



La Lettre Electronique de TRRAACE TRRAACE Electronic Newsletter

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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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NOUVELLES/NEWS/NOTICIAS

(Posted from 19/03/2006 to 01/04/2006)

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ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-20

Uganda: Ugandan media regulator maintains freeze on northern radio

The Broadcasting Council has ordered Gulu-based Choice FM to remain off-air until the radio station installs a mechanism for recording every programme they broadcast.

Broadcasting Council Chairman Godfrey Mutabazi yesterday said Choice's licence expired three months ago and that the council would not renew it until the technical problems at the station have been addressed.

Choice FM, owned by UK-based Nicholas Opio and run by local directors, Richard Ouma and Joseph Odwar, was closed on Tuesday [14 March] after a controversial talk show programme in which one panellist allegedly prejudiced national security.

Since then the directors have failed to provide Broadcasting Council with a tape recording of the controversial talk show, saying they failed to record because of a technical problem. They had also never applied for renewal of their licence until they fell into trouble over the show.

Sections of the international community have condemned BC's action, saying it is a transgression against media freedom. Mutabazi said the station had not even registered as Choice FM but as Norah Media Group Ltd.

Source: The New Vision website, Kampala, 17 March 2006, quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newswire Media File 18/03/2006

RESOURCE

FROM : 2006-03-21

Kenya: Employment, Internews seeks Resident Advisor

http://www.internews.org/about/emp_open/overseas/job_0132o.html

Internews Network is an international non-profit working to improve access to information for people around the world by fostering independent media and promoting open communications policies. Internews' programs are built on the conviction that providing people with access to vibrant, diverse news and information empowers them to make their voices heard and to participate effectively in their communities.

Internews Network is currently seeking a Resident Advisor to lead our Local Voices health reporting project in Kenya; Local Voices is designed to support professional television and radio broadcasters in creating high-quality, locally relevant coverage of HIV/AIDS issues for their audiences.

Interested qualified candidates should forward a cover letter and resume to INjobs@internews.org, being sure to place "RA-Kenya" in the subject line.

Further details about the mission and operations of Internews Network are available at www.internews.org.

Source: This Week in IJNet, 21/03/2006

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-21

Uganda: Ministers in Near Fight As Police Raid FM Radio Station

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603201082.html>

Police yesterday [19/03/2006] raided Open Gate FM Radio, arrested two presenters and picked up computers, two days after two ministers nearly fought MP Nandala Mafabi outside the radio studios. The Minister for the Presidency, Dr Beatrice Wabudeya, and Mr Michael Werikhe, the State Minister for Energy confronted Budadiri West MP Mafabi at the radio station on Saturday accusing him of defaming them. Mafabi had been on a talk show on the radio.

Non-uniformed policemen arrived at the radio station at 1pm and attempted to take the on-air computer too.

Mr David Opio, who hosted Mafabi on his Mwananchi talk show, was arrested together with Ongole Manase, a studio attendant.

The two were briefly held on Saturday and released on police bond after recording statements on disobeying statutory duties and destroying evidence.

"They either did not record (the talk-show) as required by the law or they recorded and destroyed the evidence that could have been used in judicial proceedings. Their case is straight forward," the CID Officer, Mr Isaac Oketcho, said.

Full story and source: The Monitor (Kampala), March 21, 2006 - Posted to the web March 20, 2006 and quoted by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-21

Rwanda: U.S. Company to Sponsor Coffee Radio Project<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603200687.html>

An American organisation, InterAmerican Coffee Inc. announced recently that it is sponsoring the new a project, the Coffee Lifeline Pilot Project, in Rwanda. According to a release by the Freeplay Foundation issued March 15, the initiative will help coffee producers in remote communities access market information and agricultural and other technical advice.

The information, to be relayed by the National University of Rwanda Department of Journalism through 'Freeplay Lifeline radios' to farmers' cooperatives, will benefit about 15,000 farmers. 'The initiative is the first link in a planned global communication chain among coffee producers who often live in isolated areas', the release indicates in part.

Quoting Alan B. Odom, the InterAmerican Coffee Vice President for Sales, the release adds: 'Rwandan coffee farmers grow some of the finest coffee beans in all of Africa, indeed in the entire world. We are gratified to be able to assist these important partners in accessing vital information that will advance productivity and promotion of economic and social sustainability for their communities.'

The Executive Director of Freeplay Foundation Kristine Pearson, said the information will help farmers revitalize the coffee industry. (...)

Full story and source: The New Times (Kigali), March 20, 2006 - Posted to the web March 20, 2006 and quoted by allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-21

RDC: Kasai Oriental, trois chaînes de radio mises en garde par la HAM<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200603210584.html>

La Haute autorité des médias (Ham) vient d'adresser une sévère mise en garde contre trois stations de radiodiffusion implantées à Lodja, chef-lieu du district de Sankuru, dans la province du Kasai Oriental.

On leur reproche d'avoir servi d'instrument aux politiciens en vue de véhiculer des messages contraires aux objectifs de la transition en République démocratique du Congo. Citant la représentation de la Ham à Mbujimayi, l'Agence congolaise de presse (Acp) déclare que les trois stations de radiodiffusion originaires du district de Sankuru seront fermées au cas où elles continuent à diffuser des messages haineux de nature à troubler l'ordre public et le processus électoral.

Pour le coordonnateur provincial de la Ham/Kasai Oriental, cette décision est consécutive à un rapport de son bureau. Il a précisé que des sanctions sévères pourront être prises à l'encontre de tout autre organe de presse qui se prêterait, pendant cette période, à la diffusion des messages de division et de haine.

Source: Le Potentiel (Kinshasa), 21 Mars 2006 - Publié sur le web le 21 Mars 2006 et repris par allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-21

Nigeria: Broadcast Journalist Arrested and Detained Overnight<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603210274.html>

On 14 March 2006, Segun Owolabi, a senior news officer with Rhythm 93 FM radio in Port Harcourt, the Rivers State Capital in the Niger Delta region, was arrested by officers of the State Security Service (SSS), Nigeria's intelligence service, and detained overnight before being released on the afternoon of 15 March.

Owolabi was detained at the SSS Headquarters in Port Harcourt. He was arrested for airing a news item on the radio station about a planned peaceful protest against the Port Harcourt District office of the Power Holding Company of Nigeria (PHCN), the Federal Government-owned electricity generating and distribution company. A non-governmental organization called Directory of Nigeria organized the protest to draw the attention of Port Harcourt residents to the worsening power situation in the state.

The news item, aired on 13 March, reportedly led to some senior management staff of PHCN accusing the station of being used to cause a breach of the peace and to incite the public to vandalise its facilities. Following the complaint, some plain-clothed operatives of the SSS raided the station and arrested Owolabi.

Owolabi said that during his detention he was asked to make a statement on the broadcast and was warned to refrain from doing anything that could jeopardise peace in the state. He said: "I was put inside a cell from 4 pm on Tuesday [14 March] until this afternoon [15 March], when I was released."

His release followed the intervention of the Rivers State Commissioner for Information, Magnus Abe, and the Chief Press Secretary to the Rivers State Governor, Emma Okah, who pleaded with the SSS state director, Alhaji Kolawole Adesina, to release him.

The incident represents the third time in less than four months that journalists of Rhythm 93 FM, Port Harcourt, have been detained by security agents.

Full story and source: Media Rights Agenda (Lagos), Press Release, March 20, 2006 - Posted to the web March 21, 2006 and quoted by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-22

Burkina Faso: Couverture radiophonique, trois provinces désenclavées

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200603220286.html>

Dans son souci permanent de mettre "la radio à la disposition des populations", le ministère de l'Information vient de désenclaver trois provinces. Il s'agit de la Kossi, de la Komandjari et du Koulpelogo. Les animateurs et gestionnaires de ces radios locales publiques sont depuis lundi 20 mars 2006 en formation afin de "mieux gérer leur affaire".

Le ministre de l'Information fait du désenclavement radiophonique une priorité. Gayéri dans la Komandjari, Nouna dans la Kossi et Ouargaye dans le Koulpéleogo sont les villes bénéficiaires de ces stations de radio.

Les infrastructures dans ces trois localités permettront de "désenclaver radiophoniquement" ces provinces qui éprouvaient jusque-là d'énormes difficultés pour capter la radio nationale du Burkina. Les ministères en charge de l'information et des télécommunications ont été les maîtres d'oeuvre de ce projet avec l'appui financier de la représentation résidente du PNUD dans notre pays. Ces stations de radio, de l'avis du ministre de l'Information, Joseph Kahoum, seront des vecteurs de sensibilisation et d'éducation souvent revendiqués par les populations elles-mêmes. C'est pour bien mener les missions de ces radios que le ministère de l'Information a décidé de la formation des animateurs (et de personnes ressources) des radios locales publiques des localités citées plus haut. Les séminaristes bénéficieront pendant une semaine de conférences et d'études de cas sur la gestion d'une radio, l'élaboration et l'animation d'une grille de programmes et l'ancrage d'une radio dans son milieu. Si l'expérience réussit, le ministre promet de l'élargir à d'autres provinces. Deux personnes ressources, un technicien maintenancier, un comptable, deux animateurs et un chef de station sont retenus par province concernée par cette session de formation.

Source: Sidwaya (Ouagadougou), 22 Mars 2006 - Publié sur le web le 22 Mars 2006 et repris par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-23

Sierra Leone: New Community Radio Obtains Broadcasting Frequency

<http://www.informorac.org>

Radio Numbara of Bumbuna town in the Tonkolili district [northern Sierra Leone], one of the four new community radio stations to be established under the Radio Netherlands' Informotrac Sierra Leone programme, has been allocated its frequency 102.5 FM by the Sierra Leone Telecommunication [Sierratel].

The allocation of the frequency to Radio Numbara follows the approval of its documents by the Independent Media Commission [IMC] to operate as a community radio in Sierra Leone.

Other community radio stations already established under the programme include Radio Kolenten in Kambia, Radio Bontico on Bonthe Island and Radio Mount Aureol in Freetown that received high tech studio and reporting equipment.

Meanwhile, 12 community radio reporters from Bumbuna, Bonthe Island in the south, Mile 91 and Makeni in the north, are presently pursuing weeklong basic computer training programme at

Compuware Technical Services in Freetown.

The basic computer training programme, which is being sponsored by Informotrac, will be followed by another one week long technical programme to be conducted at Informotrac studio at Fort Street in Freetown. Basic computer and technical training particularly for reporters attached to the newly established community radio stations are part of an ongoing training programme provided by Informotrac for community radio personnel attached to its partner stations located in various parts of the country.

Source: Sierra Leone Broadcasting Service TV, Freetown, 16th March 2006, quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 23/03/2006

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-24

Botswana: MISA Calls for Expeditious Licensing of Three New National Commercial Radio Stations

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603230311.html>

The Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA) Botswana is urging the National Broadcasting Board (NBB) to expedite its plans to issue licenses to three new national commercial radio stations by the target date of May 2006.

We are concerned that the stated date will not be met as the tendering process has not even started, as stated at the 6 December 2005 press briefing by NBB Chairperson Dr. Masego Mpotokwane, who indicated that three national licenses would be issued by May 2006.

This was viewed as good news by many players in this sector. As an organisation which advocates for pluralism and diversity, MISA Botswana welcomed the move to expand representation of private media on a national level.

We call on the NBB to continue to encourage an open and democratic society in which the media provides an opportunity for freedom of expression on matters of governance. Radio plays an important role in this process, as it gives citizens a chance to speak for themselves on matters that affect them daily.

We further call upon the NBB to hasten the licensing of community radio stations, as Botswana is lagging behind in the SADC region as regards the existence of such stations. This is another way of expanding our democracy and enlarging citizen participation. Broadcasting is by far the most important source of information for most people around the world.

Source: Media Institute of Southern Africa (Windhoek), Press Release, March 22, 2006 - Posted to the web March 23, 2006 and quoted by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-24

South Africa: South Africa's Talk Radio 702 granted FM licences

http://medianetwork.blogspot.com/2006_03_19_medianetwork_archive.html#114320502303870573

Talk Radio 702 is to move to FM - thanks to the regulatory body, the Independent Communications Authority of South Africa (ICASA). In a letter to Primedia Broadcasting, ICASA says it has granted the application for the amendment of 702's commercial licence to allow the station to migrate to frequencies 92.7 MHz in Johannesburg and 106.0 MHz in Pretoria. These are the frequencies that 702 applied for in its original application.

ICASA has also granted 702 a 12 month period of "double illumination". This means the station is allowed to continue broadcasting on both the AM and FM frequencies for a period of one year. In addition, ICASA has exempted 702 from the provisions that are in current legislation. In its application to ICASA last year, 702 argued that the prejudice suffered by its listeners because of the poor signal, warranted a departure from these provisions.

Station Manager Pheladi Gwangwa said she was delighted at ICASA's decision as this is the first ever exemption to be granted by ICASA to commercial sound broadcasters. In its 33-page document outlining the reasons why it granted 702's application, ICASA Chairperson Paris Mashile says: "The authority considers that the only realistic and financially feasible option at this point in time, to ensure that Radio 702 remains on-air in the medium to long term and does so with a transmission signal of reasonable quality, is migration to the FM band".

Source: Media Network Weblog, Radio Nederland, 24/03/2006

TRAINING

FROM : 2006-03-28

Ethiopia: Groups vow to train about 300 journalists on youth coveragehttp://www.savethechildren.net/ethiopia/key_work/cr.html

Journalists in Ethiopia interested in deepening their coverage of children and youth issues will soon get some additional training. The Addis Ababa University and Save the Children-Denmark plan to train 297 journalists over the next two years, according to local news reports.

The training will bring journalists together with professionals working with children's rights, to help them become more familiar with children's legal rights and other youth-related issues in Ethiopia. The first training event will bring about 50 participants to Addis Ababa in April, the Ethiopian Herald reported. There will be no charge to participate. For more information on Save the Children's work in Ethiopia, contact Esrael Agonafer at esrael@telecom.net.et.

Source: The Ethiopian Herald via allAfrica.com 24/03/2006

(<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603210419.html>) quoted by This Week in IJNet, 27/03/2006

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-28

RDC: Lubumbashi, les radios communautaires et la couverture des élections<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200603280002.html>

La Haute autorité des médias (Ham) ouvre, ce lundi 27 mars 2006 à Lubumbashi, un séminaire sur le thème « la couverture des élections par les radios communautaires : l'expérience sud-africaine ». Présidé par le n°1 de l'instance de régulation des médias congolais, ce séminaire connaît la participation de journalistes des radios communautaires des deux Kasai et du Katanga.

L'atelier de Lubumbashi fait suite à celui organisé par le bureau de la Ham du 12 au 16 décembre 2005 à Kinshasa, au profit des professionnels des médias de la capitale, du Bandundu et de l'Equateur. Pour le président de la Haute autorité des médias, le choix porté sur les journalistes sud-africains s'explique par le fait que la Rsa a connu les mêmes problèmes politiques que la République démocratique du Congo.

Texte complet et source: Le Potentiel (Kinshasa), 27 Mars 2006 - Publié sur le web le 28 Mars 2006 et repris par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-28

Niger: Accès des radios communautaires au réseau<http://www.csdptt.org/article409.html>

Le site de Coopération Solidarité Développement des PTT (France) a eu à encadrer un travail de fin d'études (TFE) d'ingénieur en Informatique (option Réseaux et Télécoms), effectué au Niger par un jeune étudiant Camerounais, Christian Nguenkeng, de l'Université du Luxembourg. Ce TFE dont le titre est "la faisabilité de l'accès au réseau (téléphone et Internet) des radios communautaires au Niger", s'inscrit dans le travail initié par CSDPTT en faveur des Radios Communautaires de la Région de Tillabéri au Niger. Une présentation de ce TFE est proposée sur le site de CSDPTT.

Source: La Lettre d'information de CSDPTT, n° 68, 28/03/2006

Quant à l'objet de la mission, base de ce TFE,

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-30

Nigeria: Kano-based Radio Station Fined and "Partially" Shut

The Kano-based independent radio station, Freedom Radio, has been partially shut down by the National Broadcasting Commission [NBC].

The partial shut down, Daily Trust reliably learnt; takes effect between 5 to 10 p.m., everyday.

Daily Trust also learnt that in addition, a 200,000 naira [1,500 US dollars] has been slammed on the radio station which it is expected to pay within 48 hours.

The clampdown, it was gathered was informed by the station alleged non-compliance with the political broadcasting regulations stipulated by the NBC. It is also said to have violated regulations

on talk show programming.

The 5-10 period when the ban is to take effect, will affect the station presentation of its popular programmes which include Gauta', which airs between 8 to 9 p.m., Birgiman Hankaka, Mu Laluba and news programmes.

Freedom Radio, which began operation a few years ago, is owned by a former minister under the General Sani Abacha regime, Alhaji Bashir Dalhatu.

Source: Daily Trust, Abuja, 29/03/2006 quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 30/03/2006

ALERT

FROM : 2006-03-30

Cameroon: Kwifon Refuses to Release Keys of Oku Radio

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200603280780.html>

The doors of Oku Rural Radio are still locked because the Kwifon (secret society) is still detaining the keys, The Post has gathered.

The crisis deepened despite a meeting held behind closed doors in the Elak Rural Council Hall, March 19, to implement a judgment passed by the Northwest Court of Appeal.

The Court had ordered for a reinstatement of the disbanded Board of Oku Rural Radio Association and the then Manager of the radio, Shey Roland Kebuh Ndifon, by the Divisional Officer for Oku, Mbah Maurice Fontzen. (...)

Origin of Crisis

The Oku DO Maurice Fontzen Mbah, The Post gathered, provoked the crisis, when he, through a Sub-Prefectorial Order suspended the functioning of the Radio. When the Station Manager, the current Management Board of ORRA, lead by Njakoi with Ndifon as Station Manager, violated the order arguing that the DO had no powers to interfere in the activities of the Radio, he and others were arrested and locked up in Kumbo Principal Prison.

Upon their release, Ndifon and others sued the DO in the Bui High Court and obtained a judgment in their favour. The DO appealed but the Court of Appeal maintained the decision of the trial court.

The court ordered that Ndifon and Njakoi should be reinstated in their functions.

It was in an attempt to execute the Appeal Court's judgment that Bui Senior State Counsel Ngwa on February 23, was in Oku to install Ndifon and Njakoi.

Although the keys of the Radio were reluctantly handed to the State Counsel who passed them on to Ndifon, tension was high. As soon as the State Counsel left Oku, the Radio was again sealed making it impossible for Ndifon and Njakoi to function.

Full story and source: The Post (Buea), March 28, 2006 - posted to the web March 28, 2006 and quoted by allAfrica.com

RESOURCE

FROM : 2006-03-31

Magreb-Machrek: Apports des radios locales à la société civile

<http://www.frequenceslibres.org>

Dans sa livraison d'avril 2006 (n° 119), la revue "Fréquences Libres" consacre un dossier au paysage médiatique et radiophonique du Magreb et du Machrek.

Ce dossier a été réalisé dans le cadre du colloque international "Apports de la radiodiffusion locale au service des sociétés civiles: Magreb-Machrek, leçons et perspectives" organisé par l'association Femmes en communication d'Alger et l'Institut Panos Paris.

Les articles sont disponibles sur le site de Fréquences Libres. Vous pouvez vous procurer sa formule papier, en la commandant à Fréquences libres, 5 bd Danson, F-13015 Marseille accompagné d'un chèques de 8 euros (frais d'envoi compris).

Contact: freqlibres@dial.oleane.com

Source: Fréquences Libres, Communiqué, 31/03/2006

NEWS

FROM : 2006-03-31

Francophonie: Nouvelles de l'URCAF<http://www.frequenceslibres.org>

Il y a quelques mois, le ministère des affaires étrangères (MAE-France) a redéployé sa politique d'appui à la structuration du secteur radiophonique en Afrique francophone. Dans ce cadre, un volontaire international a été mis à mi-temps à la disposition de l'Union des radios communautaires de l'aire francophone (URCAF), à Ouagadougou. Grâce à ce soutien, un séminaire de formation sur la "manière d'organiser, animer et diriger une fédération" se déroulera à la fin mai 2006 à Ouagadougou. En marge de ce séminaire, une AG de l'URCAF se tiendra le 21 mai dans la capitale du Burkina Faso.

Source: Fréquences Libres, 119, avril 2006.

NEWS

FROM : 2006-04-01

South Africa: Thetha FM community radio station in Orange Farm<http://www.abculwazi.org.za>

Thetha FM community radio station in Orange Farm is playing a valuable and active role in their community. The newly established station has been active in their community since their inception, with activities such as food, clothes and toy drives as well as their "Positive Youth Club", which assists young community members with positive thinking and visualizing goals for their future.

Source: ABC Ulwazi News, South Africa, March 2006

NEWS

FROM : 2006-04-01

South Africa: Still Listening<http://www.abculwazi.org.za>

From the 27th to the 29th of March a Workshop was held with 10 community radio stations representative of all nine provinces. This training session was a follow up on the first Listener's Association (LA) workshop (which established the ABC Ulwazi Listeners Associations) and dealt with issues of sustainability and strategies for further community involvement. Representatives from stations included station managers and LA facilitators, to ensure clear understanding and free dialogue between the involved groups. A guide will be developed out of the findings of this session that will aim to share learnings with other stations involved in LA efforts.

Source: ABC Ulwazi News, South Africa, March 2006

TRAINING

FROM : 2006-04-01

South Africa: Community Radio Sustainable Development Systems<http://www.abculwazi.org.za>

The Open Society Foundation has committed funds to ABC Ulwazi's long running "Sustainable Development Systems" Project. The aim of this project is to support community radio stations and encourage them to become financially independent and sustainable. This funding will, in particular, be allocated towards on site training at community radio stations with an emphasis on board induction training by Dr. Romanus Monji, ABC Ulwazi Training Consultant.

Source: ABC Ulwazi News, South Africa, March 2006

TRAINING

FROM : 2006-04-01

Mali: Radio et Internet : monter et mettre en ligne ses émissions.<http://www.radiosansfrontiere.info/article-2229722.html>

Dans le cadre du programme de coopération internationale et francophone Radio Lucie, RadioSansFrontiere.org et Fréquence Sillé, proposent un éventail de formations aux nouvelles technologies appliquées à la radio.

La première session se déroulera du lundi 3 au vendredi 7 avril 2006 à Bamako (Mali) sur le campus numérique. Elle sera placée sous la conduite de l'association radiosansfrontiere.org, co-fondatrice de Radio Lucie et accueillera une quinzaine de participants maliens et ivoiriens.

Cette formation spécifique sur les usages des NTIC appliqués à la radios s'intitule: "Radio et Internet : monter et mettre en ligne ses émissions".

Cette session s'adresse aux personnels des radios communautaires et privées (animateurs/trices, techniciens et journalistes). Elle est gratuite et permet aux bénéficiaires d'enrichir le fil radiophonique Radio Lucie.

Source : Willy Colin, coordinateur du programme Radio Lucie, sur Radiosansfrontiere.info, 25/03/2006

QUI SOMMES NOUS ? WHO ARE WE?

TRRAACE is a joint-venture between the following organisations:

Les deux organisations suivantes se sont associées pour créer ce site de ressources pour les radios associatives, locales, rurales et communautaires d'Afrique:

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