

INTERNATIONAL

WORLD BRIEFS

EU OFFERS TO HELP REINTEGRATE FORMER GUERRILLAS INTO SOCIETY

LUSAKA, Zambia (PANA) — The European Union has allocated \$160 million to help Southern African countries reintegrate into society former guerrillas who fought wars to end colonialism and racism. The offer was made during a joint committee meeting in Lusaka of senior officials of the Southern African Development Community and their EU counterparts. The community's executive secretary, Kaire Mbuende, said that as a first step, SADC would undertake a needs assessment survey, on the requirements of individual states subscribing to the program. So far, at least 100,000 former combatants in Mozambique have been reintegrated into society and another 110,000 in Angola. These efforts, Mbuende said, were meant to improve the security situation in the sub-region. "If left unresolved the problem of former combatants could cause security risks of drug trafficking and other criminal activities in the region," he said. Southern Africa has one of the largest concentrations of demobilized soldiers who fought in wars of liberation in Angola, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

MANDELA WARNS BOTHA AGAINST DEFYING TRUTH COMMISSION

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (PANA) — South African President Nelson Mandela says he has had enough of former president P.W. Botha's refusal to co-operate with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission about state-sponsored human rights abuses under his rule. Mandela said Botha, 81, who ruled apartheid-era South Africa from 1979 to 1989 and is now linked to many apartheid atrocities, was not above the law and should face jail or a fine if he continues to refuse subpoenas to testify before the commission. Botha has been ordered on three occasions to appear before the commission's hearings, the latest a Nov. 19 date in Cape Town. So far, Botha has skipped each summons, claiming he has nothing to hide and that he is not prepared to testify in front of a "circus." Mandela, 79, said he regretted Botha's defiant stance against the commission whose chairman Archbishop Desmond Tutu has demanded that Botha apologize. "If all persuasion fails, the law must take its course," Mandela said. "This subpoena has been issued and it must be obeyed." Botha, who has reportedly suffered from cancer over the past year, gave illness as the reason for not responding to the first subpoena.

ANNAN REJECTS OIC'S CALL FOR ADMISSION TO UN SECURITY COUNCIL

TEHERAN, Iran (PANA) — The United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan has rejected Iran's proposal that the Organization of the Islamic Conference be admitted as the 6th permanent member of the UN Security Council with the right of veto. Council membership is based on UN regulations not on religion or any other consideration of that kind, Annan said recently in the Iranian capital at the 8th OIC Summit. Annan, however, indicated that the Third World should be well-represented within the UN Security Council. He agreed with the spiritual leader of the Iranian revolution that the Third World should be accorded a greater representation within the UN policy-making organ. Addressing the opening session of the Summit Tuesday in Teheran, Ayatollah Ali Kamenei said "the OIC, which represents 55 countries with more than 1 billion people, should become a permanent member of the UN Security Council."

Window Bright

WINDOW CLEANING
MIRRORS • SCREENS
CONSTRUCTION

Anthony Mosley
Owner

Free Estimates! P.O. Box 27748
497-6342 • Cellular Las Vegas, NV 89126



Mayor conference

On the occasion of the recent World Conference of Mayors, Inc. (WCM), Carole Geary, (right), Publisher of the Milwaukee Courier was named NNPA's National and International Committee on Tourism Chair, and will act as its liaison to the WCM, Inc. The two will work together to develop tourism strategies and become the official joint committee to bring African-Americans to the WCM, Inc. cities not only in America, Africa and the Caribbean, but capitals around the world. Joining Ms. Geary is NNPA's President, Dorothy R. Leavell, (left), Publisher of the Crusader Newspapers and Johnny Ford (center) former Mayor of Alabama who founded the WCM, Inc. and now serves as its Director General.

Photo special to Sentinel-Voice



Cancer deaths rising worldwide

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Dakar, Senegal — The World Health Organization has indicated that eight types of cancers were responsible for 6.3 million deaths out of the 10.3 million cases of the disease in 1996.

In its report entitled "Conquering Suffering, Enriching Humanity," the health agency said lung cancer, caused mainly by tobacco smoking, accounted for 989,000 deaths worldwide.

The report indicated that stomach cancer led to 776,000 deaths and was the

second most common cause of cancer deaths worldwide and "almost two-thirds of all the cases in developing countries."

It said the incidence of cancer had declined in the developed world over the past 30 years due to "nutrition richer in vitamins from fresh fruits and vegetables, and less consumption of preserved, cured and salted foods."

People who eat diets low in vegetables, legumes and whole cereal but frequently eat red meat, run the risk of suffering from colorectal cancer, which killed 495,000

sufferers in 1996.

Liver cancer, which killed 386,000 people is "a major problem in developing countries," said the report, which attributed the disease to infection with hepatitis B virus or excessive consumption of alcohol.

Breast cancer killed 376,000 patients, although there were 910,000 cases.

The disease is related to changing lifestyles, hormonal risk factors, obesity after menopause and a diet high in the consumption of animal fat.

Drug companies cool to anti-AIDS vaccine production

By Peter Masebu

Special to Sentinel-Voice

ABIDJAN, Cote d'Ivoire (PANA) — Lack of interest by major pharmaceutical companies is one reason why there has been no success in producing an anti-AIDS vaccine, a ranking United Nations AIDS specialist said recently.

The official, Peter Piot, is the executive director of the U.N. joint program on HIV/AIDS.

He said in Abidjan, where he was attending the 10th International conference on HIV/AIDS, that companies were investing heavily in producing AIDS drugs rather than in vaccines.

Yet, he said, only vaccines were capable of turning AIDS from a killer to an ailment.

"I think the issue is economic," he said. "The pharmaceutical companies believe they will be forced to sell the vaccines at very low prices because their procurement is usually done by governments. Yet we urgently need a vaccine, even if it initially cannot work 100 percent."

Piot said it was an erroneous assumption that companies were disinterested in producing a vaccine simply because AIDS was viewed as becoming "a disease of the poor" in developing countries.

"AIDS affects everybody, the rich and poor, hence the need for a global alliance including the drug companies, ordinary people, religious and opinion leaders to combat the spread of HIV," he said.

Canada's University of Manitoba is conducting research into HIV-resistant commercial sex workers in Majengo, Nairobi. Hopes for the production of a vaccine from the research findings cannot be ruled out.

"We do not know yet what protects these people although the study on their biological mechanism of protection might yield something in terms of

vaccine production," he said.

Meanwhile, AIDS patients in Africa wait for access to affordable drugs. France has proposed a global solidarity fund to subsidize the cost of antiretroviral drugs for HIV-infected people in Africa.

"I hope it will mean some funds for AIDS programs in African countries, some of which don't have any up to now," Piot said.

Big "G" Mr. **BIG & TALL**
Fashions For The Big Man
QUALITY • STYLE • ORIGINALITY

YOUR TOGETHER STORE!
We get you looking good! FOR LESS

2234 PARADISE ROAD
• Back of Sahara Hotel •
Hours: Mon.-Fri. 10-7 • Sat. & Sun. 12-5
731-0695

Why Pay More?
Don't Blow It! See us before you buy

Ugly Duckling CAR SALES

Easy In-House Financing

CHARLES SKINNER

**• BANKRUPTCY •
• BAD CREDIT • NO CREDIT
• FORECLOSURE • DIVORCE
• REPOSSESSIONS •
NO PROBLEM!!**

We give you back your down payment or receive a VISA credit card*

3333 East Fremont Street
(702) 457-1602 *(See dealer for details)