



## **ACHOLI RELIGIOUS LEADERS PEACE INITIATIVE**

### **Situational report: April, 2012**

#### ***Sudan Is Backing Joseph Kony's LRA, Says Uganda***

- On 30 April 2012, according to the Ugandan military, it was reported that the Sudanese government is providing support to the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) an insurgency that originated in northern Uganda but now operates in South Sudan, Central African Republic (CAR) and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sudan has denied the allegation, which is the latest in a string of statements from South Sudan's neighbor against the Sudanese government in Khartoum. (Sudan Tribune/Allafrica News)

#### ***Uganda: HIV/Aids - Abstinence, Condoms and Side Dishes***

- As reported by *Marlies Pilon on 30 April 2012*. In the 1990s, Uganda was globally seen as the African role model in the fight against AIDS. But, as recently released figures from the Uganda Aids Indicator 2011 show, it is currently the only country in East-Africa where HIV infections are on the rise. Uganda received worldwide praise in the late 1990s when it managed to lower HIV infection rates from around 15 to 6 percent. But as the recently released figures from the Uganda Aids Indicator 2011 show, the HIV prevalence rate in Uganda increased from 6.4 percent to 6.7 percent last year and over 500,000 more Ugandans became infected with the virus over the past five years. (Radio Netherlands Worldwide)

#### ***Central Africa: Omar Bashir Renews Support for Kony***

- On 30<sup>th</sup>-April-2012, the Ministry of Defence disclosed that, the Government of Sudan has renewed support to the Lords' Resistance Army (LRA) rebels, The ministry also said LRA leader Joseph Kony who has been oscillating between the dense Garamba forest in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Central Africa Republic (CAR), is hiding in Bahr el Gazel, an area within Sudan territory (Henry Mukasa/The New Vision)

### ***Central Africa: U.S. Supports Central African Efforts to Combat LRA Insurgency***

- On 25 April 2012 from Washington, it was reported that the United States will continue to partner with the governments and people of Uganda, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and South Sudan as they work to counter the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), a vicious insurgent group that has terrorized central Africa for more than 25 years. (*Mackenzie C. Babb/United States Department of State, Washington, DC*)

### ***Uganda: WHO Issues New Guidelines on HIV/Aids***

- As reported on 24 April 2012, the World Health Organization (WHO) has issued new guidelines encouraging couples to go together for HIV testing in order to know their HIV status. The guidelines, also recommend that in couples who are sero- discordant, antiretroviral therapy (ART) is offered to the person living with HIV to prevent his or her partner from becoming infected with the virus. (*Joyce Nyakato, The New Vision*)

### ***East Africa: Obama Extends U.S. Search for LRA's Kony***

- U.S. President Barack Obama has announced that American advisers helping with the mission to capture Joseph Kony will remain in East Africa to "bring this madman to justice.". USA Today reports that Obama made the remarks at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum during a speech on efforts to prevent human atrocities. Obama deployed about 100 U.S. Special Forces to help Uganda and other regional governments eliminate the threats of Kony and the LRA, whose crimes include child kidnapping and rape. (25<sup>th</sup>-April-2012, allAfrica)

### ***Chad: UN and AU Envoys Arrive to Warn of Possibility of LRA Haven***

- It was reported on 23 April 2012 that Senior United Nations and African Union officials arrived in Chad this weekend on a joint mission to warn its Government that the country could be the next destination of the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). "The current pressure against LRA rebels could lead them to organize an incursion into other countries," the UN Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) said today in a press release (UN News)

### ***Central Africa: U.S. to Continue Aid to Anti-Kony Fight***

- Today, President Obama announced that the United States will continue the deployment of a small number of U.S. military advisors to assist Uganda and other regional forces pursuing the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and seeking to protect local populations (The White House/Washington, DC)

***Uganda: HIV-Aids Patients Stranded After CD4 Machine Vanishes***

- As reported by Salume Among on 13 April 2012, People living with HIV in Teso region are in trouble after a CD4 machine was stolen from Soroti Hospital on Good Friday. The patients were all clients of Uganda Cares, Soroti Anti-Retroviral Therapy Clinic at Soroti Health Care Centre. (The New Vision)

***Uganda: Kamuli Girl Who Walked 12 KM for ARVs Dead***

- Rachel Namulondo, the 17-year-old girl who has been trekking for 12 kilometers for five months to pick her ARV's from Kamuli Main Hospital in Kamuli district, died in her 85-year-old grandfather's hut in Gwozira zone in Nabwigulu sub-county on Tuesday night. Her father, Amuza Lugandha abandoned her, saying he could not waste his money on an AIDS victim. (13 April 2012/The New Vision)

***Central Africa: Lord's Resistance Army Responds to Kony Video***

- Central African rebel group the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) has criticized an online viral video attempting to make its leader "famous" in a bid to galvanize the international community into action to end the quarter-of-a-century old conflict. (8 April 2012/Sudan Tribune)

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