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BURUNDI :

Burundi: des représentants du gouvernement en tournée est-africaine

Par RFI /06/09/2015

Pascal Nyabenda et Agathon Rwasa ont achevé dimanche une visite au Kenya, au cours de laquelle ils ont notamment rencontré samedi le président Uhuru Kenyatta. Après l'Ouganda et la Tanzanie, c'était la troisième étape de la tournée régionale entamée fin août par le président de l'Assemblée nationale et chef du parti au pouvoir Pascal Nyabenda et Agathon Rwasa, ex-chef de file de l'opposition devenu premier vice-président de l'Assemblée.

Objectif officiel de ce voyage : montrer les avancées dans ce que le gouvernement qualifie de « dialogue interne », c'est-à-dire l'entrée d'Agathon Rwasa et de cinq de ses partisans dans les institutions burundaises.

Au lendemain de la réélection contestée de Pierre Nkurunziza, beaucoup s'attendaient au retour au Burundi de la médiation ougandaise pour relancer un dialogue toujours réclamé par l'EAC, la communauté d'Afrique de l'Est, et la communauté internationale. Mais Bujumbura a pris tout le monde de court en envoyant Pascal Nyabenda et Agathon Rwasa dans les pays de l'EAC, à l'exception du Rwanda, avec qui les rapports sont difficiles.

Message des deux émissaires : l'entrée d'Agathon Rwasa et ses partisans dans le gouvernement montre que le dialogue entre le pouvoir et opposition a bien eu lieu. Cette tournée vise ainsi à faire

entériner ce que le pouvoir présente comme une normalisation de la situation. Un message apparemment bien reçu par le président kényan : « Le président et le vice-président de l'Assemblée m'ont informé que le président Nkurunziza et l'opposition ont accepté de travailler ensemble dans l'intérêt de leur pays. Je leur ai dit qu'ils peuvent compter sur le soutien du Kenya », écrit Uhuru Kenyatta sur Twitter.

Autre objectif de la tournée : solliciter un nouveau sommet spécial de la communauté d'Afrique de l'Est pour donner un nouvel élan à la réconciliation, ont affirmé les deux émissaires à la presse kényane. Mais Bujumbura souhaite aussi que les chefs d'Etat de la région se penchent sur les tentatives de déstabilisation en provenance « d'un pays voisin, membre de la communauté est-africaine ». Sous-entendu le Rwanda.

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

TANZANIA :

Tanzania: This Year's General Election is Setting Presedent for the Future

Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/5 September 2015

opinion

By K"oyoo Nick

There is no doubt that the 2015 General Election is a watershed General Election for Tanzania in many ways. Let us start with the first observation.

That for the first time ever since the re-entry of multi-party politics in 1995, there is a real chance that the party of independence could lose the general elections.

For that to happen of course, will depend on how the on-going debate, whether on public forums and in bars and farms will be based purely on issues or propaganda.

A week is a long time in politics as the 2015 Tanzania general election is turning out to be. Within a week of being ejected from the presidential nomination process, Ndugu Edward Ngoyai Lowassa moved from Chama Cha Mapinduzi {CCM} to Chama Cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (Chadema) and straight into the privileged slot of Presidential candidate.

As Dr Wilbrod Slaa said on Wednesday in a hugely covered broadside against the candidature of Mr Lowassa by Chadema, the opposition party has lost credibility plus many genuine followers as it has gained Mr Lowassas diehard fans who couldn't care less that their preferred candidate, whether rightly or wrongly cannot and has not been running with the anti-corruption campaign.

Mr Lowassa's defection will go down in history because it sets a precedent for the future, that being locked out of one's party does not mean the end game as many would have thought.

Yet Dr Slaa has raised vexing questions about integrity of the party and whether, with Mr Lowassa as candidate, it can still claim to be the anti-corruption czar party.

The same man who was boasting and was seen as the man to beat in CCM nominations, talked his way-some say out of hubris and arrogance into being eliminated.

Secondly, for the first time again in Tanzanian history, two former Prime Ministers are firmly in the opposition and they are giving as much as they get what with snippets how their former party is notorious for vote rigging, lacking in democracy and unwilling to hear the cry of the people.

Momentous one might say, yes, because whether they are right or wrong Former prime Ministers Lowassa and Sumaye are playing a game in which the non-discerning will be saying, we always told you so. Again the point is that in politics anything goes and truth will be casualty in this one as well.

There is the issue of no permanent enemies or friends. Mr Sumaye who served as Prime Minister under President Benjamin Mkapa is now on opposite sides with his former boss. As leading campaigner for Nd Lowassa, he is having to throw some mud back at his former boss.

Awkward as it is, he is now telling all who want to hear, that no one appoints a non-performing person to the office of prime Minister. By extension, that those dismissing him and Lowassa are ill-informed. No matter who wins this election, Tanzania's election playfield will no longer be the same.

Mr Lowassa has by his move from the green and yellow to the blue, red and white team, swiftly helped to create a huge political space for future political players.

They have not wasted time in switching allegiances and immediately claiming automatic tickets to be allowed to contest on these new parties. This has had both positive and negative impacts. As we see with Mr Lowassa, one does not need to believe in new ideology to move from party of the green and yellow to their opponent's team.

On the other hand the freedom of the democratic space can only be positive for the future. On a regional integration and international relations scene, I dare say based on available evidence, that the CCM candidate Dr Magufuli is the better man.

While Mr Lowassa and the outgoing foreign Minister Bernard Membe were the front runners in their party CCM, their approach to regional integration affairs and regional cooperation were done everlasting damage by their decision to stoke fires of negative patriotism with their call for an army

(TPDF) ready to do battle to sort out Malawi over the dispute over usage of Lake Malawi.

Mr Lowassa was chairman of the foreign relations committee in parliament when trouble brewed over usage rights over the Lake Malawi. His reaction was, Tanzania has a ready army which proved itself over the Kagera war and can move in to settle the matter once and for all.

This position was similar to that held by Mr Bernard Membe the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Relations. Mr Membe was also part of the shuttle diplomacy which defended the idea of African leaders not being hauled before the ICC irrespective of their crimes against the people they purport to lead.

By deduction, one can wonder, an Edward Lowassa presidency may well be one in which issues of regional discord are determined by this need, this craving to give Tanzania an expansionist world view, a view that supposedly sells the idea that Tanzania's internal problems are caused by ungrateful neighbours read Malawi to the South, Burundi and Rwanda to the East and the perennial enemy Kenya to the North.

Of course, based on evidence, we all know better. Mr Magufuli has in his writing, performance and body language, shown no such inclinations to please his audiences on regional co-operation but seems comfortable in his own skin about Tanzania hence does not need to whip up emotions about ungrateful neighbours big or small.

As Ambassador Juma Mwapachu, former Secretary General of the East African Community, now firmly in Lowassa's corner has said in a post on his facebook account, this election is a watershed election and is one for change whoever party wins it.

The columnist, a Media consultant & researcher, is a regular commentator on East African issues with interests in media development in the region and can be reached on.

KENYA :

Kenya court recommends "White Widow" case be dropped

Date: Sep 07, 2015/newvision

NAIROBI - A Kenyan court on Friday said prosecutors should close their case against British terror suspect Samantha Lewthwaite, dubbed the "White Widow", after failing to produce her in court.

Lewthwaite is accused of possessing explosives and planning terrorist attacks on Kenya's tourist coast, but police have been unable to find her since she gave them the slip in 2012.

The trial of her alleged accomplice, fellow Briton Jermaine Grant, is ongoing in Mombasa.

"This case is just like any other case, and if the suspect cannot be found, then the case should be closed," said Mombasa chief magistrate Julius Nang'ea.

Kenya issued an arrest warrant for Lewthwaite in 2012 and then requested Interpol to issue a "Red Notice" in 2013.

On Friday, state prosecutor Nicholas Kitonga pleaded that police needed more time to find their

suspect, whose whereabouts are unknown.

Lewthwaite, 31, from Aylesbury in England, is a Muslim convert who was married to Germaine Lindsay -- one of four suicide bombers who attacked the London transport network on July 7, 2005, killing 52 people -- leading a British tabloid newspaper to dub her the 'White Widow' years later.

She has since been romantically linked to a string of jihadists and, since evading arrest during a botched police raid in Mombasa in 2011, has been on the run with her four children.

Over the years media reports have had Lewthwaite training a company of female suicide bombers for Islamic State, masterminding a series terror attacks in Kenya, Somalia and Nigeria and being killed by a sniper in eastern Ukraine. Kenya's foreign minister accused her of directing the 2013 assault on Nairobi's Westgate mall.

While the media -- especially the British tabloid press -- is quick to attribute terror attacks in the region to Lewthwaite, Western intelligence agencies do not regard her as a serious threat.

Uhuru to market Kenya brand at Milan Expo

Date: September 07, 2015/mediamaxnetwork.co.ke

Marketing of Kenyan coffee is expected to take centre stage at this week's Milan Expo following President Uhuru Kenyatta's official visit to Italy.

The President left for Italy yesterday, accompanied by First Lady Margaret Kenyatta and top government officials, and is scheduled to hold bilateral talks on various issues with Italian Prime Minister Matteo Renzi.

He will also preside over the Kenya Day at the Kenya Pavilion where he is expected to launch the country's new international brand campaign.

The campaign, developed by the Ministry of East African Affairs, Commerce and Tourism, will include the activation of a new digital content portal and supporting social media platforms, designed to be the focus for all international tourism and investment enquiries.

"The introduction of the new brand, campaign and portal will bring all of the ministry's existing and future campaigns together to tell Kenya's story with one shared voice," State House Spokesman Manoah Esipisu said yesterday during a national update.

At the expo, themed: "Feeding the planet, energy for life", Kenya is exhibiting at Coffee Cluster, on one of the most important challenges facing Kenya in food security.

Visitors to the Kenya Pavilion will be allowed to taste a number of local delicacies, including the coffee in different blends in a government bid to revitalise the country's foreign markets.

Kenyan coffee has an excellent reputation because it grows on rare volcanic soil and is processed quickly after harvesting, known to help it maintain its floral aroma. Beyond the taste, the coffee has also been acknowledged for many nutritional benefits.

Kenya will also hold a business forum to offer the Italian and Kenyan business communities a chance to explore opportunities for joint trade and investment ventures. President Kenyatta will speak at the event.

A mini-marathon and a Cultural Day are some of the activities expected in Milan during the Kenya week. The Milan expo is a primary tourism promotion event and Tourism Cabinet secretary Phyllis Kandie is the lead Kenyan minister at the event.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

Un avion d'évacuation médicale du Burkina s'abîme au large du Sénégal: 7 disparus
le 06 septembre 2015/AFP

Dakar (AFP)

Un avion d'évacuation médicale transportant sept personnes, dont une patiente française, du Burkina Faso au Sénégal, s'est abîmé samedi soir au large de Dakar, a-t-on appris dimanche auprès de l'aviation civile.

L'appareil, un bimoteur HS 125 appartenant à la compagnie privée Senegalair, avait à son bord, outre la patiente, trois membres d'équipage - deux Algériens et un Congolais -, ainsi qu'un médecin et deux infirmiers sénégalais, a annoncé dans un communiqué l'Agence nationale de l'aviation civile et de la météorologie (Anacim) du Sénégal.

Le contact a été perdu avec l'avion, appartenant à la compagnie privée Senegalair, peu après 19H00 (locales et GMT) à 111 km à l'ouest de Dakar, a précisé l'Anacim, soulignant que l'armée de l'Air menait des recherches dans la zone.

Ces recherches ont repris dimanche à 06H00 (locales et GMT), conduites par deux avions et un navire de la marine nationale, a annoncé l'agence de presse étatique sénégalaise APS, citant le service de communication du ministère des Transports aériens, et se poursuivaient en milieu d'après-midi, près de 24 heures après l'accident.

Parti de Ouagadougou à 16H35 (locales et GMT) l'avion devait atterrir à Dakar à 18H20, a-t-on indiqué de source aéroportuaire burkinabè sous couvert d'anonymat.

Aucune explication n'a été fournie sur les raisons pour lesquelles l'avion, en provenance de l'est, se serait retrouvé à l'ouest du Sénégal.

Sollicité par l'AFP à Paris, le ministère français des Affaires étrangères n'a pas souhaité révéler l'identité de la patiente française ni les raisons de sa présence à Ouagadougou, se bornant à indiquer que l'ambassade de France à Dakar était en contact avec sa famille.

Selon le site du groupe sénégalais Futurs Médias, l'accident pourrait être dû à une panne de kérosène.

Le site identifie parmi les victimes Yakhya Diop, médecin réanimateur de SOS Médecins au

Sénégal.

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

South Africa To Host China-Africa Summit In December
Sept 7/BERNAMA-NNN-SANEWS

PRETORIA, Sept 7 (BERNAMA-NNN-SANEWS) -- South Africa will host the Second Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) in Johannesburg, in December.

"As co-chair of FOCAC for the period 2012-2018, South Africa looks forward to hosting this historic event," International Relations and Cooperation Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane said.

The summit, which will be held on Dec 4-5, will be the second Summit since the inception of FOCAC in 2006 and the first to be held in Africa.

It is expected that all Heads of State/Government from African countries, as well as the African Union (AU), Heads of Regional Organisations and multilateral organisations will participate in the Summit.

The Summit will be preceded by a meeting of senior officials on Dec 2 followed by the Sixth Ministerial Meeting of FOCAC on Dec 3.

The South African Government will be working closely with the Government of China, the African

Group of Ambassadors in Beijing and Addis Ababa, and the AU Commission on the preparations leading up to the FOCAC Summit.

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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