

CLASH REPORT REGIONAL STUDIES

AFRICA BULLETIN

Africa
in Turmoil

Regional
Flashpoints

Great Power
Moves



CLASH REPORT

Issue: 7
10– 24 Oct



Clash Report



Istanbul /Türkiye



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A full-page photograph with a red overlay. It depicts a man in traditional African clothing, including a beaded necklace and a patterned wrap. He is holding a large, curved wooden staff or shield. In the background, another person is partially visible. The word "CLASHPOINT" is written in large, white, serif capital letters across the lower half of the image.

CLASHPOINT

SUDAN

In El Fasher, North Darfur, UAE-backed RSF militias intensified assaults on key positions and civilian areas. They captured the Joint Forces camp near the army's 6th Infantry Division on October 18 and shelled residential neighbourhoods in the city centre, including Al-Jamarik, Abu Shouk, and Al-Zahra.

A drone strike hit a displacement centre sheltering hundreds of civilians, killing at least 30 people, mostly women and children. Humanitarian groups described the attack as a deliberate strike on civilian concentrations.

RSF also targeted medical facilities, hitting the Abu Qurun Clinic and killing Dr. Imran Ismail Adam, while injuring three others, according to the Sudan Doctors Network. Save the Children reported that at least 17 children were killed in El Fasher during October as shelling and blockade tactics worsened famine conditions.

In El Obeid, North Kordofan, RSF militants launched drone attacks and struck Rahad Abu Dakna, killing three civilians and injuring more than ten. Satellite imagery by AfriMEOSINT revealed new RSF

construction near Nyala Airport's runway — believed to be an underground drone-control or air-defence facility linked to UAE coordination.

In South Kordofan, an RSF drone strike on Abu Jubayah killed Maj. Ali Haydar. In West Kordofan, also abducted ten youths in Dakoj, demanding heavy ransoms for their release. In North Darfur, RSF militants attacked Abu Gamara, forcing civilians to flee toward Chad, while in Kabkabiya the army conducted drone strikes on RSF positions, destroying several ammunition trucks.

The October escalation underscores the RSF's growing use of UAE-supplied drones and artillery in multi-front operations. Civilian deaths exceeded 80 throughout October, while food, medicine, and fuel shortages have pushed El Fasher and nearby areas to the edge of mass starvation.

Key Updates

In Khartoum, RSF militants carried out three consecutive days of drone strikes targeting Bahri, Omdurman, and central districts. The army intercepted several drones near Khartoum Airport, yet at least seven people were killed. RSF later claimed it had downed a Sudanese Army drone, though wreckage confirmed it was a Chinese CH-95 system previously supplied to the RSF via UAE channels.



SOUTH SUDAN

In South Sudan's Unity State, at least 13 soldiers were killed as clashes resumed between SSPDF and SPLA-IO forces in Rubkona County on Sunday, marking a renewed phase of violence between the rival factions. In Bor, Army Chief Gen. Paul Nang Majok issued an ultimatum to the Red Belt militia, ordering its members to integrate into the SSPDF or face forcible disarmament — reflecting growing tensions and fragmentation within South Sudan's armed landscape.

In Sudan's South Kordofan, an Al Jazeera investigation revealed a cyanide leak at the Tagula gold mine, killing 23 miners and injuring more than 100 people, highlighting the severe environmental and safety risks tied to conflict-linked extractive activities.

SSPDF: South Sudan's national army, established after independence in 2011.

SPLA-IO: South Sudan's main opposition armed group, formed during the civil war in 2013.



ETHIOPIA

In Amhara region, the Ethiopian army killed 48 militants and wounded 40 others, including Fano militia leaders, in wide-ranging counterinsurgency operations aimed at restoring control in conflict-prone zones.

Meanwhile, in Oromia region, armed men killed over 20 civilians amid ongoing clashes between government forces and the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA), reflecting the persistence of localized violence.

OLA: Oromo Liberation Army — An armed group in Ethiopia that claims to fight for the rights of the Oromo people.



Ethiopia Refugee Crisis 2025

By October 2025, funding collapse and ration cuts have pushed refugee camps to the brink of humanitarian failure.

CLASH **REPORT** INFOGRAPHIC SERVICE

🍴 Food & Funding

- \$230 million needed to sustain WFP operations
- Rations cut 60 → 40 % (< 1 000 kcal/day)
- Aid suspension may affect 780 000 people in 27 camps

🛡️ Protection Risks

- GBV, early marriage and child labor rising due to hunger
- School attendance down (46 % primary, 14 % secondary)
- Health access < 1 worker per 1.000 people

💓 Health & Nutrition

- GAM 24.2 %, SAM 8.9 %, stunting 66 %
- Therapeutic food stocks run out by Dec 2025 → 1 million children/mothers at risk

🚧 Drivers

- Severe donor shortfall (WFP & UNICEF)
- Sudan conflict spillover and instability
- Drought-flood cycles & food price spikes

👤 Population Impact

- 1.07 million refugees (mainly from South Sudan, Somalia, Eritrea, Sudan)
- 60 % children, 47 % women and girls – highest vulnerability
- Tension between new arrivals (full rations) and long-term residents (cuts)



SOMALI

In Hiiraan region, Somali government forces and allied Ma'awisley militias carried out a planned operation in Mabah, killing senior al-Shabaab commander Ali Ahmed Guure, also known as Ali Qoyane. Ma'awisley sources confirmed that Guure was responsible for the Hiiraan civilian massacre last year, in which dozens were killed.

In Afgooye district, southwest of Mogadishu, the Somali National Army (SNA) arrested two suspected al-Shabaab members accused of plotting attacks in the capital, according to the Defence Ministry.

In Puntland, security and defence forces launched major offensives in the Al-Miskaad Mountains, targeting ISIS strongholds. Puntland troops attacked the hideout of the group's deputy leader Abdirahman Faahiye Isse Mahmoud, while in a separate operation near Baallade Valley and Wangable, close to Bosaso, three ISIS militants were killed in clashes.

In Bakool region, the Somali National Army killed at least 10 al-Shabaab militants in an overnight raid near Hudur, extending its counter-insurgency operations across the southwest.

Around Mogadishu's outskirts, the government deployed additional troops to reinforce checkpoints and prevent potential al-Shabaab attacks targeting the capital.

In Puntland's Tisjiic area, local authorities issued evacuation warnings after reports that ISIS militants were using the zone as a transit route, signalling heightened counter-terrorism vigilance in northern Somalia.



Key Updates

In Beledweyne, an explosion at a café killed three civilians and injured four others in a suspected IED attack.

The same day in Mogadishu, Army Colonel Macalin Cumar Cali was shot dead outside his home by unidentified gunmen, highlighting ongoing security threats in urban areas.



NIGERIA

In Borno and Yobe States, security deteriorated sharply as reports indicated renewed coordination between Boko Haram, ISWAP, and the Bakoura Doro faction, suggesting a potential realignment among militant groups in northeastern Nigeria.

In Borno State, seven soldiers were killed and several others injured in a Boko Haram assault on Konduga, while a lieutenant colonel and multiple troops were killed repelling another attack.

In Ngamdu, four soldiers were killed and five wounded as forces repelled an ISWAP attack, and in Magumeri, troops under Operation Desert Sanity IV killed five ISWAP militants.

In a joint Borno–Yobe offensive, troops killed over 50 ISWAP militants, including several mid-level commanders, according to local military sources.

In Mafa, ISWAP militants raided army positions during a five-hour clash, looting and burning barracks and vehicles after troops reportedly withdrew from their posts.

In Mariga, Niger State, airstrikes killed dozens of armed bandits, marking one of the largest counter-criminal operations outside the northeast. In Zamfara State, gunmen ambushed security forces, killing eight personnel — five police officers and three civil defense members.

Elsewhere, intercommunal and militia violence persisted. In Plateau State, at least 14 civilians were killed in separate gunmen attacks on two villages. In Nindama, Nasarawa State, eight people were killed and six reported missing following a deadly raid, underscoring the spread of insecurity across central Nigeria.

MALI

JNIM's blockade of major fuel and power supply routes has caused severe shortages across Mali, with long queues reported in Bamako and widespread disruption to transport and electricity. The group's campaign of ambushes, IED attacks, and arson has targeted convoys and security posts across multiple regions.

Along the Kayes–Bamako corridor, fuel tankers from Senegal were set on fire overnight in Kolokani, while in Zégoua–Sikasso, JNIM claimed the destruction of 37 fuel tankers in one of the deadliest convoy attacks since the blockade began.

Near Kolondiéba, close to the Ivory Coast border, militants attacked another convoy, inflicting heavy casualties.

In Timbuktu region, a Malian drone strike hit the Madjakoy weekly market, killing three civilians and injuring several others, including a child. Separately, a FAMA soldier defected from Deri barracks, fleeing with weapons and ammunition to join FLA rebels near Goundam, exposing growing fractures within the armed forces.

Across central and southern Mali, JNIM intensified operations, claiming an attack on a Malian army convoy between Kolondiéba and Kadiana. The group released footage showing the seizure of a security post and arson in San, stating that several military vehicles and weapons were captured. Additional IED attacks were reported between Nampala and Diabaly, and between Kona and Fatoma, targeting both Malian and African Corps vehicles.

In Sikasso region, a civilian bus struck an IED between Daniéna and Sikasso on October 19, killing and injuring passengers, underscoring the indiscriminate threat to civilians.

JNIM spokesman al-Bambari announced the lifting of the group's ban on Diarra Company after its CEO apologized and pledged to stop assisting the army. He warned that women must wear Islamic veils on public transport or operators would face “consequences.”

Shortly afterward, the Malian government suspended Diarra Transport, accusing it of unauthorized negotiations with JNIM, further reflecting the group's tightening control over civilian and economic life amid state fragility.





JNIM's Escalated Economic Warfare: Mali's Fuel Crisis

JNIM's fuel blockade and convoy attacks launched in September 2025 have crippled Mali's economy. Tankers were set ablaze, fuel supply collapsed, energy production and food transport came to a halt, and the humanitarian situation is rapidly deteriorating.

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Crisis Profile – Key Metrics

- **Crisis Onset:** Early September 2025 (JNIM's blockade announcement).
- **Import Dependence:** Over 95% reliant on external sources.
- **Destroyed Tankers:** More than 100 (focused on the Kayes–Nioro corridor).
- **Electricity Generation:** 55% hydrocarbon-based → high risk of major outages.
- **Official Price Cap:** Diesel 725 CFA/L Gasoline 775 CFA/L.

Operational Picture

- **Corridors:** Kayes–Bamako axis and border routes via Senegal and Mauritania.
- **Tactics:** Ambushes, IEDs, arson, and extortion targeting fuel convoys.
- **Result:** Fuel transport halted; private carriers withdrew.
- **Effects:** Imports collapsed; energy, mining, and food supply disrupted.
- **Objective:** Expose state weakness and erode public confidence in the regime.

Timeline (Brief)

July–August 2025:

JNIM declared western trade routes a "blockade zone."

Mid September:

Major convoy hit on the Kayes route; over 80 tankers destroyed.

Late September:

CIVOTECH staff killed; private haulers suspended operations.

October 2025:

Blockade widened; new Kayes–Nioro attacks destroyed hundreds of tankers.

Humanitarian Impact

Health & Services: Fuel shortages cripple health, water, and food systems.

Hospitals: Generators down; transport largely paralyzed.

Food Prices: Scarcity surges; 1 million children acutely malnourished.

BURKINA FASO



In Soum Province, JNIM released a video showing the Gaskindé ambush between Djibo and Namssiguia. The footage featured militants giving a speech before launching the assault.

In the Fada N'Gourma region, JNIM said it targeted Volunteers for the Defense of the Homeland (VDP) near Farakorosso, detonating two explosives on the outskirts of the town — a sign of the group's continued reliance on IED tactics in eastern Burkina Faso.

Between Pissila and Pibaore, JNIM claimed it attacked soldiers digging trenches, killing five, burning four bulldozers, and capturing a mortar, RPGs, rifles, motorcycles, and ammunition. The group also stated that civilians

were likely hit during the assault.

In Pensa, JNIM said it killed three VDP fighters and seized rifles, an RPG, motorcycles, and ammunition during an attack on a military point. The group added that it had taken control of several VDP positions, increasing pressure on local militias.

In Bagamoussa, Koulpelogo Province, JNIM claimed to have seized a military vehicle, two motorcycles, an RPG, rifles, and ammunition after attacking a military post. Another assault in Naokui reportedly killed five soldiers, with weapons and ammunition captured.

In Tikare, JNIM said it had seized an RPG, rifles, and ammunition in an attack on a military

post, while in Zogore, the group took weapons and ammunition after storming a VDP point.

JNIM also claimed responsibility for capturing a VDP outpost in Koun gay, located in the Fada N'Gourma region, underscoring the group's expanding operational reach and resilience despite intensified counter-terrorism campaigns across Burkina Faso.

JNIM CLAIMED TO HAVE KILLED 90 SOLDIERS AND SEIZED TWO MILITARY VEHICLES, 37 MOTORCYCLES, FOUR RPGS, A DJI DRONE, RIFLES, AND LARGE QUANTITIES OF AMMUNITION. LOCAL SOURCES CONFIRMED HEAVY LOSSES AMONG BURKINABE TROOPS, THOUGH THE EXACT TOLL REMAINS UNVERIFIED.

NIGER

In Tahoua region, the town of Bagaroua came under armed attack, with assailants targeting both the governor's residence and the town hall in a coordinated overnight raid. Initial reports confirmed that one to two National Guard personnel were killed, while four attackers were neutralized during a prolonged exchange of fire.

Local sources said the assailants arrived on motorcycles and pick-up trucks, firing automatic weapons and attempting to breach the administrative compound before being repelled. The incident marks one of the boldest assaults in the area since the 2023–2024 insurgent wave, highlighting the persistence of militant and rebel incursions in western Niger despite tightened security under military rule.

In Agadez region, the rebel group Front Patriotique pour la Justice (FPJ) announced the release of the former Bilma governor and four other officials who were kidnapped last year in Dirkou. The hostages were reportedly held across the border in southern

Libya, a zone under shifting rebel and smuggler influence.

Their release followed months of back-channel mediation involving tribal intermediaries and community elders, reflecting an effort to reduce tensions between FPJ and northern Nigerien authorities. However, observers note that the FPJ continues to control parts of the Dirkou–Madama corridor, a strategic smuggling and migration route connecting northern Niger to Libya.

Separately, in Niamey, American missionary pilot Kevin Rideout (48) was kidnapped from his residence while working on an evangelical humanitarian mission. According to security sources, the abduction was not directly executed by terrorist organizations, but intelligence suggests that terror networks had circulated “calls for bids” encouraging local criminal groups to capture Westerners for ransom or political leverage.

The kidnapping underscores a growing criminal–terror nexus, where terrorist factions outsour-

ce abductions to local actors for financial and operational gain. Meanwhile, the Movement for Justice and Liberation of the People (MPLJ) issued a statement warning oil companies operating in the Agadem basin to cease cooperation with the Nigerien government.

The group declared that firms continuing operations under “the junta's protection” would be held responsible for ensuing consequences. Analysts interpret this as a significant escalation in rebel messaging against the Niger–China oil partnership and the state's resource control policies, potentially threatening the Agadem–Zinder pipeline corridor and Chinese CNPC operations.

The MPLJ's warning reflects a widening alignment between northern armed factions and socio-political grievances over the redistribution of extractive revenues, suggesting a fragile security outlook for Niger's key energy assets amid the broader Sahel instability.



DR CONGO

Heavy fighting continued across North and South Kivu as M23 rebels and Wazalendo militias clashed in Kibati, despite repeated ceasefire declarations.

The Congolese army issued an ultimatum to the Hutu-origin Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) to surrender their weapons, warning of imminent military action if they failed to comply.

Local residents reported heavy artillery exchanges near Rutshuru and Nyiragongo, forcing hundreds of families to flee toward Goma. In Rutshuru, AFC/M23 rebels were accused of killing 39 civilians on the same day Kinshasa and M23 signed a ceasefire monitoring deal in Doha, underlining the fragility of the truce. Witnesses described house-to-house executions and mass graves in the aftermath of the attack.

Meanwhile, two M23 officers and 36 militants surrendered to authorities, followed by another 38 combatants days later — many reportedly forcibly conscripted civilians, soldiers, and police.

The Interior Ministry accused Rwanda-backed M23–AFC forces of mass killings, rapes, and forced recruitment, claiming the group is establishing parallel administrations and replacing traditional chiefs to undermine state control in the Kivu provinces.

In response, M23 accused the government of conducting drone and air strikes in both North and South Kivu, calling the attacks a “blatant breach” of the Doha truce and alleging civilian casualties in Kibirizi and Sake.



Elsewhere, suspected Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) militants carried out a nighttime assault in eastern DRC, killing 19 civilians, while the ISIS-linked ADF faction claimed responsibility for another massacre in Lubero, North Kivu, where 30 Christians were killed.



MOZAMBIQUE

In Montepuez, Cabo Delgado, violence around Gemfields' ruby mine intensified as clashes between police and illegal miners left two officers dead, the company confirmed. The incident occurred when a group of illegal miners attempted to storm the mine site, prompting a shootout with security forces. Gemfields stated that operations have been temporarily disrupted while additional security measures are being implemented.

Meanwhile, ISIS-Mozambique (ISCAP) released images showing an attack on a Western-owned mining site in the same area, describing it as part of its ongoing "economic warfare" campaign targeting Mozambique's extractive sector. The group vowed to continue assaults on energy and mining facilities to weaken state revenues and deter foreign investors.

Further north, ISIS-linked insurgents ambushed a Rapid Intervention Unit convoy between Xitaxi and Chitunda, killing four soldiers in one of several recent attacks against state forces in Cabo Delgado province. Local sources reported that the ambush involved roadside IEDs and small-arms fire, forcing reinforcements to be deployed from Mueda.

The Rwandan government announced an extension of its military deployment in northern Mozambique, following a surge in IS-linked attacks that displaced tens of thousands of civilians in recent weeks.

Joint Rwandan-Mozambican operations have continued around Macomia, Muidumbe, and Palma, reflecting the protracted nature of the insurgency and Maputo's reliance on regional military support.

The Montepuez Ruby Mine, one of Mozambique's most significant foreign investment sites, remains at risk as both illegal mining activity and terror attacks converge in the region — threatening the country's gemstone exports and deterring new investment amid persistent insecurity in Cabo Delgado.

MOZAMBIQUE LNG RETURNS 2029 TARGET **IN** SIGHT

The \$20 billion Afungi LNG project is preparing to lift the force majeure declared after the 2021 Palma attacks; the government maintains its 2029 production target.

Status & Timeline



Project Overview

Investment: ≈ \$20 billion (Afungi Onshore LNG)

Fields: Golfinho & Atum (Rovuma Basin, Area 1)

Capacity: 2 trains 12.9–13.1 mtpa

Operator: TotalEnergies (26.5%)

Security & Market Context

- Halted after the **Cabo Delgado insurgency**; **partial normalization** since 2024 but risks remain.
- Europe's shift away from Russian gas is **boosting demand** for African LNG.
- Parallel **Eni Coral North (FLNG)** FID lifts national capacity to & 7 mtpa.

Force Majeure: Suspension of obligations due to uncontrollable events. **Applied to Mozambique LNG** after the 2021 Palma attacks.



IVORY COAST

Tensions rose in Ivory Coast ahead of the upcoming presidential election, as police used tear gas to disperse opposition protesters in Abidjan who had defied a government ban on public marches.

The demonstration, organized by opposition coalitions demanding electoral transparency and the release of detained activists, turned violent after security forces moved in to break up the crowd. Several protesters were arrested and taken into custody, according to local media and civil society observers.

In a separate incident in the southern part of the country, a gendarme was shot dead while on patrol by unidentified assailants, underscoring the tense security climate surrounding the electoral period. Security sources said investigations were underway to determine whether the attack was criminal or politically motivated.

Authorities have since reinforced security deployments across Abidjan, Bouaké, and San Pedro, with checkpoints established around strategic sites and electoral offices. The measures come amid mounting public frustration and fears of unrest during the vote, as political tensions deepen between the ruling party and opposition alliances ahead of the election.





POLITICAL AFFAIRS

SUDAN

Army Chief Abdel Fattah al-Burhan announced the military's readiness for talks to end the war and restore national unity, though no negotiations with the Quartet mediation group are currently underway. His statement came amid continued fighting and deepening humanitarian suffering across the country.

The IOM reported that 1,730 people were displaced from North Kordofan and North Darfur as insecurity worsened.

Burhan's government condemned the EU Council's "misguided conclusions" and its silence on the siege of El Fasher, reaffirming Sudan's sovereignty and readiness for constructive dialogue with international actors under Sudanese-led terms.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan stated that the international community has neglected Sudan's tragedy, calling for unified global action to "stop the bloodshed" and support the Sudanese people.

The IOM also reported that over one million people have returned to Khartoum within ten months despite ongoing insecurity and limited access to basic services.

Separately, the International Criminal Court (ICC) convicted a former Janjaweed commander for war crimes and crimes against humanity, marking the first Darfur-related judgment since the atrocities committed two decades ago — a decision widely seen as a renewed step toward accountability for past and ongoing abuses.

IOM: International Organization for Migration — an intergovernmental organization that provides services and advice concerning migration, promoting safe and humane migration worldwide.



Key Updates

UN agencies estimated that over 30 million Sudanese now require urgent humanitarian assistance, including 9.6 million displaced persons and 15 million children affected by conflict, hunger, and disease.

SOMALI

The African Union (AU) appointed former Somali Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali Gaas as Special Envoy and Head of Mission to lead mediation and peacebuilding efforts in South Sudan, amid escalating instability and renewed clashes between rival military factions. The AU stated that the envoy will work closely with IGAD and the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) to support dialogue, ceasefire compliance, and reconciliation among political actors.

Meanwhile, the UN Commission on Human Rights reported that approximately 300,000 South Sudanese have fled the country in 2025 due to worsening insecurity and humanitarian conditions.

Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud arrived in Addis Ababa for high-level talks focused on strengthening bilateral ties with Ethiopia and stabilizing regional relations amid tensions over maritime and border issues.

In Aden, Yemen's Defense Minister Maj. Gen. Mohsen al-Daari met with Somali Ambassador Abdulhakim Mohamed to enhance bilateral cooperation against illegal migration, piracy, and terrorism in the Gulf of Aden and the Horn of Africa maritime corridor.

Somalia and Azerbaijan signed a Memorandum of Understanding granting mutual visa exemptions for diplomatic passport holders, aimed at reinforcing bilateral and diplomatic relations and encouraging cooperation in education, trade, and technology exchange.

Police Chief Brig. Gen. Asad Osman Abdullahi met with Iraqi counterpart Lt. Gen. Saad Khalaf Badr Al-Halfi in Baghdad to enhance training, intelligence sharing, and counter-terrorism cooperation between Somalia and Iraq, with discussions focused on combating transnational crime networks and violent extremism.

Egypt and Somalia's foreign ministers held consultations in Cairo, discussing the potential deployment of Egyptian troops under the African Union mission framework to support stabilization and counter-terrorism operations, reflecting Cairo's growing engagement in Horn of Africa security.

In Doha, Somalia and Türkiye's Labour Ministers met to review the implementation of their bilateral labour cooperation agreement, advancing institutional collaboration on employment programs, vocational training, and migrant worker protection, complementing broader strategic ties between the two countries.



LIBYA

Despite the UN arms embargo, at least four South African-made Gazelle helicopters were exported to General Khalifa Haftar's Libyan National Army (LNA), underscoring ongoing foreign support and illicit rearmament of Libyan factions in violation of international restrictions.

House of Representatives-appointed Prime Minister Osama Hammad accused UNSMIL and foreign powers of deepening Libya's political divide by supporting rival authorities, asserting that the country's crisis is "driven by external interests, not Libyans themselves." His remarks came amid stalled reunification efforts and renewed tensions between eastern and western administrations.

Libyan authorities deported 142 irregular Egyptian migrants via the Imssaed border crossing as part of intensified operations by the Department for Combating Illegal Migration (DCIM) and the Border Guard. Officials said the move was part of broader efforts to curb irregular migration and strengthen border control along the eastern frontier.

Libya-Türkiye relations continued to expand as Labour Ministers Ali Al-Abed Al-Rida and Vedat Işıkhan met in Doha to strengthen cooperation on employment and vocational training. Separately, both governments signed a bilateral economic deal in Istanbul during the Türkiye-Africa Economic and Business Forum, aimed at boosting trade, investment, and private-sector partnerships.

In Tunis, Tunisian Prime Minister Sara Zafrani Zanzeri met with Libyan Economy Minister Mohamed Al-Houij to enhance bilateral cooperation and implement joint trade commission recommendations, emphasizing the two countries' push for closer cross-border economic coordination and regional integration.

UNSMIL: United Nations Support Mission in Libya — a UN political mission established to support Libya's transition, promote peace, and assist in building stable governance institutions.

Key Updates

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis proposed a new "5x5 Mediterranean Cooperation Framework" bringing together Libya, Egypt, Cyprus, and Türkiye to coordinate on migration management, maritime security, environmental protection, and economic connectivity, signaling renewed multilateral engagement in the region.





ETHIOPIA

Somaliland President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdilaahi (Cirro) arrived in Addis Ababa at the invitation of Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, where he was welcomed by Foreign Minister Gedion Timotheos and senior government officials.

The visit aimed to strengthen cooperation in trade, transport, and regional security, underscoring Ethiopia's growing engagement with Somaliland amid shifting political alignments in the Horn of Africa.

Egypt and Sudan reaffirmed their joint opposition to unilateral actions on the Blue Nile, reiterating their rejection of Ethiopia's Grand Renaissance Dam (GERD) project without a comprehensive and mutually agreed framework.

Both governments emphasized the need for coordination on water security and adherence to international law and prior agreements governing Nile Basin usage.

The Ethiopian Council of Ministers approved the creation of the Ethiopian Nuclear Energy Commission, mandated to oversee the peaceful development of nuclear energy for use in electricity generation, healthcare, industry, and agriculture.

In parallel, Ethiopia and Russia advanced toward finalizing their nuclear cooperation agreement, signing a document outlining plans for the construction of a nuclear power plant and technical collaboration, marking a strategic expansion of their bilateral partnership in energy and science.

MOROCCO

Youth collective GenZ 212 resumed protests in Rabat, demanding stronger government action on education, healthcare, corruption, and the cost-of-living crisis. The demonstrations, led mainly by young activists, drew large crowds across several districts of the capital and reflected mounting frustration over social inequality and unemployment.

Security forces maintained a visible but restrained presence, while protest organizers called for sustained nationwide mobilization.

In response to the growing unrest, the Moroccan government announced plans to increase health and education spending to \$15 billion in 2026, representing a 16 percent rise from the previous year, according to a royal palace statement.

The move aims to strengthen public services and address citizens' socioeconomic demands amid inflationary pressures.

Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita met his Belgian counterpart Maxime Prévot in Brussels to reinforce a multidimensional strategic partnership focused on mutual trust, regional stability, and counter-migration cooperation, underscoring Rabat's continued diplomatic engagement with the European Union.

BURKINA FASO

Foreign Minister Karamoko Traoré announced that Burkina Faso rejected a U.S. deportee proposal, describing it as incompatible with "the dignity central to Captain Ibrahim Traoré's vision." The decision marked another sign of the country's growing diplomatic assertiveness toward Western partners and its emphasis on national sovereignty in foreign policy.

Following the announcement, the U.S. Embassy in Ouagadougou temporarily suspended visa services for most categories, reflecting the increasingly tense and shifting nature of relations between the two governments amid broader geopolitical realignments across the Sahel.

Meanwhile, leader Captain Ibrahim Traoré officially handed over a new shipment of Chinese-supplied military equipment to the Ministry of Defense to reinforce national defense capabilities.

The delivery, part of ongoing Burkina Faso-China military cooperation, included armored vehicles, artillery units, and logistical support systems aimed at enhancing counterinsurgency operations and border security.



MAGADASCAR



Weeks of youth-led protests in Madagascar culminated in a full-scale military takeover after elite army units refused orders to open fire on demonstrators and joined calls for President Andry Rajoelina's resignation.

Protesters, driven by economic hardship and political frustration, were joined by a contingent that declared the armed forces now under its command.

As unrest escalated, Rajoelina dissolved the National Assembly just as lawmakers convened to begin impeachment proceedings. Soon after, he fled the country, prompting the army commander to announce that the military had seized power.

The Constitutional Court subsequently declared the presidency vacant and appointed Colonel Michael Randrianirina as interim leader, mandating elections within 60 days. Randrianirina officially took office as interim president, pledging dialogue with the African Union (AU) and respect for national stability following the coup.

President Andry Rajoelina, before fleeing, denounced the events as an "attempted coup" and later claimed he was safe after an alleged assassination attempt, urging adherence to the Constitution.

The African Union (AU) and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) condemned the coup, declaring their rejecti-

on of the unconstitutional change of government and suspending Madagascar's membership.

Following the takeover, young protesters—who had spearheaded the mass demonstrations—stated that their daily hardships persist, expressing cautious optimism that Col. Randrianirina will address economic and social grievances neglected under Rajoelina's rule.

IN A SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, MADAGASCAR'S SENATE VOTED TO REMOVE ITS PRESIDENT, RICHARD RAVALOMANANA, AND APPOINTED JEAN ANDRÉ NDREMANJARY AS ACTING SENATE PRESIDENT, REFLECTING THE ONGOING INSTITUTIONAL RESHUFFLING FOLLOWING THE COUP.

MADAGASCAR **CRISIS** TIMELINE

1-7 Oct

Violence spreads; 22 dead, 300+ injured. Curfew (19:00-05:00) imposed in the capital.

10 Oct

Elite unit CAPSAT defects, seizes army bases, and joins protesters.

12 Oct

Rajoelina calls the revolt a "power grab", says he hasn't resigned. Gen. Pikulas appointed army chief as CAPSAT expands control.

13 Oct

Reports claim Rajoelina fled abroad (Mauritius or France). Presidency denies, says he's "in contact with forces." CAPSAT consolidates authority.

14 Oct

Gunfire in Antananarivo, state TV occupied, fuel prices +40%. AU & UN urge restraint and dialogue.



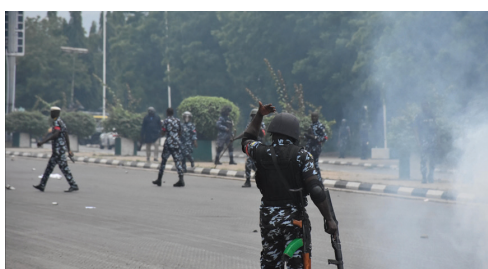
NIGERIA

The military denied speculation linking the cancellation of Nigeria's 65th Independence Day parade to an alleged coup plot, describing such reports as false, misleading, and intended to create unnecessary public tension.

The Defence Headquarters stated that the parade's cancellation was due to logistical and budgetary considerations, emphasizing that the Armed Forces remain loyal to the constitution and civilian authority. The statement called on the public to disregard "rumors spread by politically motivated actors seeking to destabilize national unity."

Demonstrators gathered outside the Federal High Court and major intersections in the city center, chanting pro-Biafra slogans and carrying placards calling for justice and dialogue.

Authorities described the protests as unauthorized public gatherings, while rights groups condemned the use of force, warning that the crackdown reflects the continuing tensions over separatist grievances and wider concerns about political repression and human rights in Nigeria.



In Abuja, police used tear gas and crowd-control measures to disperse protesters demanding the release of separatist leader Nnamdi Kanu, who has been detained since 2021 on terrorism-related charges.

MALI

Interim leader Assimi Goita dismissed three senior army commanders, including the deputy chief of staff and the head of military security, amid worsening insecurity and rising public criticism of the government's handling of the insurgency. The decision followed a series of security incidents in the country's northern and central regions.

The Malian government imposed a \$10,000 visa bond requirement for U.S. nationals, a reciprocal measure following Washington's new bond rules for Malian travelers, effective October 23. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs confirmed that the regulation will apply to all visa categories unless exempted by specific bilateral arrangements.

Authorities also announced that they are considering banning TikTok, citing its alleged role in spreading disinformation and terrorist propaganda. The Ministry of Communication stated that the measure aims to prevent the misuse of online platforms for activities that threaten national security.



CAMEROON

Post-election tensions escalated in Cameroon after opposition candidate Issa Tchiroma Bakary declared victory in the 12 October presidential election, calling on 92-year-old President Paul Biya to concede defeat and end his 43-year rule.

Official results have not yet been announced, with the electoral commission expected to publish them by 26 October. Both the ruling party and the opposition have claimed victory, despite national laws prohibiting premature declarations.

Violent clashes erupted in Douala and Garoua between security forces and opposition supporters, resulting in one death and several injuries. The incidents prompted heavy police deployments across major cities as authorities moved to prevent further escalation.

Tchiroma called for nationwide protests against what he described as "falsified results," vowing to defend what he referred to as "the people's mandate."

Authorities imposed significant internet restrictions, confirmed by NetBlocks, as demonstrations spread and allegations of electoral irregularities increased.



Issa Tchiroma Bakary *Who Is He?*

A longtime insider under **President Paul Biya**, Issa Tchiroma Bakary reemerged in 2025 as the leading opposition **figure challenging Cameroon's decades-old regime**.



Basic Information

- **Born:** September 10, 1946
Garoua, North Cameroon
- **Education:** Studied railway engineering in France
- **Profession:** Railway engineer, politician
- **Party:** Front pour le Salut National du Cameroun (FSNC) party leader since 2007
- **Spouse:** Aminata Müller

Political Career and Positions

- **1984–1990:** Arrested after an alleged coup attempt against Biya; spent six years in prison.
- **1992–1996:** Minister of Transport – served during the early multiparty transition.
- **2009–2019:** Minister of Communication – acted as the regime's chief spokesperson during its most repressive years.
- **2019–2025:** Minister of Employment and Vocational Training – resigned in 2025 to run for president.

2025 Presidential Challenge

- **June 2025:** Resigned from Biya's cabinet and announced his presidential candidacy with support from the Union for Change coalition.
- **Campaign Slogan:** "Le peuple au pouvoir / We are the power."
- **October 12, 2025:** Presidential elections held.
- **October 14:** Declared victory before official results, urging Biya to "honour the truth of the ballot box."



Once known as the regime's voice, Tchiroma reversed course in 2025, apologizing for his past and admitting to military abuses:

***There was a time I denied it, but today I speak as a free man.
The army committed crimes.***



DR CONGO

The Congolese government and M23 rebels formally signed a ceasefire mechanism in Doha, agreeing to establish an international monitoring body responsible for enforcing and verifying compliance with the fragile truce.

The agreement was facilitated by Qatari mediators and attended by representatives from the African Union and the United Nations. However, UN Special Envoy Huang Xia stated that the broader DRC–Rwanda ceasefire remains largely unrespected, with continued violations on both sides despite ongoing international peace efforts.

In a related development, over 200 Rwandan refugees were voluntarily repatriated from eastern DRC under a UNHCR-supported program coordinated by both the Congolese and Rwandan governments.

Officials described the operation as a symbolic humanitarian achievement, taking place amid persistent cross-border tensions and insecurity in the Kivu provinces.

Twangiza Mining reported that M23 rebels looted approximately 500 kilograms of gold, valued at around \$70 million, from its South Kivu site since May. The company stated that the attacks caused significant operational losses and highlighted how rebel control over resource zones continues to sustain the conflict economy and undermine regional stability.

Separately, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) and the Ministry of Health raised alarms over a nationwide cholera outbreak, recording more than 58,000 suspected cases within nine months. Health authorities confirmed that the epidemic has spread to several provinces, making it one of the highest infection rates recorded in Central Africa in recent years, and appealed for urgent international assistance to contain the spread.

MALI

Production resumed at the Morila gold mine, marking the first U.S. investment under Mali's revised mining code enacted earlier this year. The project, operated in partnership with local authorities and private stakeholders, is expected to increase national gold output and contribute to foreign exchange earnings.

The Ministry of Mines stated that the investment includes modernized extraction and processing facilities, along with commitments to environmental compliance and community development programs.

Amid worsening insecurity, the fuel crisis has paralyzed transport, trade, and supply chains, with long queues at fuel stations and severe shortages across Bamako, Sikasso, and Kayes.

The disruption has slowed agricultural distribution, increased commodity prices, and hampered industrial operations, compounding the economic strain caused by JNIM's ongoing blockade of major logistics routes.

The situation has intensified fiscal pressure on Mali's import-dependent economy, prompting government rationing measures and emergency fuel imports to stabilize domestic markets.



GHANA

The Ghanaian government faces a lawsuit over the return of new U.S. deportees, after the United States deported at least 42 individuals to Ghana. Government spokesman Felix Kwakye Ofori confirmed that the Attorney General's office will defend the repatriation agreement in court, amid criticism over transparency and sovereignty concerns.

In Beijing, President John Dramani Mahama and Chinese President Xi Jinping reaffirmed commitments to strengthen Ghana–China relations, marking 65 years of diplomatic ties and pledging deeper cooperation in infrastructure, trade, and energy sectors.



SENEGAL

President Bassirou Diomaye Faye received an official report on the 1944 Thiaroye massacre, in which African World War II veterans were killed by French colonial troops after demanding unpaid wages upon returning from Europe.

The report accuses France of concealing evidence, falsifying records, and manipulating casualty figures, citing archival gaps and missing military documentation.

It calls for declassification of French military archives, formal recognition of responsibility, and reparations to the families of victims.

In Kigali, Presidents Bassirou Diomaye Faye and Paul Kagame signed five bilateral cooperation agreements between Senegal and Rwanda, covering agriculture, health, governance, prison services, and visa exemptions. The accords aim to strengthen institutional partnerships, promote knowledge exchange, and facilitate movement between the two countries.

The agreements were signed during an official state visit, marking a notable milestone in African continental collaboration and reinforcing South–South cooperation frameworks under the African Union's integration agenda.



Thiaroye 1944 – Memory Restored Through Faye's Words

Senegal's White Paper on the December 1, 1944 Thiaroye Massacre finds the French army's attack on returning African soldiers was premeditated and later concealed. President Bassirou Diomaye Faye called the report "a rehabilitation of historical truth and national dignity."

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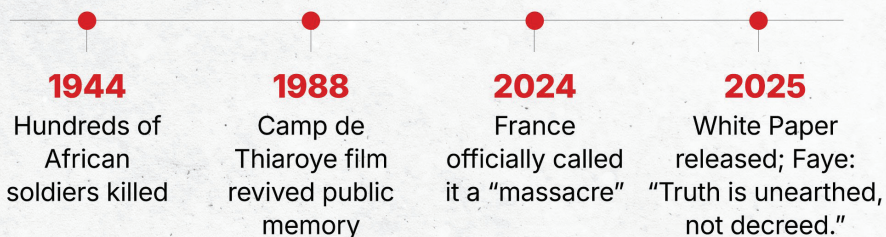
Status & Overview

- Based on archives, testimonies, and new excavations
- Massacre was **planned**, not spontaneous
- Death toll: **35 → 300–400**
- 400+ soldiers missing from records
- France urged to **apologize** and **open archives**

Key Drivers & Hotspots

- Around **1,300 freed African POWs** held at Thiaroye camp
- Protested **unpaid wages** and **racial bias**
- On **1 Dec 1944**, French troops **fired on unarmed men**
- A **deliberate show of force** to uphold colonial rule
- Some **executions near the train station**

Trend (1944 → 2025)



Cross-Border Impact

- Excavations since May 2024 found bullet-marked remains
- Files moved to France left major archival gaps
- Researchers face **restricted access** and **missing records**
- Report urges **accountability**, **joint probes**, and **reparations**



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SOUTH AFRICA KENYA

President Cyril Ramaphosa stated that the Gaza ceasefire will not alter South Africa's genocide case against Israel at the International Court of Justice (ICJ), reaffirming Pretoria's commitment to pursuing legal accountability independently of ongoing truce developments.

The president emphasized that South Africa's case is based on alleged violations of the Genocide Convention, and that humanitarian pauses or ceasefire agreements do not negate the need for judicial review of Israel's actions in Gaza.

In Jakarta, Presidents Prabowo Subianto and Cyril Ramaphosa agreed to activate the Indonesia-South Africa defense pact, expanding cooperation in defense, trade, and strategic sectors.

The agreement includes plans for joint military training, technology exchange, and industrial collaboration within the framework of South-South defense cooperation, signaling renewed engagement between the two nations in security and economic partnerships.

In Nairobi, tensions flared during the funeral of former Prime Minister Raila Odinga at Kasarani Stadium, where police opened fire after unrest erupted, killing four people and injuring several others.

The violence came amid a period of national mourning following Odinga's death at age 80 in Kochi, India, where he was receiving treatment after reportedly suffering a cardiac arrest. His death marks the end of an era for Kenya's opposition politics, where he had been a central figure for decades.

Kenya and Senegal agreed to lift visa requirements, granting 90-day visa-free travel between the two nations to enhance tourism, trade, and bilateral cooperation, part of Nairobi's broader drive to deepen continental partnerships.



CONTINENT-WIDE AFRICA



In Gabon, President Brice Oligui Nguema's Democratic Union of Builders (UDB) won 55 of 145 parliamentary seats in the second round of voting, securing a plurality and parliamentary majority. However, earlier official tallies indicated the party held slightly over one-third of total seats, reflecting possible coalition-building requirements and a contested interpretation of the results.

In Benin, the electoral commission barred main opposition candidate Renaud Agbodjo from contesting the April 2026 presidential election, citing insufficient sponsorships — a move likely to deepen political tension ahead of the polls.

In Guinea-Bissau, opposition leader and former Prime Minister Domingos Simões Pereira was excluded from the provisional list of candidates for the November 2025 presidential election, a decision that could further polarize the country's fragile political landscape.

In Djibouti, Prime Minister Abdoukader Kamil Mohamed met Bangladesh President Muhammad Yunus to discuss expanding cooperation in trade, investment, and expertise exchange, signaling Djibouti's effort to diversify its foreign partnerships beyond traditional Gulf and Western allies.

Mozambique – Cabo Delgado & Nampula Crisis 2025

Armed attacks and mass displacement continue to devastate civilians in northern Mozambique.



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Situation Overview

- NSAG attacks spread across Cabo Delgado and Nampula.
- 39,600 people displaced — 80% women and children.
- Schools closed; education and basic services disrupted.
- Insecurity and funding gaps limit humanitarian access.

Affected Areas

- Camps overcrowded; food, shelter, water, and protection most urgent.
- Poor sanitation increases outbreak risk.
- Psychosocial support helps families cope with repeated displacement.

Protection & Security

- 900,000 people in IPC Phase 3+ (food crisis).
- Schools closed in 16 districts, including 13 in Balama.
- 70% of health facilities non-functional; up to 88% in some areas.
- Shelter stock covers only 18,000 families.
- UNICEF delivered 76,913 RUTF sachets; 603 children treated for SAM.

Key Indicators

- Mocimboa da Praia: 26,400 displaced.
- Balama: 5,500 displaced.
- Montepuez: 3,980 displaced.
- Chiure: 1,164 displaced; Memba: 2,178 displaced.
- New attacks hit Nangade and Erati districts.

Humanitarian Impact

- Civilians face attacks, abductions, and child recruitment.
- GBV and sexual violence on the rise.
- Lack of documentation limits service access.
- Overcrowded camps heighten SEA risks.

Priority Needs

- Scale up food and agricultural aid.
- Strengthen mobile health teams.
- Repair water and sanitation systems.
- Expand GBV and child protection services.

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ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

SUDAN

A U.S. jury found French bank BNP Paribas liable for aiding atrocities committed under Omar al-Bashir's regime, ordering the payment of \$20.5 million to Sudanese victims. Court filings stated that the bank had processed financial transactions for Sudan during U.S. sanctions, indirectly financing state security operations later linked to violence in Darfur.

In Khartoum, the international airport received its first civilian flight in two years under a temporary arrangement allowing limited humanitarian and commercial operations.

The Sudanese pound lost nearly 40 percent of its value after a UAE flight ban from Port Sudan disrupted gold exports, one of the army's main foreign-currency sources.

Separately, Sudan signed a \$230 million defense agreement with Pakistan covering aircraft, drones, and armored personnel carriers, aimed at restoring military capacity despite the ongoing conflict.

SOMALIA

The IMF and the Somali government reached a staff-level agreement on the fourth review of the Extended Credit Facility (ECF), unlocking \$30 million to support economic reforms and fiscal stabilization. The Ministry of Finance confirmed that funds will be directed toward tax modernization, debt management, and public-finance transparency.

Meanwhile, the World Food Programme (WFP) warned that millions face worsening hunger as funding shortages forced a two-thirds cut in emergency food assistance. The agency reported more than 4.3 million people in crisis-level food insecurity, with drought, displacement, and conflict continuing to drive humanitarian needs across the country.

East Africa: Fragility Loop

Developments in Sudan and Somalia highlight the region's cycle of insecurity and economic fragility. In Sudan, the BNP Paribas verdict increases international scrutiny of past regime financing. The sharp currency drop and UAE flight ban weakened the army's funding base. The Pakistan defense deal shows a push to rebuild military power but adds fiscal strain. In Somalia, the IMF agreement signals reform intent, yet WFP cuts deepen food insecurity. Overall, fragile economies remain trapped between security risks and humanitarian pressures.



LIBYA

The Central Bank of Libya reported that oil revenues reached \$14.65 billion in the first nine months of 2025, confirming the continued dominance of the energy sector as the main driver of the national economy despite ongoing political instability.

The Tripoli-based government announced plans to raise oil production to 1.6 million barrels per day by 2026, up from the current 1.4 million, according to Oil Minister Khalifa Abdul Sadek.

The ministry stated that production increases will rely on new investments and rehabilitation of damaged infrastructure in major oil fields.



ETHIOPIA

The World Food Programme (WFP) warned it may suspend food aid for millions of refugees in Ethiopia due to severe funding shortages, which have already forced reductions in food rations across multiple camps.

The agency warned that the cuts could worsen hunger in refugee-hosting regions such as Gambella, Afar, and Somali states. Meanwhile, Washington pledged financial support through the U.S.

International Development Finance Corporation (DFC) for Ethiopia's \$10 billion Bishoftu International Airport project to boost Addis Ababa's air logistics capacity and deepen U.S. economic ties in the Horn of Africa.



Libya: Fragile Energy-Led Recovery

Libya's rebound rests on oil, with over \$9 billion in 2025 revenues and plans to boost output to 1.6 million bpd. Political division and weak infrastructure still threaten stability, leaving the economy strong on paper but vulnerable in practice.

ALGERIA

The Algerian government approved a record \$25 billion defense budget for 2026, the largest in the country's history, reflecting increased allocations for border security, counterterrorism, and modernization of the armed forces.

The Ministry of Finance confirmed that defense spending will account for nearly 20 percent of total expenditures, driven by growing instability in the Sahel region and rising regional military competition.

In the energy sector, Egypt's state-owned Petrojet signed a \$1.08 billion contract for the second phase of the Hassi Bir Rekaiz oil field project, located in eastern Algeria. The agreement expands Petrojet's operations in North Africa and strengthens bilateral energy cooperation between Algeria and Egypt, focusing on oil field development, engineering, and infrastructure works.



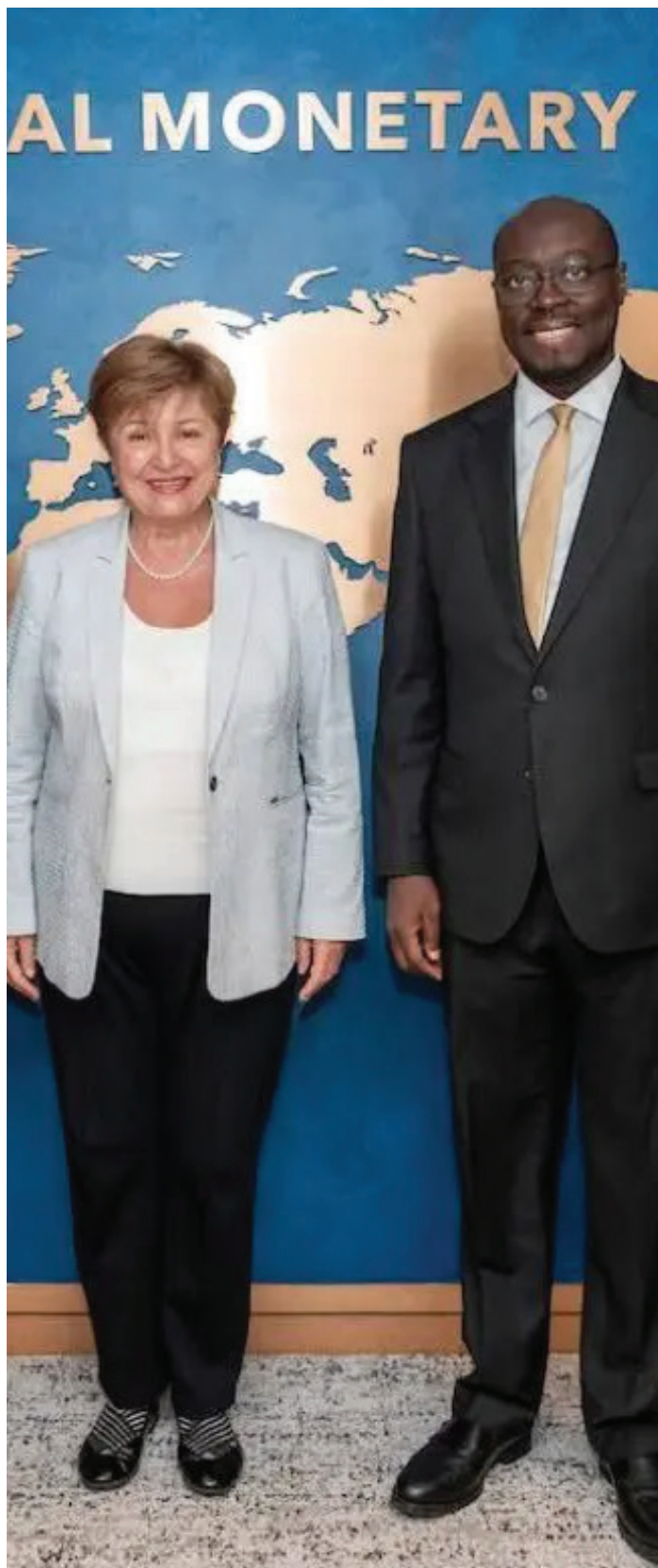
MOROCCO

The Moroccan government unveiled its 2026 draft budget worth \$83 billion, representing a 5.5 percent increase from the previous year. The draft projects economic growth of 4.6 percent, down from earlier forecasts, due to weaker agricultural output and global market uncertainty.

Key spending areas include public investment, infrastructure, and social programs, alongside an increase in defense expenditure to \$15.7 billion aimed at modernizing the Royal Armed Forces and expanding the domestic defense industry.

Separately, Morocco and Russia renewed their fisheries cooperation agreement, allowing Russian vessels to continue operating in Morocco's Atlantic waters. The agreement was signed by Foreign Minister Nasser Bourita and Russia's fisheries chief Ilya Shestakov, covering resource management, environmental protection, and maritime safety.





NIGERIA

The National Assembly launched an investigation into the abandoned \$35 million modular refinery project in Bayelsa State, following reports of financial mismanagement and stalled construction. Lawmakers requested full disclosure from the Ministry of Petroleum Resources and the Niger Delta Development Commission (NDDC) on project funding and oversight.

The National Bureau of Statistics reported that raw material imports surged by 19.7 percent year-on-year to ₦3.53 trillion in the first half of 2025, with nearly 70 percent of manufacturing inputs sourced abroad, underscoring heavy import dependency.

Parliament also opened a separate inquiry into the management of \$4.6 billion in health aid funds disbursed between 2021 and 2025. Lawmakers stated that despite the allocations for HIV, tuberculosis, and malaria programs, mortality rates remain high, prompting an official audit into spending, transparency, and program implementation.

GHANA

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) reached a staff-level agreement with the Government of Ghana on the fifth review of its Extended Credit Facility (ECF) program, unlocking \$385 million pending Executive Board approval. Once approved, total disbursements under the program will exceed \$2.8 billion.

The agreement supports Ghana's efforts to stabilize the economy through fiscal consolidation, debt restructuring, and macroeconomic reforms aimed at sustaining growth and restoring investor confidence.

SOUTH AFRICA

The Adani Group and several Chinese state-owned power firms are competing for stakes in South Africa's planned \$25 billion transmission grid expansion, a cornerstone of the country's energy transition and infrastructure modernization plan.

The project, led by Eskom in coordination with private investors, seeks to expand grid capacity and connect new renewable energy sites to meet rising electricity demand.

Separately, Shell filed an appeal against a South African court ruling that blocked its offshore oil and gas exploration along the Wild Coast. The company is seeking judicial permission to proceed with exploration activities, arguing compliance with environmental and consultation requirements, which local communities and environmental groups continue to contest.

The Kremlin confirmed that President Vladimir Putin will not attend the G20 summit in South Africa, with Moscow instead represented by a high-level delegation.

The announcement was coordinated between Pretoria and Moscow, ensuring continued Russian participation in G20 discussions while avoiding potential diplomatic and legal complications linked to international warrants.



Türkiye–South Africa: New Phase



The inaugural Türkiye–South Africa Joint National Commission met in Ankara, led by Vice President Cevdet Yılmaz and Deputy President Paul Mashatile, marking a new milestone in bilateral ties.

Key Agreements Signed

4 MoUs covering trade, higher education, and sports.

Commitment to finalize additional deals before the G-20 Johannesburg Summit (Nov 2025).

Commission elevated to presidential level, ensuring regular sessions.

Sector

Defense & Energy

Education & Science

Trade & Investment

Cultural Exchange

Focus Areas

Technology transfer, joint production, sustainable energy projects

University partnerships, research mobility programs

Diversified exports, value-added manufacturing, SME collaboration

Sports diplomacy, people-to-people initiatives

Diplomatic Highlights

- Türkiye hails South Africa as a "key partner" in its Africa policy.
- Shared stance on justice and equality in global governance.
- Türkiye backs Pretoria's ICJ case against Israel, praising its defense of Palestinian rights.
- Both countries coordinate positions in G-20 and U.N. forums.



NIGER

Moody's downgraded Niger's sovereign credit rating to "critical risk" with a negative outlook in its October 2025 review, warning that the country is on the brink of default due to collapsing investor confidence, reduced access to external financing, and limited fiscal buffers.

The downgrade follows continued sanctions and trade restrictions imposed after the 2023 coup, which have severely constrained government revenue and foreign reserves.

French uranium company Areva (now part of Orano) will face trial in France over alleged negligence related to the 2010 abduction of its employees by militants in northern Niger.

The case, brought by the victims' families, accuses the company of failing to take adequate security precautions at its mining operations in Arlit and Imouraren, marking a rare instance of corporate accountability for security-related incidents in the Sahel's mining sector.



MOZAMBIQUE

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BOTSWANA

President Duma Boko visited Oman for high-level talks focused on energy, mining, and investment cooperation, where companies linked to the Oman Investment Authority (OIA) proposed joint ventures in green hydrogen, renewable energy, mining, logistics, and food production.

The government introduced a new provision under the revised Mines and Minerals Act, requiring mining companies to sell a 24 percent stake in new concessions to local investors if the state chooses not to exercise its 15 percent purchase option.

The rule is designed to boost domestic participation in the mining sector and ensure broader local ownership of future resource projects.

Anglo American CEO Duncan Wanblad confirmed that the Government of Botswana will join discussions with shortlisted bidders for De Beers, as Anglo American proceeds with the sale of its 85 percent stake in the diamond company.

The transaction is expected to reshape Botswana's diamond revenue structure and influence the global diamond market.



MEANWHILE, MOODY'S DOWNGRADED BOTSWANA'S CREDIT RATING FROM A3 TO BAA1, CITING A STRUCTURAL DECLINE IN THE DIAMOND INDUSTRY, INCREASING PUBLIC DEBT, AND LIMITED PROGRESS IN ECONOMIC DIVERSIFICATION. THE DOWNGRADE REFLECTS MOUNTING FISCAL PRESSURES ON ONE OF AFRICA'S HISTORICALLY STABLE ECONOMIES.

KENYA

The Kenyan Parliament passed the Virtual Asset Service Providers Bill, establishing a legal and regulatory framework for cryptocurrencies and digital assets. The law seeks to formalize oversight of the fast-growing fintech sector, attract private investment, and align Kenya's digital economy with international financial standards.

In the aviation sector, Kenya Airways began using locally produced jet biofuel for select flights, a move aimed at supporting green investment and demonstrating the viability of sustainable aviation fuel production in Africa. The initiative aligns with Kenya's renewable energy and climate innovation agenda.



NAMIBIA

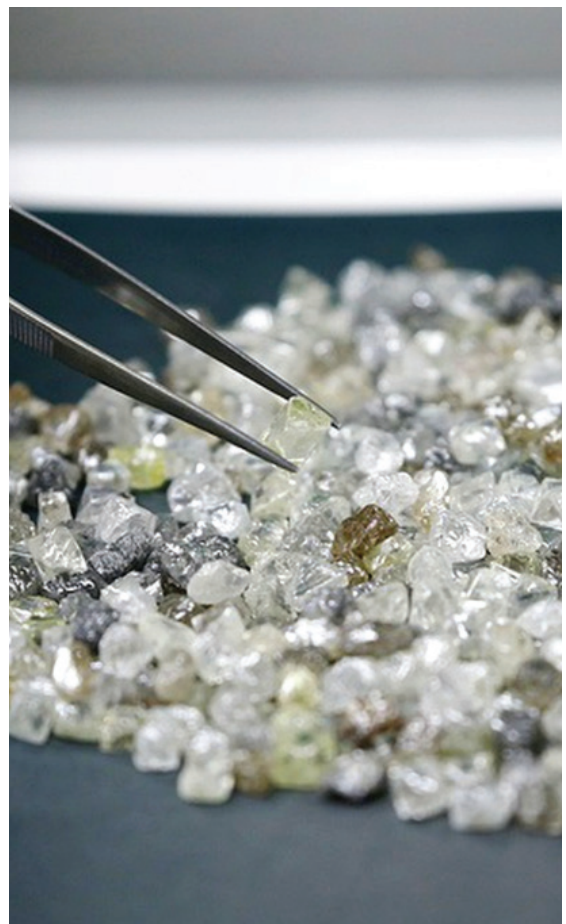
The Bank of Namibia cut its benchmark interest rate by 25 basis points to 6.50 percent, citing a weakening economy and contained inflation after keeping rates unchanged for three consecutive meetings. The Monetary Policy Committee stated that the move aims to support domestic growth while maintaining alignment with regional monetary conditions.

Central Bank Governor Johannes !Gawaxab called on the government to extend Namdeb's royalty discount beyond 2025, warning that the diamond sector is under pressure from falling global demand, market oversupply, and competition from lab-grown diamonds.

He emphasized that maintaining royalty relief is critical to sustain production levels, export revenues, and employment within Namibia's diamond industry.

Separately, the central bank confirmed it has secured funds to redeem a \$750 million Eurobond maturing on October 29, marking the largest debt repayment in Namibia's history.

The bank described the settlement as a major step toward preserving fiscal stability and investor confidence in the country's credit profile.





ANGOLA

The Angolan government announced plans to finalize a debt-for-development swap with the World Bank before June 2026, aimed at easing the country's external debt obligations while channeling resources toward health and education projects.

The initiative is expected to enhance social infrastructure and reinforce fiscal sustainability under Angola's ongoing reform agenda.

In a separate development, Angola launched the \$250 million Tetelo copper mine, operated by China's Shining Star Icarus, marking the country's first major copper project. The mine, located in Cuando Cubango Province, officially begins production on October 29 and is projected to yield 25,000 tons of copper concentrate annually.

The opening represents a significant step in Angola's strategy to diversify its mining portfolio beyond oil and strengthen its position in the energy minerals sector.

ZIMBABWE

China's Huayou Cobalt is expanding output at its \$400 million lithium processing plant in Zimbabwe, targeting over 60,000 tonnes of lithium sulphate annually ahead of Harare's 2027 ban on raw concentrate exports. The plant, located in Goromonzi District, is one of the largest lithium operations in Africa and forms part of Zimbabwe's plan to develop domestic processing capacity.

The expansion highlights Zimbabwe's growing role in the global electric vehicle battery supply chain and the deepening presence of Chinese investment in its critical minerals sector.

CONTINENT-WIDE AFRICA



In Malawi, the government banned all raw mineral exports to boost local processing and job creation, a policy that President Peter Mutharika said could save the country up to \$500 million annually, aligning with wider African trends toward value addition in extractive industries.

In Uganda, the World Bank pledged over \$2 billion in funding over the next three years to support infrastructure and development projects, part of Kampala's ongoing efforts to address fiscal gaps and improve connectivity and service delivery.

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