



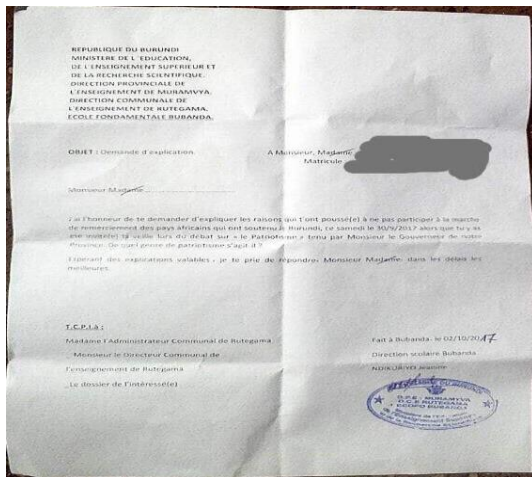
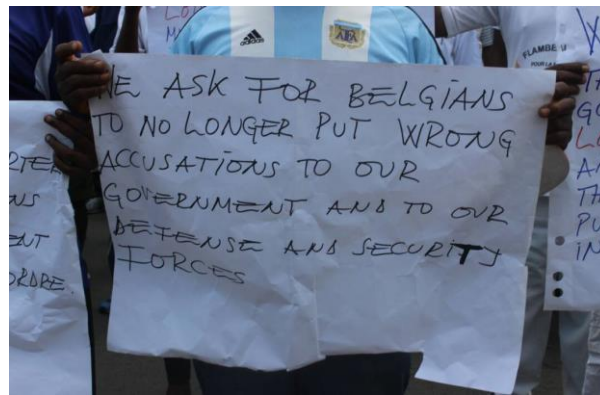
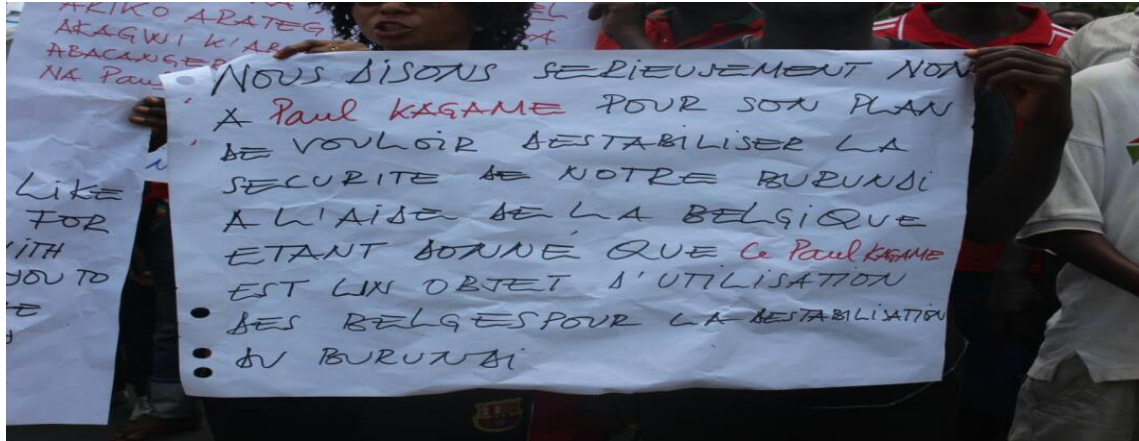
Burundi Watch Update ***09-15 October 2017***

SUMMARY

During the report period, security concerns were raised in several Burundian refugee camps as refugees settled within the region fear attacks by the Imbonerakure militiamen. On the ground in Burundi, killings, arbitrary arrests and abduction are continuously reported. Hate speech prevails under supervision of the ruling CNDD-FDD and government officials.

Rwanda, Belgium and UN targeted

Hundreds of pro-government individuals have once again demonstrated against countries and organizations that it says are interfering in Burundian internal affairs. Rwanda, Belgium and the UN are accused of conspiracy against the government of Burundi. The demonstrators gathered in front of the Belgian Embassy in Bujumbura, and the crowds chanted that Belgium is responsible of killing the Prime Minister of Burundi in the 60's Pierre Ngendandumwe, the National Intelligence Chief Adolphe Nshimirimana and others. According to an official of the Ministry of Home affairs, Thérence Ntahiraja, Belgium and the UN are responsible of spreading firearms in the camps of Nduta to attack Burundi.



A letter of demand of explanation for missing a street demonstration

Burundi refugee camps not safe

The massacre of Burundian refugees in Kamanyola in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in September 2017 has sowed fears in several Burundi refugee camps mainly in the DRC and in Tanzania. Many refugees claim the Imbonerakure militia to have infiltrated the camps causing panic among the refugees. The situation worsened when more than 40 firearms were discovered within Nduta refugee camp in Tanzania on 12 October 2017. This led to hundreds of refugees fleeing for dear life to other camps. Similar fear was reported in the refugee camp of Mtendeli in Tanzania where refugees reported a massive infiltration of Imbonerakure militiamen since 3 October 2017. The situation was no different in the refugee camp of Lusenda in the DRC. In both Tanzania and DRC the proximity of the camps with Burundian borders is too often viewed as facilitating infiltrations and attacks believed to be backed by the Burundi government. Yet under the 1951 convention on refugee protection, refugee camps are supposed to be at least 50 kilometers away from their national border

Global Fund snubs Burundi

In a letter addressed to the Burundi health minister, Dr. Josiane Nijimbere on 12 October 2017, the Chief of Division of Grant Management at the Global Funds, Mark Eldon- Edington notified his Burundi partner that the Global Funds on fighting HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria will resort to alternative management modalities for the period of 2018-2020. The Global Funds noted poor financial management and breach of procurement procedures and regretted the absence of delivery in as much as the grant was expected to benefit the population and that it was to be managed in good collaboration between national management institutions and civil society.

According to the Global Funds, 2016 had very few results following poor decision-making processes and poor financial management that led to the failure of utilizing all available resources.

As such, the grant will no longer be managed by the Ministry of health services but will be channeled through the United Nations Development Program in Burundi which will be responsible for the management for the period of 2018-2020.

Arbitrary arrests, abduction and killings

Some of the cases of arbitrary arrests, abduction and killings reported over the report include:

- On 7 October 2017, Faustin Ndikuriyo and Georges Ntaganzwa were arrested at Rusenda Hill, in the District of Bukinanyana. The two people were arrested because of their political conviction as they refused to join the ruling CNDD-FDD party.
- On 7 October 2017, Edouard Mabwire, Damascus Sibomana, January Bankuwunguka, Prosper Harerimana, Firmin Nyandwi, Elias and Diomedé Ntakarutimana were arrested by Imbonerakure militiamen at Ruharo hill, in the District of Nyabitsinda .
- On 8 October 2017, Consolate Ntiyankundiye was killed by unknown people on Nyanza Hill in the District of Marangara
- On 9 October 2017, a lifeless body of a young boy was recovered at Kigoma in the District of Buhiga
- On 9 October 2017, A certain Claude Ntirandekura assassinated six (6) persons on Rweya hill in the District of Buhiga
- On 10 October 2017, Gaston Nshimirimana was arrested by Imbonerakure militiamen at Maramvya in the District of Mutimbuzi
- On 12 October 2017, the dead body of a person identified as Bahungu was recovered at Renga Hill in the District of Marangara commune, Ngozi province, on 12 October 2017
- On 13 October 2017, Member of the Parliament Fabien Banciryano was harassed by Imbonerakure in Musenyi in the District of Mpanda.

Imbonerakure and the chief of the Hill prevented the Member of Parliament from holding a conference as scheduled.

Atrocities Watch Africa

Atrocities Watch Africa (AWA) is a non-partisan, civil society organization and institution that intends to provide continental leadership in matters pertaining to the prevention of mass atrocities within Africa and beyond, through multi-pronged approaches that infuse ownership, legitimacy, and sustainable interface. AWA's strategic and approaches are grounded in the realization that atrocities can be prevented through various interventions, including, but not limited to, early warning mechanisms, diplomatic efforts, use of social media and new technologies, litigation, and advocacy campaigns.

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