



INTERNATIONAL PEACE INFORMATION SERVICE

WEEKLY BRIEFING 23RD - 29TH MAY 2013

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EDITORIAL

Following hostilities between the M23 and the Congolese army that are claimed to have taken nearly 20 lives in eastern DRC, this week saw much diplomatic movement in the region. Ban Ki-moon and Jim Yong Kim's three day [tour of the Great Lakes](#) saw the implementation of a ceasefire between the warring parties in Mutaho for the delegation's arrival in Goma, where the UN Secretary General stated that the MONUSCO intervention brigade should be operational within a month or two. Moving on to Kigali and then Kampala Ban Ki-moon called on all parties to work in close collaboration to resolve the Congo crisis as Jim Yong Kim made clear that a \$1 billion aid package to the region was contingent on inter-state cooperation in resolving the security situation.

The three day tour culminated with the [21st summit of the African Union](#) in Addis Ababa, which marked 50 years of the regional political bloc's existence. The security situation in the DRC topped the agenda of discussions. Tanzanian president, Jakaya Kikwete called upon the [Rwandan and Ugandan authorities to negotiate](#) with the FDLR and ADF-Nalu rebels, respectively – a call met by sharp criticism from Rwanda.

In [North Kivu](#), hostilities between FARDC and the M23 have created significant internal displacement with calls from humanitarian and human rights agencies for parties to ensure respect for civilians in the region. Demonstrations and calls for security assistance in Beni due to a soaring number of kidnappings in the locality since the start of the year have triggered police deployment and promises of a military operation to disarm militias operating in the area. Inter-tribal conflict on Lake Edward has left several wounded and the security vacuum left after troop redeployment to reinforce FARDC forces near Goma had briefly seen localities around Lubero falling under Mai-Mai and FDLR control. In [South Kivu](#), inter-ethnic clashes in which members of the Banyamulenge community have been targeted for alleged collaboration with the M23 saw 40 wounded in Bukavu. Inter-ethnic tensions also seem to have escalated in Bujumbura, Burundi, this week with clashes between Tutsi youths and police over the return of property to Hutu proprietors.

Finally, as the Security Council called on regional actors to continue their efforts to eradicate the [Lord's Resistance Army](#) following a UN Secretary General report on international efforts to tackle the LRA since the Central African Republic's coup, the CAR itself has been [suspended from the Kimberly process](#).