

Regional leaders meet to discuss Burundi crisis

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KIGALI, Oct 28 (AFP) - A regional summit to discuss the Burundi crisis following a coup bid in which President Melchior Ndadaye was killed has opened here, Rwandan national radio reported on Thursday.

The summit, to be chaired by Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, was attended by Tanzanian Prime Minister John Malecela, Zairean Prime Minister Faustin Birindwa, Organisation of African Unity (OAU) Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim and Said Rifaat, a special envoy of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak, the radio said.

It did not give further details.

Burundi's prime minister, Sylvie Kinigi, late Wednesday announced that the self-proclaimed public salvation committee set up by the coup plotters has been completely dismantled.

But the small highland nation in central Africa was still plunged into deep political turmoil following the October 21 assassination of its first president from the Hutu majority by the Tutsi-led army.

Hundreds of thousands of Burundis have fled into Rwanda, Tanzania and Zaire to flee widespread ethnic violence following the coup attempt.

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