



# 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

[HTTP://WWW.MEDIAFRICA.NET](http://www.mediafrica.net)

## Table des matières / Table of content

<b>Resources / Ressources</b> .....	<b>2</b>
World: Covering Communities - Basics of journalism .....	2
Africa: African journalists invited to join citizen journalism platform .....	2
RDC: Appel à projet energie durable pour améliorer La viabilité économique des médias en RDC .....	2
<b>Nouvelles/News/Noticias</b> .....	<b>3</b>
Tanzania: Tanzanian Islamic Radio Imani to expand its signal .....	3
Côte d'Ivoire: Les radios contribuent à la reconstitution des registres de l'Etat civil .....	3
Somalia: Radio Gaalkacyo closed down .....	4
Côte d'Ivoire: Cocody FM veut promouvoir la femme .....	4
Senegal: 3rd Short Course on Gender Media and Conflict .....	4
Somalia: Puntland authorities reopen Radio Gaalkacyo .....	5
South Africa: Two courses to revisit journalism basics .....	5
World: International radio and television stations invited to apply to broadcasting awards .....	5
World: UNESCO prize accepting nominations .....	6
Zambia: Committee urges ministry to name members of broadcasting authority .....	6
RDC: Un journaliste de Radio Okapi tué à Bukavu .....	6
Malawi: Radio station shut down for a second time .....	7
RDC: Kikwit : femmes des médias contre les violences faites à la femme .....	7
RDC: Appel du RATECO à l'aide pour les radios membres dans le Nord-Kivu .....	8
DR Congo: UN-sponsored DR Congo radio journalist killed in eastern town of Bukavu .....	8
Sudan: Southern Sudan media hailed .....	9
Nigeria: 1st private radio station in Abeokuta on air .....	9
Somalia: Director of privately-owned Radio Warsan arrested by police .....	9
Nigeria: Radio Kano to get new DRM-compatible mediumwave transmitter .....	10
Lesotho plans to change state broadcaster into public service broadcaster .....	10
Ghana: Ghanaian regulator told to "stop radio stations from transcending their boundaries" .....	10
Nigeria: Lamido Sacks State Radio's Administrator .....	11
RDC: Un incendie ravage trois stations de radio et de télévision à Mbuji-Mayi .....	11
Togo: La HAAC publie son rapport .....	11
Tunisia: Reporter at Kalima Radio arrested and violently assaulted .....	12
Sierra Leone: Radio station vandalised, staff members threatened with death .....	12
Tunisie: Une journaliste de Radio Kalima arrêtée et agressée .....	13
Sierra Leone: Une station de radio saccagée, des membres du personnel menacés de mort .....	13

## RESOURCES / RESSOURCES

### WORLD: COVERING COMMUNITIES - BASICS OF JOURNALISM

<http://www.coveringcommunities.org/training/Interviewing.html>

Asking good questions should be an essential skill for journalists. But, what's a "good" question? Canadian journalist John Sawatsky has spent years studying the questions reporters ask. Good questions, he says, have three qualities ...

To read more about it and visit the website "Covering Communities": this site is intended to clear the noise and get back to the basics of journalism. The site seeks to motivate members of the journalism community by broadening the understanding of how communities work and by showing how to apply that knowledge. It hopes to become a valuable resource to those in the journalism field, providing working journalists, journalism students, educators and citizen journalists with a Web site that includes insights about community knowledge, training materials and examples of community journalism today.

Source: This Week in IJNet, 17 Nov. 2008

### AFRICA: AFRICAN JOURNALISTS INVITED TO JOIN CITIZEN JOURNALISM PLATFORM

[http://www.africanews.com/site/page/join\\_our\\_network](http://www.africanews.com/site/page/join_our_network)

African journalists can showcase their work by joining AfricaNews, a citizen journalism Web site published by Africa Interactive, a multimedia agency in Africa with more than 400 local reporters in 35 countries.

AfricaNews' mission is to show a more balanced and multifaceted image of the African continent. With a focus on business, microfinance, society, culture, travel, nature, music, and sport, the Web site features news, photos, blogs, videos, mobile reports and untold stories by African people. To become an AfricaNews reporter, journalists must first accept the terms and conditions, register with the site, and follow its editorial guidelines. Reporters may be contacted for paid assignments.

Source: This Week in IJNet, 10 Nov. 2008

### RDC: APPEL A PROJET ENERGIE DURABLE POUR AMELIORER LA VIABILITE ECONOMIQUE DES MEDIAS EN RDC

[http://www.fci.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Appel\\_a\\_propositions\\_-\\_Projets\\_d\\_energie\\_durable.pdf](http://www.fci.gouv.fr/IMG/pdf/Appel_a_propositions_-_Projets_d_energie_durable.pdf)

Dans le cadre du projet « Médias pour la démocratie et la transparence en RDC ». Sélection de projets d'énergie durable qui visent à réduire la dépendance des radios et des autres médias au gasoil et aux autres sources d'énergie coûteuses et non-renouvelables.

Ces projets peuvent être proposés par tout type d'organisation locale ou internationale, y compris des médias. Le budget présenté ne pourra pas dépasser le montant total de 75.000 euros.

**Date limite de dépôt : 15 décembre 2008.**

Contact: M. Olivier LECHIEN, Chef de projet France Coopération Internationale, Ambassade de France / Kinshasa; Mail : [projetmedia\[at\]yahoo.fr](mailto:projetmedia[at]yahoo.fr)

Source: information reçue du COTA (<http://www.cota.be>), 14 Nov. 2008

## NOUVELLES/NEWS/NOTICIAS

(Posted from 16/11/2008 to 30/11/2008)

Côte d'Ivoire: Cocody FM veut promouvoir la femme .....	4
Côte d'Ivoire: Les radios contribuent à la reconstitution des registres de l'Etat civil .....	3
DR Congo: UN-sponsored DR Congo radio journalist killed in eastern town of Bukavu.....	8
Ghana: Ghanaian regulator told to "stop radio stations from transcending their boundaries" .....	10
Lesotho plans to change state broadcaster into public service broadcaster .....	10
Malawi: Radio station shut down for a second time.....	7
Nigeria: 1st private radio station in Abeokuta on air .....	9
Nigeria: Lamido Sacks State Radio's Administrator .....	11
Nigeria: Radio Kano to get new DRM-compatible mediumwave transmitter .....	10
RDC: Appel du RATECO à l'aide pour les radios membres dans le Nord-Kivu.....	8
RDC: Kikwit : femmes des médias contre les violences faites à la femme .....	7
RDC: Un incendie ravage trois stations de radio et de télévision à Mbuji-Mayi .....	11
RDC: Un journaliste de Radio Okapi tué là Bukavu .....	6
Senegal: 3rd Short Course on Gender Media and Conflict .....	4
Sierra Leone: Radio station vandalised, staff members threatened with death .....	12
Sierra Leone: Une station de radio saccagée, des membres du personnel menacés de mort.....	13
Somalia: Director of privately-owned Radio Warsan arrested by police .....	9
Somalia: Puntland authorities reopen Radio Gaalkacyo .....	5
Somalia: Radio Gaalkacyo closed down.....	4
South Africa: Two courses to revisit journalism basics .....	5
Sudan: Southern Sudan media hailed.....	9
Tanzania: Tanzanian Islamic Radio Imani to expand its signal.....	3
Togo: La HAAC publie son rapport .....	11
Tunisia: Reporter at Kalima Radio arrested and violently assaulted .....	12
Tunisie: Une journaliste de Radio Kalima arrêtée et agressée.....	13
World: International radio and television stations invited to apply to broadcasting awards	5
World: UNESCO prize accepting nominations .....	6
Zambia: Committee urges ministry to name members of broadcasting authority .....	6

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-16

### ***Tanzania: Tanzanian Islamic Radio Imani to expand its signal***

Radio Imani [Faith, in Swahili], which is based in Morogoro [west of Dar es Salaam], is working with the Islamic organization Siraju Munira in Bagamoyo [north of Dar es Salaam] to expand its signal.

This was said during a meeting held last week and attended by many shaykhs, including Shaykh Mselem from Zanzibar, and hundreds of Muslim faithful from the provinces.

In his speech, Prof Hamza Njozi, who was the guest of honour, said that there was a need to defend, nurture and value Islamic media institutions.

He added that besides making efforts to establish their own media, Muslims should also ensure they have trained people to operate the equipment. He said it the duty of Muslims to support their media institutions so that they achieve their objectives .

Source: An-Nuur, Dar es Salaam, in Swahili 14 Nov. 2008 - translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newsline Media File 16 Nov. 2008

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-17

### ***Côte d'Ivoire: Les radios contribuent à la reconstitution des registres de l'Etat civil***

Reconstitution des Registres de l'Etat Civil : les Nations Unies sollicitent près d'une centaine de radios de proximité pour la campagne d'information

Depuis le 1er octobre 2008, soixante-dix(70) radios de proximité issues de l'URPCI (Union des Radios de Proximité de Côte d'Ivoire) diffusent sur l'ensemble du territoire national, des spots et des sketches sur la reconstitution des registres de l'Etat civil en Côte d'Ivoire, registres détruits pendant la guerre.

Cette campagne médiatique soutenue par le Bureau d'Appui aux Projets des Nations Unies (UNOPS) et mise en oeuvre par le Ministère ivoirien de la Justice et des Droits de l'Homme s'étend sur trois (3) mois. Il est prévu en novembre, en plus des spots et des sketches radiophoniques, une émission d'information locale, un débat national et un communiqué relatif à la liste du registre de l'Etat Civil. Chacune des radios sollicitées pour cette opération recevra un peu plus de 450.000,00 FCFA.

Source: Serge Adam's Diakitè (Journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel Abidjan), 16 novembre 2008.

ALERT FROM : 2008-11-17

### ***Somalia: Radio Gaalkacyo closed down***

Puntland police have closed down Radio Gaalkacyo and arrested its director, Hasan Muhammad Jama, for airing programmes on the forthcoming presidential elections in the region.

The police of the semi-autonomous region of Puntland have closed down Radio Gaalkacyo, an independent radio station that operates in Gaalkacyo [HQ of Mudug Region], and arrested its director Hasan Muhammad Jama. Sources say the radio was closed down after airing programmes and reports about the forthcoming Puntland presidential elections and having special interviews with candidates. Reports also say Radio Gaalkacyo's highlighting of the Puntland electoral commission could have led to the closure.

The closure of Radio Gaalkacyo and the arrest of its director have coincided with the arrival of the Puntland president Mahmud Muse [Gen Adde] and his entourage in Gaalkacyo town. The president will overnight there campaigning.

The Puntland regional administration has been accused of pressurizing and violating media freedom in the region.

Source: Radio Voice of Mudug, in Somali 16 Nov. 2008 - translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 17 Nov. 2008

NEWS FROM : 2008-11-18

### ***Côte d'Ivoire: Cocody FM veut promouvoir la femme***

<http://news.abidjan.net/article/?n=310243>

Une nouvelle émission sur les ondes de la Radio Cocody pour la population en général, et la gent féminine en particulier, avec collaboration avec RTV RECORD-CI et le cabinet Matika Expertis.

L'annonce a été récemment faite à l'hôtel Manhattan Suites.

"C'est un hebdomadaire spécialement destiné aux femmes. L'émission dont le lancement aura lieu le mardi 25 novembre prochain sera diffusée entre 11h à 12h et passera en revue toutes les questions liées à l'émancipation et au développement socio-économique de la femme", a expliqué Max Malié, représentant de Cocody FM. "Elle intègre plusieurs rubriques. Entre autres, 'Femme et société', 'Femme et culture', 'Femme et développement'", a-t-il ajouté.

Max Malié a indiqué que cette action s'inscrit dans le cadre des activités de la radio en faveur de la lutte contre la pauvreté, l'alphabétisation et l'ignorance des populations. Ce projet, a-t-il insisté, consiste à informer et sensibiliser, former et éduquer la femme dans la société actuelle.

"Non seulement toucher principalement la femme afin de discuter avec elle des sujets qui l'intéressent, lui apporter de la bonne humeur, mais aussi lui apprendre à s'imposer et à donner son point de vue lors des débats publics". Voilà les objectifs évoqués par Cocody FM.

Source: article d'Anderson Kouamé (stagiaire), Notre Voie, 17 novembre 2008 repris par Abidjan.net; information transmise à TRRAACE par Serge Adam's Diakitè (Journaliste à Radio Arc-en-ciel, Abidjan) , le 18 novembre 2008

TRAINING FROM : 2008-11-19

### ***Senegal: 3rd Short Course on Gender Media and Conflict***

<http://www.fasnngo.org/pan-african-centre.html#3rdcourse>

3rd Short Course on Gender Media and Conflict - 15th to 19th December 2008 - Mbodiène (Senegal)

The main focus of the course is the role of Media in conflict prevention and conflict transformation, Media coverage of women in conflict and feminist media. It will also tackle how the media perpetuates patriarchal behaviors in different cultures and critical analysis and debates on Media and its role in and influence on concepts of Power and Gender will be fostered.

The Course will provide a dynamic and open space for academic and intellectual enrichment as well as for the exchange of practical knowledge and experience from the different environments of the participants. Concepts of gender-sensitive intervention methods will be organized around real-world application of theoretical debates. Special attention will be paid to contemporary case studies on Media and Conflict and the role of Media in peace processes.

The main objective of the project is to recruit 30 women and men working in the field of peace and Media, including Media and communications professionals (in civil society organisations, women's grassroots organisations, and other institutions), to reinforce their skills and allow them to refine their approach to issues of Media coverage during and after conflict.

The objectives of the project are the following:

- To clarify concepts, terms and definitions of Gender, Media and Conflict;
- To strengthen the capacity of participants in the areas of Media coverage before, during and after conflict with a focus on Gender;
- To empower Media professionals and people working in communication;
- To create a critical mass on gender issues among Media professionals.

Deadline for letter of application: 30th November 2008

More information: Femmes Africa Solidarités Website

Source: The Drum Beat, New Job Vacancies, Opportunities, Consultants, and Materials, 19 Nov. 2008

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-19

### ***Somalia: Puntland authorities reopen Radio Gaalkacyo***

Radio Gaalkacyo [in Gaalkacyo, the provincial town of Mudug Region, central Somalia] has resumed operations following a brief closure by police in the semi-autonomous region of Puntland, but the radio director, Hassan Muhammad Jama (Jid-hun) remains in custody.

The decision to reopen the radio station was announced by Mudug regional commissioner Abdirizaq Darwish. He said the presidential decree issued recently was only instructing the arrest of the radio director and not the closure of the station.

Mr Darwish said Radio Gaalkacyo can resume its operations and has issued an apology to the radio's staff over the misunderstanding of the president's decree.

Somali Professional Journalists Association [SOPJA] based in Gaalkacyo has accused the Puntland regional administration of violating the freedom of the media and demanding that the media operate under an unsatisfactory system.

However, local residents have expressed concern over the arrest of the Radio Gaalkacyo director. Source: Radio Gaalkacyo, Gaalkacyo, in Somali, 17 Nov. 2008 - quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 19 Nov. 2008

TRAINING

FROM : 2008-11-20

### ***South Africa: Two courses to revisit journalism basics***

<http://www.iaj.org.za/>

South African journalists who are interested in honing their basic journalism skills may enroll in two upcoming courses, offered by the Institute for the Advancement of Journalism in Johannesburg.

The first course, "Basic Reporting," scheduled on January 26, will provide a foundation for gathering facts, sourcing information and positioning stories.

In the second course, "Writing for Print," on January 28, participants will learn how to turn the information they have into journalistic reports for the print media.

Students are asked to register no later than a week prior to the course date.

For more information, contact Mabatho Sekwala at [print\[at\]iaj.org.za](mailto:print[at]iaj.org.za)

Source: This Week in IJNet, 17 Nov. 2008

RESOURCE

FROM : 2008-11-20

### ***World: International radio and television stations invited to apply to broadcasting awards***

[http://www.nab.org/Content/NavigationMenu/IndustryAreas/International/InternationalBroadcastingExcellenceAward/International\\_Broadc.htm](http://www.nab.org/Content/NavigationMenu/IndustryAreas/International/InternationalBroadcastingExcellenceAward/International_Broadc.htm)

Radio and television stations worldwide that work to advance the broadcast industry and the services provided to communities are invited to enter the 2009 NAB International Broadcasting Excellence Awards. Entry deadline: February 13, 2009.

The awards are sponsored by the U.S.-based National Association of Broadcasters (NAB).

Deadline: 13/03/2009

Source: This Week in IJNet, 10 Nov. 2008

RESOURCE FROM : 2008-11-20

### ***World: UNESCO prize accepting nominations***

<http://tinyurl.com/68bw55>

Journalism organizations worldwide have until January 15 to nominate candidates for the 2009 UNESCO World Press Freedom Prize.

The prize will honor a person, organization or institution that has made a notable contribution to the defense and/or promotion of press freedom in the world, especially if risk is involved.

The winner will receive US\$25,000 during the World Press Freedom Day conference on May 3, 2009 in Qatar.

The nomination form must be completed in English or French and sent to UNESCO, Division for Freedom of Expression, Democracy and Peace, 1, rue Miollis, 75732 Paris, cedex 15, France.

Deadline: 15/01/2009

For more information, contact: [s.coudray\[at\]unesco.org](mailto:s.coudray@unesco.org)

Source: This Week in IJNet, 10 Nov. 2008

NEWS FROM : 2008-11-20

### ***Zambia: Committee urges ministry to name members of broadcasting authority***

<http://www.daily-mail.co.zm/index.htm>

[Report by Jerry Munthali: "State Urged To Appoint IBA Board"]

The Committee on Information and Broadcasting Services has urged Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services to expeditiously appoint members of the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) and bring into effect the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation (ZNBC) Act. This is according to a report of the committee of information and broadcasting services tabled in Parliament on Thursday.

The report states that the previous committee on information and broadcasting services implored Government to prevail on the Minister of Information and Broadcasting Services to move quickly and appoint the Independent Broadcasting Authority (IBA) Board and operationalise the IBA Act of 2002 and the Zambia National Broadcasting Corporation Act of 2002.

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services Permanent Secretary in the action taken report submitted that his ministry had been working on the IBA Act and Regulations with a view to having the board members appointed and ratified by the House this year.

The committee report says members were worried about the reluctance to move on the IBA and urged government to quickly fulfil its promise to operationalise the Act and appoint the ZNBC Board.

The committee was however happy that government desired to take back the Freedom of Information Bill (FOI) to Parliament.

The report reads that the committee would wait to see how soon this would be.

On community radio stations, the committee recommended that Government should revise the law restricting organizations to operate only one medium of either radio or Television when they had the capacity to operate both.

The committee recommended that Government should be fair and forthright in the granting of radio licenses.

The committee report also says the church should be encouraged to establish independent community radio stations that would address the aspirations of the local communities as was the case with the Catholic Church.

The committee report states that the management teams of these community radio stations should be allowed to run the station freely, without the interference of the board and that local languages should be given more air time.

Source: Zambia Daily Mail website, Lusaka, 17 Nov. 2008 ; quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newslines Media File 20 Nov. 2008

ALERT FROM : 2008-11-22

### ***RDC: Un journaliste de Radio Okapi tué à Bukavu***

Encore un journaliste de Radio Okapi tué à Bukavu. Didace Namujimbo a été abattu d'une balle à la tête par des inconnus la nuit de vendredi à samedi près de son domicile vers "Vamaro" au quartier Ndendere dans la commune d'Ibanda.



Didace Namujimbo a été abattu près de chez lui vers 21h30, alors qu'il revenait à son domicile. Il a été abattu par des inconnus. Les voisins, qui étaient chez eux en ce moment là, ont entendu des voix de gens qui discutaient. Quelques temps après, ils ont entendu des coups de feu, mais ils ne sont pas sortis. C'est seulement vers les petites heures du matin, quand ils sont sortis, qu'ils l'ont découvert qui gisait là. Et ce sont ses voisins qui nous ont donné l'heure à laquelle ils ont entendu les discussions et les coups de feu.

Premier témoignage du Procureur de la République, près le tribunal de grande instance de Bukavu, Jacques Melimeli : « Nous avons été sur les lieux. Nous avons constaté qu'une balle l'a atteint au cou. Et, il en est mort sur le champ. Nous avons d'abord levé le corps. Nous l'avons emmené à l'hôpital général de référence de Bukavu où on est entrain de procéder à l'autopsie. Nous avons saisi aussi la douille de la balle qui a tué la victime. Pour le moment, l'expertise médico-légale de l'hôpital général de référence de Bukavu est entrain d'être faite pour déterminer si la balle est sortie du corps, et combien de balles ont atteint le corps. »

Didace Namujimbo laisse une veuve et deux orphelins. Il est le deuxième journaliste de Radio Okapi à être tué à Bukavu. Rappelons que Serge Maheshe, secrétaire de rédaction a été abattu dans la nuit du 13 au 14 juin 2007.

Source: Radio Okapi, 22 nov. 2008

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-22

### ***Malawi: Radio station shut down for a second time***

<http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/98693>

The Malawi Communications Regulatory Authority (MACRA) has shut down Joy Radio for the second time after the High Court in Blantyre lifted an injunction the radio station obtained on 17 October 2008. The injunction restrained MACRA from closing the station on accusations of breaching licence conditions, failing to comply with the provisions of the Communications Act and for effectively transferring its ownership into the hands of politicians.

MACRA challenged the injunction obtained by Joy Radio and High Court Judge Joseph Manyungwa ruled in favour of the regulatory body on 19 November. The ruling allows MACRA to implement its earlier decision to close down the station.

Following the ruling, MACRA wrote to Joy Radio on 20 November ordering the station to stop its broadcasting services.

"Kindly be advised that Justice Manyungwa yesterday discharged the interlocutory order of injunction restraining MACRA from revoking your licence. This effectively means that the decision by MACRA to revoke your licence still stands (. . .) You are therefore advised to cease and desist from carrying out any broadcasting services with immediate effect," reads a letter signed by MACRA director general, Dr Alexxon Chiyawa.

The head of news at Joy Radio, Lloyd Zawanda, said they stopped all broadcasting at 10:00 a.m. (local time) on 20 November and have referred the issue to their lawyers for advice. He said there was a good chance the station would appeal the ruling.

MACRA Public Relations Manager Zadziko Mankhambo confirmed the closure of Joy Radio but could not speak on the procedures the station would need to follow to come back on air if the appeal option is not adopted.

Source: Media Institute of Southern Africa (MISA), 21 Nov. 2008, quoted by IFEX

Source:

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-22

### ***RDC: Kikwit : femmes des médias contre les violences faites à la femme***

<http://www.syfia-grands-lacs.info/index.php5?view=articles&action=voir&idArticle=1188>

A Kikwit dans la province de Bandundu, les femmes des médias se sont liguées pour animer ensemble des émissions à téléphone ouvert dans leurs radios respectives, contre les violences faites aux femmes. Une initiative courageuse qui provoque un déclic dans le comportement de certains auditeurs...

Arrosée par six radios communautaires et associatives et une radio publique, Kikwit, la capitale économique de la province de Bandundu, à plus de 500 km au nord-est de Kinshasa, vit une expérience médiatique peu ordinaire. Depuis janvier 2008, une dizaine de femmes des médias locaux animent des émissions conjointes sur leurs antennes, pour dénoncer et combattre un fléau qui menace leur société. "Nous sommes en guerre contre les violences dont les femmes sont de plus en plus victimes. Nous sensibilisons tout le monde, hommes et femmes pour que tous changent de comportement", explique Chantal Kindundu de la radio diocésaine Tomisa, à l'origine de cette initiative.

Regroupées au sein de l'Afmki (Association des femmes des médias de Kikwit), ces femmes

produisent, une fois par semaine, une émission sur un thème lié aux différentes formes de violences faites à la femme : sexuelles, psychophysiques ou morales, socioculturelles... Des invités y prennent une part active et elles passent à tour de rôle, en direct et à téléphone ouvert sur les ondes des radios Tomisa (catholique), Sango Malamu (protestante), la Radio communautaire musulmane et sur l'antenne locale de Rtn (publique). Depuis début 2008, les dates importantes comme la célébration de la Journée internationale de la femme (8 mars) et la Journée internationale de la femme rurale (15 octobre), ont été mises à profit pour attirer l'attention de l'opinion sur cette épineuse question de société. [...]

Texte complet et source: Syfia Grands Lacs/RDC, article de Badyon Kawanda, 20 Nov. 2008

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-22

### ***RDC: Appel du RATECO à l'aide pour les radios membres dans le Nord-Kivu***

Depuis le 28 octobre 2008 [...] le Congrès national pour la défense du peuple (CNDP) a lancé une attaque généralisée contre les positions des FARDC (Forces armées de RDC) en territoire de Rutshuru et Nyiragongo.

Les FARDC en fuite et infiltrés par le CNDP dans les zones en conflits en ont profité pour piller les biens des populations, violer et tuer des personnes soit en déplacement soit restant dans les villes/villages.

Les radios communautaires n'ont pas été épargnées de cette situation. Elles ont été la cible des attaques des milices et groupes armés.

Dans son système de gestion des affaires politiques, le CNDP [...] ne promet pas la liberté d'expression et surtout l'émergence des radios communautaires dans les territoires qu'il occupe. Le CNDP avait pillé la radio la Colombe de Rutshuru en 2007, son entrée à Rutshuru visait également la Racou FM et par la suite les deux radios voisines Dorika FM et Radio Rurale de Kanyabayonga.

Les journalistes se sont dispersés, les autres ont été agressés dans leurs maisons et bureaux. Personne n'avait le temps de penser à sa survie pour amener avec lui un habit ni de l'argent. Le déplacement à pied dans les conditions à haut risque est à la base de certaines malaises que l'on peut lire chez plusieurs traumatisés.

Le premier travail consistait à localiser tous les journalistes grâce à l'appui en communication du RATECO à partir de la zone de Rutshuru.

Jusqu'en ce jour, la situation sécuritaire se présente de la manière suivante : Rutshuru contrôlé par CNDP dans le centre et nord-ouest pendant que la partie est — axe Nyamilima — reste sous contrôle FDLR. À Kanyabayonga – Kayna ce sont les Mai-Mai et FARDC.

Tous ces groupes se disputent le contrôle des zones et en aucun instant l'on peut croire au calme. [...]

La situation humanitaire est catastrophique avec des cas des choléras signalés déjà dans l'axe Nyamilima – Ishasha.

Plusieurs familles sont coupées de leurs membres en brousses ou dans les villages non identifiés. Pendant ce temps, la radio aurait comme rôle d'unifier les membres des familles et les enfants, d'informer les populations de toutes démarches au niveau national et international pour régler la question de guerre à l'Est et possibilité ou opportunité d'assistance humanitaire en faveur des déplacés. Comme conséquence, des recrutements au sein des milices et la déception des uns qui les amène à aller se réfugier en Uganda.

Actuellement, les contacts du médiateur et ceux du représentant des NU en RDC avec CNDP semblent porter certains fruits si le retrait du CNDP se concrétise.

Les organisations de défense des droits de l'homme s'attellent à la question des violations des droits humains et surtout des massacres de Kiwanja et pillages dans ces zones.

Il appartient maintenant aux ONG internationales engagées dans les questions des médias (radios communautaires) à l'instar de l'Institut Panos Paris, Benevolencija, Search for Common Ground Centre Lokolé, etc. de pouvoir penser à l'aide en faveur des radios affectées.

Source: RATECO, communiqué, 21 Nov. 2008

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-23

### ***DR Congo: UN-sponsored DR Congo radio journalist killed in eastern town of Bukavu***

Another Radio Okapi journalist has been killed in Bukavu. Didace Namujimbo was killed with a bullet to the head last night by unknown persons near his home in the Ndendere neighbourhood in Ibanda Commune. Didace leaves behind a widow and two orphans. He is the second Radio Okapi



journalist to be killed in Bukavu. It is to be recalled that Serge Maheshe, a news editor, was killed on the night of 13-14 June 2007.

Source: Radio Okapi website, Kinshasa, in French 22 Nov. 2008; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 23 Nov. 2008

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-23

### ***Sudan: Southern Sudan media hailed***

The southern Sudan minister of information and broadcasting, Gabriel Changson, stated on Thursday that media in southern Sudan have achieved remarkable progress.

Speaking to representatives of the government owned and private media outlets in Juba the minister said that impartial and transparent reporting is effectively contributing to the democratic transformation, freedom and sustainable peace.

However, the minister highlighted that there are sporadic examples of some media outlets inaccurately reporting. He announced that in near future the press and publication act will be adopted to regulate media work and called on all media to continue work on their professional development.

Source: Miraya FM, Juba, 22 Nov. 2008, quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 23 Nov. 2008

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-26

### ***Nigeria: 1st private radio station in Abeokuta on air***

<http://www.vanguardngr.com/content/view/22611/46/>

RockCity 101.9 FM, the first private radio station in Ogun State, has taken off in Abeokuta, with the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC), describing it as a landmark project that would revolutionise the broadcasting industry in the state.

NBC's South-West Zonal Director, Mrs. Bunmi Cole, said this last Wednesday while approving the commencement of test transmission by the station on the 101.9 FM band.

Cole, who led a technical team of NBC officials to inspect the facilities of the station at Asero, Abeokuta, said the project was long overdue. "At last, there is a private radio station in Ogun State."

The NBC boss said: "I am happy that at last, somebody has come up (with this station) and we are praying for many more...the more, the merrier. The sky is wide enough for birds to fly without one knocking the other..."

RockCity 101.9 FM is owned by Boot Communications Ltd. The new station, according to its management, shall endeavour to be the premier source of balanced, accurate news/information, civilised discourse, and offer cultural inspiration to people in its coverage area in particular and Nigerians in general.

According to the statement, signed by Mr. Niran Malaolu, its CEO, "the core of our commitment is in informing the community in a life-enhancing manner with the paramount aim of being the most credible source of news/information, education and entertainment in Nigeria."

Source: Vanguard Online Edition (Nigeria), 25 Nov. 2008

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-26

### ***Somalia: Director of privately-owned Radio Warsan arrested by police***

The director of Radio Warsan in Baydhabo has been arrested by TFG forces in Baydhabo, Bay regional HQ.

The Radio Warsan director Ilyas Shaykh Shu'aib was arrested at the radio HQ by officers from the Bay regional administration and Baydhabo District and was taken to the local police station where he will spend the night according to reports.

The incident is not the first involving the Radio Warsan director Ilyas Shaykh Shu'aib. The staff and managers of the radio station have been arrested several times in the past.

The arrest is an affront to the independent media in the country and is part of violations carried out against the independent media in Somalia.

It also shows telling the truth in areas under the control of government forces is not welcome.

Source: Shabeelle Media Network website, Mogadishu, in Somali 25 Nov. 2008; translated and quoted by BBC Monitoring Global Newline Media File 26 Nov. 2008

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***Nigeria: Radio Kano to get new DRM-compatible mediumwave transmitter***

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/radio-kano-to-get-new-drm-compatible-mediumwave-transmitter>

Nigeria's Kano State Executive Council has approved the release of funds for the purchase of a new AM digital transmitter for the state Radio Corporation, Radio Kano. Briefing the press on the outcome of the council's meeting, the State Commissioner for Information, Barr. Haruna Isa Dederi, said that the decision is part of the government's effort to comply with the directives of the National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) that all radio stations must switch over from analogue to digital transmitters nationwide.

(Source: Daily Triumph)

Andy Sennitt adds: The Kano Broadcasting Corporation is listed with a 50 kW transmitter at Tukan Tawa on 549 kHz, and 25 kW at Jogana on 729 kHz. It's not clear from the report which transmitter is to be upgraded, or whether both will be. A pattern is beginning to emerge which suggests that the future of DRM will be in countries with a large land mass, where building a network of FM or DAB transmitters would be prohibitively expensive. DRM was originally developed with international shortwave broadcasting in mind, but came several decades too late. However, the effort will not have been in vain if it can be utilised to help improve the listening experience of millions of people in developing countries. But we're still waiting for a major receiver manufacturer to commit to mass production of DRM receivers.

Source: Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 27 Nov. 2008 - 13:32 UTC by Andy Sennitt

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***Lesotho plans to change state broadcaster into public service broadcaster***

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/lesotho-plans-to-change-state-broadcaster-into-public-service-broadcaster>

The Lesotho cabinet has endorsed a new communications policy that proposes wide-ranging improvements to the broadcasting sector, writes Mzimkhulu Sithetho. The policy proposes the transformation of the state broadcaster into a public service broadcaster, and the formation of a self-regulatory body that will adjudicate on complaints brought against radio and television stations.

The policy envisages corporatising the state broadcaster and making it accountable to an independent board with a goal of serving the public interest. It will have editorial independence and any content restrictions or requirements will be contained in a charter to be developed along with a clear source of funding for operations and expansion.

The new policy also envisages universal access to content by the population of the Mountain Kingdom. There are currently ten radio stations, whose coverage is limited to the area around the capital, Maseru. Only Radio Lesotho covers the whole country and beyond.

The policy also says the independence of the regulator, the Lesotho Communications Authority (LCA), should be guaranteed: "In making its decisions, LCA will act in a manner free from political interference, influence, or considerations. Such regulatory independence is mandated by Lesotho international obligations and is consistent within international best practices."

Source: Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 27 Nov. 2008

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***Ghana: Ghanaian regulator told to "stop radio stations from transcending their boundaries"***

<http://blogs.rnw.nl/medianetwork/ghanaian-regulator-told-to-stop-radio-stations-from-transcending-their-boundaries>

A project consultant, Nii Tackie Otoo, has called on Ghana's National Communication Authority (NCA) to enforce its regulations that prevent radio stations broadcasting beyond their boundaries. He said some radio stations were broadcasting beyond their boundaries because certain aspects of the NCA regulations, LI 1719 of 2003, were not proactive [sic].

He was speaking at a one-day workshop on "Radio Stations Broadcasting Beyond their Boundaries" organised by the Western Salem Communication, operators of Kyzz Fm, and the Business Sector Advocacy Challenge (BUSAC) Fund in Takoradi.

Nii Otoo said the regulation should be reviewed to ensure that radio stations that broadcast beyond their boundaries face stiff sanctions. The framework of the law, he said, must ensure a level playing field and fairness in the industry because well-established radio stations were overshadowing small ones. He suggested that radio stations and the NCA signed a memorandum of understanding so that the Authority could be held accountable when its regulations were flouted.

(Source: ModernGhana.com)

Andy Sennitt comments: This displays a lack of understanding about the basic laws of physics and insufficient technical planning. By definition, a radio station's coverage area cannot have "boundaries". The signal can't be turned on and off like a tap. What's needed is a licence which specifies a primary coverage area, and the required transmitter power calculated accordingly. It may be that a lack of regulations and/or monitoring and onsite inspections have led to some stations using transmitters which are far more powerful than they need to be. However, just because a station may be received well beyond the area for which it is licensed, that doesn't necessarily mean that it has flouted any regulations. Hopefully, the situation can be resolved without forcing stations off the air or making them pay crippling fines.

Source: Media Network Blog Radio Netherlands, 26 Nov. 2008, by Andy Sennitt

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***Nigeria: Lamido Sacks State Radio's Administrator***

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200811241033.html>

Jigawa State governor, Sule Lamido has sacked the sole administrator of the state owned Radio Broadcasting Corporation (JSBC), Alhaji Umar Kyari Madamuwa as he equally approved the appointment of a new Managing Director of the station, in person of Alhaji Baffah Bura Muhammad. The sacked sole administrator of the station was holding double positions which include the Special Assistant on Media and Sole administrator, in Lamido's administration. The appointment of Alhaji Umar Kyari as the sole administrator of the Jigawa State Radio according to Vanguard's finding was viewed as political despite that he has senior colleagues ahead of him to be appointed as either General manager or Sole Administrator of the station but he was handpick and appointed.

Vanguard gathered that Kyari's appointment as sole administrator had generated a lot of controversy among the senior staff of the station whom described him as their junior colleague; the appointment has equally frustrated most of his senior colleagues which led to the loss of about three of the senior staff.

The new Managing Director of the station, Alhaji Bappah Bura Muhammad was until his recent appointment the immediate Assistant General Manager (AGM) Corporate Affairs of the Unity Bank of Nigeria (plc).

Source: Vanguard (Lagos), 24 November 2008 - Posted to the web 24 November 2008 and quoted by allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***RDC: Un incendie ravage trois stations de radio et de télévision à Mbuji-Mayi***

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200811270480.html>

Selon des sources concordantes, le bâtiment de la grande poste de Mbuji-Mayi, abritant les services de l'Office congolais des postes et télécommunications, OCPT, a pris feu mardi dernier, réduisant en cendres les installations des Radio-Télé Mont Carmel, la Radio Télé Sentinelle, RTS, et Sango Malamu.

Selon l'ACP, ce sinistre serait provoqué par un court circuit qui a aussi embrasé la centrale de Microcom. Selon les premiers éléments d'enquête, la radio Télé Mont Carmel a pu évacuer tout son matériel, la RTS, une partie de son équipement, tandis que les autres ont tout perdu dans ce sinistre.

Les services anti-incendie de la Mine de Bakwanga, Miba, et de la Mission des Nations Unies au Congo, Monuc, sont intervenus comme bien souvent en retard.

Source: Le Potentiel (Kinshasa), 27 Novembre 2008 - Publié sur le web le 27 Novembre 2008 et repris par allAfrica.com

NEWS

FROM : 2008-11-27

### ***Togo: La HAAC publie son rapport***

<http://fr.allafrica.com/stories/200811230009.html>

La Haute Autorité de l'audiovisuel et de la Communication (HAAC) a publié vendredi son rapport d'activités 2007. Il souligne que l'institution a rappelé à l'ordre 4 stations de radio et une chaîne de TV privée pour non respect des dispositions du code de la presse et du cahier des charges. Cinq directeurs de publication ont également reçu un blâme pour avoir publié des informations mensongères.

Quant au volet organisation et suivi du scrutin législatif, le rapport note une large contribution des

médias publics et privés à la réussite des élections. La HAAC formule une série de recommandations pour les autorités de manière à rehausser le niveau de qualité des journalistes exerçant au Togo.

« Nos recommandations concernent le renforcement des équipements des médias publics, la formation des journalistes et techniciens de la communication, la question des redevances sur les radios et télévisions et l'aide de l'Etat à la presse privée » indique Philippe Evégnon, le président de l'Autorité.

Source: Republic of Togo (Lomé), 23 Novembre 2008 - Publié sur le web le 23 Novembre 2008 et repris par allAfrica.com

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-29

### ***Tunisia: Reporter at Kalima Radio arrested and violently assaulted***

<http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/98870>

(OLPEC/IFEX) - The following is a 24 November 2008 OLPEC press release:

Reporter at Kalima Radio arrested and violently assaulted

On 24 November 2008, Faten Hamdi, a reporter at Kalima Radio, was arrested by a group of policemen and violently dragged to El Gorjani Police Station after being physically assaulted in front of Tunis's Preparatory Institute for Art and Humanities Studies.

The Kalima reporter was covering protests organized by students at the institution in response to recent attacks by plain-clothed policemen during demonstrations.

According to eyewitness accounts by students arrested with her and on examination of the injuries to various parts of her body, Hamdi was savagely assaulted by a group of policemen while she was covering the protests.

Hamdi was taken to an isolated room inside the police station where officers continued to beat and insult her. They seized her tape recorder and destroyed it. They also searched her purse and tore up her ID card. The officers then tried get to Hamdi to collaborate, offering her money or a military posting if she agreed to leave Kalima Radio.

The reporter was finally released at 8:00 p.m., after four hours in detention. The other detained students were released at the same time.

Given the seriousness of this incident, which constitutes a flagrant attack on press freedom and the rights of journalists, OLPEC:

- condemns the violent and barbaric actions of the security agencies, in particular the El Gorjani police, which violate the law as well as the physical integrity of a journalist;
- believes this incident to be reflective of a systematic practice by Tunisian authorities against journalists and human rights advocates;
- calls on Tunisian authorities to cease the harassment and attacks on journalists and respect freedom of the press and the media as the world celebrates 60 years of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Sihem Ben Sedrine

Secretary General, OLPEC

Source: Observatory for the Freedom of Press, Publishing and Creation in Tunisia (OLPEC), Press Release, 27 November 2008, quoted by IFEX, Website

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-29

### ***Sierra Leone: Radio station vandalised, staff members threatened with death***

<http://www.ifex.org/en/content/view/full/98880>

An angry mob from Tombo, a rural town 40 km from Freetown, the capital of Sierra Leone, on 24 November 2008 besieged the premises of Voice of Peninsular, a community radio station in the town and destroyed the station's broadcasting equipment.

The youth also took away two of the station's transmitters and other equipment, including the only generator.

Media Foundation for West Africa's (MFWA) correspondent reported that the angry mob, who had come to the station's premises to register their displeasure about a press release the station aired, threatened the lives of the staff, including the station manager, Salieu Mangeh Koroma, who has since gone into hiding.

The correspondent said the press release, which emanated from the town councillor's office, announced the councillor's decision to dissolve all standing committees in the area in which most of the youth group were members. Unhappy with the announcement, the youth decided to vent their spleen on the station, which they claimed had no right to broadcast such information.

"I am currently in hiding for fear of my life, I was beaten and also sustained wounds on my face

and my body," Koroma told the correspondent. He added that the threats had also been extended to his family and his four volunteer staff members.

Meanwhile, the behaviour of the youth has since been roundly condemned.

Source: Media Foundation for West Africa (MFWA), 28 November 2008, quoted by IFEX Website  
Source:

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-29

### ***Tunisie: Une journaliste de Radio Kalima arrêtée et agressée***

<http://www.ifex.org/fr/content/view/full/98872>

Ci-dessous, un communiqué de presse de l'OLPEC daté du 24 novembre 2008:

Une journaliste de Radio Kalima arrêtée et agressée

Faten Hamdi, journaliste à Radio Kalima, le site d'information en ligne (

<http://www.kalimatunisie.com>) a été arrêtée lundi 24 novembre par un grand nombre de policiers en civil. Elle a été agressée en public devant l'Institut préparatoire aux études de lettres et de sciences humaines de Tunis et entraînée sauvagement vers le district de police d'El Gorjani, dans la capitale tunisienne.

La correspondante de Radio Kalima assurait la couverture d'une manifestation organisée par les étudiants de l'Institut, manifestation qu'un grand nombre de policiers en civil essayait de contenir par la force.

Selon des témoignages recueillis auprès d'étudiants arrêtés en même temps que Faten Hamdi et d'après les traces sur différentes parties de son corps, la journaliste a été sauvagement agressée par un grand nombre de policiers en civil alors qu'elle effectuait son travail.

La correspondante de Radio Kalima a été isolée dans une cellule à l'intérieur du district de police. Elle a été rouée de coups et son appareil d'enregistrement a été confisqué et détruit. Son sac à main a été fouillé et sa carte d'identité nationale déchirée. Elle a été aussi agressée verbalement. On lui a proposé de collaborer, moyennant finances, avec la police ou de rejoindre les rangs de l'armée nationale, si elle acceptait de quitter son poste à Radio Kalima.

La journaliste n'a été relâchée que vers 20 heures, après quatre heures de détention et après la libération des étudiants arrêtés en même temps qu'elle.

Compte tenu de la gravité de cet acte, qui constitue une agression contre un journaliste dans l'exercice de ses fonctions et une violation flagrante de la liberté d'expression et des droits des journalistes, OLPEC:

- dénonce les agissements violents et barbares des forces de la sécurité, et en particulier les policiers, du district de police d'El Gorjani, qui ont violé la loi et porté atteinte à l'intégrité physique des personnes;
- considère que cet acte constitue désormais une pratique courante et systématique exercée par le pouvoir en Tunisie contre les journalistes et les défenseurs des droits de l'Homme;
- appelle les autorités tunisiennes à mettre un terme au harcèlement des journalistes et à respecter la liberté de la presse et de l'information;
- rappelle que ces pratiques qui ont lieu à quelques jours de la célébration du 60ème anniversaire de la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme illustrent l'inconséquence des autorités tunisiennes qui se vantent d'être des défenseurs des droits humains et de la liberté de la presse et des journalistes.

Pour l'OLPEC

La secrétaire générale

Sihem Ben Sedrine

Source: Observatoire pour la liberté de presse, d'édition et de création (OLPEC), 27 novembre 2008; repris par IFEX website

ALERT

FROM : 2008-11-29

### ***Sierra Leone: Une station de radio saccagée, des membres du personnel menacés de mort***

<http://www.ifex.org/fr/content/view/full/98881>

Le 24 novembre 2008, une foule déchaînée venue de Tombo, localité rurale située à 40 kilomètres de Freetown, la capitale sierra-léonaise, a assiégé les locaux de Voice of Peninsular, une station de radio communautaire de la ville, et détruit l'équipement d'émission de la station.

Les jeunes ont également emporté les transmetteurs et d'autres équipements, y compris le seul groupe électrogène.

Le correspondant de la Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA) a rapporté que la foule déchaînée, qui s'était rendue aux locaux de la station en vue d'exprimer leur mécontentement au sujet d'une déclaration de presse diffusée par la station, a menacé de tuer les membres du

personnel, y compris le directeur de la station, Salieu Mangeh Koroma, qui se tient caché depuis lors.

Le correspondant a affirmé que la déclaration de presse qui a été lancée par le bureau du conseiller principal a fait part de la décision prise en vue de la dissolution de tous les comités permanents du secteur dont étaient membres la plupart des éléments du groupe de jeunes. Mécontents de cette annonce, les jeunes ont décidé de décharger leur bile sur la station, qui, selon eux, n'avait pas le droit de diffuser une telle information. "Actuellement, je me tiens caché de peur que l'on ne me tue; j'ai été battu et j'ai reçu des blessures au visage et sur le corps", a confié Koroma au correspondant. Il a ajouté que sa famille et quatre membres du personnel volontaires ont également reçu ces menaces.

Pour l'heure, le comportement des jeunes a été condamné sans ambages.

Source: Fondation pour les Médias en Afrique de l'Ouest (MFWA), 28 novembre 2008, repris par IFEX website

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