



INTERNATIONAL PEACE INFORMATION SERVICE

## WEEKLY BRIEFING 6TH - 12TH JUNE 2013

IPIS is an independent research institute which focuses on Sub-Saharan Africa.

Our studies concern three core themes: arms trade, exploitation of natural resources and corporate social responsibility.

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### EDITORIAL

As the DRC signed the [Arms Trade Treaty](#) this week, the first cracks in the M23/FARDC 22 May ceasefire emerged, with exchange of fire between the parties on the periphery of Goma. An undertaking by MONUSCO not to attack the [M23](#) if it returns to the negotiating table in Kampala saw the dispatch of M23 delegates to Uganda by 10<sup>th</sup> June – a move welcomed by many, though also attended by claims that the M23 nevertheless prepares to resume hostilities in Goma, including allegations that it is re-recruiting children into its ranks. The M23 are reported to have expressed the desire to become a political opposition party in the DRC.

As Roger Meece commenced his final tour of the region in the last weeks of his mandate, Ban Ki Moon announced that he is to be succeeded as Head of [MONUSCO](#) by German diplomat, Martin Kobler. MONUSCO's Intervention Brigade is now reported to be at nearly half strength, with those elements already deployed currently engaged in patrols around Goma and its environs.

In [Province Orientale](#), Garamba National Park has seen sporadic activities by residual elements of the Lord's Resistance Army, as communities in Bahema have appealed for increased security efforts in the area following a number of incidents in the locality. In [North Kivu](#), concern has been expressed about serious human rights and international humanitarian law violations committed against civilians, in particular by the Mai-Mai Sheka, during its clashes with the APCLS in and around Pinga. In Kiwanja, the M23 are said to have arrested 50 persons in the course of operations. An M23 convoy was reportedly attacked by Nyatura militiamen in Rutshuru, occasioning what has been said to be around 8 to 9 M23 fatalities, though such testimony is denied by the M23. In [South Kivu](#), local authorities in Minova have called for strengthened deployment to Kahele to quell insecurity at the hands of Raia Mutomboki who are said to be exploiting a security vacuum there. The Bakata Kantanga's atrocities in [Katanga](#) are said to have displaced around 23,000 persons in the region, further heightening the humanitarian crisis.

In the CAR there have been reports of a [new offensive](#) launched by the Seleka coalition against Abdoulaye Miskine's Central African Democratic Front (FDPC), resulting in 4 FDPC fatalities.

In Uganda, the authorities have begun to draft plans for a [national energy company](#) to control one fifth of the country's crude oil, with the board of directors yet to be named.