



[Quelques heures après avoir été enlevé par un groupe d'anciens rebelles lui reprochant d'avoir autorisé la capture par l'armée américaine d'un responsable d'Al-Qaida sur le sol libyen, le premier ministre libyen, Ali Zeidan, est à nouveau libre. Dans une allocution retransmise à la télévision, il a appelé à l'apaisement, souhaitant éviter une "escalade" : "J'espère que ce problème sera réglé avec raison et sagesse." Selon le gouvernement, M. Zeidan a été "libéré et non relâché" par ses ravisseurs, laissant entendre qu'une opération avait eu lieu.]

## BURUNDI :

### **Burundi : Des cantines scolaires endogènes en faveur de 85.000 écoliers**

Vendredi 11 octobre 2013/Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - Le projet "cantines scolaires endogènes" à base communautaire, destiné à toucher 85.000 écoliers d'ici 2016, a été lancé jeudi à l'école primaire de Rugeregere en province Cibitoke, dans l'ouest du Burundi, dans le cadre des activités de la semaine dédiée à la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, célébrée le 16 octobre de chaque année, a-t-on constaté sur place.

Ce projet pilote, qui sera exécuté dans trois provinces de l'Ouest du Burundi, a bénéficié d'un appui financier de 12 millions USD que les Pays-Bas ont accordés via le Programme Alimentaire Mondiale (PAM), a précisé M. Bienvenu Djossa, directeur Pays et représentant du PAM au Burundi.

Ces cantines scolaires endogènes se focalisent sur les liens entre les programmes d'alimentation scolaire et la production agricole de petits exploitants, auprès de qui se font les achats. Elles constituent en quelque sorte un débouché de proximité pour l'écoulement de la production agricole locale, a-t-il noté.

En outre, l'autre avantage de ce projet, exécuté dans cette région du Burundi qui regorge des potentialités agricoles, est le renforcement de capacités dans la gestion des stocks, la réduction des

pertes post-récoltes, l'amélioration de la qualité des produits, a-t-il mentionné.

Ces cantines scolaires, introduites dans ces provinces frappées par l'insécurité alimentaire, vont contribuer à améliorer le taux de fréquentation scolaire et l'assiduité des écoliers, a-t-il fait remarquer.

Par ailleurs, le système de cantines scolaires classiques, piloté par le PAM, a été déjà expérimenté depuis 2002 dans certaines localités du pays.

#### **Burundi : Le taux de malnutrition chronique à Cibitoke dépasse le seuil critique de 40%**

Vendredi 11 octobre 2013/Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - Des efforts devraient être mobilisés dans la prévention de la malnutrition chronique en province de Cibitoke, dans l'ouest du pays, estimé à 50,7 %, ce qui dépasse le seuil critique de 40%, a fait remarquer jeudi à Cibitoke le médecin provincial de la province Cibitoke, Dr Antoine Sindayigaya, lors du lancement des activités de la semaine dédiée à la Journée mondiale de l'alimentation, célébrée le 16 octobre de chaque année.

Selon les résultats de l'enquête démographique et de santé, le taux de malnutrition aiguë modéré est de 4,5% et celui de malnutrition sévère est de 2,5 %. De janvier à août 2013, les nouveaux cas d'admission ont atteint 101 cas dans les services de stabulation nutritionnelle (SST), 918 cas dans les services thérapeutiques ambulatoires (STA) et 2208 cas aux services de supplémentation nutritionnelle (SSN), a-t-il révélé.

Pour lui, les facteurs favorisant la malnutrition dans cette localité sont notamment l'insécurité alimentaire. Malgré que cette province soit considérée comme grenier du pays, la grande partie de la production est destinée à la vente pour couvrir les autres besoins des ménages.

De plus, les maladies, telles que le paludisme, les verminoses, les infections respiratoires aiguës, ainsi que les mauvaises pratiques d'allaitement et de sevrage favorisent également cette malnutrition, prononcée chez les enfants et les femmes enceintes et allaitantes, a-t-il encore fait savoir.

#### **RWANDA :**

#### **US takes one more step toward isolating Rwandan warlord Paul Kagame**

October 10, 2013/by Rev. Innocent Ndagijimana Justice/sfbayview.com

On Oct. 3, 2013, the U.S. State Department announced sanctions against Rwanda because of its support of the M23 militia that uses child soldiers in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. While announcing the sanctions, State Department spokeswoman Marie Harf said, "Our goal is to work with countries that have been listed to ensure that any involvement in child soldiers, any involvement in the recruitment of child soldiers, must stop. In this case, it was related to M23, and we will continue to have discussions with the Rwandan government on that issue."

It's no surprise now to see the U.S. linking the Rwanda with the league of human rights abuser countries Burma, Central African Republic, Sudan and Syria, because it's where Rwanda belongs.

Paul Kagame's Rwandan Patriotic Front regime has waged endless war in the Great Lakes Region of Africa since seizing power in Rwanda in July 1994. The United States trained the Rwandan Defense Forces (RDF) for almost two decades, despite allegations of their horrendous crimes in the Rwandan Civil War of 1990 to 1994 and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo since they invaded in 1996.

I was a refugee in Mugunga refugee camp in the DRC in 1996, when the RDF invaded. We saw them fighting alongside their creation, the Alliance of Democratic Forces for Liberation of Congo (ADFL), but the Kagame regime kept arguing that it had no troops in the DRC.

Since 1996 the Kagame regime has created at least three proxies: the RCD, CNDP and M23. All of these rebel proxies have been dominated by Tutsi extremists who have caused the death of millions of Congolese and hundreds of thousands of Rwandan Hutu refugees.

The generals from the RDF have continued to wage wars against the DRC to control its mineral resources. Furthermore, they knew that their allies in Washington, D.C., would tolerate whatever they did.

The generals from the RDF have continued to wage wars against the DRC to control its mineral resources. Furthermore, they knew that their allies in Washington, D.C., would tolerate whatever they did.

The RDF's generals fought in three countries, Uganda, Rwanda and the DRC, and claimed citizenship in all three. Gen. James Kabarebe fought in Uganda with Yoweri Museveni, then served in Uganda's military after the war, then became one of the key officers in Rwanda after the RDF seized power in Kigali. Eventually, he became the chief of staff in DRC during the beginning of President Laurent Desire Kabila's presidency.

Kabarebe is but one example. Other warlords, such as Gen. Bosco Ntaganda, Gen. Laurent Nkunda and Gen. Sultani Makenga, fought in two or three countries of the Great Lakes Region. These men are ruthless fighters, and nothing will stop them unless the international community imposes an arms embargo on Rwanda and sanctions its top officers, including President Paul Kagame himself.

The RDF has used the Hutu rebels from the Force Democratique for Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) as a pretext to sponsor proxy militias that have created a constant state of war in the eastern DRC. Time and time again, poor Hutu refugees have been used as scapegoats by Rwanda's proxy militias looting and killing innocent civilians.

Kagame has used child soldiers known as Kadogo ever since he invaded Rwanda from Uganda, with his refugee Rwandan Patriotic Army in 1990, beginning what came to be known as the Rwandan Civil War.

The U.S. move to sanction Rwanda and block military training and financing to Rwanda for its use of child soldiers is a first step towards bringing peace and justice to the tortured Great Lakes Region. But the U.S. must also face the fact that Paul Kagame is an epic war criminal who must be brought to justice for the region to find lasting peace.

Rev. Innocent Ndagijimana Justice is a United Methodist minister, a human rights activist and the founder and president of Refugees Rescue Mission, Inc., which helps refugees from African and Asia resettle in the U.S. and advocates for refugees in African refugee camps, especially youth aspiring to higher education, awarding Justice Scholarships to those in need. He can be reached via [http://refugeesrescuemission.org/Contact\\_Us.html](http://refugeesrescuemission.org/Contact_Us.html).

RDC CONGO :

Aubin Minaku, président de l'Assemblée nationale congolaise (RDC)

Par Christophe Boisbouvier/rfi.fr/vendredi 11 octobre 2013

« Je n'ose pas devancer le président de la République dans ses prérogatives constitutionnelles. Mais il a clairement dit que l'ouverture politique, prônée par lui depuis sa prestation de serment, sera mise en œuvre davantage. »

Au Congo-Kinshasa, c'est la semaine prochaine, peut-être mardi, que le président Joseph Kabila devrait annoncer, devant les deux chambres réunies en Congrès, des mesures en faveur de l'ouverture politique.

Le chef de l'Etat congolais va-t-il s'inspirer des recommandations faites par les concertations nationales, qui se sont achevées la semaine dernière ?

Le président de l'Assemblée nationale, Aubin Minaku, qui est aussi le secrétaire général de la majorité présidentielle, a coprésidé ces concertations nationales.

UGANDA :

A leader who cannot bear to retire

Oct 11 2013/economist.com

Once much admired across Africa and the West, Uganda's tarnished president seems determined to hang on for ever

YOWERI MUSEVENI may not have squirrelled away as much money as some of Africa's other long-serving leaders, but few have accumulated a comparable wealth in nicknames. Uganda's president since 1986, he has been called "M7", "Sevo", "Othello", "Napoleon" (apparently after the ruler in George Orwell's "Animal Farm") and "the East African Lion", among others. His latest moniker derives from his preoccupation with rural life—his own rather than his people's. Thanks to the inordinate amount of time the 69-year-old spends on his cattle farm in southern Uganda, he is now known as "the Gentleman Farmer".

In the 1990s Mr Museveni was hailed across Africa as a new kind of leader, empowering rather than impoverishing his people. He restored stability after decades of bloody upheaval. He boosted economic growth after long years of ruin. He beat back a dreadful HIV/AIDS epidemic. He was hailed in the West as an exemplar of a new breed of dynamic and democratic African leader who deserved generous aid for development. He remains popular at home and might win a fair election. But the coterie of loyalists who surround him dare not take that risk. Democracy in Uganda has been badly eroded.

Mr Museveni, in any event, seems increasingly erratic. At a recent event he told a group of youths that he had learnt about an American form of music called rap, evidently unaware that it predates his presidency. The Gentleman Farmer then gave his own improvised rendition of two Ugandan folk

songs, “I cut a stick” and “Give me the stick”. Recordings of the event were later set to thumping beats by joking Ugandan DJs. Some Ugandans were cheered. Others felt queasy.

Mr Museveni is virtually the only decision-maker in the government. Almost nothing gets done without his nod. Officials must travel down to his farm from Kampala to seek his blessing for their plans. But while the president’s signature on a policy paper is necessary, it is not sufficient to move the sluggish state machine into action. Plenty of officials have their own agendas and exploit the president’s remoteness. They undermine or obstruct initiatives blessed by him if they can do it undetected and make some money.

The auditor-general recently reported that \$100m was diverted last year from government coffers. No sector of the economy has been as badly handled as oil, which was discovered seven years ago. This month the government finally unveiled plans for refineries that should have been begun three or four years ago.

Decades of presidential dominance have driven away the best officials, who have gone abroad or into private business—anywhere away from Uganda’s shambolic government. A hollowed-out civil service is hamstrung by the commercial interests of politically connected Ugandans. This infuriates the president, who punishes underlings with a vengeance. Officials live in fear of his wrath. A single mistake can end a career. Those who survive tend to be yes-men. “What counts here is patronage, not capacity,” says a Western diplomat. “The president has assembled around him the least talented, most clown-like advisers.”

Thus bereft of talent, the Museveni court is in disarray. Insiders fight among themselves. The prime minister, parliamentary speaker and other senior members of the National Resistance Movement, the ruling party, are building competing power bases in readiness for the president’s eventual departure.

But when that will come is unclear. Mr Museveni has made no public plans for his succession. His son, Muhoozi Kainerugaba, whose military career is taking off faster than one of Mr Museveni’s cherished Russian fighter jets, has been mentioned. Other family members are also close to the levers of power. Mr Museveni’s wife (a cabinet member), sister, brother, a stepbrother and a cousin all hold lofty political posts. Ugandan newspapers list dozens of family members in the government.

Or at least they used to. New laws and assertive policing are muzzling dissent. Two papers and two radio stations were forced to close this year. Thanks to the public-order-management bill passed in May, any meeting of three or more people may be deemed illegal. In practice Uganda remains a fairly open society, but the authoritarian mood is getting harsher. Civil-society groups remain strong, but parliament is no match for the executive.

Comparisons between Mr Museveni and Idi Amin, the Ugandan “president for life” who butchered tens of thousands of his people in the 1970s, have become more common. Mr Museveni is a lot less brutal but shares the same love of power. Although Uganda is nominally a multiparty democracy, dirty tricks keep the opposition weak; its leaders tend to end up in prison on trumped-up charges.

Rumours of military coups come and go. Some say the old man talks them up to expose or dish his foes. He knows a thing or two about armed revolts; after all, he helped overthrow both Amin in 1979 and Milton Obote, who ruled before and then after Amin, in 1985. To avoid such a fate, Mr Museveni promotes young officers to senior military and civilian posts to keep his old guard off balance. The youngsters often visit his farm to pledge allegiance.

But Mr Museveni is only a part-time gentleman farmer. It was some years ago that he got

Parliament to drop the two-term limit on the presidency. Now it will be expected to lift the constitutional age limit of 75, allowing him to run for a full term in the election due in 2016. Mr Museveni seems to have forgotten what he wrote a quarter of a century ago: "The problem of Africa in general and Uganda in particular is not the people, but leaders who want to overstay in power."

## SOUTH AFRICA :

### Fewer South African companies report revenue growth

by Ntsakisi Maswanganyi/bdlive.co.za/10 octobre 2013

FEWER South African businesses reported revenue growth last month, a survey released on Wednesday showed, which could explain moves by companies to retrench staff or freeze hiring.

Economic growth remains below potential and is not strong enough to allow for strong company growth and revenue collection.

The latest Regus business confidence index, which surveys more than 20,000 senior executives across 95 countries, found that confidence fell nine points to 117 in emerging countries.

Business confidence plummeted from 121 points in April to 114 last month in South Africa. The survey polled 267 business senior business executives.

The proportion of companies reporting revenue growth in South Africa slipped from 57% to 55%.

Regus area director for South Africa Kirsten Morgendaal said the pace of growth in emerging markets was slowing "as businesses aim to become increasingly efficient to promote productivity".

The Regus survey is in line with other local surveys showing confidence remains low as a result of strikes, rising input costs and policy uncertainty.

A Bureau for Economic Research index sponsored by Rand Merchant Bank showed business confidence fell notably, by six index points into negative territory at 42 in the third quarter.

South African businesses are also concerned about labour laws — some of which, they have said, make it difficult for them to fire unproductive workers.

Economists at research firm Capital Economics said with elections due to be held next year, it was highly unlikely the government would implement the "necessary" reforms to make the labour market more flexible.

"Even with elections out of the way, strong trade union power will prevent significant reform," the economists said in a research note.

Despite the challenges facing local businesses, they have been increasing their capital spending although the low levels of investment suggest they would not be significantly employing more workers.

"In South Africa, despite some improvement in confidence over higher GDP growth in the quarter ended June, the creation of more jobs is not anticipated as the economy still faces an uphill battle

regarding strikes," the survey reported.

It also showed that emerging markets continued to show they were "suffering" from the effects of a protracted economic slowdown, with declining growth rates and falling currencies.

The International Monetary Fund this week slashed economic growth projections for emerging markets and developing economies to 4.5% this year, from a July forecast of 5% before, and to 5.1% next year from a 5.5% outlook earlier.

The third quarter has been particularly challenging for emerging markets as they experienced capital flight.

South Africa has been affected along with other emerging markets, with the rand very volatile in July and August as markets expected stimulus programmes would be reduced in the US last month.

### South Africa's Amplats says miners return to work after strike ends

Fri Oct 11, 2013 /Reuters

(Reuters) - Miners at Anglo American Platinum's operations in South Africa have started to return to work, a spokeswoman said on Friday, after the company clinched a deal with the union to end a near two-week strike over job cuts.

Amplats, as the unit of global miner Anglo American is known, said it would grant "voluntary separation" packages to 3,300 employees it had previously sought to lay off.

A spokeswoman for Amplats told Reuters that miners had started reporting for duty from the morning shift on Friday. She declined to comment further.

Separately Amplats CEO Chris Griffith told a state radio station the strike had cost the world's top platinum producer 44,000 ounces or "nearly 1 billion rand (\$100 million) in lost revenue".

"These individuals were offered voluntary separation packages before the strike. They did not need to lose two-weeks wages, they did not need to go on strike," he told SAFM radio.

Amplats had already rowed back from an initial target of 14,000 job cuts under intense government and union pressure and still has to complete a tough round of wage talks.

Amplats was forced to review operations after last year's wildcat strikes helped push it into its first-ever annual loss. A return to profitability hinges on an overhaul of its Rustenburg mines, northwest of Johannesburg.

Its shares closed 4 percent higher on Thursday. (\$1 = 9.9178 South African rand)

### FEATURE-Fruit farming offers escape from South Africa's mining gloom

Fri Oct 11, 2013/Reuters

\* Many S.Africa miners may return to the land

\* Cost, price pressure stokes tension in mining

\* Former subsistence farmers grow fruit for sale

\* Fruit success story may offer path for some ex-miners

By Ed Stoddard

NOQHEKWANA, South Africa, Oct 11 (Reuters) - Peter Somakhephu's life has followed a pattern familiar to many black South African miners: he exchanged a marginal existence of peasant farming in his home village for low-paid labour underground before being forced back onto the land.

His life has come full circle but he has broken the cycle of grinding subsistence by moving from staple crops for family consumption to small-scale fruit production for commercial sale, a business that was, until recently, far out of reach.

His example may hold promise for some of the tens of thousands of miners set to lose their jobs in coming years, a new wave of unemployment that will fuel tensions in the countryside and in the grim shanty-towns that ring the mines.

Anglo American Platinum's (Amplats) move to cut 3,300 jobs to restore profits sparked a 13 day-strike by miners desperate for work in a country where four out of ten adults, and more than half of the youth, have none.

It ended on Thursday after Amplats agreed to give the workers voluntary severance packages instead of laying them off.

This means they will get more compensation, though the amounts were not immediately specified. The company had already rowed back from a target of 14,000 jobs under pressure from the government and unions, underscoring the gravity of the issue.

The social consequences of mine job losses are widespread because the typical worker in the industry has eight dependants often in two separate families, one near the mines and the other back in their rural villages.

The African National Congress (ANC), in power for almost two decades, is likely to win next year's election, but more radical political forces are circling and Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe has called youth unemployment a "ticking time bomb".

Resentment runs deep. Somakhephu, an ex-platinum miner, says the fruits of his labour owe nothing to the industry, which has not lived up to public expectations for a wider redistribution of wealth since white minority rule ended in 1994.

"I built these from farming, not from mining," said Somakhephu, a sprightly 61-year-old, as he gestured to the set of five small but sturdy houses that crown his rural homestead in the rugged hills of South Africa's Eastern Cape province.

Behind him to the east neat rows of orange trees sloped to the valley floor, to the west stood lush banana plants.

Somakhephu's neighbour Elliot Belem, 56, standing among his orange trees, said farming his 2.5 hectare plot was better than life in the gold mines, where he was a first-aid worker.

"It's better to be a farmer than a miner. I have no supervisor, I am self-employed," he said.

They are part of a project that has seen 5,200 households plant more than 110,000 crop trees since 1999, according to South Africa's Agricultural Research Council, a state agency, and Is'Baya Development Trust, the NGO behind the initiative.

The project, which has received no funding from the mining industry, aims ultimately to form co-ops to help with marketing and distribution in a sector still dominated by white commercial farmers whose industrial-scale operations have made South Africa the world's second-largest citrus exporter after Spain.

## LABOUR RESERVES

Commercial farming, even on a small scale, was not an option before for people like Somakhephu in this rural backwater once known as the Transkei, one of the quasi-independent "homelands" which provided mines with a cheap source of migrant labour.

The Is'Baya project has not only given black farmers and would-be farmers training in the care of citrus but also the trees themselves, unobtainable in the past, when apartheid restrictions kept black South Africans from markets and capital.

"I went back to farming when I had to leave the mines in 1985 but I had no equipment and did not know how to get the trees," said Belem.

Mining firms say they are putting resources and retraining into what are now called "labour sending areas", though not in this remote village, which has also been neglected by the state.

Perched near jagged cliffs overlooking South Africa's "Wild Coast," Noqhekwana has no electricity or running water and lies at the end of a rough dirt track.

Amplats has pledged "retraining and job-seeker" support for laid-off workers in such areas but has not given details.

Rival Lonmin said it offers skills training in farming for workers close to retirement or facing layoff in recognition of the rural backgrounds of much of its workforce.

Still, there are limits to what the land can sustain. The loss of tens of thousands of jobs from the gold mining sector in 1994 to 2004, coupled with a 40 percent increase in the population, means it is already eroded and overgrazed.

"Land erosion and deterioration ... are already seen as results of this newly induced population pressure," researchers noted in a 2004 study in the Journal of the South African Institute of Mining and Metallurgy.

The new wave of job losses comes as South Africa's gold industry, which has produced a third of the bullion ever mined, faces growing cost pressures and depressed metal prices in the world's deepest mines.

About half of the country's platinum mines are also losing money at current prices.

The migrant labour force is now partly their undoing as the low skills of a semi-literate workforce constrain productivity while income disparities fuel labour unrest. Dozens of people have been killed in the past 20 months in a turf war between the ANC-allied National Union of Mineworkers

and rapidly growing Association of Mineworkers and Construction Union (AMCU).

Impala Platinum (Implats) has said part of its focus has been on raising the literacy levels of its labour force, a trend which can help lift its own productivity and give former miners more of a chance outside of the shafts.

In its latest annual report, Implats says 80 percent of its workforce had basic levels of adult literacy in 2013, over double the 30 percent recorded in 2008.

The fledgling fruit farmers still face many obstacles - not least a perception in the region that agriculture here is still largely a peasant and not commercial activity, unlike in other regions, where white farmers predominate.

In the town of Lusikisiki, about 50 kms (30 miles) from Somakhephu's groves, Monica Nduli, a middle-aged woman selling fruit on the roadside, said she sourced her produce from KwaZulu-Natal, 150 km (90 miles) away.

"In Transkei? Never! It's only in KwaZulu-Natal that we get such fruit," she told Reuters.

## TANZANIA :

### Tanzania's Commitment to a Free Press Questioned After Newspaper Closures

By Deodatus Balile/Sabahi (Washington, DC)/10 October 2013

Dar es Salaam — The Tanzanian government's recent decision to suspend publication of two daily newspapers undermines the principle of good governance and tarnishes the image of Tanzania abroad, media professionals and legal experts say.

Effective September 27th, Mwananchi was shut down for 14 days and Mtanzania for 90 days for allegedly publishing seditious articles the government said threatened national security and violated peace and solidarity in the country.

The government used the Newspaper Act of 1976 to prohibit the newspapers from publishing.

Lawyer Nyaronyo Mwita Kichere said the act should have been repealed in 1992, when it was included in a list of 40 laws recommended to be invalidated by the Nyalali Commission, named for then-Chief Justice Francis Nyalali.

"This law vests unique power into the hands of one minister, who can make the decision to close a newspaper without availing the owners or editors responsible the opportunity to be heard," Kichere said. "It is a bad law by all parameters."

Tanzania is a signatory to the Open Government Partnership, which demands that governments be transparent to citizens in everything they do, he said.

The articles that prompted the closures were Mwananchi's story on government salaries that was based on confidential documents, and Mtanzania's piece titled "Muslims pray under tight security" that used a picture of a government police dog, which to some implied the government was sending dogs into mosques.

Executive Secretary of the Media Council of Tanzania Kajubi Mukajanga said the closure of the newspapers undermines democracy.

"The steps taken by the government are very unfortunate and undemocratic and have taken the country decades back in its endeavour to build a democratic society that respects freedom of expression and the media," Mukajanga told Sabahi.

Freedom of expression is the most fundamental right that empowers other rights to be realised, he said, adding that Tanzania should strive to safeguard it first and foremost.

On Wednesday (October 9th), stakeholders from Tanzania's independent media protested the recent closures and issued a statement announcing an indefinite boycott of news related to Minister of Information, Culture and Sports Fenella Mkangala and Director of Tanzania Information Services Assah Andrew Mwambene.

Not the first time

Mwananchi and Mtanzania are not the first newspapers the government has shuttered recently.

MwanaHalisi, an investigative weekly newspaper, was closed indefinitely in July 2012 for publishing what the government called "seditious and false material".

In its July editions, MwanaHalisi published a series of articles on the attack in late June against Stephen Ulimboka, chairman of the Tanzania Medical Association.

Ulimboka had been leading a demonstration in a standoff between the government and doctors over salary increases when he was abducted, beaten and tortured.

MwanaHalisi reported that a state intelligence officer had allegedly conspired with three others in the attack against Ulimboka. The newspaper also published telephone numbers of those it claimed were perpetrators of the attack, showing the time and places from where the calls were made to allegedly plan the abduction.

"If what we published about the attackers was wrong, my thinking tells me that the government had to come out with the right version that exonerates state organs," said Saed Kubenea, the proprietor and managing editor of MwanaHalisi.

"The government's silence is a confession that its instruments were involved in the attack in one way or another," he told Sabahi.

After MwanaHalisi ran the series, the government immediately denied the intelligence officer's involvement and said the story contained unfounded accusations intending to sensationalise and incite the public.

Kenyan national Joshua Murundi was arrested for the attack and convicted of the crime at Kisumu Magistrate Court in September 2013. The court sentenced him to spend six months in jail or pay a 1,000 shilling (\$0.62) fine.

Murundi paid the fine and is now free.

The government previously used the Newspaper Act to suspend MwanaHalisi in October 2008 for

three months for articles considered seditious and insulting to the president, according to the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ).

### Repealing the 1976 Newspaper Act

Absalom Kibanda, managing editor of Mtanzania, stood by his newspaper's story, but said that even if the newspapers had made a mistake, the punishment was too harsh.

"Closing a newspaper is unacceptable, but also closing it for 90 days is something I have never imagined," he told Sabahi. "The law that was used is bad and lawmakers have to look into the possibility of repealing it as soon as possible."

On October 6th, deputy opposition leader Zitto Kabwe issued a press statement saying he had submitted a bill to the clerk of the National Assembly seeking to repeal the Newspaper Act of 1976.

The Tanzania Editors Forum, a number of international media organisations and some politicians also issued statements blaming the government for the closures and asking lawmakers to repeal the law.

"The government could have taken their grievances against Mwananchi and Mtanzania to the Media Council of Tanzania, an ombudsman, rather than summarily suspending the publications," said CPJ East Africa Consultant Tom Rhodes. "We call on authorities to allow the papers to resume publication and to reform the laws that allow these suspensions, which are not in line with international standards of press freedom."

Neville Meena, editor of Mwananchi and secretary of the Tanzania Editors Forum, confirmed that newspaper editors were looking into the possibility of taking legal action against the government.

However, Director of Tanzania Information Services Assah Mwambene defended the government's position and said authorities did not act outside of the law but rather followed all procedures.

"We warned [the newspapers] a number of times," Mwambene told Sabahi. "For Mtanzania we even asked them to submit names of qualified editors because the one who is causing problems has never studied journalism, but they did not comply. Therefore, for security interests, we were forced to take these steps."

Mwambene said that if journalists abide by media ethics and tell the truth, there will never be an issue.

### KENYA :

#### Norwegian Investigated in Deadly Mall Siege in Kenya

By NICHOLAS KULISH/[nytimes.com/October 10, 2013](https://www.nytimes.com/2013/10/10/kenya-norwegian-investigated-in-deadly-mall-siege.html)

NAIROBI, Kenya — The Norwegian police said on Thursday that they were investigating whether a Norwegian citizen was involved in the deadly siege of the Westgate shopping mall here in late September.

The Police Security Service said in a statement that it had "received information indicating that a

Norwegian citizen of Somali origin allegedly was involved in the planning and execution of the attack.” The service said it had sent investigators to Nairobi to work with the Kenyan police and security services in their inquiry into the attack, in which Islamist militants stormed the mall and killed more than 60 men, women and children.

The Shabab, a militant group based in Somalia, claimed responsibility for the attack. Western security officials have been deeply worried about members of the Somali diaspora who have trained and fought for the Shabab, fearing that they could return to the West and mount attacks there.

“We have lately seen an increase in the number of persons leaving Norway to take part in acts of war, attend training camps or join terrorist networks abroad,” the Norwegian authorities said. “We are concerned that this development may have an increasingly negative impact on the threat situation in Norway.”

Dozens of American citizens have fought for the Shabab, and there have been unsubstantiated reports that one of the mall attackers may have been American. Kenyan officials are worried about the number of Kenyan citizens among the militants.

East African militant networks extend as far as Burundi and Chad. The Tanzanian police said on Monday that they had arrested 11 people suspected of training with the Shabab, according to The Citizen, a Tanzanian newspaper.

Many questions about the mall siege remain unanswered nearly three weeks after it ended. Investigators have not yet made clear how many assailants were involved or what countries they came from. Kenyan officials have said publicly that as few as 4 or as many as 15 militants may have been involved.

The Kenyan authorities identified one assailant as Sudanese. But Col. Al-Sawarmi Khalid Sa’ad, a spokesman for the Sudanese armed forces, told the SUNA news agency in his country on Wednesday that the assailant “was of Somali origin and has no connection to Sudan,” despite having the surname al-Sudani.

The television channel TV2 in Norway reported this week that Abdikadir Mohamed Abdikadir, the senior Shabab leader known as Ikrimah, lived in Norway for several years. The channel said he moved to Norway in 2004 and applied for asylum. He then traveled between Somalia and Norway several times, it said, and left Norway for good in 2008 before his asylum application was completed.

American officials say Mr. Abdikadir is a top planner of attacks for the Shabab. American Navy SEAL commandos raided a villa in the Somali port city of Baraawe early Saturday in a failed attempt to capture him.

The Norwegian newspaper Verdens Gang reported on Thursday that the person the Norwegian authorities are investigating as a possible mall assailant is not Mr. Abdikadir. The newspaper did not name the suspect. NRK, the state broadcaster, said the man was in his 20s and grew up and went to school in Norway.

“The main purpose of the investigation is to contribute to preventing possible new terrorist actions and to investigate whether, and to which extent, the named Norwegian was involved in the attack,” the police security service said.

Henrik Pryser Libell contributed reporting from Oslo, and Isma’il Kushkush from Khartoum,

Sudan.

### Kenya President Kenyatta's ICC trial 'must be scrapped'

10 October 2013/bbc.co.uk

Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta's lawyers have asked the International Criminal Court (ICC) to abandon his trial even before it starts.

In a written request to The Hague-based court, they said they had evidence that defence witnesses had been intimidated.

The lawyers also claimed that prosecution witnesses had been trying to pervert the course of justice.

Mr Kenyatta is accused of crimes against humanity during the 2007 post-election violence - a claim he denies.

Some 1,200 people died and 600,000 were forced from their homes during the conflict.

Mr Kenyatta's trial is set to start in The Hague on 12 November.

Deputy President William Ruto is also on trial - he is the first senior government official to be tried by the ICC.

'Dishonest' case

Mr Kenyatta's lawyers filed the 38-page request on Thursday, calling for a "permanent stay of proceedings".

"The defence is in possession of substantial evidence of a serious, sustained and wide-ranging abuse on the process of the court," the document said.

It also said there was evidence to prove that three prosecution witnesses and one intermediary were involved in a serious and sustained conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

The defence lawyers also accused the prosecution of "presiding over an utterly corrupt and dishonest case".

The prosecution is now expected to respond in writing to the defence's claims, and the ICC could then order a hearing into the allegations.

The timing of the claims could not be worse for the ICC, as the African Union will discuss a mass withdrawal from the court at talks on Friday and Saturday, the BBC's Anna Holligan reports from The Hague.

So far all the court's indictments have been against Africans, and many leaders on the continent accuse the ICC of unfair bias.

Human rights groups have been campaigning to convince them to stay, but the allegations from the defence lawyers will do little to restore faith in the controversial criminal court, our correspondent says.

Mr Kenyatta has twice failed to defer - or indefinitely postpone - the case from the world court.

On Wednesday, Nairobi requested that the trial be held via video link.

Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed said Mr Kenyatta had fully co-operated with the ICC, but the circumstances had changed since he won the presidency in March.

"Today he is the head of state of the republic. It's going to be the first time that a sovereign head is brought before any court of any kind, not just here but anywhere in the world," the minister said.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

### **In Africa, Seeking a License to Kill**

By DESMOND TUTU/[nytimes.com/October 10, 2013](http://nytimes.com/October 10, 2013)

CAPE TOWN — MEMBERS of the African Union will meet in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, today to discuss recent calls by some African leaders to withdraw from the International Criminal Court. These calls must be resisted. The continent has suffered the consequences of unaccountable governance for too long to disown the protections offered by the I.C.C.

Those leaders seeking to skirt the court are effectively looking for a license to kill, maim and oppress their own people without consequence. They believe the interests of the people should not stand in the way of their ambitions of wealth and power; that being held to account by the I.C.C. interferes with their ability to achieve these ambitions; and that those who get in their way — the victims: their own people — should remain faceless and voiceless.

Most of all, they believe that neither the golden rule, nor the rule of law, applies to them.

But they know that they cannot say these things in public without repercussions. Instead, they conveniently accuse the I.C.C. of racism.

At first glance, the claim might seem plausible. The I.C.C., founded in 2002 and based in The Hague, has so far considered only cases against Africans. But this is partly because independent tribunals that were established to handle cases concerning the former Yugoslavia, Cambodia and other countries have naturally led to a reduction in the scope of the court's activities.

So far, 32 people have been publicly indicted by the court, with only one conviction, of Thomas Lubanga, for war crimes in the Democratic Republic of Congo. But many of the investigations were not initiated by the court or a foreign body; they were referred to the court by African governments themselves. The judges and investigators were invited in.

So the African focus of the court should not be seen as an indictment of its neutrality but of the quality of leadership and democracy in many African countries. When thousands of people are murdered and displaced in any country, as in Sudan, for instance, ideally the country's own system of justice will redress the wrongs. That is not in dispute. But when that country is unwilling or

unable to restore justice, as is the case in many African countries, who should represent the interests of the victims? Critics of the I.C.C. say, “Nobody.” They simply vilify the institution as racist and unjust, as Hermann Göring and his fellow Nazi defendants vilified the Nuremberg tribunals following World War II.

While some African leaders play both the race and colonial cards, the facts are clear. Far from being a so-called white man’s witch hunt, the I.C.C. could not be more African if it tried. More than 20 African countries helped to found the I.C.C. Of the 108 nations that initially joined the I.C.C., 30 are in Africa. Five of the court’s 18 judges are African, as is its vice president, Sanji Mmasenono Monageng of Botswana. The court’s chief prosecutor, Fatou Bensouda, who has huge power over which cases are brought forward, is from Gambia. The I.C.C. is very clearly an African court.

Leaving the I.C.C. would be a tragedy for Africa, as leaders like the former United Nations secretary general Kofi Annan, of Ghana, have noted. Without its deterrence, countries could and would attack their neighbors, or minorities in their own countries, with impunity. Two years ago, when the warlord Thomas Lubunga was arrested to face charges of enlisting and conscripting child soldiers, the threat of the I.C.C. undermined his support from other militias. After the Ivory Coast strongman Laurent Gbagbo was taken to face justice in The Hague, the country was able to rebuild.

Without this court, there would be no brake on the worst excesses of these criminals. And these violent leaders continue to plague Africa: the Great Lakes, Mali, northern Nigeria and Egypt all give reason for concern. Perpetrators of violence must not be allowed to wriggle free.

Moreover, where justice and order are not restored, there can be no healing, leaving violence and hatred ticking like a bomb in the corner. We know too well that long, painful road to healing in South Africa, as do the people of Kenya. As Africa begins to find its voice in world affairs, it must strengthen its commitment to the rule of law, not undermine it. These principles are part of our global moral and legal responsibility, not items from a menu we can choose only when it suits us.

Along with thousands of others, I have joined a campaign by Avaaz, an international advocacy group, calling on Africa’s leaders to stay in the I.C.C. The alternatives are too painful: revenge, like what happened in Rwanda, Kosovo and Bosnia, or blanket amnesty and a national commitment to amnesia, like what happened in Chile. The only way any country can deal with its past is to confront it.

We need loud voices in Addis Ababa to deliver this message, to shout down those who want us to do nothing. We also need the continent’s heavyweights, Nigeria and South Africa, to exercise leadership and stop those who don’t like the rules from attempting to rewrite them. Far from a fight between Africa and the West, this is a fight within Africa, for its soul.

Desmond Tutu, the Anglican archbishop of Cape Town from 1986 to 1996, won the Nobel Peace Prize in 1984 for his contribution to opposing apartheid.

#### Africa News Round Up, October, Thursday 10, 2013

October 10, 2013/independent.co.ug/ by Administrator

In Libya, Prime Minister Ali Zeidan has been seized by militants from his residence in the capital Tripoli, the BBC reports.

Mr Zeidan has been taken to an unknown destination by a group of men believed to be former rebels, the government website said.

Sources say Mr Zeidan was arrested by anti-crime department militia.

Armed rebels escorted the prime minister from the Corinthian Hotel in Tripoli into a convoy of waiting cars, said a hotel clerk who was not authorized to speak to the media.

The witness reported no gunfire during the incident, and said the gunmen were respectful and “caused no trouble.”

On Tuesday he called on the West to help stop militancy in Libya.

In an interview with the BBC the prime minister told the Newsnight programme that his country was being used to export weapons throughout the region.

Two years after the revolt which overthrew Muammar Gaddafi, Libya’s government has been struggling to contain rival tribal militias and Islamist militants who control parts of the country.

Last month Mr Zeidan visited the UK and appealed for British help to remove weapons from the country amid fears of increased arms smuggling to Syria.

In April he urged Libyans to back their government in the face of “people who want to destabilise the country”.

He also complained at that time of other attacks and “acts of sabotage” carried out by separate groups, against the interior ministry and national TV headquarters.

Rights groups have said security remain a main concern in Libya.

“The main problem affecting both justice and security is that armed militias still maintain the upper hand,” Human Rights Watch said. “They have various agendas — financial, territorial, political, religious — and operate with impunity two years after the Gadhafi regime ended. Successive interim governments have failed to assert control over these militias, preferring to contract them as parallel forces to the army and police.”

In Sudan, government officials has denied any involvement of its citizens in the terrorist attack on Westgate mall in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi last month, the Daily Nation reports.

Some media reports have pointed out Abu-Bara Al Sudani, who is suspected to have been involved in the deadly attack, as being a Sudanese national.

However, the spokesperson of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF), Colonel Alswarmi Khalid Saad, has described the reports as false allegations.

He further said that Abul-Bara is of Somali nationality according to reports by Kenyan authorities.

“The so-called Abul-Bara Al-Sudani, who was accused in the attack on Nairobi (Westgate) mall is a person of Somali origin and has no relation with Sudan” Alswarmi confirmed in statement issued on SUNA state media on Wednesday.

“Some international parties and hostile media want to implicate Sudan in this case, which we have nothing to do with” he added.

Sudan had been put on the American list of the countries sponsoring terrorism since 1997.

Many western countries have linked Sudan government and terrorism in the Middle East, allegations which Sudan has repeatedly dismissed.

In Gambia, government has accused the United States and Britain of fomenting multiple coup attempts in the tiny West African country and supporting the opposition as part of a plot to destabilize President Yahya Jammeh's rule, Reuters reports.

Jammeh withdrew Gambia from the Commonwealth in a surprise move last week, branding the now 53-member grouping that includes Britain and most of its former colonies a "neo-colonial institution".

In a statement read on state television by Minister for Presidential Affairs Momodou Sabally late on Tuesday, the government accused the United States and Britain of sponsoring a 1995 coup but said Gambia would not surrender its mineral resources to "old vampires and present-day locusts".

Jammeh seized power in a bloodless putsch in 1994 as a 29-year-old army lieutenant, becoming the world's youngest head of state.

"These two Western powers have continued in their relentless efforts to destabilize this country, desperately using every means possible from sponsoring coup plots to financing the opposition and mounting a vigorous smear campaign," the statement read.

The British High Commission to Gambia said Britain had never acted to destabilize the country.

"The UK is a friend of The Gambia and its people and it is in the interest of both countries to sustain a broad-based relationship founded on mutual respect, mutual trust and mutual benefit," read a statement sent to Reuters.

The U.S. embassy did not respond to requests for comment.

Sabally cited as proof of the alleged plot a proposed maritime security agreement with the United States that was recently rejected by Gambia for seeking "total control and exploitation of Gambia's territorial waters".

In Kenya, government denied on Wednesday that it was lobbying other African states to pull out of the International Criminal Court, the Hague tribunal that has put its president on trial, Reuters reports.

Leaders at an African summit on Saturday will discuss relations with the ICC, which has only prosecuted Africans. Kenya's foreign minister denied Nairobi was urging countries to pull out and played down any prospect of united action.

"It is actually quite naive to think that 34 countries can come together with the sole aim of moving out of the Rome Statute (that established the ICC)," Amina Mohamed told reporters in Nairobi.

"We have not asked anybody to support a walkout."

Kenya's parliament is demanding the government quit the ICC, and many other Africans have voiced frustration that it has so far only charged people from their continent.

But officials from several African states, including continental powers Nigeria and South Africa, have suggested there is no consensus to leave the court.

Senior ICC official Herman von Hebel told a news briefing at The Hague that any withdrawal would send the message that a country's citizens did not deserve the human rights protection that the court provides.

"This is not a trial of Africa," he said over the chants of Ivorian protesters on the street below who had gathered in support of former President Laurent Gbagbo, who is on trial in The Hague.

South African Nobel peace laureate Desmond Tutu warned African leaders against leaving the International Criminal Court on Wednesday, saying it would leave the world a "more dangerous place," News24 reports.

In an online petition titled "Who will stop the next genocide?", the 82-year-old anti-apartheid hero said that in his lifetime he had seen "great gains made that protect the weak from the strong".

Adding to growing cautions on such a move, Tutu called on continental heavyweights South Africa and Nigeria to back The Hague-based tribunal.

Calling the two countries the "voices of reason at the African Union," he urged them to "speak out and ensure that the persecuted are protected by the ICC".

#### **African Union floats ICC walkout after Kenyatta asks for case to be tossed**

by Michael Pizzi/america.aljazeera.com/October 10, 2013

AU calls for 'extraordinary session' to discuss Africa's relationship with the ICC, which is trying the Kenyan president

African leaders are due to meet Friday to discuss withdrawing en masse from the International Criminal Court (ICC), a day after Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta called for his crimes against humanity trial to be thrown out by the court.

At an extraordinary session of the African Union (AU) in the Ethiopian capital of Addis Ababa, delegates are expected to float a proposal for a continent-wide walkout from the court on grounds that its members are unfairly targeted. The potential move follows the election of Kenyatta as president earlier this year, and a unilateral decision by the Kenyan parliament in September to suspend cooperation with the ICC.

It also comes a day after Kenyatta's lawyers called for the president's trial to be dismissed on grounds that witnesses for the defense had been intimidated.

"The defense is in possession of substantial evidence of a serious, sustained and wide-ranging abuse on the process of the court," Kenyatta's lawyers said in a 38-page document filed on Thursday.

Kenyatta and his deputy, William Ruto, are accused of orchestrating large-scale violence in the aftermath of Kenya's contested 2007 presidential elections that left more than 1,200 people dead. Kenyatta and Ruto, both members of the ODM party which lost the presidency in that election but recaptured it in 2013, deny the charges.

The Kenyan president's call for the dismissal of his trial, which is slated to begin on Nov. 12, came

as African leaders prepared to meet in Addis Ababa to discuss "Africa's relationship" with the court. Several leaders have alleged that the ICC unfairly targets African countries.

So far, each of the court's eight indictments have come against Africans, although five of those cases were brought to the court by African governments and two more came from the U.N. Security Council with full support from its African members. The indictments relating to post-2007 election violence in Kenya were the first instances of the ICC proactively targeting an African leader.

The ICC — the world's only independent, permanent tribunal for war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity — took charge of the cases after Nairobi failed to set up a tribunal of its own in line with agreements brokered by former U.N. Secretary General Kofi Annan.

But the Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn told Reuters on Thursday that the court had shown "double standards" in prosecuting only Africans.

"We are not objecting to the court, we are objecting to the way it acts," he said, commenting that the ICC was more effective at targeting the weak than the powerful.

Desalegn also called for Kenyatta's trial, the first by the ICC of an active head of state, to be deferred so that the president and his deputy can carry out their mandate to rule.

Ethiopia, which currently chairs the African Union, is not a signatory of the Rome Statute that established the war crimes court in 2002.

Randy Bell, an East Africa expert with the International Institute for Strategic Studies in Washington, D.C., acknowledged that the Africa-heavy ICC docket does not look good, but noted that the ICC was only proactive in targeting Kenyatta and Ruto due to the failings of Kenya's judiciary.

"The Kenya case was brought by the ICC, but only after the Kenyan political system failed to act," Bell said. "The Kenyan political class has been able to operate without any sort of repercussion for the past 50 years."

Transparency International rated Kenya 139 out of 176 countries in terms of corruption control in 2012. Freedom House noted in a recent report that allegations of high-level corruption had not led to meaningful investigations.

"Apparent elite impunity damages both governmental efficiency and people's faith in democratic rule" in Kenya, Freedom House said.

Kenya's parliament, which is dominated by Kenyatta and Ruto's political alliance, passed a motion last month "to suspend any links, cooperation and assistance" to the ICC. Kenya's withdrawal from the statute would preclude future prosecution for crimes committed in the country but not abort the Kenyatta trial.

Minority leader Francis Nyenze, who opposed the resolution, warned, "We'll be seen as a pariah state, we'll be seen as people who are reactionary and who want to have their way." AU 'venting'

Africa analysts and human rights advocates alike warn that Africa's withdrawal from the ICC would not help the impunity endemic that is seen to plague many states on the continent, including Kenya.

“Such a resolution would serve no purpose except to shield from justice, and to give succor to people suspected of committing some of the worst crimes known to humanity,” said Tawanda Hondora, Amnesty International’s deputy director of law and policy, in a statement.

Bell agrees that withdrawing from the court would be a mistake because “the ICC has put some fear in the hearts” of political elites.

An African Union proposal to withdraw would also present a number of pragmatic concerns — namely, what could replace it.

“You can say that the ICC for one reason or another is not the right mechanism, but of course it’s the only mechanism that’s there,” said John Campbell, a senior fellow for Africa Policy Studies at the Council on Foreign Relations. “And if you take it away, what institution have you got to address the impunity question?”

Campbell said the anti-ICC fervor will in all likelihood fizzle out.

“The whole thing is pretty dubious,” he said, “and I trust that at the AU summit, while there will be a fair amount of venting, nothing will come of it.”

The Coalition for the International Criminal Court, which works to strengthen international cooperation in the ICC, certainly hopes so.

"Civil society across Africa has made it clear that a massive withdrawal from the ICC is not in the interest of victims and is a step backward in the fight against the culture of impunity," said Linda Gueye, CICC's director of communications.

"There is still hope that some African leaders, especially those who sought the assistance of the ICC in the first place, will stand up against such initiative despite pressure from the AU."

Thursday’s filing is not Kenyatta’s first attempt to maneuver his way out from under the court’s authority. In the aftermath of the deadly Westgate mall attack in September, when the Al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabab attacked an upscale Nairobi shopping center, Kenyatta’s allies called for a suspension of his trial so that the Kenyan President could steer his nation out of harm’s way.

"The security concerns of the world at this time would better be served by us focusing all our energies on fighting terrorism, and ... ensuring the whole of Africa will not be a safe haven for terrorism," said Moses Kuria, a strategist for Kenyatta's Jubilee coalition who has worked alongside him.

"Therefore, it will be untenable to have these cases continue," he told Reuters.

ICC judges adjourned Ruto’s trial, which began in September, for a week amid the Westgate incident. The court has only commented that Kenyatta’s requests, including his desire to appear in his trial by video link, would be addressed on a case-by-case basis.

Randy Bell said that taking advantage of the Westgate tragedy to suspend ICC trials could lead to a series of delays and excuses.

“It’s the kind of thing where when you get one extension, there’s another and another. It denies any sort of closure for the victims of the violence.”

## Central African Republic: Security Council reinforces UN office, backs African Union peacekeeping role

10 October 2013/un.org

10 October 2013 – Seriously concerned by the deteriorating security situation and widespread human rights abuses in the Central African Republic (CAR), the Security Council today “reinforced and updated” the United Nations peacebuilding office in the country, while also calling for a political resolution to the conflict.

Unanimously adopting a new resolution, the Council adjusted the mandate of the UN Integrated Peacebuilding Office (BINUCA) in the five key areas: support for implementation of the transition process; support for conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance; support for stabilisation of the security situation; promotion and protection of human rights; and coordination of international actors.

The 6-page text also welcomed the decision of the African Union to authorize the deployment of an “African-led International Support Mission in the CAR” to be referred to as MISCA, and looked forward to its swift establishment, “which will represent a major contribution towards creating the conditions for a stable and democratic CAR exercising authority over its national territory and assuming its responsibility for the protection of its civilian population.”

The members urged Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to submit within 30 days, in close cooperation with the AU and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), a written report on the planning of MISCA.

The plan is to include a possible option of transforming the AU Mission into a UN peacekeeping operation “subject to appropriate conditions on the ground.”

The 15-member Council also urged “the holding of free, fair and transparent presidential and legislative elections” to be held within 18 months after the beginning of the transition period which took effect on the 18 August.

The Council tasked BINUCA to work with all parties to facilitate the full implementation of the Libreville Agreement - signed in the Gabonese capital of Libreville on 11 January - as part of its mandate to help consolidate peace in CAR, including support for security reform and reintegration of ex-combatants.

It also expressed readiness to consider “appropriate measures” against those who undermine peace, stability and security, impede the political transition and fuel violence.

Plagued by decades of instability and fighting, the CAR witnessed a resumption of violence last December when the Séléka rebel coalition launched a series of attacks. A peace agreement was reached in January, but the rebels again seized the capital, Bangui, in March, forcing President François Bozizé to flee.

There is now a transitional government, headed by Prime Minister Nicolas Tiangaye, entrusted with restoring law and order and paving the way for democratic elections. But armed clashes in the north-east have increased since the beginning of August, and the country is facing a dire humanitarian situation that affects the entire population of some 4.6 million.

In addition, there are continued reports of gross human rights violations, committed by the Séléka coalition and the Ugandan Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), including the deliberate killing of civilians, acts of sexual violence against women and children, and the destruction and looting of property, including hospitals, schools and churches.

In this latest resolution, the Security Council members stressed that the Séléka and the LRA, as well as other perpetrators of these attacks "shall be brought to justice."

They demanded "safe and unhindered access and the timely delivery" of humanitarian aid to persons in need, and an end to the recruitment of children.

The Council also called all the groups to issue clear orders against sexual violence, and to investigate and hold the perpetrators accountable.

The resolution also reiterated the Council's condemnation of the devastation of natural heritage, noting in particular that poaching and trafficking of wildlife are among the factors that fuel the crisis in the country.

#### **Libye : le premier ministre brièvement enlevé par d'ex-rebelles**

Le Monde.fr avec AFP et Reuters/10.10.2013

Quelques heures après avoir été enlevé par un groupe d'anciens rebelles lui reprochant d'avoir autorisé la capture par l'armée américaine d'un responsable d'Al-Qaida sur le sol libyen, le premier ministre libyen, Ali Zeidan, est à nouveau libre. Dans une allocution retransmise à la télévision, il a appelé à l'apaisement, souhaitant éviter une "escalade" : "J'espère que ce problème sera réglé avec raison et sagesse."

Selon le gouvernement, M. Zeidan a été "libéré et non relâché" par ses ravisseurs, laissant entendre qu'une opération avait eu lieu. Des hommes armés s'étaient emparés de M. Zeidan alors qu'il quittait l'hôtel Corinthia à Tripoli, jeudi 10 octobre. La Chambre des révolutionnaires de Libye, une milice constituée d'ex-rebelles, avait revendiqué le rapt, précisant que M. Zeidan était "en bonne santé" et qu'il serait "bien traité". "Son arrestation survient après la déclaration de John Kerry concernant la capture d'Abou Anas Al-Libi, dans laquelle il a déclaré que le gouvernement libyen était informé de cette opération", avait annoncé un porte-parole de cette brigade, qui dépend officieusement du ministère de l'intérieur.

L'opération militaire américaine qui a eu lieu samedi à Tripoli a suscité la colère des mouvements islamistes, certains accusant le gouvernement d'en avoir été informé au préalable. Si le Congrès, la plus haute autorité politique du pays, a enjoint à Washington de lui remettre immédiatement Abou Anas Al-Libi, actuellement détenu sur un navire américain, M. Zeidan a, lui, affirmé que l'affaire n'affecterait pas les relations entre son pays et les Etats-Unis.

#### **DES MILICES INCONTRÔLABLES**

Deux ans après le renversement et la mort de Mouammar Kadhafi, l'enlèvement du premier ministre montre que le gouvernement issu de cette révolution peine encore à imposer son autorité aux nombreux groupes armés restés actifs sur l'ensemble du vaste territoire libyen.

Certes, toutes les milices ne travaillent pas contre le gouvernement. Au contraire même, la plupart d'entre elles ont été cooptées par les autorités, qui requièrent leurs services, moyennant salaires, pour des tâches de police ou de défense, comme le contrôle des frontières.

La méthode de l'intégration en douceur a été préférée à celle de la démobilisation de force, dans le but d'éviter à la Libye les affres d'une guerre civile, que le pouvoir central n'était pas du tout assuré de gagner. L'envers de cette politique, c'est qu'elle a laissé prospérer une poignée de groupes armés dont la logique – djihadiste, régionaliste ou mafieuse – est hostile à l'instauration d'un Etat fort.

#### Libyan PM Ali Zeidan freed by militia after abduction

10 October 2013/bbc.co.uk

Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan has returned to his office after being abducted from a Tripoli hotel and held for several hours by militiamen loosely allied to the government.

The Libya Revolutionaries Operations Room said it had captured Mr Zeidan in Tripoli, claiming it was acting on orders from the prosecutor general.

The justice ministry denied this.

In a cabinet meeting, the PM thanked "real revolutionaries" who took part in a security operation to free him.

Rana Jawad reports.

#### Libyan Prime Minister's Abduction Caps Year of Mayhem

By Caroline Alexander/bloomberg.com/Oct 11, 2013

The abduction of Libya's Prime Minister Ali Zaidan was only the latest sign that his interim government's control over the country is slipping.

Zaidan was freed yesterday, hours after he was held by the country's anti-crime unit at a Tripoli hotel. His seizure followed the killing of the U.S. ambassador, attacks on the French and Russian embassies, and the assassination of top military officers, all within little more than a year. Oil output has plunged, and there's no sign security will improve any time soon.

Libya enjoyed a burst of unity as the NATO-backed war that ousted Muammar Qaddafi was followed in 2012 by the first free election in more than 50 years. Since then, militias who led the fighting against Qaddafi, including some radical Islamists, have been using force to exact concessions and expand their power.

"If you want to be taken seriously by the government and get your demands listened to, the message being sent is that you have to be in control of an important asset or person," said Firas Abi Ali, head of Middle East and North Africa analysis at IHS Country Risk, in an interview. "There's no reason to believe the government's control over the country will improve over the next year."

Zaidan's abductors wrongly believed that a warrant had been issued for his arrest, said Hashem Beshr, head of the Supreme Security Committee for Tripoli. It's not the first time he's been targeted. About 30 militiamen attempted to storm his office in Tripoli in March.

Militia Power

Two months later, Libya's militias showed their power by surrounding government ministries for two weeks, forcing the passage of a law to purge senior Qaddafi-era officials.

Since July, protesters in the east have shut down oil terminals, demanding better pay and jobs, and eventually calling for Zaidan's ouster, accusing his government of corruption.

HSBC slashed its forecast for growth in Libya this year to 0.7 percent, from 15.9 percent before the oil protests. Oil and natural gas accounts for more than 70 percent of Libya's gross domestic product and generates almost all government revenue.

The unrest has delayed the drafting of a new constitution and elections for a permanent government.

The group that held Zaidan denied reports the abduction was a response to a U.S. military operation this week to seize alleged al-Qaeda fugitive Abu Anas al-Libi, who was detained in a Tripoli suburb.

Response to U.S.

Abi Ali said the U.S. action probably contributed to Zaidan's detention, "then the various groups involved realized that linking the capture of the prime minister to the capture of a terrorist put them in a bad light."

The decline of security in Libya was illustrated by the death of the U.S. ambassador to the country and three other Americans in Benghazi in September last year, as militiamen assaulted the consulate.

Half the French embassy was destroyed by a car bomb in April. A jailbreak freed 1,200 prisoners in Benghazi in July, a police colonel and a retired air force officer were murdered the same month, and Russia's embassy was attacked by armed men last week. Oil production slumped to an average of 300,000 barrels a day last month, the lowest since the 2011 war and down from 1.4 million in March.

After the failure of efforts to bring militias under central control, the best option would be to devolve power and turn them into regional police forces, Abi Ali said. In the worst-case scenario, foreign companies will flee as violence spreads, and eastern Libya will try to secede, he said.

"When Zaidan came to office, he was seen as taking a hard line against militias and people liked him," Abi Ali said. "But then he realized he doesn't have the power required to deal with them."

**L'Egypte a échoué à protéger les Coptes, selon Amnesty international**

le 09-10-2013/tempsreel.nouvelobs.com

Le Caire (AFP) - Les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont échoué à protéger les Coptes visés par des attaques après la sanglante répression des partisans du président islamiste déchu Mohamed Morsi, a dénoncé Amnesty International mercredi.

Dans son rapport, l'ONG basée à Londres affirme que plus de 200 propriétés détenues par des chrétiens ont été attaquées, 43 églises sérieusement endommagées et plus de quatre personnes tuées.

Ces violences ont eu lieu après la dispersion sanglante le 14 août de deux places du Caire sur lesquelles étaient rassemblés les pro-Morsi, début d'une vague de répression qui a fait depuis plus d'un millier de morts.

"C'est extrêmement inquiétant que la communauté chrétienne d'Egypte soit visée par des attaques

de partisans de Mohamed Morsi en réponse aux événements du Caire", explique Hassiba Hadj Sahraoui, sous-directrice d'Amnesty pour le Moyen-Orient et l'Afrique du Nord.

"Une réaction violente contre la communauté copte aurait dû être anticipée. Or les forces de sécurité ont échoué à éviter les attaques et mettre un terme aux violences", poursuit Amnesty.

Dans plusieurs cas, des hommes munis d'armes à feu, de barres métalliques ou de couteaux ont saccagé des églises et des maisons, aux cris de "Dieu est grand" et "Chiens de chrétiens". Des reliques ont été profanées, et des graffitis tagués sur les murs, dont "Morsi est mon président" ou "Ils ont tué nos frères pendant la prière", selon Amnesty.

Un homme de 60 ans a été tué par balles chez lui dans la ville de Delga (centre), puis traîné dans les rues par un tracteur. Sa tombe a ensuite été profanée deux fois, selon l'ONG.

Trois églises et un monastère ont également été attaqués par des islamistes à Delga, selon un journaliste de l'AFP.

M. Morsi, premier président élu démocratiquement en Egypte, a été destitué et arrêté le 3 juillet par l'armée après que des millions de manifestants ont réclamé son départ.

Les islamistes accusent les Coptes d'avoir soutenu l'armée dans sa destitution.

Amnesty demande l'ouverture d'une enquête impartiale et indépendante sur ces attaques ainsi que sur "le rôle des forces de sécurité". "Certains incidents ont duré des heures (...) pourquoi les forces de sécurité n'ont pas été en mesure d'y mettre un terme", s'interroge l'organisation.

Les Coptes, qui représentent 6 à 10% des 85 millions d'Egyptiens, se sont régulièrement plaints de discrimination, notamment sous la présidence de M. Morsi.

UN/AFRICA :

#### U.N. Backs Peace Effort for Central African Republic

By RICK GLADSTONE/nytimes.com/October 10, 2013

The United Nations Security Council unanimously approved a resolution on Thursday aimed at stabilizing the Central African Republic, a dangerous and dysfunctional country that has descended into near-total chaos over the last half year.

Sponsored by France, the country's former colonial power, the resolution promised support for a new multinational African Union force that is deploying in the Central African Republic, and it raised the possibility that the operation would be transformed into a United Nations peacekeeping mission, which would give it more resources and power.

The resolution demanded that the weak interim government, put in place after armed rebels known as the Seleka ousted President François Bozizé in March, adhere to previously negotiated plans to hold elections in early 2015, promising unspecified help to honor that deadline.

It further demanded that the Seleka and other armed groups "lay down their arms immediately" and allow the unfettered flow of humanitarian aid into the country. It also said the Security Council

would investigate and report all violations of human rights there, including through the deployment of advisers who specialize in the protection of women and children.

The Security Council action followed a crescendo of warnings, including from France's president, that the Central African Republic, chronically unstable in the best of times, had become an utterly lawless and terrifying country because of the Seleka insurgency, creating new risks of instability among neighboring states.

The resolution singled out Seleka fighters as being responsible for what it called "extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, torture, sexual violence against women and children, rape, recruitment and use of children and attacks against civilians."

While the resolution did not threaten the immediate prospect of a more forceful armed intervention, the reference to the possible strengthening of the African Union force was welcomed by the Central African Republic's United Nations ambassador, Charles Armel Doubane.

"Today is the first day for another time — it's the beginning of a different future," he told reporters outside the Security Council chamber after the resolution had been approved.

Rights groups who have been sounding the alarm on the breakdown in the Central African Republic were more cautious in their endorsement, saying the resolution did not go far enough.

"The Security Council is finally waking up to the human rights tragedy plaguing the Central African Republic," said Philippe Bolopion, the United Nations director for Human Rights Watch. "Broadening the human rights mandate of the U.N. mission is a good but insufficient first step."

He said the Security Council should urgently strengthen the capacity of the African Union force "to protect civilians and sanction individuals responsible for grave abuses, including Seleka leaders."

The Security Council action came as reports of new violence of a sectarian nature were emerging from the country. In a dispatch from Bangui, the capital, Reuters reported deadly clashes between Seleka fighters, who are mostly Muslim, and self-defense militias, who are mostly Christian, in the northwest mining village of Gaga and the isolated eastern town of Bangassou, leaving 60 people dead.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

### EU unmoved by Zim's objections

11 Oct 2013/mg.co.za/Takudzwa Munyaka

The European Union has said sanctions on Zimbabwe will remain in place until the election observers' final reports are released.

Zimbabwe's statement last week that it was limiting diplomatic ties with the West by putting a stop to its re-engagement policy until Western countries lifted sanctions, has done little to move the European Union (EU) from its position.

The EU, the United States, Britain and other Western countries have kept the sanctions in place, saying the recent electoral outcome did not reflect the will of the people.

It sparked severe criticism from President Robert Mugabe, who said they had no right to go against the African Union (AU) and the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), who endorsed the poll.

The impasse has now grown into a bigger diplomatic tiff, with the declaration by Foreign Affairs Minister Simbarashe Mumbengegwi that Zimbabwe was "fed up with the West's lack of sincerity".

He said Zimbabwe was not happy about the West's intransigence and lack of objectivity as shown by its refusal to endorse the July 31 polls, which were endorsed by the "rest of the world".

Recent events may only further exacerbate the diplomatic stand-off.

Mugabe attacks US and Britain

At the 68th session of the United Nations General Assembly last month, Mugabe attacked the United States and Britain, calling them "shameless".

Last month, Harare summoned the EU head of delegation to Zimbabwe, Aldo Dell'Ariccia, for seeking a meeting with Electoral and Constitutional Court judges.

Dell'Ariccia wrote a letter, dated August 29 2013, to the chief registrar of the supreme court, Walter Chikwana, requesting a meeting with the judges to "exchange views on electoral petitions".

But the government took exception to Dell'Ariccia's move and said he had overstepped his diplomatic mandate. He was summoned by the foreign affairs ministry.

Then this week, another summoning took place. The US ambassador, Bruce Wharton, was called in to give an explanation concerning the "humiliation" suffered by Mumbengegwi in New York.

Mumbegegwi's office says he was denied diplomatic privileges that exempt foreign dignitaries from rigorous airport searches on his return from the UN.

EU position unchanged

Dell'Ariccia told the Mail & Guardian this week that the EU had not changed its position on Zimbabwe.

He said the EU was still waiting for final reports from the SADC and AU observer missions before

deciding whether or not to "normalise" relations with country.

But he refused to comment on Mumbengegwi's declaration that the country was no longer engaging them.

"We are still in a situation where we haven't taken a decision because there are some elements missing for us to take a final decision. We are waiting for the final reports of the regional African observer missions, because, as you are aware, the AU and SADC have not released their final reports," Dell'Ariccia said.

"We are waiting to see their recommendations to make sure the next elections are free, fair and credible, because, in their preliminary reports, they highlighted a number of shortcomings. Our position, therefore, remains the same."

Since 2002, the EU has been sticking to measures taken against Zimbabwe under the Cotonou Agreement, which suspended the EU's direct aid to the government, although humanitarian aid has continued through civil society.

The measures, the bloc said, were in response to violations of human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law by government.

Dell'Ariccia said the EU had, in July last year, suspended the application of article 96 of the agreement and was working at a technical level to see how the two parties could start co-operation in future.

This, if successful, means Zimbabwe could benefit from the 11th European Development Fund which supports development programmes in Africa, the Caribbean and Pacific countries.

#### Aid and elections

Dell'Ariccia said the EU's ultimate goal was to normalise relations with Zimbabwe but the decision would have to be unanimous. The EU would have to be satisfied that the country was taking steps in the right direction.

Despite suspending direct aid to Zimbabwe, Dell'Ariccia said the EU and its member states had spent more than \$2-billion since 2009 on humanitarian assistance in areas such as education, water and sanitation and governance.

Before the elections, the EU said it would be guided by SADC's verdict. Both the EU and Britain said they were willing to work with whoever won a free, fair and credible election.

But SADC and the AU refrained from fully endorsing the polls and voiced concern about the high numbers of voters turned away, the late publication of the final list of polling stations, the high numbers of assisted voters and the last-minute availability of the voters' roll.

It was made public only two days before the elections, "rather late for meaningful inspection and verification by voters, parties and candidates", according to the AU.

They still described the elections as free and peaceful but refrained from calling them "fair and credible". The EU said its concerns are enough to cast doubt on the credibility of the polls.

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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