

**SPECIAL COURT FOR SIERRA LEONE
OUTREACH AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE**



PRESS CLIPPINGS

Enclosed are clippings of local and international press on the Special Court and related issues obtained by the Outreach and Public Affairs Office

as at:

Tuesday, 19 January 2010

Press clips are produced Monday through Friday.
Any omission, comment or suggestion, please contact
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The Exclusive
Tuesday, 19 January 2010

Salone Leads UN Security Council



UN Permanent Rep.
Shekou M. Toure

Sierra Leone will once more lead Africa out to the Intergovernmental neaotia-

tions for the reform of the United Nations Security

Council which resumes next week. The second Exchange of the Fourth Round of the

negotiations in the Informal plenary will be held on
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Salone Leads UN Security Council

From front page

Tuesday January 19, 2010 at the UN General Assembly. It must be recalled that the decision of the Assembly of the 12th Ordinary Session of African Union AU/Dec.230 (X11) adopted by the Heads of State and Government, directed the Permanent Representatives of the Committee of Ten, to "actively engage in the Intergovernmental Negotiations on the Question of the Equitable Representation on and Increase in the Membership of the Security Council and Other Related Matters" in keeping with the United Nations General Assembly Decision 62/557 adopted on the 15th of September 2008. President Ernest Koroma of Sierra Leone is the Chair of the Committee of 10 African Heads of State President Ernest Koroma of Sierra Leone is the Chair of the Committee of 10 African Heads of State mandated to negotiate on behalf of Africa for reform of the Security Council and he is represented on the C-10 by the Permanent Representative of Sierra

Leone to the UN, Ambassador Shekou Toure, who chairs the body and the Coordinator of C-10, Minister Plenipotentiary Leeroy Wilfred Kabs-Kanu. Other members of C-10 and Sierra Leone's delegation to the intergovernmental negotiations are the Deputy Permanent Representative for Political Affairs, Ambassador Rupert Davies and the Chair of the C-10 Drafting Committee, Counselor Mannah Kpukumu.

The C-10 comprises of Senegal, Sierra Leone (West Africa), Kenya, Uganda (East Africa), Namibia, Zambia (Southern Africa), Congo DR, Equatorial Guinea (Central Africa) and Algeria and Libya (North Africa). All 53 African nations representing the AFRICAN GROUP are involved in the negotiations. Other Groups involved in the negotiations are: the Group of four (G-4) made up of Brazil, India, Germany and Japan, the United For Consensus (UFC) Pakistan, Italy, Argentina, Canada, Columbia, Costa Rica, Malta, Mexico, Republic of Korea, San Marino, Spain and Turkey; the Small Five (S-5) Costa

Rica, Liechtenstein, Jordan, Singapore and Switzerland and the Permanent Five (P-5) China, France, United Kingdom, United States and Russia. There is also CARICOM, representing the Caribbean countries.

Africa is actively negotiating for an increase in the Permanent and Non-Permanent categories and for Africa to be given 2 seats in the Permanent category and 5 seats in the Non-Permanent, in accordance with the Ezulwini Consensus and the Sirte Declaration. Africa is also calling for the abolition of the veto, but if it continues to exist, the veto should be made available to new permanent members as a matter of common justice and in the interest of democracy.

Sierra Leone Permanent Representative, His Excellency Shekou Toure, who is a Lawyer by profession and was once a career diplomat, receives warm commendation during every exchange for his statements on behalf of the African Group.

Also read this story on www.exclusivepress.net

CharlesTaylorTrial.org

Monday, 18 January 2010

Liberia: Charles Taylor Did Not Have Knowledge Of Rebel Commander's Public Calls To Kill Sierra Leoneans, He Says

Alpha Sesay

Former Liberian President, Charles Taylor, today denied knowledge of threats by a Sierra Leonean rebel commander to kill fellow citizens if the group's leader was not released from jail during the country's brutal civil conflict.

Prosecutors dismissed his denial as impossible: Mr. Taylor had to have known about the threats, not only because he was anointed the point-person for peace by fellow African leaders, but because Mr. Taylor was also helping to plan the rebel attacks, prosecutors alleged. Mr. Taylor has denied all allegations against him.

In a day full of heated exchanges between Charles Taylor and prosecutors, Mr. Taylor's denial emerged as prosecutors questioned him about his stated role as a peacemaker during the Sierra Leonean war – a role which has formed a central tenet of the former president's defense during his trial at the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

Mr. Taylor has long maintained that when he became Liberian president in 1997, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) made him the "point-person" for peace in Sierra Leone. After telling the court today that in his capacity as "point-person" for peace in Sierra Leone he was regularly briefed by his National Security Adviser on issues relating to Sierra Leone, Mr. Taylor was questioned by lead prosecutor, Brenda Hollis, about news reports which quoted Revolutionary United Front (RUF) commander Sam Bockarie threatening that he was ready to kill all living things in Sierra Leone if the government did not release RUF leader Foday Sankoh from jail.

"I was not aware of such statements," Mr. Taylor told the court today.

When asked whether Mr. Bockarie made such statements with his consent or whether it was possible for him to have known of such pronouncements in his capacity as "point-person" for Sierra Leone, Mr. Taylor responded that if he had known of such pronouncements he "would have told Bockarie that such statement was unacceptable."

Reading from a November 1998 news report on Sierra Leone, Ms. Hollis quoted Mr. Bockarie as saying that "I am a ruthless commander. I am ready to damage but I am waiting for something to happen to our leader."

When asked whether Mr. Bockarie was in Monrovia when he made such pronouncement, Mr. Taylor said that "we have not even established whether he made this statement. How am I supposed to know that he made such statements? If he made such statements, he was definitely not in Monrovia."

Mr. Taylor further said that Mr. Bockarie was in Monrovia only in late November to early December 1998, en-route to Burkina Faso. "This news report is on the 19th of November, it does not say when he made the statement," he added.

Mr. Taylor also said that he was not aware of Mr. Bockarie's December 1998 threat to attack Sierra Leone's capital Freetown by the new year if RUF leader Mr. Sankoh was not released.

"I was not aware of that," Mr. Taylor said.

The threat to attack Freetown was eventually put into effect when in January 1999, rebel forces attacked the country's capital, an attack that was characterized by the commission of widespread atrocities such as murder, rape, burning of houses and the amputations of the arms and limbs of civilians. Prosecutors have accused Mr. Taylor of being involved in planning the 1999 attack on Freetown. Mr. Taylor has denied the allegations.

Disputing Mr. Taylor's assertion that he was not aware of plans to attack Freetown in 1999, Ms. Hollis told Mr. Taylor that "it is not true because you took part in planning this operation."

"Total nonsense," Mr. Taylor responded.

Ms. Hollis told Mr. Taylor that as "point-person for peace," he would have known about Mr. Bockarie's December 1998 public pronouncement that the rebels "will enter the country's capital on new year's day except their [RUF] demands were met."

"All these denials is because your awareness of these pronouncements will undermine your position as point person for peace," Ms. Hollis told Mr. Taylor.

"No Ms. Hollis, I was not aware of that," the former president responded.

Ms. Hollis argued that if Mr. Taylor served as "point-person" for peace in Sierra Leone, he obviously would have been briefed on all news reports relating to the actions of the rebel forces in Sierra Leone. Mr. Taylor maintained that he was neither aware of any pronouncements by Mr. Bockarie to destabilize Sierra Leone, nor about rebel plans to attack Freetown in 1999.

Prosecutors have argued throughout the trial that while Mr. Taylor was never present in Sierra Leone when RUF rebels committed atrocities in the country, he was still aware of their actions and gave them his support to commit such atrocities. Prosecutors have argued that Mr. Taylor occupied a superior position to the RUF rebel leaders and that all actions taken by the rebels were done with his acquiescence. In his position of authority over the rebels, prosecutors say, Mr. Taylor knew or had reason to know that rebel forces were committing atrocities in Sierra Leone but failed to prevent the commission of those crimes nor punished the rebels when he knew that such crimes had been committed. It is in this vein that prosecutors today read news reports relating to RUF atrocities in Sierra Leone, which, they say Mr. Taylor was aware of. Mr. Taylor has denied these allegations, insisting that his role in Sierra Leone was purely for peaceful purposes in the West African country.

Mr. Taylor's cross-examination continues tomorrow.

The Liberian Observer

Friday, 15 January 2010

Taylor's First Day Causes Row



THE HAGUE – The trial of former Liberian president and ex-warlord, Charles Taylor, resumed on Monday, January 11, after a month-long break.

Day one was marked by feisty exchanges between Taylor and lead prosecution counsel, Brenda Hollis.

Hollis tried to keep a tight grip on the former Liberian president's answers under cross-examination at the Special Court for Sierra Leone.

"Mr. Taylor, you are a witness; and it is your job to answer questions, not to make speeches. Do you understand that?" Hollis asked.

"I'm the accused. You do not... the judges are going to instruct me. I don't take instructions from you. There are contexts involved here and this is my life," Taylor retorted.

As the two traversed Taylor's prior testimony under direct examination over the course of four months last year, Hollis challenged him on topics ranging outside the indictment timeframe and in relation to events in Liberia (not Sierra Leone where the charges are based), but which nonetheless may go towards testing Taylor's general credibility as a witness.

Hollis asserted that Taylor lied about his involvement in the 1985 coup to overthrow then Liberian president, Samuel Doe.

Taylor rejected this: "I would not lie about it if I was a part of it."

The prosecution also alleged that he benefitted from money he embezzled from Liberia while in the United States. Taylor, in response, agreed that he had received \$100,000 while in the US, but rejected the assertion that it was Liberian government money.

"...And it was never proven that I embezzled any money," he said.

Hollis maintained that Taylor knew rebel leader, Foday Sankoh, in Libya during the 1980s, well before 1991, the year he said he met Sankoh.

"Ms. Hollis, I had never in my life met Foday Sankoh before 1991," Taylor asserted.

Meanwhile, a debate over the use of "fresh evidence" flared up again on Monday, as the two sides clashed over how the test laid down by the judges late last year should be interpreted.

The core debate revolves around how new documents should be categorized – whether by their content or by their intended use by the prosecution. The distinction is important and will impact the ease with which prosecutors can use new documents in the courtroom during cross-examination. If documents are assessed by how the prosecution intends to use them, then documents can be used much more easily as a way of trying to “impeach” (or to discredit) Taylor’s earlier testimony. If the documents are to be assessed based on their content, then the potential for challenges to their use in court are much greater, and the hurdles the prosecution has to jump to use them in court are higher if the documents contain material which could potentially be used by the judges as proof of Taylor’s alleged guilt.

After an hour and a half adjournment, the judges decided by majority (not unanimously) that content would be the determining factor.

“Now, as has been indicated before, that decision refers to the content of such documents, not to the intended use by the prosecution. The Trial Chamber again emphasizes this distinction, since the Court has a discretion to use such material as proof of guilt no matter what was the intended use declared by the Prosecution,” presiding judge Richard Lussick said.

“Having said that, the Trial Chamber is not satisfied that the Prosecution has demonstrated either that it is in the interests of justice, or that it does not violate the fair trial rights of the accused to use that material in cross-examination.”

The judges allowed the use of two paragraphs and rejected two paragraphs of the document at issue, demonstrating that the use of “fresh evidence” in the courtroom may continue to be contested territory as the cross-examination goes forward.

Prosecutors also tried to cast doubt over the truthfulness of Taylor’s November 2009 testimony about his decision to step down from the Liberian presidency. Hollis focused on Taylor’s description of the impact of an attack by Liberian rebels in 2003, which resulted in deaths of internally displaced people hiding in a targeted building called Greystone – an annex to the United States Embassy in Monrovia located across the street, where civilians took shelter from the fighting in Monrovia in 2003. Liberians took 18 dead bodies from this attack to the United States Embassy as a plea for the US to stop the bloodshed and restore peace.

In his November 2009 testimony, Taylor had asserted that this Greystone attack had triggered his decision to step down from power.

Hollis recounted Taylor’s assertion: “You realized that “they (Liberian rebels) would do anything to get rid of you as president, including victimizing your Liberian civilians, and so you decided to step down as president. Do you remember telling the court that, Mr. Taylor?”

“I remember telling the Court that and most other things that are associated with that. Yes, I remember telling them that,” the former warlord responded.

The prosecution went on to present evidence that this attack, which resulted in 18 dead bodies being carried to the US Embassy, in fact occurred in late July of 2003, more than a month after the Accra peace talks, where Taylor indicated his willingness to step down from the presidency. In raising the inconsistency in timing, prosecutors were attempting to demonstrate that this attack could not have been the reason why Taylor decided to step down from the presidency.

Instead, Hollis suggested that other West African leaders had pressured Taylor to step down in Accra, an assertion that he vigorously denied.

“There was not one head of state in that room that ever asked me to step down. On my honor, no president ever asked me to step down. I, Charles Taylor, just as I told these judges, volunteered. No one – if anyone in that room had asked me to step down, one, it would have been very much undiplomatic,” Taylor told the court.

“Presidents don’t just say, ‘Please step down.’ I, Charles Ghankay Taylor, volunteered to step down from office. No one pressured me in that room. No one asked me to at all.”

Prosecutors finished the day with questions about the Lomé Peace Accord – a peace agreement signed between the Sierra Leonean government and the country’s main rebel group, the Revolutionary United Front (RUF), in the Togolese capital of Lomé in 1999. The Lomé Peace Accord was the document that initially triggered the controversy about the use of “fresh evidence” in this case back in November of 2009.

UNMIL Public Information Office Media Summary 18 January 2010

[The media summaries and press clips do not necessarily represent the views of UNMIL.]

International Clips on Liberia **Star Turns at Liberian's War Crimes Trial**

The New York Times 2010-01-18

PARIS - Testimony in the case against the former warlord Charles G. Taylor sounded more like a Hollywood mystery than a war-crimes trial last week, with a cast of characters including Naomi Campbell and Mia Farrow and a plot involving plans to trade guns for a bag of diamonds. Battles over diamonds have been at the heart of the trial of Mr. Taylor, the former Liberian president who is accused of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity linked to conflicts in Sierra Leone in the 1990s. The prosecution has charged that Mr. Taylor traveled to half a dozen African countries in 1997... Battles over diamonds have been at the heart of the trial of Mr. Taylor, the former Liberian president who is accused of 11 counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity linked to conflicts in Sierra Leone in the 1990s. The prosecution has charged that Mr. Taylor traveled to half a dozen African countries in 1997 carrying rough diamonds that he wanted to sell or exchange for weapons. What he did with those diamonds was the focus of the hearing on Thursday at a court in The Hague. At the start of the 1997 trip, according to the prosecution, Mr. Taylor gave one large rough-cut diamond to Ms. Campbell, a British model.

International Clips on West Africa **Guinea**

'Activist picked for PM job' January 18 2010 iol.co.za

Conakry - Guinea's coalition of political and civil society groups have chosen veteran activist Jean-Marie Dore as candidate for prime minister of the world's top bauxite exporter, a source close to their talks said on Monday. Dore is leader of party the Union for the Progress of Guinea (UPG) and, like the temporarily exiled junta chief Moussa Dadis Camara, comes from one of the minority ethnic groups of Guinea's Forestiere region. Interim junta Chief Sekouba Konate has yet to approve Dore for the job, which will entail heading a transitional government intended to lead the West African country towards democratic elections and end the political crisis that began with Camara's military coup in December 2008. – Reuters

Sierra Leone

Nigeria Sends More Technical Experts to Sierra Leone.

Awareness Times Jan 18, 2010, The second batch of 41 volunteering experts from the Nigerian Technical Aid Corps (TAC) on Friday January 15th 2010 arrived at the Lungi International Airport where they were received by the Nigerian High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, His Excellency Chief Godson Echegile, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Hon. Vandi Chidi Minah, and Sierra Leone's High Commissioner to Nigeria, Henry Macaulay. The members are in the

country to contribute to improvement of both the Education and Health sectors. Receiving the team, the Deputy Foreign Minister said based on the bilateral relationship between the two countries, Nigeria has always been ready to support the people of Sierra Leone and that the TAC would help to promote and strengthen the education and health sectors which are significant to human development.

Local Media – Newspaper

Police Confirms Arrest of 17 Student Leaders

(The News, Public Agenda, Heritage, Daily Observer and New Republic)

- The Liberia National Police (LNP) has confirmed the arrest and detention of 17 student leaders in connection to a riot in which two sub police stations in the Paynesville area were allegedly vandalized.
- The riot broke out when misunderstanding ensued between members of the Liberian National Student Union (LINSU) and the University of Liberia Student Union (ULSU) on one side and the leadership of the Federation of Liberian Youth (FLY) on the other, when the two student groups contended that FLY denied them accreditation to the national congress as stakeholders.
- But FLY has clarified that LINSU and ULSU did not meet the required time for accreditation.
- Acting Police Inspector General Samuel Darkina said they lost two communication sets during the student riot, noting that the action of the students was a direct affront to the police.
- Acting youth and Sports Minister Edwin Tetteh has expressed disappointment in the students' action.
- Meanwhile, authorities of the Ministry of Youth and Sports are negotiating the release from detention of student leaders Kwame Ross, Martin Kulah and Henry Smith who according to police sources have been charged and are expected to be forwarded to court.

President Sirleaf Vows to Confront Liberia's Challenges

(The Inquirer, New Democrat, Public Agenda, The Monitor, The Informer, Heritage and The Independent))

- President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf marked the fourth anniversary of her presidency with a pledge to confront Liberia's challenges.
- Addressing members of the diplomatic community and international partners, the President said Government remains unwavering in its determination.
- President Sirleaf praised the commitment of citizens in consolidating the peace and lauded the international community for the country's progress over the years.
- Meanwhile, foreign missions and international partners in Liberia have assured Government of their support in its drive to reconstruct the country.
- At the same time, in a statement to mark the fourth anniversary, the ruling Unity Party said despite the many challenges confronting Government the party was still confident of achieving its objective.
-

Suspended Information Minister Finally Resigns

(National Chronicle, The News, The Inquirer, Heritage and The New Republic)

- Suspended Information Minister Dr. Laurence Bropleh has finally resigned his post following months of financial upheaval at the Ministry.
- Dr. Bropleh resigned Friday for what he termed saving the image of the government.
- The suspended Information Minister however maintained his resignation has nothing to do with the draft audit report released by the General Auditing Commission and was never coerced by President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to resign.
- Bropleh, a Methodist prelate said he remains committed to the legal process in order to clear his name if the state deems it necessary to prosecute him.

US Diplomat Wants Liberians Strive For Peace And Reconciliation

(The Inquirer and The News)

- US Ambassador Linda Thomas Greenfield is asking Liberians to ensure that peace and reconciliation are achieved.
- Ambassador Greenfield said the achievement and sustenance of lasting peace and reconciliation should not be the responsibility of government alone.
- Speaking at the weekend during the launch of an annual scrabble tournament in Sinkor, the US diplomat said it is now time for all Liberians to join hands and participate in the rebuilding process of the country.
- Meanwhile, Ambassador Greenfield has frowned at street protests by “widows” of ex-servicemen saying it was not healthy for one group of Liberians to continuously take to the streets and demonstrate against Government.

Government Announces US\$50,000 for Haiti Quake

(Informer, Public Agenda, The Monitor and The Punch)

- Government of Liberia has announced it is contributing US\$50,000 to the Caribbean state of Haiti following a devastating earthquake there.
- The Cabinet took the decision to contribute to the worldwide humanitarian efforts in its regular meeting, Friday.
- Over 50,000 people reportedly died in the earthquake which struck Haiti on Tuesday.

Sweden Commits Support to Police

(The News)

- The Swedish government has promised to play a greater role in Liberia's security sector reform process.
- Speaking at the close of a four-day forensic workshop for personnel of the Liberia National Police (LNP) and County prosecutors, the Country Manager of the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) Anders Ostman said the sponsorship of the workshop by Sweden is the beginning of more support to the LNP and country in general.
- He said his government is committed to building the capacity of the LNP in order for it to effectively and efficiently discharge its duty.

Local Media – Star Radio *(culled from website today at 09:00 am)*

Government Announces US\$50,000 For Haiti Quake

(Also reported on Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)

Finance Ministry Puts In Measures To “Adequately Collect Revenues”

- The Finance Ministry says measures have been put in place to adequately collect revenues from government's ministries and agencies.
- The director of the Sector Ministry Division at the Finance Ministry, Mr. Richardson Dorbor, said fees paid at those ministry and agencies do not get into government's revenue.
- Mr. Dorbor said tellers would be assigned at those ministries and agencies to ensure the initiative are well on course.
- He maintained giving out ordinary receipt is not a policy of government and must not be accepted in any form claiming some government's ministries were in the habit of issuing ordinary receipts to people for money paid to government.

Suspended Information Minister Finally Resigns

NPA Gets Over US\$3 Million Profit In 2009

- The management of the National Port Authority (NPA) has announced it accrued a net profit of over US\$3 million for the year 2009.
- The management said the profit margin exceeded its anticipated net profit of over US\$1 million.

- According to NPA managing director Matilda Parker, the entity also accrued a higher net profit of over US\$1 million in 2009 than 2008.
- Ms. Parker put the expenses made by the company in 2009 at US\$14 million against the budgeted expenses of over US\$18 million.
- The breakdown was contained in Ms. Parker's end of the year status' report.

Interest Groups Petition EU Over Auditor General

- Three groups have presented an eight-count petition to the European Union (EU) calling for the Auditor General's contract to be terminated or reviewed.
- The groups include the Rural Women of Liberia, the Consortium of Pressure Groups and the Concerned Women of Liberia.
- In the petition, the groups accused Auditor General John Morlu of carrying out what they called political audit instead of strategic audit.
- The groups said the manner in which the General Audit Commission (GAC) was conducting audits could deny Liberia of benefiting from the Heavily Indebted Poor Countries Initiative (HIPC) programme.
- At the same time, a former Montserrado senatorial contender of the opposition Liberty Party, Darius Dillon, has warned against the unnecessary criticisms of the GAC.
- Mr. Dillon described as unfair and worrying the continuous condemnation of the GAC especially when audit findings do not favour certain individuals or institutions.

Aggrieved Bong Mines Workers Threaten Sit-action At Labor Ministry Today

- Thousands of Bong Mines workers residing in Monrovia and its environs have threatened a sit-in action at the Labor Ministry today.
- The workers said their planned action is in demand of a letter of accreditation which would set the basis for receipt of benefits owe them by the company.
- A spokesman of the group, Saah Momo, described the letter of accreditation as a gateway to getting their due benefits.
- Mr. Momo said the letter would be submitted to the Sherman and Sherman Law Firm and a clearance issued for onward submission to the bank.
- The aggrieved former Bong Mines workers believed a total of US\$31.5 million have been deposited in the bank to pay them out.

Radio Veritas (*News monitored today at 09:45 am*)

LNP Probes 17 Student Leaders

(Also reported on Truth FM, Sky FM, and ELBC)

US Diplomat Wants Liberians Strive For Peace And Reconciliation

Voice of America

Monday, 18 January 2010

Guinea's Camara Backs Interim Government, Calls for Calm

Guinea's injured military leader is calling on his supporters to back plans for a transitional government.

In his first public comments since being shot in the head six weeks ago, Captain Moussa Dadis Camara called for calm and national unity in the pursuit of a transitional government and democratic elections in June.

Captain Camara says ethnic prejudices in human relations and politics are detrimental to building democracy. He says he fully supports plans for a transitional government announced last week by acting leader Defense Minister Sekouba Konate.

Key parts of that plan - including foreign military observers and a ban on soldiers running for office - have previously been rejected by Captain Camara's allies, leading some to suggest that he has been forced into this plan, in part, because of his poor health.

Captain Camara says the plan announced last week was not imposed on him or on the people of Guinea and offers a quick way out of the political crisis that began when he took power in a coup 13 months ago.

There had been concern that Captain Camara's return to Conakry could lead to further violence.

Captain Camara says he knows that some supporters are demonstrating for his return. He wants them to go back to work in peace because, he says, he will be with them soon.

Captain Camara says his health is greatly improved and his life is out of danger. But to continue that improvement, he needs to rest. Captain Camara says he is free to recover wherever he likes, though for the time being he will remain in Burkina Faso.

Captain Camara says Guinea's military should set aside personal considerations and ethnicity because there is nothing to gain from further confrontation.

Bodies of people killed during a rally are seen at the capital's main mosque in Conakry, Guinea (Oct 2009 file photo)

He was shot December 3 by the former chief of the presidential guard, who says Captain Camara was trying to blame him for the killing of opposition demonstrators in September. A United Nations inquiry into that violence says there are sufficient grounds for presuming that Captain Camara has direct criminal responsibility for that killing.

The regionally-backed transition plan calls for a 101-member interim authority run by General Konate and a prime minister chosen by the opposition coalition of political parties, civil society groups, and trade unions. That coalition has nominated both civil society spokesman Jean-Marie Dore and labor leader Hadja Rabiadou Sérah Diallo. General Konate now decides who will be the new prime minister.

Reuters

Tuesday, 19 January 2010

Zambia, Rwanda to jointly pursue genocide suspects

By International Justice Desk



Lusaka, Zambia

Zambia and Rwanda have agreed to jointly identify and arrest 1994 genocide suspects who may be living in Zambia as refugees, the state ZANIS news agency reported on

Tuesday.

The agreement was reached during talks in Kigali between Rwandan President Paul Kagame and President Rupiah Banda of Zambia on Monday, the news agency quoted Foreign Minister Kabinga Pande as saying.

"The process of identifying genocide suspects will be carried out in close collaboration between the ministries of justice of Zambia and Rwanda," Pande said.

The head of the Rwandan unit tracking genocide suspects, Bosco Mutangana, said last November that Zambia, Malawi and Mozambique were not willing to extradite genocide suspects.

Mutangana was quoted as saying hundreds of fugitives were living in southern Africa despite diplomatic attempts to have them extradited to face prosecution.

He said authorities in all three nations had the names and addresses of the suspects but were apparently not willing to have them extradited.

Zambia had denied the report, saying it had offered vital information to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda directly and through the International Committee on the Great Lakes region, to ensure that genocide suspects were handed over to prosecutors.