

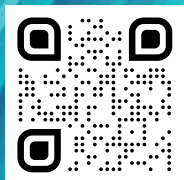


CENTER FOR STRATEGIC
AND POLICY STUDIES

Living the future today

CSPS

MONITOR



NOVEMBER 2022

SOUTH SUDAN

3RD NOVEMBER, 2022

The United States embassy in South Sudan has “strongly” condemned South Sudan’s Information minister, Michael Makuei Lueth’s remarks regarding an American journalist killed in August 2017. Christopher Allen, a U.S citizen, was shot while covering a clash in Kaya, near South Sudan’s border with Uganda after having been embedded with rebel forces. The deceased reportedly had a camera at the time he was shot by government forces. Makuei, while speaking at an occasion to mark the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, said the government could not probe Allen’s death. “This man entered South Sudan illegally and it is why I declared in a statement that we have killed a white rebel because he was killed on the side of rebels,” he said Wednesday. The U.S embassy, in a statement on Friday, strongly condemned Makuei’s comment. “The U.S. Embassy condemns in the strongest terms the 2 November comments of Michael Makuei, the Minister of Information, regarding Christopher Allen, an American journalist killed while covering clashes between the South Sudan People’s Defense Forces and the Sudan People’s Liberation Army-In Opposition in August 2017,” it partly read. The U.S wondered whether Makuei’s remarks represented government’s position. “The U.S. Embassy once again renews its calls to the Government of South Sudan to conduct a credible inquiry into Mr. Allen’s death and to share its findings with Mr. Allen’s family,” stressed the statement. In August, Reporters Without Borders (RSF) asked the U.S Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to initiate investigations into Allen’s death. South Sudan ranks 128th out of 180 nations in RSF’s 2022 World Press Freedom Index.

SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article266333/>

5TH NOVEMBER, 2022

SOUTH SUDAN, SUDAN WORKING TO IMPROVE BORDER TRADE RELATIONS

South Sudan and neighbouring Sudan are working to improve security and cross-border trade relations, a government official said on Friday. Western Bahr el Ghazal state governor, Sarah Cleto Rial she was working with her counterpart in Darfur to promote harmony, peaceful coexistence and local cohesion. She made the remarks at the graduation of the unified forces in the state capital, Wau. “This historic graduation of the necessary unified force will not only play a critical role in providing and maintaining the security as provided for in the peace agreement, but it is a big boost to our efforts to enhance border security with Sudan,” explained Cleto. She said local military commanders and traditional leaders are key in maintaining peace. The governor further stressed that better coordination, collaboration and connectivity seek to not only boost

national and regional trade, but create jobs and grow the economy. “Efficient and effective border management procedures not only contribute to enhanced border security, but facilitate movement of people and goods across borders,” she said. Cleto stressed the role of regional and international trade in enhancing economic growth. South Sudan’s security adviser, Tut Gatluak Manime said the unified forces would strengthen government’s capacity to protect its own citizens by curtailing subnational and inter-communal violence and demonstrate South Sudan’s respect for human rights by enhancing accountability as well as guarantee the territorial integrity of the country. “This day would not have been possible without the support of our brothers in Sudan, especially the role of the leadership of Gen. Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan. He [Al-Burhan] has been supportive throughout the process. They provided technical support, uniforms, and logistical supplies which were needed for this graduation,” explained Manime. The South Sudanese army (SSPDF) chief of general staff, Gen. Santino Wol Deng commended the patience displayed by the recruits throughout the training period. He affirmed the commitment of the military command to the full implementation of the 2018 peace agreement, including training and provision of technical and logistic support. Defense minister, Angelina Teny commended the graduating forces for their patience. She stressed that while the region’s security challenges are becoming increasingly complex, there is need for strong commitments to regional peace and security, broader engagement in peace and reconciliation efforts as well as international cooperation. At least 13,628 soldiers, military officials said, graduated on Friday. According to the 2018 peace deal, South Sudan is to train and graduate a unified force of 83,000 personnel to take charge of security during its transitional period.

SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article266398/>

24TH NOVEMBER, 2022

JUBA POLICE ARREST 39 SUSPECTED LAND-GRABBERS

The police in Juba County of Central Equatoria State have arrested 39 suspected land grabbers along the Juba – Mangala road. The director of Juba County Police, Brigadier General Wilson William Adiang says the arrests were made yesterday afternoon at Kubri Mohandisiin – north-east of the capital. General Adiang told the suspects at Juba County Headquarters that he was ordered to end land grabbing in Juba County. Adiang He says the 39 land grabbers will be investigated – adding that the law will take its course. Addressing the suspects at the county police headquarters in Kapuri on Wednesday, the security official said majority of the land grabbers are military officers. “Why are we spoiling our reputations as soldiers, all the time land grabbers are those who are wearing army uniforms,” Adiang said. “Let’s leave this land grabbing. We are the ones spoiling this country and you say, foreigners are the ones spoiling it, which is not true because if you look at yourselves all of you are Dinkas, Nuers and Shulluk and some Equatorians.” Juba County has witnessed unprecedented incidents of land grabbing – with

perpetrators going unpunished in recent months. In some of the areas, locals have been forced to leave their native homes for fear of harassment. The local authorities said they have arrested at least 500 land grabbers including military officers in different suburbs of the capital this year. Some of those land grabbers explained why they decided to grab the land. “In South Sudan companies are more important than citizens, because all those areas are full of companies, and citizens are just there without houses like this Gumba is full of companies,” Khamis (not his real name) said. “This place, we found it empty and if we developed it, those of Mapao and Kubri Teman will come here and this place will be under the administration of Mangala Payam.” “We went there because some of us are tired of trauma inside this UNMISS here, like us we don’t have anything, when there’s peace like this you got free and you go anywhere,” said John (not his real name).

SOURCE:

<https://www.eyeradio.org/juba-police-arrest-39-suspected-land-grabbers/>

26TH NOVEMBER, 2022

ANYANYA WAR VETERAN JOSEPH LAGU MARKS 93RD BIRTHDAY

Retired Anyanya war veteran and politician, Joseph Lagu on Friday marked his 93rd birthday surrounded by family, friends, and a large gathering of citizens. The charismatic leader, famous for his trademark salutation “I greet each one of you one by one”, is currently the oldest surviving leader of the liberation war. Lagu was once the chief architect of the first Anyanya movement and partook in the negotiation of the 1972 Addis Ababa Agreement. He then became the second president of the autonomous southern region of Sudan. The current Special Advisor to President Salva Kiir had defeated COVID-19 after testing positive with his wife in December 2020. Senior government officials including Vice President Wani Igga, national and state ministers, and lawmakers gathered at Bari Community Centre in Juba Friday to celebrate the renowned veteran. In a message delivered by his cabinet minister, Governor Adil said the country owes exceptional dignity and honor for the strong foundation Lagu had set during the liberation struggle. Adil reportedly donated a car to Gen. Lagu “to facilitate his movement.” The family of General Lagu also unveiled the ‘Joseph Lagu Foundation’ which is reportedly aimed at developing sustainable generations of future leaders both in the public and private sectors. **Joseph Lagu also served as the Sudanese Ambassador to the UN between September 1990 and January 1992.**

SOURCE:

<https://www.eyeradio.org/anyanya-war-veteran-joseph-lagu-marks-93rd-birthday/>

ERITREA

18TH NOVEMBER 2022

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF ERITREANS IN SCANDINAVIA: REBUTTAL TO FOREIGN POLICY ARTICLE

On November 10 this month, Foreign Policy website published an evidently distorted “analysis” entitled “How Eritrea Could Derail the Ethiopian Deal”, by a notorious “regime change” proponent residing in Norway; a certain Mohamed. The National Council of Eritreans in Scandinavia find this FP article highly biased and replete with misleading presumptions and assertions. Indeed, it cannot pass a simple test of objectivity. We are accordingly puzzled how this article was deemed fit for publication on a leading current affairs website. The entire piece, in fact, seems to have been culled from a TPLF sheet of talking points. In the event, we would like to point out a few of the glaring inaccuracies: First off, the TPLF wilfully started the brutal war that has intermittently raged for the last two years. Even the writer brazenly admits this in his paragraphs by saying “...after the TPLF’s takeover of Northern Command headquarters in November 2020” Eritrea’s track-record of working for peace, stability and cooperation in the Horn of Africa is illustrated, among other things, by its unwavering respect and adherence to the Algiers Peace Agreement and the EEBC Arbitral Award that ensued in accordance with its fundamental provisions. On the contrary, the TPLF reneged on its treaty obligations and continued to occupy sovereign Eritrean territories in flagrant violation of international law. The article deliberately glosses over the historical Eritrean – Ethiopia Peace and Cooperation Agreement that was signed in Asmara on July 9th, 2018. The Agreement formally terminates the state of war between the two countries and underlines, in unequivocal terms, Ethiopia’s respect of Eritrea’s sovereignty and territorial integrity through full implementation of the decision of the boundary commission; and in addition, both countries agreed to work jointly to ensure regional peace, development and cooperation. All the sources referred to in the article are “sources close to TPLF” which is highly revealing about the writer’s close connections. The writer is a close associate of Mr. Kjetil Tronvoll in Oslo, who is a notorious TPLF collaborator and propagandist, which can be easily observed in his Twitter timeline of the last two years. There is no point in wasting precious time to respond to all the obvious distortions included in the article. The National Council of Eritreans in Scandinavian countries however kindly requests the FP to publish this response on its website and check the objectivity and veracity of acrimonious articles on Eritrea as well as the credibility and underlying motivation of the authors concerned.

SOURCE:

<https://shabait.com/2022/11/18/national-council-of-eritreans-in-scandinavia-rebuttal-to-foreign-policy-article/>

28TH NOVEMBER 2022**ERITREA PARTICIPATED IN THE 17TH AU EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT**

Eritrean delegation led by Mr. Biniam Berhe, Charge d’Affairs at the Eritrean Embassy in Ethiopia and Eritrea’s Permanent Representative at the African Union and Economic Commission of Africa, participated at the 17th African Union Extraordinary Summit and African Continental Free Trade Area held in Niamey, Niger, from 23 to 25 November. At the summit focusing on the Industrialization and Economic Diversification in Africa and African Continental Free Trade Area, the Eritrean delegation noted the significance of the summit in the development of natural resources of Africa to the benefit of its people. The delegation further stressed the importance of processing the natural resources and ending exporting natural resources that are the main sources of employment as well as making a substantial investment in human resources development which is the main asset of Africa. Pointing out that the 1.4 billion African people could be enough market for African products and African natural resources have initiated the Industrial Revolution of the Western countries, the Eritrean delegation said that developing the natural resources into industrialization will have a significant contribution to the qualitative transformation of the living standard of the African people as well as in putting Africa into its right place in the global order. The summit conducted extensive discussion on the report presented focusing on the theme of the summit and adopted a resolution and declaration that could support the industrialization and economic diversification of Africa.

SOURCE:

<https://shabait.com/2022/11/27/eritrea-participated-in-the-17th-au-extraordinary-summit/>

SUDAN

16TH NOVEMBER 2022

The Forces for Freedom and Change (FFC) announced an imminent framework agreement with the military component to end the ongoing political crisis in Sudan after the October 25, 2022 coup. In a press conference held on Wednesday, the FFC mainstream “Central Council” held a press conference to announce a two-phase process dubbed “Towards a credible and transparent political process to end the coup and its effects and completes the tasks of the glorious December revolution.” The purpose of the process is to ensure the participation of the revolution’s forces in the democratic transition and to form a large coalition backing the needed reforms, said Yasir Arman in statements to Sudan Tribune on Wednesday. He said they agreed on a two-stage process to ensure the inclusive participation of more social and political forces on the sticky issues. “First, there is a framework agreement including all the necessary mechanisms to end the coup and establish a democratic civil authority based on the document of the Sudanese Bar Association and the political declaration. This agreement will be signed within 10 days,” said Arman. “The second stage is the final agreement developing the framework agreement with the participation of a wide public of stakeholders and revolutionary forces in four main areas,” he further said. These areas are: “the Justice and transitional justice, security and military reform, Juba Agreement for Peace in Sudan and completion of peace and the dismantlement of the former regime”. With regard to the dismantling of the former regime, he said that it includes “the review of all the decisions issued after October 25, 2022” Three days ago, the head of the Sovereign Council, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, said that the military component has reached “understandings” with the FFC groups. However, he reassured his troops that the military would not accept being reformed by a civilian government during the transitional period and any change would be decided and implemented by the army. FFC leading member Taha Osman confirmed and emphasized that they agreed with the military that the transitional government would be fully civilian. “There is no partnership, and there is no military council,” he asserted. Arman told Sudan Tribune that the security and defence council will be chaired by the prime minister. “The armed forces would remain far from politics,” he added. Asked about the armed groups that supported the coup, Arman stressed the need for joint action to review the Juba peace agreement and to ensure its implementation. “This will pave the way for a new stage. Now, they have to table a new vision and proposals so that all the parties can agree on a joint vision for the sake of democratic change,” he said. During the press conference, the FFC leaders called for clear regional and international support for the two-phase plan reached by the two parties. In his statements to Sudan Tribune, Arman said that at the current stage they request political support for this agreement from the international community, particularly the countries that backed the civil democratic transition. “After that, we hope to get technical and economic support for the transitional period and financial guarantees to ensure the success of the democratic process,” he added.

SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article266915/>

15TH NOVEMBER, 2022

SUDAN TO IMPROVE BILATERAL RELATIONS WITH KENYA: AGAR

Sudan is seeking to improve its bilateral ties with Kenya to enhance mutual cooperation and preserve regional peace and stability, a top official said. Malik Agar, a member of Sudan's Sovereign Council, told *Sudan Tribune* on Wednesday that both nations have been working together to promote regional peace and security. The official, who represented Sudan at Tuesday's inauguration of Kenya's newly-elected leader, said Khartoum would cooperate with Kenya in various aspects of mutual interest. "I went to Kenya on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, to represent Sudan in the inauguration of their leader, the new president, His Excellency Dr. William Ruto. Gen Abdel Fattah Al-Burhan was supposed to attend the inauguration but the leadership decided I attend on behalf of Sudan and the people of Sudan because the chairman had other commitments and the presence of Sudan was important," Agar explained. He added, "So, I was nominated to go and attend the inauguration which went well. Sudan was fully represented and the Kenyan leadership and friends of Sudan appreciated and accorded us a warm reception and treatment". The opposition politician described as "mutual" relations between Sudan and Kenya. "Sudan and Kenya maintain ties in various areas, primarily in the security sector but this is going to evolve and our relations with Kenya which are currently bilateral can also be upgraded to strategic relations if we work together within the framework of regional integration to promote peace, stability", stressed Agar. "We can elevate our relations to a strategic level through trade and diplomatic cooperation in various areas of mutual cooperation while enhancing trust and playing a role in the regional matters", he added. Sudan is the current chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD). Other members are Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan and Uganda. By virtue of its geographical location in the East and Horn of Africa, Sudan is viewed as one of the countries playing a strategic role as an ally of western countries in the fight against terrorism, containing the spread of radical Islam and human trafficking.

SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article264132/>

TANZANIA

24TH NOVEMBER, 2022

TANZANIA STARTS RATIONING POWER BECAUSE OF DROUGHT

Tanzanian authorities have started rationing electricity because of a drop in hydropower generation brought on by drought, the national provider said Wednesday, with some areas set to suffer nine-hour outages. The East African nation has the capacity to generate nearly 1,695 megawatts through hydropower, natural gas and other means. But it is facing a shortage of 300 to 350 megawatts, Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (Tanesco) managing director Maharage Chande said. There are two major reasons which have caused the shortages in generation: prolonged drought and ongoing maintenance in some of our plants,” Chande told reporters in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam, on Wednesday. The affected plants include Kihansi in southeast Morogoro region, whose capacity has fallen from 180 megawatts to 17 megawatts, he said. “Water levels have decreased in most sources, forcing our plants to generate below their capacity,” Chande said. The country is trying to increase its hydropower capacity, including through the construction of the controversial Julius Nyerere dam project in the Selous Game Reserve, which is expected to produce 2,100 megawatts once operational. Tanzania, like its East African neighbors, has been experiencing poor rainfall and delayed monsoons, leading authorities to impose water rationing in Dar es Salaam last month because of a drought-induced fall in water levels. Kenya, Somalia and Ethiopia are in the grip of the worst drought in four decades after four failed rainy seasons wiped out livestock and crops.

SOURCE:

<https://www.voanews.com/a/tanzania-rations-electricity-because-of-drought-6849172.html>

DJIBOUTI

16TH NOVEMBER, 2022

DJIBOUTI ECONOMY SLOWS DUE TO GLOBAL CRISES, SEVERE DROUGHT

After rebounding in 2021, Djibouti's economy has slowed since the beginning of 2022 due to the war in Ukraine, global inflation, severe drought, and subdued Ethiopian demand. Yet growth is expected to recover to 5.3% in 2023 and 6.2% in 2024, and opening up the digital sector for competition could lead to an additional 1% increase in national GDP by 2025, according to the latest edition of the World Bank's Djibouti Economic Monitor. The twice-yearly report analyses development trends and constraints in Djibouti. The autumn 2022 report, titled "[Towards Sustainable Growth: Improving Fiscal Stability and Competitiveness of the Digital Sector](#)," estimates real GDP growth at 3.6% for the whole of 2022, down from 4.3% in 2021. But in the current year, soaring global oil and food prices have pushed up inflation-the year-on-year rate at the end of June 2022 was 11%. Moreover, measures to mitigate the impact of the war in Ukraine and worsening drought have put pressure on the fiscal deficit. Troublingly, public debt service has more than tripled in 2022, leading the government to temporarily suspend some of its foreign debt payments. "Urgent action is needed for the Djibouti economy to recover over the coming two years. This includes expediting structural reforms, fiscal consolidation, and implementing the private and public investment programs," said Boubacar-Sid Barry, World Bank Resident Representative in Djibouti. The report discusses the current government's plans which aim at strengthening the country's resilience to the multiple shocks it faces and creating more economic opportunities. For example, Djibouti's strategy to diversify its port activities aims to capture more value in international trade. This strategy includes the development of a ship repair yard, a new oil terminal and a new business district at the old port. Also, the country is developing a national strategy for the promotion of a green economy that aims at addressing the impact of climate change and generating additional income for its population. The special chapter of the report looks at the economic promise of unlocking Djibouti's digital sector by ending the near monopoly of Djibouti Telecom. The report finds that opening up the sector to competition would produce cheaper and better services that would support the emergence of new industries, strengthen the country's position as a regional hub, and attract more private investors. The development would give a boost to the country's many micro, small and medium enterprises, and increase employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for the country's youth.

SOURCE:

<https://www.miragenews.com/djibouti-economy-slows-due-to-global-crisis-896909/>

KENYA

10TH NOVEMBER 2022

KENYA, SOUTH AFRICA TO BEGIN MUTUAL VISA-FREE SYSTEM IN JANUARY

The new agreement was announced during the first official trip of South African President Cyril Ramaphosa to Kenya. The presidents of South Africa and Kenya say they have resolved a longstanding visa dispute and Kenyans will be able to visit South Africa visa-free for up to 90 days in a calendar year. South Africans already get free visas on arrival in Kenya, while Kenyans were charged and required to provide proof of sufficient funds and return flight tickets. The new agreement, which is set to take effect on January 1, was announced during the first official trip of South African President Cyril Ramaphosa to Kenya on Wednesday. Meanwhile, he and his Kenyan counterpart William Ruto also directed their trade ministers to address barriers that limit trade between the two countries, which are among the strongest economies in Africa.

The duo also praised the Ethiopia peace agreement signed last week in South Africa and brokered by the African Union. They appealed to the parties to “ensure full implementation of the agreement to reach a lasting political settlement”. Representatives of the Ethiopian federal government and regional authorities in Tigray are meeting in Nairobi this week to hash out details of the agreement brokered by AU mediators led by former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo. Ruto’s predecessor Uhuru Kenyatta was among the mediators.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/11/10/kenyans-to-enter-south-africa-visa-free-from-january>

19TH NOVEMBER 2023.

EXPERTS ROOT FOR BEST PRACTICES AS KENYA MARKS WORLD ANTIMICROBIAL AWARENESS WEEK.

The government through the ministries of Health, Agriculture, Livestock Development in collaboration with other Ministries have consolidated national efforts to implement sustainable measures to mitigate the effects of Antimicrobial Resistance which poses a growing threat to treatment and control of epidemic prone, endemic as well as pandemic diseases.

Speaking on behalf of the Health Cabinet Secretary Susan Nakhumicha during the launch of World Antibiotics Awareness Week 2022, Acting Head Directorate of Health Standards Quality Assurance and Regulation Dr. Simon Kibias said through the use of this One-Health

approach, the various Ministries have developed a National Action Plan and an AMR Policy whose implementation is underway. “The continuous emergence of resistance to antimicrobials restricts our ability to treat diseases, reversing the gains made in the fight against infectious diseases and curbs efforts to achieve Universal Health Coverage and the health-related sustainable development goals. To efficiently and effectively implement the interventions in the NAP, functional and integrated systems, with well-coordinated, suitably resourced governing structures, are required.” Said Dr. Kibias. He said there is still a lot of work that needs to be done to accelerate action towards curbing the growing threat of antimicrobial resistance in the next version of the National Action Plan.

“We need to end the use of antimicrobial drugs that are of critical importance to human medicine in promoting growth in animals, limiting the amount of antimicrobial drugs administered to prevent infection in healthy animals and plants and ensuring that their use is performed with regulatory oversight and ensuring access to quality and affordable antimicrobials for animal and human health.” Noted Dr. Kibias.

According to Kibias, there was need to improve mechanisms and broaden appropriate access to good quality antimicrobials as well as fix supply chain for antimicrobials need. “We should ensure that there is effective governance and professional oversight of the sales and use of antimicrobials and stewardship of antimicrobials in all sectors. We also need to work towards elimination or marked reduction of over-the-counter sales of antimicrobials by implementing stringent rules to strengthen and increase professional oversight.” Added Dr. Kibias Stakeholders and partners present in the launch reiterated that there is need to encourage best practices among health workers, animal health practitioners, environmentalists, general public and policy makers who all play a critical role in reducing the further emergence and spread of AMR.

The Global Research on Antimicrobial Resistance (GRAM) report 2022 estimate that, at least 1.27 million deaths per year are directly attributable to AMR with the highest rates of AMR burden being in sub-Saharan Africa.

SOURCE:

<https://www.health.go.ke/experts-root-for-best-practices-as-kenya-marks-world-antimicrobial-awareness-week/>

9TH NOVEMBER 2022

KENYA DISCLOSES PART OF SECRET RAILWAY CONTRACT WITH CHINA.

Kenya’s government has disclosed some details of the loan agreement the country signed in 2014 with China to build a railway, a major step toward political accountability but one that could strain relations with Beijing, the country’s top financier of infrastructure projects.

The administration of President William Ruto of Kenya on Sunday published three documents from a contract used to construct the railway, a passenger and freight service that was funded, designed and built by China. The railway starts from Kenya's coastal region but ends in the middle of nowhere. Since the \$4.7 billion rail project, known as the Standard Gauge Railway, began five years ago, it has cast a long shadow over the East African nation. It was over budget by millions of dollars and became the centre of multiple criminal investigations, saddling the economy with ever-growing debt and ending with judges declaring it illegal because it contravened the country's procurement laws. Experts on China and Africa said the revelations were unprecedented, given that Chinese loan contracts were often shrouded in secrecy. "It is a significant gesture toward transparency," said Cobus van Staden, managing editor of the China Global South Project, a non-profit researching Beijing's engagement with Africa. The three documents revealed how the railway's financier, Exim Bank of China, had the upper hand in the negotiations. China is Kenya's top trading partner, and the African country owes more bilateral debt to China than to any other nation. The contract stipulated that any goods bought using proceeds from the railway would preferably be sourced from China. Any dispute that emerged from the agreement, the documents said, must be resolved through binding arbitration in China. The contract also could not be disclosed to any third parties without the financier's consent, a move that, now completed, could strain relations between the two countries. Although it wasn't immediately clear whether the Kenyan authorities had consulted Beijing before releasing the documents, the Chinese Foreign Ministry issued a statement after the move.

SOURCE:

<https://www.nytimes.com/2022/11/08/world/africa/kenya-china-railway-contract.html>

SOMALIA

11TH NOVEMBER 2022.

FAMINE LOOMS OVER SOMALIA AS ONE CHILD HOSPITALIZED EVERY MINUTE.

One child is being admitted for medical treatment for malnutrition every minute in Somalia. Humanitarian NGOs unable to work in areas under jihadist control. About three months ago, Gumuru Maale walked 100 kilometers from her village to one of the many refugee camps surrounding Baidoa in southern Somalia. A mother of eight children, she had left behind one of her sons, Isaack, who was in charge of watching over the few remaining camels in a herd decimated by drought. Then forced to leave himself, the 8-years-old boy set off alone, drinking dirty water on the way. When he reached the camp, he died of heatstroke a day later. Wrapped in a large yellow hijab, his 36-year-old mother had lost almost everything. Her small sorghum field near Buur Hakaba had become sterile after four failed rainy seasons. Her meager savings had been diverted to pay the zakat, a tax imposed by Harakat Al-Chabab Al-Mujahidin, the Somali terrorist group affiliated with Al-Qaeda. She is financially suffocating.

After two years without rain, hundreds of thousands of farmers and nomads have been forced to leave everything behind. Baidoa, 250 kilometers west of Mogadishu, is the epicenter of the crisis. With an original population of 800,000, the town has seen its numbers double. Its outskirts are now surrounded by a large ring of camps populated by thousands of tents in the colors of international humanitarian organizations.

SOURCE:

https://www.lemonde.fr/en/le-monde-africa/article/2022/11/11/famine-looms-in-somalia_6003796_124.html

14TH NOVEMBER 2022

TURK DECRIES STEEP RISE IN CIVILIAN CASUALTIES AMID SURGE IN AL-SHABAAB ATTACKS.

A steep rise in civilian casualties in Somalia, due largely to attacks by the Al-Shabaab armed group, has exacerbated an already grim human rights and humanitarian situation for the people of Somalia, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Volker Türk said Monday. According to the latest UN figures, at least 613 civilians have been killed and 948 injured so far this year – the highest number since 2017 and more than a 30 percent rise from last year. Most of the casualties, 315 killed and 686 injured, have been due to Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), at least 94 percent of which were attributed to Al-Shabaab. Other casualties have been caused by State security forces, clan militia and other unidentified actors. “This year has brought an abrupt halt to a general decline in deaths and injuries documented since 2017,” said Türk. “I am deeply concerned that more Somalis continue to lose their lives on a daily basis.”

“All parties to the conflict must uphold their obligations under international humanitarian law and ensure that civilians are protected. This also includes armed elements engaged alongside the Government in the conflict against Al-Shabaab, as well as international forces.” “I call on the Government of Somalia to take all necessary steps – in cooperation with the international community – to strengthen the protection of civilians, in line with international human rights norms and standards and international humanitarian law,” the High Commissioner added.

Other casualties have resulted from Al-Shabaab suicide bombings, the most recent of which was on 29 October near the Ministry of Education in the capital Mogadishu, and left at least 121 people dead and 333 injured, according to Somalia’s Ministry of Health. Most of the casualties were civilians. An earlier Al-Shabaab attack on Mogadishu’s Hayat Hotel on 21 August killed at least 22 civilians and injured 30.

SOURCE:

<https://www.ohchr.org/en/press-releases/2022/11/somalia-turk-decries-steep-rise-civilian-casualties-amid-surge-al-shabaab>

28TH NOVEMBER 2022

Somali Security forces storm a hotel held by al-Shahaab Extremists, freeing civilians. Somali forces on Monday stormed a hotel in the capital, Mogadishu, where Islamic extremists had been holed up for more than 18 hours after killing eight civilians and trapping dozens in the building, officials said. Police spokesperson Sadik Dodishe said all six extremists died during the operation at the Villa Rosa hotel, and one member of the security forces was also killed. Dodishe said about 60 people who had been trapped in the hotel were freed and none of them were injured. It was not immediately clear whether others were missing. According to Dodishe, five of the attackers were killed by security forces, and one blew himself up. Islamic extremist group al-Shabab claimed responsibility for the attack.

Mogadishu resident Mohamed Suleyman told the AP that two of his relatives, both civilians, died in the attack. “It’s a great sadness to learn that two of my relatives were among those killed in yesterday night’s attack,” he said. “We were informed by their colleagues who managed to escape the attack after jumping (over the perimeter) wall of the hotel.” Ali Moalim, another Mogadishu resident, said he saw “two bodies of the security forces carried by their fellow soldiers.” Al-Shabab said in a broadcast on its own radio frequency Sunday that its fighters attacked the hotel, which has a restaurant popular with government and security officials. The attack is believed to have started with an explosion before gunmen penetrated the hotel’s gates.

SOURCE:

<https://www.npr.org/2022/11/27/1139345753/al-shabab-attack-hotel-somalia-mogadishu>

UGANDA

8TH NOVEMBER 2022

UGANDA TO END SCHOOL YEAR EARLY AMID EBOLA OUTBREAK

The Ugandan government says it will end the school year earlier than planned because of an Ebola outbreak that has affected 23 students, including eight children who died. Millions of Ugandan students in primary and secondary schools will be affected by the decision to end the semester two weeks early, due to the ongoing Ebola virus outbreak. Joyce Moriku Kaducu, the state minister for education, announced the closure on Tuesday. “Pre-primary, primary and secondary schools will close for Term 3 holidays on Friday, 25th November 2022, " Kaducu said.

According to the Ministry of Education, Ebola cases were found at five schools in the Kampala, Wakiso and Mubende districts. Kaducu said the Cabinet of President Yoweri Museveni made the decision to close schools nationwide based on concerns that crowded schools will increase infection rates for the virus. The schools with affected children have been cordoned off and are being asked to decontaminate their facilities so children can safely return after the new year. The decision to end the school term early is a disappointment to many families. Ugandan schools were closed for two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic before reopening earlier this year.

SOURCE:

<https://www.voanews.com/a/uganda-to-end-school-year-early-amid-ebola-outbreak/6825372.html>

16TH NOVEMBER 2022

UGANDAN LEADERS SAYS ANTI-EBOLA EFFORTS STARTING TO SUCCEED.

Uganda’s efforts to contain an Ebola outbreak were starting to succeed and the country has tightened restrictions in the outbreak’s epicentre to further slow the rate of infections, President Yoweri Museveni said on Tuesday.

Two districts where the deadly haemorrhagic fever had spread previously were now free of the disease after they completed the 42 days - or two incubation cycles - of the virus without a case, he said in a televised speech. Overall cases were falling, but some infected people were still slipping through a quarantine imposed on Mubende and Kasanda districts - the epicentre of the outbreak in central Uganda - and travelling to other regions and exporting cases there, Museveni

said. On Sunday, health minister Jane Ruth Aceng said an Ebola case had been confirmed in Jinja in the country's east, the first time the outbreak had spread to a new region of the country from central Uganda where cases have been confined so far.

SOURCE:

<https://www.reuters.com/world/africa/ugandan-leader-says-anti-ebola-efforts-starting-succeed-2022-11-15/>

17TH NOVEMBER 2022

TOP UGANDAN RIGHTS GROUPS FILE CASE AGAINST INTERNET LAW.

A coalition of leading Ugandan rights groups and lawyers on Thursday filed a court challenge to a controversial new internet law, which they say is aimed at curbing free speech and targeting government opponents. The amendment to the Computer Misuse Act, signed into law by Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni last month, has been criticized by Amnesty International, which has called for the "draconian" legislation to be scrapped. Nine rights groups, a former leader of the opposition in parliament and three prominent lawyers lodged the petition at the Constitutional Court on Thursday — the second court challenge to the law. The petitioners — which include Chapter Four, Uganda's most prominent rights group — say the law regulates online behavior in a "vague and ambiguous manner." Chapter Four's acting Executive Director, Anthony Masake, told AFP that the new law's "strict and vague authorization standards" mean that journalists will never know when they are crossing a line by collecting information on people they are reporting on. "We know that offenses like 'offensive communication' have been effectively used to silence dissent and target people expressing politically sensitive views or pushing for government accountability," he said. Amnesty has noted that the new legislation contains some useful provisions such as the right to privacy and responsible coverage of children but added that "it introduces punitive penalties for anyone accused of so-called hate speech." People convicted under the law are barred from holding public office for 10 years, which Amnesty warned was a way of reinforcing state control over online freedom of expression, including by political opposition groups. Offenders also face fines of up to 15 million Ugandan shillings (about \$3,900) and prison terms of up to seven years. Uganda has seen a series of crackdowns on those opposed to Museveni's rule, particularly around the 2021 election, with journalists attacked, lawyers jailed, vote monitors prosecuted, the internet shut down and opposition leaders violently muzzled. Legal experts have warned that the law will be used to target government critics who are already operating in a shrinking civic space. Thirteen petitioners, including an online TV station, lodged the first court challenge against the law last month, but no date has been set yet for the hearing.

SOURCE:

<https://www.voanews.com/a/top-ugandan-rights-groups-file-case-against-internet-law/6838683.html>

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

8TH NOVEMBER 2022

CONGO WAR PLANES BOMBING M23 REBEL TARGETS

Congolese fighter jets began bombing rebel targets Tuesday in the country's embattled east, escalating its fight against the M23 group that the government alleges has been advancing with the help from neighboring Rwanda. Jean Claude Bambaze, president of Rutshurus's civil society, told the Associated press that aerial bombardments were reported in the villages of Chanzu and Musungati, about 35 kilometers (22 miles) from Rutshuru.

We are seeing the comings and goings of Congolese warplanes, he said, we call on the Congolese government to finish quickly with this M23 affair, because people have already fled their homes and others are confined in camps without humanitarian assistance. There was no immediate confirmation or comment from the Congolese military on the reported aerial bombardments. However, M23 spokesman Lawrence Kanyuka accused the army of attacking heavily populated areas and trampling on the call for dialogue.

SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-rwanda-bombings-835e57619db6ceedfb0417856c059fa1>

EAST CONGO CRISIS SUMMIT ISSUES FOR FRIDAY CEASE-FIRE.

24TH NOVEMBER 2022

Leaders called for a cease-fire to take affect later this week in eastern Congo following a summit in Angola on Wednesday that included Congo's president and Rwanda's foreign minister but not the M23 rebels whose rapid advance has sharply escalated tensions between the two countries. In a statement, participants said the Friday evening cease-fire would be followed by a rebel withdrawal from the major towns that are currently under M23 control-Bunagana, Rutshuru and Kiwanja. If M23 refuses to disengage and liberate all the territory they currently hold, the (Eastern African Community bloc) heads of states will instruct the regional forces to pressure them into submission, said the statement releases following the summit in Angola.

A contingent of Kenyan troops already has deployed to eastern Congo as part of the regional forces agreed to back in June. It also will include two battalions from Uganda, two from Burundi and one from South Sudan.

SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-rwanda-luanda-angola-paul-kagame-3b2bae25c421ca9ad3f461967200577>

28TH NOVEMBER 2022

TALKS BEGIN ON DISARMAMENT OF REBEL GROUPS IN EASTERN CONGO

The third round of Congo peace talks facilitated by the East Africa regional bloc opened in Kenya's capital Nairobi, on Monday with a plan to discuss reforms that will facilitate disarmament of rebel groups. Kenyan president William Ruto and Burundi's Evariste Ndayishimiye attended the Monday opening session in person, while presidents of Congo, Rwanda and Uganda attended virtually. The leaders reiterated their commitment to support and ensure lasting peace in Congo. The facilitator of the talks, former Kenyan president Uhuru Kenyatta, said the aim was to discuss political process and institutional reforms that will ensure an environment that is conducive to the disarmament, rehabilitation and reintegration of armed groups in Congo. Leaders who attended a summit in Angola last week called for a cease-fire followed by a rebel withdrawal from the major towns that are currently under the control of the M23 rebel group.

SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/rwanda-kenya-nairobi-disarmament-africa-7b51a7c0b15a329ab7a57fc098315e5>

RWANDA

27TH NOVEMBER 2022

Congo Diplomats Lead the Way Today, Rwanda and Congo Brazzaville diplomats rolled their sleeves to participate in the community work commonly known as Umuganda that focused on planting trees to contribute to the season's targets. The exercise was also part of 64th anniversary of the proclamation of Congo Brazzaville, organized by the Brazzaville embassy in Kigali city. Rwanda was represented by Vincent Biruta, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Congo Brazzaville embassy in Kigali was represented by its Ambassador, Guy Nestor Itoua. "It is a special community work. We are celebrating the proclamation. We are joining hands to plant trees on this mountain where the university is located. It gives knowledge to the young generation," Amb. Itoua said. Diplomats joined in tree planting held at Mburabuturo hill, Kicukiro District–City of Kigali. The tree planting season that was launched last month aims to fight against climate change effects, and more than 36 million trees will be planted to increase forest coverage, prevent erosion and clean the air people breathe. It marks the 47th anniversary of National Tree Planting Day, or NTPD, organized by the Ministry of Environment and the Rwanda Forestry Authority. "It is a special thing. Next time we shall find other things to do after Umuganda," Biruta said after concluding Umuganda. Last month, a tree planting season was launched at Kigali Economic Zone, under the theme "Plant a Tree, Save the Future.

SOURCE:

<https://www.ktpress.rw/2022/11/umuganda-in-kigali-congo-diplomats-lead-the-way/>

30TH NOVEMBER 2022

PRESIDENT KAGAME POINTS OUT DOUBLE STANDARDS IN DEALING WITH DRC CRISIS

President Paul Kagame says that the insecurity problems that have dogged the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) for the past three decades are simple to resolve but that would only happen if only the right thing is done. Speaking extensively on the crisis that has gripped the region this year, President Kagame floated a number of reasons that have led to the prolonged conflict, among them the failure to address it holistically and double standards by different parties. The Head of State said that for many years the issue has been approached with double standards where the issues of insecurity are blamed on one armed group out of the over 100 that operate in DRC.

President Kagame also pointed out that Rwanda is used as a scapegoat in the blame games yet those who accuse it know the truth and continue to focus on the surface while ignoring the deep-rooted causes that go three decades back. The Head of State made the comments at the swearing-in of newly appointed Minister of Health, Dr. Sabin Nsanzimana, and the state minister in Charge of Primary Healthcare, Dr. Yvan Butera at Parliament. He pointed out that

while he often shuns speaking out on the DRC issues, he wanted to set the record straight on the root cause of the Congolese problem. President Kagame said that “people should be asking themselves” why the international community, powerful countries that have a say and many other players, have for all these years failed to resolve the situation and continue ‘massaging’, blaming everybody else except themselves.

SOURCE:

<https://www.ktpress.rw/2022/11/85570-president-kagame-points-out-double-standards-in-dealing-with-drc-crisis/>

CSPS
MONITOR



© 2022 CSPS. All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced or transmitted in any form or by any means without permission in writing from CSPS, except in the case of brief quotations in news articles, critical articles, or reviews. Please direct inquiries to: CSPS

P.O. BOX 619, Hai Jebrona, Adjacent to Martyrs School,
Opposite Simba Playground, Juba, South Sudan.
Tel: +211 (0) 920 310 415 | +211 (0) 915 652 847
<https://csps.org.ss>