurent également le parti de la Liberté et de la justice, bras politique de l'organisation, qui avait confortablement remporté les premières législatives libres du pays en 2011, et l'Alliance contre le coup d'Etat, l'organisation qui anime la contestation contre les nouvelles autorités et appelle régulièrement à manifester.

Alors que les nouvelles autorités répètent à l'envi mener une "bataille contre le terrorisme", le texte du jugement, diffusé par l'agence officielle MENA, accuse la confrérie de "s'être drapée dans l'islam pur pour ses activités qui contredisent le véritable islam et violent la loi". Ce jugement peut faire l'objet d'un appel.

Un comité gouvernemental devrait être mis sur pied pour organiser la saisie des avoirs de la confrérie, notamment ses biens immobiliers, dont ses nombreux sièges à travers le pays.

## 2 000 ARRESTATIONS

Depuis le 3 juillet, date de la destitution du président Mohamed Morsi, lui-même issu de la confrérie, les nouvelles autorités installées par l'armée répriment les manifestations de ses partisans et ont arrêté les principaux dirigeants de la confrérie. Plus de 2 000 membres des Frères musulmans ont été arrêtés.

Le 17 septembre, les avoirs de la confrérie avaient déjà été confisqués. Parmi les personnalités visées par cette sanction réclamée par le parquet figurent Mohamed Badie, le guide suprême des Frères musulmans, placé en détention, et ses deux adjoints, dont Khairat Al-Chater, qui passe pour être le grand bailleur des Frères musulmans.

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