



Security. Police hint at calling upon regional security forces to help maintain security.

BY FREDERIC MUSISI
musisif@ug.nationmedia.com

KAMPALA. With the growing concern over post-February 18 tension in the country, police authorities have reiterated that "everything is under control" for now, however, there are some 15 key districts to watch during or after Thursday's polls.

Police spokesperson Fred Enanga, while addressing a meeting of the South African business community in the country also hinted that in the worst case scenario, the East African Standby Force (EASF), a force for regional peace support operations, was also a call away.

"Before we arrived at the deployment as you have seen it...we came up with a security audit and came up with 15 hotspot districts," Mr Enanga said.

In eastern Uganda, Mr Enanga listed the districts of Butaleja, Sironko and Mbale; Isingiro and Ntungamo to the west, and Gulu in northern Uganda.

Others are Sembabule, Masaka, Kasese, and Ntoroko. Mr Enanga revealed the country had been struc-

Police lists 15 election violence-prone districts

tured into 27 regions, and about 100,000 police officers, crime preventers and Special Police Constables will be recruited to maintain law and order during and after voting. He also said at least 12 security personnel, will be deployed at every polling station across the country.

He was addressing the Forum of the South African Businesses (Fosabu), among others MTN, Stanbic, Eskom, and South African Airways, about the election environment.

Mr Enanga, however, added: "there is not any part of the country that is conflict-prone. All the internal areas are reachable and safe. Areas that we call hotspots are areas where there are rival groups and all almost powerful."

The Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC) last year listed at

least 56 hotspots to lookout for. Before the election, the body said these had been already teetering on either land or ethnic conflicts.

The army early this week deployed in various corners of the country to help police, which officials discounted as a part of their security plan as presidential candidates wrap up campaigns, especially around the capital city. Election security is a mandate of the police but they can call upon any of the sister agencies when need arises.

The UPDF spokesperson, Lt Col Paddy Ankunda, said he had no idea about discussions for the EASF but added that there "is no cause for alarm." "We can, and we will manage the situation," he told this newspaper last Friday. "We have already warned anyone who wants to cause

chaos that they should let people choose the leaders they want," he added.

The South African High Commissioner to Uganda, Prof Lekoa Solly Mollo, at the occasion revealed a new arrangement in which Ugandans traveling for business or academic purposes can get up to 10 year visa, but subject to terms and conditions.

THE DISTRICTS

Eastern Uganda. Butaleja, Sironko and Mbale

Western Uganda. Isingiro and Ntungamo

Northern Uganda. Gulu

Others: Sembabule, Masaka, Kasese and Ntoroko

Activists ur
NRM to de
from targe
critical re'

ek

KAMPALA. Human rights activists have asked the government to desist from independent electoral campaigns after February 18, general elections.

The activists' Network for Human Rights in Uganda (HRNJ-U), said they are distressed by the government's decision to lodge before the Constitutional Council over the paper story.

The story was reported in the position Forum (FDC) press release on Kizza Besigye's government's abrupt since