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BURUNDI :

**Le Burundi suspend les activités d'un parti d'opposition**

par RFI /17-03-2014

Au Burundi, les condamnations et autres appels à la modération lancés par la communauté internationale n'y ont rien fait. Après les violents affrontements entre les militants d'un parti d'opposition et la police, qui a tiré contre les manifestants, l'heure semble être à la répression.

Le gouvernement burundais vient de franchir, durant le week-end du 15 mars, un palier supplémentaire dans la voie de la répression. Le ministre burundais de l'Intérieur Edouard Nduwimana a en effet suspendu le Mouvement pour la solidarité et la démocratie (MSD) d'activités pour quatre mois et ferme ses locaux sur toute l'étendue du pays.

Ce parti d'opposition, encore sonné par les coups de boutoir qu'il vient de recevoir, a décidé de plier pour ne pas donner « un prétexte à des mesures encore plus contraignantes ». Et sur un ton sarcastique, François Nyamoya, porte-parole du MSD ajoute que « de toute façon, on était déjà suspendu de facto, car le pouvoir nous interdit systématiquement de manifester et même de tenir de simples réunions depuis des mois ».

Société civiles et médias dans le viseur du pouvoir

Le MSD est donc dans la tourmente, comme de nombreux autres partis d'opposition du Burundi.

Son président Alexis Sinduhije est en fuite. Il est poursuivi pour insurrection, avec plus de 70 de ses militants aujourd'hui en prison. Un crime passible de la perpétuité dans ce pays.

Mais il n'y pas que l'opposition politique à être dans le viseur du pouvoir burundais. Le Conseil national de sécurité s'est réuni vendredi et s'en est pris violemment aux stations privées du Burundi - surtout la Radio publique africaine (RPA) -, et à certains activistes de la société civile, coupables à ses yeux de pactiser avec l'ennemi.

RWANDA :

#### South Africa: SA Clarifies Developments in SA, Rwanda Relations

16 March 2014/SAnews.gov.za (Tshwane)

Government says there have been sustained and organised efforts to kill some of the Rwandan refugees living in South Africa.

"It is clear that these incidents directly link to tensions emanating from Rwanda and are acted upon within our borders," said spokesperson for the Department of International Relations and Cooperation Clayson Monyela on Saturday.

In June 2010, there was an attack on the life of General Kayumba Nyamwasa, an asylum seeker and former Rwanda Army General. There was another attack on General Nyamwasa on 4 March. There was also an incident that led to the murder of the former Rwanda Intelligence Chief, Colonel Patrick Karegyeya, on 31 December 2013.

Pretoria expelled four diplomats from Rwanda and one from Burundi regarding the attacks on South African soil.

Monyela explained that as part of the continued monitoring of the security situation in the country, government had established that there were organised criminal networks whose activities sought to undermine national security. "These have been coordinated and facilitated by some individuals who abused their diplomatic and refugee status granted in terms of international laws and protocols. It is for these reasons that South Africa expelled four Rwandan diplomats and one from Burundi for violating their status."

Monyela said the action was targeted only those who violated the Vienna Convention, Article 41 and South Africa's Diplomatic Immunities and Privileges Act.

He said government regretted that the Rwandan government reciprocated disproportionately by expelling all South African diplomats except for the Ambassador.

This has made the work of the South African mission in Rwanda difficult as it cannot discharge its services.

The Ambassador of Rwanda, the Military Attache and other functionaries in the Rwanda Diplomatic Mission in Pretoria are in place and functioning normally.

"The South African government sends a stern warning that action will be taken against any individual or group that abuses the human rights dispensation of the Republic. In doing so, we

remain steadfast in ensuring that our territory is not used as a launching pad for any form of attack including terrorist activities against any member of the international community," said Monyela.

He added that government would continue to act against those who abused relations and diplomatic immunities and privileges.

South Africa appreciated the understanding and cooperation received from the Government of Burundi and was committed to sustaining the collaboration with a view to get to the bottom of the matter.

Monyela assured South Africa that the stability of the state would be paramount in efforts aimed at ensuring that people are and do feel safe.

— [Sanews.gov.za](http://Sanews.gov.za)

### UN refused to take charge of M23 combatants – says Rwanda envoy

Mon, Mar 17th, 2014/newsofrwanda.com

Full statement by Permanent Representative to the UN, Eugene Richard Gasana, at the UN Security Council briefing on Monusco/PSC Framework 14 March 2014

Thank you Madame President. I thank SRSG Kobler and SESG Robinson for taking the time to brief us today on the reports of the Secretary-General and ahead of MONUSCO's mandate renewal.

As the Secretary General report highlights, despite the positive developments of late last year, it is clear that the momentum has slowed, with limited progress on both the political and the military fronts. We are looking at a volatile security situation in not only the East but throughout the country. "Negative forces" are still at rampage; killing and maiming, raping young girls and women, recruiting children and causing thousands of displacements of civilians. The seriousness and scale of killings and violations that continue in Katanga and in areas formerly occupied by M23 in North Kivu are deeply troubling. A major reason for this is the prevalent culture of impunity that continues throughout the country. All perpetrators, whether from the FARDC, which has committed 18 % of crimes reported in 2013, or any other armed group, must be brought to justice and held accountable for their crimes.

There is no doubt, no doubt, that the next few months will be critical and we need to take a serious look at how Resolution 2098 is being implemented especially in the neutralization of negative armed groups; in the consolidation of the peace process, and in the protection of civilians in liberated areas. We welcome the reports presented by briefers on some members of some armed groups that have peacefully surrendered and indeed we applaud FARDC supported by MONUSCO for attacking and destroying a number of ADF camps. The resumption of the Minova trial is another positive development and we look forward to a conclusive prosecution that can set a precedent for future cases. The recently promulgated Amnesty law as per Nairobi agreement is also positive step in national reconciliation but one that will require measurable actions. We urge MONUSCO and international community to closely monitor its implementation.

Madam President,

However, these positive developments should not obscure the fact that one of the oldest armed groups remains at large. As always for the past 20 years, the problem that we have is the posture of the DRC government and the UN peacekeepers "currently MONUSCO" towards the threat posed

by FDLR genocidal forces responsible for the genocide against the Tutsi. Throughout the last quarter of 2013 we were told that FDLR are next on the list of negative forces to be eliminated; what happens from when the promise is made to the next briefing, no one knows, no accountability... At our last meeting on MONUSCO, the military operation plan presented to the Security Council was that FARDC was to go after ADF, they did it. Following that, we were told that MONUSCO was to put their resources against FDLR. Nothing happened! Only a week or two before this briefing, do we hear in the news that there was a military operation against FDLR. This threat of FDLR persists despite the mandate of MONUSCO, which was given extra offensive capabilities after the deployment of the Intervention Brigade and the lack of MONUSCO to commit to fighting this force remains evident.

Once again, It is high time we see a change of attitude of the DRC Government towards the FDLR; Rwanda has for several years expressed legitimate concerns with the lack of political will of the Government of DRC to tackle the threat of FDLR. Various UNSC reports have detailed evidence of all kinds of support given to FDLR by DRC and Rwanda has even provided more.

The continuous excuses given by MONUSCO again and again when it comes to conducting military operations against FDLR, is kind of disturbing. When it is not excuses of lack of intelligence, (and which Rwanda did share with MONUSCO), it is engaged in propaganda operations to hoodwink the UNSC about military operations with FARDC against FDLR. On 09 Mar 14, MONUSCO/FIB jointly with FARDC raided FDLR illegal roadblock along Karengera – Tongo road. Reliable information reveals that Col Ramadhan, acting FARDC commander of the 8th Military Region, leaked information of the impending FIB attack on FDLR, hence undermining this operation.

It is not only Rwanda expressing frustration over inaction against negative forces; the countries of the region, under ICGLR have expressed frustration by lack of political will by MONUSCO to address the threats of armed groups in the Great Lakes region. Eastern DRC has been host to domestic and foreign armed groups particularly M23, FDLR and ADF-NALU. As a result, ICGLR came up with detailed mechanisms to address the situation, including political and military measures. Some of these mechanisms have been taken over by UN, including Intervention Brigade under MONUSCO and yet the major threat posed by FDLR has not been tackled. This was again subject of ICGLR Heads of State Summit in Luanda, Angola on 15th January 2014, where the Chiefs of Defence Staff of Angola, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Uganda and South Africa were again tasked to assess the situation and come up with new mechanisms of eradicating FDLR.

On the FDLR Current Situation; Let me briefly share with you some updates on the FDLR activities. The FDLR strength is estimated to 3,640 with infantry integral weapons. This strength is likely to increase due to ongoing recruitment and training. Currently, FDLR is engaged in the following activities:

Enhancing collaboration with FARDC especially at operation level. This has enabled FDLR to refit, re-arm, share intelligence, have freedom of action and free passage for infiltration and terror attacks in Rwanda. Since July 2013 to date, 42 FDLR infiltrators/terror elements have been arrested and undergoing prosecution in Rwandan courts;

Mobilization, recruitment, training and establishment of terror networks in Rwanda. These activities are facilitated by provision of safe passage and logistics by FARDC;

The recent claim by MONUSCO that FDLR is located in populated areas is a sheer lie; instead the outfit has most of its forward units in Virunga National Park in North Kivu Province. It also

maintains its dispositions in unpopulated areas of Mwenga and Uvira Territories in South Kivu; and

On Illegal mining and taxation in eastern DRC to sustain the war effort.

Madam President,

I would like to discuss a different issue of M23 Ex-Combatants; while the SG report suggests that consultations on the unresolved issue of these ex- combatants in Rwanda are ongoing; we remind this Council that these combatants have been in Rwanda since March 2013. It is almost a year. The Government of Rwanda has done everything required by international law to contain this group, including relocating them to Ngoma District in Eastern Province approximately 250 Km from the DRC border, but despite our repeated calls for international community to take over responsibility, not much has been done. There were some contacts that were initiated in December but its really not that much.

On the report of the PSC Framework, I will not dwell much on that since the implementation of the PSCA will be discussed on 27th of this month in Nairobi.

To conclude, as we have said previously, next month marks the 20th commemoration of the genocide against the Tutsi and there could be no greater symbol of justice for its victims than the defeat and eradication of FDLR, a virulent genocidal force that has been allowed to terrorize the region for the past two decades.

I thank you Madame President

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

**Pope Francis not coming to Uganda**

Sunday, 16 March 2014 /codewit.com

The much awaited visit by Pope Francis to Uganda this year has been postponed with the Pontiff confirming he is unable make the trip.

Subsequently, the celebrations of the 50 years of the Canonisation of the Uganda Martyr's which the Pope had been officially invited to preside over on October 18, has also been postponed.

"The Holy Father did receive our invitation and was very appreciative," said a statement signed by Gulu Archbishop John Baptist Odama, who chairs the Episcopal Conference.

"However, due to prior commitments, he is unable to visit Uganda this year. We have, therefore, decided to postpone the national celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Canonisation of our Martyrs until further notice. We hope and pray that the Pope's schedule allows him to visit us in the near future," he said on Friday.

Archbishop Odama, however, said this year's annual Uganda Martyr's Day celebrations will go on as usual, announcing that the Diocese of Kotido had been chosen to lead the celebrations.

Vatican spokesperson Fr Federico Lombard earlier confirmed the popular Pontiff is only considering an August trip to Asia and South Korea in particular, as the only planned papal voyage in 2014.

Pope Francis, who was elected to office on March 13 last year had been invited to Uganda to preside over the Golden Jubilee of the Canonisation of the Uganda Martyrs. The Uganda Martyrs were canonised by Pope Paul VI at the Vatican in 1964.

The Uganda Martyrs were a group of Christians (both Roman Catholics and Anglicans) who were murdered on the orders of Kabaka Mwanga II of Buganda, between 1885 and 1887. Twenty-two of the martyrs were Roman Catholics. Their feast day is June 3. Blessed Daudi Okele and Blessed Jildo Irwa are the other two Ugandan Catholic martyrs. They were martyred in Kitgum after the Comboni Missionaries set up a mission there in 1915.

The last Pope to visit Uganda was John Paul II, who prayed at Gulu and Soroti districts, as well as Nakivubo Stadium and the Namugongo Martyrs shrine in March 1993. His predecessor, Pope Paul VI, had visited Uganda in August 1969.

Uganda martyrs

1. Achileo Kiwanuka
2. Adolphus Ludigo-Mukasa
3. Ambrosius Kibuuka
4. Anatoli Kiriggwajjo
5. Andrew Kaggwa
6. Antanansio Bazzekuketta
7. Bruno Sserunkuuma
8. Charles Lwanga
9. Denis Ssebuggwawo Wasswa
10. Gonzaga Gonza
11. Gyavira Musoke
12. James Buuzaabalyaawo
13. John Maria Muzeeyi
14. Joseph Mukasa Balikuddembe
15. Kizito
16. Lukka Baanabakintu
17. Matiya Mulumba
18. Mbagu Tuzinde
19. Mugagga Lubowa
20. Mukasa Kiriwawanvu
21. Nowa Mawaggali
22. Ponsiano Ngondwe

Archbishop says

We, the Catholic Bishops of Uganda, would like to inform our Christians and indeed all people of goodwill that in September 2013, we sent an invitation to His Holiness Pope Francis to visit Uganda and preside over the Golden Jubilee celebration of the Canonisation of the Uganda Martyrs, scheduled for 18th October 2014. The Holy Father did receive our invitation and was very appreciative.

However, due to prior commitments, he is unable to visit Uganda this year. We have, therefore, decided to postpone the national celebration of the Golden Jubilee of the Canonisation of our

Martyrs until further notice. We hope and pray that the Pope's schedule allows him to visit us in the near future.

We would also like to take this opportunity to announce that this year's Uganda Martyrs Day (June 3) will be celebrated as usual and will be animated by Kotido Diocese.

We wish you a spiritually enriching Lenten Season and God's abundant blessings.

On behalf of the Catholic Bishops of Uganda,

John Baptist Odama

Archbishop of Gulu and Chairman of Uganda Episcopal Conference

Kampala, March 14, 2014

### **Minister Oryem hails Irish aid to Uganda**

Date: Mar 17, 2014/By Raymond Baguma/newvision.co.ug

KAMPALA - The state minister for foreign affairs Henry Okello-Oryem has hailed Ireland for supporting implementation of management and accountability reforms in Uganda's public sector.

He was on speaking at celebrations to mark St. Patrick's Day and 20 years of Irish Aid in Uganda on Thursday. A reception was hosted at the Irish ambassador's residence in Kololo.

Present were diplomats resident in Kampala, the Irish community in Uganda and government officials.

"Irish aid has been instrumental in supporting the strengthening of public sector management and accountability, with an emphasis on decentralization, the rollout of public sector reform, and enhanced public financial management," said Oryem.

He added: "We wish to applaud your support to the private sector through Traidlinks which has facilitated the development of a number of Ugandan companies to export their products to other countries.

"And through your support of the justice, law and order sector, Irish Aid has provided an environment conducive to investment, growth and wealth creation."

He also recognized the support of Irish teachers, nurses and doctors working in various instructions and Irish organizations working to improve governance, the plight of HIV/AIDS victims and educate our children.

During the reception, there was an exhibition of the Irish Aid programmes in Karamoja which has over the last decade received a big percentage of funding from Ireland.

He also hailed Ireland for its participation through the European Union (EU) which has ensured the rule of law and peace and stability in the great lakes region of Africa.

"Uganda will continue to offer a secure environment and good economic policies to ensure that investors in Uganda are able to get good returns for their investment as well as provide employment opportunities to our people in addition to promotion of cultural exchanges," said Oryem.

Donal Cronin, the chargé d'Affaires at the Irish Embassy in Kampala said that this year 2014, the embassy will mark 20 years in Uganda.

“When we established in 1994, we had much to build on of course, such as the work of our fantastic missionaries, like Mother Kevin who arrived way back in 1903, and Irish NGOs such as Concern, Goal and Trócaire who arrived during some of Uganda’s darkest days and are still here today.

He said that Ireland invests in the development of Karamoja region by investing in education, social protection, and HIV/AIDS prevention.

“We believe strongly in the promotion and protection of human rights for everyone, working hard to increase access to justice and to prevent the scourge of Gender Based Violence in Karamoja, and elsewhere,” said Cronin.

### Uganda: Mbabazi, Besigye, Tinyefuza Intelligence Reports Claim They Are Jointly Plotting Against Museveni

By Haggai Matsiko/The Independent (Kampala)/15 March 2014

Plotting to forcefully remove President Yoweri Museveni? Prime Minister Amama Mbabazi denies it, Kizza Besigye says it remains an option, and Gen. David Sejusa aka Tinyefuza says it the only way to remove Museveni from power. But does what they say publicly really describe whether or not these three once powerful men within Museveni's government are now plotting to remove him? Are they in fact working together to forcefully remove Museveni?

Alternatively, are intelligence reports given to Museveni on which those allegations are based to be trusted?

In one such report, it alleged that in April 2013 police got intelligence that Prime Minister Mbabazi had connections with a group of government officials that were plotting to topple President Museveni.

The officials, who allegedly included Sejusa were allegedly planning to take over the government by first capturing the capital Kampala, had been infiltrated by police informants.

It was on the basis of these reports that the police chief, Gen. Kale Kayihura swung into action against Sejusa in April 2013 leading to the flight into exile in London of the former army MP, Senior Presidential advisor and coordinator of military intelligence.

The Independent has learnt the police also got intelligence that Mbabazi was part of a group that wanted to first challenge Museveni for the leadership of the NRM at the party delegates' conference. They believe Mbabazi would defeat Museveni in an open election and was telling his supporters to fight to ensure that Museveni does not return as party flag-bearer in 2016.

However, if Museveni insisted to contest in 2016, they would join hands with the opposition and wrestle him out of power.

Mbabazi's wife, Jacqueline, was busy mobilising on the ground and was in touch with the opposition.

In one instance, the intelligence reveals, Mbabazi's wife had a meeting with former FDC President Kizza Besigye on an airplane. The report claims Mbabazi had sent Jacqueline but Besigye had declined to meet in Uganda.

Mbabazi, who allegedly had moles in police that were spying on Gen. Kayihura had also asked



some of the informants to investigate some people and know which camps they were in.

According to the intelligence, some of which The Independent has seen, while Jacqueline was a sworn enemy of Gen. Kayihura, she had a good relationship with some top commanders in the Kampala Metropolitan area.

Mbabazi, the intelligence showed, had rich connections in the Dubai and that although the government had confiscated his bank; the National Bank of Commerce, the money was now flowing to Mbabazi through these businesses.

A top city businessman of Somali-origin, the intelligence shows, is the alleged conduit of Mbabazi's cash. In most of this man's businesses which run lucrative contracts in the ministry of Defence, Mbabazi allegedly has a stake.

These and more intelligence reports are what Museveni and his top confidants, in and outside the official organs of the ruling party are constantly meeting over. Their main concern is how to deal with Mbabazi who remains the Prime Minister and NRM Secretary General.

Encircling Mbabazi:

Although it has for years been fashionable for Museveni's opponents to proclaim their adherence to the democratic agenda and not resort to force, the tone has recently shifted as Museveni into his 29th in power.

Gen. Sejusa in October 2013 announced that he is building an alliance of anti-Museveni forces to remove Museveni from power by use of arms.

"No one should imagine that Museveni will be removed through elections," Sejusa said at the launch of his Freedom and Unity Front (FUF) organisation in London.

But even formerly non-militarists like leader of the Democratic Party (DP) Norbert Mao and the former president of the Forum for Democratic Change (FDC), Col. Kizza Besigye, say using military force to remove Museveni is now an option if all else fails.

It remains unclear if Mbabazi is in with the plotters. This is mainly because denial is the first defense.

When The Independent first published articles about the rift between Museveni and Mbabazi (See "Battle for 2016: An inside account of the war between Museveni and Mbabazi" - The Independent Dec. 6), there were denials all round.

But The Independent's reporting was spot-on and MPs resolved that Mbabazi's wife Jacqueline and his sister-in-law, Hope Mwesige who were leading the so-called "Mbabazi 2016 election taskforce" be arraigned before the party's disciplinary committee.

Therefore, although Mbabazi who is renowned for his debonair calmness continues to proclaim his innocence, the allegations have sullied his relationship with Museveni and ensured he remains a lame duck prime minister with office but no power.

Mbabazi told The Independent: " I will not stand against President Museveni, If you want me to repeat it; I will not stand against President Museveni."

Despite such avowals of loyalty, Museveni keeps whipping Mbabazi and applying soothing balm at the same time.

In an interesting incident on March 6, Museveni sought to officially set himself up as Mbabazi's sole defender when he had unleashed an army of his young MPs against Mbabazi at a party caucus at State House Entebbe on March 4.

Observers familiar with Museveni's modus operandi say that was clearly sign that Museveni now feels he has extinguished any threat he feared from Mbabazi. Museveni, they say, favours the cow-horn battle formation which leaves the enemy hopelessly encircled.

They point of how Museveni let former Vice President Gilbert Bukenya languish in jail in Luzira Maximum Security Prison before stepping in to rescue him. The Entebbe meeting was the third time Museveni was squeezing political life out of Mbabazi. The first was at the Kyankwanzi retreat on Feb.8.

Museveni had previously invited Mbabazi and his wife Jacqueline Mbabazi, who leads the party Women's League, and confronted them with his alleged evidence of their plot against him. The evidence was mainly excerpts of recordings of Jacqueline telling various party officials that Museveni "has run out of ideas" and "promises air".

Mbabazi swore he was not aware of his wife's activities but Jacqueline, who is renowned for talking straight stood by her actions. She accused Museveni of betrayal for letting a group of young MPs move a motion at the Kyanwazi retreat that endorsed Museveni and humiliated her husband. Finally, at the Entebbe caucus meeting, Museveni presented the same evidence against, Jacqueline, and Hope Mwesigye.

Criminal activities:

Museveni categorised his concerns with Mbabazi in three elements; political, ideological, and criminal. The Mbabazis were exhibiting ideological bankruptcy by mobilising against him with bribes of money and promises of pay for support, Museveni told the caucus.

Museveni told the caucus that he agreed with Mbabazi and his wife to cease these activities and find ways to solve the divisions created. But he said he was shocked when he returned from a trip in Kinshasa and found that the activities had not stopped. When he read the transcripts implicating Mrs Mbabazi, it was as if he had thrown a stone in a beehive.

Museveni's young radicals acted like they wanted to tear Mbabazi into pieces and Museveni, once again, had to step in to protect him. A mob of MPs, one source said about 70 of them, had their hands in the air. They shouted and accused President Museveni of treating Mbabazi with kid gloves. "What type of husband are you if you have no control over your wife," MP Rosemary Najemba, reportedly shouted at Mbabazi, "You are an embarrassment."

Mbabazi who is known for his composure even in the midst of the worst political times, for the first time seemed overwhelmed, people who attended that meeting told The Independent. "He was sweating, wiped his face severally and even attempted to run away from the meeting," a source said.

Museveni, however, initially asked Mbabazi not to leave but eventually let him to leave and postponed the meeting until the next day.

Museveni has to tread cautiously with Mbabazi because he cannot legally remove him from his

powerful position of SG. Only the party National Delegates Conference has that mandate. Even the decision by the caucus to have the Minister of State with Portfolio, Richard Todwong, takeover the SG's mobilisation docket is hollow.

Todwong has held that job since 2011 but Mbabazi and other fat cats at the NRM secretariat have ensured he remains a figurehead. It is unlikely, that will change unless Mbabazi is physically removed from Kyadondo Road. Description of his activities as "criminal" could be a sign that Mbabazi could end up in jail.

Museveni, The Independent has learnt, has been working on dealing with Mbabazi since the NRM primaries in 2010. Up to this point, Mbabazi had appeared content with deriving his power from being considered Museveni loyal right-hand man.

Source of Mbabazi's power:

Sources close to him say the Temangalo scandal in 2008, where Mbabazi was almost censured for selling land to NSSF in a deal deemed dubious, he reportedly realised Museveni would not always defend him.

For a man, who has had his eyes on the Presidency for a long time, he realised he would require a huge financial war chest. Through his wife, he aggressively got involved in business. Even as Security Minister, Mbabazi was very powerful. He ran most of Museveni's errands. Museveni ceded international deals to him.

He also ran the party. By the 2010 NRM Secretary General elections, it was clear Mbabazi had a steady flow of personal cash. Mrs Mbabazi was at the heart of the campaign and spent handsomely too.

Mbabazi garnered over 6000 delegates' votes while his nearest rival, Kahinda Otafire could barely make 1,500. Others in the race, like ex-Vice President Bukenya managed only a few hundred votes. Museveni took note.

Insiders believe that Museveni appointed Mbabazi prime minister in a bid to undercut his influence in the NRM. Museveni had hoped Mbabazi would relinquish the party SG post. He did not.

Instead, with the SG post under their belt again, this time legitimately, the Mbabazis moved to solidify their hold on power. When he was handed the premiership in 2011, they became unstoppable. As Mbabazi traversed the globe, from Israel, Dubai, to China, his wife infiltrated the NRM structures even more. Mrs Mbabazi embraced its youthful leaders like Denis Namara, who she has been grooming to take on Barnabas Tinkasimire in Buyaga West.

Namara, a young lawyer, chairs the party's youth league and is the Presidential Advisor on Youth Affairs. Mrs Mbabazi was behind Namara's bid for a post in the East African Legislative assembly in 2012 and was in charge of his recent wedding. Museveni attended the wedding but it is Mbabazi who attracted the most applause when he arrived.

She would follow through on the connections Mbabazi was making abroad whenever Mbabazi was busy at home. This is how the Mbabazis got the Chinese under their belt. When noises to have Mbabazi replaced as SG in 2012 grew, the Mbabazis worked even harder to cling on. With enough money, Mbabazi started seriously considering a shot at the presidency, insiders say.

But his cautious approach did not impress his wife. She invoked a promise Museveni had reportedly

made to Mbabazi that he would step aside and let him run in 2016. Her zeal also got fuelled by the bad blood between hers and the First Family.

Kayihura's growing power:

Museveni started spying on his prime minister through Gen. Kayihura, and other confidants. The spies got hold of recordings of Mbabazi's wife activities and also interrogated Mbabazi's supporters.

In one of the briefs Museveni received, Mbabazi is referred to as "India". This brief notes that Mbabazi was using the Women and Youth leagues to undermine Museveni. It also talks of how Mbabazi was amassing wealth through external connections.

When Museveni in July 2013 directed an inquiry into security agencies it was arranged as just another clean up exercise.

Headed by Security Minister, Muruli Mukasa, The Independent has learnt that it was designed to clip Mbabazi's influence in intelligence circles. Mbabazi has since 1986 headed and built a network in the Internal Security Agency (ISO), the External Security Agency (ESO), police and military. Mbabazi had used his position as Security Minister to deeply penetrate the country's political structure from as low as the Local Council One level.

While structures like Local Councils, Resident District Commissioners, Regional Internal Security Organisation (RISO), District Internal Security Officer (DISO) and the Gombolola Internal Security Officer (GISO) are government institutions, because of the fusion between the state and the NRM, these structures feed into the NRM.

RDCs, RISOs, DISOs, GISOs and LCs are essentially mobilising structures, intelligence gatherers and listening posts of the NRM. Mbabazi's outreach to these structures, partly explains how he was able to access intelligence on activities of fellow politicians and also his victory in the 2010 election for Secretary General of the NRM.

As much as Museveni was spying on him, it appears he realised Mbabazi was also spying on him. Museveni wanted to clip that. Museveni knew it because he had depended on Mbabazi for intelligence for a long time.

In 2012 Museveni based on intelligence provided by Mbabazi to warn the other intelligence honcho; Jim Muhwezi. Museveni said Muhwezi, Henry Tumukunde and Kahinda Otafiire, were fighting Mbabazi.

That same year, President Museveni during a Central Executive Committee (CEC) Meeting accused Otafiire of having originated the documents that appeared to implicate Mbabazi in bribes-for-oil contracts deals. Then Mbabazi gave Museveni a stack of intelligence claiming to implicate the Speaker of Parliament, Rebecca Kadaga, in a 2016 presidential bid.

Former Vice President, Gilbert Bukenya, Bukenya also told The Independent in 2011 that Mbabazi told Museveni in his presence that Bukenya was mobilising the Catholic faithful to overthrow the government. Bukenya would be dropped from Vice Presidency shortly after.

Museveni, in August 2013, personally wrote to John Muwanga, the Auditor General directing an inquiry into the classified expenditure of ESO. Museveni also directed that two of his trusted soldiers sit on the investigation.

In 2012, Museveni also asked Bank of Uganda Governor Tumusiime Mutebile to look into reports that Mbabazi's business partner and former co-owner of the National Bank of Commerce, Amos Nzeyi, was taking out about Shs8 billion out of the bank every month and depositing it abroad. Museveni feared it was for Mbabazi to use as war chest in 2016. Museveni also asked Kayihura to conduct parallel investigations.

Museveni also directed that all intelligence be centralised in police under Gen. Kayihura who these days makes all international intelligence correspondence. The biggest portion of the intelligence budget was also moved under Kayihura's control and the Criminal Investigations Department (CID) was expanded into the Criminal Investigations and Intelligence Department.

Today the key intelligence assignments do not go to the External Security Organisation (ESO) or the Internal Security Organisation (ISO). They are handled by Kayihura and his team. Mbabazi's blue-eyed boys, like ESO boss Robert Masolo, were kept on as figureheads.

The post of party SG has been the foundation of Mbabazi's clout. Even as ceremonial SG, Mbabazi has been at the centre of power. He sits in all the party top governing bodies. This gives him access and power to influence the distribution of power in the party. That is why he could not easily give up this post. Whether or not he is plotting with Besigye, Sejusa, and others, Mbabazi is definitely paying a heavy price for that decision.

Additional reporting By Joan Akello & Ian Katusiime

## SOUTH AFRICA :

### South Africa: We Can't Risk Zim-Like Collapse - ANC Boss

16 March 2014/allafrica.com

THE African National Congress (ANC) will not seize land from whites without paying compensation as this would likely trigger a Zimbabwe-like economic collapse, a top official told South Africans Sunday.

South Africans go to the polls on May 7 with President Jacob Zuma and his ruling ANC the front-runners.

However, corruption scandals, civil unrest over what protesters say is a lack of adequate government services and little progress over historic issues such as the land have affected the ANC's popularity.

Speaking in the Free State Sunday, as he campaigned before a church congregation, ANC secretary general, Gwede Mantashe, told voters not to be misled by the rival Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) party regarding the land issue.

Led by former ANC national youth chairman Julius Malema, the EFF has not hidden its admiration of the way in which Zimbabwe dealt with its land issue.

Mantashe however, reportedly warned that following the Zimbabwe example would destroy Africa's biggest economy.

"Look at Zimbabwe. It used to be the bread basket of Africa. Today it imports almost everything. The Zimbabwean dollar has disappeared. This economy will disappear if that is the example we want to follow," Mantashe was reported as saying by SAPA.

Angered by the refusal of former colonial power, Britain, to finance acquisition of land for redistribution to land-less blacks, President Robert Mugabe and his Zanu PF party unleashed veterans of the liberation struggle on the country's white commercial farming community.

What followed was a chaotic and often violent land reform programme critics blame for Zimbabwe's near-collapse of the country's agro-based economy which forced more than a million of the country's population to flee for greener pastures in neighbouring South Africa and several other countries abroad.

Mugabe however blames the economic problems on sanctions imposed by the West, at the behest of Britain he claims, to punish his administration for daring to force whites off the land.

Although agricultural productivity was affected by the haphazard manner of the reforms and droughts, the sector has since started to recover, led by tobacco production.

Donor agencies say more than two million people in rural Zimbabwe require food aid due to a poor harvest last year but the government has said a bumper harvest is expected this year.

Said Information minister Jonathan Moyo in a statement at the weekend: "Prospects of a bumper harvest are very high after (Finance Minister Patrick) Chinamasa successfully led the mobilisation of some \$180 million between October and November 2013 to support cropping and livestock production for the 2013 / 2014 season.

"This massive support that is equivalent to the trailblazing 1981 levels coincided with the opening up of the heavens last December whose heavy rainfall means that this is definitely a winning agricultural season in terms of food security and nutrition, a key cluster of Zim Asset."

#### Firearms expert testifies at Pistorius trial

The Associated Press/March 17, 2014

PRETORIA, South Africa — The manager of a South African gun training academy has said at Oscar Pistorius' murder trial that the athlete had "a great love and enthusiasm" for firearms.

Sean Patrick Rens testified on Monday that he met the double-amputee runner in 2012 and that Pistorius asked him to provide him with a revolver.

Rens is manager of the International Firearm Training Academy in Walkerville town. He says he had many conversations with Pistorius about guns.

Pistorius was charged with premeditated murder after fatally shooting his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp, on Feb. 14, 2013. He says he killed her by accident, mistaking her for an intruder in his home. Prosecutors say he killed her after an argument.

TANZANIA :

## **Tanzania gets \$28 million for anti-poaching**

Monday, March 17, 2014/busiweek.com

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania – The Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) has given Tanzania 11 surveillance vehicles to boost the anti-poaching campaign. The eleven vehicles are part of the Euro 20 million (\$27.77 million) set aside to help Tanzania's fight against poaching in the next five years.

FZS has committed to further support Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) and Wildlife Division (WD) with a new fleet of Land Rovers to expand surveillance and security in Serengeti National Park, Selous and Maswa Game Reserves.

Five of the vehicles will go to Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to be used in Serengeti National Parks, while six will go to the Wildlife Division, five of which will be used in Selous Game Reserve and one in Maswa Reserve.

The five vehicles for Serengeti will be provided by FZS as a contribution under the framework of the German Development Cooperation project implemented by KfW and GIZ.

The vehicles were handed over to President Jakaya Kikwete last week at the State House in Dar es Salaam by Africa Director for Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) Robert Muir on behalf of the German government.

"The handover of these vehicles symbolises the fruitful partnership between Frankfurt Zoological Society and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism," Muir said.

President Kikwete said: "As you are all aware, the number of elephants in Selous and Ruaha dropped from 74,416 in 2009 to 33,084 in 2013 due to poaching activities ... This is still alarming."

Kikwete said the government has scaled up the anti-poaching campaign, and the results have so far been promising. He also acknowledged the ongoing threats and will receive the donation of vehicles from Frankfurt Zoological Society.

He said through Operesheni Kipepeo and Operesheni Tokomeza and other interventions the government has uncovered criminal networks, arrested 2,085 poachers and their accomplices in the illegal ivory trade network.

"We have confiscated 1,721 weapons and several caches of arms used by poachers. It has been a hard-won success. We need to sustain the gain because the problem remains unsolved," he stressed.

He said the threat posed by poaching and illegal ivory trade to the world heritage and the country's economy is real.

By Leonard Magomba, Monday, March 17th, 2014

## **Tanzania discounts report on EPZ faults**

Sunday, March 16, 2014 /busiweek.com

DAR ES SALAAM, Tanzania - Dr. Aldehelm Meru, the Director General of the Tanzania Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA), has discounted a report that criticises Tanzania's export zone policy.

Commenting on the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report titled 'Investment Review of Tanzania' he said it lacked facts and was entirely based on personal views.

The report described Tanzania's EPZs as the largest loss makers. The authors claim some \$701 million had gone down the drain since EPZs were started in 2002.

The report also claimed that the zones had not lived up to expectations due to the government offering tax incentives to new enterprises. The authors say this has cost the government millions in tax revenue.

However, Dr Meru said, "A large number of our competitors offer similar incentives including tax holidays, if we resolve to abandon tax exemptions, Tanzania will not be competitive."

He named the countries that offer such incentives as the Phillipines, Ethiopia, Kenya, Burundi, Malaysia, Namibia, China, Rwanda and Nigeria where new investors were being offered similar incentives.

"Only 1% of the total FDI comes to Africa, of which 99% goes to South Africa Nigeria and Egypt, the rest of the countries fight for the remaining 1%. This justifies a need for being competitive," he said.

He said despite issuance of tax exemptions to new investors, the government still benefits through job creation and technology, all crucial for economic growth. "We are very open on tax incentives as we offer a 10 years tax incentives and 30% tax after the 10 years, while other countries like Kenya have a 10 years and 25% tax for the next 10 years and Rwanda offers tax holiday for the entire life of the company," Dr Meru said.

By Kenan Kalagho, Sunday, March 16th, 2014

KENYA :

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

**Making the case that Africa needs drones more than roads**

By Rachel Feltman/ @rachelfeltman/qz.com /March 16, 2014

Could African countries with poor road infrastructure leapfrog right from donkeys to drones? They can and should, according to the man behind the Flying Donkey Challenge. The competition will support the development of drones that can be used to carry goods to market and deliver medication



to remote villages. The goal is to have drones as affordable as motorbikes flying around the continent within a decade. The first leg of the challenge is now under way: Thirty-three teams from around the world have applied to take part in the first competition in November 2014.

“We feel that if drones are going to be used to transport goods, the most logical place is Africa,” Simon Johnson, director of the Flying Donkey Challenge, told Quartz. “Not for humanitarian reasons. We’re not doing this because we feel bad for Africa. It’s just the perfect place to start. The fact is, there’s incredible growth happening there, but not a lot of infrastructure. Roads just can’t be built fast enough. So why not use flying robots instead?” Once developed, he says, he hopes the drones can be exported elsewhere, creating a new industry for the first countries to adopt their use. If a remote farm in Kenya can send fresh goods out on a drone, he says, a remote farm in the US could do the same.

Johnson hopes that Africa will embrace drones the way it did mobile payments. In the US and Europe, there are large financial institutions already in place that handle payments—and they wouldn’t allow a mobile alternative to replace them without a fight. “It’s a great idea,” Johnson says, “but you have existing businesses—banks—that won’t allow it. Africa was able to leapfrog that, because there was a demand and no provider. This is the same idea.” It’s his hope that the continent can skip right over using cars and trucks to deliver goods, and favor unmanned aerial vehicles instead.

The 2014 competition will consist of three challenges: Precision takeoff and landing using a remote, navigation without GPS, and sense and avoid—where drones will fly a kilometer and back, avoiding balloons along the way. Johnson says that future competitions will demand more sophisticated designs. But teams are welcome to compete with any type of flying robot, as long as the materials cost less than \$500. And while some teams aren’t based in Africa, the rules state that all must collaborate with an African institute, school, or lab.

The first round of challenges will take place in Kenya—Mount Kenya represents a particularly good obstacle to practice navigation with, and separates areas that could do lots of trade with the right infrastructure—but Johnson hopes to spread around the continent in the future. “We want the whole continent involved and interested, because lots of countries stand to benefit,” Johnson says. “We don’t know if anyone will be ready to complete the first full challenge when we hold it in 2018. But as long as we’re learning something, it doesn’t matter.”

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

**Brand SA engages with South Africans in Australia**

17 March 2014/southafrica.info

Brand South Africa will be in Melbourne and Sydney this week to engage with South Africans based in Australia on the country's progress since the advent of democracy 20 years ago.

The agency said on the weekend that it would be showcasing both South Africa's achievements over the past two decades and the work that was being done to address the country's socio-economic challenges, with particular reference to the National Development Plan (NDP), also known as Vision 2030.

"It is also important for South Africans to know that they can be part of South Africa's growth and development despite where they may now reside," the agency said in a statement. "They are also invited to join 20 year commemorative events organised by the South African representatives in their countries of residence."

The delegation, led by Minister in the Presidency Collins Chabane and including Brand South Africa chairperson Chichi Maponya and CEO Miller Matola, will interact with South Africans based in Australia, as well as with individuals or organisations that are interested in the country's offerings.

The Global South Africans Roundtable will take place at the Intercontinental Melbourne on Monday evening and at the Intercontinental Sydney on Wednesday evening.

The discussion can be followed on @Brand\_SA using the hashtag #SA\_Aus2014.

SAinfo reporter

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

**Dust over Africa, Gulf linked to Indian monsoon**

IANS/business-standard.com/March 17, 2014

Increased dust in the air over northern Africa and West Asia directly gives the monsoon in India a boost, a new study has found.

The study, which analysed satellite images, shows that dust in the air towards the west of India absorbs sunlight, thus warming the air and strengthening the winds carrying moisture eastward.

This results in more monsoon rainfall about a week later over the Indian subcontinent, especially its central parts, says the study published in the latest issue of Nature Geoscience.

As part of the study, researchers -- including V. Vinoj of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bhubaneswar -- analysed satellite data and performed computer modelling of the region to look at the role of dust on the monsoon rains -- the lifeline for the entire subcontinent.

"The difference between a monsoon flood year or a dry year is about 10 percent of the average summer rainfall in central India. Variations driven by dust may be strong enough to explain some of that year-to-year variation," climate scientist Phil Rasch of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory was quoted as saying.

Rasch and Vinoj, along with other researchers, sought to explore a correlation that appeared in satellite records: higher amounts of small particles called aerosols over North Africa, West Asia and the Arabian Sea seemed to be connected to stronger rainfall over India around the same time.

The team wanted to see if they could verify this and determine how those particles might affect rainfall.

The team used a computer model called CAM5 and focused on the area. The model included manmade aerosols from pollution, and natural sea salt and dust aerosols.

The team ran the model and noted a similar connection: more aerosols in the west meant more rainfall in the east.

Then they systematically turned off the contribution of each aerosol type and looked to see if the connection remained.

Dust, especially in northern Africa and the Arabian peninsula, turned out to be a key ingredient that resulted in stronger monsoon rainfall.

To study how quickly dust worked, the team ran short computer simulations with and without dust emissions.

Without dust emissions, rainfall declined in central India. It indicated that the effect happened over a short period of time.

So, how did dust affect rainfall?

The likeliest answer: the warmer, dust-laden air draws moist air from the tropics northward, and strengthens the prevailing winds that move moisture from the Arabian Sea into India where it falls as rain.

Although dust plays a role in strengthening monsoons, this natural phenomenon does not overpower many other processes that also influence monsoons, said Rasch.

"The strength of monsoons have been declining for the last 50 years," he said. "The dust effect is unlikely to explain the systematic decline but it may contribute."

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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