



Burundi Watch Update ***31 October- 5 November 2017***

SUMMARY

The situation in Burundi remains tense with continued reports of killings, arbitrary arrests and abductions. Public authorities continue to harass internally displaced persons. Meanwhile, special envoys are deployed to prepare the resumption of interburundian dialogue.

Forced eviction of IDPs

On 28 October 2017, seven houses of internally displaced persons of Kuruyange situated in the District of Rugazi were destroyed on the instructions of the Chief of District Mrs. Sylvie Nizigama. She argued, among other things, that the IDPs have hampered the activities of the health center owing to the fact that they live inside its premises. She said that the IDPs had to leave the place because most of them were given houses in the neighborhood. 34 other families were ordered to leave the site within two weeks.



One of the houses destroyed at Kuruyange IDP site. Credit: Iwacu on twitter

Burundi Envoys for resumption of dialogue

On 31 October 2017, former President of Burkina Faso Michel Kafando met the Ombudsman of Burundi Hon. Edouard Nduwimana in Bujumbura. The two discussed about the dialogue, peace and reconciliation. Several sources say that Mr Kafando met the facilitation team in Dar es Salaam. During his visit to Burundi, Kafando discussed the reopening of the office of the high commissioner of human rights in Burundi.

It is also significant that around the same time Uganda's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Amb. Dr Adonia Ayebare met President Pierre Nkurunziza and Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Alain Aimé Nyamitwe in Bujumbura on 3 November 2017 bringing a message from the Mediator, President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda.



Left: President Kafando meeting Hon Nduwimana. Credit: Burundi Ombusman on twitter. Right: Amb. Ayebare meeting Amb. Nyamitwe. Credit: Adonia Ayebare on twitter

UNHCR reassures refugees in Nduta camp

On 2 November 2017, the UNHCR Representative in Tanzania Mme Chansa Ruth Kapaya visited the Burundi refugee camp of Nduta. She came to engage refugees in response to alarming information about insecurity prevailing in the camp. She wanted to ensure that the UNHCR was aware of the situation and has so far engaged Tanzanian authorities and other partners to enhance security in the camps. She also ensured that those fearing to return will be protected, while encouraging those willing to voluntarily return to continue registering. She also announced that from December, the food ration will be improved. The reduction was done back in March 2017.

Killings

- On 28 October 2017, a dead body of an unidentified man was recovered near the FVS AMADE office in the District of Bururi;

- On 29 October 2017, a dead body of a teenager was recovered in Kibogoye in the District of Muyinga. The victim showed signs of rape;
- On 30 October 2017, Faustin Niyonkuru was killed in Nyabututsi in the District of Gitega;
- On 31 October, the dead body of Thierry Irakoze was recovered at Mpinga in the District of Mpinga Kayove;
- On 3 November 2017, the lifeless body of an unidentified person was recovered in Dogodogo river at the height of Mparambo hill in the District of Rugombo;
- On 4 November 2017, the dead body of Cimpaye was recovered in Nyabututsi in the District of Gitega

Arbitrary arrests and abductions

- On 2 November 2017, two Pro Rwasa FNL members, namely Claude Niyonkuru and Gapapa Sinarinzi were arrested in Mugoboka and taken to an unknown location;
- On 2 November 2017, three FNL members were arrested in Nzosi and Rushwahunga in the District of Bweru;
- On 3 November 2017, former director general of the national radio television broadcast RTNB, Jerome Nzokiranteyye was arrested under charges of attempt to foil public safety;
- On 3 November 2017, three Pro Rwasa FNL members were arrested in Ruyigi;
- On 4 November 2017, two Imbonerakure leaders in the neighborhood of Carama namely Nyambere Daniel aka Mubumbe and Jean Claude Nahimana aka Masope were arrested in Carama by Commander Guillaume Magorwa and detained to unknown destination;

- On 5 November 2017, seventeen persons were arrested in Shombo while going to Tanzania.

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.

*info@atrocitieswatch.org
www.atrocitieswatch.org
www.facebook.com/atrocitieswatch
www.twitter.com/atrocitiesw*