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IPIS

IPIS LATEST REPORTS

Africa's natural resources in a global context.

(12/08/2009 – IPIS)

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

While, on the one hand, it is widely acknowledged that Africa has great natural resource potential, on the other hand, one cannot but regret that the complex interplay between political and economic factors at the national and international level appears to make it impossible to use a more substantial part of the revenues from the exploitation and trade of these resources for the promotion of the well-being of people at the grassroots level. This paper, which concentrates on non-renewable natural resources, aims to disentangle some of the processes that explain the paradox between Africa's natural wealth and its relatively limited level of economic development. It shows that the state of affairs in the resource sectors of most African countries is still to a large extent determined by external factors. Extractive industries in Africa tend to be export-oriented and contribute disappointingly little to local development.

Militarised Mining Areas in the Kivus.

(10/08/2009 – IPIS)

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

IPIS has published an interactive map of militarised mining areas in the Kivus (MiMiKi). Together with the map comes an explanatory guide to the research methodology and the possible uses of the map, including some striking findings.

The MiMiKi map constitutes a first systematic attempt to clarify the issue of profit by armed groups from the extractive industry in the east of the DR Congo. The interactive map contains information on the location of mines, the presence of armed groups at mining pits and a number of other variables. Although most recent analyses written on the issue point out that the region's relative mineral wealth is not the primary cause of the armed conflict in the Kivus, its role in financing armed groups is indisputable. Because of this situation, Western companies buying ores originating from the Great Lakes region, have been targeted by international NGOs who are asking them to implement a thorough system of due diligence. In the light of the loudening call for a stricter regulation of the sector, the listing of mining sites in the Kivus is essential.

The MiMiKi map only shows a part of the mining sector, namely the extraction of the minerals. In order to find out whether Western companies are buying Congolese minerals from which armed groups might benefit, the whole trading chain needs to be established. Therefore, in addition to the MiMiKi map, IPIS has appended a specific table containing information on the activities of the official comptoirs (mineral traders) in 2008.

It has to be noted that the MiMiKi map is not yet complete and should be considered as a work in progress. To date, more than 200 active mining sites are located on the map, including the most important. There are a few remaining blind spots (areas on which IPIS has no first hand information) on the map.

The impact of the global financial crisis on mining in Katanga.

(14/07/2009 – IPIS)

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

This report examines the impact of the global financial crisis on the mining sector in Katanga, the southeast province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. As far as the industrial mining sector is concerned, it is shown that the crisis exacerbated the uncertainty of mining companies that were waiting for the results of the review of the mining contracts and that were often in the middle of starting up or expanding their activities in Katanga. Nevertheless, IPIS remains convinced that the renegotiation of the mining contracts is of vital importance for the long-term development of the Congolese mining industry. As far as the artisanal mining sector is concerned, it is pointed out that, due to the sharp decline in mineral prices, large numbers of artisanal miners have left the mines. While some of them appear to have found a new source of income in agriculture, there are disturbing reports that others may have chosen to engage in criminal activities in order to stay afloat.

Given the importance of the mining sector as a source of revenue for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the development of a sound policy for crisis management is of vital importance to protect the health of the Congolese Treasury and to keep intact the possibility of stepping up government efforts in terms of poverty reduction and infrastructure development once the global economy starts to recover. This report shows that both the central government in Kinshasa and the provincial government in Lubumbashi have taken a number of measures to cope with the consequences of the global financial crisis.

Unfortunately, there are indications that the ongoing decentralisation process tends to complicate the cooperation between the two governments. Moreover, as a result of the exaggerated attention for the so-called 'rétrocession' issue in the Congolese press, there is a real risk that the anti-crisis measures of the Congolese authorities are not examined in a critical manner.

Zimbabwe - Arms and Corruption: fuelling human rights abuse.

(July 2009 – IPIS)

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

The following examples of irresponsible arms transfers involving Zimbabwe and other actors should be of great concern to the international community. The examples cited below are intended to illustrate further the need to ensure that the proposed international Arms Trade Treaty is as comprehensive as possible, and fully reflects the obligations of States to prevent arms transfers which pose a substantial risk of being used in serious violations of international human rights law. It is perhaps not a coincidence that these examples involve, amongst others, China and the U.S.A. – both of whose governments have been amongst the 'doubters' in the ongoing United Nations General Assembly deliberations on the ATT since 2006. Hopefully, as the new Obama Administration reviews the U.S. approach to the control of conventional arms, the U.S. position will become more constructive.

Culprits or scapegoats? Revisiting the role of Belgian mineral traders in eastern DRC.

(13/05/2009 – IPIS)

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

Ever since the eruption of the second Congo war in August 1998, the mining sector in eastern DRC has been under the scrutiny of UN Sanctions Committees, academics, NGOs, and local and international media, who have been worried and disturbed by the links between natural resource exploitation and armed conflict in the region. Both state and non-state armed actors are deriving benefit from the local mining business by levying taxes on mineral exports, by selling minerals for their own profit, and by trading mining rights for financial and military support.

The present report aims to clarify the position and responsibility of Belgian mineral traders in the area. Our purpose is not only to shed more light on the activities of Trademet and Traxys, the two companies featuring in the latest UN report, but also to discuss the activities of two other companies that have received less attention so far, namely Services and Trading International (STI) and Société pour le Développement et l'Expansion d'Entreprises (SDE).

An analysis of Finexpo's and Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere's support practices in comparison to the EURODAD principles on responsible financing.

(29/04/2009 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/corporate-social-responsibility.php>

In 2007, Belgian exports generated 89,3% of Belgium's gross domestic product. The exports created employment as well as fiscal and para-fiscal revenues. Because of the importance that exporting holds in the Belgian economy, Belgium has several public instruments in place to encourage and support the export of goods and services. At the federal level, there are Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere (ONDD), FINEXPO and the Belgian International Investment Company (BMI-SBI). At the regional level, the most important are the Agence Wallonne à l'Exportation (AWEX) for Wallonia, Brussels Export for the Brussels region, and Flanders Investment and Trade for the Flanders Region.

This research paper looks specifically at the practices of the two most significant players at the federal level: FINEXPO and Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere. FINEXPO provides advice to the Belgian government about five types of support measures: rent stabilisation mechanism, interest relief (with or without grants), pure grants and loans (tied and untied). Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere provides insurances and financial guarantees against commercial and political risks. Annex 1 to this report lists and explains the various types of support. The paper will discuss the financial terms, legal terms and conditions in place when FINEXPO and Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere provide support for Belgian exports.

The paper also looks into what extent FINEXPO's and Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere's practices match the financial terms, legal terms and conditions which are set out in the EURODAD Charter on Responsible Financing. The principles in the Charter outline the essential components of a reasonable loan. Given that only FINEXPO provides loans, the principles in the Charter are only directly applicable to the provision of loans by FINEXPO. Despite this fact, the principles are still useful in determining whether the financial and insurance practices of all support measures by FINEXPO and those by Ducroire/Nationale Delcredere are responsible support measures or not. EURODAD's principles represent a general framework for a tough but fair policy.

Mapping Conflict Motives: Central African Republic.

(20/02/2009 – IPIS)

www.ipisresearch.be/mapping_car.php

IPIS has published 'Mapping Conflict Motives: Central African Republic'. It is the third study in the IPIS mapping series and it deals with the presence, behaviour and motivation of the armed groups that operated in the Central African Republic in 2008. Also the French version of the report is now online.

Rechercher la problématique des ressources naturelles dans la RDC.

(12/02/2009 – IPIS)

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

This syllabus has been created by IPIS for its project 'Renforcement de capacité d'ONG congolaises qui travaillent autour les ressources naturelles : méthodologies de recherche et rédaction de dossiers de haute qualité servant de base aux activités de campagne et de lobbying'. The project aims to reinforce the capacity of Congolese NGOs to produce reports and articles of high quality.

Mapping Conflict Motives: Katanga Update: May- September 2008.

(6/01/2009 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/updates-katanga.php>

This report is the third (and for the moment the last) in a series of updates following an initial report on conflict motives in the Congolese province of Katanga. It analyses the most important security developments from May 2008 until September 2008.

IPIS would like to highlight the following issues dealt with in the report:

Security problems in Katanga have stopped figuring in the news. To a certain extent this is justified because the overall humanitarian situation in Katanga has improved and in general the number of human rights violations has decreased.

However, with MONUC gradually retreating from the province the international presence diminishes and with it the number of eyes and ears of observers in the field. Nonetheless, for the future several security hazards remain.

For one, the impact of the economic crisis on Katanga is enormous. Virtually all mining companies have significantly reduced or stopped their activities. The social consequences are dire for a province that economically relies heavily on mining. Secondly, in August a law was promulgated providing for the creation of 25 Congolese provinces instead of the 10 current ones. In this scenario Katanga will be cut into 4 new provinces. Feelings about the issue are mixed. The possible impact is difficult to estimate. Finally, the human rights situation in the North of the province remains disquieting, with persistent violations committed by state agents.

The information for the updates is drawn from desktop research by IPIS and permanent field research carried out by four Katangese partner organisations based in different parts of Katanga.

IPIS LATEST ARTICLES

Stabilisation et secteur minier dans l'Est de la RDC.

(August 2009 – IPIS)

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

In the beginning of July the Congolese government established a plan for the stabilisation of eastern DRC. The media remained silent concerning this initiative and the plan has not been made public. IPIS, however, managed to obtain this Congolese stabilisation plan. The objective of this article is to look at the essential

points of the plan that could be useful as part of the Congolese and international efforts to dissolve the crisis in the eastern part of the country.

Natural resources in the Great Lakes Region

Africa: High-Risk Status Dents Continent's Share of Global Mining.

(21/08/2009 – Mmegi - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908250181.html>

Researchers in the mining industry say Africa's plethora of operational risks is the biggest factor reducing the continent's share of global exploration spending in the industry. According to experts from the MSA Group, while global exploration spending reached US\$12 billion in 2008 - a record high historically - Africa's share of this has been declining.

Nile Basin Initiative Shared Vision Program Additional Grant Financing for the Regional Power Trade Project : environmental assessment (Vol. 2 of 5): Strategy for addressing environmental and social safeguards under the proposed Nile Basin Initiative institutional strengthening project.

(14/08/2009 – World Bank)

<http://go.worldbank.org/BKI0T2WR30>

The Regional Power Trade Project (RPTP) for Africa aims to establish the institutional means to coordinate the development of regional power trade and markets among the Nile Basin Initiative (NBI) countries.

Central Africa: Congo Basin Forest - Steering Committee To Coordinate Action.

(21/08/2009 – Cameroon Tribune – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908210169.html>

Actors involved in the conservation, management and exploitation of the Congo Basin forest ecosystems created the steering committee of the Conference of the Dense Forest and Humid Ecosystems of Central Africa (CEFDHAC) this month in Bangui.

30,000 foreign clandestine diamonds prospectors expelled.

(25/08/2009 – AngolaPress)

http://www.portalangop.co.ao/motix/en_us/noticias/politica/2009/7/35/000-foreign-clandestine-diamonds-prospectors-expelled_3fa0f4cc-328a-4d39-97d4-e9a9a65ac32f.html

At least 30,000 foreign clandestine diamonds prospectors were expelled from Angola in the last four months, in the ambit of an operation carried out by the Angolan National Police. According to Ambrósio de Lemos, out of the 30,000 illegal prospectors who were repatriated, 17,000 ones were from the DRC and the remainder were from west African countries.

Afrique Centrale: Electricité : Grands Lacs- Les Etats cogitent sur les stratégies de production de 200 MW.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200716.html>

Rwandan, Congolese and Burundian governmental representatives gathered in Gisenyi to talk about power production in the Great Lakes Region.

Congo-Kinshasa: Des scientifiques proposent le dégazage du lac Kivu - Afin d'échapper à une explosion gazeuse.

(25/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908250566.html>

Gaz méthane du lac kivu : J. Kabila instruit les acteurs de suivre la question de près.

(25/08/2009 – ACP – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60550>

Thousands at risk from DR Congo lake gas.

(25/08/2009 – Reuters)

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE57O0MH20090825?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews>

Nord-Kivu: 2 millions de personnes sous menace d'une explosion gazeuse.

(24/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24422>

The Congolese Minister of Environment organised a conference in Kinshasa to examine the economic potential and the environmental risk of Lake Kivu's methane gas.

Central Africa: Rwanda, DRC Fund Methane Project.

(23/08/2009 – East African Business Week - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908241079.html>

The feasibility study of the joint exploitation of methane gas in Lake Kivu by Rwanda and Democratic Republic of Congo will be ready before June next year. The European Commission (EC) has accepted to finance the study and the funds should be availed in two months to start the study, Rwanda State Minister for Energy, Dr. Albert Butare said.

Uvira : le Burundi, la Tanzanie, la Zambie et la RDC en conférence ministérielle sur la gestion commune du lac Tanganyika.

(19/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=67&l=0&c=2&a=24355&da=&of=2&s=&m=2&k=0&r=all&hi=0>

Congo-Kinshasa: Norbert Basengezi fait pression pour la matérialisation du projet.

(25/08/2009 – La Prospérité – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908250330.html>

Ministerial delegations of the four countries bordering Lake Tanganyika gathered in Uvira to discuss the management of the lake's biodiversity.

DRC

Congo-Kinshasa: L'exportation des produits miniers conditionnée par d'un certificat du CEEC.

(25/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908250565.html>

Congolese Minister of Mines Martin Kabwelulu, on a visit in Katanga, declared that from now on no minerals may be exported from Katanga without a CEEC certificate.

At least 10 killed in Congo diamond mine cave-in.

(20/08/2009 – Reuters)

<http://af.reuters.com/article/topNews/idAFJOE57J0CC20090820?feedType=RSS&feedName=topNews>

Eboulement au polygone de la Miba : 8 morts et une dizaine de personnes encore sous les décombres.

(20/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24366>

18 killed in DR Congo mining tragedy: union officials.

(20/08/2009 – AFP)

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5gG3KZ8htSuzdPO9IBnsB9ce3oRJQ>

Illegal miners killed in Congo.

(20/08/2009 – Aljazeera)

<http://english.aljazeera.net/news/africa/2009/08/2009820161039580660.html>

At least 10 miners were killed when a diamond mine in central Democratic Republic of Congo caved in, a local official said on Thursday. The victims, miners working on a concession belonging to state diamond miner Societe Miniere de Bakwanga (MIBA), were buried when an underground gallery collapsed late on Tuesday.

Congo-Kinshasa: Signe de sortie de crise financière - Martin Kabwelulu : «Le secteur minier congolais est en pleine restructuration».

(19/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908190288.html>

Congolese Minister of Mines Martin Kabwelulu stated the effects of the financial crisis are beginning fade as mineral prices are rising again.

Minerals and conflict in eastern DRC.

(July 2009 – Pole Institute)

<http://www.pole-institute.org/site%20web/echos/echo114.htm>

A discussion paper of Pole Institute on the link between conflict and natural resources in eastern DRC's Kivu provinces.

L’Egypte prête à aider la Rdc dans la construction des routes et des barrages hydro-électriques.

(21/08/2009 – ACP – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60467>

The Egyptian ambassador in the DRC declared Egypt is prepared to offer support to the DRC for the construction of roads and hydropower stations.

Fury at plan to power EU homes from Congo dam.

(23/08/2009 – Guardian)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/aug/23/power-eu-congo-dam>

Plans to link Europe to what would be the world's biggest hydroelectric dam project in the volatile Democratic Republic of Congo have sparked fierce controversy. The Grand Inga dam, which has received initial support from the World Bank, would cost \$80bn (£48bn). Grand Inga will involve transmission cables linking South Africa and countries in west Africa including Nigeria. A cable would also run through the Sahara to Egypt. But controversially, it is understood that part of the feasibility study for the Grand Inga project would see the scheme extended to supply power to southern Europe, at a time when less than 30% of Africans have access to electricity - a figure that can fall to less than 10% in many countries.

Inga III project not threatened by Eskom pull-out – consultant.

(21/08/2009 – Engineering News)

<http://www.engineeringnews.co.za/article/inga-iii-to-go-ahead---proclaims-independent-consultant-2009-08-21>

Independent public affairs consultant Dr John Maré is confident that the Inga III hydroelectric project, in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), will go ahead as planned, in spite of power utility Eskom withdrawing from the project and recent reports by Western Power Corridor (Westcor) CEO Dr Pat Naidoo that the project would probably stagnate, now that the DRC government has decided to develop it on its own.

Vers l'exploitation de l'énergie électrique à base de la chaleur des eaux souterraines dans le Katanga.

(24/08/2009 – ACP – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60526>

Congolese Minister of Energy Laurent Muzangisa Mutalenu gathered with the president of the American enterprise International Trade Development Corporation on the possibility of exploiting energy from the warmth of underground waters.

Goma : le parc des Virunga menacé d'être déclassé de la liste des biens du patrimoine mondial.

(20/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60433>

During the past 15 years the Virunga park has witnessed a strong decrease of its biological value, consequently its UNESCO World Heritage status is threatened.

DRC: PWYP welcomes the release of human rights and transparency campaigner Golden Misabiko; calls for all charges to be dropped.

(21/08/2009 – Publish What You Pay)

<http://www.publishwhatyoupay.org/en/resources/drc-pwyp-welcomes-release-human-rights-and-transparency-campaigner-golden-misabiko-calls-a>

PWYP welcomes the release on bail on 20 August of Golden Misabiko, President of the African Association for the Protection of Human Rights in Katanga province (ASADHO/Katanga) and a member of Publish What You Pay (PWYP) in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Misabiko was arrested on 24 July by the Congolese intelligence services in Lubumbashi in south-east Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and detained at the Prosecutor's Office [Parquet] in poor conditions on charges of "undermining state security" and "defamation".

UGANDA

Uganda: Army to Displace Villages in Hoima.

(18/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908190152.html>

Over 4,000 residents in seven villages of Kyangwali sub-county in Hoima district face eviction. The land will be used to establish an army base for the protection of the oil reserves in the region.

Uganda: Tension in Bunyoro Over Oil Money.

(24/08/2009 – East African Business Week - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908241295.html>

As tribal tension grips Uganda's oil-rich region of Bunyoro, there are fresh fears that the area could be swamped by a wave of instability, bringing on the very resource curse that the government has worked hard to avoid since discovering the deposits a few years ago.

Uganda: Norway to Support Country's Oil Sector.

(20/08/2009 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908200759.html>

Norway to Fund Establishment of Ugandan Oil Bodies.

(20/08/2009 – Bloomberg)

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=aXMe_5su1OoA

The government of Norway has given Uganda a grant worth shs78 billion (239 Million Kroner) which will be used to support various efforts to fight poverty, and also help it strengthen the management of its young oil and gas sector. According to a statement from the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Finance, Keith Muhakanizi, the grant will also enhance the forest and meat export sectors and also cover rural electrification.

Uganda: Government to Use Oil Revenue to Fight Poverty.

(23/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908240823.html>

This is the edited speech made by the Ugandan Minister of State for Mineral Development, Peter Lokeris, recently during an advocacy clinic on promotion of transparency, accountability and ecological sustainability in the oil and gas sector. Excerpts.

Uganda: Oil Versus Nature - the Government's Dilemma.

(24/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908250696.html>

Heritage Oil will soon start exploration works at seven new sites in Murchison Falls National Park. Tragically, the seven sites are located in the middle of the main tourism area. Four wells will be drilled along the Pakwach-Paara track. An environment impact study will be done prior to drilling and the oil company has committed itself to restoring the area into its original state. But the firm's track record is poor. Buffalo 1 testing site, where drilling finished in May, looks like a chunk eaten out of the landscape. Trees have not been replanted, the soil is polluted and most of the animals are gone.

Protected areas will not be affected by oil activities.

(25/08/2009 – New Vision)

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/20/692417>

In the past two years there has been debate on whether, with the discovery of oil and gas in the protected areas, nature conservation and indeed environmental safeguards will go to the dogs.

Oil find sparks new hope for Uganda's people.

(25/08/2009 – Guardian)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/world/2009/aug/25/uganda-oil-find-energy-companies>

The discovery of vast oil reserves in Uganda has caused excitement across the country, and more than a touch of anxiety too. Energy companies have recently found more than 700m barrels of commercially viable oil in the pristine Albertine Graben region, representing the first major petroleum strike in east Africa. If managed well, the petrodollars could transform the economy of the landlocked country, potentially doubling the state's revenues, creating thousands of jobs and help realise President Yoweri Museveni's dream of industrialising the country. If not, sceptics point to Nigeria, where billions of dollars of oil income has brought great wealth to the few but failed to solve widespread poverty, and whose mere mention makes Ugandan government officials bristle.

Uganda: Hoima Plant to Supply Electricity.

(23/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908240818.html>

The construction of the Buseruka hydro power dam in Hoima district will be completed in January next year. The project was part of the President's election promises in 2006 under the rural electrification programme.

Uganda: MP's Right to Reject Govt Loan Request.

(20/08/2009 – New Vision - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908210242.html>

The Parliamentary committee on natural resources has refused to sanction the Government's proposal to borrow \$370m (about sh740b) for the rural electrification project. The Government plans to use the money to extend power to 25% of the population, up from the current 6%. The project, it is expected, will reduce pressure on forests for wood fuel. The MPs declined to rubber stamp the proposal, demanding accountability for the previous similar projects.

Uganda: Forest Officers Want Guns.

(19/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908200331.html>

Forestry officials have appealed to the Government to give them guns as a way of averting the increasing murders of their staff by illegal pit-sawyers and mobs.

RWANDA

Rwanda: Save the Gorillas, Plead UN Envoy.

(20/08/2009 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908200081.html>

The United Nations Ambassador for the year of the Gorilla, has called for proper protection of mountain Gorillas saying they play a vital role in the protection of the environment.

International mining companies in the Great Lakes Region

DRC

Randgold Meets DRC Government on Moto.

(24/08/2009 – Marketwire)

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Randgold-Resources-Ld-NASDAQ-GOLD-1034688.html>

Randgold Resources and the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) will hold follow-up talks in Kinshasa this week to agree the details of their cooperation on the Moto gold project.

Randgold will not rush Moto project.

(24/08/2009 – Miningmx)

http://www.miningmx.com/news/gold_and_silver/randgold-will-not-rush-moto-project.htm

Randgold Resources CEO Mark Bristow said he did not intend rushing the development of the Moto gold mine in the Democratic Republic of Congo. He was speaking ahead of a trip to Kinshasha tomorrow for follow-up talks with the government of the DRC on the development of Moto. Both he and DRC deputy mines minister Victor Kasongo were in Johannesburg on Monday but Kasongo stated his desire for swift action.

ANALYSIS - Wall St wary over Freeport's Congo mine woes.

(21/08/2009 – Reuters)

<http://in.reuters.com/article/businessNews/idINIndia-41891020090821>

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc just mined its first metal in Democratic Congo, but Wall Street is wary about short-term prospects for the copper/cobalt project as Kinshasha reviews the mine contract and three employees are being held on suspicion of embezzlement.

Looting Africa: Canadian Company Eyes Gold in Democratic Republic of Congo.

(20/08/2009 – Toward Freedom)

<http://towardfreedom.com/home/content/view/1643/1/>

A Canadian mining company, Banro Corporation, is prepared to bring hundreds of millions of dollars in gold out of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, one of Africa's most embattled and poorest countries. One expert says that to extract gold, the company will have to cut a deal with the violent FDLR militia.

UGANDA

UPDATE:8 Cos On Tullow List To Join Uganda Oil Project-Source.

(21/08/2009 – The Wall Street Journal)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090821-707030.html>

Tullow Oil PLC has compiled a shortlist of eight prospective partners to join its development of oil resources discovered in the Lake Albert region of Uganda, a person familiar with the matter told Dow Jones Newswires Friday.

China in the Great Lakes Region

Kinshasa recule sur les contrats chinois.

(19/08/2009 – Colette Braeckman)

<http://blogs.lesoir.be/colette-braeckman/2009/08/19/486/>

Congo-Kinshasa: Feu vert du FMI aux contrats chinois.

(19/08/2009 – Le Phare – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908190887.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: RD Congo - FMI - point d'achèvement en juin 2010!

(19/08/2009 – Le Phare – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908190886.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Contrats chinois corrigés, fini la brouille!

(19/08/2009 – La Prospérité – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908190072.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Déclaration du FMI au terme d'une visite à Kinshasa.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200584.html>

Statement at the Conclusion of an IMF Staff Visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

(19/08/2009 – IMF)

<http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2009/pr09286.htm>

Congo-Kinshasa: FMI/Kinshasa - Le dernier verrou.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200485.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Conclusion du PEG 2 - Le oui mais du Fonds monétaire international.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200488.html>

Economie : le FMI s'engage avec la RDC dans un nouvel accord.

(19/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24353>

Congo-Kinshasa: Contrats chinois - Les congolais à Beijing.

(25/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908250567.html>

In order to be able to continue discussions on IMF debt alleviation, the DRC revised its US\$9 billion deal with the Chinese investors.

Forte hausse de investissements chinois en Afrique.

(25/08/2009 – Les Afriques)

<http://www.lesafriques.com/actualite/forte-hausse-de-investissements-chinois-en-afrique.html?Itemid=89?article=18376>

Chinese direct investments in Africa have known a sharp increase during the first semester of 2009, reaching US\$552 million.

Arms trade / Security in the Great Lakes Region

Uganda: Congolese Abduct Ugandan Fishermen.

(23/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908240760.html>

Armed Congolese on Friday raided Rukwanzi Island on Lake Albert and abducted eight Ugandan fishermen, whom they accused of fishing in "their" waters. Uganda and Congo have been fighting over the ownership of the tiny Rukwanzi landing site.

Uganda In Talks With Congo Over Oil Region Hostages.

(25/08/2009 – The Wall Street Journal)

<http://online.wsj.com/article/BT-CO-20090825-704732.html>

The Ugandan government is in talks with Congolese authorities to seek the unconditional release of fishermen abducted from the disputed Rukwanzi Island, on the oil-rich Lake Albert, officials said Tuesday.

Uganda: Nationals Still Held in Congo.

(24/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908250605.html>

The eight Ugandan fishermen abducted by armed Congolese in the disputed Rukwanzi Island on Friday are still in captivity.

Uganda: Fishermen Released.

(25/08/2009 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908250210.html>

The Ugandan fishermen who, had been abducted by armed Congolese, were yesterday released, the army said.

Uganda: Uganda, Congo Relations Back to Normal.

(25/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908260007.html>

Uganda and the DR Congo have restored full diplomatic relations 15 years after they severed them. Congo's newly-posted envoy Jean Charles Okoto Lulakombe presented his credentials to President Yoweri Museveni at State House Entebbe on Monday.

Conflict trends.

(2009 – ACCORD)

<http://www.accord.org.za/publications/conflict-trends/downloads/476-conflict-trends-20091>

ACCORD publication on actual conflict issues, includes among other things an article on land disputes in Burundi and a feature on the reintegration process in Northern Uganda.

DRC

Congo-Kinshasa: Synthèse des conclusions de la visite de Global Witness dans l'est de la RDC.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200486.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: La tuerie à Bisié démontre que les minerais sont au coeur du conflit congolais.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200487.html>

Articles on Global Witness' analysis of the FARDC's involvement in cassiterite mining and trade in Bisié region and the centrality of minerals in the Congolese conflict.

Uvira : FARDC, des officiers issus des groupes Maï-Maï exigent la confirmation de leurs grades avant leur déploiement.

(25/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24370>

Some FARDC officers, originating from the Maï Maï rebels, refuse to be deployed in a military operation as long as they have not officially received their grades.

Congo-Kinshasa: Trois mille Casques bleus attendus pour renforcer la Monuc.

(21/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908210550.html>

UN troops in DRC to be strengthened.

(20/08/2009 – Mail&Guardian)

<http://www.mg.co.za/article/2009-08-20-un-troops-in-drc-to-be-strengthened>

Lieutenant-colonel Jean-Paul Dietrich declared 3.000 new blew helmets will be deployed in eastern DRC by the end of October.

Congo-Kinshasa: 3.000 nouveaux casques Bleus pour chasser les Fdlr et consorts!

(19/08/2009 – La Prospérité – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908210097.html>

Sécurité dans l'Est de la Rdc : tête-à-tête Muzito–Alan Doss.

(22/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60492>

Prime Minister Muzito gathered with the UN Secretary General's Special Representative Alan Doss to talk about the realised progress in the securisation of the Kivu provinces.

Congo-Kinshasa: Alan Doss salue les progrès dans le processus de pacification de l'Est.

(21/08/2009 – La Prospérité – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908210561.html>

After his meeting with Prime Minister Muzito, Alan Doss gathered with Congolese Minister of International Cooperation Raymond Tshibanda N'Tungamulongo.

Une équipe d'experts dépêchée par Africom à l'Est de la Rdc.

(22/08/2009 – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60484>

A small delegation of experts send by Africom will visit eastern DRC and examine how the US can help to build peace in the central African region.

Congo-Kinshasa: Coopération militaire Washington/Kinshasa - Africom en RDC.

(21/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908210551.html>

Article on the good relationship between the American military and the Congolese national army. The American military organised a workshop this week on the relationship with the media, two months ago the DRC and the USA signed a military cooperation agreement and two months earlier Africom commander William E. Ward visited Kinshasa.

Congo-Kinshasa: Giving a Voice to the Victims of Sexual And Physical Violence.

(19/08/2009 – UN News Centre)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908190904.html>

For nearly two and a half years, Roselidah Ondeko has been at work in the eastern DRC, helping local women find their voices to speak out about the epidemic of gender-based sexual and physical violence in the region.

Congo-Kinshasa: Droits de l'homme - La Monuc invite le gouvernement à fixer les priorités.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200715.html>

The MONUC expressed its aspiration that the DRC National Plan on human rights will be used as a working plan for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Kalehe : réinsertion sociale des ex-enfants soldats, le programme manque de suivi.

(24/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24413>

A lot of the former child soldiers who were engaged in social reintegration programmes, have been recruited again for armed militias or have started to work in the mines.

Congo-Kinshasa: Les déplacés du camp de Kibati I regagnent leurs villages respectifs.

(20/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908200713.html>

The 14.700 IDPs living in the Kibati I camp near Bukavu have returned to their villages.

Congo-Kinshasa: Près de 1 million de déplacés recensés au Nord-Kivu.

(21/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908210548.html>

OCHA reports that about 212.000 IDP's in North Kivu have returned home, still leaving about a million people displaced

Briefing humanitaire en RDC, 17 au 21 août 2009.

(21/08/2009 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/ASAZ-7V5HCY?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

RD Congo : Bulletin d'information humanitaire Provinces du Centre et de l'Ouest, 14 au 20 août 2009.

(21/08/2009 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SHIG-7V8FT4?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

RD Congo : Bulletin d'information humanitaire Provinces du Centre et de l'Ouest, 07 au 13 août 2009.

(13/08/2009 – OCHA - Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/LSGZ-7UZC92?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

RD Congo : Bulletin d'information humanitaire Province du Katanga, 12 au 18 août 2009.

(18/08/2009 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/SHIG-7V4EMG?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

RD Congo : Bulletin d'information humanitaire Sud-Kivu, 12 au 18 août 2009.

(20/08/2009 – OCHA - Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/VVOS-7V4QT7?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

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

What I Saw in Goma.

(21/08/2009 – US Department of State)

<http://www.state.gov/secretary/rm/2009a/08/128317.htm>

US Secretary of State Clinton evaluating her visit to Goma.

Le Procureur de la CPI juge que la mise en liberté de Bemba serait une erreur.

(25/08/2009 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/newsFr/storyF.asp?NewsID=19910&Cr=CPI&Cr1=Bemba>

The ICC prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo declared the temporary release of Bemba was a mistake.

FDLR**Congo-Kinshasa: Climat de terreur à Kabare.**

(19/08/2009 – IPS – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908190774.html>

Article on the FDLR terror the Kabare territory population has to endure.

MONUC press conference of 19 August 2009.

(19/08/2009 – MONUC)

<http://monuc.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=932&ctl=Details&mid=1096&ItemID=5300> (English)

<http://monuc.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1069&ctl=Details&mid=1143&ItemID=5303> (French)

Rwanda: FDLR Atrocities Persist – Monuc.

(21/08/2009 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908240081.html>

At the weekly MONUC press conference today, MONUC outlined the activities of its blue helmets in the provinces of North and South Kivu, where they are working to protect the population and support the DRC Armed Forces (FARDC), within the context of Kimia II military operations against the “Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda” (FDLR) rebels.

Kalehe: les autorités territoriales notent une amélioration de la situation sécuritaire.

(19/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24360>

About a month after the launch of the Kimia II military operation against the FDLR rebels, the Kalehe territorial authorities are noticing a considerable amelioration of the security situation.

Congo-Kinshasa: What the New York Times Missed.

(18/08/2009 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908190115.html>

Opinion article rejecting recent statements that the military operations against the FDLR rebels have caused major displacement and that the military path, to handle the FDLR rebels, should be abandoned.

Congo-Kinshasa: Opérations «Kimia II» - des bastions FDLR démantelés.

(24/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908240405.html>

Article on the FARDC's military victories on the FDLR rebels that have been pushed eastwards as several of their military bases have been destroyed.

Rwandan Hutu rebels cross into Burundi.

(24/08/2009 – AFP)

http://ca.news.yahoo.com/s/afp/090824/world/burundi_drcongo_rwanda_rebels_unrest

The Burundian army said Monday that around 10 Rwandan Hutu FDLR rebels had entered the country from neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo but did not pose a threat to peace. It said the rebels had entered the country to escape an offensive by the Congolese army and UN peacekeepers, but were not in a position to carry out an attack.

East Africa: Rwanda, Burundi Dismiss FDLR Recruitment Claims.

(26/08/2009 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908260006.html>

International media reports that rebels of the FDLR, are recruiting former Burundian rebels into their ranks have been dismissed by Rwanda, Burundi and the MONUC.

Uvira : les FDLR font des patrouilles en lieu et place de l'armée régulière dans les moyens plateaux de Lemera et Ndolera,.

(24/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24419>

A Congolese civil society report on the Kimia II military operation states the FDLR rebels are regaining some of the territories they lost recently.

Goma : 11.577 Rwandais sont rentrés chez eux depuis janvier 2009.

(19/08/2009 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=24356>

Since the beginning of the year until August 18, 2.782 former Rwandan combatants in the DRC and their dependents have returned home through the MONUC's DDRRR programme.

LRA

Ugandan rebels drive thousands from their homes in southern Sudan – UN.

(21/08/2009 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=31824&Cr=LRA&Cr1=Sudan>

Uganda: Thousands Flee Renewed LRA Rebel Raids.

(24/08/2009 – IRIN – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908241200.html>

Ouganda: Suite aux attaques répétées de la LRA, Les humanitaires suspendent leurs activités à la frontière RDC-Soudan.

(24/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908240378.html>

New LRA attacks trigger more displacement in Southern Sudan.

(21/08/2009 – UNHCR – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/JBRN-7V5GVG?OpenDocument&RSS20=18-P>

Fresh attacks carried out by the notorious Ugandan rebel group LRA have uprooted thousands of people and spreading panic in southern Sudan's border region with the DRC and the CAR, forcing the United Nations to suspend its humanitarian work in the area, the world body's refugee arm said today.

Opération « Pierre d'acier » des FARDC en Ituri pour ratisser les retranchements des rebelles ougandais de la LRA.

(24/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60523>

The FARDC will conduct a military operation, supported by the MONUC, to trace the LRA's hide-outs.

Capture par les Fardc de Joseph Okot, l'un des officiers du Lra.

(22/08/2009 – L'Avenir – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/60502>

After some fighting between the LRA rebels and the FARDC in Duma, the Congolese soldiers managed to capture LRA officer James Okot.

UGANDA

MONUC facilitates a second meeting between the Government of Uganda and ADF/NALU Representatives.

(21/08/2009 – MONUC)

<http://monuc.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=932&ctl=Details&mid=1707&ItemID=5362> (English)

<http://monuc.unmissions.org/Default.aspx?tabid=1069&ctl=Details&mid=1690&ItemID=5363> (French)

Congo-Kinshasa: Pour la 2ème fois - La Monuc facilite la rencontre entre les émissaires de Kampala et de l'ADF/NALU.

(25/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908250573.html>

The Delegations of the Government of UGANDA and of the ADF/NALU on 18th-20th August 2009 met in Kisangani under the auspices of the MONUC, in continuation of their discussions concerning the search for peaceful solutions to the conflict between the ADF/NALU and the Government of Uganda.

Uganda: Dogs to Sniff Out Illegal Guns in Teso.

(21/08/2009 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908210711.html>

In a bid to intensify the fight against illegal guns in Karamoja and Teso sub-regions, the UPDF have now added the services of sniffer dogs, Daily Monitor has learnt. Over 10,000 illegal guns are yet to be recovered in Karamoja while an estimated 2,000 acquired during the past insurgencies are suspected to be in wrong hands in Teso.

Uganda: British Soldiers Train Locals.

(24/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908250621.html>

British military officers have trained over 100 UPDF soldiers and district leaders from the Teso region in disaster management. The military experts also developed plans for emergency response to the floods that are expected to hit the country in October.

Uganda: Government Sued Over Army Top Jobs.

(19/08/2009 – New Vision – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908200006.html>

A private company and an official of the Uganda Peoples' Congress (UPC) have dragged the Government to the Constitutional Court over the composition of the army's top leadership, saying it is mainly drawn from Ankole region.

OCHA Uganda Humanitarian Update: 01 Jun - 31 Jul 2009.

(31/07/2009 – OCHA – Reliefweb)

<http://www.reliefweb.int/rw/rwb.nsf/db900SID/AHHD-7V4LZL?OpenDocument&RSS20=22-P>

OCHA report on the humanitarian situation in Uganda.

Other

Congo-Kinshasa: Afrique centrale et des Grands Lacs - Géopolitique : la RDC est de retour.

(24/08/2009 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200908240696.html>

Article on the DRC acting on the scene: Clinton's visit to the DRC, the discussions with the World Bank and the IMF, CEPGL and ICGLR diplomacy, ...

Africa: Allow Africa to Seize Control of its Destiny; Prohibit Vulture Fund Profiteering in U.S. Courts.

(20/08/2009 – Africa Action – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200908200878.html>

In the wake of Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's visit to the DRC last week, nearly 50 leading advocacy organizations have asked Congress to limit Vulture Fund profiteering from poor country debts at the expense of impoverished citizens of the world's poorest nations.

Sources

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Africa Energy Intelligence		RSS Feed	
Africa Mining Intelligence		RSS Feed	
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BASIC (British American Security Information Council))	Newsletter		
BBC News Africa World Edition		RSS Feed	
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Fatal Transactions		RSS Feed	
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GICHD (Geneva International Centre for Humanitarian Demining)	Newsletter		
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GRAMA (Groupe de recherche sur les activités minières en Afrique)	Newsletter		scanning
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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		
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SEESAC (South Eastern and Eastern Europe Clearinghouse for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons)	Newsletter		
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