



Briefing

27 August – 2 September 2008

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IPIS

IPIS LATEST REPORTS

From conflict resources to sustainable development: Memorandum by Fatal Transactions on the European Union's contribution to natural resource management in Africa

(July 2008 – Fatal Transactions - IPIS)

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

IPIS drafted this publication for Fatal Transactions. The Memorandum looks specifically at the European Commission's contribution to a sustainable exploitation of natural resources in Africa and a sustainable supply chain. It also assesses its approach on conflict resources. The paper provides an analysis of the Commission's trade policy, development cooperation, foreign and security policy, cooperation under bilateral and multilateral agreements, humanitarian aid and financial assistance. It also takes a look at the Commission's view on integrating and implementing external actions in its internal policies (e.g. energy and environment) in order to promote a sustainable management of natural resources abroad.

L'Afrique révisé les contrats miniers.

(July 2008 – Le Monde Diplomatique – IPIS)

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

Article on the current contract revision projects throughout Africa.

Mapping Conflict Motives: Katanga update: December 2007-May 2008.

(25/06/2008 – IPIS)

Cartographie des motivations derrière les conflits: le cas du Katanga. Mise à jour : décembre 2007-mai 2008.

(28/07/2008 – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/natural-resources.php?&lang=en>

This report is the second 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 December 2007 until May 2008.

Heeft Congo iets aan zijn mijnen?

(June 2008 – MO*magazine – IPIS)

<http://www.ipisresearch.be/natural-resources.php?&lang=en>

DRC possesses huge reserves of minerals. Although the mineral prices increase on the international market, Congo hardly profits.

Activity Report 2007

(IPIS)

Jaarverslag 2007

(IPIS)

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

Fatal Transaction's submission on EIB Statement of Environmental and Social Principles and Standards.

(June 2008 - IPIS)

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

Fatal Transactions and IPIS commented on the Bank's environmental and human rights policy and its approach on good governance and transparency.

NEW ACQUISITIONS OF THE IPIS LIBRARY

Clark, J.F. (2008) *The failure of democracy in the Republic of Congo*, Lynne Rienner: Londen, 309p

Natural resources in the Great Lakes Region

Small metal, wild ride. Cobalt price rises but big surplus looms.

(29/08/2008 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page36?oid=61026&sn=Detail>

After halving in six months, dollar cobalt prices punch back, but the longer term supply picture remains destructive.

Diamond market retains its glitter.

(29/08/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=140170

Diamond production has increased about 9% in the past five years, according to the New York-based World Diamond Council, as mining companies have hurried to find new deposits to meet soaring demand, reports Creamer Media's Research Channel Africa.

DRC

Congo-Kinshasa: Aveu du gouvernement - Les contrats miniers : tous léonins.

(30/08/2008 – Le Potentiel ; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809010358.html>

The Congolese government declared it judges the mining contracts as unfair and it published the "Termes de référence".

Termes de référence pour la renégociation et/ou la résiliation des contrats miniers.

(August 2008 – Ministry of Mines, Kabwelulu)

For consultation at request.

After the Revisitation Commission delivered its final report to the DRC government, the government drew up this document that reports the aims and modalities of the contract renegotiations.

Mining Review in DRC nearing completion.

(28/08/2008 – Mine web)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page36?oid=60907&sn=Detail>

Congo-Kinshasa: Revisitation des contrats miniers - plus qu'un mois.

(29/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808290274.html>

DR Congo mining review to finish Sept. 30.

(28/08/2008 – Reuters)

<http://www.monuc.org/news.aspx?newsID=17975>

DRC Mines Minister Victor Kasongo says the country's ongoing mining contracts review will be completed by the end of September with a large number of projects facing changed terms and/or complete renegotiation.

Congo Wants Majority Stake in Mine Contracts Without Studies.

(28/08/2008 – Bloomberg)

http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=a5mA_y3SK79w&refer=africa

The DRC, which is conducting a review of mining contracts, will seek a majority stake in projects that haven't submitted feasibility studies to the Mines Ministry.

Resumption of Cassiterite Exports Near?

(27/08/2008 – Africa Mining Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

Negotiations seem to result into a deal between the Congolese tin ore exporters and the government.

Strike deal fails to restart Congo tin ore exports.

(1/09/2008 – Guardian)

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/feedarticle/7766772>

(2/09/2008 – Mining Weekly)

<http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?id=142109>

Eastern DRC dealers of the tin ore cassiterite have not yet resumed export shipments despite a deal with the government to end a nearly two-month strike, an exporters' group said on Monday.

Congo Tin Exports May Resume After Dispute Over Taxes (Update1).

(2/09/2008 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=aXgmYwYaZeN0&refer=africa>

Tin exports from the DRC, Africa's biggest producer of the metal, are expected to resume today after a tax dispute halted shipments for two months.

Mines : Manono-Kongolo-Bukavu, nouvel itinéraire de la cassitérite vers l'exportation.

(28/08/2008 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=20111>

Since the interdiction of Antonov airplanes in the DRC, other vehicles are used for the transportation of cassiterite. The transport now takes longer, but the cost is lower.

Congo-Kinshasa: 5 personnes foudroyées dans une mine artisanale de diamant.

(28/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808280323.html>

Five people died after a collapse in an artisanal diamond mine in Tshinkasa.

Katanga : l'exploitation minière accélère le déboisement des forêts classées.

(2/08/2008 – mediacongo.net)

<http://www.mediacongo.net/show.asp?doc=10405>

Congo-Kinshasa: Katanga - L'exploitation minière accélère le déboisement des forêts classées.

(2/09/2008 – Le Potentiel - allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809020307.html>

Mine exploitation is further affecting the Katanga protected forests.

Democratic Republic of the Congo: Deforestation of protected areas for mining operations in the province of Katanga – The case of the Basse Kando Reserve.

(August 2008 – World Rainforest Movement)

For consultation at request, or: <http://www.wrm.org.uy/>

DRC has the second largest tropical rainforest in the world, second only to the Amazon rainforest in Brazil. The country's forests have recently drawn international attention, not only due to the challenges posed by climate change, but also because of the struggle being waged by Congolese civil society in general, and the environmental movement in particular, to stop the government from lifting its current moratorium on new logging concessions.

Sodefor : tient à une exploitation durable de la forêt.

(1/09/2008 – mediacongo.net)

<http://www.mediacongo.net/show.asp?doc=10395>

The "Société de Développement Forestier" states the Congo has the possibility to exploit and manage its forests in a durable manner. For this purpose it is important the Forestry Code is respected.

Congo-Kinshasa: Exploitation durable des ressources forestières - La certification du bois congolais offre de nouvelles perspectives.

(2/09/2008 – Le Potentiel)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809020260.html>

The process to convert the old forest titles is bringing prospects for a durable management of the Congolese forests.

UGANDA

Uganda: Country Gets Oil Tips From Nigerians.

(27/08/2008 – New Vision; published by allAfrica – 28/08/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808280150.html>

The Government is holding consultations with the Nigerian government on how to drill oil from the recently discovered wells in western Uganda.

Uganda: Lugogo Thermal Deal Expires Sunday.

(28/08/2008 – New Vision; published by allAfrica – 29/08/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808290290.html>

The Lugogo thermal plant extension contract is expiring, paving way for cheaper heavy-fuel oil generators. The expiry is in line with the Government's plans to phase out expensive thermal plants and replace them with heavy-fuel oil plants to keep tariffs down.

Uganda: U.S. \$682 Million Bujagali Power Project Ahead of Schedule.

(28/08/2008 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808280099.html>

Construction of the multi-million dollar Bujagali Hydro Power Project in Jinja is three months ahead of schedule.

Uganda: Mukono or Jinja, Who Should Gain from the Bujagali Dam?

(27/08/2008 – New Vision; published by allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808280406.html>

Leaders of Mukono and Jinja district are at loggerheads over the entitlement of royalties from the multi-billion Bujagali power project.

RWANDA

Rwanda: Government Dismisses South African Methane Gas Expert.

(29/08/2008 – Rwanda News Agency – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808290874.html>

Government has angrily dismissed comments by a South African expert that a significant challenge preventing the development of the envisaged Lake Kivu gas-fired power generation project is a lack of capital.

International mining companies in the Great Lakes Region

BHP Billiton's Africa Projects.

(27/08/2008 – Africa Mining Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

BHP looks for opportunities for major investments in Africa, for example the building of an aluminium smelter in the DRC.

Brussels delays Rio bid review.

(3/09/2008 – Financial Times)

<http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/089f672a-7950-11dd-9d0c-000077b07658.html>

A decision by European antitrust regulators on whether to permit the proposed \$170bn (£95bn) takeover of Rio Tinto by Australia's BHP Billiton could be pushed into 2009 after a temporary halt was called to the investigation yesterday.

DRC

Rise in Royalties on Katanga Project.

(27/08/2008 – Africa Mining Intelligence)

For consultation at request, or at IPIS library.

Katanga Mining signed a memorandum of understanding with Gécamines.

Metorex earmarks \$400m to quadruple copper output.

(29/08/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=141455

Global copper supply would not be able to meet demand going forward, provided the developing world sustains its growth, Metorex said. The company planned on quadrupling its own output of the metal to 135 000 t/y in 2011, and would spend some \$400-million to build two big, new projects to realise this. Needham said that the company would spend in the order of \$200-million to bring each of its DRC based Kinsende and Musonoi projects into production.

Metorex chief sings the praises of Ruashi project.

(29/08/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=141408

Metorex says that its Ruashi II copper/cobalt project, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, is a world-class plant that will contribute to its growth going forward.

Congo wants bigger stake in Tenke copper mine.

(28/08/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/news.aspx?newsID=17976>

Congo's demands rattle Lundin copper project.

(29/08/2008 - reportonbusiness.com)

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/LAC.20080829.RLUNDIN29/TPStory/Business>

The Democratic Republic of Congo wants a bigger stake in the Tenke Fungurume copper-cobalt project, owned by Freeport-McMoRan and Lundin Mining, government officials said on Thursday.

Congo Seeks to Double Stake in Freeport Mine Project (Update4).

(28/08/2008 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601116&sid=aBXVfDOMkoJM&refer=africa>

Congo's government wants to more than double its stake in a joint venture with Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold Inc., which is developing one of the world's largest unexploited copper and cobalt deposits in the country. The state wants to increase its share of the Tenke Fungurume project to 45 percent, from the current 17.5 percent. Lundin Mining Corp. owns a quarter of the venture.

Freeport 'working cooperatively' with DRC, amid commotion over ownership split.

(28/08/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=141910

Freeport-McMoRan Copper & Gold is pressing ahead with the development of its Tenke Fungurume copper/gold project, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, and continues to hold talks with the country's government on proposed changes to the mining contract for the operation.

Lundin Mining Corporation investigating newswire reports regarding Tenke Project.

(29/08/2008 – Trading Markets)

<http://www.tradingmarkets.com/.site/news/Stock%20News/1852314/>

Lundin says it has no notice of changes at Tenke despite reports.

(28/08/2008 – The Canadian Press)

<http://canadianpress.google.com/article/ALeqM5gRYKdodNZ4pgMEgHR0YA7emyCmkQ>

Lundin Mining Corporation: Tenke Contract Review Reports.

(28/08/2008 – Marketwire)

<http://www.marketwire.com/press-release/Lundin-Mining-Corporation-TSX-LUN-894153.html>

No News Is Good News In The Congo.

(28/08/2008 – Resource Investor)

<http://www.resourceinvestor.com/pebble.asp?relid=45751&phrase=congo>

Lundin Mining Corporation reported that it has not received official notification of any change in government attitude and is investigating newswire reports of comments attributed to various DRC officials regarding the Tenke Project.

Teal creates value, but not as fast as initially expected – Arm.

(1/09/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=142066

ARM Boosting Output To Cash In On Higher Commodities Prices.

(2/09/2008 – Resource investor)

<http://www.resourceinvestor.com/pebble.asp?relid=45826&phrase=congo>

Diversified miner African Rainbow Minerals was not entirely happy with the performance of its exploration and development arm, Teal, despite having performed “relatively well”. This was partly because of the exceedingly high expectations that Arm had of the company in the copper-rich DRC and in Zambia.

TEAL releases 2008 annual report.

(1/09/2008 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page674?oid=61208&sn=Detail>

TEAL gives an analysis of its different projects in the DRC in its annual report.

AngloGold to boost output to 5 million oz per year.

(2/09/2008 - International Business Times)

<http://www.ibtimes.com/articles/20080902/anglogold-to-boost-output-to-5-million.htm>

AngloGold plans 1 million ounce year gold output increase and keen on DRC.

(2/08/2008 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.net/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page34?oid=61334&sn=Detail>

AngloGold to up Africa output, keen on Congo.

(2/08/2008 – Mining Weekly)

http://www.miningweekly.com/article.php?a_id=142133

The world's third-largest gold miner, AngloGold Ashanti, aims to expand output from its key Africa mines to 5 million ounces a year from around 4 million in the next five to six years.

Afrimex Mineral Trade Helped Congo Rebels, U.K. Says (Update2).

(28/08/2008 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=newsarchive&sid=aBE6OKvyPynk>

UK company Afrimex broke international guidelines, says British government.

(28/08/2008 – Global Witness)

http://www.globalwitness.org/media_library_detail.php/661/en/uk_company_afrimex_broke_international_guidelines_says_british_government

Afrimex Ltd.'s trading in minerals from the DRC helped fund armed rebels and the company failed to ensure its suppliers didn't use child or forced labor, the British government said.

RDC: les réserves pétrolières de la Cuvette centrale seront bientôt connues.

(31/08/2008 – Xinhua)

http://www.french.xinhuanet.com/french/2008-09/01/content_708349.htm

Congo-Kinshasa: RDC - Les réserves pétrolières de la Cuvette centrale bientôt connues.

(2/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809020303.html>

The Brazilian enterprise HRT Petroleum prospects in the Congo to make an estimation of the country's oil reserves.

UGANDA

Uganda: Albert Oil Excites Tullow Chief.

(31/08/2008 – New vision; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200809010593.html>

Uganda: Tullow Strikes New Discoveries.

(29/08/2008 – The Monitor)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808290086.html>

Uganda's oil discoveries at Lake Albert are getting close to the threshold that would make commercial production for export a reality, Tullow Oil, the UK-based firm exploring for oil and gas in western Uganda, has announced.

Tullow Oil PLC - Half-Yearly Report 2008.

(27/08/2008 – The Earth Times)

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/tullow-oil-plc--half-yearly-report-2008,518323.shtml>

Tullow Oil Reports Record Half-Yearly Results.

(27/08/2008 – OilVoice)

http://www.oilvoice.com/n/Tullow_Oil_Reports_Record_HalfYearly_Results/a8bec3f9.aspx

Tullow Oil Profit Climbs to Record on Oil, Gas Prices (Update3).

(27/08/2008 – Bloomberg)

<http://www.bloomberg.com/apps/news?pid=20601102&sid=a2K.kdlp1Nro&refer=uk>

The first half of 2008 has been outstanding for Tullow. The Group has delivered record financial results, an excellent exploration performance and material progress towards first oil from both the Jubilee field in Ghana and the EPS in Uganda.

Early oil scheme not yet okayed.

(1/09/2008 – New Vision)

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/detail.php?newsCategoryId=220&newsId=647443>

The National Environmental Management Authority has not yet approved the proposed Early Production Scheme for oil by Tullow.

Heritage Oil to reveal Uganda find.

(31/08/2008 – Telegraph)

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/money/main.jhtml?xml=/money/2008/09/01/cnher101.xml>

Heritage Oil will this week announce that it has made a significant oil discovery in Uganda. The oil group will reveal test results from exploration wells in the Albert Basin near Uganda's border with Congo.

Arms trade / Security in the Great Lakes Region

Congo-Kinshasa: Tripartite RDC-Ouganda-Soudan - Les parties s'accordent pour des opérations contre la LRA.

(29/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808290347.html>

Opérations conjointes des forces congolaises et ougandaises pour traquer les rebelles de la LRA.

(28/08/2008 – Jeune Afrique)

http://www.jeuneafrique.com/jeune_afrique/article_depeche.asp?art_cle=APA048580pratarlale0

To secure the border region between Sudan, Uganda and DRC, armed forces of the three neighbouring countries held a meeting to discuss joint actions to neutralise the LRA.

Grands Lacs-Atelier sur les « Questions transversales ».

(1/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809011263.html>

The "Conférence Internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs" (CIRGL) organises a five-day meeting titled "Questions Transversales".

DRC

In Congo, a new twist on 'blood diamonds'.

(27/08/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/news.aspx?newsID=17970>

For years, African militias have used proceeds from precious natural resources to fund conflicts. Now, rebel groups have another, new conflict financing business: cattle rustling.

Congo-Kinshasa: Ban Ki-moon nomme une magistrate algérienne représentant spécial adjoint de la MONUC.

(28/08/2008 – UN; published by allAfrica – 29/08/2008)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808290194.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Leila Zerrougui nommée adjointe de Alan Doss à la Monuc.

(1/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809011173.html>

Ban Ki-moon has announced the nomination of Leila Zerrougui as special representative of the MONUC.

Congo-Kinshasa: 'Congo Has No Means to Disarm FDLR Rebels'.

(27/08/2008 – Rwanda News Agency; published by allAfrica – 28/08/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808280124.html>

Dr Richard Sezibera told journalists that for the 'first time' in years, the Kinshasa government had ended its alleged support for the FDLR rebels and was committed to have them dealt with.

Congo-Kinshasa: Monuc, EU Acknowledge Failure in Disarming FDLR Rebels in Country.

(28/08/2008 – The New Times - allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808280303.html>

The UN Should Enforce Its Mandates.

(29/08/2008 – The New Times – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808290118.html>

Both Alan Doss, the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General in the DRC and head of MONUC and Roland Van de Geer, the EU's Special Representative for the Great Lakes Region Wednesday acknowledged that implementing the Nairobi accord is a difficult undertaking.

RDC : Communiqué de Nairobi, des progrès significatifs ont été réalisés.

(2/09/2008 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=20143>

Representatives of Rwanda, DRC and the international community gathered in Kinshasa to assess the progress of the Nairobi agreement.

Congo-Kinshasa: Monuc/Kivu-Poursuite du recrutement des combattants au sein des groupes armés.

(29/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808290669.html>

According to MONUC lieutenant-colonel Jean-Paul Dietrich, the recruitment of combatants by armed groups continues in the Kivu provinces.

Congo-Kinshasa: Nord-Kivu - Le coordonnateur du Programme Amani plaide pour le désengagement des troupes.

(28/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808280344.html>

Apollinaire Malumalu, the coordinator of the Amani programme, has warned the different parties that signed the Goma acts of engagement not to undermine the peace process.

Uvira : vulgarisation du programme Amani à Minembwe.

(2/09/2008 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=20149>

Demand for the multiplication of sensitization campaigns concerning the Amani programme in South Kivu.

DRC: Tension on the rise in Katanga mining town.

(28/08/2008 – IRIN)

<http://www.irinnews.org/report.aspx?ReportID=80048>

Congo-Kinshasa: Affrontements entre Kasaiens et Katangais à Kolwezi.

(29/08/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808290673.html>

Affrontements autour des mines du cuivre, du cobalt, d'étain au Katanga.

(30/08/2008 – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/53328>

Human rights and local government officials in DRC's Katanga province have expressed concern about rising tension between different communities in a mining town there. Clashes broke out between residents of Kolwezi and people from neighbouring provinces who work in the town's copper, cobalt, tin and manganese mines.

Congo rebels, army clash near Congo gorilla park.

(28/08/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/news.aspx?newsID=17990>

Rutshuru : affrontements FARDC-CNDP, qui provoque qui?

(28/08/2008 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=20107>

Fighting Erupts At Countries' Border.

(29/08/2008 – The Monitor – allAfrica)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200808290020.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Défis de Laurent Nkunda - Le drapeau du CNDP hissé à Masisi.

(28/08/2008 – Le Phare – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200808280990.html>

Congo-Kinshasa: Nord-Kivu - Reprise des combats à Rutshuru : une menace contre la paix en RDC.

(30/08/2008 – Le Potentiel; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809010337.html>

Affrontements entre l'armée et la rébellion de Laurent Nkunda.

(28/08/2008 – Jeune afrique)

http://www.jeuneafrique.com/jeune_afrique/article_depeche.asp?art_cle=AFP03438affroadnukn0

(28/08/2008 – Le soir)

<http://www.lesoir.be/actualite/monde/affrontements-entre-armee-et-2008-08-28-632512.shtml>

Army, rebels clash in DRC.

(29/08/2008 – Mail&Guardian)

<http://www.mg.co.za/article/2008-08-29-army-rebels-clash-in-drc>

Fierce fighting in DRC's North Kivu Province threatens tin mining.

(29/08/2008 – Mineweb)

<http://www.mineweb.com/mineweb/view/mineweb/en/page36?oid=61001&sn=Detail>

CNDP Rebels in eastern Congo exchanged heavy machine-gun and mortar fire with the army all day Thursday outside a national park housing some of the world's last mountain gorillas. It was one of the fiercest clashes in the region this year.

Heavy fighting threatens East Congo peace deal.

(29/08/2008 – Reuters)

<http://africa.reuters.com/top/news/usnBAN926433.html>

Government forces fought Tutsi rebels on Thursday in the fiercest clashes for months in eastern Congo, threatening a struggling peace process, the defence minister said on Thursday.

Le Conseil supérieur de la défense s'est penché sur la situation à l'Est.

(1/09/2008 – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/53334>

Kabila considering the security situation in the eastern DRC on a "Defence Council" last Sunday.

Emissaries to Meet DRC Rebel Leader Friday After Clashes With Government Forces.

(29/08/2008 – VOA News)

<http://www.voanews.com/english/africa/2008-08-29-voa2.cfm?rss=africa>

In the DRC, a team of emissaries would be meeting reneged army General Laurent Nkunda Friday following intense fighting between the rebels and government forces. The rebel CNDP is accusing President Joseph Kabila's government of attacking its positions in the restive North Kivu Province, which led to the latest fighting. But the government dismissed the accusation saying it was the rebels who attacked government troops without provocation.

Congo-Kinshasa: Nord-Kivu - après les combats, le calme revient.

(1/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809010320.html>

The violent confrontations with CNDP in eastern DRC have ended and calm has returned, however the situation remains worrying.

UN mission dispatches patrol following clashes in eastern DR Congo.

(28/08/2008 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=27861&Cr=monuc&Cr1=>

The MONUC has dispatched patrols to the country's volatile eastern region after some of the worst fighting since a peace deal was signed in January broke out between Government forces and armed rebel groups.

Top UN official in DR Congo deplores recent fighting in North Kivu.

(29/08/2008 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=27876&Cr=monuc&Cr1=>

MONUC strongly condemns recent clashes in North Kivu.

(29/08/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/News.aspx?newsID=17993> (English)

<http://www.monuc.org/News.aspx?newsID=17991> (French)

North Kivu: Alan Doss visit Rutshuru territory.

(1/09/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/News.aspx?newsID=17996> (English)

<http://www.monuc.org/News.aspx?newsID=17995> (French)

The top UN official in the DRC has strongly condemned the recent fighting between the Congolese army and rebels in the country's east, stressing that it goes against the ceasefire signed earlier this year.

Site of recent DR Congo clashes now calm, UN envoy says following visit.

(1/09/2008 – UN News Centre)

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=27887&Cr=DRC&Cr1=>

Alan Doss says calm has returned to Rutshuru in the country's volatile North Kivu province following last week's clashes between Government forces and armed rebel groups.

Alpha Sow: « Les forces de la Monuc à Rusthuru sont en état d'alerte maximum »

(29/08/2008 – Radio Okapi)

<http://www.radiookapi.net/index.php?i=53&a=20119>

Following the recent fighting in eastern DRC, MONUC official Alpha Sow and admiral Etumba met in Goma, to talk about the impact of the fighting on the peace process.

Kampala savait tout des affrontements entre FARDC et le CND de Laurent Nkunda dans le Rutshuru au Nord-Kivu.

(30/08/2008 – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/53332>

The violent confrontation between FARDC and CNDP cannot be called a surprise, Uganda Intelligence Service warned already several weeks ago for the possibility of renewed fighting.

Kinshasa et Kampala coupent les vivres à Nkunda et au CNDP.

(1/09/2008 – Le Phare – Digitalcongo.net)

<http://www.digitalcongo.net/article/53337>

Congo-Kinshasa: Fermeture de la frontière RDC-Ouganda.

(1/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809011252.html>

DRC decided to close the border with Uganda, trying to cut off the supply chain of Nkunda.

Congo-Kinshasa: Insécurité, calamités, déplacés-Sud-Kivu : le gouverneur de province invite les ressortissants à s'impliquer dans la reconstruction.

(1/09/2008 – Le Potentiel – allAfrica)

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200809011259.html>

The governor of the South Kivu province on the security situation in his territory.

UGANDA

Uganda: Why Has Karamoja Failed to Disarm?

(31/08/2008 – New Vision; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200809010591.html>

The availability of firearms in Karamoja, a region in north eastern Uganda has exacerbated insecurity and more people are being killed in ambushes and livestock raids.

Uganda: Give Kony Deadline.

(31/08/2008 – New Vision; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200809011035.html>

America declares Kony global terrorist.

(29/08/2008 – New Vision)

<http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/12/646987>

The US has slapped new sanctions on the Lord's Resistance Army rebel leader Joseph Kony.

BURUNDI

Burundi: Growing Insecurity Mars Peace.

(30/08/2008 – The East African; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200809010547.html>

The delay in resolving issues of disarmament and how to integrate Burundi's former rebels into state institutions and security forces is threatening the ceasefire.

Burundi: Burundi - Arusha Spirit Must Prevail.

(31/08/2008 – The East African; published by allAfrica – 1/09/2008)

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200809010516.html>

Burundi's political situation is apparently calm and improving. Yet this calm is misleading. Unless political dialogue is restarted between the ruling CNDD-FDD and the opposition parties, political tensions will jeopardise the preparations for a free, fair and peaceful electoral process in 2010 and ethnic violence could once again endanger the stability of the country.

'Plot' to kill Burundi rebel head.

(27/08/2008 – BBC)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/7584765.stm>

The leader of Burundi's last active rebel group the FNL said that there is a plot to assassinate him.

Other

Congo customs reform looks to double revenues.

(28/08/2008 – MONUC)

<http://www.monuc.org/news.aspx?newsID=17979>

Democratic Republic of Congo expects to more than double its customs revenues in 2009 by modernising its inefficient, corruption-riddled customs sector, the head of a private company due to carry out the reforms said.

Democracy Yet To Take Root In Burundi.

(28/08/2008 – Institute for Security Studies)

http://www.issafrica.org/index.php?link_id=5&mlink_id=6544&link_type=12&mlink_type=12&tmpl_id=3

From the time the new government of President Pierre Nkurunziza came into power in August 2005 abuses were continuously reported by civil society, human rights organisations and the media - organisations destined to act as watchdogs over public institutions. The abuse of power was a disillusioning experience for the citizens of Burundi who were expecting radical changes after years of civil strife.

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