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TRRAACE :

TOUTES LES RESSOURCES POUR LES RADIOS AFRICAINES ASSOCIATIVES COMMUNAUTAIRES ET EDUCATIVES

TRACKING RESOURCES FOR RADIOS IN AFRICA AT THE BENEFIT OF THE ASSOCIATIVE COMMUNITY AND EDUCATIVE RADIO STATIONS

TODOS OS RECURSOS PARA AS RADIOS ASSOCIATIVAS EN AFRICA ASSIM CEMO COMUNITARIAS E EDUCATIVAS

HTTP://WWW.MEDIAFRICA.NET

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NEWS - MEDIAFRICA.NET - NOUVELLES

AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST: FORMATION EN JOURNALISME CULTUREL - "THEATRE" - SUIVEZ LES RECRETRALES

<http://www.culturafrigue.net/>

AFRICALIA Belgium & MEDIAFRICA.NET conduisent depuis début octobre une formation en "journalisme culturel / Théâtre", sous le nom CULTUR1.3.

Il s'agit de la troisième promotion de ce projet d'Africalia pour le renforcement de journalistes culturels d'Afrique de l'Ouest dans la spécialité théâtrale, après Bamako en 2008 et Ouagadougou en 2010.

La promotion CULTUR1.3 comporte 8 semaines de cours en ligne sur le théâtre et sur les fondamentaux du journalisme, et un atelier résidentiel de 5 jours dans le cadre de la Plateforme Festival des Récréâtrales à Ouagadougou.

Au menu de cette formation CULTUR1.3, un « repas » pédagogique complet avec les trois parties: un apéritif sous la forme d'un cours de cinq semaines par Internet sur différents aspects du théâtre (les acteurs du projet théâtral, genres et pratiques théâtraux, l'écriture et la structures théâtrales, l'acteur et le personnage, la mise en scène) en octobre 2012; un plat de résistance à travers la tenue d'un **atelier résidentiel du 2 au 6 novembre à Ouagadougou** au cours duquel des articles et émissions seront produits et diffusés sur le festival de théâtre; puis, un dessert, constitué de trois autres semaines de cours en ligne sur différents thèmes (la critique du spectacle de théâtre, le management des festivals de théâtre, les arts apparentés au théâtre).

12 journalistes culturels de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (3 journalistes du Bénin; 4 journalistes du Burkina Faso; 1 journaliste du Mali et 4 du Sénégal) participent à cet atelier. Ils seront encadrés par deux journalistes formateurs: Fernand Nouwligbèto du Bénin et Mehdi Ba du Sénégal; Ildevert Méda, homme de théâtre burkinabé accompagnera aussi l'atelier comme personne ressource et expert du monde théâtral.

Suivez cette équipe CULTUR1.3 et suivez les Récréâtrales sur le blog Cultur'Afrique.
Toute radio et média qui souhaiterait des compte-rendus et des articles ou des clips audio sur cet évènement culturel exceptionnel de création théâtrale en Afrique que sont les Récréâtrales, peuvent prendre contact avec la coordination de la formation en écrivant à cultur13@gmail.com
Source: Mediafrica.Net, 30 octobre 2012

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News (Les nouvelles en français suivent p.21)

ALERT

FROM : 07/10/2012 [EN]

Ethiopia/USA: Ethiopia Harasses Voice of America and Its Sources

<http://cpj.org/2012/10/ethiopia-briefly-detains-voice-of-america-correspo.php>

Ethiopian authorities should halt their harassment of journalists covering the country's Muslim community and their intimidation of citizens who have tried to speak to reporters about sensitive religious, ethnic, and political issues, the Committee to Protect Journalists said today.

Police in the capital, Addis Ababa, briefly detained Marthe Van Der Wolf, a reporter with the U.S. government-funded broadcaster Voice of America as she was covering a protest by members of Ethiopia's Muslim community at the Anwar Mosque, local journalists said. The protesters were demonstrating against alleged government interference in Islamic Council elections scheduled for Sunday, according to VOA and local journalists.

Wolf was taken to a police station and told to erase her recorded interviews, and then released without charge, local journalists said.

This week, security officers have also harassed Ethiopian citizens who were interviewed by VOA's Amharic-language service, according to the station. Police arrested two individuals who spoke to VOA on Thursday about a land dispute outside the capital, VOA reported. On Monday, police harassed individuals who spoke to the station about a dispute over resources between ethnic communities, the outlet said.

"We urge the government's leadership to set a new tone of tolerance and halt the bullying tactics of the past," said CPJ East Africa Consultant Tom Rhodes. "Citizens should be allowed to voice their opinions to journalists without fearing arrest or intimidation, and reporters should be allowed to cover even those events the government dislikes."

For much of the year, Ethiopian authorities have cracked down on journalists and news outlets reporting on the unprecedented protests by members of the Muslim community, according to CPJ research. In May, police detained former VOA correspondent Peter Heinlein overnight on accusations of "illegal reporting" for covering a similar protest, VOA reported.

VOA released a statement today that condemned the harassment and obstruction and said the incident was "designed to prevent journalists from doing their job." [...]

With six journalists in jail, Ethiopia is the second leading jailer of journalists in Africa, second only to its neighbor, Eritrea, according to CPJ research.

Full report and source: Centre to Protect Journalists (Washington), 5 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 07/10/2012 [EN]

South Sudan: ARTICLE 19 analyses South Sudan's draft Broadcasting

http://www.ifex.org/south_sudan/2012/10/04/broadcasting_corporation_bill/

ARTICLE 19 has analysed the Draft Broadcasting Corporation Bill, 2012 (No. 53, "Draft Bill"), which envisages the creation of a national public service broadcaster, the South Sudan Broadcasting Corporation (SSBC). The Draft Bill was introduced to the South Sudan Council of Ministers in March 2012, as part of a package of three media-related bills (along with the Draft Media Authority Bill (No. 52) and the Draft Right to Access Information Bill (No. 54)). These three laws shall eventually be submitted for adoption by the National Legislative Assembly.

On the outset of this analysis, ARTICLE 19 is pleased to note that the Draft Bill is largely based on a proposal presented by us to the then Southern Sudan Minister of Information in March 2006. Our earlier proposal was based in turn on the Model Public Service Broadcasting Law published by ARTICLE 19 in 2005, which seeks to encapsulate international best practice in a legislative format. Accordingly, we broadly welcome the Draft Bill, which would translate much of this best practice into law in South Sudan.

Unfortunately, our assessment of the Draft Bill shows that it significantly differs from both our 2006 proposal and from international standards in this area. In particular, we are concerned that the biggest changes introduced relate to the process for appointing and dismissing members of the Board of Directors of SSBC, and that their effect is to place the broadcaster under the control of the President and Minister of Information and Broadcasting, rather than the National Legislative Assembly. A strong guarantee of independence from the executive branch is one of the key pillars of a democratic public service broadcasting law. With this pillar now taken from under the Draft Bill, it is very questionable whether SSBC will be able to truly deliver on its otherwise well-defined mandate to serve the public - rather than the government.

Full report with recommendations, and source: Article 19, 3 Oct. 2012; quoted by IFEX (Toronto), 4 Oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 07/10/2012 [EN]

Burundi: 4 Days to Start of Appeal for Reporter Who Spoke to Rebels

<http://en.rsf.org/burundi-four-days-to-start-of-appeal-for-04-10-2012,43485.html>

On 8 October, a court in the central city of Gitega is to begin hearing radio journalist Hassan Ruvakuki's appeal against his conviction on a charge of "participating in a terrorist act," for which he received a life sentence last June. Reporters Without Borders will send a representative to Gitega to attend the hearings and has learned that several foreign diplomats based in the capital, Bujumbura, also plan to travel to Gitega for the same purpose. [...]

Full report and source: Reporters Without Borders (Paris), 4 Oct. 2012

RESOURCE

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Resource: CTA Rural Radio Packs

<http://ruralradio.cta.int/index.html>

CTA, the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation, has over 50 Rural Radio Resource Packs available on its website. Each pack is focused on a specific topic, such as animal health, and contains short audio interviews, transcripts, suggestions for introducing each interview, as well as technical information on the topic and advice on how to use the pack in your radio programming. Source: Farm Radio Weekly, Issue 219, 09 Oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia: Radio station shut down in semi-autonomous region of Somalia

http://www.ifex.org/somalia/2012/10/09/somalia_radio_closed/

The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) expresses concern over the closure of a private radio station in Bosaso, a city in Somalia's semi-autonomous Puntland region.

Puntland police shut down Horseed Media on Saturday, 6 October, after the radio station was accused of spreading false news that is meant to "destabilise [the] peace and stability of Puntland."

The police said that they got the order to close down the radio station from the Ministry of Information, who had allegedly sent an official letter to the police headquarters in Garowe. But the Horseed Media office in Bosaso never received said letter, according to the management of Horseed Media.

Abdikani Hassan, the Director of Horseed Media, said "We don't know why such [a] decision was taken by the authorities, still no reason is given [as to] why the radio was shutdown. We respect the law and the constitution of Puntland, all broadcasted radio programs of Horseed Media are recorded and archived....we never broadcasted anything that is unlawful...we are asking the government to allow us to continue to provide our media services to the public."

Horseed Media said that authorities in Puntland have censored Horseed Media several times before, in retaliation for its exclusive news and programs covering events in Puntland.

In September 2012, Puntland President Abdirahman Mohamed Farole reportedly said that his administration will not tolerate "failed politicians" and some "media" to threaten his rule in Puntland, "...we allow the opposition if they join a political party, but we will not tolerate those failed politicians and so-called websites and media who are supporting Puntland's enemies including terrorists and pirates..." said President Farole in his speech during a cabinet meeting in Garowe.

"We call on Puntland's authorities to allow Horseed Radio to resume its operations," said Abdiweli

Hassan Gooni, Puntland Coordinator for NUSOJ.
Source: National Union of Somali Journalists quoted by IFEX, 8 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Ghana: MFWA's Report On Monitoring Electoral Campaign Language<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210090216.html>

This report presents the findings of monitoring electoral campaign language on radio for the period, September 23 - 29, 2012 (26th week of monitoring). Reports were received on 121 programmes aired on all the 31 radio stations selected for the project. Nine (9) out of the 121 programmes recorded a total of 17 indecent expressions.

For the sixth consecutive week, officials and supporters of the opposition New Patriotic Party (NPP) led in the use of indecent expression by making 10 out of the 17 indecent remarks. Hon. Kennedy Agyapong, the NPP MP for Assin North Constituency, was the only individual who made more than one indecent expression. He alone made about a third (6) of the indecent expressions recorded; three were made during the Boiling Point programme on his own radio station, Oman FM, and the other three, in a telephone interview on Classic FM's Kokrokoo programme.

Monitoring electoral campaign language on radio is a project by the Media Foundation for West Africa with funding from STAR-Ghana. The main objective of this project is to contribute to issues-based and decent language campaigning during the December polls. [...]

Full report and source: The Chronicle (Accra), 8 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Gambia: Vox Pop On Taranga FM's Closure<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210090272.html>

In a vox pop over the weekend, different people from different works of life have been interviewed to allow them to express their feelings on the closure of Taranga FM.

The people spoken to are mostly middle aged women who cannot read and write and this is what they have to say:

Kaddy Sanneh a female gardener in Lamin: I used to listen to Taranga FM daily especially the broadcast of the news in the local languages. I have not gone to school and I cannot read newspapers so I was relying on that radio for news. I must say that I missed the news and I don't know what is happening around me and the world. I wish that the radio comes back on air. It was my school.

Fatou Kassama, a business woman: That is the only radio I listen to and I was shocked when I heard about the closure of the radio. I used to like their programmes and I wish that the radio comes back on air. They broadcast interesting programmes especially the news item. I sell vegetables at the market but I always want to monitor the news in the local languages to be abreast with current issues. I wish the radio management all the best in their endeavour to see that they are on air.

Bintou Saidy, Tallinding: Apart from me listening to that radio, I also see most of my family members tune into that radio, because I'm not far from the market. I also see most market vendors listening to that radio. But all of a sudden I heard it is closed down. I think most people listen to that radio because of the news they broadcast in our own languages. I can tell you that Gambians like that radio and the authorities should allow that radio to operate, I think that's all I want to say.

Karamo Sillah, second hand clothes dealer, Brikama: Almost the whole of Brikama listen to Taranga FM especially when it comes to the news in local languages. The whole market I can tell you listen to that news programme and also there was a programme they air on Sunday evenings which is a very interesting programme. Most of us are not literate in English and we cannot access newspapers. So we were making good use of Taranga FM. We don't actually know what led to the closure of the radio but we really wish that radio comes back to air. We want the management of that radio to know that we miss their programmes and we wish they are back on air, they are our choice.

Source: FOROYAA Newspaper (Serrekunda), 8 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

RESOURCE

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Africa: Radio Propaganda, Hate Broadcasting and Africa<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210090808.html>

Radio Propaganda and the Broadcasting of Hatred: Historical Development and Definitions is a new book by Keith Somerville, a regular writer for African Arguments. Full report and source: African Arguments, 9 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Nigeria: NBC Threatens to Suspend Licences of Two Broadcasting Stations<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210090837.html>

The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) yesterday asked 'ADABA' FM, Akure and Ondo State Radiovision Corporation, to desist forthwith from unwholesome programming or face sanctions. In a statement in Abuja yesterday, "NBC noted with grave concern, the unprofessional conduct of Continental Broad-casting Services Ltd, operators of ADABA FM, Akure and the Ondo State Radiovision Corporation, (OSRC) in the on-going governorship campaigns in Ondo State." According to the statement NBC's Director General, Mr Yomi Bolarinwa, the two stations have breached the provisions of the NBC Act and the Nigeria Broadcasting Code. The code states that "in adherence to the principles of pluralism, equal airtime shall be provided to all political parties or views, with particular regard to the amount of time and belt, during political campaign periods". NBC said in spite of several warnings and admonitions, one of the stations has continued to exhibit bias in political coverage and broadcast of political jingles in favour of a political party. The other station which was also recently fined and has paid N400,000 for persistent violations of the provisions of the code, has allegedly continued and is being used for public incitement to violence, the commission said.

Source: Daily Trust, 9 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Kenya: Radio Africa Hosts Media and Advertising Conference<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210100073.html>

Media, often called the fourth estate, is one of the important pillars of a successful and forward thinking society. Advertising is an important part of the media fraternity as it is a source of funding for some of its operations.

This Saturday saw a conference at the Whitesand's Hotel in Mombasa dubbed "2020; The Future of media and advertising" which was sponsored by the Radio Africa group.

The event saw speakers from the communications industry like the PS of the ICT industry Dr Bitange Ndemo, Scangroup CEO Bharat Thakrar, Nokia's Angela Githuthu and a host of others.

They spoke on the current and future trends of the communications industry.

After the conference there was a dinner which saw the participants get together and have a relaxed evening with Classic 105's Daniel Ndambuki aka Churchill as the emcee. Popular singer Eric Wainaina, Kiss TV anchors Grace Msalame and Dennis Okari were among those who partied the evening away after a long day of deliberations.

Source: The Star (Nairobi), 9 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 10/10/2012 [EN]

Burundi: Imprisoned Journalist Still Hopeful After Appeal Postponed, but Colleagues Are Stuned<http://en.rsf.org/burundi-imprisoned-journalist-still-09-10-2012,43502.html>

A court in the central city of Gitega began yesterday to hear the appeals of radio journalist Hassan Ruvakuki and 22 other defendants against their terrorism convictions but "to everyone's stupefaction" adjourned until 18 October at the end of the first session, said a Reporters Without Borders representative attending the hearing.

"All those who had gone to the hearing had expected to come back the next morning and had made preparations to do this," the Reporters Without Borders representative said. Reporters Without Borders went to the hearing in a show of solidarity with Ruvakuki, who was given a life sentence in the eastern city of Cankuzo last June after interviewing members of a Burundian rebel group based in Tanzania. A reporter for Bonesha FM and Radio France Internationale's Swahili service, he was convicted of "participating in a terrorist act." The appeals of only nine of the defendants were presented in court yesterday. Ruvakuki's case has not yet been presented.

"We are going from one extreme to another," Reporters Without Borders said. "The judge was in a hurry during the original trial in Cankuzo but this court is taking its time. Burundi's erratic justice system seems confused, and so are we."

"Contrary to what happened in Cankuzo, the court now seems ready to listen and for the first time the defendants and their lawyers have been able to address the substance of the charges. But the judge's decision to postpone the next hearing means that this journalist, who has been unjustly detained for more than 10 months, will continue to languish in prison."

Bonesha FM editor in chief Patrick Nduwimana said he was very disappointed. "We were ready for a marathon appeal. Why make us wait and come back next week?" Alexandre Niyungeko, the head of the Burundian Journalists' Union (UBJ), said: "This is not a good sign. This means that this case is going to drag on even more."

Ruvakuki did not seem to be sure whether the postponement was good or bad news. "It's all right, thank you for everything," he told the Reporters Without Borders representative before leaving the court. Referring to the city where he is currently detained, he added: "I am going back to Muramvya, but it's all right."

Around 300 people attended yesterday's hearing. Those who could not fit into the courtroom sat in the sun outside and following it on loudspeakers. They included diplomats and representatives of human rights groups such as Human Rights Watch and organizations that defend journalists such as Reporters Without Borders.

Source: Reporters Without Borders (Paris), 9 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 11/10/2012 [EN]

Comoros: Comoran privately-owned radio station to reopen after 10-year closure

After 10 years of closure, [privately-owned] Tropic FM radio station will reopen its airwaves in the coming days. And its leaders want the station to become a "real professional media outlet".

After months of preparations, Tropic FM radio station will make a comeback on the world of media. After various training, the officials of the station said they are ready for the launch.

"We are within the timeframe. We carried out technical training for the announcers, training for the journalists but we also established contacts to expand our relations," said one of the officials of the free and privately-owned station, Ali Ahmed Mahamoud also known as Doudou. And to achieve this, the officials plan to open the radio station as soon as possible. "We hope to officially launch the radio in the course of this week," he said.

When it opens, Tropic FM wants to distinguish itself from the islands' other local radio stations. "We noticed that there was an education vacuum and lack of quality information. So we want our media outlet to be more professional."

Tropic FM will, as soon as it is launched, kick off with three flagship programmes and a scope of intervention for citizens. At the level of information, the station does not want to rush things. "We are going to start with news flash and then move on to news bulletins," Ali Ahmed Mahamoud said. Regarding other issues mainly equipment and human resources, the team cannot wait to get started. Best of luck to our Tropic FM colleagues.

In the early 1990s, Tropic FM was one of the first free radio stations to broadcast in the Comoros. The radio station which quickly asserted itself on the media scene was often accused by the successive governments of being a mouthpiece for the opposition. Its promoter, Cheikh Ali Bakari Cassim, was rather a close ally of Abbas Djoussouf, the leader of the Movement for Democracy and Progress (MDP), the main opposition party in 1988 during the presidency of Ahmed Abdallah Abderemane.

[On 15 August 2000, Cheikh Ali Cassim, the Tropic FM director, was arrested by soldiers at his residence in the capital Moroni and taken to the Mde Miliary Camp. Cassim was accused of "jeopardizing state security and illegal detention of weapons". He was also accused of plotting a coup against then President Azali Assoumani. In January 2001, Cassim was sentenced to four years in jail and was released on 11 October of the same year.]

Source: HZK-Presse (Moroni), in French 10 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline

Media File, 11 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 11/10/2012 [EN]

Liberia: Rural Journalists Seek Training

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210101168.html>

A group of Community Radio Journalists in Maryland County are calling on the Press Union of Liberia PUL, National and International NGOs operating in the country to provide capacity building and training for Journalists in rural areas of the country.

The Journalists said if nothing is positively done in lieu of the training issue, then it might likely result to serious problem for them.

Speaking to The INQUIRER in Pleebo in Maryland County, John Neufville a reporter of Jam Radio in Pleebo who spoke on behalf of his colleague from Jam Radio and Truth F.M. 95.5, and other radio stations in the county, pointed to some of the negative implications it had had on them over the years. He said the lack of training had caused them several problems with individuals and the community due to the kinds of reportage and presentations they conduct on the air.

Mr. Neufville said the training will be in the best interest of the county and country and that such training will help maintain the peace and create a cordial working environment for rural Journalists. Let take for instant, when a Journalist report what he do not know much about and air it he create problem ,when a Journalists do not know how to report what he gathered he and his institution fall short of such reports thereby bringing the credibility of that Journalists and institution at questions. Mr. Newville said the PUL should stretch her hands as far as the southeast especially in Maryland where as Journalists in these rural areas are tackle with reports that get them difficult in reporting some radical and sensitive stories come about and become difficult for them; yes, training that matter most.

Like one day I travel to Pleebo and listen to Truth F.M. Radio the news casts was completely a blunder all the stories read was one sided, not factual, not edited and not presented correctly by the news caster. What I saw for myself was completely sad to note that yes these guys have the ambition to become Journalists but they lack training, what a sorrow it was.

Some rural Journalists breached at time and do not even know when they breached of ethics or other duties. These things provoke conflicts if Liberia must maintain the peace and develop 21st century media the PUL and Partners must double efforts and Journalists too must double efforts too, they should not just sit and wait for training to come to their door they must go for it. Go for it in a sense to get education and training.

Source: The Inquirer (Monrovia), 10 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 11/10/2012 [EN]

Ghana: MTN Ghana Connects Subscribers to Deutsche Welle Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210101247.html>

MTN Ghana subscribers can now learn while on the go with Deutsche Welle's Learning by Ear. The innovative program is now on the MTN Radio (mRadio) platform and available for just 1 Pesewa per minute by dialing 1303.

MTN Ghana has teamed up with Deutsche Welle (DW) to provide its subscribers an easy way to learn about the most important topics shaping Africa today. DW's series 'Learning by Ear' is now available on-demand for MTN subscribers through the MTN Radio (mRadio) platform - giving MTN customers a new means of accessing news, analysis and education.

MTN Ghana customers can access individual episodes from 'Learning by Ear' by dialing 1303 from their mobile phone and following the instructions. The audio content is available at a set price of 1 Ghana pesewa per minute.

Along with this innovative series, customers can also tune in to the political radio program Africa Link on their mobiles. It is one of DW's latest high-lights for the region and will also be included in the mRadio lineup.

'Learning by Ear' programming is targeted to teenagers and young adults and provides information on important topics like HIV, human rights, democracy and the environment with an exciting mix of stories and features. 'Learning by Ear' is broadcasted as part of the program lineup for Africa in English and Hausa, and is being rebroadcast by more than 25 partner stations in Ghana

MTN launched the MTN Radio Service (mRadio) in September 2011. The service allows customers to enjoy a wide range of audio content including music, joke and educational materials on their phones. The service is available on MTN Short Code 1303 and costs 1Gp (USD 0.005) per minute for subscribers. mRadio currently has over 500 000 subscribers.

Deutsche Welle is Germany's international broadcaster. With DW-TV, DW-RADIO and DW-WORLD.DE, it produces news, background information and cultural highlights worldwide, while creating platform for intercultural dialogue. MTN Ghana is the largest mobile provider in the country with more than 11 million customers.

Source: The Ghanaian Chronicle (Accra), 10 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 14/10/2012 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Chiefs of commercial radio stations in Zimbabwe defend license

<http://www.theindependent.co.zw/2012/10/12/mandiwanzira-defends-new-radio-stations/>

Zimbabwe's two newly-registered commercial radio stations, StarFM and ZiFM, yesterday staged a spirited defence of their controversial licencing, saying they were committed to offering a platform for citizens in their cultural and political diversity to express themselves freely.

StarFM is owned by state-controlled Zimpapers, while ZiFM is run by journalist-cum-businessman Supa Mandiwanzira who is linked to Zanu PF.

Contributing to the Independent Dialogue Series on the topic Deregulation of the Airwaves in Zimbabwe: Reality or Fiction organized by the Zimbabwe Independent in Harare yesterday, the two station bosses defended the licences they were controversially awarded saying they got them purely on merit.

The Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe's awarding of licences to the stations sparked widespread criticism with losing bidders, among others, questioning the government's sincerity in opening up media space to genuine private players.

Mandiwanzira passionately defended his station arguing he secured the licence on merit and not political considerations, adding ZiFM was a commercial radio station wholly owned by his family trust. He said it was not aligned to any political party.

He also said ZiFM focused more on "infotainment" and meeting the demands of advertisers and its listeners instead of propping up any political party.

Mandiwanzira argued democratic space in Zimbabwe had increased with the licensing of his station and Star FM because people now had other platforms to air their views. [...]

Full report and source: The Zimbabwe Independent website (Harare), 12 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 14 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 14/10/2012 [EN]

Zambia: Metro Fm to Showcase Midland's Finest Sound

<http://allfrica.com/stories/201210121252.html>

After seven years of painstaking planning, waiting, toiling and sacrificing, among others, it is finally here! Metro FM "Midland's Finest Sound" is what it is called.

Among the notable achievements the Patriotic Front (PF) Government has scored in the one year it has been in power is the issuance of 12 full broadcasting and eight construction licences in less than six months. Metro FM is one of those beneficiaries.

It is for the latter aforementioned reason that Metro FM's Chief Executive Officer Paul Kamungulu pays glowing tribute to the President Michael Sata-led administration for making his dream come true and indirectly "putting more money" in his and other people's pockets.

"That (issuance of licence) is what I call job creation. It is not politics, it is just a fact that the PF Government made it possible for us to finally get a licence which the previous Government was taking too long to do.

"It (receiving a licence) was like winning a lottery!

It is hands down to them (PF) for putting more money in my pockets. I may not have money now, but I have something that will enable me and others make money," he said.

Information and Broadcasting Services Permanent Secretary Amos Malupenga said recently that the MMD Government issued only two broadcasting licences in three years.

Paul reiterated that his praises to the PF Government should not be viewed as politics, but that he believed in commending everything that was good and positive. [...]

Full report and source: Times of Zambia (Lusaka), 12 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

RESOURCE

FROM : 14/10/2012 [EN]

Kenya/Africa: BBC Swahili seeks broadcast journalist

https://careers.bbc.co.uk/fe/tpl_bbc01.asp?newms=jj&id=45454&newlang=1

Deadline: 10/22/12

Broadcast journalists fluent in Swahili and English can apply for a position in Nairobi.

BBC Africa seeks a multimedia broadcast journalist to join its Swahili Service, which broadcasts to 20 million listeners in Eastern and Central Africa with three daily radio transmissions originating from London and Nairobi.

The reporter will create original material for all multimedia output, including radio bulletins, mobile phone bulletins and text stories, with the possibility of working on video reports. A key aspect of this role is also performing live on audio or video with or without a script, both live and in recording sessions.

Candidates must have relevant experience reporting in the field on international and/or Swahili-speaking political and economic issues. Applicants should also have the ability to write, adapt and translate with accuracy and in the style appropriate to differing audiences and forms of media.

The application deadline is October 22.

Source: IJNET website

NEWS

FROM : 16/10/2012 [EN]

Uganda: New Trainees for Facing Justice Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210150013.html>

A new intake of trainees has begun reporting for IWPR while taking part in a broadcast journalism training programme in northern Uganda.

The training programme is run in partnership with the Northern Uganda Media Club, NUMEC, based in the northern town of Gulu.

Three local reporters will undergo on-the-job training while simultaneously producing biweekly episodes of IWPR's established radio programme, Facing Justice.

Oroma Gladys, Alex Otto and Cho Woo Willy will research and produce material for Facing Justice, mentored by NUMEC radio producer Moses Odokonyero and IWPR's Africa Editor, Simon Jennings. They attended an initial training session in August to launch ten months of work.

The radio show focuses on redevelopment issues in northern Uganda in the aftermath of the 20-year insurgency by the rebel Lord's Resistance Army, LRA.

More than 100,000 people were killed and 1.8 million uprooted by the conflict which started in 1987. Since a fragile peace deal was brokered in 2006, people have been returning to their homes across the region and essential social services are slowly being revived. Gulu was at the centre of the conflict, but these days it has become a hub for local and international efforts to promote reconciliation and justice across the north.

The new reporters form the second wave of trainees to benefit from the programme, which runs until June 2013. The team in Gulu is supported by a network of IWPR reporters in Lira, Soroti, Kitgum and Pader.

Trainees welcomed the range of skills they were taught early on in the programme.

"I was able to learn how to make a radio feature and what things I should do to make my feature programme interesting, for example components like wild track and a human interest angle," Oroma Gladys said.

The reporters have already produced two episodes for a new series of Facing Justice. The programmes examined the second phase of the Ugandan government's Peace, Recovery and Development Plan, which got under way in July and is the government's latest effort to boost the economy and services in the north and entrench peace and stability following the departure of the LRA from northern Uganda.

Arthur Okot, a past trainee who now works at Mega FM in Gulu, said, "The balance between training and working was very good. It was a very strong learning environment, because it was okay to make mistakes and learn from them, as opposed to an ordinary work setting where you are under too much pressure and do not get the chance to improve your skills."

Over the last year IWPR has produced 25 episodes of Facing Justice, providing coverage of post-conflict justice and redevelopment issues in the northern region. Trainee Cho Woo Willy said he was looking forward to covering the still unresolved issues relevant to the many people now settling back in their home communities following years of displacement by war.

IWPR has been producing Facing Justice since September 2009. The radio magazine features news, interviews and analysis, with a focus on justice and human rights issues in the wake of the LRA war.

As peace and stability takes shape, Facing Justice provides a valuable source of information and debate about essential daily issues like basic service provision, as well as about the various forms of post-conflict justice. Areas investigated by Facing Justice reporters include access to education and health services, upholding the rule of law, and the ongoing debate around possible justice and reconciliation measures in the wake of a brutal war.

The participating reporters welcomed the focused analysis that is central to the Facing Justice concept. The programme handles issues in depth and with the whole 25-minute broadcast focused on one topic, it is able to follow issue in more detail than a lot of local media.

"What was covered [in training] was large enough for one to become a very good journalist who focuses on in-depth analysis and investigates major issues and facts," reporter Alex Otto said. Facing Justice goes out on Mega FM, Radio Rhino, Voice of Teso, Radio Palwak, Radio Piwa, Radio Pol and Radio Pacis in English and in the Luo, Ateso and Lugbara languages, reaching an estimated four million listeners.

In northern Uganda, IWPR is also partnering with a local legal awareness organisation, the Centre for Reparation and Rehabilitation. The centre conducts legal awareness training for IWPR's reporters, police officers and local community leaders, focusing particularly on gender-based violence and domestic abuse that are particular problems in the post-conflict environment.

A series of workshops is enabling reporters and community leaders to promote efforts to protect the rights of women affected by conflict, and reduce discrimination and violence against them as communities return home.

Source: Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 12 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 16/10/2012 [EN]

South Africa: Mix 93.8FM keeps bringing in listeners

<http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/196/59/83392.html>

Since rebranding itself in mid-2011, the creative radio station, Mix 93.8FM, estimates that listenership has quadrupled. Originally entitled Midrand FM, the addition of legends Tony Blewitt and Mike Mills with energetic newcomers like Saskia V and Roxy Blows is turning on the airwaves. "Creative radio is underpinned by presenter personality," says station manager Abigail Milosevich, "and all are encouraged with freedom of playlist and content." Daytime radio offers a mix of music from the Sixties through to today, while evening shows comprise talk and specialist shows celebrating past masters. Music industry godfather Benjy Mudie launches his Rock of Ages show on Friday nights next week. "Mudie will join Leon Economides, Keith Burrows and Chris Venter in our stable of specialist genre presenters."

Milosevich says that the advertising load on the station has grown well since January this year. "We have attracted large retail chains through to FMCG and small entrepreneurs with positive results reported. While we may not be the largest station on the Gauteng airwaves, our rapid growth shows that it is fulfilling the demand of thousands of listeners bored with traditional radio fare." She adds that the station's success shows that community radio is a viable alternative to commercial broadcasters and that its business case supports the notion. "Delivering quality programming, at a lower input cost, while servicing the community is a winning recipe." The station's weekday lineup includes Tony Blewitt for breakfast, brunch with Roxy Blows, lunchtime with Saskia V and Mike Mills hosts drive. Weekends Keith Burrows, Hein Kaiser, Olive and Al Pal take listeners through their day.

Source: Biz'Community.com (Cape Town), 13 Oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 17/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia: Somali security forces reportedly detain journalists in Mogadishu

Somali security forces have "detained" two journalists working for independent Radio Kulmiye in Mogadishu, privately-owned Radio Gaalkacyo reported on 16 Oct.

The two journalists, Jama'a Abdullahi Abdi and Qadar Mahmud Hared have been "detained" while on duty at the premise of Radio Kulmiye in the Somali capital, the report added.

The reason behind their arrests remains unknown, the source added.

Mogadishu security commander Khalif Ahmad said that the troops will "interrogate" the two journalists and will be released when investigations are over, added the source.

Source: Radio Gaalkacyo (Gaalkacyo), in Somali, 16 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 17 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 18/10/2012 [EN]

Mozambique: Community Radio Reopens in Manica<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210170178.html>

A community radio station in central Mozambique, shut down on Friday allegedly on the orders of the local mayor, re-opened on Monday according to a report in the independent daily newsheet "Mediafax".

The Macequece community radio, owned by the Macequece Community Association of Manica (ACOMAM), broadcasts in Manica Town, and the radio's editor, Arlindo Francisco claims that the order to take the radio off the air came from the mayor of Manica, Moguene Candieiro, although the mayor vigorously denies the claim.

The interference of the mayor "could at no time be accepted, because the radio belongs to the community and not to the Municipal Council", said Francisco. It is believed that Candieiro ordered the closure, because the radio declined to broadcast political messages that he wanted transmitted. Francisco said that the radio reopened after lengthy meetings between the radio managers and municipal officials.

But Candieiro gives a different version of events. He blamed the closure on conflict within ACOMAM. "We sent the police to protect the radio, because there's a war between the associates", he claimed. "I didn't order the closure. Who am I to order a radio to shut down?"

He predicted on Friday – accurately as it turned out – that the radio would re-open on Monday "because the associates have sat down and discussed the matters that divide them".

Francisco, however, denied there was any such internal dispute. "There's no friction between the associates", he said. "There was in the past, but the matter was overcome a long time ago".

He claimed that the person who created discord in the past had left and was now involved with the mayor in intrigues against the radio station. "What is happened is that the politicians want to interfere in the radio and we won't let them", said Francisco.

The Community Radio Forum (FORCOM) sent a delegation, headed by its President, Joao dos Santos Jeronimo, to Manica at the weekend to investigate. The district police commander, Anito Machava, told them he had received orders from the mayor to close the radio because there was a demonstration taking place at its premises. But when the commander went there personally, he could see no sign of any demonstration.

Source: AIM (Maputo), 16 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 18/10/2012 [EN]

Ghana: Mfwa's Report On Monitoring Campaign Language On Radio<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210171314.html>

For the past six weeks (August 19 - September 29, 2012), findings from the Media Foundation for West Africa's (MFWA) electoral campaign language monitoring, have revealed that affiliates/supporters of the main opposition New Patriotic Party (NPP) have been the most abusive on radio. The latest findings which is based on monitoring reports for the period, September 30 - October 6, also show that for the seventh week running, affiliates of the NPP were once again leading in the use of indecent campaign language on radio.

Mr. Kennedy Agyapong, the representative of the people of Assin North in Ghana's Parliament was once again the only individual who used as many as four (4) indecent expressions during the week under review. Mr. Agyapong used all the four indecent expressions on his own radio station, Oman FM, which was coincidentally the radio station that registered the highest number of indecent expressions.

During the reporting period (September 30 - October 6), 109 reports were received on programmes monitored on 30 out of the 31 radio stations selected for the project. A total of 20 indecent expressions were recorded on 13 of the programmes. The report details the composition of the 20 indecent expressions, the individuals who made them and the radio stations on which they were made.

The monitoring of campaign language on radio is a project of the MFWA funded by STAR-Ghana. The project is aimed at contributing to ensuring issues-based and decent language campaigning in this year's elections. It involves daily monitoring of campaign language/expressions by politicians and activists on specific programmes on 31 selected radio stations across the country. [...]

Full report and source: Media Foundation for West Africa (Accra), 16 oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 20/10/2012 [EN]

Sudan: New radio station to start trial broadcasts next week

The Board of Directors of the new Al-Masa FM radio station (101) has appointed a famous poet Ishaq al-Halangi as the director general and has also employed 20 other senior staff to work at the station.

The board said the decision to appoint the famous poet came as a recognition for all artists in the country and the entire poetry fraternity who have shaped our national emotions with their lovely and nice poems.

It is worth mentioning that Al-Halangi has enriched the radio Library with more than 1000 songs.

The board added that

the new Al-Masa FM Radio station (101) will start trial broadcasts next week.

Source: Alwan (Khartoum), in Arabic 17 Oct. 2012; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File 18 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 20/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia: Somaliland state Radio Hargeysa launches new transmitters

The Somaliland government-owned Radio Hargeysa has launched new transmitters in a bid to expand its coverage to "many continents", reported the privately-owned Midnimo news website on 18 October.

"The president of Somaliland presided over the launch of the new transmitters, which will be on the 1000WT (technical details as published) shortwave frequency", the website added.

The president said it was a triumph for Somaliland to have a broadcaster "that can reach the whole world and spread information, as well as allow the government to communicate to its people".

Radio Hargeysa, the first ever broadcaster in Somali, was set up by the British colonialists.

Source: Midnimo.com website, in Somali 18 Oct. 2012; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 19 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 22/10/2012 [EN]

Liberia: Radio Veritas Closed Indefinitely

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210180539.html>

Radio Veritas, owned and operated by the Catholic Church in Liberia has been shut down indefinitely by the Archdiocese of Monrovia.

Rev. Father Jerome Zeigler, head of the Archdiocese of Monrovia said a major restructure of the institution is pending, including the arrival of new equipment.

Zeigler told the station employees during an emergency conference that they would be given their severance benefit for services rendered the institution in accordance with the labor law of Liberia, but did not say when.

Sources informed this paper last night the employees would get their benefits at the end of October as the Church is consulting with the Labor Ministry on the payment, which could be in the sum of thousands of dollars. The station is reported to have some 20 full time employees plus 10 interns.

Fortnight ago, Veritas or truth, which is noted for its hard news and independence reporting on development affecting the country, was off the air with technical problem cited, but the employees were barred from entering the premises.

Veritas, formerly ELCM (Eternal Love Community) Radio started broadcast here in 1981 as the second Christian-run radio station outfit after ELWA (Eternal Love Winning in Africa) which opened its door in 1950s by the Sudan Interior Mission.

Those were the two private but church-run stations besides the state-owned Liberia Broadcasting System (LBS) until the onset of the rebellion on 24 December, 1989.

But Veritas, under past regimes has experienced difficulties. The junta shut it down many times during the destruction of its facilities in the course of the conflict.

It suffered the same fate under former President Charles Taylor when the station door was closed in 2000. Until it can resume broadcast with the same reportage of truth-telling, the station will be remembered by its numerous listeners around the country and abroad.

Source. The New Dawn (Monrovia), 18 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 22/10/2012 [EN]

Egypt: Ismail Shishtawi Appointed As Head of Radio and Television Union

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210190983.html>

Minister of Information Salah Abdel Maksoud appointed on Thursday Ismail al-Shishtawi, member of the managing board of trustees for the radio sector, as acting head of the Egyptian Radio and Television Union.

Al-Shishtawi was appointed as Tharwat Mekki's predecessor as the latter reached the legal age for retirement, the Middle East News Agency (MENA) reported.

Al-Shishtawi will officially begin on October 20.

The minister of information will honor Mekki for his efforts in the union, a media source said.
Source: Aswat Masriya (Cairo), 18 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 22/10/2012 [EN]

Burundi: Free Radio Airtime Increasing Red Cross Visibility

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210180625.html>

Ariane Ngoti, communications assistant in charge of radio broadcasting at Burundi Red Cross says Red Cross visibility has increased dramatically since 2009, when volunteers started broadcasting their experiences through radio stations all over the country. The number of volunteers has also increased to 350,000.

Ariane, travels from province to province meeting various volunteers. "The volunteers are always eager to share their stories and experiences," she says.

Ariane records these into a one-hour radio programme and distributes it to five nationwide radio stations. The name of the radio programme is Agir pour Sauver (meaning, "act to bring salvation" as loosely translated into English).

The content of this programme has impressed five commercial radio stations who now offer free airtime to the National Society allowing them to reach audiences all across the country.

The programme is broadcasted in French and Kirundi each week on Rema FM, Africa Republic Radio, National Radio and Television for Burundi.

Through the programme, volunteers are able to explain how they respond to different emergencies and this creates awareness among the listeners. "We recently aired a malaria campaign funded by Belgian Red Cross," Ariane says. "Volunteers advised the listeners on malaria prevention. The campaign was successful and in subsequent programmes the volunteers reported that families in the community now use mosquito nets, while pregnant women access medical care when they suspect that they have malaria."

Ariane, not only interviews the Red Cross volunteers, but she also talks to local administration and partner organizations in order to get a wider view of the various topics discussed in the programme.

"Volunteers also share the various income generating initiatives that they are involved in and how they are assisting vulnerable people within their communities. Other topical issues discussed are how to protect the environment, and how to administer first aid," she says.

Such initiatives reflect successful humanitarian diplomacy in action. Staff and volunteers from the Burundi Red Cross have demonstrated that they can carry out quiet diplomacy, mobilize resources locally, and assist the most vulnerable people in the community through sharing information on a weekly basis.

It is through 'behind the scenes' negotiations that they have been able to access various resources that encourage volunteer development. Airtime that would ordinarily break the organization's budget can now be accessed free of charge.

Humanitarian diplomacy has become a pillar of support for Burundi Red Cross and their stories are worth telling repeatedly. The National Society is now on the road to standing on its own and becoming a model of empowerment and change in their communities, and for Africa more broadly.
Source: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, 17 Oct. 2010; quoted and distributed by all Africa.com

ALERT

FROM : 23/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia: Gunmen shoot, injure reporter

People armed with pistols early this evening injured reporter Muhammad Mahmud 'Turyare' who works for Shabeelle Radio and TV in Mogadishu. Eyewitnesses confirmed to Radio Shabeelle that

two men armed with pistols injured Muhammad Mahmud as he was leaving a mosque at Xawo Taako estate in Mogadishu's Wadajir District after evening prayers. He was shot on the upper part of the body and was rushed to Madina hospital where doctors say his condition is not serious. The gunmen and the reason for the shooting remain unknown.

Source: Shabeelle Media Network website (Mogadishu), in Somali, 21 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 23 Oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 24/10/2012 [EN]

DRCongo: Congolese rebel leader asked to protect journalists

http://www.ifex.org/democratic_republic_of_congo/2012/10/22/letter_rebel_leader/

Reporters Without Borders and Journalist in Danger (JED), its partner organization in Democratic Republic of Congo, wrote today to Jean-Marie Runiga, the political coordinator of the M23 rebel movement, voicing concern about the dangers for journalists working in M23-controlled territory, especially Rutshuru, in the eastern province of Nord-Kivu, and asking him to take action to stop the threats and guarantee their safety.

Full report and source: IFEX, 22 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 25/10/2012 [EN]

Liberia: Liberian Catholic station Radio Veritas closes

<http://www.voanews.com/content/liberia-radio-veritas-off-the-air/1529413.html>

The Roman Catholic archbishop of Monrovia said the shutdown of the church-run Radio Veritas has nothing to do with any criticism of the government.

The Most Reverend Lewis Ziegler said the station has experienced equipment problems and the church wants to shut it down until it purchases new hardware.

He would not say, however, when the station would be back on the air since it has to find money for the new equipment.

"The station has had no problem with the government. The station was not shut down. Radio Veritas had been operating on old equipment bought a few years back from the [United] States. We have spent a lot of money on them, but they keep breaking down. Last Tuesday [16 October], the station went off the air because a part had spoiled, not because the station was critical of government that it was shut down. There was [a] technical breakdown in the station," he said. Ziegler would not say when the station would be back on the air because, he said, the church has to look for the money to buy new equipment.

"At the moment, it's not the question of correcting (repairing the broken hardware). It is the question of really getting something better that will keep us going. And, because I do not have the cash, I cannot tell how long it will take me. But, the station will be opened very soon," the archbishop said.

But, acting radio manager Ade Wede Kekuleh said the archbishop signed a news release informing the staff that the station had been acting outside the scope of its licence.

"They sent a [news] release to institutions signed by him [the archbishop], that was on no letterhead, and that was one of the reasons he gave that the institution had been acting outside of its scope and they had come under fire for it. So, the archbishop, he really cannot say that because they did their releases. They know exactly what they wrote. That's why I keep saying, 'I wonder when did the Catholic Church realize that we had been acting outside the scope of our licence,'" she said.

Kekuleh said she is worried because, as much as she knows, from the day Radio Veritas (which means truth in Latin) was established in July of 1997, the station has lived up to its name by giving credible and unbiased news.

"Another thing they said is that, in 1996, they [Veritas staff] stepped on toes and the radio got burnt. So, what we are concluding is that we did step on toes and that is why they have decided to shut down the station," Kekuleh said.

She said the staff has been locked out of the station and the archbishop has promised to pay them off by the end of this month.

"What they are doing now is severing whatever contracts they may have had with the employees, and then if they ever start again, those who are still interested to work with the radio station will have to reapply," Kekuleh said.

Ziegler said it was not true that the employees had been locked out of the station.

Kekuleh said she and the staff believe there is more to the story than what the church is telling. But, she said her only interest is to ensure that her staff is paid off and well.

Source: VOA News.com website (Washington D.C.), 23 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 24 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 26/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia: Al-Shabab's Radio Andalus still on the air in southwest Somalia

BBC Monitoring can confirm that the Somali Islamist group Al-Shabab's FM station, Radio Andalus, is still on air in Baardheere in the southwest Gedo region. This was first observed on 2 October and the station was still heard on the air on 23 October.

The station in Baardheere is the only Radio Andalus transmitter known to be operating following the closure of the main outlet in the southern port of Kismaayo, after the city fell to African Union (AU) and Somali government forces at the end of September.

The Somali-language news website Dhacdo.com has been documenting the activities and output of Radio Andalus. It was this website that reported on 29 September that Al-Shabab had dismantled Radio Andalus's equipment and removed it before leaving Kismaayo. [...]

Full report and source: Media observation by BBC Monitoring 23 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 26 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 26/10/2012 [EN]

South Africa: SAfrica "going ahead" with plan for state-owned internet radio station

[Text] Travelling abroad? You'll soon be able to tune in to the voice of the South African government wherever you are. The government is going ahead with plans for a state-owned and controlled internet radio station which will be available around the world, and is looking for radio experts to set it up and run it - on government instruction.

The station is a Department of International Relations and Cooperation (Dirco) project.

"The established internet radio station will be fully owned and controlled by Dirco. Dirco will be responsible for providing programming and editorial guidelines," said the tender, which closed last week.

Effectively, this makes it government propaganda. The Star asked the department to explain the need for this.

"The station will be of a talk-show nature and will rely mainly, but not exclusively, on government-generated content. The station will also solicit various perspectives from independent foreign policy role-players, including analysts, for its programming," said department spokesman Nelson Kgwete. "Editorially, the station will provide a platform from which the South African government can communicate its foreign policy priorities and programme, including achievements and challenges, to a wide international audience. South Africa is an influential player in the African continent as well as across the emerging world."

"The formation of the station is in line with South Africa's responsibilities and ambitions in the foreign policy front."

Kgwete said the government already uses available radio platforms to communicate.

"We are merely creating a platform that will be available to us around the clock and involve all our missions across the world. The government is often accused of not communicating enough - this platform will bridge that gap," he said.

The intention is to have a continuously broadcasting station and provide radio skills to Dirco staff. Whoever runs the station will "be required to work with Dirco's public diplomacy branch in the development, production and streaming of the radio programming", said the bid document.

Broadcasts will be in English, and the target audience is just about anyone.

Source: The Star website (Johannesburg), 25 Oct. 2012; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 26 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [EN]

Gambia: More People Raise Concern On Taranga FM Closure

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210240560.html>

Following the publication in the Foroyaa of the comments being made by people from various works of life concerning the closure of the Taranga FM, the community radio station based in Sinchu Alagie, others are still approaching the paper in order to add their voices in calling for its re-

opening.

Speaking to this reporter, one Alhagie Conteh, a business man in Brikama, said the radio has been very useful to him with the type of programmes it was offering to its listeners.

He noted that the radio's review of newspapers was very helpful in enabling him to know what is written about happenings in the country. He added that the radio was like a school to him. He said he is calling on the authorities to allow Taranga FM to come back on air.

Bakary Samateh, who is a businessman and also a resident of Brikama, said he cannot read and write or understand what is written in the local newspapers, adding that it was Taranga FM that has been informing him about the developments in the country. He said the station was not only beneficial to him but served many others like him who depended on it for news in the newspapers. He equated the re-opening of Taranga as giving the people back their rights to listen to their media organ of choice. He added that since they cannot tune in to the Senegalese radio stations to listen to the news, it is their right to have access to a source that presents divergent views on issues of national concern.

Alhagie Ceesay, Mba Fatou Kah and Lamin Conteh who were all part of the listening audience of Taranga FM have expressed their wish that the radio is back on air to continue with its programmes which they said were very useful to the community.

They noted their appreciation of the programmes of the radio, particularly the popular Sunday programme called 'Wah Sa Xalat' (express your thoughts) and "Mbor Mi", anchored by the station proprietor himself. They said the programmes were enlightening Gambians.

They also called on the concerned authorities to expedite the re-opening of the radio station of their choice.

When contacted to enquire about the state of affairs regarding the re-opening of Taranga FM, Mr. Ismaila Ceesay, the proprietor of the radio, said he is presently engaging the Gambia Press Union (GPU) and the community elders to discuss with the concerned authorities. "I want to assure the listeners that I am not sitting down with folded hands. Every day we are in the process of engaging those concerned in the negotiation for the reopening of the radio station. I also want to take this opportunity to thank everybody who is expressing concern and making calls for the reopening of the radio," said Mr. Ceesay.

Source: FOROYAA Newspaper (Serrekunda), 23 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 28/10/2012 [EN]

Liberia: Liberian radio station shut down

http://www.ifex.org/liberia/2012/10/25/liberia_radio_closure/

Radio Veritas, a Catholic-run radio station in Liberia, has been shut down. The radio station was shut down after Archbishop Jerome Ziegler told a news conference that the station had some technical or equipment problems that needed some adjustment.

It was first reported by FrontPageAfrica that the Catholic Diocese, the owner of the radio station, needed a sum of \$450 USD to do some repairs of the station's equipment, but was faced with financial constraints and could not afford such an amount.

However, it is widely believed that the reason cited by the Archbishop for the closure could be far from the truth.

In an interview on a local radio station in Monrovia, station manager Ade Weade Kerkulah admitted to equipment problems but was quick to say that the problem was not major enough to warrant a closure.

She said the closure was due the constant complaints to the Catholic Church - allegedly by some higher ups in government - that the station was going contrary to its "vision statement" and has embarked upon reporting on critical issues. Kerkulah told the Center for Media Studies & Peace Building (CEMESP) that the Catholic Church has also announced that it would pay severance benefits to every employee of the station, and revamp all currently aired programs.

Recently, Radio Veritas has been very vocal in reporting hard news stories. One example is the angle the station took when reporting on the death of four cadets of the Liberia Bureau of Maritime Affairs.

A few months back, a tough talking, provocative program entitled "Topical Issues" was removed from the programming log of Radio Veritas on the orders of Archbishop Ziegler.

CEMESP's Executive Director, Malcolm Joseph, is quoted as saying that the action of the Catholic Church is another way of using private owners to silence the views of independent voices in the country.

Mr. Joseph said that CEMESP's legal defence team is currently working with Radio Veritas journalists to ensure that the Catholic Church pays them their severance benefit, in accordance with the law.

Source: Center for Media Studies & Peace Building, Press Release, 19 Oct. 2012; quoted by IFEX, 25 Oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 28/10/2012 [EN]

Somalia - Radio Shabelle journalist badly injured in targeted shooting

http://en.rsf.org/somalia-radio-shabelle-journalist-badly-22-10-2012_43565.html

Reporters Without Borders is deeply shocked by yesterday evening's attempt to murder Radio Shabelle journalist Mohamed Mohamud Turyare, who was shot four times in the chest and abdomen by two gunmen as he left a Mogadishu mosque.

He was rushed to the capital's Madina Hospital, where he underwent immediate surgery. Doctors said after the operation that his injuries no longer posed a threat to his life.

"Somalia has been Africa's deadliest country for journalists for years," Reporters Without Borders secretary-general Christophe Deloire said. "With 15 journalists killed since the start of this year, it now ranks alongside Syria as one of the two deadliest countries in the world for the media.

"This latest attack on a journalist is a direct result of the permanent climate of impunity and hostility towards freedom of information that reigns in this Horn of Africa country."

Deloire added: "Members of the Somali armed forces were present during yesterday's attempt to murder Turyare and fired back at his assailants. We hope the authorities will quickly take the necessary measures to identify and prosecute those responsible for this criminal act." [...]

Full report and source: Reporters without Borders (Paris), 22 Oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [EN]

South Sudan: Praise for South Sudan Radio Show

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201210170358.html>

Listeners call in to local radio stations after series on women's rights starts airing.

A new IWPR radio programme discussing women's rights in South Sudan has received a warm welcome from listeners in the region.

Nadhrat al-Shafafa, which means "Transparent View", is a 15-minute weekly magazine show broadcast in and around the towns of Wau and Malakal, and in Gidel, north of the border in Sudan. It is produced in partnership by the Catholic Radio Network, CRN.

Launched in August, the weekly show has already covered issues affecting the daily lives of women in South Sudan, including alcoholism, forced marriage and abortion.

Nadhrat al-Shafafa consists of a mix of news, interviews and analysis, with an emphasis on women's rights. It aims to provide women with a place where they can access independent information about the rule of law and women's rights, and to stimulate debate through local radio in northern parts of South Sudan, on the border with Sudan. It provides an opportunity for people living in these volatile frontier areas to become better informed about issues facing their communities, and also to air their own views.

The content is gathered and recorded by IWPR's and CRN's female reporters in Wau, Malakal and Gidel.

The first programme, produced by a team of IWPR-trained reporters in Gidel, featured a woman called Romia Ismail, who is something of a role model as she manages to earn a living while caring for her family. She works as a midwife and farmer, while also single-handedly looking after her immediate and extended family and educating her children.

After the programme went out, listeners told the reporters in Gidel how much it had inspired them. "I am impressed by Romia, who is able to work at the hospital, farm, and take care of her children," one female listener commented. "This shows us that we can also do more jobs so that we provide for our families. This programme has opened my eyes, especially to the need to try to do something to help my husband take care of our family."

Nadhrat al-Shafafa is broadcast by Radio Voice of Hope in Wau, Radio Voice of Peace in Gidel and Radio Saut al-Mahabba in Malakal. At the moment it is in Arabic, and there are plans to produce versions in the Dinka, Nuer, Shilluk and Tira languages.

In Malakal and Wau, the stations host live phone-ins after the programme to give listeners a chance to voice their opinions and address their concerns directly to representatives of local government and other relevant groups.

Full report and source: Institute for War & Peace Reporting, 15 Oct. 2012; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 30/10/2012 [EN]

DRCongo: Eastern DRCongo authorities shuts down radio station

[Reporter] Nord Kivu Province administrative leaders have banned Radio Ngoma FM in Beni town after accusing it of broadcasting a message from a rebel group active in eastern DRCongo. They accused the private radio station of broadcasting a subversive message calling for the recruitment into a new rebel group close to the M23 rebel group in Beni and Lubero territories found in the north of Nord Kivu province. Mr Nyoni Bwanakawa, the mayor of Beni town in the north eastern DRCongo, explained the reason behind this decision.

[Bwanakawa] This is completely a plot to balkanise the country. Such message calling for the rebellion against the government [of DRCongo] is unacceptable for the sake of the prevailing peace. Following this, we were forced to take a stern decision of closing the signals of Radio Ngoma FM.

[Presenter] However, the managing director [Jules Mungwana] of this private radio station said that the decision was purely political as the owner of the private radio station is former minister, Antipas Mbusa, Nyamwisi, now a politician from the opposition.

[Mungwana] Ever since Honourable Antipas Mbusa Nyamwisi went into the opposition against the [current] head of state, his political party and his private radio station have been accused of being in connivance with M23 rebel group.

[Presenter] He strongly denounced the occupation of Radio Ngoma FM by the police who have seized several equipments and denied access to any of his journalist.

Radio Ngoma FM is one of the private radio stations broadcasting from Beni town, 200 km south of Bunia town. Its owner, Honourable Antipas Mbusa Nyamwisi currently sitting as an MP from the opposition at the National Assembly, was a close ally of President Joseph Kabil. However, he was sacked in 2010 from his ministerial post at the DRCongo central government. He decided to run as a presidential contender against President Joseph Kabil in the November 2011 polls. His political party, the Congolese Rally for Democracy/Kisangani Liberation Movement [RCD/KML], has been accused lately by the current Kinshasa administration of having close links with M23 rebel group active since mid of this year in the territory of Rutshuru, Nord Kivu province. Representatives of his political party continue to deny any involvement of Honourable Antipas Mbusa Nyamwisi and his party in the ongoing war destabilising eastern DRCongo.

Source: Radio Candip (Bunia), in French, 27 Oct. 2012; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File, 30 Oct. 2012

NOUVELLES

ALERT

FROM : 07/10/2012 [FR]

Burundi: J-4 avant le procès en appel de Hassan Ruvakuki

http://fr.rsf.org/burundi-j-4-avant-le-proces-en-appel-du-04-10-2012_43484.html

Le procès en appel du journaliste Hassan Ruvakuki, condamné à la prison à perpétuité en première instance, en juin dernier, s'ouvrira le 8 octobre 2012, à Gitega (Centre). Un représentant de Reporters sans frontières se rendra sur place pour assister aux audiences. L'organisation a appris que plusieurs diplomates en poste à Bujumbura feront de même. [...]
Texte complet et source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), 4 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 07/10/2012 [FR]

Madagascar: Journalistes de Free FM - Liberté retrouvée

http://www.madagascar-tribune.com/Liberte-retrouvee_18004.html

Dans un communiqué diffusé à toutes les rédactions, les trois journalistes de Free Fm, Fidèle Razara Pierre, Lalatiana Rakotondrazafy et Lalanirina Razanajatovo, annoncent qu'ils ont recouvré leur liberté après qu' « une entente mutuelle acceptable, garantissant leur sécurité et leur retour à la vie normale, ait été convenue entre les autorités transitoires d'une part et l'Ambassade d'Afrique du Sud à Madagascar, la SADC ainsi que leurs partenaires internationaux au sein des Nations Unies d'autre part ». Ils déclarent dans ce communiqué qu'ils s'étaient réfugiés à l'Ambassade d'Afrique du Sud à Madagascar et que depuis samedi 29 septembre 2012, ils ont quitté libres cette résidence de l'Ambassade.

À beaucoup d'égards, cette affaire Free Fm s'est donc transformée en affaire diplomatique ou du moins a été résolue avec diplomatie et de manière diplomatique sans qu'aucune question de police

ou judiciaire n'intervienne. Et les journalistes de Free Fm s'en réjouissent tout en reconnaissant les « efforts considérables déployés par les deux parties pour parvenir à cette entente, au nom des principes de la liberté de la presse et la liberté d'expression » ; et ils espèrent vivement que cette entente puisse être respectée scrupuleusement par toutes les parties prenantes. Les journalistes de Free Fm se disent rassurés de pouvoir encore compter sur l'ambassadeur sud-africain et de la collaboration du bureau de liaison de la SADC « sur leur protection et leur suivi sur notre situation, jour par jour, comme cela a été également convenu entre les parties prenantes ».

Free Fm réémettra donc bientôt. Toutefois, l'émission « anao ny fitenenana » animée par Lalatiana Rakotondrazafy et Fidèle Razara Pierre ne reprendra pas encore.

Source: Madagascar Tribune (Antananarivo), 3 oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 07/10/2012 [FR]

Tunisie: Action de protestation devant l'établissement de la radio

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210051208.html>

Des journalistes de la Radio nationale tunisienne ont observé, hier matin, devant le siège de l'établissement, un mouvement de protestation pour dénoncer les pratiques qu'ils ont qualifiées d'«abusives et autoritaires», venant des directions générales des radios publiques.

Le mouvement a été marqué par la présence de plusieurs constituants, des représentants de la Fédération internationale des journalistes (FIJ), de la Ligue tunisienne de défense des droits de l'Homme (Ltdh) et des membres de l'Instance nationale pour la réforme de l'information et de la communication (Inric) qui s'était autodissoute le 4 juillet dernier, a constaté un journaliste de l'agence TAP.

L'agence TAP a essayé de contacter le directeur de la Radio nationale qui demeure injoignable. Une déclaration commune du personnel de la radio, publiée en début d'après-midi, fait état de la «dégradation de la situation professionnelle et sociale» dans l'établissement depuis la nomination de l'actuel directeur. Elle dénonce notamment des pratiques de marginalisation, de pressions, de règlements de comptes et de mutations abusives ainsi qu'une mainmise sur l'établissement et l'ingérence dans la ligne éditoriale des journalistes et animateurs «remplacés par des collaborateurs externes pour servir un agenda politique précis».

Les journalistes de la Radio nationale revendentiquent, dans la déclaration, la séparation entre l'administration et la rédaction et l'application des décrets-lois 115 et 116. Ils exigent, également, l'annulation des décisions abusives et des concours «douteux» et indiquent qu'un autre rassemblement de protestation est prévu aujourd'hui à 10h00.

Source: La Presse.tn (Tunis), 5 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 07/10/2012 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: Radio de proximité - Les animateurs remis à niveau

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210050750.html>

Les membres de l'Union des radios de proximité de Côte d'Ivoire (Urpcl) ont vu leurs capacités renforcées, dans le cadre d'un atelier initié par l'ambassade des Etats Unis à Abidjan, le lundi 1er octobre dernier, au siège de l'Union, à Adjame.

«Rôle d'une radio communautaire dans le développement local» était le thème de la formation. Selon le formateur, Edouardo Cue, journaliste américain la radio informe, forme et éduque en matière de santé, éducation, infrastructures, vivrier. «Le journaliste doit être curieux, être honnête intellectuellement et avoir le sens de la justice», a-t-il conseillé. L'interview par exemple, a-t-il, révélé est au cœur du journalisme. «Il faut poser des questions précises pour avoir des réponses précises, non sans hiérarchiser le questionnaire», a-t-il indiqué.

Par ailleurs, il a déploré que les médias publics fassent trop de reportages sur le chef de l'Etat et le caractère partisan de la presse écrite ivoirienne.

L'attaché de presse de l'ambassade des Etats Unis à Abidjan, Philipp Grant, quant à lui, a indiqué que l'engagement de son institution auprès des médias est une priorité parce que sans les médias, la Côte d'Ivoire ne peut pas avancer et que le renforcement des capacités des journalistes doit contribuer au processus de réconciliation.

Le président de l'Urpcl, Karamoko Bamba, a souhaité que la formation s'étende aux animateurs des radios de proximité de l'intérieur de la Côte d'Ivoire.

Source: Notre Voie (Abidjan), 4 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

RESOURCE

FROM : 10/10/2012 [FR]

Ressource: Dossiers techniques de radio rurale du CTA

<http://ruralradio.cta.int/fr/index.html>

Le CTA (Centre Technique de Coopération Agricole et Rurale) a plus de 50 Dossiers de Ressources de Radio Rurale disponibles sur son site Web. Chaque dossier focalise sur un sujet spécifique, par exemple la santé animale, et contient de courtes interviews audio, des transcriptions, des suggestions pour présenter chaque entrevue, ainsi que des informations techniques sur le sujet et des conseils sur l'utilisation du dossier pour votre programmation radio.

Source: Agro Radio Hebdo, nr. 219, 9 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 10/10/2012 [FR]

Burundi - Report du procès : Hassan Ruvakuki "plutôt confiant", ses confrères déçus

<http://fr.rsf.org/burundi-report-du-proces-de-hassan-09-10-2012,43500.html>

"C'est à la stupéfaction générale que le président de la cour d'appel de Gitega (Centre) a conclu la première journée du procès en appel de Hassan Ruvakuki et de ses 22 co-accusés, le 8 octobre 2012, en annonçant que la prochaine audience se tiendrait le 18 octobre. Toute l'assistance s'attendait à revenir dès le lendemain matin et s'y était d'ailleurs préparée", a constaté le représentant de Reporters sans frontières qui assistait aux débats, à Gitega, en signe de soutien au journaliste de Bonesha FM et correspondant du service en swahili de Radio France Internationale (RFI).

La journée avait été consacrée à l'audition de moins d'une dizaine des co-accusés. Le cas de Hassan Ruvakuki, condamné en juin dernier à la prison à perpétuité, n'avait pas encore été abordé. "Nous passons d'un extrême à l'autre. En première instance, le juge s'était précipité. Maintenant, au contraire, les choses semblent prêtes à traîner. La justice burundaise balbutie, et nous avec", a déclaré Reporters sans frontières.

"Contrairement à ce qui s'était passé auparavant à Cankuzo (Est), le siège a semblé plutôt à l'écoute et pour la première fois, les prévenus et leurs avocats ont pu s'exprimer sur le fond. Mais la décision du juge de reporter la prochaine audience prolonge encore l'attente de notre frère, déjà injustement emprisonné depuis plus de dix mois", a ajouté l'organisation.

Patrick Nduwimana, directeur de Bonesha FM, la station qui emploie Hassan Ruvakuki, s'est immédiatement dit "très déçu". "Nous étions prêts pour un procès marathon. Pourquoi nous faire attendre et revenir la semaine prochaine ?", s'est-il interrogé. "Ce n'est pas un bon signe, cela signifie que l'affaire va encore traîner", a pour sa part estimé Alexandre Niyungeko, président de l'Union burundaise des journalistes (UBJ).

Le principal intéressé, Hassan Ruvakuki, ne semblait pas lui-même savoir si ce report était une bonne ou une mauvaise nouvelle. "Ça va aller, merci pour tout, je rentre à Muramvya (la ville où il est emprisonné). Ça va aller", s'est-il contenté de dire au représentant de Reporters sans frontières avant de quitter la salle.

Environ 300 personnes assistaient au procès (une partie dans la salle, comble, l'autre assise devant le bâtiment de la cour d'appel, au soleil, et écoutant le déroulement à travers des haut-parleurs). Parmi l'assistance, plusieurs diplomates et des représentants d'organisation de défense des droits de l'homme (Human Rights Watch) et de défense des journalistes (Reporters sans frontières). La presse locale avait massivement fait le déplacement : Bonesha FM, Radio Publique Africaine (RPA), Iwacu, Net Press, etc.

Jean-Claude Kavumbagu, directeur de Net Press et dernier journaliste emprisonné au Burundi avant Hassan Ruvakuki, était présent "pour marquer (son) soutien à l'égard d'un frère qui traverse la même épreuve que (lui)".

Source: Reporters sans frontières, 9 oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 11/10/2012 [FR]

Sénégal: Solidarité avec Radio AFIA FM (Dakar)

http://www.wmaker.net/RSF.org/Solidarite-avec-Radio-AFIA-FM-Dakar_a346.html?preaction=nl&id=12955525&idnl=121974&

Les pluies et le vent extrêmement violent fin septembre dernier ont causé des dégâts énormes dans la capitale du Sénégal.

AFIA FM émettant sur 93 Mhz n'a pas échappé à ces intempéries. Le mât (antenne) a été endommagé. Il est aujourd'hui inutilisable. AFIA est donc sans voix depuis dix jours.

La solidarité de tous peut permettre un prompt retour sur les ondes. Si vous souhaitez apporter votre soutien à cette radio partenaire de Radio Sans Frontière, écrivez à :

secretariat@radiosansfrontiere.org

Source: Radio Sans Frontière (France), 11 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 24/10/2012 [FR]

RDC: insécurité et les menaces contre les journalistes en territoires rebelle du « M23 »

http://www.jed-afrigue.org/fr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=997&Itemid=9&id_alerte=1140

JED et RSF dénoncent le climat d'insécurité et les menaces contre les journalistes en territoires rebelle du « M23 »

Dans une lettre conjointe adressée, vendredi 19 octobre 2012, à Monsieur Jean-Marie Runiga, coordonnateur politique du Mouvement armé dénommé « M23 », Reporters sans Frontières (RSF) et Journaliste en danger (JED) ont exprimé leurs vives inquiétudes concernant le climat d'insécurité dans lequel travaillent les journalistes dans les territoires sous contrôle de M23. Les deux organisations ont tenu à attirer l'attention du coordonnateur politique du M23 sur la responsabilité qui lui incombe d'assurer la sécurité des professionnels des médias dans l'exercice de leur fonction et de faire respecter la liberté de la presse et le droit à l'information dans les zones sous son contrôle.

Selon nos informations, Jean-Baptiste Kambale, directeur de la Radio Communautaire Ushirika (RACOU), émettant à Rutshuru, un territoire sous contrôle du M23, situé à 75 kms de Goma (chef-lieu de la province du Nord-Kivu), fait l'objet d'un harcèlement suite à une série de reportages de la chaîne TV5 Monde montrant les exactions contre les populations civiles et autres violations des droits de l'homme commises par les troupes du M23. Mardi 25 septembre 2012, Kambale a été vigoureusement interpellé par l'administrateur de Rutshuru, M. Benjamin Sibomango, qui lui a reproché d'avoir facilité le travail de l'équipe de TV5 Monde.

Dans un appel téléphonique, l'administrateur du territoire de Rutshuru lui a promis la mort en ces termes : "Tu nous as amené les Blancs à Rutshuru pour nous critiquer. Tu sais que nous sommes rebelles. Pour nous, tuer quelqu'un est un petit problème".

Le lendemain, c'était le tour du porte-parole du M23, Vianney Kazarama, d'exprimer ouvertement son mécontentement à l'encontre du journaliste sur les informations diffusées par la chaîne française, le considérant désormais comme un « ennemi » à la solde du pouvoir de Kinshasa chargé de ternir l'image de son Mouvement. M. Kazarama était encore revenu à la charge contre le journaliste, lundi 15 octobre 2012, en l'accusant de l'avoir piégé et d'avoir abusé de sa bonne foi. En raison de toutes ces menaces directes, Jean-Baptiste Kambale vit désormais dans la clandestinité et craint pour sa vie et celle de sa famille.

Les deux organisations ont demandé à M. Jean-Marie Runiga de s'exprimer clairement en se désolidarisant des propos et menaces proférés contre les journalistes travaillant dans les territoires sous le contrôle de ce mouvement armé, notamment à Rutshuru, dans la province du Nord-Kivu (Est du pays) et d'user de toutes ses prérogatives pour assurer la sécurité physique de Jean-Baptiste Kambale. [...]

Texte complet et source: Journaliste en danger (Kinshasa), 19 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 24/10/2012 [FR]

Somalie: Un journaliste de radio somalien est grièvement blessé après une tentative d'assassinat

http://www.ifex.org/somalia/2012/10/22/shabelle_journalist_shot/fr/

Reporters sans frontières est profondément choquée par la tentative d'assassinat perpétrée, dans la soirée du 21 octobre 2012, contre Mohamed Mohamud Turyare. Attaqué par deux hommes armés alors qu'il sortait d'une mosquée à Mogadiscio, le journaliste de Radio Shabelle a reçu quatre balles à l'abdomen et à la poitrine. Il a immédiatement subi une opération chirurgicale à l'hôpital Madina, dans la capitale somalienne. Ses jours ne sont plus en danger. [...]

Texte complet et source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), quoted by IFEX, 22 oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 26/10/2012 [FR]

RDC: Kasaï-Oriental : les publicités sur les antennes strictement

contrôlées

<http://www.syfia-grands-lacs.info/index.php?view=articles&action=voir&idArticle=2687>

Au Kasaï-Oriental, les publicités sur les radios et télévisions sont désormais strictement contrôlées par le Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel et de la communication. Trop de dérapages qui choquent la population ont été constatés.

Au Kasaï oriental, depuis début septembre, aucune publicité ne peut passer sur les antennes des radios et télévisions sans le visa du Conseil supérieur de l'audiovisuel et de la communication (CSAC). Le ministre provincial de la Communication a aussi mis en place une commission mixte CSAC, division des Médias et Observatoire de médias congolais (OMEC) qui doit revisiter toutes les publicités.

Ces décisions font suite à un pénible constat. Selon le chargé des contentieux au CSAC, les messages publicitaires des bureaux d'achat et vente de diamant contiennent des insinuations, comme 'Il est le seul', des écarts de langage du genre 'l'éternel' patron, 'après la Banque mondiale, c'est lui !' Les responsables de ces bureaux tenus par les expatriés ou le nationaux se livrent ainsi à des attaques à peine voilées. Les premiers se disent plus riches que les deuxièmes. 'Elles frisent l'atteinte à la moralité et à la personne de nos enfants', s'indigne une téléspectatrice d'une chaîne locale.

Selon Dieudonné Tshibamba du CSAC, ils sont allés trop loin dans les écarts. On peut voir, par exemple, dans une publicité un albinos à qui on fait dire que l'expatrié surtout blanc ne peut rien faire et n'est pas riche. Pour riposter, on voit un noir menotté par un blanc.

Des directeurs de programme qualifiés

Pour Clément Tshidibi, chef de division de Communication et médias, ces publicités qui ont aussi la particularité de montrer des masses d'argent en monnaie locale et en devises, ternissent l'image de la province. 'Elles marquent négativement les jeunes qui sont tentés d'abandonner les études au profit du diamant visant l'enrichissement rapide', a-t-il ajouté. Selon D. Tshibamba, les raisons de la diffusion de ces publicités mensongères sont nombreuses : la concurrence déloyale, la sous qualification des responsables des médias, la pauvreté des chaînes de radios et télévisions et l'ignorance de la loi. Selon lui, une grande partie des directeurs des programmes n'est pas professionnelle et ne connaît pas la loi sur la publicité. Ils négocient à genoux devant les annonceurs (les responsables de bureau de diamant) nantis qui imposent le prix et la durée de la publicité en lieu et place des responsables des chaînes.

C'est pourquoi le CSAC, comme le prévoit la loi de janvier 2011, qui dit que "toute publicité est soumise au contrôle", a procédé au contrôle de toutes les annonces jugées non conformes pour les adapter à la loi dans le fonds et dans la forme, et aussi des CV des directeurs des programmes. Celui qui ne remplit pas les conditions devra être déposé au profit de professionnels qui ont la carte nationale de presse ou qui sortent d'une école de formation en sciences de l'Information et de la communication pour avoir des interlocuteurs valables et maîtrisant la loi.

Des contrats de travail pour les journalistes

Pour parer au plus pressé, la commission doit assainir l'espace médiatique de toutes les publicités qui sont de nature à choquer les convictions morales, religieuses, philosophiques ou politiques du public comme le prévoit la loi qui, selon Hyppolyte Mutombo Mbwebwe, ministre provincial de la Communication et média, ancien journaliste, doit désormais être strictement appliquée. Pour Baba Isaac Kalonji de l'OMEC, le ton devra être donné par les autorités et les hommes politiques détenteurs de chaînes de radios et de télévisions "si l'exemple vient d'en haut, personne ne peut faire fi de la loi".

Outre les lois, la charte de l'Union nationale de la presse du Congo et le code d'éthique de déontologie du journaliste interdisent aux hommes des médias de donner leur voix pour faire de la publicité alors que des journalistes sont souvent utilisés comme publicistes en raison de leur popularité.

Selon D. Tshibamba le journaliste le fait souvent par manque de moyens pour nouer les deux bouts du mois. L'objectif du CASC est aussi de protéger les professionnels qui devront signer des contrats de travail avec le promoteur de leur média. Ceci obligera les employeurs à respecter leurs devoirs. "70% des hommes de médias de la ville n'ont pas signé de contrat de travail. C'est dans cette catégorie qu'on enregistre des dérapages".

Source: Syfia Grands Lacs, 25 oct. 2012

RESOURCE

FROM : 28/10/2012 [FR]

La radio face à la révolution numérique

<http://atelier.rfi.fr/profiles/blogs/radio20>

La semaine dernière, Paris accueillait pour la deuxième fois la rencontre Radio 2.0. L'Atelier s'est

associé aux organisateurs pour une table ronde spéciale Radio et interactivité avec les audiences. L'occasion de faire le point sur la manière dont le média radio négocie le virage numérique. Compte-rendu et enregistrement audio dans ce billet.

Texte complet, audio et source: Atelier des médias, Web-émission participative pour la communauté des médias et réseau social de rfi, 26 oct. 2012

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [FR]

Madagascar: Omert - Radio Taratra fermée, free fm doit repasser le test technique

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210280381.html>

L'équipe de l'Office Malgache d'Etude et de Régulation des Télécommunications (OMERT) a procédé hier à la fermeture de la Radio Taratra. Une station que Jean de Dieu Randimbisoa, Directeur de la Gestion des Fréquences auprès de l'OMERT considère comme une « radio pirate ». Et ce, dans la mesure où la station en question n'aurait reçu ni autorisation technique, ni autorisation administrative.

Selon ce responsable, la Radio Taratra n'aurait même pas obtenu un avis favorable émanant du ministère de la Communication. Dans sa lettre de mise en demeure adressée à cette station le 15 mai dernier, la Commission Spéciale à la Communication Audiovisuelle (CSCA) a notamment expliqué que « la Radio Taratra n'a reçu aucune autorisation émanant de l'autorité en charge de la régulation de l'audiovisuel à Madagascar ». A l'époque, les responsables de ladite station ont soutenu que 105.6 a obtenu une licence radio et une autorisation d'émettre du temps de l'ancien ministre, Félix Malazarivo, mais l'agrément a par la suite été suspendu.

80 stations fermées. Jean de Dieu Randimbisoa a également évoqué le cas de la Radio Free FM hier. D'après ses explications, « sur le plan administratif, cette station a respecté les procédures légales parce qu'elle utilise une licence appartenant à Technimad Radio. Par contre, si elle entend reprendre son émission avec de nouveaux matériels, Free FM devrait repasser un test de vérification technique et une procédure de contrôle de son émetteur ».

Faut-il rappeler que les matériels de cette station dirigée notamment par Lalatiana Rakotondrazafy et Fidèle Razara Pierre ont été saisis par l'Emmoreg au lendemain du coup d'Etat manqué du 1er RFI. Depuis 2009, de nombreuses stations audiovisuelles ont été sanctionnées, soit par la fermeture, soit par une lettre de mise en demeure émanant de la CSCA. Une entité composée entre autres, du ministère de la Communication, du ministère des Télécommunications, de l'OMDA et de l'OMERT.

On peut citer entre autres, le cas de la Radio Fahazavana appartenant à l'Eglise FJKM, fermée depuis juin 2010 et de la Radio Fotora du parti Vert, fermée au mois de septembre de la même année. Depuis le lancement du processus d'assainissement évoqué par le ministère de tutelle, près de 80 stations audiovisuelles ont été fermées à Madagascar.

Source: Midi Madagasikara (Antananarivo), 24 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [FR]

Burkina Faso: Rentrée radiophonique de Optima Fm

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210170971.html>

Après deux années d'exercice, la Radio Optima FM marque un arrêt à travers une rentrée radiophonique. Le top de départ des activités de ces journées portes ouvertes marquant l'intervention d'une nouvelle grille de programme pour une radio encore à l'écoute de ses auditeurs a été lancé le lundi 15 octobre 2012 par une conférence de presse organisée au sein de la radio à Ouagadougou.

Cela fait deux ans que la Radio Optima FM émettant sur la bande 106.8 FM à Ouagadougou et sur la fréquence 102.2 à Koudougou a fait son apparition dans le paysage médiatique au Burkina Faso. Pour répondre aux exigences des auditeurs dans un climat marqué par la concurrence, la radio fait une pause pour revoir ses priorités afin de répondre toujours présent dans le choix des émissions et dans la programmation des plages musicales, selon les mots du patron de la radio, Ambroise Tapsoba. Au cours d'une conférence de presse tenue le lundi 15 octobre 2012, au sein de la station à Ouagadougou, le directeur général a exposé aux hommes de médias les nouvelles grandes lignes de la grille des programmes qui vient d'être adoptée pour parfaire les attentes de son auditorat. Désormais, la majeure partie des émissions seront tournées vers le social, suivront les émissions politiques, élections couplées obligent et celles généralistes.

Concrètement, la station envisage de « dynamiser la cellule information, créer d'autres émissions de proximité et surtout d'interactivité, la formation de nos journalistes et certains animateurs,

l'exploitation d'autres domaines d'activités afin de permettre à nos auditeurs d'être au parfum de certains offres de service, etc. », a précisé Ambroise Tapsoba. Les auditeurs peuvent déjà noter de nouvelles émissions qui sont à l'affiche telles que « Actu-intégration » qui sera une émission sur les enjeux de l'intégration. Le monde féminin peut s'apprêter pour l'émission « Salut les copines » qui le permettra de s'exprimer sur sa vie sociale, ou bien « Ça bouge où ? » qui est une émission de détente que propose la station aux auditeurs, selon les organisateurs de cette conférence.

Le nouveau directeur de la radio, Aristide Ouédraogo, a exprimé son ambition de faire de sa radio un canal d'information en promettant des interventions en direct par le biais des correspondants ou journalistes sur place. Pour une première fois dans l'histoire des radios privées, la Radio Optima a opté d'optimiser ses efforts en évaluant sa grille annuelle par l'instauration d'une rentrée radiophonique. Les portes de la station resteront ouvertes du 25 au 28 octobre 2012 pour tous ceux qui auront envie de visiter ou même de participer à la réalisation en direct des émissions, d'avoir accès aux locaux de la Radio Optima FM.

Source: Le Pays (Ouagadougou), 16 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [FR]

Tunisie: Démission du directeur et du chef de service de la programmation de radio Sfax

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210181354.html>

Le directeur de Radio Sfax, Malek Riahi et le chef de service de la programmation à la même Radio, Henda Lassouad ont démissionné, jeudi de leurs postes, en raison du climat de tension qui règne, depuis plusieurs jours, dans cet établissement.

La direction de l'établissement de la Radio tunisienne a nommé Hichem Karray, qui occupait le poste de responsable du département d'informatique, à la tête de cette radio.

Source: Tunis Afrique Presse (Tunis), 18 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 28/10/2012 [FR]

Tunisie: Médias - Un technicien à la tête de radio-Sfax

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201210190795.html>

M. Hichem Karray a été nommé, hier, par la direction générale de la Radio tunisienne, directeur de Radio-Sfax. Le nouveau directeur de Radio-Sfax occupait le poste de responsable du département informatique au même média.

De son côté, les quelques mois qu'il a passés à la tête de Radio-Sfax semblent avoir été très difficiles. Il a fini par jeter l'éponge. Malek Riahi a préféré regagner son poste en tant que rédacteur en chef adjoint à radio jeune et de démissionner de son poste en tant que directeur de Radio-Sfax. Sa démission, devenue officielle hier, a été précédée par la démission du chef de la programmation de la même radio, Henda Lassoued, chose qui a rendu sa mission de plus en plus rude. Sans compter le manque de personnel, de moyens techniques, mais aussi de décentralisation au niveau de la prise de décision.

Contactée par téléphone, Mme Henda Lassoued a expliqué sa démission par le climat de tension qui règne au sein de l'établissement. Une tension nourrie de pressions exercées sur tous ceux qui veulent innover et être au service des auditeurs.

La brève expérience de Malek Riahi à la tête de Radio-Sfax a été marquée essentiellement par la diffusion des programmes radiophoniques, pour la première fois depuis le démarrage de cette radio, sans interruption. Basée sur un système numérique et technique de pointe, cette expérience a permis de développer de nouvelles possibilités de diffusion. Cela sans oublier l'enrichissement de la grille de la programmation par 18 nouveaux titres.

Il y a lieu de rappeler que de son côté, le directeur de Radio-Monastir a lui aussi démissionné de son poste quelques jours après sa nomination. La «moisson» des démissions semble commencer tôt pour les responsables de la Radio tunisienne !

Source: La Presse.tn (Tunis), 19 oct. 2012; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

RESOURCE

FROM : 29/10/2012 [FR]

RDC: En toute liberté" le livre de Freddy Mulongo sur United Radio, MBC, Radio Cité et Kanal K

<http://reveil-fm.com/index.php/2012/10/26/2986-en-toute>

Freddy Mulongo rigole lorsqu'on lui apprend que ses articles sont vendus à la criée par des jeunes débrouillards, vendeurs à la sauvette dans certains carrefours de Kinshasa. C'est lui qui a introduit et mis en exergue les informations de proximité à sa radio Réveil FM à Kinshasa, fermée en août 2007 par les autorités congolaises. Freddy Mulongo se dit journaliste citoyen et fouineur de l'information alternative. Il est comme une station service où quotidiennement les congolais et amis du Congo de partout au monde viennent puiser l'informations dans son site Réveil FM International. Après, son premier livre les "Dix Questions", le Congo post Joseph Kabilé par la diaspora congolaise, préfacé par Djamba Yohé et Nicoletta Fagiolo, ouvrage référencé à la rubrique 320. sciences politiques à la Bibliothèque Nationale Française (BNF), pour avoir interviewé 16 acteurs politiques congolais en exil. Freddy Mulongo récidive avec un second livre: "En toute liberté", citoyenneté, droits et libertés. Le journaliste-écrivain accrédité à l'hôtel Matignon et à l'ONU relate, apostrophe et interpelle sur la situation calamiteuse de la République démocratique du Congo. Alors que Floribert Chebeya était de passage à Paris, Freddy Mulongo l'a fait une photo à la place Bastille et cette photo qui a fait le tour du monde, représente désormais Chebeya, l'icône des droits de l'homme au Congo. Freddy Mulongo est un journaliste engagé, il s'en cache pas. Il est attaché au respect des droits de l'homme mais aussi à la liberté d'expression. [...]

Texte complet et source: Réveil-FM blog, 26 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 29/10/2012 [FR]

RDC: Une radio communautaire fermée pour avoir relayé les nouvelles d'un mouvement armé à Beni

http://www.jed-afrigue.org/fr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=997&Itemid=9&id_alerte=1142

Journaliste en danger (JED) s'insurge contre la décision prise samedi 27 octobre 2012 par M. Bwanakawa Masumbuko, maire de la ville de Beni, portant suspension à durée indéterminée de la radio Ngoma FM, station communautaire émettant à Beni, ville située à 300 Km de Goma, chef-lieu de la province du Nord-Kivu (Est de la RDC). Ce média est accusé d'avoir diffusé des nouvelles de « nature à perturber la paix et à créer la désharmonie du climat politique ».

Selon les informations parvenues à JED, Radio Ngoma FM a, dans son journal du vendredi 19 octobre 2012, diffusé une interview du colonel Ntahara Nyoro, porte-parole d'un mouvement armé dénommé « Union pour la Réhabilitation de la Démocratie au Congo (URDC) » qui a dénoncé l'incapacité du pouvoir en place de sécuriser les frontières de la RDC. La parole a été également accordée au colonel Célestin Ngeleka des Forces Armées de la RDC (FARDC) qui a déclaré que l'armée régulière est décidée à rétablir la paix à l'Est du pays.

Contacté par JED, M. Jules Mungwana, Directeur de Ngoma FM, a regretté la fermeture de son média en arguant que sa station n'a fait que son travail d'informer la population en croisant les différentes sources d'informations. « Nous avons d'abord contacté le colonel Ntahara Nyoro porte-parole de l'URDC qui nous a dit que la naissance de leur mouvement est une nouvelle option pour renverser le pouvoir en place qui est incapable de sécuriser les frontières de notre pays et qui n'arrive toujours pas à mettre fin à la crise sociale qui sévit au pays. De la même manière, nous avons accordé la parole au colonel Célestin Ngeleka qui nous a dit que l'armée régulière est entrain d'affûter les armes pour contrer cette nouvelle rébellion et rétablir définitivement la paix à l'Est de notre pays », a-t-il dit.

JED condamne fermement l'excès de zèle dont fait montre le Maire de Béni qui n'en est pas à son premier coup de force contre la presse.

JED demande surtout à l'instance de régulation des médias, le CSAC, de s'assumer en mettant fin à cette interférence d'un homme qui n'a ni qualité, ni compétence dans le travail de la presse.

Source: Journaliste en Danger (Kinshasa), 29 oct. 2012

ALERT

FROM : 30/10/2012 [FR]

RDC: Nord-Kivu : Le M23 présente des excuses après des menaces proférées contre des journalistes

<http://www.jed-afrigue.org/fr/>

Reporters sans frontières (RSF) et Journaliste en danger (JED) ont pris acte des excuses officielles présentées par un responsable de la rébellion armée du M23, après des menaces de mort contre des journalistes et des actes de harcèlement contre les médias enregistrés dans les zones sous contrôle de ce mouvement, dans la province du Nord-Kivu, à l'est de la RDC.

"Je tiens à dire que si cela est vrai, cela ne relève pas de la politique générale du M23. Cela n'est

pas l'option des responsables du M23. Et si cela est vrai, je tiens, au nom du M23, à présenter mes excuses aux journalistes qui ont été l'objet des menaces, et je promets de mener des enquêtes pour vérifier ces allégations, et nous allons sanctionner les auteurs", a déclaré Jean-Marie Runiga, coordinateur politique de ce mouvement armé lors d'une conférence de presse, le 20 octobre 2012 à Bunagana, une localité frontalière avec l'Ouganda et passée depuis plusieurs mois sous contrôle de ces mutins des forces armées congolaises.

Jean-Marie Runiga réagissait ainsi à la lettre conjointe qui lui avait été adressée, le 19 octobre, par RSF et JED dans laquelle les deux organisations lui avaient demandé de se désolidariser des propos et menaces proférés par certains responsables du M23 contre des journalistes travaillant dans les territoires sous contrôle de ce mouvement. Elles lui demandaient également d'user de toutes ses prérogatives pour assurer la sécurité physique de Jean-Baptiste Kambale, directeur de la Radio Communautaire Ushirika (RACOU) émettant à Rutshuru.

Jean-Baptiste Kambale a été menacé le mois dernier par certains cadres de ce mouvement armé suite à une série de reportages de la chaîne TV5 Monde montrant les exactions contre les populations civiles et autres violations des droits de l'homme commises par les troupes du M23.
Source: Journaliste en Danger (Kinshasa), 30 oct. 2012

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