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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

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News (Les nouvelles en français suivent)

ALERT FROM : 2011-03-21 [EN]

Ivory Coast: Radio station ransacked and burnt down

http://www.mediafound.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=649&Itemid=1

Armed men believed to be elements of the pro-Gbagbo Defence and Security Forces (FDS) on March 16, 2011 stormed the premises of Téré FM, a community radio station based in Williamsville in the commune of Adjamé ransacked and burnt down the radio station.

The Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA)'s correspondent reported that the armed youth took away the station's equipment before setting it ablaze.

Before the attack, the men opened fire on Café Téré which is within the same building as the radio station to disperse all the people in the vicinity.

The correspondent said the FDS, militiamen and mercenaries have been terrorising civilians in the area in recent times.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (Accra), 18 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-03-21 [EN]

Togo: Togolese authorities close down another radio station

http://www.mediafound.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=652&Itemid=1

Togolese authorities on March 16, 2011 closed down Radio Carré Jeunes, a community entertainment station, for an alleged "non-adherence to professional standards".

The Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA)'s correspondent reported that the regulatory body, the Post and Telecommunications Regulatory Authority (ART&P), which closed the station down, said it has given Radio Carré Jeunes up to July 2011, to meet its requirements.

This is the fourth station to be closed down by ART&P, which is being accused by SOS Journalistes en Danger media group, of arrogating to itself the powers of the High Authority for the Electronic Media and Communications (HAAC).

On December 29, 2010, ART& P closed down X-Solaire, Metropolis and Providence, following accusations of operating illegally since they did not have the required registration documents and standard broadcasting equipment.

Meanwhile SOS Journalistes en Danger has condemned the latest action of ART&P and has accused it of gagging the media in the country.

Source: Media Foundation for Western Africa (Accra), 18 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-03-21 [EN]

Rwanda: Muslim community launches website

<http://www.newtimes.co.rw/index.php?issue=14570&article=9010>

Rwanda Muslim Association, yesterday, officially launched a website that will help promote Islam as well as showcase roles of the Muslim community in the country's development.

The website www.ijwi-islam.org is in Kinyarwanda, with links to other international Muslim sites in several languages, including English and French.

"This site will educate, encourage use of ICT, as well as give correct information to anyone conducting a survey about Islam," said Sheikh Swaleh Habimana, the Mufti of Rwanda.

He added that besides religion, the site will also promote government programs like education,

health and contribute towards the fight against genocide ideology, among others.

"We shall have standby operators to attend to our subscribers on what we have termed as 'Live Chat' in various disciplines," he said.

Rwanda Development Board's website is also accessed through the site, something officials say, will help in informing and promoting RDB's activities.

The Minister in the President's Office in charge of ICT, Dr. Ignace Gatware, commended the Muslims for the development saying it's a great contribution to the country's vision 2020, especially in the use of ICT.

"The site has a unique and relevant structure that covers not only Islam as a religion, but also general issues that develop our country," Gatware said.

Officials said it took three years to develop this site and that it was a challenge coming up with the correct information in Kinyarwanda since Islamic books are mostly written in Arabic.

The launch was attended by the Mayor of Kigali City, Fidele Ndayisaba and Egyptian ambassador, Khaled Abdel Rahman, among others.

Source: The Sunday Times website (Kigali), 20 Mar. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-21 [EN]

Liberia: GOL to Take Over Star Radio?

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103211161.html>

The Board of Directors of NGO funded Star-Radio which was meant to assure its independence from government and other interferences, has received substantial government money in the tune of US\$100,000 now being used to payoff workers and employees, according to a reliable source.

"...What the government is trying to do is to find another NGO that will take over and run Star-Radio. But what do we do in the interim? The Board of Directors needs money to settle the arrears it owes the employees," Presidential spokesman Cyrus Badio told this paper Wednesday, when contacted.

This paper has gathered from credible sources that the Liberia Maritime Authority (LMA) recently pumped in about US\$50,000 that is now being used to pay off all employees and staff of Star Radio. Another US\$50,000 is expected soon, the source said.

With government money pumped into the station, via the LMA, , the source said, Star-Radio will likely cease to be an independent station as envisaged by its benefactor, Foundation Hirondelle, which stipulated that the station be devoid of any government interference.

Last week, the Press Union of Liberia (PUL) issued a press release in which it said it was convinced that the "...Government of Liberia is playing politics with the reopening of Star Radio, as evidenced by its half-hearted approach to the prolonged closure of the station in the face of public concerns". The PUL added that it "...believes the reopening of Star Radio only requires the willingness of the Government to let go of the station and not the amount of money President Sirleaf is thinking about..."

PUL: "...If we must accept the President's argument that the government does not want to interfere with the independence of Star Radio by providing money for its operation for which it is looking for an NGO to take over, then we like to urge the President to relieve herself of this burden by allowing the old management team to run the station.

"The old management team, minus the resigned James Morlu [who was at the center of the crisis], includes senior editors, program producers and radio engineers with many years of experiences," PUL said.

Since Foundation Hirondelle ended its operations with the station and folded up nearly three years ago, the station has been surviving on funds raised from professional services rendered through the ingenuity of the employees.

Source: New Democrat (Freetown), 17 Mar. 22011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-22 [EN]

Sudan: Rumbek Central County Teachers Receive Training in School Radio Programs

Lower Primary School teachers drawn from Rumbek Central County in Lakes State are receiving training in facilitating lessons through the radio.

The 4-day training has been organized by Southern Sudan Interactive Radio Instruction (SSIRI) in collaboration with Lakes State department of Alternative Education in the Ministry of Education.

Marial Santo Luke who works for the department of Alternative Education told Good News Radio that the ongoing training aims at helping teachers create quality and access to education, adding that this is the final training before the start of the radio programs.

Marial also said that this radio program initiative belongs to the Government of South Sudan and

the community, urging the teacher undergoing training to acquire skills for the benefit of the community now and beyond the mandate of the funding organization, that is, Education Development Centre (EDC).

Risper, a teacher at Rumbek Girls Primary School, said the workshop is progressing well, appreciating radio as a good instrument of communication.

She said that the school lessons through the radio enhance the fight against illiteracy and offer a good methodology in teaching.

Meanwhile, the EDC Outreach Coordinator in Lakes State, Reec Deng Reec, encouraged parents to send their children to school and to help their children remain focused on education.

He revealed that his organization will be conducting training to target facilitators for adult radio programs, reassuring the community that the Learning Village Radio Programs for adults will kick off soon on Good News Radio.

The training, scheduled to conclude this Saturday, has 30 participants in attendance.

Source: Radio Good News (Rumbek), 16 Mar. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-23 [EN]

Malawi: Malawi Broadcasting Corporation rebrands

<http://www.bizcommunity.com/Article/410/82/57893.html>

The Malawi Broadcasting Corporation (MBC), a state-controlled television and radio broadcaster has since last Friday, 18 March 2011, rebranded its television and radio services. In July last year, MBC, which was previously operating as Radio 1 and Radio 2, merged with Malawi Television and adopted the name MBCTV and MBC Radio 1 and MBC Radio 2. However, with the rebranding, the acronym MBC will only refer to the television services while the radio services have now rebranded to Radio One and Radio 2FM.

Workers from the radio service are, however, looking at the rebranding as efforts to kill the spirit that has seen the radio grow to where it is for close to five decades now.

Source: bizcommunity.com (Johannesburg), quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 22 Mar. 2011

ALERT

FROM : 2011-03-23 [EN]

Togo: Media outlets protest to demand reopening of three radio stations

http://www.ifex.org/togo/2011/03/22/protest_radio_station/fr/

On 10 March 2011, most privately-owned radio stations and newspapers in Lome, capital of Togo, suspended their normal activities in protest against the continued closure of three radio stations since December 2010.

The Media Foundation for West Africa's (MFWA) correspondent in Togo reported that while the radio stations played music throughout the day, the newspapers, with the exception of state-owned daily "Togo Presse" and the privately-owned "Forum de la Semaine", were not on the newsstands.

The correspondent said the decision of the journalists to suspend their programmes followed a declaration of "No Press Day" by the media group, SOS Journalistes en danger, to put pressure on the Posts and Telecommunications' Regulatory Authority (ART&P) to allow the stations to operate.

The radio stations, namely X-Solaire, Metropolis and Providence, were closed down on 29 December 2010 by the ART& P following accusations of operating illegally since they did not have the required registration documents and standard broadcasting equipment.

Since the closure of the stations, there has been a series of press conferences and demonstrations for them to be reopened but all have fallen on deaf ears.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (Accra) quoted by IFEX 22 Mar. 2011

ALERT

FROM : 2011-03-26 [EN]

Somalia: Radio journalist detained in Puntland

http://www.ifex.org/somalia/2011/03/23/abdi_farah_detained/

The National Union of Somali Journalists (NUSOJ) condemns the arrest and the detention of radio journalist Liban Abdi Farah, reporter of Somali Broadcasting Corporation (SBC) in Galkayo town of Mudug region.

Liban Abdi Farah was arrested on Friday, 19 March 2011, when he wanted to report on a bomb blast in Galkayo. Puntland police who came to the scene of the blast immediately arrested the journalist. His colleagues in Galkayo and from SBC were barred from visiting him in the police station, although his family members were allowed to see him.

"We condemn the arrest of Liban Abdi Farah and his continued illegal detention for three days. He was pursuing his journalistic work by reporting on what happened," said Omar Faruk Osman,

NUSOJ Secretary General. "We call on his immediate and unconditional release to end this detention which is against the law of Puntland".

According to the Puntland legal system, the journalist was expected to be brought to court within 48 hours from when he was arrested, which is not currently the case of Liban Abdi Farah. He was not formally charged by the law enforcement bodies of Puntland administration.

Source: National Union of Somali Journalists (Mogadishu), 23 Mar. 2011, quoted by IFEX

ALERT

FROM : 2011-03-26 [EN]

Uganda: Journalist detained for 48 hours after exposing wave of break-ins

http://www.ifex.org/uganda/2011/03/24/musisi_detained/

Police in Buwama, Mpigi district (80 kilometers south of Kampala), have arrested and detained Central Broadcasting Service (CBS FM) correspondent Yoweri Musisi over a story which alleged increased lawlessness in the area.

CBS FM is owned by the Buganda Kingdom.

Musisi was arrested on 19 March 2011 at 10:00 a.m. by armed policemen at Buwama trading centre on the orders of the officer in charge of the station, Abbey Ngaho.

Human Rights Network for Journalists-Uganda (HRNJ-Uganda) has learned that Musisi had filed a number of stories on the increasing wave of thefts and home break-ins in areas of Luwunga, Nkozi and Bwere.

Sources told HRNJ-Uganda that residents in these areas have been living in fear since the beginning of the year due to the likelihood of rape, with the offenders forcefully entering people's houses.

"When I was writing the previous story, I went to [see the officer in charge at the] Buwama police station (called Natukunda) with a complainant from Bwere village - Simon Peter Kawuki. He confirmed that police have recorded cases of theft and home invasions from such areas," said Musisi.

When HRNJ-Uganda visited Musisi at Buwama police station on 20 March 2011, he said he was not aware of any charges against him, despite being behind bars.

Ngaho told HRNJ-Uganda that Musisi was held on charges of "inciting violence" and "giving false information".

"He reported in the news that there were rebels in the area. He traded false information and we shall punish him for that," said Ngaho.

Musisi was released on bond on 21 March 2011 at 1:00 p.m. after being charged with giving false information.

"Police should not use laws to silence the voices of the people but rather to guard communities from criminal elements. People resorting to the media to express their concerns clearly indicates that the police has failed in its work or that people have lost trust in the institution of the police," said HRNJ-Uganda Programme Coordinator Geoffrey Wokulira Ssebagala.

HRNJ-Uganda challenges police to investigate and arrest all criminals who have been terrorizing communities rather than muzzling the voices of those who speak for the voiceless.

Musisi has been ordered to report to police on 24 March 2011 at 10:00am.

Source: Human Rights Network for Journalists (Kampala), quoted by IFEX, 24 Mar. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-26 [EN]

Namibia: Training at Karas community radio to improve health programmes for women and girls

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/en/ev.php-URL_ID=31302&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201.html

The Media and Training Centre for Health (an NGO based in South Africa) will conduct a five-day training workshop for volunteers at Karas FM community radio in Keetmanshoop (Karas region, Namibia) from 4 to 8 April 2011.

The training curriculum has been developed on the basis of the needs assessment, which was conducted last February with UNESCO's support among radio listeners and a wide range of stakeholders, including the management and volunteers from Karas FM. The training aims to address weak points that had been identified during this assessment.

The main objective of the upcoming workshop is to enable volunteers at Karas Community Radio Station to produce content that reflects the needs of the Keetmanshoop community. Volunteers will also learn how to involve listeners as active participants into the process of content development. The Karas radio station will be encouraged to build and maintain collaborative partnerships with key stakeholders operating in the health and development sectors. This process is expected to contribute to sustaining a learning programme that will enhance sensitization on key gender

inequalities within the community.

The training will be facilitated by representatives of the Media and Training Centre for Health, the Centre for Disease Control and the Karas Regional Council. Staff from Radio Riverside in Upington, South Africa, will share their experiences of implementing a community learning model that is funded by the Commonwealth of Learning.

This initiative lies within the framework of UNESCO's contribution towards the promotion of community participation in sustainable development through community media. It seeks the realization of the Millennium Development Goal 3 on gender equality and women's empowerment, with special focus on media-related issues.

Source: UNESCO Webworld, 24 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-03-28 [EN]

Gambia: GGA President Sues West Coast Reporter

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103280335.html>

The president of the Gambia Golf Association, Mr Ebrima Jawara, has instituted a civil suit against West Coast Radio's sports reporter, Bakary B Baldeh, at the Kanifing Magistrate Courts over a sports show he [Jawara] suggested made malicious comments about his personality.

Baldeh faces two charges - one count of conspiracy to commit felony and another to incite violence. He has entered a 'no guilty plea' for both charges. In his sports show on February 11, 2011, the West Coast sports reporter-cum-producer hosted two aggrieved golf caddies who used the show to criticise the Gambia golf chief for what the caddies described as an unfair treatment towards them during the Mariam Jammeh Golf tournament hosted at the Fajara Golf Club. Unsatisfied with the comments made about him, Jawara, the son of the former president Sir Dawda Kairaba Jawara, reported the matter to the Kairaba Police Station where the radio's chief executive officer, Peter Gomez, and the show moderator, Bakary B Baldeh, were invited for questioning. Gomez was later freed to leave after making a statement, while Baldeh was detained before appearing in court a few days later.

Three sittings had already elapsed with the next sitting scheduled for March 31, 2011. Meanwhile, Observer Sports has gathered that the embattled West Coast journalist has seized going to work since the start of the case, and when contacted yesterday from his home village of Essau, Baldeh confirmed his 'no-show' at work as he linked it to a legal advice from a colleague.

Source: The Daily Observer, 25 Mar. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM : 2011-03-28 [EN]

Somalia: Somali government detains Shabelle's director, news editor

<http://www.shabelle.net/article.php?id=4927>

The interim federal government of Somalia has arrested the director of Shabelle Media Network and news editor.

Abdirashid Omar Qase, the director of Shabelle Media Network, and station's news editor Abdi Mohammed Isma'il (Abdi Ud) were taken into custody by forces of TFG's national security agency. The ministry of information for the transitional federal government of Somalia on Thursday ordered TFG's national security agency (NSA) to call Shabelle Media Network's news editor to interrogate him about a report Shabelle had broadcasted.

The arrest of Shabelle's director and news editor came after reaching NSA headquarters in Mogadishu to respond questions about news story that the station has aired. But they had been taken into custody.

The ministry of information accused Shabelle of airing news story about Somali president, Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed has failed to visit to the frontlines of Mogadishu after his escorting military convoy had come under very heavy attack from Al shabaab fighters.

That news was aired by not only Shabelle Media Network but also local and international news-outlets including Voice of America.

In a letter from national security agency (NSA) on Thursday, the ministry of information of TFG ordered Abdi Mohammed Isma'il (ABDI UD), news editor of Shabelle, a local radio station bases in Mogadishu to come to the headquarter of NSA on Saturday morning (8am) on 26th March, 2011 to answer government's interrogations.

After negotiations, Shabelle administration and officials from NSA agreed to meet on today 27th March 2011.

However, Shabelle's director and news editor were taken into custody when they reached there. It is not still clear why Somalia's NSA had committed the arrest against Shabelle journalists.

Somali government has not released any comments about the incident.

Source: Shabelle Media Network (Mogadishu), website, 27 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-03-29 [EN]

Ethiopia: Training the trainers in Addis Ababa<http://weekly.farmradio.org/2011/03/28/training-the-trainers-in-addis-ababa/>

Farm Radio International has selected eight African broadcasters for special training at a two-week workshop in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The broadcasters are drawn from four countries and have a range of broadcasting and teaching backgrounds. They will become FRI's first training team in Africa. After the training, they will be available to spend one month at a time in FRI partner stations to help produce high quality farmer-focused programs. The training which began on 21 March and continues until 1 April, is being led by David Mowbray, FRI Training and Standards Manager, and Doug Ward, Chair of the FRI Board.

Source: Farm radio International, Farm Radio Weekly, Issue 150, 29 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-03-30 [EN]

Rwanda: Karongi gets community radio<http://www.newtimes.co.rw/index.php?issue=14579&article=39651>

Local authorities have announced that a community radio will go on air next month in Karongi District.

The International Research and Exchange Board (IREX), an international organisation, helped set up the radio Yves Ningabire, the district's Executive Secretary, welcomed the development.

"It's an important opportunity for us to involve the general public in the development of the district since this radio is an important tool in communication," he said.

Ningabire acknowledged that the much awaited radio station will help the population access a wide range of knowledge valuable for their social and economic well-being.

Robert Pearson, the president of IREX, re-affirmed his organisation's commitment to improve the media industry in the country.

"We are committed to provide all the necessary requirements that will enable the population to get maximum benefits from the radio station," he said.

Pearson cited new and modern technology, management and editorial skills as some of the immediate goals that will help the station get to its feet.

He added that IREX has over 20 media projects worldwide, including two community radio stations in Rwanda, located in Gicumbi and Karongi districts.

Protais Nyamurinda, the chairperson of Isangano Association that will run the radio station, observed that it would promote participation of the local population in good governance and enhance democracy.

"Without a radio, there is no effective livelihood in terms of socio-economic development which is a big challenge to participation in good governance due to ignorance and lack of efficient communication channels," Nyamurinda said.

Source: The New Times website (Kigali), 29 Mar. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 30 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Zanu (PF) jamming on VOA Studio 7<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/zanu-pf-jamming-on-voa-studio-7-report>

Relentless jamming by President Robert Mugabe's forces is depriving Zimbabweans of a wide array of free entertainment sources provided by foreign governments. Music and soccer have become the latest battlefronts, with talented musicians forced to sing praises of Mugabe while footballers play in tournaments named after him. But the latest deployment of Chinese-made jamming has forced even the VOA to acknowledge routinely in its Zimbabwe broadcasts that the waves are jammed.

An announcer is now regularly heard to say: "This is Studio 7 for Zimbabwe broadcasting on 909 AM, but due to jamming your best reception would be on Shortwave..." Zanu (PF) made external broadcasts a major issue during the negotiations for a settlement in 2008, demanding that they be banned.

Recently, the controversially-appointed Broadcasting Authority announced it was ready to take applications, which would be a first step for the so-called pirates to come home. None of the big players have taken up the offer, citing continued insecurity in the country and the sheer economics of setting up independent broadcasting in a collapsing economy.

Surprisingly, Zanu (PF) officials are clamouring to be heard on the Voice of America Studio 7, which is virtually banned in Zimbabwe by Mugabe's government. Recently, senior Zanu (PF) and pro-Mugabe officials Rugare Gumbo, Joram Gumbo, Mines Minister Obert Mpofu and Attorney General Johannes Tomana have freely given interviews to the 'pirates'.

Source: The Zimbabwean, quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 26 Mar. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe legislators fume over broadcasting delays<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/zimbabwe-legislators-fume-over-broadcasting-delays>

MDC MPs in Zimbabwe have expressed outrage at the continued delays by the government in issuing broadcasting licences to private players at a time when President Robert Mugabe has tightened his grip on the state-run ZBC. Member of Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Communications, Edward Msumbu (MDC-T, Norton) said he did not believe that Zanu (PF)'s previous paranoid fear of independent broadcasters was still the cause for the delay in the Broadcasting Authority of Zimbabwe (BAZ) issuing licences.

"It is accepted by the relevant authorities that licences should be given to broadcasters," Mr Msumbu said in an interview. "We don't know where the delay is. The broadcasters are assuring us that all the necessary equipment is there."

Radio VOP director John Masuku confirmed the position, saying the broadcasters were ready to start commercial FM stations any time. He lambasted BAZ for issuing a false statement saying they had opened up for applications.

Source: The Zimbabwean, quoted by Media network Blog Radio Netherlands, 27 Mar. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Zimbabwe: Zimbabwe Government says lack of infrastructure prevents broadcasting liberalisation<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/zimbabwe-government-says-lack-of-infrastructure-prevents-broadcasting-liberalisation>

Facilitate full liberalisation of airwaves, an official has said. Addressing Government officials and villagers at the commissioning of radio and television transmission equipment at Radar Farm in the watershed area of Bulilima District on Thursday, the Secretary for Media, Information and Publicity Mr George Charamba said Government wanted greater access to broadcast services. However, this was being hampered by the inadequate infrastructure.

"There is a lot of talk about the liberalisation of airwaves in the country. But before we allow more players to come aboard, there is need to invest in the infrastructure that will allow the new broadcasting stations to operate efficiently. At the moment the infrastructure we have does not allow us to do that," Mr Charamba said. He said those interested in establishing community broadcasting stations should organise themselves and come up with a licensable structure.

Mr Charamba stressed that community stations should not be hijacked to serve foreign interests. He said Government was committed to providing radio and television transmission services to all remote areas, starting with border towns. "We have come up with a deliberate policy to prioritise installation of broadcast transmission in the border towns countrywide and then move inland towards the cities. This is in recognition of the colonial legacy which has greatly affected people in remote areas since independence. Border towns have especially been de-nationalised for too long. We are now in charge of the country and cannot blame the past anymore. The time has come for us to rectify this colonial anomaly."

Mr Charamba emphasised the importance of communication to development. Transmedia Corporation board chairman, Dr Paul Chimedza, said they were committed to ensuring the whole country had radio and television transmission. "We know that people in remote areas have historically been denied the choice of accessing local broadcasting media and had to listen to foreign and hostile stations.

"Transmedia Corporation is determined to make a difference for the people of Zimbabwe," said Dr Chimedza. "New sites are being constructed to provide radio and television transmission to border areas such as Beitbridge, Mudzi, Victoria Falls, St Alberts in Dande Valley and Plumtree."

Dr Chimedza said illegal Western sanctions on Zimbabwe had hampered installation of equipment. He said they faced problems in sourcing equipment and funds because of the embargo. Transmedia chief executive officer Mrs Florence Sigudu Matambo said people in Plumtree could now tune into national radio and television stations. The television transmission covers a 70km radius while that radio coverage is 90km. Matabeleland South Governor Angeline Masuku said the transmission would off-set the chaos caused by pirate [sic] radio stations.

Source: The Herald - Published by the Government of Zimbabwe; quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 28 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Togo: Critical radio stations closed down with red tape excuseshttp://www.ifex.org/togo/2011/03/30/stations_closed/

Radio stations and newspapers in the capital of Togo suspended their normal activities for a day in March in protest against three radio stations having been shut down since December, report the Media Foundation for West Africa and Reporters Without Borders (RSF).

Following the media group SOS Journaliste en danger's declaration of a "No Media Day", radio stations only played music on 10 March, and most newspapers, with the exception of state-owned daily "Togo Presse" and the privately-owned "Forum de la Semaine", did not make it to the newsstands, says MFWA.

Along with sit-ins and protest marches, it was the latest campaign tactic used to try to save the radio stations X-Solaire, Metropolys and Providence, which were closed down on 29 December 2010 by the Posts and Telecommunications' Regulatory Authority (ART&P). ART&P allege they were operating illegally because they did not have the required registration documents and standard broadcasting equipment.

SOS Journaliste en danger said the closures are an attempt by the authorities to muzzle the stations, which were deemed critical of the administration of President Faure Gnassingbé.

MFWA reports that since the closure, station staff who have been trying to obtain the required documents have been met with "delay tactics from authorities."

MFWA and RSF report that a fourth radio station has since been closed by ART&P. The regulatory body said Carré Jeune, a community radio station offering entertainment programmes, did not respect professional standards.

In support of the campaign, RSF wrote to territorial administration minister Pascal Bodjona today asking him to explain the slowness of the administrative procedures.

"Considerations of a political nature should not give rise to conflicts of interest between Togo's governing class and media," the letter said. "On the contrary, the role of the authorities is to preserve freedom of expression and to guarantee the constitution."

Source: IFEX website, 30 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Lesotho: High-ranking police officer sues Harvest FM and radio presenterhttp://www.ifex.org/lesotho/2011/03/29/harvest_fm_lawsuit/

On 23 March 2011, popular private radio station Harvest FM received a civil summons in which the Assistant Commissioner of Police, Thakane Theko, is claiming M1,000,000 (approx. US\$145,000) for defamation with interest at a rate of 18.5% per annum a tempore morae (from the date of judgment).

Theko claims that on or around 20 October 2010, Harvest FM presenter Relebohile Moyeye wrongfully, unlawfully, and with intent to defame her, broadcast defamatory allegations on Harvest FM.

She claims the defendants, Moyeye and Harvest FM, made allegations that she was suspected of involvement in fraudulent activities. She claims Moyeye said her Strategic Management Support Services office, which Theko heads, is suspected of having been involved in corruption and fraudulent activities in the installation of a gate at a police headquarters.

Theko also claims Moyeye alleged that Theko was suspected of having corruptly awarded the M1,000,000 contract for installing the gate to her sister. She also claims that Moyeye and Harvest FM alleged that there was further suspicion that Theko was buying 9kg gas cylinders and freezer-suits at varying and surprisingly inflated prices.

She further claims that the station and its presenter made allegations that she was receiving bribes at a rate of M500 (US\$72) per person in connection with the recruitment of police officers.

When MISA-Lesotho contacted station manager 'Malichaba Lekhoaba, she said the above were presented as allegations before Moyeye contacted Police Spokesperson Inspector Masupha Masupha to reply to the allegations.

Masupha confirmed to MISA-Lesotho that Moyeye interviewed him on the said allegations and he broadcast his interview the following day word for word.

Source: Media Institute of Southern Africa quoted by IFEX, 29 Mar. 2011

RESOURCE FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

World: World TV and Radio Awards 2011 accepting entries

<http://ijnet.org/opportunities/world-tv-and-radio-awards-2011-accepting-entries-worldwide>

Broadcasters from public, private sector and freelance producers are invited to participate in the World TV and Radio Awards. [...] Radio awards will be given in three categories: best TV program designed for new media, best web radio and best radio program on forest issues.

The World TV and Radio Awards are supported by United Nations Environment Programme OzonAction, Arab States Broadcasting Union, France 24, Radio France International, Monte-Carlo Doualiya, Radio TV Malaysia, Commonwealth Broadcasting Association and AIBD.

Content must have been produced in the last 24 months before submission and material should be in English or with English subtitles or translations.

The deadline to submit abstracts has been extended to April, 25 2011.

Full report and source: IJNet website

RESOURCE FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Worldwide/Tunisia: Internews seeks journalist trainers

<http://ijnet.org/opportunities/internews-seeks-journalist-trainers-worldwide>

U.S. based media development agency Internews seeks journalists to train and mentor in a number of countries worldwide.

Internews, based in California, is currently seeking a number of media experts to work in local offices around the world.

The positions currently open range from radio producer and trainer in Tunisia, resident TV journalism adviser in Pakistan, new media advocate in Russia, health broadcast trainer in Kenya, content director in Afghanistan and project director in Jordan.

Source: IJNet website, 30 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

East Africa/Tanzania: New radio/TV station mooted for East African Community

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/new-radiotv-station-mooted-for-ea-african-community>

Media practitioners in the East African Region have called for the establishment of television and radio stations in Arusha to cater for the entire East African Community (EAC). It was among the recommendations that summed up the fourth East African Media Summit which was recently held at the Tsavo hall of the Hilton hotel in the Kenyan capital of Nairobi.

The proposed name for the two stations proposed to have frequencies covering all the five EAC member states is 'Redio (Televisheeni) ya Afrika Mashariki!'. Both the idea and the name was initially proposed by the Vice President of Kenya, Dr Stephen Kalonzo Musyoka who insisted that the two electronic media stations must broadcast in Kiswahili language and should be based in Arusha City where the EAC secretariat is also located.

"It is high time Kiswahili as our lingua franca is fully utilised to communicate to the ordinary East African citizens," said VP Musyoka, adding that the right medium through which community information and messages can be transmitted to the people is electronic media, especially radio which reaches both the literate and illiterate in the society.

More than 200 participants, including media owners, chief executives of media houses, publishers and editors from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and Rwanda had attended the last week's summit and together agreed that the radio and TV idea was good and should be worked upon immediately. It was also suggested that the proposed two electronic media outlets should be non-profit making, free of the usual entertainment programmes crowding current stations and be focused on mostly current affairs, news and educational programmes.

All delegates during the preceding discussions had very much voted in favor of the proposed Arusha-based regional media outlets with the exception of Innocent Muhozi, the Director of 'Renaissance Radio and TV' stations of Burundi who was of the view that such new outlets will have to struggle to establish a listeners' base and suggested that the EAC should instead empower existing media houses that already have listeners and viewers to broadcast matters related to the community.

Mr Muhozi was however overruled as almost all participants found the radio and television stations idea just too good and what such outlets were what the people in the community were missing.

Source: Arusha Times quoted by Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 28 Mar. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [EN]

Somalia: Two journalists freed in Mogadishu, two others still held in north<http://en.rsf.org/somalia-journalists-harassed-arrested-in-28-03-2011,39900.html>

Two journalists who were wrongfully arrested by the National Security Agency in Mogadishu on 27 March – Radio Shabelle manager Abdirashid Omar Qase and news director Abdi Mohamed Ismail – were released unconditionally yesterday.

Shabelle Media Network, which owns the station, thanked all those who condemned the detention of their employees and paid tribute to the courage of the many Somalis who demonstrated on the streets of Mogadishu in protest.

In a statement, the media company said: "Regardless of threat and acts of bullying that we are facing from those oppressing independent reporting media operating in Somalia, Shabelle Media network are committed to continue flying the flag of independent journalism in Somalia."

As previously reported, two other journalists, Liban Abdi Farah and Mohamed Abdinur Hashi, are being held in the northern regions of Puntland and Somaliland. Reporters Without Borders calls on the authorities to free them at once.

Source: Reporters without borders, 31 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Kenya: Court cases derail issuing of new broadcast licences<http://www.nation.co.ke/News/Court+cases+derail+issue+of+TV+licences+/-/1056/1135438/-/ed93tkz/-/index.html>

Court cases and the switch from analogue to digital television have derailed the issuance of broadcast licences to investors.

Investors seeking radio and TV licences will have to wait until a string of court cases challenging its new regulations are determined, according to Communications Commission of Kenya [CCK] Director-General Charles Njoroge.

Similarly, the process of shifting from analogue to digital television has made the commission stop issuing fresh licences until the infrastructure is in place.

Speaking in Mombasa on Tuesday [29 March] during a workshop on leadership and integrity and the Ministry of Information and Communication's role in the implementation of the new constitution, Mr Njoroge said CCK was not issuing any licences at the moment.

"The most critical programme now is to upgrade and replace the old infrastructure as the country embraces digital technology. We have a committee in place and it has up to 2015 to ensure the infrastructure is in place," Mr Njoroge said.

The digital broadcast signal was switched on in Kenya in December 2009 and is currently available in Nairobi and its environs through a platform operated by Signet - a subsidiary of state-owned Kenya Broadcasting Corporation.

Information Minister Samuel Poghiso said that critical legal framework would be required for the new constitution.

"We have had a series of meetings and have agreed on the need to build capacity where issues of professionalism and ethics are concerned and set up a taskforce to develop a policy paper on how to position media in the new constitutional dispensation," Mr Poghiso said.

Source: Daily Nation website (Nairobi), 29 Mar; 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 2 Apr. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Mozambique/USA: VOA in Mozambique rebroadcast deal

Voice of America's comprehensive coverage of global, regional and African news is now available on Top Radio 104.2 FM in Maputo, Mozambique.

VOA Portuguese Service director Ana Guedes says the partnership, which officially began Monday [28 March], "allows VOA and its network of correspondents in Africa and around the world, to offer a global perspective to the Maputo station." We are pleased to be working together with Top Radio, Guedes said, and hope listeners will enjoy VOA's coverage of international news and current affairs.

Top Radio, with its mix of youth and adult contemporary music, broadcasts in three languages, Portuguese, English and Changane.

Under the rebroadcasting agreement, Top Radio 104.2 FM will air VOA's Portuguese news and current affairs programme from 1930 to 2000 hours (7.30 p.m. to 8 p.m.) local time on Monday through Friday. A one hour VOA English lesson will air at 1800 hours (6 p.m.) Monday through Friday, and the VOA health show "Vida Sem Medo" will air from 1400 to 1600 (2 p.m. to 4 p.m.) Saturday afternoons.

The agreement also gives Top Radio full access to VOA's popular music programmes.

Carlos Henriques, regional adviser for VOA Audience Development, says, "Mozambique is an important market for VOA Portuguese Service programs and we are delighted to be on Top Radio 104.2 FM with a full range of VOA content."

Top Radio station manager David Muianga, says, "We are consolidating the promotion of social values by integrating the VOA programming on Top Radio, and therefore offering to our listeners and the general public, in particular in the Maputo City and Maputo province area, news and information that is up-to-date and credible."

VOA Portuguese brings comprehensive world and regional news and information to Lusophone Africa including Angola, Mozambique, Sao Tome and Principe, Guinea Bissau and Cape Verde. For more information visit: www.voanews.com/portuguese. For more information on Top Rádio visit: www.topradio.co.mz.

Source: Voice of America press release (Washington), 29 Mar. 2011; quoted by BBC Monitoring 2 Apr. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Benin: RFI programme about president's reelection mysteriously disrupted

<http://en.rsf.org/benin-nouvelle-traduction-une-emission-31-03-2011,39922.html>

Local retransmission of Radio France Internationale (RFI) was disrupted in Cotonou on the morning of 29 March just as it was broadcasting a phone-in programme focussing, on this occasion, on Bénin's 13 March presidential election, the result of which is disputed by the opposition. Called "Appels sur l'actualité" and hosted by Juan Gomez, the programme is extremely popular in Africa. According to the official figures, President Boni Yayi won the election outright with 53 per cent of the vote in the first round. The police used force to disperse opposition protests this week challenging the result.

Seydou Choubade, a reporter for the daily *Le Nokoué*, and Séverin Gandonou, a photographer with the daily *24 heures au Bénin*, were attacked and injured by police while covering one of these demonstrations on 24 March.

"It is hard not to think that the disruption of RFI's signal was deliberately engineered by the authorities," Reporters Without Borders said. "RFI was cut in Bénin at the exact moment that a debate was to have been held about current events in Bénin. Did they want to prevent listeners from commenting about the election results, voicing their suspicions and expressing their anger to the outside world? We urge the government to explain this temporary suspension without delay."

It is the second time in less than a year that the French international radio station's broadcasts have been disrupted in Bénin. Local retransmission of RFI was suspended for half a day in August 2010 after it broadcasted a report by its Cotonou correspondent about a complaint against the president that opposition parliamentarians had brought before the high court.

The complaint concerned the alleged involvement of senior government officials in a case of embezzlement by a local NGO, ICC Services. Local retransmission of RFI resumed after the French ambassador interceded.

Source: Reporters without borders (Paris), website, 31 Mar. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Ivory Coast: Ouattara supporters seize RTI in Ivory Coast

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/ouattara-supporters-seize-rti-in-ivory-coast>

Ivory Coast forces backing election winner Alassane Ouattara have seized the state broadcaster RTI and attacked incumbent leader Laurent Gbagbo's residence and presidential palace amid heavy fighting. Television broadcasts were halted at about midnight local time as heavy artillery fire and explosions shook buildings.

The TV and radio stations appear to be still off the air. The RTI website is accessible, albeit very slowly, but the radio and TV streams are all silent. The website appears not to have been updated since the pro-Ouattara forces seized control.

Source: Media network Blog Radio Netherlands, 1 Apr. 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Lybia: Misrata radio station plans broadcasts in English/French

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/misrata-radio-station-plans-broadcasts-in-englishfrench>

The nascent independent media movement in Misrata, 214 kilometres (132 miles) east of Tripoli, now includes three radio stations including one that reaches outside Libya. They have plans to start doing some broadcasts in English and French.

Source: AFP)

Andy Sennitt - Radio Nederland) comments: It's not clear whether the 'one that reaches outside Libya' means a mediumwave station, or if there is a shortwave transmitter available. I think the latter is unlikely, and it probably refers to one of the high power mediumwave stations. Does anyone have further information?

Source: Media network Blog Radio Netherlands, 1 Apr. 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Angola: Journalist Highlights Importance of Community Radios

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201103310603.html>

The journalist Alexandre Solombe said Wednesday, at a national conference, that community radios are important because they convey information related to the reality of local communities. Speaking at the National Conference on right to information and community media, he underlined that that these information media touch on matters related to the countryside and local areas.

"In other countries there is an effort from the society to help these radios so that they can be heard. At the level of the African continent community radios are not yet well acknowledged" he said. Angola has some community radios in the provinces of Luanda, Benguela and Huila.

The meeting was attended by members of the civil society, political parties, NGOs and journalists. The meeting will end this Thursday.

Source: Angola Press Agency (Luanda), 31 March. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Angola: Nation Has Resources to Create Community Radios

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104010059.html>

The member of the Political and Social Observatory (OPSA), Fernando Pacheco, said Thursday in Luanda, Angola has human resources capable of establishing community radios.

Fernando Pacheco was speaking during a presentation on "Community journalist - role and influence in the process of democratic development", at the National Conference on Community Media.

In his address, Fernando Pacheco said however that the creation of community radios requires the Angolan Government to facilitate their process of legalisation.

He said it is a must that communities gain radios so they can share their concerns.

The conference was meant for an analysis of the state of the right to information and community media in Angola, promotion of debates and exchange of experience with other countries of the region and recommendations for the Government to facilitate the acces to information and community media.

The event was attended by members of the civil society, political parties, NGOs and journalists.

Source: Angola Press Agency (Luanda), 31 Mar. 2011; quoted and distributed by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [EN]

Sudan: Youth Group Launches Anti-Government Radio on Short Waves

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201104010549.html>

A Sudanese anti-government youth group announced on Thursday that it has launched a radio on short wave frequencies across the country in order to drum up support for regime change, a bold bid to challenge state control over broadcast media outlets in the country.

Worsening economic conditions manifested in sharp increases in food prices compounded by a glum mood following the secession of the oil-producing south in a referendum held last January have stoked dissent in north Sudan.

A clutch of anti-government youth groups have emerged and are actively attempting to galvanize support for a popular uprising against the 22-years old rule of President Omer Al-Bashir government inspired by current revolts in the region.

However, their few attempts to stage anti-government protests over the last two months had failed to take on a mass appeal and were swiftly squashed by the authorities.

One youth opposition group known as Youth for Change, the shorthand of which is Shararah [Arabic for spark] has taken the battle to a whole new level by announcing the launch of its radio programming on short waves across the country.

Breaking the news via a statement on its Facebook-based page, Shararah said its radio broadcasts would start on short waves frequencies across the country as of Thursday, March 31.

According to the group's statements, the radio programming would be broadcasted every Tuesday,

Thursday and Saturday for 30 minutes starting at 6:30 pm [local time] and can be heard on 15540 kHz.

"We urge our listeners in all parts of Sudan to follow our broadcasts and provide us with information on whether our broadcasts have reached all [target] areas" the group's statement said.

"The service will cover all parts of Sudan in a continuation of the tremendous efforts exerted by different segments of the society, especially youth groups, in order to get rid of the [National Islamic] Front regime to extricate Sudan from this dark abyss," the statement added.

The group further asked those wishing to contribute to the radio or send audio materials to contact it through the following e-mail: syr.radio@gmail.com

It is not clear whether Shararah radio's broadcasts will be relayed from inside or outside the country, but Sudanese authorities have in the past successfully blocked the operation of radios it deemed hostile to the government, especially in the densely-populated Khartoum state.

Unlike print-media which enjoys relative freedom in Sudan, broadcast media is tightly controlled by the state and heavily regulated by the National Telecommunication Corporation, which also filters and monitors internet content.

There are 16 radio stations broadcasting on FM frequencies in the capital Khartoum, almost all of them focus their programming exclusively on entertainment, religious affairs or sport.

Source: Sudan Tribune, 31 Mar. 2011; quoted by allAfrica.com

NOUVELLES

ALERT

FROM : 2011-03-21 [FR]

Côte d'Ivoire: Une station de radio pillée et incendiée

http://www.ifex.org/cote_divoire/2011/03/17/konan_in_hiding/fr/

La correspondante de la Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA) rapporte [...] par ailleurs, des hommes armés qui seraient des éléments des Forces de Défense et de Sécurité pro-Gbagbo (FDS) ont, le 16 mars, envahi les locaux de Téré FM, une radio communautaire, sise à Williamsville (commune d'Adjamé), et ont pillé et incendié la station de radio.

La correspondante de la MFWA a rapporté que les jeunes armés ont emporté les appareils de la station avant de mettre le feu au bâtiment.

Avant l'attaque, les hommes ont ouvert le feu sur le Café Téré, qui se trouve dans le même bâtiment que la station de radio, afin de disperser toutes les personnes qui se trouvaient dans les environs.

La correspondante a affirmé que les FDS, les miliciens et les mercenaires martyrisent les populations civiles du quartier ces derniers temps.

Texte complet et source: Media Foundation for Western Africa (Accra, Ghana) repris par IFEX, 17 mars 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-21 [FR]

Sénégal: L'Institut Panos lance un nouveau projet médias

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103161066.html>

L'Institut Panos Afrique de l'Ouest (IPAO) compte développer avec son nouveau projet médias de nouveaux formats radios participatifs dans le cadre général de la mise en place de clubs radios citoyens, a annoncé mercredi à Dakar Libasse Hanne, le chargé de son programme bonne gouvernance.

"Nous comptons avec ce projet, consolider l'introduction de nouveaux formats radios participatifs comme l'utilisation des témoignages oraux dans les documentaires radios et la mise en place de clubs radios citoyens qui vont collaborer avec les radios communautaires", a-t-il déclaré.

L'Institut Panos Afrique de l'Ouest (IPAO) et l'ambassade des Pays-Bas à Dakar ont procédé le même jour au lancement d'un projet de "renforcement du rôle des médias et de la société civile du Sénégal, pour la transparence dans la gestion des ressources publiques et le contrôle citoyen".

Selon le chargé du programme bonne gouvernance de l'IPAO, cette initiative va permettre une interaction en vue d'interpeller les élus sur la gestion des ressources publiques.

Libasse Hanne a précisé que ce projet a notamment pour objectif le "renforcement des capacités des médias à produire une information documentée" et "le renforcement de capacités des organisations de la société civile à la base".

"Nous voulons faire que les citoyens soient des acteurs des médias dans la gestion des ressources publiques", a-t-il expliqué.

Prenant la parole à la suite de M. Hannne, Diana Senghor, directrice de l'IPAO, a relevé pour le déplorer le fait que les citoyens ne sont pas informés comme il le faut sur la destination des budgets votés.

"Le Sénégal se trouve confronté dans la transparence dans l'information et des garanties à apporter. Il y a un rôle que les journalistes doivent jouer dans la durée", a-t-elle soutenu.
Source: Agence de Presse Sénégalaise (Dakar), 16 mars 2011, repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM : 2011-03-23 [FR]

Togo: Les médias protestent pour la réouverture de trois stations de radio

http://www.ifex.org/togo/2011/03/22/protest_radio_station/fr/

Le correspondant de la Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA) au Togo a rapporté que tandis que les stations de radio ont joué de la musique toute la journée, les journaux, à l'exception de "Togo Presse", un quotidien d'État, et "Forum de la Semaine", un quotidien privé, n'étaient pas dans les kiosques.

Le correspondant a informé que les journalistes ont décidé de suspendre leurs programmes, suite au lancement d'une "journée sans presse" par le groupe de média SOS journalistes en danger pour faire pression sur l'Autorité de Réglementation des Secteurs des Postes et Télécommunications (ART&P) afin qu'elle permette aux stations de fonctionner.

Les stations de radio, à savoir X-Solaire, Metropolis et Providence, ont été fermées le 29 décembre 2010 par l'ART&P pour fonctionnement illégal puisqu'elles ne disposaient pas de récépissés requis et d'équipements de radiodiffusion classiques.

Depuis la fermeture des stations, il y a eu une série de conférences de presse et de manifestations pour réclamer leur réouverture. Toutefois, elles sont toutes tombées dans l'oreille d'un sourd.

Source: Media Foundation for Western Africa (Accra), repris par IFEX - International Freedom of Expression Exchange Clearing House, 22 mars 2011

NEWS FROM : 2011-03-26 [FR]

Tunisie: Création de l'Observatoire de la déontologie du journalisme

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103240572.html>

L'Observatoire de la déontologie, créé au sein du Syndicat national des journalistes tunisiens (Snjt), vient d'élire sa commission administrative et instituer sept commissions spécialisées.

Le Snjt précise, dans un communiqué rendu public, hier, que ces commissions sont :

- La commission de la presse quotidienne et des agences de presse
- La commission de la presse hebdomadaire et de la presse des partis
- La commission des médias radiophoniques
- La commission des médias télévisés
- La commission de la presse électronique
- La commission de la presse régionale
- La commission des relations avec la société civile.

Le Snjt appelle les journalistes, les différentes composantes de la société civile et l'opinion publique à contribuer à l'enrichissement de l'action de l'Observatoire par leurs suggestions et leurs points de vue concernant les éventuelles carences ou lacunes dans l'exercice de la profession de journaliste.

A cet effet, le Snjt rappelle l'adresse de l'Observatoire à son siège au 14, avenue des Etats-Unis d'Amérique, Tunis-Belvédère 1002, et son adresse électronique "Observatoiresnjt@gmail.com"

Source: La Presse (Tunis), Communiqué de presse du SNJT, 24 mars 2011; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS FROM : 2011-03-26 [FR]

Namibie: Formation à la radio communautaire de Karas pour améliorer les programmes sur la santé

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/fr/ev.php-URL_ID=31302&URL_DO=DO_PRINTPAGE&URL_SECTION=201.html

L'ONG sud-africaine Media and Training Centre for Health organise un atelier de formation de cinq jours pour les bénévoles de la radio communautaire Karas FM, du 4 au 8 avril 2011 à Keetmanshoop (région de Karas, Namibie).

Le programme de formation a été mis au point à partir des résultats de l'évaluation des besoins effectuée en février dernier, avec le soutien de l'UNESCO, auprès des auditeurs de la radio et de nombreux acteurs, y compris les responsables et les bénévoles travaillant à Karas FM. La formation est destinée à résoudre les points faibles relevés au cours de l'évaluation.

Le principal objectif de l'atelier est de donner aux bénévoles de la radio communautaire les moyens pour produire du contenu répondant aux besoins de la communauté de Keetmanshoop. Ils apprendront également à faire des auditeurs des participants actifs du processus de développement de contenu.

La radio Karas FM sera encouragée à nouer et cultiver des partenariats de collaboration avec les principaux acteurs des secteurs de la santé et du développement. Cette démarche doit contribuer à développer une programmation pédagogique pour sensibiliser la communauté aux grandes questions d'inégalité des genres.

La formation sera animée par des représentants du Media and Training Centre for Health, du Centre for Disease Control et du Conseil régional de Karas. Des membres de la Radio Riverside à Uppington (Afrique du Sud) feront part de leur expérience concernant la mise en œuvre d'un modèle d'apprentissage communautaire financé par le Commonwealth of Learning.

Ce projet s'inscrit dans le cadre de l'action de l'UNESCO pour promouvoir la participation des communautés au développement durable au moyen des médias communautaires. Il s'agit aussi d'une contribution à la réalisation de l'Objectif 3 du Millénaire pour le développement en faveur de l'égalité des sexes et de l'autonomisation des femmes, notamment dans les médias.

Source: UNESCO Webworld, 24 mars 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-03-29 [FR]

Centrafrique: Atelier de formation sur le traitement journalistique des Droits de l'Homme

L'Institut Panos Paris organise à Bangui, du 31 mars au 06 avril 2011, un atelier de formation sur le traitement journalistique de la thématique "Droits de l'Homme". L'atelier regroupera une vingtaine d'étudiants en journalisme et des professionnels des médias de la République Centrafricaine.

Cet atelier s'inscrit dans le cadre du nouveau projet de l'Institut Panos Paris en Centrafrique intitulé « PROJET DE FORMATION PRATIQUE SUR LE JOURNALISME SENSIBLE AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME »

Il s'agit d'un projet pédagogique en appui au Département des Sciences de l'Information et de la Communication de l'Université de Bangui. Il vise à former les étudiants et journalistes dans la collecte et le traitement des informations relatives aux droits de l'homme à travers la production d'une publication et d'émissions radios bimensuelles ; à encourager la diffusion d'informations de qualité sur les droits de l'homme auprès d'un public élargi et à favoriser des échanges et interactions entre les étudiants, les professionnels des médias, les associations de la société civile et les institutions étatiques autour de questions relatives à la situation de droits de l'homme en Centrafrique. Il bénéficie de l'appui financier de l'Union Européenne et de Cordaid pour la période allant de février 2011 à juillet 2012.

Source: Pascal Chirhalwirwa, coordinateur des projets en République Centrafricaine, Institut Panos Paris, Communiqué, 28 mars 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-01 [FR]

Sénégal: La radio communautaire thématique "Cayar FM" bientôt lancée

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201103300534.html>

"Cayar FM", une nouvelle radio communautaire thématique axée sur les questions de pêche et d'environnement, vient d'obtenir sa fréquence et va bientôt commencer à émettre sur la 89.1 Mhz, annonce un communiqué transmis mardi à l'APS.

Lancée et financée par le WWF WAMER avec l'appui des populations et de la mairie de Cayar (58 Km de Dakar), "cette radio communautaire était fort attendue (dans la commune) et ses environs. Elle vient combler un gap car aucune radio jusqu'ici n'émet à partir de Cayar", précise la même source.

En outre, souligne le texte, "Cayar qui est une zone de pêche fait face à d'énormes défis dans la gestion et l'exploitation des ressources halieutiques et la gestion de l'environnement".

Selon le responsable de la pêche durable du WWF, Dr Ibrahima Niamadio, cité dans le communiqué, "la radio communautaire va contribuer à une meilleure sensibilisation des acteurs pour des pratiques de pêche durable, à la résolution des conflits et à une amélioration de l'hygiène et de l'assainissement du cadre de vie et à une valorisation des opportunités socio-économiques des communautés des pêcheurs".

A Cayar, la création de la radio communautaire intervient à la suite d'autres réalisations de WWF : une mutuelle d'épargne et de crédit, l'appui aux organisations de pêcheurs, la gestion des ordures ménagères et à l'aire marine protégée, ainsi que la construction des fours.

Source: Agence de Presse Sénégalaise (Dakar), 29 mars 2011; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [FR]

Somalie: Les deux journalistes de Radio Shabelle libérés, deux autres toujours détenus en province<http://fr.rsf.org/somalie-les-journalistes-cibles-du-28-03-2011,39895.html>

Abdirashid Omar Qase et Abdi Mohamed Ismail, respectivement directeur et rédacteur en chef de Radio Shabelle, tous deux injustement arrêtés par la National Security Agency le 27 mars 2011, à Mogadiscio, ont été relâchés sans condition le 30 mars.

Le Shabelle Media Network a adressé des remerciements à tous ceux qui se sont mobilisés pour ses deux employés, soulignant le courage de la population somalienne, qui a été nombreuse à manifester dans les rues de Mogadiscio.

"Malgré les menaces et les intimidations que nous subissons de la part de ceux qui répriment les médias indépendants en Somalie, nous continuerons à porter haut le drapeau du journalisme indépendant dans notre pays", a déclaré le Shabelle Media Network.

Reporters sans frontières rappelle que deux autres journalistes, Liban Abdi Farah et Mohamed Abdirun Hashi, sont actuellement détenus au Puntland et au Somaliland. L'organisation demande aux autorités de ces deux régions leur libération immédiate.

Source: Reporters sans frontières, 31 mars 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-01 [FR]

RDC: Un journaliste empêché de quitter Kindu après avoir reçu de graves menaceshttp://www.jed-afrique.org/fr/index.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=997&Itemid=9&id_alerte=950

Modeste Shabani, directeur de la Radio Sauti ya M'kaaji, une station communautaire émettant à Kasongo, un territoire situé à 250 kms de Kindu, capitale de la province de Maniema, à l'est de la RDC, n'a pas pu quitter la ville de Kindu ce vendredi matin 1er avril 2011, pour se rendre à Kinshasa, capitale de la RDC, où il était attendu pour participer à un atelier organisé par Journaliste en danger (JED) dont il est le correspondant.

Son billet de voyage lui a été arraché au pied de l'avion par un agent de la Direction Générale des Migrations (DGM) qui lui a dit agir sur ordre de sa hiérarchie. Shabani a été ensuite conduit au bureau du chef de poste de la DGM où il a été retenu pendant plusieurs heures, sans aucune explication.

Depuis mercredi 30 mars 2011, le journaliste était l'objet des menaces répétées provenant de plusieurs autorités politiques et administratives de la province, dont le gouverneur de province lui-même, lui promettant de l'arrêter et de fermer sa radio.

Ces menaces faisaient suite à la diffusion, mardi 29 mars 2011, par Radio Sauti ya M'kaaji, dans son journal de 19 heures, d'un extrait d'une interview de M. Vital Kamerhe, ancien président de l'Assemblée nationale, et ancien membre du parti présidentiel, depuis, passé dans l'opposition au président Joseph Kabila, sur son projet de société. Après la diffusion de cette interview, un autre membre du parti présidentiel, M. Didier Manara, député national, est intervenu le lendemain sur la même station pour diffuser un droit de réponse. Mais en dépit de tout cela, le journaliste a continué à recevoir des menaces de plusieurs sources anonymes.

Contacté, vendredi matin par JED pour connaître les raisons de ces attaques dirigées contre un journaliste qui n'a fait que son travail, le gouverneur de province Pascal Tutu Salumu a nié toute implication dans cette affaire. Quant à Shabani, il s'est dit victime d'une machination orchestrée par les autorités provinciales qui tiennent à museler la presse, et à empêcher l'opposition de s'exprimer.

JED dénonce avec la plus grande vigueur toutes ces menaces à l'intégrité physique du journaliste Modeste Shabani qui est ainsi pris en otage dans sa propre ville. JED demande à toutes les autorités provinciales concernées de lever immédiatement toutes les mesures qu'elles ont prises pour empêcher le journaliste de se mouvoir et de vaquer librement à ses occupations professionnelles.

Source: Journaliste en danger (Kinshasa), 1 avr. 2011

ALERT FROM : 2011-04-02 [FR]

Bénin: Une émission de RFI sur la réélection du président Boni Yayi "mystérieusement" perturbée<http://fr.rsf.org/benin-une-emission-de-rfi-sur-la-31-03-2011,39921.html>

Le 29 mars 2011, dans la matinée, l'antenne de Radio France Internationale (RFI) a été perturbée à Cotonou, à l'heure de diffusion de l'émission "Appels sur l'actualité", de l'animateur Juan Gomez.

Celle-ci était consacrée à l'élection présidentielle du 13 mars dernier, qui a vu la réélection, au premier tour, avec 53% des suffrages, du président sortant, Boni Yayi. Ces résultats ont été contestés par des partis de l'opposition qui, au cours de la semaine, ont organisé des manifestations durement réprimées par les forces de l'ordre.

Le 24 mars, deux journalistes couvrant l'une de ces manifestations ont été pris à partie et blessés par la police. Il s'agit de Seydou Choubade, journaliste au quotidien Le Nokoué, et Séverin Gandonou, photjournaliste au quotidien 24 heures au Bénin.

"Appels sur l'actualité", émission phare de RFI et connaissant un fort succès en Afrique, est le rendez-vous interactif des auditeurs de cette station.

"Il est difficile de ne pas penser que cette perturbation fait suite à une intervention volontaire des autorités. RFI a été coupée au Bénin à l'heure exacte où allait se tenir un débat sur l'actualité dans le pays. A-t-on voulu empêcher les auditeurs de commenter les résultats de l'élection, d'exprimer leurs doutes, et d'informer l'opinion internationale sur leurs ressentiments ? Nous demandons aux autorités béninoises de fournir sans délai des explications sur cette suspension temporaire d'antenne", a déclaré Reporters sans frontières.

C'est la deuxième fois en moins d'un an que l'antenne de RFI est perturbée au Bénin. Au mois d'août 2010, la station internationale avait vu ses émissions suspendues arbitrairement, pendant une demi-journée, suite à un reportage de sa correspondante à Cotonou faisant état des poursuites engagées, devant la Haute Cour de justice, par des députés de l'opposition contre le chef de l'Etat. Cette démarche de l'opposition faisait suite à une vaste affaire d'escroquerie connue sous le nom d'"Affaires ICC Services", impliquant des personnalités au sommet de l'Etat. RFI avait pu émettre à nouveau suite à une intervention de l'ambassadeur de France au Bénin.

Source: Reporters sans frontières (Paris), website, 31 mars 2011

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [FR]

Afrique/France: Théogène Karabayinga nous a quittés: «de Mille soleils à la mémoire sonore de l'Afrique

http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20110328-theogene-karabayinga-rfi-nous-quitte?ns_campaign=editorial&ns_mchannel=reseaux_sociaux&ns_source=FB&ns_linkname=20110328_theogene_karabayinga_rfi_nous_quitte&ns_fee=0

Une grande voix de RFI s'est éteinte. Théogène Karabayinga, journaliste à RFI, longtemps présentateur de l'émission « Mille Soleils », diffusée sur de nombreuses radios partenaires de RFI en Afrique, et producteur du coffret « Mémoires de tirailleurs » est mort dimanche 27 mars. Thierry Perret, qui a longtemps travaillé à ses côtés, revient sur le parcours de celui que ses amis appelaient tout simplement «Théo».

Texte complet et source: RFI website, 31 mars 2011; info transmise à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakité (Abidjan)

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [FR]

Guinée: Conseil National de la Communication - Avertissement à la radio "Espace FM"

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201104010288.html>

Le conseil national de la communication CNC vient d'adresser un avertissement écrit à la radio Espace FM. La décision qui vient de tomber ce jeudi 31 mars est signée de Martine I. Condé, la Présidente de l'institution de régulation des médias en Guinée.

Cette décision dont nous nous sommes procurés copie stipule que "la radio Espace FM reçoit un avertissement pour violations répétées des règles de l'éthique et de la déontologie dans son émission "les grandes Gueules".

"Plusieurs avertissement verbaux adressés à Espaces FM n'ont pas eu d'effet. C'est ce qui justifie cet écrit" explique-t-on au CNC.

Au courant de la matinée, cette radio avait passé une longue interview de Tibou Kamara, ex-membre de la junte et proche du Général Sékouba Konaté dont la gestion de la transition continue d'être critiquée et déplorée par les Guinéens et le Gouvernement d'Alpha Condé, confrontés à sérieux problème de liquidité et d'inflation.

Source: Aminata.com (Conakry), 31 mars 2011. repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2011-04-02 [FR]

Angola: L'Angola est en mesure d'ouvrir des radios communautaires

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/201104010796.html>

Le membre de l'Observatoire politique et social de l'Angola (OPSA), Fernando Pacheco, a déclaré jeudi, à Luanda, que le pays dispose de ressources humaines pour la mise en œuvre des radios communautaires.

Fernando Pacheco a tenu ces propos au cours d'un débat sur "Journaliste communautaire - son rôle et influence dans les processus de développement et de la démocratie" inscrit dans le cadre de la conférence nationale sur les médias communautaires, qui a eu lieu mercredi et jeudi à Luanda. Pendant la conférence, Fernando Pacheco a souligné qu'il ne suffit pas seulement d'ouvrir les radios communautaires, il est encore nécessaire que le Gouvernement angolais facilite le processus de légalisation.

Selon l'orateur, il est important que la communauté aie une station de radio communautaire pour permettre à chaque habitant de partager les problèmes rencontrés.

La réunion visait à évaluer l'état de droit à l'information et des médias communautaires en Angola, à promouvoir de débats et d'échanges d'expériences avec d'autres pays de la région et fournir des recommandations pour que le gouvernement mette en œuvre des mesures qui favorisent l'accès à l'information au niveau de la communauté.

Ont participé à la rencontre, les membres de la société civile, partis politiques, les ONG et des journalistes.

Source: Angola Press Agency (Luanda), 1 avr. 2011; repris et distribué par allAfrica.com

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