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BURUNDI :

**Burundi : Vers la vulgarisation du contenu de l'EPU 2013**

Dimanche 20 octobre 2013 /Xinhua

BUJUMBURA (Xinhua) - Une campagne de vulgarisation du contenu de l'Examen Périodique Universel (EPU) 2013 sur le Burundi est attendue à partir de mercredi prochain à Bujumbura pour se poursuivre jusqu'en janvier 2014, selon un communiqué de la direction du Bureau des Nations Unies au Burundi (BNUB).

Quelques 50 participants parmi lesquels des membres d'institutions gouvernementales, d'institutions des droits de l'Homme, de la société civile, des médias et des partenaires au développement seront conviés à la première séance d'information sur les observations générales issues de l'EPU de janvier 2013 sur le Burundi, précise-t-on dans ce communiqué.

Selon la même source, une série de séances d'information dont certaines seront prévues également à Gitega (centre), Makamba (sud) et Ngozi (nord) en vue de la mise en place des cadres de suivi pour la mise en œuvre des recommandations issues de l'EPU. L'EPU est un processus d'examen des dossiers des droits de l'Homme auquel tous les Etats membres de l'Organisation des Nations Unies sont soumis tous les quatre ans et demi.

Il permet d'examiner la manière dont chaque Etat s'acquitte de ses obligations et engagements en matière des droits de l'homme et offre la possibilité aux États de montrer les mesures prises pour améliorer la situation dans ce domaine. Ce mécanisme, rappelle-t-on, a été mis en place par l'Assemblée Générale des Nations Unies en 2006. Le Burundi s'y est soumis pour la première fois le 2 décembre 2008. Le deuxième EPU du Burundi a eu lieu le 24 janvier 2013.

### Burundi: les FNL, principal parti d'opposition, ont un nouveau chef

Par RFI/lundi 21 octobre 2013

Le parti des Forces nationales de libération (FNL), deuxième force politique du Burundi, s'est doté lors de son congrès hier, dimanche 20 octobre, d'une nouvelle direction. Le secrétaire général et jusqu'ici numéro deux du parti, Jacques Bigirimana, a été porté à la tête des FNL. Le leader historique de l'ex-rébellion hutue, lui, dénonce une mascarade.

Jacques Bigirimana a obtenu une victoire écrasante avec plus de 75% des voix contre moins de 20% à son prédécesseur, Emmanuel Miburo, à la tête du parti FNL depuis trois ans. Jacques Bigirimana devient donc officiellement le chef de file de l'opposition au Burundi et va bénéficier à ce titre des avantages qui vont avec ce statut.

Mais comment conçoit-il ce rôle ? « Il ne faut pas être trop mordant parce que si vous devenez mordant, vous risquerez de rendre mordant votre adversaire, explique Jacques Bigirimana. Alors nous, nous allons mener une opposition responsable qui écoute tout le monde et qui essaie donc de se mettre au milieu ».

Une « mascarade » selon Agathon Rwasa

Mais le spectre du leader historique de l'ex-rébellion hutue des FNL a plané sur ce congrès dimanche. Sketchs, chansons, discours... On s'en est beaucoup pris à Agathon Rwasa, de retour d'exil depuis deux mois et qui se considère toujours comme le président de ce parti.

Et quand un journaliste évoque son nom, la réponse de Jacques Bigirimana claque : « Pourquoi vous êtes obligés de parler de lui ? C'est lui qui vous recommande ou c'est vous-même ? »

Agathon Rwasa, toujours très populaire auprès des militants FNL, a réagi en parlant d'une opposition de pacotille. « C'est une mascarade : responsable par rapport à quoi et responsable comment ? S'indigne-t-il. Si ce n'est que soutenir les efforts contre-nature du pouvoir contre la véritable opposition ».

Mais en attendant, le pouvoir lui dénie tout d'organiser n'importe quelle manifestation politique au nom du parti FNL.

RWANDA :

### Rwanda takes first step to Wi-Fi future

by Stephanie Aglietti/bdlive.co.za/octobre 21 2013

IT IS a scene any visitor would be surprised to see deep in central Africa: a tech-savvy consumer

sitting in a restaurant and surfing a broadband connection with a smartphone, tablet and laptop.

But in a region long associated with war and genocide, Rwanda is trying to reinvent itself as a regional high-technology hub by rolling out free citywide and eventually nationwide wireless connectivity.

"I came to use the internet. Sometimes I download video and books," says South Korean development worker Lee Il-mo, a resident of the capital Kigali for the past two years. "Before I went to restaurants and had to buy a drink, but here it's a free area," he says, sitting in Kigali City Tower — a zone slated as the city's new tech hub and one of the first steps of the so-called "Smart Kigali" project.

Last month the Rwandan government announced it had started to cover the lush green, rolling hills of the capital with wireless hotspots. This was the first step of a plan to provide Wi-Fi coverage to all schools and public buildings, markets, bus stations and hotels in the city and, in the long term, to the entire country.

Rwanda's Information Technology Minister Jean Philbert Nsengimana says he wants to see the plan "accelerate growth of the internet sector" and attract more investors to the country.

"Connectivity is one of the most important draws for business in this age of digital economy," he says, asserting that free Wi-Fi is merely a step in the direction of a much bigger infrastructure goal — that of fourth generation, or 4G, access.

In June, the Rwandan government signed South Korea's KT Corporation to build a 4G network that it wants delivered to 95% of the country, up from the estimated 10% who have 3G access.

"Broadband access has to be considered as an essential, just like water and electricity," he says.

For Rwanda's government, the stakes are high. President Paul Kagame and his ruling Rwandan Patriotic Front, which has dominated Rwanda since ousting Hutu extremists and ending the genocide nearly 20 years ago, is trying to push through a dramatic transformation from a land of trauma to an economic success story.

The country is ranked as one of the least corrupt countries in Africa, while the World Bank's ease of doing business index for this year ranked Rwanda 52nd out of 185 countries, the third best in sub-Saharan Africa.

But the government now wants to push economic growth to 11.5% for each of the next five years, drive poverty from 45% to below the 30% mark and reach middle-income status by 2020 — no easy task for a mainly agricultural economy.

For the "Smart Kigali" plan to succeed, the private sector needs to stay on board.

"Smart Kigali, really it is a test, it is giving people a taste of better things to come," says Alex Ntale, director of Rwanda's information and communications technology chamber. "But it is not perpetual, someone has to pay at the end of the day. The private companies are testing a business model ... they are trying to find out if the market is really there."

He says that if the new, high-tech Rwanda fails to take off and the programme does not turn out to be profitable, then the private sector will have "every right to switch off the machines".

Mark Bohlund, an economist with IHS Global Insight, says he is optimistic Rwanda will develop "into a regional business-services centre", at least serving the war-torn but mineral rich east of the Democratic Republic of Congo. But he points to tough competition from Kenya, which is already ahead on mobile banking technology and home to offices of tech giants such as Intel, Google and Microsoft.

Elettra Pauletto, an analyst at Control Risks, says the fledgling IT sector is unlikely to become "a major factor ... because of stiff competition from Kenya and South Africa, both of which are more experienced in the sector and who have more advanced English-language skills compared to Rwanda, which until recently was primarily a francophone country".

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

TANZANIA :

KENYA :

**Kenya: Troops 'Loot' Westgate Centre On CCTV**

Monday 21 October 2013/news.sky.com

Footage appears to show members of the Kenyan Defence Force taking items from shops while they are rooting out al Shabaab.

CCTV footage has emerged showing Kenyan troops appearing to loot goods as they cleared out the Westgate Shopping Mall after last month's terrorist attack.

The footage, taken on security cameras in the complex, seems to show soldiers taking boxes of mobile phones from a shop where a body lies on the ground.

Kenyan forces took four days to make safe the Westgate centre in Nairobi after it was attacked by al Shabaab militants on September 22.

Soldiers from the Kenyan Defence Force (KDF) were initially praised by the Kenyan public for the

operation, in which several members of the security services were shot.

But now, since the CCTV was broadcast by a local TV station, the public in Nairobi has reacted with outrage.

Kenya's biggest-selling newspaper The Nation ran an article called "Shame of soldiers looting Westgate" under the caption "caught on camera".

Gunmen from the al Qaeda-linked al Shabaab group massacred at least 67 people when they raided the upmarket Westgate mall.

Grenades were hurled at shoppers and bullets sprayed at members of the public, including children, as a "punishment" for Kenya sending troops to Somalia.

The closed-circuit television footage shows soldiers taking what appears to be unpacked mobile phone boxes from a phone store while others are in a mobile money transfer shop.

A couple of metres from the shop, a pool of spattered blood identifies the spot where a wounded man, crawling on the floor, was shot five times.

A parliamentary committee set up to probe the four-day siege found the KDF "never participated in looting".

Despite this, Kenya's press have criticised the KDF which, until now, has been considered one of Kenya's most professional institutions.

It has led to a deep sense of uneasiness among the Nairobi public.

University of Nairobi student Ndeva Vitalis said the parliamentary committee's findings were a lie.

"CCTV is the truth," he said.

One doctor, who asked not to be named, told Reuters: "The CCTV footage made me lose faith in KDF, who we all strongly supported after they crushed al Shabaab in Somalia.

"Now there is some sort of a cover-up taking place."

Emmanuel Chirchir, a spokesman for the Kenya Defence Forces (KDF), said on Sunday that a news conference organised for Wednesday would deal with looting allegations.

### Video suggests Kenya troops looted Westgate

21 Oct 2013 /aljazeera.com

Footage appears to show men in fatigues taking bags from inside shopping centre where al-Shabab staged deadly siege.

Kenyan security forces looted merchandise in a Nairobi while storming a shopping centre besieged by al-Shabab fighters, security camera footage appears to show.

The video, released on Sunday, showed men in fatigues walking out of the Westgate Mall holding plastic bags filled with unknown items. Others looked behind counters as they moved into the

shopping centre.

Kenya's security forces have denied any wrongdoing and politicians who investigated have already cleared them.

The Westgate siege began on September 21 and lasted four days. At least 67 people were killed.

The video appears to support shopkeeper claims that soldiers looted their stores.

According to witness reports at the end of the siege, mobile phones were yanked from displays, cash registers emptied and alcohol stolen.

An investigation into a huge fire at Nairobi's airport in August revealed that first responders had looted electronics, a bank and an ATM during and after the blaze.

Also on Sunday, a body believed to be that of one of the mall attackers was retrieved.

Joseph Ole Lenku, the interior minister, said that it was the fourth body that "we know from CCTV footage to be that of a terrorist. DNA and other investigations will confirm their identities".

Four AK-47 assault rifles believed to have been used by the attackers were also recovered, the statement said.

### Curse of poverty stalks Kenya at 50

Sunday, October 20th 2013/standardmedia.co.ke

Kenya's aspiration at Independence was to be a great nation but successive regimes have literally chipped away our international credibility.

We celebrated our heroes and heroines Sunday during Mashujaa Day. The dream of these forefathers was to build a united, strong nation whose peoples are well fed, living decently and enjoying good health.

But 50-years later, the first government's mandate to eradicate poverty has never been met although we have made major strides in various sectors such as education and health.

Today, we have nationalism devoid of a development agenda. There is no patriotic nationalism to drive the entire country together towards greater goals.

#### Inheriting debt

But as Kenya celebrates her best, one of the key challenges identified since Independence — poverty — still stalks the country menacingly. Poverty remains disturbing. A recent Parliamentary report - MPs Budget Watch 2013/14 - estimated that over 3.7 million households now live below poverty line. The report says the number of poor Kenyans increased between 2005 and 2013.

At age 50, the country can do better by cushioning its most vulnerable against abject poverty. Kenyans live from hand to mouth. The waged class has debts over their necks. Kenya herself has an external debt in excess of Sh1.6 trillion.

It means all adults will now bequeath debts to the generations that come after us. Deep-rooted

poverty has been reported in rural and urban areas alike. Nairobi remains one of the most unequal cities in the world, with some of the most rich as well as some of the poorest.

Averagely, informal settlements cater for 60 per cent of the total urban population. The Government and private sector must all rally to fix poverty.

With official Treasury reports that over Sh300billion are lost annually to graft, such resources would go a long way to reduce poverty. We can do better. We need heroes to fight poverty!

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

**Four dead in Egypt church attack**

October 21, 2013/thehindu.com

Four people were shot dead at a Christian wedding in a Cairo suburb late on Sunday, medical sources said.

Hospital doctors said that 12 wedding guests were injured in the incident at a Coptic church in the Cairo suburb of Warraq.

Two gunmen on a motorbike were said to have escaped.

**VIDEO. Egypte : des coptes tués à la sortie d'une église**

Edité par MYTF1News avec AFP/le 21 octobre 2013

Trois personnes ont été tuées, dont une fillette de huit ans, et douze blessées dimanche soir au Caire à la sortie d'une église.

La communauté copte d' Egypte , régulièrement victime d'attaques depuis le renversement du président islamiste Mohamed Morsi le 3 juillet et surtout depuis l'évacuation par la force, le 14 août, de deux places du Caire occupées par ses partisans, a une nouvelle fois été ciblée dimanche soir.

A la sortie d'une église de la capitale où ils venaient d'assister à un mariage, plusieurs chrétiens ont été visés par balles. Deux hommes sont arrivés à moto et l'un d'entre eux a ouvert le feu sur les personnes présentes. Le bilan fait état de trois victimes, un homme, une femme et une fillette de huit ans.

Dans un rapport publié le 9 octobre, Amnesty International a affirmé que les forces de sécurité égyptiennes ont échoué à protéger les coptes.

**Egyptian PM condemns attack outside Coptic church that killed 3 Christians, including child**

By Associated Press/Monday, October 21

CAIRO — Egypt's interim prime minister has condemned an attack outside a Cairo Coptic church that killed three people, including an 8-year-old girl, pledging police would do everything possible to bring the perpetrators to justice.

Prime Minister Hazem el-Beblawi said in a statement on Monday that the attack on Sunday night was a "callous and criminal act."

He says such attacks will "not succeed in sowing divisions between the nation's Muslims and Christians."

The attack took place in the Waraa neighborhood of the Egyptian capital, when masked gunmen on motorcycles opened fire on a wedding party outside a Coptic church, killing a man, a woman and the child.

Since a popularly-backed military coup ousted the country's Islamist president in July, there have been stepped-up attacks against Egypt's Coptic Christians and their churches.

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :



BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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