



(UNICEF said on Tuesday that the number of children used as suicide bombers across the Lake Chad region has risen 10-fold since 2014, adding that 75 percent of these minors had been girls.)

BURUNDI :

**Burundi: reprise du procès des présumés putschistes de mai 2015**

Par RFI/le 11-04-2016

Au Burundi, le procès en appel des présumés putschistes de mai 2015 a repris, ce lundi 11 avril, à Gitega. En janvier dernier, quatre généraux avaient été condamnés à perpétuité dont le numéro deux du putsch manqué, Cyrille Ndayirukiye, ancien ministre de la Défense du Burundi. Le leader de cette tentative, le général Nyombaré, avait, lui, réussi à fuir. Depuis, il a pris la tête des Forces républicaines du Burundi (Forebu), l'un des deux mouvements armés d'opposition actifs au Burundi. Une dizaine d'officiers avaient été condamnés à 30 ans de réclusion, huit autres à 5 ans et sept personnes avaient été acquittées. Deux semaines plus tard, le parquet - qui avait requis la perpétuité pour tous les 28 accusés - a annoncé faire appel.

Début février, le ministère public s'était déclaré « non satisfait » par la décision du juge. Ce dernier n'a retenu la perpétuité que pour 4 des 28 accusés et a abandonné certaines charges de l'accusation.

Le procès en appel des présumés putschistes a donc repris, ce lundi, à Gitega, dans le centre du pays, après avoir été renvoyé pour des motifs de procédure, il y a quelques semaines.

La journée a été consacrée à l'audition du général Cyrille Ndayirukiye et c'est dans la tenue vert-clair des prisonniers qu'il a comparu. Selon une source présente dans la salle, l'ancien ministre de la Défense est apparu confiant. Il maintient avoir agi pour défendre la population alors que les manifestations pacifiques contre le troisième mandat du président Nkurunziza étaient durement réprimées.

Il continue à se défendre seul, affirmant que tous les avocats contactés ont refusé de plaider par peur d'être à leur tour accusés de putsch.

« Je n'ai pas renoncé à mon droit à un avocat, j'y ai été contraint », a expliqué le général.

Cyrille Ndayirukiye a demandé aux juges de ne pas prendre en compte ses aveux formulés après son arrestation affirmant qu'ils ont été soutirés par la torture et des menaces de mort. Pour appuyer son propos, il a exhibé des photos le montrant blessé ainsi qu'un vêtement qu'il portait lors de son arrestation.

De son côté, le parquet est revenu sur les raisons de cet appel. Il s'agit de démontrer les liens entre les organisateurs du putsch et les manifestations d'avril dernier et de montrer que « tout cela était préparé », explique une source sur place.

Ce mardi, devraient comparaître les trois autres généraux désignés, par la Cour, comme les instigateurs du coup d'Etat manqué.

### Cinq morts et sept blessés au Burundi

12/04/2016/bbc.com

Au moins cinq personnes ont été tuées et sept blessées lundi soir sur un marché de la province de Ruyigi, dans l'extrême-est du Burundi, dans une attaque menée par un groupe armé.

Un groupe armé "non identifié" d'une dizaine de personnes est arrivé sur la colline de Munyinya vers 19H00 (17H00 GMT), alors que "la population se trouvait encore au marché", selon Aloys Ngenzirabona, administrateur de la commune de Gisuru, à 260 km à l'est de Bujumbura.

"Ces criminels ont tiré dans le tas avant de s'enfuir. Ils ont fait au total cinq morts et sept blessés", a annoncé le responsable administratif local.

Selon des témoignages recueillis auprès de la population, "ce groupe provenait de la Tanzanie dont la frontière est située à moins de 4 km et s'y serait replié", a expliqué l'administrateur de Gisuru.

Deux personnes dont un policier avaient déjà été tuées fin novembre 2015 dans cette même commune, lors d'une attaque attribuée également à un groupe armé en provenance de Tanzanie.

La Tanzanie accueille plus de la moitié des plus de 250.000 Burundais ayant fui vers les pays voisins la crise émaillée de violences, déclenchée fin avril 2015 par la candidature du président Pierre Nkurunziza à un troisième mandat, qui selon ses adversaires viole la Constitution et l'accord d'Arusha ayant permis la fin de la guerre civile (1993-2006).

RWANDA :

### Magufuli's visit to Rwanda to positively impact on Dar, Kigali

DAILY NEWS Reporter/12 April 2016

PRESIDENT John Magufuli's recent two days official visit to Rwanda has a huge economical

impact on the two neighbouring countries.

During the visit, the two presidents opened the Rusumo one-stop border post. One-stop border post means immigration and customs officials at the two countries' border work under the same roof.

The border post will ease travel and business operations and since both countries are member of the East African Community, they fall under single-customs territory.

And since Rwanda, a land-locked country nearest sea port is in Tanzania—Dar es Salaam Port, it needs a smooth link for its exports and imports.

Rwanda's President Paul Kagame said that the visit by his Tanzanian counterpart to Rwanda signifies a new relationship between the two neighbouring states.

Indeed. The good relationship is poised to open up more trade and business opportunities between the two countries—one is on possibility of Rwandese to increase their usage of Dar Port, and two for growth of both formal and informal cross-border business.

In the recent past, Dar port managed to retake in and outbound Rwandese cargo from its traditional rivalry, Mombasa Port. Statistics from Tanzania Port Authority (TPA) show that Dar port share of Rwandese cargo traffic stood at 74 per cent compared to 26 per cent of Mombasa Port.

And cargo volume from Rwanda via Dar Port in the first two months of this year increased by 5.1 per cent to 5,995 TEUs. In the two months only Rwanda and Malawi TEUs increased as the rest decreased.

Figures from trade institution suggested that Tanzania can increase exports to Rwanda from 5.5 per cent to 15 per cent and ease transactions between companies trading in the two countries.

This potential and beyond is reachable as reports are suggesting that the two sides are organising a business forum in May to chart way forward on inter-regional trade.

The meeting is scheduled to be held in Kigali. A statement released in Kigali last Thursday revealed that Rwanda and Tanzanian High Commission in Kigali, will on May 16 hold "Tanzania-Rwanda Trade Forum" to discuss how the two countries can boost trade among their people.

It was reported from Kigali that Rwanda will use the joint trade forum to kick-start a campaign to become Tanzania's top trade partner in five years, according to the organisers.

Other agendas of the forum are to strengthen bilateral ties between Rwanda and Tanzania as well as formalise trade relations between Dar and Kigali.

The talks to bring together both big and small companies from the two countries will provide a platform to explore how the governments can create a conducive environment for both Rwandan and Tanzanian companies to thrive.

Tanzania signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Rwanda in 2008 to boost trade and attract investments in the two countries but trade relations have suffered with the political setbacks.

The May talks seem to be going to bridge the trade gap between Dar and Kigali as Tanzania lags behind Kenya and Uganda as Kigali's top traders.

Rwanda's Private Sector Federation (RPSF) and Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) are expected to bring forth the MoU for enhanced rules of trade engagements.

On top of that, President Magufuli visit to Rwanda last week signified a journey of moving the EAC – a six-nation bloc to which both countries subscribe – forward.

“Since when you were elected, your presence has been refreshing; your words and deeds reflect our vision,” President Kagame told President Magufuli, known for his tough stance against corruption and wasteful government spending.

RDC CONGO :

"délai constitutionnel" en RDC: l'UA inquiète  
[bbc.com/12/04/2016](http://bbc.com/12/04/2016)

Au cours d'une conférence de presse lundi dernier à Kinshasa, l'ancien premier ministre togolais Edem Kodjo a fait part de ses inquiétudes concernant le respect du « délai constitutionnel » à quelques mois de la présidentielle en RDC.

Le facilitateur de l'Union Africaine (UA) pour le "dialogue national" en RDC a estimé que c'est un "problème" pesant sur l'organisation du scrutin présidentiel.

"Le problème, c'est qu'il y a le délai constitutionnel à respecter, et les jours qui passent ne permettent pas de dire que nous allons le respecter ", a déclaré l'ancien premier ministre togolais.

Depuis plusieurs mois, le respect du "délai constitutionnel" est au centre du débat politique à mesure qu'approche la fin du mandat actuel du président Joseph Kabila à qui la Constitution interdit de se représenter.

Vendredi dernier, le pouvoir congolais a accusé l'ONU et l'opposition de faire preuve d'"irresponsabilité" en exigeant la tenue de la présidentielle avant fin 2016.

Lors du renouvellement le 30 mars dernier du mandat de la Mission des Nations unies en RDC (Monusco), le Conseil de sécurité de l'ONU a exigé l'organisation d'un "dialogue politique inclusif", afin que "des élections présidentielle et législatives" se tiennent d'ici novembre 2016, conformément à la Constitution".

Fin novembre, le président Joseph Kabila a annoncé un "dialogue national inclusif" autour du calendrier électoral et le financement des élections.

Plusieurs mois après, le projet du Chef de l'Etat congolais est contesté par l'opposition qui refuse de participer et considère cela comme un "piège" pour rester aux affaires au-delà de son mandat.

Pour sa part, la majorité au pouvoir réclame une transition de deux à quatre ans pour organiser de "bonnes élections".

UGANDA :

### Uganda gets sh8.1b for Mt Rwenzori conservation

12th April 2016 /newvision.co.ug

The project is jointly implemented by World Wide Fund (WWF) France and WWF Uganda, in the 995 sq km Rwenzori Mountains National Park landscape covering the western districts of Kasese, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Kabarole.

A total of €2,109,427million (about Uganda sh8.1b) has been be injected into the Rwenzori Mountains National Park in western Uganda to conserve this threatened national and world treasure.

The money includes €700,000Euro from France, through the French Global Environment Facility) and (€1,359,427 from the EU, together with a €50,000 financial contribution from private partners, funding a conservation project, the "Sustainable Financing of the Rwenzori Mountains National Park Project (SFRMNP)."

The project is jointly implemented by World Wide Fund (WWF) France and WWF Uganda, in the 995 sq km Rwenzori Mountains National Park landscape covering the western districts of Kasese, Ntoroko, Bundibugyo and Kabarole.

### Why Buganda is Uganda's eternal benefactor

newvision.co.ug/12th April 2016

At the most basic level, it is neither a coincidence nor an accident that terms Buganda and Uganda are separated by a mere letter 'B'. Just as God created Eve out of Adam's rib (Genesis 2:22), so did the British construct Uganda out of Buganda. Where is the evidence?

By Sam Akaki

As the Baganda celebrate the 61st birthday of the Kabaka Ronald Muwenda Mutebi II tomorrow, it is an opportune time for all Ugandans to look beyond the person, Mutebi and reflect on what the Buganda kingdom did for this modern nation now called Uganda.

At the most basic level, it is neither a coincidence nor an accident that terms Buganda and Uganda are separated by a mere letter 'B'. Just as God created Eve out of Adam's rib (Genesis 2:22), so did the British construct Uganda out of Buganda. Where is the evidence?

It was President Milton Obote, no less the person who tried to obliterate from history the 600 year-old kingdom of Buganda, who said "in the past, Buganda has served our country very well", (Communication from the chair, November 1966). What did he mean?

Given that most, if not all priceless historical documents were destroyed in the senseless cycle of political violence, you have to go to the British House of Commons Library, the British Reference Library, the British National Archives, Oxford, Cambridge and the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) libraries, to mention but a few, to find out what Dr Obote meant. The records are as enlightening as they are mesmerising.

According to The making of modern Uganda by Kenneth Ingham, "some 600 years before the British came, the Buganda kingdom had evolved a sophisticated system of administration. The kingdom was divided into 20 Sazas (counties); each county was divided into gombololas (sub-

counties), and each gombolola was divided into mulukas (parishes).”

“Over and above the chiefly hierarchy were three ministers – the katikkiro (Prime Minister), the omulamuzi (Chief Justice) and the omuwanika (Treasurer). The three ministers and 20 chiefs constituted the Lukiiko, a kind of parliament. The only hereditary office was that of the Kabaka. All others, including ministers and chiefs were appointed on merit.”

An eyewitness, John Hanning Speke, wrote on reaching Buganda in 1862. “The straight, wide roads, broad as an English coach road, which cut through the long grass and climbed many hills, were in strange contrast to the wretched tracks in all adjacent tribal regions. This was but the doorway to the Kingdom of the Baganda.”

He added, “people wore neat back-cloth cloaks resembling the best yellow corduroy cloth, crimp and well set, as if stiffened with starch and over that as upper cloak, a patchwork of small antelope skins, which I observed were shown together as well as any English glove could have been pieced together. At the centre of this well-organised community was its ruler, Kabaka MutesaI.”

It was this organised system of administration, which the British copied and pasted in other tribal areas all over Uganda. Chiefs, judges and councils cropped up and roads were built where there had been none.

Other equally, if not more revealing books include ‘Buganda and the British over-rule 1900-1955’, by Low and Pratt, ‘The political Kingdom in Uganda’, by David Apter, British policy is changing Africa’, by Sir Andrew Cohen and ‘Administration in East Africa – six case studies’ by LB Jacobs.

Still other books are Inside Africa, by John Gunther; An African survey, a study of problems arising in Africa south of the Sahara by Lord Hailey; My African tour, by Winston Churchill and ‘The remarkable expedition – the story of Stanley’s rescue of Emin Pasha’ by Oliva Manning.

These books disclose, among other things, how the 1900 Agreement between Britain and the Buganda kingdom shaped the present Uganda socially and economically.

For example, it was as a result of the 1900 Agreement, that the Buganda Kingdom asked the British government to send missionaries to spread Christianity, education and medical services in Buganda and, by extension, throughout the Uganda Protectorate.

It was also thanks to the 1900 Agreement, that land was made available for building King’s College Budo, Makerere University, Gayaza High school, Mulago, Namirembe and Nsambya hospitals, Kampala Technical College and other critical social and economic infrastructures, which have served all Ugandans over the generations.

And it was the 1900 Agreement, which committed the British to prohibiting the sale of land in Uganda to a non-natives. The Official Protectorate Gazette of December 15, 1915 stated “No more grant of freehold land will be made to non-Africans in Uganda and no African-owned land will be transferred to a non native.”

Crucially, it was the Buganda kingdom, which strongly and relentlessly opposed the proposed federation of Uganda with other British colonies of Southern Rhodesia (Zimbabwe), Northern Rhodesian (Zambia), Nyasaland (Malawi), Tanganyika (Tanzania) and Kenya.

The Buganda kingdom argued that such a federation would inevitably lead to Uganda becoming a white settler colony; thus making native Ugandans squatters in their own country just as Africans in

Kenya and Southern Rhodesia then were.

Granted, the Buganda army Gen. Semei Kakungulu did commit terrible atrocities in Bunyonyo, Bukedi, Bugisu, Lango and Teso regions while spreading British colonial rule.

But, objectively speaking, we Ugandans should recognise our eternal debt to the Buganda kingdom for the positive contributions it made to the birth and development of our country.

The writer is the former FDC international envoy to the UK and European Union, also former independent Parliamentary Candidate in the UK, now writer and executive director — Africa-European relations

### Editorial: Time to rethink U.S. aid to Uganda

[timesrecordnews.com/12/04/2016](http://timesrecordnews.com/12/04/2016)

Uganda is showing the world what electoral malfeasance can look like, more than a month after voters cast their ballots. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni won the country's Feb. 18 elections amid widespread reports of voting irregularities, ballot-box stuffing and intimidation of opposition candidates.

Last Thursday, Uganda's Supreme Court unsurprisingly rejected third-place finisher Amama Mbabazi's official petition to challenge the election, claiming that there was insufficient evidence of irregularities that would have swayed the polling result. Opposition leader and second-place finisher Kizza Besigye, who has been under effective house arrest since the vote, was unable to file a formal challenge of the results. On Tuesday, he was once again arrested after leaving his house for the first time since he was forcibly detained.

As Museveni cruises toward his fifth term in office, marking his 30th year in power, it is time for the United States to seriously revisit its relationship with Uganda. Uganda has been touted as a key ally in Africa in the fight against the al-Shabab terrorist group, and contributed troops to peacekeeping efforts in South Sudan. The United States gives an estimated \$750 million in aid to Uganda annually — an estimated \$170 million of which goes to military assistance and cooperation. In the past 10 years, the United States has trained more troops from Uganda than from any other country in sub-Saharan Africa, with the exception of Burundi.

Museveni, however, is making a mockery of President Obama's call for good governance and democracy in Africa, or "strong institutions," not "strongmen," as he put it in a 2009 speech in Ghana. As aging autocrats such as Museveni use U.S.-bankrolled security forces to crack down on opposition candidates, journalists and peaceful protests, lavish security assistance from the United States may be helping to enable an environment of increasing repression in Uganda, and sending the message to other African nations that trampling on rights is permissible so long as the country remains a U.S. counterterrorism ally.

The United States has raised concerns. After the flawed vote, the State Department said that the Ugandan people "deserved better." After last Thursday's Supreme Court announcement, the United States called for a peaceful response to the decision, and added that "we hope that the government will now address the grievances voiced by its own people in the wake of these elections and take the necessary steps to enact reforms."

But hopeful statements are not enough. There are fears that the 71-year-old leader might change the constitution's presidential age limit of 75 to allow him to run again. Others are concerned that

Museveni's son, Brig. Muhoozi Kainerugaba, who has rapidly risen through the ranks of Uganda's military, is being groomed to succeed his father. The United States reallocated aid and canceled a military exercise with Uganda in the wake of Uganda's harsh anti-homosexuality bill in 2014 but has not publicly threatened to do the same in response to Uganda's repression of nongovernmental organizations, crackdowns on journalists, attempted silencing of opposition leaders or tampering with elections. It's plain for the world to see that democracy is backsliding in Uganda. It's high time that the United States condition its support on tangible political reforms.

SOUTH AFRICA :

**South Africa: EFF Welcomes the Overwhelming Response of Society to the Nkandla Judgment**  
12 April 2016/Economic Freedom Fighters (Johannesburg)

The EFF welcomes the overwhelming positive response by different and many collectives in society to the Nkandla judgment and the call for Zuma to step down. The EFF, having initiated the constitutional court case celebrates that our people have taken the matter to their own hands and are taking ownership of the process of defending a constitutional order and the rule of law in relation to the executive.

Once the Constitutional Court ruled, the matter assumed a national character that should unite all of us regardless of political affiliation. The country must indeed unite and defend its own constitution. It is a matter of fact that Zuma violated the constitution and his oath of office and thus, business cannot continue as usual. To expect this is itself violent and must be rejected with all the contempt it deserves.

All groups, from unions, religious groups, and prominent leaders and voices that have been critical to the building of a democratic society, have called on Zuma to resign as a concrete response to the constitutional court judgement. The express majority of our people correctly reject the apology that Zuma has made is inadequate and have called on him to step down.

We also celebrate many voices in the congress alliance, like the SACP who have called on society to enter a process of soul searching. Others in the ruling party, like Generals of Umkhonto we Sizwe have openly called on Zuma to step down.

We reiterate that there is indeed no better response, on the part of Zuma, in implementing the Constitutional Court judgement than to step down as President of the Republic of South Africa. The country needs not be taken through the trauma of having to institute more legal actions to remove Zuma. We call on him to do the honourable thing and step down from office in the interest of reaffirming a constitutional order and the rule of law.

The EFF's fight for the restoration of the rule of law and a corrupt free government is in concert with our Founding Manifesto, in particular cardinal pillar number seven which states that we shall fight for an "Open, accountable, corrupt-free government and society without fear of victimisation by state agencies." As a revolutionary movement we aim to use the state for the reorganisation of colonial patterns of ownership in relation to land and commanding heights of the economy. We plan to use the state to lead massive industrialisation that creates quality jobs. We also aim to use the state to roll out free quality education, healthcare, housing and sanitation. Therefore, such a state must be a people's state, free from corruption and nepotism.



We also welcome reports that the Gupta family has left our shores in the Republic of South Africa. The Gupta family and their relationship with Zuma and many in the cabinet represent the type of kleptocracy that must never see the light of day in our country. Their departure must be celebrated as a step in the direction towards the restoration of the rule of law which will be completed with the ultimate removal of Zuma.

The restoration of the rule of law and respect of state institutions is central to the objectives of realising economic freedom in our life time. Each time a corrupt, powerful and politically connected individual is held accountable it is a step in uprooting corrupting from our society. Only a credible, corrupt free and law abiding state can lead a credible socialist program that will see the end of production for profit and the birth of a system of production for people.

In keeping with Chairman Mao Zedong's logic, the EFF celebrates the many voices in defence of a constitutional order. We say "let a hundred flowers blossom and a hundred schools of thought contend" in defence of our constitutional order. May many more South Africans join in a united demand for Zuma to step down.

TANZANIA :

KENYA :

**Bizarre diplomatic row sees Taiwanese deported from Kenya to China**

April 12, 2016 /Reuters

Taipei: In a in a bizarre diplomatic row, Taiwan has accused China of abducting groups of Taiwanese from a Kenyan police station and deporting them to China.

Kenyan police broke through a police station wall and threw tear gas canisters to force a group of Taiwanese on to a Chinese plane on Tuesday, the Taiwan's foreign ministry said.

"The 15 locked up at the police station steadfastly refused to be deported [to China]," said Antonio Chen, the chief of the ministry's department in charge of West Asian and African Affairs.

"So police broke through the wall, threw tear gas and then about 10 police entered with assault rifles," he said.

It is the second group of Kenyans forced to leave. On Monday, Taiwan accused China of kidnapping eight of its nationals from the capital Nairobi. It said China had pressured Kenyan police to put the eight on the plane on Friday. Taiwan said the eight had been acquitted in a cyber crime case in Kenya.

The Kenyan government and police were not immediately available for comment.

Kenya's attorney-general said in January it was considering a request from Beijing to extradite 76 Chinese charged with cyber crime in Kenya for trial in their homeland.

But Taiwan said some of these people were actually from Taiwan and that a total of 23 of its people had been acquitted last Tuesday by a Kenyan court and given 21 days to leave.

China views Taiwan as a wayward province, to be brought under Beijing's control.

Only 22 countries recognise Taiwan, with most, including Kenya, having diplomatic relations with Beijing, recognising its "one China" policy.

Taiwan has been in an uproar since the eight were forcibly deported.

Mr Chen said the 15 Taiwanese put on the plane on Tuesday likely had barred the door into the room they were being held in, while video footage carried by Taiwan media showed young men speaking the Taiwanese dialect in a cramped room, readying for a fight against a closed door.

The video footage could not be verified by Reuters.

"China, at the first moment, when it took our nationals without consulting us, acted improperly," said Chen Wen-chi, chief of the international and cross-strait legal affairs department of the Ministry of Justice.

Taiwan's top China policymaker said that it was negotiating with Beijing for the return of the first eight Taiwanese from Beijing.

"We think this has affected cross-strait ties even though China sees this as a joint effort fighting crime," said Jeff Yang, spokesman for Taiwan's Mainland Affairs Council.

Mr Yang said it was unclear how soon the Taiwanese in Beijing could return to Taiwan.

### **Njoroge says market will lead bank mergers**

Apr. 12, 2016/the-star.co.ke

Consolidation in the banking industry will be market-led, Central Bank governor Patrick Njoroge said late on Sunday, disclosing a number of deep-pocket local and international lenders are angling to buy troubled Chase Bank.

The mid-sized lender was put under receivership for 12 months last Thursday, but its clientèle of largely micro and small-sized enterprises and investment groups is proving attractive to big banks keen on consolidating their share in the competitive industry.

Although the governor refused to divulge further details of the potential suitors saying it was still early, KCB and Equity have in the past made clear their plans for consolidation.

Chase Bank investors failed to raise cash needed to recapitalise the bank in a night-long crunch talks with the CBK governor on Wednesday, before it was closed in the morning for failing to honour customer orders for cash payments and transfers.

"It's our intention and objective to reopen the bank as soon as possible," Njoroge said.

The governor, who last November indefinitely suspended licensing of new banks but left the door open for mergers and acquisitions, insisted he will leave the players to lead the consolidation process.

Kenya has one of world's highest bank to population ratio with 43 banks – three of which are in receivership – serving about 44 million people.

This is higher than Nigeria's 22 banks for 180 million people and South Africa's 19 lenders for 55 million people.

“As KCB, we have always been keen to strengthen what we see in the market and I can assure you we are very much open for business,” KCB chief executive Joshua Oigara said on March 2. “The more we strengthen our position as KCB today, the more we will build a consolidation frame. We are more than ready.” The closure of Chase Bank, the governor said, last week led to “aggressive bank run” that hit small and microfinance banks.

Njoroge's take on the banking sector

Central Bank governor Patrick Njoroge says he has confidence in the rigour and strength of Kenya's banking sector and will continue to monitor and oversee full compliance to laws and regulations. The regulator has warned of firm action against those who have abused their fiduciary positions of management of financial institutions.

He, however, has declined to disclose the size of the new credit facility, the first of its kind in the country's banking history, but emphasised it was large enough to support all banks affected. He says no institution in the world can sustain a bank run. The facility is, however, available to institutions suffering because of “fault not of their making.” Njoroge has not revealed the charge, if any, for lenders who will tap cash through the window. The CBK, he said, has an estimate of the amount that is needed.

### **Kenya: Nairobi and Diani Voted Best Travel Destinations**

11 April 2016/The Nation (Nairobi)

By Mathias Ringa

Kenya has been voted one of the best destinations in Africa at the World Travel Awards 2016.

In a gala ceremony held at Diamonds La Gemma dell'Est resort in Zanzibar on Saturday, Kenya emerged the big winner when its cities and local tourism products bagged a host of awards.

Mombasa scooped Africa's leading destination award while Nairobi, which has hosted high profile conferences, was named the place to be for meetings. Diani in Kwale County is Africa's leading beach destination for the third year running, while Mombasa was voted Africa's leading cruise port for the second consecutive year.

The Maasai Mara National Reserve, known as the eighth wonder of the world, was ranked the continent's best national park for the second year in a row, beating other reserves in South Africa, Tanzania and Uganda.

Serena Hotels won two prizes as it was voted Africa's leading hotel brand with its Nairobi hotel recognised for its green practices.

It was named Africa's green hotel as well as the leading business hotel in Kenya.

Kenya Airways, whose award-winning transit lounges at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport, for their design, bagged the award of Africa's leading airline for its business class. Fly540 was ranked Kenya's leading domestic safari carrier.

## TRAVEL

Kenya Tourism Board continued its winning streak when it once again bagged the Africa's leading tourist board award.

The Presidential Suite of Villa Rosa Kempinski was named Kenya's leading hotel suite.

Tourism principal secretary Fatuma Hirsi, who attended the award ceremony said she was impressed by the vote of confidence in Kenya as a travel destination and the tourism and hospitality products as she made a case for conservation.

"We have a world heritage to protect in our parks. We must continue to support conservation efforts for Kenya to remain the top safari destination in the world," she said.

She added that Nairobi deserved its win as Africa's leading meetings and conferences destination after successfully hosting global conferences such as the Global Entrepreneurship Summit headlined by US President Barack Obama and the World Trade Organisation conference. The events took place within months of each other last year.

Ms Hirsi lauded Radisson Blu Hotel, Nairobi, voted Africa's leading new hotel, saying its success would attract other hotel brands.

The PS called on local travel and tourism players to maintain

## ANGOLA :

## AU/AFRICA :

### Number of new hotel developments across Africa surges

by Fifi Peters/bdlive.co.za/ 12 avril 2016

THE Africa Rising narrative is holding strong in the continent's hospitality sector, particularly in Nigeria and Angola, despite the contraction in these economies due to the lower oil price.

Global and domestic hotel chains have ramped up their investment in the sector, with more than 64,000 rooms in the development pipeline this year, according to an industry survey compiled by the Lagos-based W Hospitality Group.

This is 30% higher than development activity last year and more than double the development pipeline in 2009.

"Africa is still on the up," Matthew Weihs, the MD of conference organiser Bench Events, said on

Monday.

"For business, trade, and capital investment, the continent remains an attractive proposition, leading to continuing demand for accommodation and other hospitality services," Mr Weihs said.

Nigeria has the highest number of hotels in the development pipeline this year, followed by Angola.

Together, the two countries account for almost 30% of the total pipeline.

The high level of hotel investment in the two West African countries comes amid dwindling economic expansion due to plunging government revenues as a result of the weak oil price. SA occupies ninth spot in terms of planned hotel development on the continent, with about 2,058 rooms across 11 hotels in the pipeline.

City Lodge Hotels said it was constructing a 169-room hotel in Nairobi, scheduled to be opened in the second quarter of next year.

Andrew Widegger, financial director of the hotelier, whose primary client is the business traveller, said construction of the group's hotels in Dar es Salaam, Maputo, and Windhoek was expected to begin during this quarter.

Sun International, SA's second-largest listed hotel and gaming group by market value, said it was developing a casino property in Menlyn, Tshwane, to house a 245-room, five-star hotel.

Despite the promising numbers for hotel development, W Hospitality Group MD Trevor Ward cautioned on the number of hotel deals that had been signed but not yet opened.

More than 30% of the hotel deals signed between 2009 and 2013 have still not been opened, mainly due to the lack of finance.

UN/AFRICA :

**Green sector can improve Africa's trade balance, reduce energy imports- UN report**

By Naija247news /12/04/2016

The green sector can improve Africa's trade balance by reducing energy imports, and raise foreign exchange, says a report by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

According to the report: "Economic Report on Africa 2016: Greening Africa's Industrialisation" released on Monday in New York, the 'greening' Africa's industrialisation can also lead to job creation and spur economic growth.

It said that greening industrialisation was an opportunity for Africa to achieve the type of structural transformation that would yield sustainable and inclusive growth, create jobs, while safeguarding the productivity of natural resource assets.

Structural transformation through industrialisation, it added, would inevitably and justifiably increase the uptake of resources.

The report noted that most African economies share common environmental challenges and that greening could promote regional integration and cooperation and the growth of continent-wide innovation capabilities.

It said that structural transformation in Africa's economies remained the highest priority, and industrialisation was the top strategy for achieving it in practice.

Achieving the African Union's Agenda 2063 and fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), it added, would demand a major re-design of growth strategies across the continent.

The big opportunity for Africa in 2016, as a latecomer to industrialisation, it added, was in adopting alternative economic pathways to industrialisation, it added.

It showed that African countries had made notable gains in the regional business environment.

"With greater economic and political stability across most sub regions, these advances have supported growth through higher consumption and increased public and private investment," it said.

It stated that recent commodity price developments have, however, highlighted many economies' persistent structural weaknesses, particularly in government revenues, exchange rates and current account balances.

It said stronger emphasis was required on strategic non-oil sectors such as electricity, construction and technology, particularly in economies heavily dependent on oil revenue, such as Nigeria.

The global economic environment, it added, underlined the need for prudent, counter-cyclical macroeconomic management.

It said continued low commodity prices offered an opportunity for improved fiscal management and consolidation through further cutting of subsidies to utilities.

It explained that spending should instead target high-priority sectors for accelerated structural transformation.

It said that countries should also focus on mobilising domestic resources to fund public investment, by issuing Eurobonds for example.

It also showed that African countries still had high international reserves that could be used for investment.

Exchange rate depreciation, it added, could also enhance exports, particularly in oil-dependent countries.

Overall, it added, Africa continued to grow in and after the global financial crisis, while traditional markets had seen very slow recoveries, limiting Africa's export opportunities.

The report called on African countries to seek to enhance intra-African trade by strengthening regional integration, lowering trade costs and the nonphysical barriers to trade and pledging stronger commitments to the Continental Free Trade Area under negotiation.

It also suggested that governments should take on-board the drivers, challenges, and trade-offs in pushing for a greening of industrialisation and to build them into the vision and route-map for

action.

Seizing the momentum of the Paris Climate Agreement and the SDGs, it added, provided the ideal timing for such a shift in economic strategy.

It called for collective commitment from across the African Union to strengthen the speed and effectiveness of such a strategic shift.

The report said governments were central in mapping out the pathway to green industrialisation. (NAN)

### Africa: Child suicide bombers rise 10-fold says UN

aa.com.tr/12/04/2016

New report reveals huge two-year rise in minors carrying out suicide attacks in Lake Chad region

By Rafiu Ajakaye

LAGOS, Nigeria

UNICEF said on Tuesday that the number of children used as suicide bombers across the Lake Chad region has risen 10-fold since 2014, adding that 75 percent of these minors had been girls.

In a report titled 'Beyond Chibok', the agency said the number of child suicide bombers rose from four in 2014 to 44 in 2015.

The report comes two days before the second anniversary of the kidnap of over 200 schoolgirls in Chibok town of Nigeria's northeastern Borno State. The abductions were orchestrated by the Boko Haram terror group.

"Between January 2014 and February 2016, Cameroon recorded the highest number of suicide attacks involving children (21), followed by Nigeria (17) and Chad (2)," according to the report.

Over the past two years, nearly one-in-five suicide bombers was a child and three quarters of these children were girls, it added.

Last year, the report said, children were used in one out of two attacks in Cameroon, one out of eight in Chad and one out of seven in Nigeria.

"Let us be clear: these children are victims, not perpetrators," the report quoted Manuel Fontaine, UNICEF Regional Director for West and Central Africa, as saying.

"Deceiving children and forcing them to carry out deadly acts has been one of the most horrific aspects of the violence in Nigeria and in neighboring countries," he added.

Fontaine observed that the rise in the use of children for suicide bombings has resulted in communities treating minors as security threats.

"This suspicion towards children can have destructive consequences; how can a community rebuild itself when it is casting out its own sisters, daughters and mothers?" he queried.

Assessing the impact of the crisis, the report notes that nearly 1.3 million children have been displaced, with about 1,800 schools closed – either damaged, looted, burned down or used as shelters by displaced people.

Over 5,000 children were reported unaccompanied or separated from their parents, it added.

According to the report, suicide bombing attacks spread beyond Nigeria to its neighbors for the first time last year.

The frequency of all suicide bombings increased from 32 in 2014 to 151 last year. In 2015, 89 of these attacks were carried out in Nigeria, 39 in Cameroon, 16 in Chad and seven in Niger, the report stated.

### Africa: UN Urged to Step Away From Peacekeeping Rape Probe

11 April 2016/Al Jazeera (Doha)

By Azad Essa

The United Nations is not in a position to investigate claims of sexual abuse committed by its own peacekeepers and must step aside to allow the law to take its course, a lobby group has said.

The call by Paula Donovan, co-director of the Code Blue Campaign to end impunity for sexual exploitation and abuse by UN peacekeepers on Monday, comes as pressure mounts on the global body following a series of allegations pitted against its troops in the Central African Republic.

Donovan described the UN's ability to probe itself on such sensitive matters as untenable.

"We are saying that the UN should recuse itself in the law enforcement in assessing the crimes and in determining who should hold responsibility and be accountable for those crimes.

"This is a conflict of interest and they need to remove itself from the criminal side and focus entirely on the care of victims and allow the appropriate law enforcement officials to do their job," Donovan, a director at the AIDS-Free World NGO, said in a media briefing broadcast over the internet.

Independent impartial body

The UN has been in the spotlight for the past year after scores of allegations of child rape and other sexual abuses by its peacekeepers, especially those based in CAR, came to the fore.

As recently as March, the United Nations said it learned of 108 new sexual abuse cases in CAR.

A US-based advocacy group said three girls in CAR claimed they had been tied up and forced to have sex with a dog by a French military commander in 2014.

Donovan said that considering the UN had failed to deal with this scourge, the onus was now on member states to create an independent, impartial body made up of prosecutors and judges, to monitor and rule on these crimes.

Stephane Dujarric, Spokesperson for the UN Secretary-General, said he "would disagree respectfully with Ms Donovan".



Speaking at this noon briefing on Monday, Dujarric said his colleagues at "UNICEF and other agencies who are dealing with this issue, know how to do their jobs [...] I don't think anyone is trying to bury these cases and trying to make them go away."

Between March 2013 and late 2015, CAR had been hit hard by communal violence. After the Muslim-led Seleka rebels took Bangui in a coup, they meted out large-scale attacks against the Christian community.

The reprisal from vigilante Christian groups resulted in the displacement of hundreds of thousands as the country became locked in a cycle of violence.

The past five months have seen a sizable reduction in violence, with Bangui being protected by UN peacekeeping forces. But the peacekeeping operation has been marred by a dark sequence of allegations of sexual abuse leveled at its troops.

Little regard for victims

In January, an Independent Review Panel on UN Response to Allegations of Sexual Abuse by Foreign Military Forces in CAR released a report condemning the UN for failing to respond to allegations of child abuse against peacekeepers in CAR.

Also speaking in the online press briefing on Monday, Yasmin Sooka, one of the authors of the scathing report, said the UN had yet to implement measures that approached the issue "from a serial perspective."

Sooka said that the UN also had very little expertise in offering support to victims or even carrying out investigations.

Sooka added that the process was still marred by incessant secrecy and there was little regard for the rights of victims.

"One agency told us about a young girl taken to the French military and told [to] "identify from this group of men who the perpetrator is". You can imagine in that kind of context, the kind of trauma and damage but also the long term repercussion and possible victimisation and stigmatisation," Sooka said.

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