



Weekly Nile Basin Media Radar

A service brought to you by NBI Secretariat

5th – 9th December, 2016

Regional Nile Media Training in Kigali

Next week, selected journalists from all the Nile Basin Initiative countries will converge in Kigali, Rwanda for a week-long Regional Nile Media Training. The training will involve critical presentations such as the role played by media in the region as well as high-level panel discussions all focusing on sustainable Nile Cooperation.

<https://web.facebook.com/NileBasinInitiative/>

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with regret that we announce the death of Nile Basin Discourse Board Chairperson Mr. Jean Baptiste Habiyaremye, which occurred Wednesday morning December 7, 2016 at Kigali University Teaching Hospital (CHUK) in Rwanda where he was undergoing treatment. He was a selfless and dedicated member of the civil society community, who was so passionate about issues of the Nile Basin. His contribution will forever be remembered.

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Egypt's President Sisi vows for consensus on Nile Cooperative Framework Agreement

Egypt's President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi met with water and irrigation ministers from a number of Nile Basin countries on Tuesday, where he stressed the importance of reaching a consensus on the Cooperative Framework Agreement that guarantees the rights and water security of all involved countries. The Egyptian president held meetings with ministers from Sudan, South Sudan, Tanzania, Burundi and Uganda, who are participating in the National Water Research Centre's conference on water sustainability in Cairo.

<http://bit.ly/2gijMNL>

Development of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam

In a vicious dispute over water allocation of the Nile River, Ethiopia, Egypt and Sudan are wading through uncharted waters of international law. The dispute begins in Ethiopia's attempt to regain control of its contributory river, the Blue Nile, by building the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD). However, the dam's legality is being questioned by both Egypt and Sudan – two downstream Nile states eager to maintain the status quo of water allocation. Many believe the Nile River is sourced in Egypt, but it actually

stretches from Burundi to the Mediterranean Sea. Egypt receives well over half of the river's water because the river flows north; however its two biggest feeders – the White Nile and the Blue Nile – are located in Uganda and Ethiopia, two southern but upstream Nile states with limited access to the Nile's water.

<http://on.cfr.org/2h3C3ll>

Congo Basin: Don't destroy the world's second lung in the name of growth

The majestic Congo Forest Basin, the world's "second lung", a carbon sink rich in biodiversity, is different things to different people. To the extraction firm, it beckons with more than 20 percent of all global mineral reserves. To a conservationist, it is an ecologically diverse asset comprising 10 percent of the earth's land. Other stakeholder interests in the basin include infrastructure, logging, mining, agriculture and human settlements. The exploitation of its timber, oil, natural gas and rainforests is intensifying, and that means new infrastructure in the form of roads and rail lines is opening up areas that were once difficult to traverse and putting increasing pressure on animal and plant populations.

<http://bit.ly/2q8DCWf>

Breadth versus depth: Why East African Community is doomed

It is not the thing one says in polite society but, barring a dramatic reset, the East African Community is in a terminal crisis, barely a decade and half since it was re-established. Conventional diagnosis blames the usual three suspects: its location in a dangerous neighbourhood with unruly DR Congo to the west and fractious Somalia to the east; a crisis of governance in each member state defined by democratic clawbacks, threats to media and scrapping of presidential term limits; and

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intractable internal conflicts, especially in Burundi and South Sudan.

<http://bit.ly/2qPk8mE>

Giraffe, African grey parrot on new IUCN threatened species list

The giraffe, the African grey parrot and an array of marine life in Lake Victoria have been added to the Red List of Threatened Species, a global conservation organisation said Thursday. [...] In Lake Victoria, it's the freshwater fish, mollusk, crabs and dragonflies that are threatened. Chemical water pollution and overharvesting continue to damage the high-biodiversity habitat. "Many species are slipping away before we can even describe them," said IUCN Director General Inger Anderson. "This IUCN Red List update shows that the scale of the global extinction crisis may be even greater than we thought."

<http://bit.ly/2qHTNWK>

President receives credentials of 7 new envoys

President Yoweri Museveni has received credentials of 7 newly accredited envoys to Uganda. The separate ceremonies took place at state House, Entebbe and were attended by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Sam Kuteesa. [...] While receiving the letters of credence of new Egyptian Ambassador, Ms. Mai Taha Mohammed Khali, the President warmly welcomed her to Uganda and briefed her on the major role that the River whose source is Uganda is an important resource. "The River Nile altitude drops by about 600 metres within Uganda. The big problem of the Nile is the

environment. I want Egypt to help us with the protection of the wetlands,” he told the envoy who expressed her admiration for Uganda’s beautiful weather.

<http://bit.ly/2hfLRzQ>



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