



TV

UNITED NATIONS NATIONS UNIES

UN IN ACTION

Release Date: July 2009

Programme No. 1195

Length: 4' 10"

Languages: English, French, Spanish, Russian

UNENDING BRUTALITY: RAPE IN CONGO

VIDEO

VOLCANO / JUNGLE

WOMEN IN WOODS

WOMEN CUT WOOD IN JUNGLE

MAWAZO ON CAMERA

WOMEN IN JUNGLE

AUDIO

NARRATION

Above: a brooding volcano. Below: the forest – traditionally a place of refuge and shelter. But in this forest, in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, day after day women are forced to take a desperate gamble. (18")

All they need is firewood – a bundle of sticks so that they can cook food for their families – but this search exposes them to unspeakable violence. (9")

MAWAZO: (Swahili) **F**

"We have to go to the forest for firewood so we can eat. We just don't have any choice." (5.5")

NARRATION

Mawazo, and women like her, have lost everything because of war. They walk miles to the forest for wood, often traveling in groups of four or five. If they're unlucky, they'll encounter men with guns. Forced to flee, they'll scatter in different directions. The weakest and the

slowest will be caught. (19")

MAWAZO ON CAMERA

MAWAZO: (Swahili) F

"Five of us were in the forest. When I tried to run I fell and men caught me and raped me." (5.5")

MONTAGE – WOMEN AND
MILITIAS

NARRATION

A brutal attack could come at any moment – by marauding militia groups – raping at gunpoint. (7")

WOMEN IN CAMPS

In this area of Eastern Congo women have been forced to flee to camps on the edge of Virunga National Park. (7.5")

REFUGEE CAMP

In ten years of conflict – as government forces battle with rebel groups – almost a million people have left their homes – some as many as five times – victims of war and its plagues of killing, looting, burning – and rape. (15")

JEANINE IN TENT

A year and a half ago, thirty-five-year-old Jeanine ran from her village with her two children to escape the fighting. (6")

She sought refuge in the Muganga 2 camp for internally displaced persons in North Kivu ... but she didn't find safety. (7.5")

JEANINE ON CAMERA

JEANINE: (Swahili) F

"The day after I got into the camp we were very hungry, so I went to collect firewood with a few other women. We thought God would help us come back safely. But I was raped." (14")

| | |
|---------------------------|---|
| JEANINE IN TENT WITH BABY | <p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>The result of that brutal encounter is her baby son. The name she gave him is “Thanks”. (6.5”)</p> |
| | <p><u>JEANINE:</u> (Swahili) F</p> <p><i>“Thanks... I called him that because I give thanks to God for everything that happens to me.” (6”)</i></p> |
| REFUGEE CAMP | <p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>More than 14,000 people live here in makeshift tents, struggling to survive. Across North Kivu in Congo there are over 90 camps, and few of them free of danger. One in ten women here says they have been raped. (15.5”)</p> |
| WOMEN IN JUNGLE | |
| IBRAHIMA ON CAMERA | |
| IBRAHIMA AT DESK | <p><u>IBRAHIMA COLY:</u> (English) M</p> <p><i>“It’s the top of the iceberg.” (2”)</i></p> |
| | <p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>Ibrahima Coly of the UN’s refugee agency. (3”)</p> |
| IBRAHIMA ON CAMERA | <p><u>IBRAHIMA COLY:</u> (English) M</p> <p><i>“From January to the end of February there were more than 4,000 cases of gender-based violence.” (6.5”)</i></p> |
| WOOD DISTRIBUTION | <p><u>NARRATION</u></p> <p>In all, hundreds of thousands of women in Congo have been sexually assaulted. To help women avoid the dangers of the forest, the aid agency Mercy Corp, with UN support, is providing wood to people in the camps. In addition, UN</p> |

SG BAN KI-MOON SPEAKS TO
GROUP OF WOMEN

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon called for international mobilization against the sexual violence after a visit to the country where he heard women's testimony. (25.5")

BAN KI-MOON ON CAMERA

BAN KI-MOON: (English) **M**

"This is a crime against humanity. This is a crime that really destroys the integrity of a human being." (6")

WOMEN IN FOREST

NARRATION

Without concerted efforts like these to protect Congo's women and to bring perpetrators to justice many thousands will continue to run the risk of attack. (10")

UN LOGO

This report was produced by Francis Mead for the United Nations.