
Contents

Natural resources in the Great Lakes Region	2
DRC	2
Uganda	4
International mining companies in the Great Lakes Region	4
DRC	5
Uganda	5
Arms trade / Security in the Great Lakes Region	7
DRC	7
FDLR.....	10
LRA.....	10
Uganda	12
Rwanda.....	13
Other	13
IPIS latest publications	13
IPIS latest reports.....	13
Sources.....	16

Natural resources in the Great Lakes Region

Taming the Resource Curse: Implementing the ICGLR Certification Mechanism for Conflict-prone Minerals.

(March 2011 – Partnership Africa Canada)

<http://tinyurl.com/67rmhmn>

The report analyses the strengths and weaknesses of existing certification mechanisms, especially the Kimberley Process (KP), and applies lessons learned to four minerals-gold, coltan, tungsten and tin-in the context of Africa's Great Lakes region. The report's findings and recommendations form the basis of the Mineral Tracking and Certification System that is currently in the development stage by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), based in Bujumbura, Burundi. The report is a joint publication of the ICGLR, the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and Partnership Africa Canada.

DRC

DRC cashes in as gold smuggling plot smashed.

(26/03/2011 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page504?oid=123751&sn=Detail>

Congo seizes gold, cash, frees 5 in smuggling case.

(26/03/2011 – Reuters)

http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE72P0A220110326?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FAFRICATopNews+%28News+%2F+AFRICA+%2F+Top+News%29&utm_content=Bloglines

Les cinq expatriés inculpés dans l'affaire de l'avion cloué au sol à Goma libérés par le PGR.

(26/03/2011 – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74627>

Expulsion de quatre expatriés accusés de trafic illicite des matières premières en Rdc.

(29/03/2011 – APA – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74680>

Authorities in the DRC have freed five after a \$3 million fine paid and gold and cash confiscated in a plot to smuggle gold to Nigeria from the conflict-ridden east of the country.

Congo releases group including Texas-based businessmen accused of gold smuggling.

(25/03/2011 – The Washington Post)

http://www.washingtonpost.com/world/congo_releases_group_including_texas_based_businessmen_accused_of_gold_smuggling/2011/03/25/AFnwb6WB_story.html?wprss=rss_africa

Congolese authorities say they've released a group that was accused of smuggling gold from rebel territories in the nation's volatile east.

Fears of a possible boycott of Congolese minerals.

(26/03/2011 – Congo Siasa)

<http://congosiassa.blogspot.com/2011/03/fears-of-possible-boycott-of-congolese.html>

Article on the feared consequences of a possible boycott of Congolese minerals following the implementation of the Dodd-Frank bill.

Can conflict minerals really be controlled?

(28/03/2011 – BBC)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/business-12730470>

The Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform Act signed by President Obama in August 2010 will have implications beyond the canyons of Manhattan and the wider US. This law is not just about making America's financial systems safer - it stretches thousands of kilometres to the DRC.

Methodological deficiencies in welcome contribution: Review of China and Congo: Friends in Need.

(7/03/2011 – Fahamu)

<http://www.pambazuka.org/images/Emerging%20Powers%20newsletter%20March%202011/Issue%207%20March%202011.pdf>

In the latest issue of Perspectives on Emerging Powers in Africa, this article reviews Global Witness' recent report on the US\$ 6 billion Sino-Congolese barter deal.

Congo Will Adhere to New York Convention Arbitration Rules.

(26/03/2011 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-26/congo-will-adhere-to-new-york-convention-arbitration-rules.html>

The DRC intends to ratify the New York Convention rules on the recognition of international arbitration rulings, the Prime Minister's office said today. Prime Minister Adolphe Muzito made the announcement in a meeting with representatives of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund about improving the country's business environment, according to an e-mailed statement from Muzito's office. Congo's ministries of environment and mining also plan to begin publishing completed mining contracts and lists of timber and mining permits on their respective websites to improve transparency in the sectors, the statement said.

Nouvelle tragédie au Katanga - La mine de Kipushi en danger.

(25/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103250279.html>

The Kipushi germanium mine in Katanga is threatened by a rising water level.

Le CDF se penche sur la protection des femmes et des enfants dans les sites miniers artisanaux.

(25/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103250344.html>

The organisation 'Centre de Développement pour la Femme' organised a workshop, supported by the MONUSCO, to train activists working on the rights of women and children on artisanal mining sites.

A l'initiative de la cohydro - Des cadres des services de l'Etat formés à la géologie pétrolière.

(28/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103280665.html>

COHYDRO organised a seminar on the perspectives of the DRC's oil basins.

Congo inks growth funding deal with Chinese bank.

(29/03/2011 – Reuters)

<http://af.reuters.com/article/investingNews/idAFJ0E72S0MA20110329>

The DRC has signed an agreement with the China Development Bank aimed at funding growth in the country, the government said late on Monday. The parties did not disclose the amount agreed in the deal. China has already established a major presence in mineral-rich Congo, and signed a \$6 billion minerals-for-infrastructure deal with country the in 2008, backed China's Exim Bank.

UGANDA

Slowdown In Ugandan Oil Exploration Hits Tax Collection-Revenue Body.

(24/03/2011 – The Wall Street Journal)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20110324-708605.html>

A slowdown in the oil and gas exploration activities in Uganda's Lake Albertine region is hurting tax collection, Uganda's state tax body, the Uganda Revenue Authority, said Thursday. A tax dispute between the government and U.K.-based Tullow Oil is one of the reasons that has led to a slowdown in domestic tax collection.

Graduates Must Get Ready for the 20,000 Oil Jobs.

(23/03/2011 – The Observer – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103250086.html>

In one of the recent job and career workshops, one jobless university graduate with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Management asked me what he could do to ensure that he gets a job in the country's nascent oil and gas industry given that press reports have continuously indicated that over 20,000 jobs will be created once Uganda starts producing its first oil barrel. Most university graduates expect the Uganda government to give them jobs that will come with oil drilling and processing.

MPs 'Intercept' Plot to Grab Amuru Land.

(24/03/2011 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103240773.html>

Acholi MPs yesterday claimed they intercepted a new plot to grab 20,000 hectares of oil-rich Amuru land amid reports that some people are being bribed to give away their land for sugarcane growing.

International mining companies in the Great Lakes Region

UN Guiding Principles for business & human rights published.

(24/03/2011 – Business and Human Rights Resource Council)

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/Links/Repository/1005021>

The United Nations released a much-anticipated set of Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights...The Guiding Principles seek to provide for the first time an authoritative global standard for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse human rights impacts linked to business activity. The UN Human Rights Council will consider formal endorsement of the text at its June 2011 session.

New SEC rules get the support of miners.

(23/03/2011 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page72068?oid=123523&sn=Detail&pid=92730>

Miners say they supportive of new SEC rules.

(23/03/2011 – Reuters)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2011/03/23/us-mining-summit-sec-idUSTRE72M38Q20110323?pageNumber=2>

New regulations that will require miners to disclose payments to foreign governments have received the support of miners who say they could help clean up the image of the industry.

DRC

Virunga retarde l'exploration.

(23/03/2011 – Africa Energy Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

Article on the suspension of Soco International's exploration activities on bloc 5 in the Virunga National Park.

Le bloc 4 fait tourner les têtes.

(23/03/2011 – Africa Energy Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

Article on the enterprises that tendered for the development of bloc 4.

Tullow baisse les bras.

(23/03/2011 – Africa Energy Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

Tullow Oil has announced it will withdraw from the DRC following a dispute with the Congolese government over its concessions in the Lake Albert Graben.

Kipoi Copper Project Stage 1 Construction Update.

(29/03/2011 – Stockhouse)

<http://www.stockhouse.com/News/CanadianReleasesDetail.aspx?n=8107706>

Tiger Resources Limited is pleased to advise that construction of the heavy media separation (HMS) plant for the Stage 1 development at the Kipoi Copper Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo has been completed and commissioning of the plant has commenced.

UGANDA

Nation, Tullow Back to Arbiters Despite MoU.

(28/03/2011 – The East African - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103280189.html>

With Uganda still reeling from a public purse emptied after spending 85 per cent of the 2010-2011 budget in the first six months to December, it is emerging that the country may have entered into a window-dressing deal in which it could surrender its claim to the \$283 million in taxes owed by Heritage Oil, further hurting the state's revenues.

Tullow Oil Deal Empty Victory for Country.

(26/03/2011 – The Independent – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103281720.html>

In a crowded, sweaty boardroom above the streets of Kampala last week, government officials and Tullow Oil executives announced they had concluded an agreement that will open the door for US\$10 billion worth of investment in the country. After 14 months of negotiation with government, Tullow has finally obtained approval for its purchase of former partner Heritage's assets and the re-sale to the Chinese CNOOC and French Total. There is just one problem however- a large percentage of the money Tullow will pay is actually owed to the government of Uganda by somebody else.

Oil Agreements Should Boost Investor Confidence.

(29/03/2011 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103290031.html>

On 15th of March Tullow Oil signed an agreement with the government of Uganda, committing itself to pay USD 590m in capital gains tax and pay USD 469m before it buys assets from Heritage Oil and brings in new partners, CNOOC and Total. The agreement brought to an end a protracted tax dispute. The tax dispute between Tullow and Government had put so many deals on ice and potential investors both local, regional and international had been forced to take a "nap" as they waited for the signing of the agreement.

Uganda Sale and Purchase Agreements Signed between Tullow, CNOOC and Total.

(30/03/2011 – OilVoice)

http://www.oilvoice.com/n/Uganda_Sale_and_Purchase_Agreements_Signed_between_Tullow_CNOOC_and_Total/1133f5907.aspx

Total Announces Strategic breakthrough in East Africa.

(30/03/2011 – OilVoice)

http://www.oilvoice.com/n/Total_Announces_Strategic_breakthrough_in_East_Africa/7eb471bb1.aspx

Tullow Sells Ugandan Stakes to CNOOC, Total for \$2.9 Billion.

(30/03/2011 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2011-03-30/tullow-oil-to-receive-2-9-billion-from-cnooc-total-ugandan-partnership.html>

Tullow Oil plc announces that yesterday it signed Sale and Purchase Agreements (SPAs) with CNOOC and Total in respect of the sale of a one third interest to each party of the interests Tullow holds in Exploration Areas 1, 2 and 3A in Uganda. Tullow will retain a one third interest.

Ugandan Activists call on UK Prime Minister to End Resource Curse.

(29/03/2011 – Publish What You Pay)

<http://www.publishwhatyoupay.org/en/resources/ugandan-activists-call-uk-prime-minister-end-resource-curse>

Ugandan activists have delivered a letter to Prime Minister David Cameron, calling on the UK Government to 'end the resource curse' by supporting greater transparency in the oil industry. The letter was organised by the Publish What You Pay Coalition and signed by over 200 civil society activists from Uganda.

Arms trade / Security in the Great Lakes Region

Burundi, Uganda to send 3,000 more troops to Somalia.

(27/03/2011 – Reuters)

http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJ0E72Q05520110327?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews&utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=feed&utm_campaign=Feed%3A+reuters%2FAFRICATopNews+%28News+%2F+AFRICA+%2F+Top+News%29&utm_content=Bloglines

Uganda to Send 2,000 More Troops.

(28/03/2011 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103280023.html>

Uganda and Burundi said on Saturday they have committed 3,000 extra troops to the African Union mission in Somalia, bolstering the fight against insurgents.

New OSCE decision to prevent surplus ammunition falling into wrong hands.

(23/03/2011 – OSCE)

<http://www.osce.org/fsc/76195>

The 56 OSCE participating States today adopted a decision that aims to prevent surplus, expired or obsolete conventional ammunition from ending up in the hands of criminal or terrorist groups. The decision, the first of its kind internationally, recommends destruction as the preferred method of disposal of such ammunition. In addition to preventing illegal trade of the ammunition, destruction also eliminates the risk of injuries or fatalities that could be caused by exploding ammunition.

DRC

DR Congo: Campaign highlighting gender and small arms.

(25/03/2011 – IANSA)

<http://www.iansa.org/news/2011/03/dr-congo-campaign-highlighting-gender-and-small-arms>

On 24 March the National Commission on Small Arms in the DRC launched a campaign to raise awareness about the proliferation of small arms in the country. At the opening the Minister of Interior and Security spoke about the importance of integrating a gender perspective in efforts to reduce armed violence, and stressed that women must be included in the work for peace in the DR Congo.

Les ADF-Nalu se reconstituent, selon la société civile de Béni.

(25/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/25/les-adf-nalu-se-reconstituent-selon-la-societe-civile-de-beni/>

According to the civil society of Beni, the ADF-Nalu rebels are re-establishing themselves in the sector of Ruwenzori, Beni territory.

Province Orientale : les FARDC chassent les Mbororo d'Ango.

(23/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/23/province-orientale-les-fardc-chassent-les-mbororo-dango/>

According to local civil society sources in Ango territory, Province Orientale, the FARDC has chased out the Sudanese Mbororo herdsmen.

Butembo : des attaques armées à répétition à Batangi.

(28/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/28/butembo-des-attaques-armees-a-repetition-a-batangi/>

Customary chiefs of Batangi, Lubero territory, deplore the bad security situation in the collectivity caused by FDLR and Pareco rebels, and FARDC elements.

Vive tension à Punia, cinq blessés.

(24/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/24/vive-tension-a-punia-cinq-blesses/>

A tense situation persists in Punia, in the north of Maniema province, following the pillaging of a cassiterite depot by members of the PNC.

Rutshuru: la société civile dénonce le regain d'insécurité.

(29/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/29/rutshuru-la-societe-civile-denonce-le-regain-d%E2%80%99insecurite/>

Local civil society denounces the rising level of insecurity in Kiwanja, Rutshuru territory.

UNMACC- DRC coordonne la destruction de plus de 50 000 munitions à Goma.

(25/03/2011 – UNMACC – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SMDL-8FADHD?OpenDocument&RSS20=02-P>

The UNMACC (United Nations Mine Action Coordination Centre) office in Goma organised the destruction of 50,000 pieces of munition.

Province Orientale : démarrage en avril prochain de l'opération de récupération des armes en Ituri.

(28/03/2011 – ACP – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74652>

The National Commission for the control of SALW will start in April with a public disarmament campaign in Ituri.

Les Nations unies préoccupées par la situation des droits de l'homme en RDC.

(23/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/23/les-nations-unies-preoccupees-par-la-situation-des-droits-de-%E2%80%99homme-en-rdc/>

United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay expressed her concern on the HR-situation in the DRC.

Le rapport de l'Onu sur les droits de l'homme confond les FARDC aux groupes armés, selon Lambert Mende.

(24/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/24/le-rapport-de-%E2%80%99onu-sur-les-droits-de-%E2%80%99homme-confond-les-fardc-aux-groupes-armes-selon-lambert-mende/>

Congolese governmental spokesperson Lambert Mende reacted on the report of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, stating it is wrong to compare the FARDC's behaviour with the behaviour of armed groups in the eastern part of the country.

Walungu: violences sexuelles, quatre militaires condamnés à mort.

(27/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/27/walungu-poursuivis-pour-viols-et-violences-sexuelles-14-militaires-condamnes-a-differentes-peines/>

A military tribunal in Bukavu condemned 4 FARDC soldiers to death and sentenced 10 others to imprisonment for sexual violence.

UN envoy hails Congolese move to pursue rape cases against top military officers.

(29/03/2011 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=37934&Cr=Democratic&Cr1=congo>

The official spearheading UN efforts to combat the scourge of sexual violence during war today welcomed the decision of authorities in the DRC to prosecute several high-ranking military officers accused of rape. DRC authorities have initiated judicial proceedings against three officers – General Jérôme Kakwavu, Lieutenant Colonel Engagela (aka Colonel 106) and Colonel Safari – and are considering trials in absentia for two other senior officers.

The Rape Ordeal in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

(18/03/2011 – ISS)

http://www.issafrica.org/iss_today.php?ID=1250

Describing the conflict in the Eastern DRC, Margot Wallstrom, the UN Secretary General's Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflicts called it 'the Rape Capital of the world'. After her appointment, Wallstrom visited the region and described it as the epicenter of sexual violence, where rape is used as a weapon of war.

Bas-Congo: 468 congolais expulsés d'Angola en une semaine, selon les activistes des droits de l'homme.

(25/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/25/bas-congo-468-congolais-expulses-d%E2%80%99angola-en-une-semaine-selon-les-activistes-des-droits-de-lhomme/>

Human Rights activists in Bas-Congo reported 468 Congolese have been expelled from Angola last week.

RDC : Bulletin d'Information Humanitaire, Province Orientale - 22 mars 2011.

(22/03/2011 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/JARR-8F8JU7?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

Situation humanitaire en République Démocratique du Congo - Note d'information à la presse, 23 mars 2011.

(23/03/2011 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/JARR-8F8JZ5?OpenDocument&RSS20=02-P>

RD Congo : Action humanitaire en Province Orientale - Rapport mensuel, Février 2011.

(28/02/2011 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/MCOI-8F9C2R?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

OCHA reports on the humanitarian situation and humanitarian assistance in the eastern Congolese provinces.

Fighters Sent to Hague As War Crimes Witnesses.

(27/03/2011 – Radio France Internationale – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103280114.html>

CPI - des coaccusés de Germain Katanga et de Thomas Lubanga amenés à La Haye.

(28/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103280785.html>

Dossiers Thomas Lubanga et Germain Katanga : la Rdc livre 4 témoins à la CPI.

(28/03/2011 – Le Phare – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74643>

Four former fighters from the DRC have arrived in The Hague to testify in the trials of militia leaders Thomas Lubanga and Germain Katanga. The two warlords face charges of war crimes at the International Criminal Court.

L'UPC salue la convocation de quatre ex-leaders miliciens de l'Ituri à la CPI.

(27/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/27/1%E2%80%99upc-salue-la-convocation-de-quatre-ex-leaders-miliciens-de-1%E2%80%99ituri-a-la-cpi/>

L'UPC salue la convocation à la CPI de quatre ex-leaders miliciens de l'Ituri.

(29/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103290716.html>

The UPC welcomed the move to call four ex-UPC leaders to witness at the ICC trial of Thomas Lubanga and Germain Katanga.

FDLR

Monusco: l'opération Amani Leo a permis de réduire 60% des FDLR dans les deux Kivu.

(23/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/23/monusco-loperation-amani-leo-a-permis-de-reduire-60-des-fdlr-dans-les-deux-kivu/>

The MONUSCO spokesperson lieutenant-colonel Gaye stated the Amani Leo military operation reduced 60% of the FDLR's operational capacity.

Deal between Kinshasa and the FDLR?

(26/03/2011 – Congo Siasa)

<http://congosiasa.blogspot.com/2011/03/deal-between-kinshasa-and-fdlr.html>

On March 14, President Joseph Kabila presided over a state security meeting in Kinshasa, at the end of which he reported that a peace deal with the FDLR was in the offing. According to UN officials, talks have been ongoing between the FDLR and the Congolese government for several months now, with the involvement of a European government as sometimes-facilitator.

FDLR Subject to Security Council Resolutions – Ngoga.

(30/03/2011 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103300092.html>

The Prosecutor General, Martin Ngoga, yesterday said that it would be naïve for Rwandans to think the legitimacy to pursue FDLR and their supporters is based on foreign lists, even if foreign cooperation is needed. Ngoga made the remarks in reaction to comments by Charles Kambanda, a lecturer at St. John's University, in New York, that the FDLR is not on the US's list of terrorist groups, and alleged that there is no UN resolution stating the fact.

LRA

La RDC et l'Ouganda satisfaits des opérations contre la LRA et l'ADF.

(25/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103250294.html>

Traque de Lra et Adf : une rencontre au sommet Kabila-Museveni profile à l'horizon.

(28/03/2011 – Le Phare – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74653>

Congolese Minister of Defence Charles Mwando Nsimba returned from his visit to Uganda, where he attended a two-day bilateral defence and security meeting between Uganda and Congo on the fight against the LRA and ADF rebels.

La Monusco apporte sa contribution dans la lutte contre la LRA.

(24/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103240357.html>

A travers les opérations conjointes avec les Fardc, la Monusco s'investit dans la lutte contre la Lra.

(24/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/74580>

Roger Meece attended the two-day bilateral defence and security meeting between Uganda and Congo on the LRA and ADF security problem.

Traque contre la LRA - Le ministre de la Défense en mission de reconfort à Faradje.

(28/03/2011 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103281894.html>

Congolese minister of defence Nsimba visited Faradje, Haut Uélé district, to evaluate the security situation on the ground in the territory plagued by the LRA rebellion.

LRA: An African Union Delegation Visits Province Orientale.

(23/03/2011 – MONUSCO)

<http://monusco.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=932&ctl=Details&mid=1096&ItemID=12896>

An African Union delegation comprising some 20 members arrived in Kisangani, the capital of Province Orientale, on 22 March. The joint expert mission is trying to put in place a strategy to better coordinate future operations against the Ugandan rebel movement, the Lord Resistance Army (LRA) active in the sub-region.

Lutte contre la LRA: l'Union africaine s'en mêle.

(24/03/2011 – Radio Okapi)

<http://radiookapi.net/actualite/2011/03/24/lutte-contre-la-lra-l%E2%80%99union-africaine-s%E2%80%99en-mele/>

Senegalese colonel Mbow Mor said the African Union considers the fight against the LRA rebels as one of its priorities.

Wanted rebel leader returns to eastern Congo.

(29/03/2011 – Reuters)

<http://af.reuters.com/article/idAFJOE72S0BO20110329>

Ugandan rebel leader Joseph Kony has returned to eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, Congolese and Ugandan officials said, complicating U.N.-backed efforts to stabilise the region. Kony, head of the LRA that is believed to have killed, kidnapped and mutilated tens of thousands of civilians since the 1990s, entered Congo from Central African Republic about a month ago, Ugandan military spokesman Felix Kulayigye said on Monday.

UGANDA

Defence Officials Mute On Fighter Jets Deal.

(30/03/2011 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103300029.html>

Ministry of Defence officials are under instruction not to talk about transactions related to the purchase of military fighter jets, MPs heard yesterday.

Violence Instead of Vigilance.

(23/03/2011 – Human Rights Watch)

<http://www.hrw.org/node/97144>

Ugandan police use torture, Human Rights Watch reports.

(23/03/2011 – BBC)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12828320>

HRW published a new report on torture and illegal detention committed by Uganda's Rapid Response Unit. The report documents the unit's illegal methods of investigation and serious violations of the rights of the people it arrests and detains. The unit has a history of violent and unlawful operations since it was formed by President Yoweri Museveni in 2002 as Operation Wembley, an ad-hoc security entity commanded by an active member of the Ugandan military. Later, the unit became the Violent Crime Crack Unit and was formally taken under police command. In 2007, it was renamed the Rapid Response Unit.

Uganda: Police Officer Fires on Crowd, Killing 2.

(28/03/2011 – The New York Times)

http://www.nytimes.com/2011/03/29/world/africa/29webbrfs-Uganda.html?_r=1&partner=rss&emc=rss

A Ugandan police officer opened fire on a crowd of people after an attempted robbery, killing at least two people and critically wounding others, officials said Monday, days after a report was published alleging human-rights abuses by the national police. The crowd soon turned violent again, hurling stones at the police, before being dispersed.

Government of National Unity Will Stop the Militarisation of Our Politics.

(29/03/2011 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103290013.html>

On February 28, Mr Jaberu Bidandi Ssali, leader of People's Progressive Party (PPP) and presidential aspirant in the just concluded elections, penned a letter to his old friend, President Yoweri Museveni, the NRM flag bearer and declared winner of the said elections. The letter, which was published in the Daily Monitor of March 1, was no doubt the best of the many Bidandi Ssali has written to his former colleague and probably his last 'SOS'.

Museveni, Kabaka On Collision Path Again?

(26/03/2011 – The Independent – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103281717.html>

As the dust over the Feb. 18 general elections settles, Buganda kingdom officials, politicians, and pundits are mulling over how President Yoweri Museveni's side and that of Kabaka Ronald Muwenda Mutebi will interpret the vote in Buganda. Exactly two weeks after being announced winner of the election, President Museveni signed the Traditional and Cultural Leaders Bill 2010 into law on Mar. 7. Observers of the often publicly tense relationship between Museveni and Buganda kingdom say the signing was a signal of what Buganda should expect going forward. They say the signing points to a continuation of the firm hand Museveni wielded publicly against Buganda.

RWANDA

Rwanda genocide: Ex-mayor Gatete sentenced to life.

(29/03/2011 – BBC)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-africa-12901330>

A former Rwandan mayor has been sentenced to life in prison for his role in the genocide of 1994. Jean-Baptiste Gatete, who also held a senior position in the women's ministry, was found guilty of the massacre of hundreds of Tutsis. The International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) said he provided militiamen with weapons and ordered them to kill Tutsis in the east.

Other

Is the Congo prepared for elections?

(28/03/2011 – Congo Siasa)

<http://congosiassa.blogspot.com/2011/03/is-congo-prepared-for-elections.html>

Seven months before elections, criticism is growing louder of the lack of preparations by donors and the government alike. On Friday, the new head of the election commission - Daniel Mulunda Ngoy - opened a seminar on the electoral process in Lubumbashi. In the meantime, the national assembly is debating changes to the electoral law. There are rumors that there will be a delay in the electoral calendar and that the presidential elections may be held before the legislative polls, but we will have to wait for probably another week to have any confirmation of this.

IPIS latest publications

IPIS LATEST REPORTS

MONUC/MONUSCO and Civilian Protection in the Kivus.

(February 2011 – IPIS)

http://www.ipisresearch.be/publications_internpapers.php

Although UN peace operations have evolved over time, they still do not manage to address the Protection of Civilians (POC) in an effective way as this constitutes a relatively new role for UN peacekeepers. This also applies to the United Nations Mission in the Congo (MONUC) where civilian protection remains a major concern. This paper aims to uncover the challenges MONUC is facing in the country's eastern provinces, North and South Kivu, where civilians are most heavily targeted by violence.

The Karamoja Cluster of eastern Africa: Arms transfers and their repercussions on communal security perceptions.

(December 2010 – IPIS, Transarms)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/arms-trade.php>

The pastoralist societies within the Karamoja Cluster have been unable to adequately defend themselves politically against claims that they, the pastoralists, are responsible for the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in East Africa. This report endeavours in a small way to redress this balance; it is our contention that the majority of the blame for this SALW proliferation should be laid at the doors of the three governments concerned, governments who themselves have failed to adequately address the problems of regional insecurity, weapons diversion and, in many cases, have been quite unable to resist the temptation to support individuals and groups intent on destabilising their neighbours. Although at first sight this linkage between State actors and local actors is, perhaps, not always obvious – and, indeed, may serve to mask the impact of SALW on pastoralists – it is our contention that all unavowed arms transfers are, ipso facto, destabilising and can only serve to exacerbate existing perceptions of communal instability. Indeed, the burden of our song is that any illicit or unavowed transfer of arms will earn a concomitant repercussion in such communal security perceptions.

The complexity of resource governance in a context of state fragility: An analysis of the mining sector in the Kivu hinterlands.

(November 2010 – IPIS / International Alert)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/mining-hinterlands.php> (website)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/fck/file/20101202KIVUGL.pdf> (pdf)

La complexité de la gestion des ressources dans un contexte de fragilité de l'État : une analyse du secteur minier dans l'arrière-pays du Kivu.

(January 2011 – IPIS / International Alert)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/mining-hinterlands.php>

The report 'Mining activity and mineral trade in the Kivu hinterland' was commissioned by the Directorate General for Development (DG DEV) of the European Commission and aims to fill an information gap by identifying the principal mining sites and analysing the trade networks of the 'Eastern hinterland' of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), located in Maniema, North Katanga and Orientale Province, and the transport networks from these territories to the regional hubs of Bukavu, Goma, Butembo and Bunia.

Mapping the labyrinth: more on the strange weapons flight of 4L-AWA.

(October 2010 – IPIS / TransArms)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/arms-trade.php> (website)

http://www.ipisresearch.be/att/20101203_4LAWA.pdf (pdf)

This research report is the third in a series about the case of a IL-76 aircraft used for an apparently clandestine arms flight in provenance from Pyongyang, which was impounded by Thai authorities during a technical stop in Bangkok December 12, 2009. The third updated report presents new information and documents that show other important actors in the chain of companies who managed the flight, shedding a new light on the information included in the previous reports.

Mining Concessions in the DR Congo.

(October 2010 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/mine-concessions-drc.php>

IPIS has produced an interactive web map of all mining concessions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The data on this map are official and public data from the Cadastre Minier (CaMi) of the DR Congo, showing the situation as it was on 27 July 2010.

Deadly Movements. Transportation Controls in the Arms Trade Treaty.

(July 2010 – Amnesty International, IPIS, Transarms)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/arms-trade.php>

Effective regulation of the global trade in conventional arms must include adequate provisions to control the physical movement of arms across international borders. The proposed Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) should be designed to prevent unauthorised or irresponsible international transfers of weapons, munitions and related equipment internationally: it must therefore require states to impose effective controls and reporting requirements on the transport and transporters of arms, including through Free Trade Zones. Without such requirements, the ATT will fail to address a significant gap in international arms transfer controls, and will deprive states of a key tool to prevent arms transfers where it can be foreseen the arms are likely to be used to violate human rights and destroy lives and livelihoods contrary to international law.

Les devoirs de la République centrafricaine dans le contexte des activités des entreprises.

(July 2010 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/ong-rca.php>

Les devoirs internationaux de la République centrafricaine relatifs à la conservation des milieux d'importance et des espèces sauvages.

(July 2007 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/ong-rca.php>

Une analyse de la législation environnementale et de la législation minière de la République Centrafricaine dans le contexte des activités des entreprises.

(June 2010 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/ong-rca.php>

Amélioration de la pratique de l'Etude d'Impact Environnemental.

(June 2010 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/ong-rca.php>

Four reports on IPIS' project concerning capacity building of NGOs in the Central African Republic working on the management of uranium. The reports analyse the CAR's mining and environmental legislation, and the country's obligations in the field of environmental management and the regulation of enterprises' activities.

Jaarverslag 2009.

(06/05/2010 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/natural-resources.php>

IPIS has published its activity report 2009. The activity report is a comprehensive report of IPIS' activities in 2009. Its assignments, publications and lectures are presented in this document. The English version follows later on.

Mapping Conflict Motives: Province Orientale (DRC)

(March 2010 – IPIS)

http://www.ipisresearch.be/mapping_orientale.php?&lang=en

Cartographie des motivations derrière les conflits: 'Province Orientale' (RDC).

(June 2010 – IPIS)

http://www.ipisresearch.be/mapping_orientale.php

It is the fourth study in the IPIS mapping series and deals with the presence, behaviour and motivation of the armed groups that have been active in the Orientale province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in 2009.

With the publication of this fourth mapping report, IPIS links two areas it has studied and mapped in the past: the Kivu provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic. IPIS is trying to complete the jigsaw puzzle of a conflict-ridden region. The following report constitutes a new piece fitting into this puzzle. As the work advances, ever more linkages will appear and facilitate regional analysis.

From deceit to discovery: The strange flight of 4L-AWA (text and documents).

(December 2009 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/arms-trade.php>

On Saturday 12 December 2009 Thai authorities seized an aircraft at Bangkok's Don Mueang airport. The Ilyushin-76 had stopped on the 11th December for refuelling while en-route from Pyongyang to Tehran, and was carrying 35 tonnes of arms and ammunition. While the media rushed to make unproven claims about the plane and alleged former owners of the aircraft, little attention was paid to the web of companies, the flight plan, and final destination.

Sources

Sources	Newsletter	RSS Feed	scanning
ACP		RSS Feed	
Africa Confidential	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Africa Energy Intelligence		RSS Feed	
Africa Mining Intelligence		RSS Feed	
AfricaAction	Newsletter		
AfricaFiles	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
AfricaFocus	Newsletter		
African Development Bank	Newsletter		
afrik.com	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Afrique Souveraine	Newsletter		
AllAfrica		RSS Feed	
Antwerp Facets Magazine	Newsletter		
Arms Control Association	Newsletter		
Artsen Zonder Grenzen	Newsletter		
BASIC (British American Security Information Council))	Newsletter		
BBC News Africa World Edition		RSS Feed	
BICC (Bonn International Center for Conversion)	Newsletter		
BICUSA (Bank Information Center)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Bruce Broomhall	Newsletter		
Business Daily Africa (Kenian)		RSS Feed	

CarterCenter		RSS Feed	
Center for Chinese Studies	Newsletter		
China Digital Times		RSS Feed	
Chinadaily.com	Newsletter		
CIROC (Center for Information and Research on Organized Crime)	Newsletter		
Clingendael		RSS Feed	
CNN Africa		RSS Feed	
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CommodityOnline		RSS Feed	
Conciliation Resources	Newsletter		
CongoForum	Newsletter		
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Daily Energy News		RSS Feed	
Daily Monitor (Uganda)		RSS Feed	
Defense Industry Daily	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Defense News	Newsletter		
Denis Tougas	Newsletter		
DiamondWorld		RSS Feed	
digitalcongo.net	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
diplomatie.be		RSS Feed	
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EIN News - China Mining		RSS Feed	
EITI (Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Energy Information Administration		RSS Feed	
Erik Kennes	Newsletter		
euforic (Europe's Forum on International Cooperation)		RSS Feed	
EurAc (European Network for Central Africa)	Newsletter		
EuropAfrica.org		RSS Feed	
European Investment Bank		RSS Feed	
Fatal Transactions		RSS Feed	
FIDH (International Federation Human Rights / Fédération internationale de Droits Humaines)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Financial Times	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Flight International (flightglobal.com)		RSS Feed	
Forest Stewardship Council		RSS Feed	
GICHD (Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining)	Newsletter		
Global Witness	Newsletter		scanning
GRAMA (Groupe de recherche sur les activités minières en Afrique)	Newsletter		scanning
Great Lakes Center for Strategic Studies	Newsletter		
Guardian		RSS Feed	
Herald Tribune		RSS Feed	
Hirondelle			scanning
Human Rights Watch		RSS Feed	
IANSAs (International Action Network on Small Arms)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
ICMM (International Council on Mining and Metals)	Newsletter		
IGAD (InterGovernmental Authority on Development)		RSS Feed	
Illegal Logging	Newsletter		
IMF (International Monetary Fund)	Newsletter		
infomine-africa.com	Newsletter		
Institute for war and peace reporting	Newsletter	RSS Feed	

International Alert	Newsletter		
International Business Times – Mining			scanning
International Crisisgroup	Newsletter		
International Energy Agency	Newsletter		
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IPIS (International Peace Information Service)			scanning
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ISS (Institute for Security Studies)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Jane's Intelligence	Newsletter		
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Marketwire		RSS Feed	scanning
mediacongo.net	Newsletter		
mineralinfo.org			scanning
Mineweb	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
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Miningwatch Canada		RSS Feed	
Miraya 101 FM		RSS Feed	
MO*	Newsletter		
Monde Diplomatique	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Monuc		RSS Feed	
New Times, The – Rwanda		RSS Feed	
New Vision (Uganda)		RSS Feed	
Noord-Zuidportaal	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Obsac (Observatoire de l'Afrique Centrale)		RSS Feed	
OCIPE (Jesuit European Office)	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
OilVoice		RSS Feed	
OPEC		RSS Feed	
OSISA (Open Society Initiative for Southern Africa)		RSS Feed	
Overseas Development Institute		RSS Feed	
Oxfam	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
PAC (Partnership Africa Canada)	Newsletter		
Pambazuka	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Pan African Parliament	Newsletter		
Pax Christi International	Newsletter	RSS Feed	
Radio Okapi	Newsletter		
ReliefWeb		RSS Feed	
Resource Investor		RSS Feed	
Reuters Africa		RSS Feed	
Saferworld	Newsletter		
SEESAC (South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons)	Newsletter		
Sipri (Stockholm International Peace Research Institute)	Newsletter		
small arms survey			scanning
SpaceWar & TerraDaily	Newsletter	RSS Feed	

Steelguru	Newsletter
Survie	Newsletter
Syfia Grands Lacs	Newsletter
Tresa (Training and Education on Small Arms)	Newsletter
Uitpers	Newsletter
UN News Centre	Newsletter RSS Feed
UNECA (... Economic Commission for Africa)	Newsletter
UNHCR (... High Commissioner for refugees)	. RSS Feed
UNIDIR (... Institute for Disarmament Research)	Newsletter
UNIDO (... Industrial Development Organization)	. RSS Feed
UNMIL (... Mission in Liberia)	RSS Feed
USAID	Newsletter RSS Feed
USGS (U.S. Geological Survey)	Newsletter
Vlaams Vredesinstituut	Newsletter
VOA News	RSS Feed
Warefare.ru	Newsletter
Washington Post	RSS Feed
World Bank	Newsletter RSS Feed
World Rainforest Movement	Newsletter
WWF – Forest	RSS Feed
Xinhua	RSS Feed

Magazines*

Africa Enery Intelligence
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 Arms control today
 Aviation week
 Defense News
 Flight International
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 Jeune Afrique
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*Can be found at IPIS library

Keywords used in Google:

burundi mining
 Congo mining
 DRC mining
 Rwanda mining
 Uganda oil