



INTERNATIONAL PEACE INFORMATION SERVICE

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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

The Government of the [Central African Republic](#) (CAR) and the Seleka rebel alliance signed a peace agreement last week in Libreville, Gabon. CAR President Bozizé will remain in power until 2016, but a transitional unity government will be formed and legislative elections held in 12 months. The opposition, and the rebels, chose the renowned lawyer and human rights defender Nicolas Tiangaye as the new prime minister.

The restart of the talks between the DR Congo Government and the M23 rebel movement in [Kampala](#), Uganda, were delayed by the sanctions the UN Security Council brought at the end of last year against M23 and two of its leaders. The two parties finally adopted the agenda of the peace talks, which goes quite beyond the only issue the Government had wanted to discuss, i.e. the implementation of the peace agreement of 23 March 2009.

At a meeting of ministers and heads of State of the Great Lake countries in Addis-Ababa, it was decided that the [International Neutral Force](#), to be deployed along the border between DRC and Rwanda, will be integrated into MONUSCO, the UN peacekeeping mission in the DRC. Unlike the current UN mission, this integrated force is expected to have a peace enforcing mandate.

In [Butembo](#), North Kivu, Mai-Mai fighters attacked the local prison and liberated 372 prisoners, many of whom Mai-Mai rebels or FARDC. Mai-Mai or other armed groups committed violence in [South Kivu](#), [Maniema](#), [Province Orientale](#), and particularly in [Katanga](#).