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BURUNDI :

**Burundi: la crise gouvernementale se durcit après l'éviction du président de l'Uprona**

Par RFI/mardi 04 février 2014

Au Burundi, la crise politique se poursuit entre le parti au pouvoir, et le principal parti tutsi, Uprona. Les deux formations sont au bord de la rupture totale. Deux leaders de l'Uprona, dont l'ancien premier vice-président limogé, il y a quelques jours par le chef de l'Etat, accusent les autorités de vouloir les arrêter. Le pouvoir burundais dément.

Le bras de fer entre le pouvoir burundais et le parti Uprona est en train de virer à la guerre ouverte. Charles Nditije que les militants de ce parti considèrent toujours comme leur leader, s'est mis à l'abri depuis trois jours. « Le pouvoir avait l'intention de l'arrêter », assurent ses proches. Il s'est exprimé en personne sur une radio locale et appelé les ministres issus de son parti à la démission.

Charles Nditije a été rejoint dans sa planque par l'ex-premier vice-président burundais Bernard Busokoza, limogé par le chef de l'Etat burundais dans la nuit de samedi, pour avoir pris fait et cause pour le président de l'Uprona en désavouant publiquement le ministre de l'Intérieur.

Plusieurs responsables burundais ont tenté de calmer le jeu, en assurant que le pouvoir n'avait pas

l'intention d'arrêter ces deux personnalités, sans trop convaincre.

Aujourd'hui, la population a peur. Depuis 2005, le tandem constitué par l'ex-rébellion hutue du Cnnd-FDD au pouvoir et le principal parti issu de la minorité tutsi l'Uprona était un gage de stabilité dans ce pays. Beaucoup craignent désormais ce que leur réserve l'avenir.

RWANDA :

**France to open Rwanda genocide trial**

04 Feb 2014/aljazeera.com

Former Rwandan intelligence chief to face charges of complicity in genocide before a court in Paris.

A former Rwandan intelligence chief is about to go on trial in France for his role in the 1994 genocide that killed more than 500,000 people.

Pascal Simbikangwa, 54, will appear on Tuesday in a Paris court for an expected seven-week trial to face charges of complicity in genocide and in crimes against humanity.

Through the trial, France - Rwanda's former coloniser - is also coming to terms with its much-criticised response to the mass murder.

France is trying to catch up with a UN tribunal and other courts that have convicted dozens and shed light on the genocide nearly two decades ago.

Activists hope the Paris trial will remind French leaders of their role and responsibility in Africa, and mark the end of an era in which France provided a haven for those who committed atrocities abroad.

In 2004, the European Court for Human Rights based in the eastern city of Strasbourg condemned France for taking too long to consider one woman's legal effort over the Rwanda genocide.

Bernard Kouchner, a humanitarian aid activist in Rwanda at the time and later French foreign minister, said the Simbikangwa trial is long overdue.

"France played a bad role in this genocide," Koucher said in an interview with the Associated Press news agency.

"It didn't allow justice to do its job, and investigate correctly, or bring to justice those responsible who had fled to France."

In an interview to Al Jazeera, Peter Erlinder, a professor at the William Mitchell College of Law in the US state of Minnesota, said only one side of the genocide story has been told.

Erlinder, author of *The Accidental Genocide*, said that blaming France for its role in the mass murder "is not historically accurate".

For France, whose Nazi collaborationist regime in World War II sent thousands of Jews to their

deaths, the case is steeped in historical symbolism.

A Justice Ministry spokeswoman described the Simbikangwa case as the first trial in France on charges of genocide.

### French complicity

Under President Francois Mitterrand, France armed and trained Rwandan forces, ignored government abuses, and helped some genocide perpetrators flee the country, critics say.

After the genocide, successive French governments and the state apparatus repeatedly thwarted attempts to expose France's role, while letting into France some suspected to have blood on their hands.

France had close ties to the government of President Juvenal Habyarimana, an ethnic Hutu who died when his aircraft was shot down on April 6, 1994.

His death set off a 100-day bloodbath of reprisal slayings of ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus, leaving at hundreds of thousands dead.

It ended when Tutsi-led rebels under current President Paul Kagame defeated Hutu extremists.

Simbikangwa, who is disabled because of a car accident in the 1980s and uses a wheelchair, was arrested in 2008 on France's Indian Ocean island of Mayotte, where he had been living under an alias.

He is accused of helping arm Hutu soldiers who manned roadway checkpoints in the capital Kigali, and instructing them about their part in the slaughter.

If convicted, Simbikangwa could face a life sentence.

In telephone interviews, his lawyers said they will argue for an acquittal, and fear that the trial will be lopsided, in part because of the difficulty in finding anyone to speak in their client's defense.

More than 50 witnesses including journalists, historians, farmers, security guards, and former intelligence officials are expected to be called, nearly all by the prosecution.

French courts refused to allow the extradition of Simbikangwa to Rwanda.

### Rencontre avec les Klarsfeld du Rwanda

Par Chloée Triomphe et Maud Descamps/europe1.fr/le 3 février 2014

GÉNOCIDE - Alain Gauthier et sa femme Dafroza récoltent des preuves pour traduire les auteurs du massacre devant la justice.

En 100 jours, 800.000 personnes ont été massacrées. Tutsis pour la plupart mais aussi Hutus modérés. Vingt ans après le génocide des Tutsis au Rwanda, le premier procès français d'un complice présumé de ces massacres s'ouvre mardi devant la Cour d'assises de Paris. Pascal Simbikangwa, ancien militaire de 54 ans, sera jugé pour complicité de génocide et complicité de crimes contre l'humanité.

Si cet homme comparait devant la justice aujourd'hui, c'est grâce au travail mené depuis vingt ans par Alain Gauthier et sa femme Dafroza. Cette dernière est allée rendre visite à sa mère, à Kigali, la capitale rwandaise, seulement un mois avant le début du massacre. C'est la dernière qu'elle a vu sa famille vivante.

"Ils ont fermé toutes les frontières et ils ont tué". "C'est mon histoire, je suis Tutsi, je suis née au Rwanda", confie-t-elle au micro d'Europe1. La jeune femme dit avoir tout essayé pour sauver ceux qu'elle aimait. "Mais ils ont fermé toutes les frontières et ils ont tué", raconte-t-elle.

Depuis, le couple mène un combat sans répit : traquer les auteurs du génocide dont certains ont trouvé refuge en France. Or, longtemps perçue comme une terre d'asile pour les bourreaux, la France a désormais la compétence de juger des Rwandais depuis 1996.

Une vie consacrée au Rwanda. Pour que la justice aille plus vite, le couple se rend régulièrement au Rwanda à la recherche de preuves qu'il transmet ensuite aux autorités françaises. Des preuves basées souvent sur des témoignages. "Certains dossiers nous ont demandé quatre ou cinq déplacements au Rwanda pour rencontrer des victimes", explique Alain Gauthier, qui précise que toutes les soirées, tous les week-ends du couple sont consacrés à cette cause.

Alain et Daroza ont largement contribué à la tenue du procès de Pascal Simbikangwa qui s'ouvre mardi. Un procès historique qu'ils espèrent être le premier d'une longue série.

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

### Why is Uganda's Army in South Sudan?

By Ken Opalo, Guest blogger /csmonitor.com/ February 3, 2014

Uganda seeks to be a regional power, is militarist and prone to adventures. It fought the rebels in S. Sudan and its troops could jeopardize a peace deal there.

On January 15th 2014 President Yoweri Museveni finally admitted that Uganda People's Defence Force troops are engaging in combat operations within South Sudan.

Right after the political fallout in Juba and escalation of hostilities between forces loyal to President Salva Kiir and those behind his former deputy Riek Machar, Mr. Museveni threatened Mr. Machar with military action if he did not come to the table to negotiate with Mr. Kiir.

Museveni's military involvement in the conflict has caused concern in Nairobi and other capitals in the region.

For one, Uganda's military intervention in the conflict may yet jeopardize the ceasefire agreement that was signed on January 23, 2014 in Addis Ababa. The regional body IGAD (Intergovernmental Authority on Development) is supposed to be a neutral arbiter and monitor in the conflict. Museveni's clear leanings towards the government in Juba may bring to question IGAD's neutrality

in the mediation effort.

For historical reasons [see below] Khartoum fears Kampala's military involvement in South Sudan. But this time the situation is slightly different, and a little more complex.

Sudanese leader Bashir has already shown his hand in support of Juba against Machar, possibly for two reasons: First, Khartoum needs Juba's help in weakening the rebellion by the rump SPLA (SPLA-North) that is still active in the Blue Nile and South Kordofan, regions that border South Sudan. Second, Mr. Bashir needs to keep the oil flowing in order to ward- off internal turmoil within Sudan due to rapidly deteriorating economic conditions (see here).

Kiir's willingness to throw SPLA-N under the bus comes as no surprise since it is an offshoot of the "Garang Boys" (mostly PhDs) who occupied a special place, unlike Kiir and others, in John Garang's SPLA.

SPLM-N's leader Malik Aggar shared Garang's vision of one united reformed Sudan, as opposed to secession by the South.

At the same time, however, Khartoum does not want a super strong South Sudan free of rebels. Total cessation of conflict in South Sudan would rob Khartoum of proxies to keep Juba in check. Uganda's involvement could tip the balance in Juba's favor vis-à-vis potential Bashir allies.

Meanwhile in Nairobi and Addis Ababa concern is growing over Uganda's claim that the IGAD should foot the bill of UPDF's adventures in South Sudan. Both Ethiopia and Kenya prefer settling the conflict at the negotiating table, partly because both have their security forces stretched by domestic armed groups and bandits and the war in Somalia.

Kenya has said categorically that it will not send troops to South Sudan, even under IGAD. The wariness in Nairobi and Addis to send troops or cash for a military cause in South Sudan contrasts sharply with Kampala's choice of military action from the moment the current flare up started in Juba. This, despite the fact that Uganda also has troops serving in Somalia.

Which raises the question: What explains Uganda's international military adventurism under Museveni?

The answer lies in the confluence of history, international geopolitics, and Uganda's internal politics.

Uganda is one of the more militarized states in Africa, with the military having direct representation in parliament (10 seats). It is also interventionist, with a history of combat engagement and support for rebel groups in six neighboring states – Burundi, the Central African Republic (CAR), the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Somalia, and South Sudan.

More recently, the nation has been a key advocate for greater integration within the East African Community (EAC). Indeed, Uganda's Museveni fancies himself as a possible head of an EAC political federation should it ever materialize.

Uganda is also a key player in the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC), a proposed standby force with capacity to rapidly deploy troops to trouble spots in Africa (other key supporters include South Africa, Chad, and Tanzania).

Museveni and his kadogo (little) soldiers

President Museveni's military adventurism and internationalist outlook have deep roots. As a young student in Tanzania, Museveni was involved in exile organizations opposed to Idi Amin. Indeed, Museveni's National Resistance Army (NRA), started off as the Popular Resistance Army (PRA) in Tanzania. (As testament to its Tanzanian roots, NRA borrowed the idea of political commissars from the Tanzanian military to educate civilians in "liberated" Luweero Triangle).

In Tanzania, and even after returning to Uganda, Museveni made regional connections that he maintained even after he ascended to power in 1986 – including Rwanda's Paul Kagame, Sudan's John Garang, and leaders of Mozambique's FRELIMO.

Before rebelling against Kigali, Mr. Kagame was Museveni's Chief of Military Intelligence. Museveni supported Garang's Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA).

Once in power, Museveni styled himself as the guarantor of peace and stability in Uganda. Many (both at home and abroad) evaluated his performance relative to the disastrous years under Amin and the ensuing civil war. The resulting peace dividend (albeit restricted to the south of the country) was marked by relative macro-economic stability, with growth averaging about 6 percent for much of the 1990s. This made Museveni a darling of Western donors and international financial institutions.

However, Museveni's record with regard to democracy and human rights remained dubious. This put him in awkward position vis-à-vis the West, especially since the 1990s was the zenith of Western promotion of liberal democracy.

To this Museveni reacted cleverly, and worked hard to position Uganda as a strategic player in the wider region's geopolitics. In order to maintain his international stature and secure his position domestically, Museveni labored to bolster Uganda's relevance to the West.  
Museveni enters Kampala (Source)

Beginning in the early 1990s, Uganda got militarily involved in a number of neighboring states. Support for Garang's SPLA drew the ire of Khartoum, which in turn supported the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in northern Uganda.

Subsequently, the Ugandan military conducted raids against LRA bases in Sudan while also offering combat assistance to the SPLA. For instance, the 1997 battle at Yei featured Ugandan soldiers alongside the SPLA against the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF). It is around this time that the seed was planted for future military involvement abroad at the turn of the century (this time in Somalia under the Western-funded AU mission, AMISOM, to help stabilize the country).

After US President Bill Clinton designated Sudan as a state sponsor of terror, Uganda positioned itself as an ally in the frontline of "Global War on Terror." Kampala served as an intermediary for US aid to SPLA, thereby further strengthening US-Uganda military ties. It is telling that in 2003, Uganda was among only a handful of African states that supported the US-led Iraq War. About 20,000 Ugandans worked in US military bases in Iraq (this was also an excellent job creation tool; and a way of earning Forex).

So far Uganda's most complex military adventure was in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). A mix of strategic geopolitical positioning combined with the need to secure markets for Ugandan goods, private greed, and domestic politics, drove Uganda's invasion of the DRC.

The first Congo War (1996-97) was swift, aimed at helping Laurent Kabila oust Mobutu Seseseko (Rwanda and Angola also helped). Soon after, Uganda and Rwanda fell out with Kabila,

occasioning the Second Congo war (1998-2003), which involved four other African states. It is then that the façade of intervention for regional stability completely broke down. Ugandan and Rwandan commanders exploited existing and new cross-border smuggling and semi-legitimate trade networks to orchestrate massive pillaging of natural resources in eastern DRC (Competition between the two militaries later intensified, resulting in the “Kisangani Wars.”)

For instance, in the year 2000 and despite only producing 0.00441 tonnes of gold, Uganda exported 11 tons. A UN report indicates that well-connected generals (including Museveni’s half-brother) created entities headquartered in Kampala to facilitate the illicit trade. It’s important to note that Museveni’s tolerance of the semi-autonomous activities by his generals was strategic (it generated revenue through Kampala-based entities and kept the generals happy) and did not lead to fracturing within the military. Indeed, many of those involved were later promoted.

Incidentally, the present involvement in South Sudan also reflects the multifaceted logic of Ugandan international military adventurism. Historical alliances with the SPLA against the LRA and SAF make Kampala and Juba natural bedfellows. But the intervention is also about securing markets for Ugandan goods.

According to figures from the Bank of Uganda, in 2012 the country’s exports to South Sudan totaled an estimated \$1.3 billion. About 150,000 Ugandan traders operate across the border, not to mention countless more primary producers in agriculture who benefit from cross-border trade with their northern neighbor.

The above account explains Museveni’s efforts in the recent past to build an image as the regional powerbroker: heading peace talks between the DRC, Rwanda and eastern DRC rebels; intervening in Somalia to prop up the government in Mogadishu; and in the latest episode siding militarily with Kiir in South Sudan’s domestic political- cum- military conflict.

Domestically, Museveni’s grip on power is as strong as ever. Recent reshuffles in the military removed powerful legacy figures (the original “bush war heroes”) thereby leaving Museveni (and his son) firmly in control of Uganda’s armed forces. There is no end in sight for Uganda’s international military adventurism.

In many ways Uganda’s international adventurism has been a case of agency in tight corners. The country is landlocked and has neighbors with sparsely governed borderlands that provide rear-bases for Ugandan armed groups. Kampala also needs Western aid to maintain the regime, a situation that necessitates acts of geopolitical positioning -- especially with regard to the “Global War on Terror” and maintenance of regional peace and stability.

Furthermore, oil discovery along the conflict-prone DRC border on Lake Albert and the need for pipelines to the sea to export Ugandan oil will necessitate even greater regional involvement.

So while Uganda’s present outward adventurism is primarily because of Museveni’s peculiar personal history, it is correct to say that even after Museveni (still far into the future) the country will continue to be forced to look beyond its borders for economic opportunities, security, and regional stature.

**Delhi: AAP goes to Foreign Ministry after SOS from Ugandan women**  
February 04, 2014/ndtv.com

New Delhi: The Delhi government on Monday sought the intervention of Ministry of External

Affairs in providing "protection" to three Ugandan women after they alleged they were held hostages by drug mafias in the Malviya Nagar area of South Delhi.

A government official said that the women have approached the Delhi government and have stated that their passports and other important documents have been taken away by the "drug mafia".

They requested the government to help in the matter and arrange for their safe return to Uganda, top officials told PTI.

"They were taken to the Deputy Commissioner's (South) office and their statements were registered under section 164 CrPC. We have already approached the MEA seeking protection to them. We also requested the Ministry to arrange for their return to Uganda," they said.

The women said they live in Khirki Extension area of Malviya Nagar where Delhi Law Minister Somnath Bharti had allegedly led a group of AAP supporters in a midnight raid against some African women accusing them of involvement in a prostitution racket.

Congress and BJP as well as various women organizations had come down hard on Mr Bharti. However, AAP had maintained he was innocent and wanted the police to carry out a raid against an alleged drug and prostitution ring.

SOUTH AFRICA :

### Failed Deal Roils South Africa Opposition

By Patrick McGroarty/online.wsj.com/Feb. 3, 2014

Antipartheid Veteran Pulls Out as Party's Candidate

JOHANNESBURG—The leader of South Africa's top opposition party on Monday said she had made a mistake recruiting antiapartheid veteran Mamphela Ramphele to be her party's presidential candidate, after a short-lived alliance collapsed over the weekend.

"Sometimes in politics you have to take a risk," said Helen Zille, leader of the Democratic Alliance, the center-right party that is the country's biggest opposition group. "You have to recognize it as a mistake, cut your losses and move on."

Ms. Ramphele, a medical doctor and former World Bank managing director, formed her own opposition party last year to challenge the ruling African National Congress. Ms. Zille had tried repeatedly to woo Ms. Ramphele into the DA. But Ms. Ramphele had resisted because many of her supporters in South Africa's black majority see the DA as too focused on the well-being of South Africa's white minority.

Ms. Ramphele struggled to secure the funding and manpower necessary to get her party, Agang, off the ground. Last week, she said she would continue to run Agang, which means "to build" in her native Sotho language, and would accept the DA's nomination as president if the two parties won a majority in elections this year.

But in recent days, Ms. Ramphele decided the arrangement appeared untenable unless she fully joined the DA, a step she was unwilling to take, said Mark Peach, a spokesman for her party. He



said an outcry from her supporters helped change her mind.

"A number of members in Agang and the DA felt that whatever this alliance was, they were uncomfortable with it. That became untenable for her," he said.

The DA was never likely to win this year's election, with or without Ms. Ramphela at the helm.

The ANC has won each of four elections since Nelson Mandela was elected president in South Africa's first free vote in 1994, and is widely expected to win again this year.

But as income inequality has risen and joblessness has lingered at near 25%, the DA and new entrants like Ms. Ramphela have found new support among voters who are disenchanted with the ANC's stewardship of Africa's biggest economy.

The DA maintains strong support in Western Cape province surrounding Cape Town and in other urban centers. Given the uncertain prospects of her party in the coming elections, Ms. Ramphela's political future is less clear.

### Mandela's will: Graca may settle for assets

February 4 2014/AFP

Johannesburg - Nelson Mandela left an estate of R46 million, according to details of his final will and testament released on Monday, amid a public family feud over his legacy.

The wife of South Africa's first black president is entitled to half of his estate, with the rest shared out among various family members, personal staff, schools and the ruling ANC.

The will was read out two months after Mandela's death in December at the age of 95.

Executor Dikgang Moseneke, the deputy head of the Constitutional Court, said the reading had been "charged with emotion" but no one had yet contested it.

Lawyers for Mandela revealed that his third wife, Graca Machel, would likely waive her right to 50 percent of the estate, settling for four properties in her native Mozambique as well as cars, art, jewellery and other assets.

His estranged second wife, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, was not named as a beneficiary in a summary of the will.

Royalties from his books and other projects, as well as his homes, will be split between family members, who have long bickered over the spoils of his legacy.

Mandela's upscale home in Houghton, where he died on December 5, will be used by the family of his deceased son Makgatho - including grandson and local clan chief Mandla Mandela.

"It is my wish that it should also serve as a place of gathering of the Mandela and Machel family in order to maintain its unity long after death," the former elder statesman wrote.

Even before his death, Mandela's children and grandchildren frequently clashed over who leads the family and who should benefit from his investments.

Several have already put the Mandela brand behind commercial projects including wine, clothing, artwork, a social network and a reality television show.

According to the will, which was first written in 2004, Mandela's children each received loans during his lifetime and will have the debt scrapped if it has not been repaid.

Mandela's other bequests reflected his political life and his work championing education.

“He wanted to make it clear that what he believed in his life, or during his life, was transmitted to the country if not the world at large,” said George Bizos, one of the executors who also represented Mandela at his treason trial.

Mandela gave R50 000 each to members of staff, including long-time personal aide Zelda la Grange.

The African National Congress, which Mandela led to victory in the first democratic elections in 1994, could receive between 10 and 30 percent of his royalties.

The cash will be used specifically to promote “policies and principles of reconciliation amongst the people of South Africa”.

The ANC - which is struggling amid allegations of corruption and incompetence - welcomed the news as a sign of Mandela's “unwavering love for his people and their organisation, the ANC”.

Three executors will now be tasked with winding up the estate and carrying out Mandela's wishes.

They are Bizos; Moseneke, the deputy head of the Constitutional Court who spent years with Mandela imprisoned on Robben Island; and Themba Sangoni, the head judge in Mandela's home province, the Eastern Cape.

Mandela became South Africa's first black president after the first all-race elections in 1994 and his politics of forgiveness and reconciliation made him a global peace icon.

He died on December 5 and was buried 10 days later in his rural boyhood home of Qunu after a state memorial service attended by dignitaries from around the world. - AFP

**Mandela : une fortune évaluée à 4,1 millions de dollars !**

mardi 4 février 2014 / par Malick Hamid/afrik.com

C'est ce lundi que le testament de l'ancien Président d'Afrique du Sud, Nelson Mandela, a été ouvert. Ainsi, Madiba lègue sa fortune évaluée à 4,1 millions de dollars à sa famille, son parti et des écoles.

Le testament de l'ancien Président d'Afrique du Sud, Nelson Mandela, a été ouvert ce lundi. Un pactole de 4,1 millions de dollars (3 millions d'euros), c'est la fortune que l'ancien Président sud-africain, Nelson Mandela lègue à sa famille, son parti, l'ANC, et six écoles qui lui étaient chères.

Deux mois après sa mort à l'âge de 95 ans, un inventaire a été dressé. Il évalue provisoirement le patrimoine de Mandela à 46 millions de rands, soit 3 millions d'euros. La famille de l'ancien combattant de l'ANC était quasiment réunie au complet pour l'ouverture du testament.

Avec plus de 30 enfants, petits-enfants et arrière-petits-enfants, nés de ses deux premiers mariages, Nelson Mandela avait rédigé un mot d'explication à la plupart de ses légataires. Il a en outre inclus dans ses dernières volontés les enfants de sa veuve Graça Machel, épousée alors qu'il avait 80 ans, tout comme son ancienne secrétaire particulière Zelda La Grange, au nombre de neuf anciens collaborateurs gratifiés de 50 000 rands (3 300 euros).

La fondation "Nelson Rohlilala Mandela Family Trust" devra partager entre 10 et 30% des revenus avec l'ANC, son parti politique, appelé à en faire usage « en particulier pour la promotion des principes et des politiques de réconciliation entre les Sud-Africains ».

Dans le testament, il est en outre prévu différents legs aux écoles fréquentées par Mandela durant sa jeunesse. Cela devra servir à offrir des bourses à leurs élèves. C'est le cas de l'université de Fort Hare et celle de Witwatersrand à Johannesburg.

TANZANIA :

#### **Tanzania: Post-MDG Agenda to Focus on Energy**

By Henry Lyimo/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/3 February 2014

TANZANIA has been selected by the UN as a model in the energy sector and will be a lead advisor in the sector for the post 2015 development agenda, the Minister for Energy and Minerals, Prof. Sospeter Muhongo has said.

He said Tanzania was chosen to represent Africa on the energy sector in recognition of its notable success and aspirations in the on-going energy sector reforms.

"We have been asked to consult the UN in the energy sector on behalf of Africa," he told reporters on the sidelines of a two-day Powering Africa summit that ended in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

Under her new role, Tanzania would provide consultations on why and how energy should be addressed in the post-2015 development agenda, Prof. Muhongo said. The UN had taken energy on top of its agenda for the post 2015 development agenda, he said.

Following enormous progress made towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, (MDGs), the UN is now working with governments, civil society and other partners to build on the momentum generated by the MDGs and carry on with an ambitious post- 2015 development agenda.

In the post -2015 development agenda, energy has emerged as central both to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in the years to come and to realizing sustainable development in the future.

The UN now seeks to build a shared vision for a set of priorities and global objectives on energy that should be integrated within the post-2015 development agenda and related processes.

#### **Anti-poaching efforts to be enhanced in Tanzania parks**

Monday, February 03, 2014 /busiweek.com

ARUSHA, Tanzania - Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) the custodian of 16 national parks in Tanzania, has sent a strong message to all workers of the national parks, conservation agencies and other public institutions related to wildlife that if they are found to collude with the syndicate of people behind poaching activities they would face tough consequences.

TANAPA's Director General, Mr. Allan Kijazi said in Arusha last week that the war against poaching should be "a collective responsibility" and has to involve the conservation agency and other security organs as well as the community at large.

Kijazi warned that the state machinery was "already at work", tracing the brains behind the massacre of wildlife, illegal ivory trade and other vices aiming to deplete the country's wildlife heritage.

"It is estimated that the country is losing 30 elephants per day or 10,000 in a year. At the current rate of poaching, it is feared there will be no elephants in Tanzania in ten years' time," Kijazi said.

He stressed that wildlife was key to the country's tourism industry, but that the increasing incidence of poaching, mainly targeting the elephants, could threaten the multi-million dollar industry, now the leading foreign exchange earner for the economy.

Besides the elephants, hunted for their ivory, other animals targeted by the poachers are rhinos, for their highly prized horns, leopards, cheetahs, lions, hippopotamus and a host of others.

Kijazi, who was speaking to TANAPA employees and their families during a 'Family Day' organized annually, said the parks body would continue to strengthen its anti-poaching unit and that 100 game rangers have just passed out and that many more would follow later this year.

"In addition to boosting rangers' stable, we are also going to be ordering new artillery and equipment to ensure that the force is well-armed to protect our national heritage", he pointed out.

Stakeholders in the tourism sector have warned that poaching activities threatened the Tanzania's elephant population.

The Tourism Confederation of Tanzania (TCT), an umbrella organization representing the tourism private business sector involved in travel and tourism, has appealed to the government to reconsider its decision to suspend indefinitely the anti-poaching campaign, Operation Terminate (Operation Tokomeza) on grounds of human rights abuse and violation.

A statement issued by TCT in Arusha a few weeks ago beseeched the government to continue with the operation. "It is the position of TCT that the suspension of the operation will only aggravate the situation by giving poachers and their sponsors more time to reorganize and plan for some new strategies that may have devastating effects on the remaining elephant herds in the wilderness," read part of the statement.

The TCT's current members include the Tanzania Association of Travel Agents, Tanzania Air Operators Association, Hotels Association of Tanzania, Intra-African Travel and Tourism Association and the Tanzania Hunting Operators Association.

Others are a Tanzania Professional Hunters Association, Tanzania Tour Guides Association, Zanzibar Association of Tourism Investors, Tanzania Association of Tour Operators and Tourism and Hospitality Professionals Association of Tanzania.

KENYA :

#### 4 Somalis charged over airport blast in Kenya

Feb 04,2014/Xinhua

NAIROBI, Feb. 3 (Xinhua) -- Kenya's authorities on Monday arraigned four Somali suspects in court in connection to the blast at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on Jan. 16, which destroyed the departure section of the country's main airport.

However, the court deferred the case facing Hassan Abdi Mohammed, Mohammed Osman Ali, Yusuf Warsame and Garad Hassan Fer, who are believed to be members of Al-Shabaab, to Tuesday due to lack of an interpreter.

The security officers said Monday they believe the four are directly linked to the explosion that rocked a Java coffee restaurant outlet in the airport.

The police said the attack was planned and executed by the four together with others who are still at large.

An affidavit produced in court said after the suspects were arrested, they led police to a residence in Nairobi where military explosives were recovered.

The suspects have an unknown amount of explosives hidden in an undisclosed area meant to be used for terrorist attacks and want also to oppose their release on bail.

The suspects are expected to take their plea on Tuesday. The airport blast has made the authorities to intensify security checks at the airports and have advised passengers to arrive an hour before normal reporting times.

The authorities have beefed up security at the airport both ground and in the air to ensure safety of passengers and citizens who are landing and departing for various destinations across the globe.

The enhanced alert also follow indications of a terror attack in the wake of the start of the trial of four men accused of being behind the Westgate attack last September in which more than 68 people died and the airstrike by Kenyan troops in Somalia early this month.

The enhanced security also comes amid reports that some of the Kenyan youths who had crossed to the Horn of Africa nation to join the militants are now back in the Coastal region after being discouraged by the constant military attacks on the militants' strongholds and fallouts.

The police said more border patrol will be intensified along the Kenya-Somalia border in Kiunga and Dadaad refugee camps to prevent the Al-Qaida-linked insurgents who are fleeing Kismayo to from entering into the country.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

### Central African Republic clashes 'kill 75' in Boda town

3 February 2014/bbc.co.uk

Sectarian fighting in the Central African Republic town of Boda since Tuesday has left at least 75 people dead, a local priest has said.

Father Cassien Kamatari said help was needed to stop the violence between Muslims and Christians.

The majority of those confirmed dead were Christian, Fr Kamatari said.

Because Muslim victims were buried soon after the attacks it was not known how many of them were killed, he said.

There have been widespread reports of revenge attacks since mainly Muslim fighters withdrew from the capital Bangui last month.

They did so following the resignation of interim President Michel Djotodia.

Correspondents say that while the security situation in Bangui has improved since the peacekeepers' arrival, outbreaks of violence continue in the north and west of CAR.  
'Horrific'

"Instead of thinking only of Bangui, people must also think of what's happening in the countryside because what we are living through in these communities is horrific," Fr Kamatari said.

He said that the violence began when heavily-armed Muslims erected barricades at the entrance and exit to the town - 100km (60 miles) west of Bangui - and began attacking Christians.

"At least 60 people were killed and many others injured, 15 of whom died of their injuries," he said.

Fr Kamatari said he called French and African Union forces for help, but got no response. He said that his parish was sheltering 1,500 people trying to flee the violence.

France, the former colonial power, has 1,600 troops in the country, working with some 4,000 troops from African countries to help end the violence which has seen about a million people - 20% of the population - flee their homes.

The UN said last month that it believed at least 10,000 troops may be required in any force sent to end the unrest.

### Millions at risk in the Sahel food crisis

04 Feb 2014/aljazeera.com

UN says 20 million people face food insecurity in the region, with five million children suffering

from malnutrition.

The UN is seeking \$2bn this year to combat food insecurity in Africa's Sahel region, where 1.2 million people have been forced to flee their homes because of violence.

UN humanitarian chief Valerie Amos announced the appeal in Rome on Monday, saying "more people than ever" were at risk of hunger.

The UN projects 20 million people to be at risk of food insecurity in the Sahel region, with 2.5 million needing "urgent lifesaving food assistance".

According to the UN, five million children younger than five in the region will suffer from malnutrition this year.

At the event in Rome, the UN launched a three-year response plan, to help the Sahel, which it defines as a nine-country region stretching from Chad to Senegal.

"A dramatic increase in the number of food insecure is expected, driven in particular by a deterioration in the food security situation in Northern Nigeria, Northern Cameroon and Senegal. These three countries represent over 40 percent of the overall caseload," the response plan said.

Besides instability in countries like Nigeria and Mali, population growth and high food prices are contributing to the problem.

The three-year plan aims to track and analyse risk and vulnerability to develop humanitarian programmes, respond to warning signals earlier and deliver "integrated life-saving assistance to people affected by emergencies."

"Life-saving naturally continues to be the first priority of the humanitarian community in the Sahel. Special effort will be directed towards a more inter-Cluster response to key vulnerabilities such as food insecurity, malnutrition, epidemics, conflict and displacement and natural disasters," the report said.

#### 4,600-year-old step pyramid unearthed in Egypt

ANI | Washington /business-standard.com/February 4, 2014

Archaeologists have discovered a 4,600-year-old step pyramid near the ancient settlement of Edfu, in southern Egypt, that predates the Great Pyramid of Giza by at least a few decades.

It is one of the seven so-called "provincial" pyramids built by either the pharaoh Huni, Fox News reported.

The step pyramid, which once stood as high as 43 feet, is only about 16 feet tall today because its stone blocks were pillaged, and the monument was exposed to weathering.

The provincial pyramids, which are scattered throughout central and southern Egypt, are located near major settlements, have no internal chambers and were not intended for burial.

The team led by Gregory Marouard, a research associate at the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute found that six of the seven pyramids have almost identical dimensions, including the newly uncovered one, which is about 60 x 61 feet.

UN/AFRICA :

### West Africa: United Nations Seeks \$2 Billion for Struggling Sahel Region

3 February 2014/AFP, dpa, Reuters

The UN has appealed for \$2 billion (roughly 1.5 billion euros) in 2014 to help more than 20 million people affected by famine in Africa's Sahel. The bid is part of a three-year humanitarian plan for parts of the region.

The UN has estimated 1.2 million people had to flee their homes due to violence and insecurity in the drought-prone Sahel region, the ecoclimatic belt of land between the Sahara desert to the north and the Sudania Savanna to the south that includes parts of 13 countries. Many of those displaced hail from Mali, Sudan, and the Central African Republic.

Of the 20 million people at risk, 2.5 million of them "need urgent lifesaving food assistance," according to a UN statement on Monday. Five million children under the age of five are at risk of acute malnutrition.

DW.DE

#### Germany takes a fresh look at its Africa policy

Germany wants to increase its involvement in Africa, possibly also militarily. There are various motives for this but so far no concrete strategy. Within Germany the deployment of troops abroad is a controversial issue. (31.01.2014)

#### More support for Africa's small-scale farmers needed in the battle against hunger

Hunger and malnutrition are still among the main concerns on the African continent. Governments and international organizations agree that agriculture and food security should be at the top of the African agenda. (18.09.2013)

"More people than ever are at risk in the Sahel and the scale of their needs is so great that no agency or organization can tackle it alone," Valerie Amos, the UN's top official for humanitarian aid, said on Monday. "The strategic plan for the region will help us reach millions of people with vital assistance, build resilience and save lives."

Amos was talking from a conference in Rome, where the appeal was launched and a three-year humanitarian plan affecting Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Chad, Gambia, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal was drafted.

The strategy emphasizes "strong partnerships with governments and development partners, a regional perspective and multi-year time frame to better address the chronic causes of the crises."

#### 2013 target fell short

Of the \$1.7 billion set as a target in the 2013 appeal for the region, around 63 percent was raised. The World Bank has pledged \$1.5 billion in new regional investments over the next two years,



while the European Union has announced it will provide 5 billion euros to six of the region's countries over the next seven years.

"The situation requires an early and large-scale humanitarian response in almost all countries of the Sahel," Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, said on Monday.

(AFP, dpa, Reuters)

### UN expert reveals troubling Africa destination for sex-trafficking

womennewsnetwork.net/2014/02/03

(WNN/UNOHCHR) United Nations, Geneva, SWITZERLAND, WESTERN EUROPE: "Yes Seychelles is an island but not an island out of reach of traffickers and their nefarious activities in today's globalised world," the United Nations Special Rapporteur on trafficking in persons, Joy Ngozi Ezeilo, warned\* on Friday at the end of her first official visit to the country.

"Trafficking in persons in Seychelles is at best insidious and remains hidden as a result of lack of awareness," said the independent expert mandated by the UN Human Rights Council to promote the prevention of trafficking in persons in all its forms and to encourage measures to uphold and protect the human rights of victims.

"The potential scale of the problem of trafficking in persons in the country, its trends and scope appears to be underestimated or unknown, and needs to be further investigated by the Government and law enforcement agencies," she stressed.

The scarcely populated island has a large influx of both tourists and migrant workers. Anecdotal evidence suggest that trafficking in persons happens and that Seychelles may increasingly become a destination country for both trafficking for sexual exploitation, especially of girls from Eastern Europe, and also for labour exploitation of migrant workers from India, China, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, the Philippines, Kenya, Madagascar and others.

"The political commitment to end human trafficking clearly exists in Seychelles," Ms. Ezeilo said. She noted, among other things, the country's ratification of key international conventions and the creation of the National Anti-Trafficking Committee.

The Special Rapporteur welcomed the commitment to fight this phenomenon and ensure that it does not take root in Seychelles expressed to her by the President of Seychelles, James Alix Michel, during an official meeting.

"However", she said, "the immediate concern is the absence of a legal and policy framework to prevent and combat trafficking in persons." The expert expressed regret that the Government was yet to criminalize trafficking in persons as required by article 7 of the Palermo Protocol to prevent, suppress and punish trafficking in persons, to which Seychelles is a state party.

"I am concerned that in critical sectors of the economy, such as tourism and fisheries, the government is yet to put in place measures that will discourage sex tourism, child prostitution and trafficking in persons for labour exploitation," Ms. Ezeilo added.

The human rights expert urged the Government to fast-track the draft anti-trafficking bill to fulfil its international obligations, and establish a National Action Plan to combat trafficking based on a

human rights and victim-centred approach.

The Special Rapporteur highlighted the need to collect data on trends, forms and manifestations of trafficking, its causes and consequences. “This survey should be carried out in collaboration with research institutions and in close cooperation with international, civil society and faith-based organizations,” she specified.

“Seychelles also needs to assess technical assistance towards building the capacity of its frontline officers, including police, immigration officers, labour Inspectors and prosecutors, to help them identify possible victims of trafficking, carry out necessary investigation and prosecute the criminals involved,” she said.

The Special Rapporteur called for a more effective and adequately funded National Human Rights Commission, in accordance with the Paris Principles. She also urged the Government to ratify without delay relevant International Labour Organization Conventions against forced labour and exploitation, especially the recent ILO Convention on Decent Work for Domestic Workers.

“I want to reinforce the call made during the Universal Periodic Review of Seychelles at the Human Rights Council in Geneva urging the government to adopt and implement measures to protect women and children from domestic violence, sexual exploitation and trafficking in persons,” the expert added.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

#### Canadian miners take another look at Africa

GEOFFREY YORK and CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA/The Globe and Mail/Feb. 03 2014

Just days into his post-political career, former Quebec premier Jean Charest took on one of his first and toughest assignments: flying into Senegal to negotiate a complex deal for a Canadian mining company, even as war was raging in neighbouring Mali.

It was a good introduction to the risks and rewards of Africa’s mining industry, and it helped preserve a \$500-million gold project. A year later, Mr. Charest is increasingly bullish on African business, attending investment conferences in Abidjan and Cape Town over the past few days.

Some investors might be less keen on the risky African frontier, especially after a gloomy year globally for the mining industry in 2013, and the launch of a damaging strike by 70,000 platinum workers in South Africa last month.

The platinum strike continued on Monday as investors gathered for the Mining Indaba, the biggest annual African mining conference. But people such as Mr. Charest were looking beyond the labour unrest and seeing huge potential across the continent.

“The Africa question is certainly on the minds of a lot of Canadian mining companies,” said Mr.

Charest, who is handing out his business card as a partner at Bay Street law firm McCarthy Tétrault these days.

“Africa is perceived as a continent with a lot of opportunities, and it’s opening up,” he said in an interview on the sidelines of the Mining Indaba.

“More than ever before, they see more of the opportunities than the risks. For Canadian companies, if they’re not in Africa, they’re probably asking themselves, ‘are we missing something, should we not be there, and where are the best places to go?’”

West Africa, rather than strike-plagued South Africa, is the favourite target for Canadian miners.

“If you look at West Africa, there have been no strikes, and you have all the Canadian companies operating there,” said Benoit La Salle, chairman of the Canadian Council on Africa and a 20-year veteran of African mining.

“You have people who want to work, you can sign a two-year or three-year labour agreement, you can get permits fairly quickly, and it’s completely under-explored.”

Canadian mining companies, with their large numbers of bilingual employees, are well-positioned to work in the francophone countries of West Africa. Countries such as Senegal are “completely untapped,” said Andrew Bradbury, manager of corporate development at Toronto-based Teranga Gold Corp., which owns the \$500-million mine in Senegal – the only modern gold mine in the country.

Investor interest is growing. Compared to last year, the Canadian Council on Africa has twice as many members attending the Mining Indaba this year, Mr. La Salle said. “I know people who are here this year for the first time. They used to work in Canada, and now they want to work in Africa, because this is where it’s happening. We’ve been telling people, and now they’re starting to come in.”

Canada was among the three biggest sources of acquisition deals in the African mining sector last year, according to a report by Ernst & Young released on Monday.

Coups and wars are still an occasional threat in West Africa, but most companies are undeterred. Sama Resources Inc., based in Montreal, has invested \$14-million in exploration in Ivory Coast since 2009, even during the peak of military clashes in 2010 and 2011 that wreaked havoc on the country. Two Canadian-owned gold mines have also begun production in Ivory Coast.

“We’re probably the only company that didn’t shut for a single day during the crisis,” said Marc-Antoine Audet, president of Sama Resources. “We drilled every day in the worst of the crisis.”

On average, mining explorers are spending less than \$5 per square kilometre in Africa, compared to \$65 per square kilometre in Canada, Australia and Latin America, according to South African Mineral Resources Minister Susan Shabangu.

“The mineral development potential of the African continent is unparalleled,” she told the Mining Indaba. “Africa remains grossly underexplored for its mineral potential.”

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

Paris estime la violence «en partie jugulée» en Centrafrique

Par Adrien Jaulmes/lefigaro.fr/le 04/02/2014

Les premiers succès de «Sangaris» sont une étape vers un apaisement, mais la mission est loin d'être terminée.

Le chef d'état-major des Armées est venu faire lundi l'une de ses dernières visites à l'opération «Sangaris» en Centrafrique, avant de quitter son poste ce mois-ci. L'amiral Édouard Guillaud a félicité les officiers et les soldats rassemblés sous l'un des hangars de l'aéroport M'Poko pour les résultats accomplis. «La violence a été en partie jugulée», a-t-il dit. «Bangui va mieux et nous sommes sur une pente positive... Le désarmement a commencé, tant pour les Anti-Balaka que pour la Séléka.» «Votre mission est difficile, sans doute l'une des plus complexes pour un soldat», a rappelé le patron des armées, qui a rendu hommage aux deux parachutistes du 8e RPIMa tombés au début de l'opération, Nicolas Vokaer et Antoine Le Quinio. «Il n'y a pas de ligne de front. Il ne s'agit pas de vaincre qui que ce soit, il n'y a pas d'ennemis déclarés. Vous devez opérer au milieu d'une population à la fois otage et actrice de la violence», a dit l'amiral Guillaud.

Deux mois après son déclenchement, le 5 décembre 2013, l'opération «Sangaris» a remporté un certain nombre de succès. Le principal est d'avoir mis fin au règne de l'ex-Séléka, dont la brutalité a été à l'origine de la crise. Les bandes armées qui s'étaient emparées d'un État en faillite en mars 2013 et qui mettaient depuis le pays en coupe réglée ont été forcées d'abandonner le pouvoir fictif qu'elles avaient créé. Leur gouvernement de façade a été démantelé avec la démission forcée du président Michel Djotodia, et remplacé par un nouveau chef d'État de transition, Catherine Samba-Panza.

D'abord cantonnées dans leurs casernes, les milices de l'ex-Séléka ont été progressivement évacuées du centre de Bangui et des villes du sud-ouest et de l'ouest où elles régnaient en prédatrices sur une population traumatisée. La capacité de nuisance de ces troupes a été considérablement amoindrie. Mais beaucoup restent armées dans Bangui, et d'autres se sont repliées vers le nord-est avec leur armement comme ce week-end à Sibut, ville libérée par l'armée française.

Un niveau de haine sous-estimé

Le plan français a en revanche été dès le début perturbé par l'action des Anti-Balaka, ces milices paysannes créées en réaction aux exactions de l'ex-Séléka. Leur offensive contre Bangui le 5 décembre, douze heures avant le vote de la résolution de l'ONU, a pris de court militaires et diplomates. En une journée, la répression des ex-Séléka qui s'en est suivie a fait plus de 1000 morts à Bangui, et déplacé plus de 480.000 personnes, changeant la situation avant même le début de «Sangaris». Au lieu de se déployer dans les provinces, les troupes françaises ont dû se concentrer sur Bangui.

Les planificateurs, politiques et militaires, ont aussi sous-estimé le niveau de haine interconfessionnelle créé par la brutalité de la Séléka. Le casernement forcé de ses miliciens a donné le signal de la vengeance pour une partie de la population, exaspérée par des mois de brutalités et de meurtres. Les pillards se sont livrés à des chasses à l'homme contre les musulmans en général, étrangers ou centrafricains associés à tort ou à raison avec les Séléka. Manquant

initialement de moyens de maintien de l'ordre, souvent dépassés par des violences qui se déroulent dans le dédale des ruelles, les troupes de «Sangaris» et de la Misca ont empêché en partie ces exactions. Mais celles qui ont eu lieu, meurtres atroces de civils musulmans sur les carrefours, et représailles des milices d'autodéfense musulmanes bien armées et renforcées par des éléments de l'ex-Séléka, ont été suffisantes pour alimenter la haine et les vengeances.

Le désarmement, initialement prévu pour empêcher des groupes armés plus ou moins organisés comme l'ex-Séléka de se livrer à des massacres, est soudain devenu inopérant. Une grande partie des meurtres de musulmans sont perpétrés avec des couteaux de cuisine ou des machettes. En province, la fin du régime de l'ex-Séléka a aussi précipité les exactions de part et d'autre. L'exode massif des musulmans de Bangui a jeté sur les routes du nord et du nord-est des convois qui se sont comportés comme des colonnes infernales, tuant et pillant sur la route de leur retraite. Des groupes armés d'éleveurs peuls et d'ex-Séléka se livrent à des représailles aveugles dans les campagnes.

Parallèlement, dans les villes de province, les Anti-Balaka sont passés à l'attaque, forçant les musulmans à fuir ou à se réfugier où ils le pouvaient, parfois même dans des églises, comme à Boali. Et même si l'exode des musulmans de Bangui a contribué à mettre fin en partie aux violences, faisant disparaître plusieurs zones de contacts entre communautés, des affrontements continuent à se livrer en plein jour entre milices musulmanes armées et Anti-Balaka aux abords des quartiers où elles sont retranchées, comme dans le quartier de Miskine. Tous ces foyers de violence indiquent que les premiers succès de «Sangaris» ne constituent qu'une étape vers un apaisement, et que la mission est loin d'être terminée.

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

**Still right to be optimistic on emerging economies**

Nouriel Roubini/afr.com/03/02/2014

The financial turmoil that hit emerging-market economies last (northern) spring, following the US Federal Reserve's "taper tantrum" over its quantitative easing (QE) policy, has returned with a vengeance.

This time, the trigger was a confluence of several events: a currency crisis in Argentina, where the authorities stopped intervening in the forex markets to prevent the loss of foreign reserves; weaker economic data from China; and persistent political uncertainty and unrest in Turkey, Ukraine and Thailand.

This mini perfect storm in emerging markets was soon transmitted, via international investors' risk aversion, to advanced economies' stockmarkets.

But the immediate trigger for these pressures should not be confused with their deeper causes: many emerging markets are in real trouble.

The list includes India, Indonesia, Brazil, Turkey, and South Africa – dubbed the Fragile Five, because all have twin fiscal and current-account deficits, falling growth rates, above-target inflation, and political uncertainty from coming legislative and/or presidential elections this year. But five other significant countries – Argentina, Venezuela, Ukraine, Hungary, and Thailand – are also vulnerable. Political and/or electoral risk can be found in all of them, loose fiscal policy in many of them, and rising external imbalances and sovereign risk in some of them.

The overhyped BRICS

Then there are the overhyped BRICS countries, now falling back to reality. Three of them (Brazil, Russia, and South Africa) will grow more slowly than the United States this year, with real (inflation-adjusted) GDP rising at less than 2.5 per cent, while the economies of the other two (China and India) are slowing sharply. Indeed, Brazil, India, and South Africa are members of the Fragile Five, and demographic decline in China and Russia will undermine both countries' potential growth.

The largest of the BRICS, China, faces additional risk stemming from a credit-fuelled investment boom, with excessive borrowing by local governments, state-owned enterprises and real-estate firms severely weakening the asset portfolios of banks and shadow banks. Most credit bubbles this large have ended up causing a hard economic landing, and China's economy is unlikely to escape unscathed, particularly as reforms to rebalance growth from high savings and fixed investment to private consumption are likely to be implemented too slowly, given the powerful interests aligned against them.

Moreover, the deep causes of last year's turmoil in emerging markets have not disappeared. For starters, the risk of a hard landing in China poses a serious threat to emerging Asia, commodity exporters around the world, and even advanced economies.

At the same time, the Fed's tapering of its long-term asset purchases has begun in earnest, with interest rates set to rise. As a result, the capital that flowed to emerging markets in the years of high liquidity and low yields in advanced economies is now fleeing many countries where easy money caused fiscal, monetary and credit policies to become too lax.

Another deep cause of current volatility is that the commodity supercycle is over. This is not just because China is slowing; years of high prices have led to investment in new capacity and an increase in the supply of many commodities.

Meanwhile, emerging-market commodity exporters failed to take advantage of the windfall and implement market-oriented structural reforms in the last decade; on the contrary, many of them embraced state capitalism, giving too large a role to state-owned enterprises and banks. Chinese growth is unlikely to accelerate

These risks will not wane any time soon. Chinese growth is unlikely to accelerate and lift commodity prices; the Fed has increased the pace of its QE tapering; structural reforms are not likely until after elections; and incumbent governments have been similarly wary of the growth-depressing effects of tightening fiscal, monetary and credit policies.

Indeed, the failure of many emerging-market governments to tighten macroeconomic policy sufficiently has led to another round of currency depreciation, which risks feeding into higher

inflation and jeopardising these countries' ability to finance twin fiscal and external deficits.

Nonetheless, the threat of a full-fledged currency, sovereign-debt and banking crisis remains low, even in the Fragile Five of India, Indonesia, Brazil, Turkey and South Africa, for several reasons. All have flexible exchange rates, a large war chest of reserves to shield against a run on their currencies and banks, and fewer currency mismatches (for example, heavy foreign-currency borrowing to finance investment in local-currency assets). Many also have sounder banking systems, while their public and private debt ratios, though rising, are still low, with little risk of insolvency.

Over time, optimism about emerging markets is probably correct. Many have sound macroeconomic, financial and policy fundamentals. Moreover, some of the medium-term fundamentals for most emerging markets, including the fragile ones, remain strong: urbanisation, industrialisation, catch-up growth from low per-capita income, a demographic dividend, the emergence of a more stable middle class, the rise of a consumer society, and the opportunities for faster output gains once structural reforms are implemented.

So it is not fair to lump all emerging markets into one basket; differentiation is needed. But the short-run policy tradeoffs that many of these countries face – damned if they tighten monetary and fiscal policy fast enough, and damned if they do not – remain ugly. The external risks and internal macroeconomic and structural vulnerabilities that they face will continue to cloud their immediate outlook.

The next year or two will be a bumpy ride for many emerging markets, before more stable and market-oriented governments implement sounder policies.