

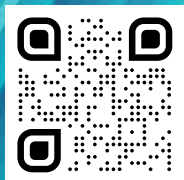


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CSPS

# MONITOR



AUGUST 2022

# ETHIOPIA

11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## ETHIOPIAN PM MESSAGE TO EGYPT SUDAN ON GERD NEGOTIATION OF NEGOTIATION OVER GERD FUTILE AND WILL NOT FEAR FRUIT

**E**thiopian leaders stand for National anthem during second turbine power generation celebration event borkena Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed remarked on the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) negotiation for the first time in a long time. On Thursday, during an event organized to celebrate power generation from the second turbine of GERD, he conveyed his message. In his speech during the ceremony, he said that it the dam could have been filled within a short time had the water not let flow. The reason we release their Egypt and Sudan share of the water and hold water for an extended period is to ensure that they are not harmed and we are not harmed. It is out of our interest for mutual development. Lower riparian countries need to understand that and make themselves ready for talks and negotiation. They need to believe that it is possible to attain results through agreement and commit themselves to it,” he said. He stressed that any action outside of negotiation is a futile attempt and that it will not stop what is started. Egypt has been implicated in financing proxy wars in different parts of Ethiopia by supporting radical ethnic nationalist groups.

**I**n June of this year, a former [Finnish diplomat](#), Simo Parviainen, said the Tigray People’s Liberation Front (TPLF) works in partnerships with groups in Sudan and Egypt that are working against Ethiopia. The Ethiopian State media aired the event in breaking news coverage. The second turbine that is inaugurated on Thursday generates 375 MW of power. The project is 83 percent completed according to the Project Manager, Engineer Kifle Horo. The aim is to complete it in the next two and half years. The civil engineering aspect of the project is 95 percent completed. But it is lagging behind in terms of metal works and electro-mechanical work which is 73 percent and 61 percent respectively. Part of the next task

is to install the remaining turbine and generate over 515 thousand MW of power, the manager said. The third filling of the dam is underway. When it is completed the reservoir is expected to have over 18 billion cubic meters of water. President Sahlework Zewde, First Lady Zinash Tayachew, the Dept Defense Chief of Staff of the Defense Force Abebaw Tadesse, Foreign Minister and Deputy Prime Minister Demeke Mekonnen, and Defense Minister Abraham Belay attended the event.

**E**thiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed announced on Thursday that the second turbine at its controversial mega-dam on the Blue Nile is already generating electricity.

The announcement came despite continuing **objections by Egypt and Sudan** over the project. Cairo and Khartoum fear the **Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD)** could threaten their access to vital Nile waters and demand a written agreement on the dam’s filling and operation. Last month, Egypt wrote to the **Security Council** voicing its objections to Ethiopia’s plans to fill the dam for a third year without a **three-way agreement**. There have been reports that floods have occurred in cities in Egypt and Sudan. This shows that the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam will not harm the people of Egypt and Sudan. As for the filling of the dam, as the construction goes on, so will the filling of the dam. The water will be filled as the

dam is being built”, said Foreign Affairs spokesperson Meles Alem. The Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson also confirmed that the military are actively engaged chasing **al-Shabaab** to the border with Somalia in order to secure the area. Al-Shabaab is a security threat to the world and the region.

As long as al-Shabaab is a security threat, we will conduct the necessary security operations in Ethiopia”, added the government representative. Ethiopia first began generating **electricity** at the dam in February. Currently, the two turbines, out of a total of 13 at the dam, are generating

**750 megawatts** of electricity. The GERD is ultimately expected to produce more than **5,000 megawatts**, more than doubling Ethiopia’s current output.

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.africanews.com/2022/08/11/ethiopia-announces-that-second-turbine-in-gerd-is-in-operation/>

**ETHIOPIA LAUNCHES SECOND POWER TURBINE AT NILE DAM, AS SUDAN MONITOR**

ETHIOPIA LAUNCHED A SECOND TURBINE GENERATOR TO PRODUCE POWER AT THE MEGA-DAM ON THE BLUE NILE ON THURSDAY, DISREGARDING DEMANDS BY DOWNSTREAM COUNTRIES FOR WATER AND TECHNICAL UNDERSTANDINGS.

**W**ith this second hydropower generator, Ethiopia’s Grand Renaissance Dam (GERD) has begun generating 375 megawatts (MW) of electricity per day; similar to the capacity of the first turbine launched on February 20, 2022.

**C**ombined, the two turbines will produce a total of 7500 MW of electricity which is equivalent to the total output from Gibe I and Gibe II power plants built previously on the country’s Omo River.

**T**he giant dam is eventually expected to produce more than 5,000 MW. Egypt fears would diminish its water share from the Nile River and called to ensure its needs of water while Sudan demands a technical

cooperation deal to protect its small dams on the Blue Nile.

**ABIY REASSURES**

**P**rime Minister Abiy Ahmed officially inaugurated the second turbine and reiterated that this dam aims to produce power and does not intend to harm Egypt and Sudan. Ahmed further called on the countries to continue the tripartite negotiations to settle the outstanding issues on the GERD. Dialogue is the only

way forward for the countries as the construction of the GERD continues,” he said. “Sudan and Egypt should understand that Ethiopia has no intention of causing any harm to the downstream countries other than to meet its electric power demands,” he stressed. He said the GERD is an affirmation of Ethiopia’s

commitment to equitable and reasonable utilization of the Nile River resources. The water filling made so far to generate electric power with the two turbines thus far proved that Ethiopia is cautiously undertaking the tasks taking into account the water flow to the downstream countries,” he added. According to state media,

the construction of the GERD has generally reached an average of 83.3 % while the civil construction and electro-mechanical works

are at 95 and 61 % respectively. Up on completion, the \$5 billion project will be Africa's largest dam with a power generation

capacity of 6,400 MW. The dam, at 145 meters high and 1.78km long, could hold as much as 74 billion cubic meters of water.

## SUDAN IS CLOSELY MONITORING

In Khartoum, a senior Sudanese official said his country was closely monitoring the impact of the second turbine and would take the needed technical measures to protect the agricultural projects or dams. Khartoum would take the necessary action if the move threatened the safety of the Roseires Dam or affected irrigation of agricultural projects,

hydroelectric generation or other uses," Mustafa Hussein, head of the technical negotiating team on the GERD told Sudan Tribune. Hussein further reaffirmed Sudan's commitment to continue trilateral negotiation under the auspices of the African Union to reach a satisfactory and binding agreement between the three countries. Located 15 Km from Roseires reservoir, the

GERD threatens the safety of the Sudanese small dam built in 1961. Sudan says the absence of an agreement on the exchange of information over the GERD activities poses a serious threat to the safe operation of the Roseires dam and the safety of 20 million Sudanese living along the Blue Nile.

## SOURCE:

<https://www.africanews.com/2022/08/11/ethiopia-announces-that-second-turbine-in-gerd-is-in-operation/>

15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## ETHIOPIA VOWS TO DEFEND ITS AIRSPACE FROM ANY FOREIGN ATTACK

Ethiopia says its Air Force is "in a position to protect and defend" the country's airspace from any kind of attack. The statement issued by the Commander in Chief of the Ethiopian Air Force comes shortly after the successful completion of the third round of filling of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), a move that would raise further tensions with downstream countries. Earlier Egypt said it has "received a message from the

Ethiopian side on July 26, stating that Ethiopia would continue filling the reservoir of the Renaissance Dam during the current flood season" Last month, Egypt wrote to the UN Security Council "to register its objection and complete rejection of Ethiopia's continuation of filling the Renaissance Dam unilaterally without a deal." Tripartite talks between Ethiopia, Sudan and Egypt over the GERD have remained stalled since April 2021 after the African Union's

(AU) mediation failed to broker a deal. As GERD talks stalled and Ethiopia unilaterally completed the third dam filling, there are growing concerns that Egypt might resort to a military option. In May, Egypt threatened that it will look at all its options if diplomatic efforts to resolve the GERD dispute failed.

Egypt's Foreign Ministry said the country reserves its right guaranteed in the UN charter to take all necessary measures



to ensure and protect its national security, including against any harm that Ethiopian unilateral measures may cause in the future. Previously, Egypt had reportedly ordered \$ 2 billion worth of 24 Su-35 fighter jets from Russia.

### EGYPT’S THREATS ARE NOTHING NEW

Since the launch of GERD in 2011, Egypt has repeatedly been threatening to use the military option to halt the construction of the controversial Ethiopian dam project. Addis Ababa however doesn’t seem to be alarmed by the repeated Egyptian threats and a potential air strike

### EGYPT’S MILITARY OPTION

Previously, Cairo has warned the United Nations Security Council that Ethiopia’s intention to fill the GERD without an agreement among concerned states “potentially threatens the welfare, well-being, and existence of millions of Egyptian and Sudanese citizens” It said Ethiopia’s unilateral moves of filling the massive dam would provoke “crises and conflicts and a serious threat to international peace and security. Given the stalemate,

### REGIONAL IMPLICATIONS

If Egypt preferred military action to thwart the construction of what would be Africa’s largest dam the implications on regional stability will be substantial.

“If Egypt pursues the military option, it would most likely attack GERD from Sudan,

According to military analysts, Egypt’s intention is to rapidly improve its aerial capability by replacing its short-ranged F-16 fighters with the Russian Su-35 fighter jets which have the capability to reach Ethiopian air spaces.

against its \$ 5 billion mega-dam project.

The Ethiopian Air Force, said last Friday that it is on high alert to defend the country. Our Air Force is in a position to protect and defend our airspace

ruling out a military confrontation is hard, but geographic distance makes its feasibility most unlikely,” Metta-Alem Sinishaw, a senior political analyst on Ethiopia and the East African region told Sudan Tribune.

Despite its impressive military capability, Egypt could only intimidate but not destroy GERD”.

which will lead to massive flooding with dire consequences for Sudan,” said Metta-Alem. Retaliation from Ethiopia would turn the current border skirmish with Sudan into a full-blown war and adversely affect the region” and world powers and regional actors will intervene to curb regional instability and

The United States has threatened to enact sanctions should Cairo fail to cancel the deal with Russia.

from any kind of attack” Lieutenant General Yilma Merdassa, the Commander in Chief of Ethiopia’s Air Force, told state media. The military official said the Air Force envisions developing the technology and producing trained manpower to become Africa’s leading air force by the year 2029/30.

Metta-Alem, however, says Egypt will continue to mount special clandestine operations in Sudan to support nationalist groups in Ethiopia to undermine the progress of the dam. Egypt will intensify its diplomatic efforts to isolate Ethiopia and exploit internal contradictions and economic predicament by supporting dissidents to undermine the negotiation capability of the federal government and shift its focus from GERD” he added.

humanitarian crisis. Egypt’s military adventure is likely to slice its diplomatic relations with the African Union and shatter its regional geopolitical position as countries such as Israel counter a more assertive and embolden Egypt,” said Metta-Alem.

## ETHIOPIAN AIR FORCE'S STATEMENT

The Ethiopian Air Force has built its manpower free from the influence of “politics and ethnic thinking”, the Chief Commander said, adding that it has also completed the reform and restructuring works in human resources, modern weapons and war infrastructures equipment with the slogan “Great Air Force for a Great Country.”

## NEW IRRIGATION MINISTER

Meanwhile, Egypt has replaced its Irrigation Minister, Mohamed Abdel Aty, one day after Ethiopia

At the moment, the 93 years-old Ethiopian Air Force, which is Africa’s first, is in a position to safeguard the Ethiopian airspace 24 hours a day and it is “ready for any duty.” the Ethiopian military official added.

announced completing GERD’s third filling. Hany Swaile was appointed Minister of Water Resources and Irrigation after

“Ethiopia’s statement on the readiness of its Air Force is more of a public opinion campaign to portray the administration’s strong stance to internal dissents and other non-state actors such as al-Shabab than Egypt which has a much more technological capability,” said Metta-Alem.

the Egyptian Parliament held an emergency session on Saturday.

## SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article262822/>

# SOUTH SUDAN

9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## TROIKA WELCOMES S. SUDAN'S COMMITMENT TO PEACE IMPLEMENTATION

The Troika and European Union (EU) member states have welcomed South Sudan's leaders' commitment to the full implementation of the September 2018 revitalised peace agreement. Last week, five South Sudanese political parties to the September 2018 peace deal signed a roadmap extending the current transitional period for two additional years, citing failure to complete critical benchmarks as agreed. "We welcome President Salva Kiir and First Vice President Riek Machar's reiteration of their commitment to peace. We remain convinced that the only path to peace, prosperity, and democracy for all South Sudanese lies in action by the country's leaders to fulfil their promises and include all South Sudanese in a shared vision of their nation's future," partly reads the Troika and EU's joint statement extended to Sudan Tribune on Tuesday.

It added: "We note that the roadmap includes details of the actions that will be taken and the timeframes for delivery. We share our expectation that this agreement will now translate into the sustained action required to deliver the roadmap. We note with concern that the necessity for an extension to the peace process is the result of choices made by the government not to take the necessary steps that would have led to implementation.

The EU and Troika are calling for sustained action and results, particularly on oil revenue transparency, as well as public finances and resources management. This, they said, would generate donor support for South Sudan government. They cited the announcement by government to allocate specific funds in the 2022-23 budget for implementing the peace agreement and the roadmap. We

urge the government to disburse those funds in predictable and transparent ways in order for the international community to regain confidence", further stressed the statement. Meanwhile the Troika and EU member states expressed regret that the process of finalising the roadmap was not inclusive, saying civil society groups were not allocated enough time to review and comment on government's proposal. We regard the inclusivity of any process as key to its legitimacy and urge the Government to consult in more detail before the process of ratifying the extension set out in article 8.4 of R-ARCSS is completed," the statement noted. It further called on government to expand political and civic space to ensure that the voices of the South Sudanese people, including those who hold opposing views, are consistently heard throughout the implementation of the roadmap

### SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article262595/>

12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## SOUTH SUDAN PRESIDENT KIIR AND HIS 1ST VICE PRESIDENT MACHAR DISCUSS OUTSTANDING PEACE DEAL ISSUES

South Sudan President Salva Kiir his first deputy in the coalition government, Riek Machar met and discussed ways of addressing the current pending issues in the revitalised peace agreement. The two leaders, the state-owned television (SSBC) reported on Thursday, also discussed the participation of other political parties in the governance structure of the three Administrative Areas and reached a consensus. They also deliberated the issue of security bill, whether the national security is supposed to have the power of arrest or not and the President and the First Vice President referred the matter to the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs for further

consultation so that appropriate decision is made”, partly noted a statement reads on the SSBC. Kiir and the armed opposition leader also discussed the relations between the Dinka Ngok and Twic communities over border disputes and agreed to form a national neutral committee that will amicably address the matter. They also discussed the issue of the withdrawal of the SPLM-IO [Sudan People’s Liberation Movement in Opposition] parliamentary caucus and agreed to resolve the contentious issue through the parliament by the Speaker of TNLA [Transitional National Legislative Assembly],” SSBC noted. Speaking to reporters after the meeting, Presidential

Affairs minister, Barnaba Marial Benjamin described the meeting as “harmonious” and “cooperative”, as both leaders committed to implement the peace deal. Observers have always been quick and keen to point out and describe the relations between the two leaders as “uneasy and unpredictable” to take what they say in the public as a demonstration of commitment. Also, they say, attitudes and personal perceptions of each other always played a negative role in fostering and building trust and confidence in demonstrating full commitment towards the peace accord

15<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2022

## SOUTH SUDAN’S KIIR CONGRATULATES KENYA’S NEW PRESIDENT-ELECT

South Sudan’s President Salva Kiir has congratulated William Samoei Ruto, the newly elected president of Kenya. Ruto, according to the Kenyan electoral body (IEBC), received

50.49% of the votes, while his closest political rival Raila Amollo Odinga got 48.85%. President Kiir, in a statement issued on Monday, said the people of Kenya had spoken and it was time for

their new leader to unite the entire country. Now that the people have spoken, the enormous task ahead of you and your opponents with whom you campaigned and offered different visions for Kenya



is to unite the people and channel their collective will towards the pressing needs of national development,” partly reads Kiir’s statement.

The South Sudanese leader said his country and neighbouring Kenya have a long-standing history of relations underpinned by culture and people. Regionally, South Sudan and Kenya have

a long-standing relationship underpinned by strong historical people to people ties,” explained Kiir. He further added, “Mindful of this close bond between our two countries, I would like to assure your Excellency of my firm commitment to work with you collaboratively on priorities that move the region forward”. The South Sudanese leader urged his Kenyan counterpart to unite his

country’s citizens in the collective aspirations of moving the region forward. Kenyan went to the polls on August 9, 2022, to elect the president, legislators at the senate and national assembly as well as local government leaders. Several international observers, however, say elections were largely peaceful in a country previously overrun by deadly post-election skirmishes.

16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## SOUTH SUDAN, ETHIOPIA SIGN SECURITY COOPERATION AGREEMENT

South Sudan and Ethiopia on Tuesday signed a security agreement committing the two countries to promote bilateral relations on numerous issues that do not compromise safety and security. A number key security and law enforcement officials participated in the signing agreement which took place in the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa. South Sudan’s security affairs advisor, Tut Gatluak Manime said the newly signed agreement commits the two countries to exchange information, conduct exchange visits, and enhance training capacity building and information on Immigration, counter-terrorism and border crossing crimes. We conveyed the message of assurance of

unflinching cooperation and coordination of issues of mutual concerns and benefit to the citizens of the two countries and to promote peace and security in the region as part of their commitment to maintaining peace and stability in the region,” he said. Manime did not divulged details on the memorandum of understanding signed by heads of security and immigration officials from the two countries. He, however, stressed that the construction of the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD) will not have a negative impact on the downstream countries and is instrumental for regional energy integration.

“We have seized this opportunity to visit the construction site of GERD and proved the dam has not had any negative impact,” Manime told ENA. The GERD, formerly known as the Millennium Dam, is a gravity dam on the Blue Nile River in Ethiopia under construction since 2011. The \$4 billion hydropower project, is crucial to powering its economic development, yet Egypt and Sudan consider it a serious threat to their vital water supplies. The South Sudanese official said the dam is going to have its lion’s share for the integration of the East African region through the supply of electricity. After witnessing the GERD’s construction site, we found that the dam is a large project and can provide all neighbouring

countries with electricity... we have really seen a very big job," he further stressed. Ethiopia's Defence minister, Abraham Belay said the new dam would not only benefit Ethiopians, but people in its neighbouring countries as well. The dam we are building is not only for Ethiopia but also for Africa. Rumours about the dam and the reality on the ground are totally different. The countries of the river basin should also understand that this dam ensures mutual benefit. For instance, our Grand Renaissance Dam has two bottom-outlets for the purpose of

downstream countries so that they can get water in the entire year," he said. Belay, also the GERD Board of Directors chair, further pointed out that the Horn of Africa nation has started supplying electricity to Sudan and Djibouti. Plans, he added, are underway to start to supplying electricity to Kenya. For his part, however, the Director General of Ethiopia's National Intelligence and Security Service, Temeseng Tiruneh said Ethiopia had successfully generated power from the GERD and completed third filling. Until this project reached at this

significant juncture, numerous attacks were tried by bandits sent from abroad. With this, we were able to thwart many evil deeds of destructive forces", he told ENA. Tiruneh further said that the construction of the GERD has been a testimony for Africans that they could use their resources on their own capacity. Ethiopia has long been a key partner in the Juba administration, with many South Sudanese leaders receiving training and spending significant time in Addis Ababa.

## SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/article262864/>

# TANZANIA

24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## TANZANIAN TECH ENTREPRENEUR DEVELOPS MOBILE GAMES IN TOURISM PROMOTION DRIVE

**D**ar es Salaam. A Tanzanian information technology entrepreneur has developed three mobile games in his effort to contribute towards promoting Tanzania's tourism attractions. Elias Patrick - who is an expert in digital marketing, website designing and development of mobile applications - said in Dar es Salaam that the mobile games, which are named after three of Tanzania's key tourism attractions - will specifically address three key challenges. The games are: Kilimanjaro Block Puzzle, Serengeti Block Puzzle and Tanzanite Crush. Through the games, I seek to correct some misleading information regarding the right location of some sites," he said, noting that it was not uncommon for some tourists to be fed with wrong information concerning where the Kilimanjaro Mountain for instance, is located. The games also seek to augment available tools particularly on the digital platform to promote Tanzania tourism

industry globally. The games are available in 172 countries in the world. It is also my hope that through games, I will be playing a role in boosting social and economic development in the country by converting app users to tourists," said Patrick who is also the owner of a tech consulting company called, Ellys Brand. Electric cars changing the face of tourism in Tanzania. Patrick's initiative comes at a time when official reports show that Tanzania's tourist numbers were on the rise, thanks to the removal of Covid-19 lockdowns in source countries, coupled with various promotional drives, including President Samia Suluhu Hassan's The Royal Tour documentary.

**B**ank of Tanzania data shows that the country earned \$1.708 billion in travel receipts during the year ending June 2022 from \$871.6 million during a similar period the previous year. This was consistent with the rise in tourist arrivals by 76 percent to 1,123,607.

**P**atrick - who is also an accomplished and well-known public speaker and trainer on various topics relating to personal development, entrepreneurship and work-life balance - says the three games are interesting, simple, funny, attractive and suitable to everybody. It is also the funniest way to train your brain and keep your mind sharp," explains Patrick who was recognized and awarded as the Best Entrepreneur of the Year by Learn It Institute of Business Information Technology in partnership with NCC UK Education way back in 2016. He attributes his innovations to the time he spends learning new things in his daily work schedule. I practically spend every day learning new things that will impact and transform others in all life aspects. I'm curious and enjoy work that challenges me to learn something new and stretch me in a different direction," says Patrick.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/tanzania/news/national/tanzanian-tech-entrepreneur-develops-mobile-games-in-tourism-promotion-drie-3925122>

24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## MINISTER'S SON IN VIRAL VIDEO FINED SH250,000 IN TRAFFIC OFFENCES

**D**ar es Salaam. The Kinondoni District Court on Wednesday August 24, ordered businessman James Simbachawene, 24, a to pay Sh250,000 after he was found guilty of charges associated with traffic offences.

**H**e was to pay Sh100,000 for reckless driving, another Sh100,000 for driving under the influence of alcohol and Sh50,000 for driving a vehicle that has not been insured. James- who is son of Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy,

Coordination and Parliamentary Affairs), Mr George Simbachawene - appeared in court on August 24, where his charges were read by state attorney Daisy Makakala, before Resident Magistrate Aron Lyamuya. The accused is alleged to have committed the offences on August 20, 2022 on Haile Selassie road, St Peter area, Kinondoni district.

**L**ast weekend, a viral video showed people complaining that their cars were hit by a "young man" identified as James Simbachawene, who, according

to the people in the video, said nothing could be done to him because he is the son of a minister. However, the said minister, George Simbachawene later issued a statement chastising his son for his alleged actions and asked that the authorities take full legal actions against him, adding that "My son is a grown man now. He has his own family. He should face the consequences of his actions. James was also heard in the video insulting traffic police who were at the scene of the accident, and it is further alleged that he used his father's title.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/tanzania/news/national/minister-s-son-in-viral-video-fined-sh250-000-in-traffic-offences-3925258>

12<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## SAUDIS IN TANZANIA TO EXPLORE INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**D**ar es Salaam. A delegation of investors from Saudi Arabia is currently in Tanzania seeking investment opportunities in agriculture, water and environment sectors. Led by Tanzania's ambassador to Saudi Arabia Ally Mwadini,

the delegation – which was yesterday hosted by the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) – comes at a time when the government is aggressively pushing its economic diplomacy agenda.

**I**t also comes at a time when the government is investing massively in irrigation, farm inputs, fisheries and livestock among others to stimulate local production of agricultural products and raise exports. The delegation is informed by the

fact that we have complementary products and commodities which we can exchange in the areas of agriculture, livestock, fisheries and aquaculture,” said Ambassador Mwadini. He said the group trip was a result of a recent visit by Tanzania’s Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula in Saudi Arabia where she stressed the need to strengthen bilateral ties between Tanzania and Saudi Arabia through investment and trade. Currently, Tanzania is home to 13 registered projects from Saudi Arabia. The projects have brought a total capital of about \$55.24 million, according to TIC’s investment promotion director Revocatus

**M**r Rasheli said the government, through TIC, would be in full support of any future investment from the Saudis, including those who

would wish to invest in other sectors such as natural gas production, woodland, tourism, finance and manufacturing. The 13 projects, he said, have created about 1,000 jobs for Tanzanians. A senior economist from the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Development, Ms Danietta Tindamanyire, told the Saudis that Tanzania offered several opportunities in the fisheries and livestock sectors, including in areas of constructing modern abattoirs for domestic and export markets as well as in meat processing plants. There are nine meat processing plants operating in Tanzania at the moment. To-date the amount of meat processed in the country is less than two percent of the produced quantity,” she said.

**S**he said investors could also consider investing in the supply of inputs, noting that

Tanzania’s dairy animals produce little milk than their genetic potential due lack of important inputs. Other opportunities are in the installing of large scale processing plants in strategic dairy farming locations; establishing factories for manufacturing of dairy ingredients such as stabilizers, thickeners and starter cultures among others as well as tanneries for leather production,” said Ms Tindamanyire. Another expert from the ministry, Dr Hamisi Nikuli, said potential investment opportunities in the fishing sub-sector include deep sea fishing, processing facilities, fish feed facilities for aquaculture industry.

“There are also opportunities to establish a seaweed processing plant, a venture for fishing boat building and repair as well as cold storage facilities,” said Dr Nikuli

## SOURCE:

<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/tanzania/news/business/saudis-in-tanzania-to-explore-investment-opportunities--3912482>

# DJIBOUTI

22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2022

## THE 12TH GIFA AND THE GIFS 2022 TO BE HOSTED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF DJIBOUTI

The event will be hosted by His Excellency Ismail Omar Guelleh, the President of Djibouti, while His Excellency Abiy Ahmed, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia will be the Chief Guest of the ceremony

The 12th Global Islamic Finance Awards (GIFA) will take place on September 14, 2022, at the Kempinski Palace in Djibouti, Africa. The event will be hosted by His Excellency Ismail Omar Guelleh, the President of Djibouti, while His Excellency Abiy Ahmed, the Prime Minister of Ethiopia will be the Chief Guest of the ceremony.

Edbiz International Advisors has been organising the Global Islamic Finance Awards since 2011. The Global Islamic Finance Awards (GIFA) was founded as part of the advocacy campaign for the Islamic banking and finance industry. Since then, it has been held annually with its top award – the Global Islamic Finance Leadership Award – presented to heads of state or government (or equivalent) for their leadership and advocacy roles in promoting Islamic banking and finance in their respective jurisdictions or

globally. The winners of the prestigious GIFA award are recognised as GIFA Laureates. This is indeed a matter of huge pride for us that the Summit and Awards are being hosted by His Excellency Ismail Omar Guelleh who was our GIFA Laureate in 2017 when GIFA was hosted by the then President of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Nursultan Nazarbayev,” said Professor Humayon Dar, Founder of GIFA. “We are the only awards body that have honoured prime ministers and presidents of the countries for their commendable contributions to promotion of Islamic banking and finance. In fact, we are second to only Nobel Peace Prize Committee in terms of the number of laureates drawn from the top echelons of the political spectrum.” The previous GIFA Laureates have included His Excellency Tun Abdullah Badawi, former Prime Minister of Malaysia (2011), His Royal Highness Sultan Nazrin Shah of Perak, Malaysia (2012), His Excellency Shaukat Aziz, former Prime Minister of Pakistan (2013), His Excellency Nur Sultan Nazarbayev, first Prime Minister of Kazakhstan (2014), His Highness

Muhammandu Sanusi II, Emir of Kano, Nigeria (2015), His Excellency Joko Widodo, President of Indonesia (2016), His Excellency Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of Djibouti (2017), His Excellency Bakir Izetbegovic, former Chairman of Presidency of Bosnia-Hersegovina (2018), His Excellency Cyril Ramaphosa, President of the Republic of South Africa (2019), His Excellency Dr Arif Alvi, President of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan (2020), and His Excellency Ma’ruf Amin, Vice President of the Republic of Indonesia (2021).

For over a decade, GIFA’s prestigious award ceremonies have been held in different parts of the world to celebrate the outstanding achievements and contributions of governments, organisations and individuals to help evolve Islamic banking and finance as a sustainable system within the global Islamic financial architecture.

A number of Islamic banks, Islamic windows of conventional banks and financial institutions will participate in the most coveted and highly respected market-led awards ceremony



in the Islamic finance sphere. More than 30,000 global viewers from around the world are expected to tune in through different mediums to view the hybrid awards ceremony and honour governments, organisations and individuals from over 15 countries across 5 continents for their dedicated efforts to promote Islamic banking and finance in their countries, their respective institutions and for their commitment to helping Islamic banking and finance shine in the global financial markets.

In the year 2016, the first Global Islamic Finance Summit (GIFA) was organised around the 6th GIFA Awards ceremony

that took place in Jakarta. This year, there will be two high-powered sessions, Technology Adoption and Innovation in Islamic Banking and Finance, and Islamic Social Finance and its Potential Role in Economic Development of Africa.

The largest Islamic banking markets are in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region and Asia. Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has around 18% of the world's Muslim population but its Islamic finance assets make up only 1% of such global assets. This continent has a huge potential to shift the growth curve of Islamic

finance to cater to such a large population. However, a lack of qualified personnel and a lack of standardised regulations as well as the absence of an active Islamic finance market has stunted its growth trajectory.

This Summit is an initiative taken to ensure that the Islamic finance industry is geared up for the post-COVID era and to talk about the factors that have and have not played a crucial role in its development locally as well as around the world. The Summit will also see possible policy measures for the development of Islamic finance in the African region and worldwide.

#### ABOUT EDBIZ INTERNATIONAL ADVISORS:

Edbiz International Advisors is a global Islamic finance think tank, headquartered in London. Edbiz International

Advisors provides multiple services that balance the dual purpose of developing thought leadership in this niche industry and

strengthening the Islamic finance capacity for businesses and banks. Its client base is diverse

#### SOURCE:

<https://www.zawya.com/en/press-release/events-and-conferences/the-12th-gifa-and-the-gifs-2022-to-be-hosted-by-the-government-of-djibouti-oyqn2uhi>

2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2022

## EGYPT, DJIBOUTI DISCUSS DEVELOPING TRADE EXCHANGE, JOINT INVESTMENTS

The volume of trade exchange between the two countries witnessed a tangible

development during the past year, reaching \$95mln, compared to \$82.1mln in 2020, an increase of 15.7%

Egypt's Minister of Trade and Industry Nevine Gamea met Djibouti's Minister of Trade and Tourism

Mohamed Warsama Dirieh and his accompanying delegation in Cairo on Monday. The meeting discussed ways to develop joint economic and trade relations between the two countries. The meeting also tackled the current global economic developments in light of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Russian-Ukrainian crisis. Gamea said that the visit of the Djibouti Minister to Cairo at the head of a delegation that includes a number of senior Djibouti's businessmen represents an important step towards strengthening trade relations between the two countries and a distinct opportunity to increase Egyptian exports to Djibouti by meeting needs of Djiboutian market of agricultural crops and food products.

President Abdel-Fattah Al-Sisi previously directed the government to overcome all challenges that hinder trade exchange between the two countries, especially in light of the

presence of a direct flight line and a shipping line between the two countries. This contributes to the development of the intra-trade movement and facilitates the transfer of investors and businessmen between the two countries.

Gamea highlighted the importance of supporting joint efforts to establish an Egyptian logistic zone in Djibouti, which would provide the needs of the Djiboutian market for Egyptian products. The volume of trade exchange between the two countries witnessed a tangible development during the past year, reaching \$95m, compared to \$82.1m in 2020, an increase of 15.7%. Egyptian exports to Djibouti amounted to \$88.3m, and Egyptian imports reached \$6.7m. The most prominent goods of trade exchange between the two countries included nitrogen fertilizers, mixtures of aromatic materials, cleaning preparations, live camels, and Arabic gum, according to the

Egyptian Minister.

The minister stressed the importance of activating the memorandum of understanding signed between the two countries in 2016 in the field of developing joint trade relations, confirming the importance of strengthening cooperation and benefiting from distinguished Egyptian expertise and capabilities in the fields of agriculture, exhibitions and infrastructure. Djibouti's Minister Dirieh affirmed his country's keenness to expand economic cooperation with Egypt, especially in light of the Russian-Ukrainian crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic and its negative repercussions on the global economy.

Dirieh stated: "It is important to benefit from the great Egyptian experiences in all industrial and agricultural fields. Djibouti represents a strategic depth for Egypt

## SOURCE:

<https://www.zawya.com/en/economy/north-africa/egypt-djibouti-discuss-developing-trade-exchange-joint-investments-jwvolzqf>

# DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONGO (DRC)

14<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## DR CONGO OPENS OIL AND GAS AUCTION ROUND TO CARBON CREDIT AND CRYPTO GROUPS

The Democratic Republic of Congo will allow carbon credit and cryptocurrency companies to bid in an oil and gas licensing round that has been criticised by environmentalists who say drilling in the country's rainforests and peatlands would risk releasing vast quantities of carbon dioxide. Last month, Congo put 30 oil and gas exploration blocks up for auction. Some of the exploration areas are in Virunga National Park and the Cuvette Central, the world's largest tropical peatland, which naturally absorbs carbon from the atmosphere.

Didier Budimbu, the hydrocarbons minister, told the Financial Times he would accept bids for exploration rights in the rainforest and peatlands from carbon market start-ups with no links to oil and gas majors as long as they had solid financial backing. Rather than explore for hydrocarbons, such groups propose keeping any oil and gas in the ground and instead generate revenue by selling carbon credits to companies looking to offset their emissions. "If it can help our economy and the country,

why not?" Budimbu said. "We're not doing this to destroy the rainforest, we're doing it for economic gain....With or without oil, what's important is that we earn [money]." Congo produces about 25,000 barrels a day of crude oil from a small number of onshore and offshore blocks along its Atlantic coast. The government's long-held ambitions to produce oil in other parts of the country's interior have previously been held back by environmental concerns, corruption and a lack of export options.

Those challenges mean it remains uncertain how many oil and gas companies plan to participate in the licensing round. France's Total Energies, which has a project in neighbouring Uganda, and Italy's Eni, which is active in other parts of Africa, have both told the FT they will not bid. Hydrocarbons minister Didier Budimbu: 'If it can help our economy and the country, why not?' Flow carbon, a start-up co-founded earlier this year by WeWork co-founder Adam Neumann, is among the carbon credit groups to have expressed interest. Phil Fogel, Flow carbon's

head of cryptocurrencies, said the company had contributed staff and resources to Redemption DAO, a campaign organised over messaging platforms Telegram and Discord and founded two days before the auction launched in July.

Redemption DAO aims to buy at least one of the blocks in partnership with an oil company or through crowdfunding, and use it to issue "avoided emissions" carbon credits. It hopes to raise at least \$50mn, but has so far only raised \$2.57mn and obtained pledges of \$74,000, both in USDC, a so-called stable coin digital currency pegged to the dollar. Venture capitalist Thomas Annicq said he had contacted the Congolese government separately on behalf of another coalition of carbon market companies that wanted to mount a joint bid on the blocks. Companies have until February to submit bids. However, there is at present no official methodology for bringing credits from foregone oil and gas exploration to market and analysts say that developing one could take up to two years.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.ft.com/content/b10a3132-1828-4b7a-8929-33de88b1df84>

26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## DR CONGO SEEKS TO ‘RECLAIM HISTORY’ WITH ECONOMIC REFORMS

The finance minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo longs for the days when his country was pushing forward as an African industrial hub. “In this country, we made batteries for our vehicles; we used to make televisions, and exported them. We produced vehicles here [that] we exported,” says Nicolas Kazadi, the minister and a former central bank official of the mineral-rich country. “All of that we lost” in the 1980s, he laments, following “complete plundering, political instability” and “macroeconomic problems”. “So, we have a history that we are trying to reclaim,” he explains in an interview, as he pushes for “a big, ambitious reform agenda” backed by Washington-based lenders.

DRC is the third most populous country in sub-Saharan Africa, with 92mn people and enormous mineral wealth, including key components for the modern battery industry. But it has remained one of the poorest countries in the world after failing to achieve much sustained growth since independence from Belgium in 1960, partly due to armed conflicts and an elite accused of capturing the nation’s natural resources. Recommended Special Report African Development Shifting sands of overseas

assistance commitments rekindle African aid debate “A long history of conflict, political upheaval and instability, and authoritarian rule have led to a grave, ongoing humanitarian crisis,” according to the World Bank. Some 73 per cent of the population lived on less than \$1.90 a day in 2018. In his June 30 independence day speech, president Felix Tshisekedi, who took office after a disputed result in 2019, said his government had embarked on “a new fight, that of promoting inclusive growth to fight poverty”. Kazadi, a former official with the UN Development Programme, introduced an agenda to achieve this using criteria established by the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC), a US independent foreign aid agency.

“It is part of an effort to improve,” he says. According to the MCC’s scorecard, the central African country has already hit some milestones, such as strengthening fiscal and trade policies, and increasing the roles of women in the economy. But DRC still falls short in areas including regulatory quality, the rule of law, and controlling corruption. Telecom operators, for example, complain about a new tax imposed on them through phone usage, which could raise the overall fiscal burden they face to about

46 per cent of revenues. “The tax is a setback for DRC’s fledgling digital economy, a blow to tens of millions of ordinary Congolese mobile users, and a major concern for international companies,” says a senior telecoms executive, explaining that the tax aims to replace an unpopular levy on handsets. “They are concerned — it is normal,” Kazadi says. “I respect their right to discuss and challenge this new tax.”

But, for regional bankers, DRC has become an attractive market. This month, Kenya’s KCB Group acquired a majority stake in one of the DRC’s biggest lenders, Trust Merchant Bank. Equity Bank, another top Kenyan lender, snapped up BCDC, DRC’s second-largest bank, two years ago. “The DRC has the potential to ‘succeed big,’” according to James Mwangi, chief executive of Equity Group. “We believe with economic and political reforms the benefits will trickle down to the people.” Kazadi agrees, pointing to the IMF’s recent move to provide \$203mn to support DRC’s balance-of-payments needs, with the lender stressing that the country’s macroeconomic environment “has improved” over the past two years. “The authorities have adopted prudent macroeconomic policies,” the IMF said in June — mainly by

halting central bank financing to the government. In June, the World Bank approved grants of \$250mn for development policy for “foundational economic governance reforms”. Economic growth rebounded to 6.2 per cent last year, up from 1.7 per cent in 2020. It is forecast by the IMF to accelerate to 6.4 per cent this year, the fastest rate among Africa’s largest economies and almost double the regional average. Still, the IMF warned that “fragility continues to hinder inclusive growth as 72.5 per cent of the population is in poverty”. Kazadi argues that this could be tackled by exploiting DRC’s significant hydroelectric potential and over 70mn hectares of untapped arable land. Recommended Paul Collier Global capital and young workers could power transition

in Africa as mining exports increased – driven by the global demand for coltan and cobalt, which are used in electric vehicle batteries and smartphones – the current account deficit fell from 2.2 per cent of gross domestic product in 2020 to 0.5 per cent in 2021, and is expected to be turned into an 0.8 per cent surplus this year, according to the African Development Bank. But while Congo has become the world’s biggest producer of cobalt and Africa’s biggest copper exporter, Kazadi hopes to attract non-mining investors. “Unfortunately, the mining sector is predominant and this sector is still too primary – we produce, we export. There needs to be more added value, more local processing, that is an axis of important economic development,” he

says. An eventual aspiration is that batteries – for which DRC provides raw materials such as cobalt, tantalum and nickel – could be produced, or assembled, here. “We can develop batteries and battery components locally – we are making good progress,” Kazadi says, of a partnership with its southern neighbour Zambia, which borders the mineral-rich province of Katanga. “We are planning to make a free-trade industrial zone straddling the two countries, where we are going to set up the first production centres,” using Congolese minerals, he explains. “That’s what we’re doing and that’s what will gradually take us from the mining sector properly into the industrial sector. This is how we will make our economy more solid.”

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.ft.com/content/7442eb00-0de7-46ab-8080-f2ef4685054b>

10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

**US AND DRC TO WORK TOGETHER ON PROTECTION OF RAINFOREST AND PEATLANDS**

The US and the Democratic Republic of the Congo have agreed to form a working group to protect the enormous Congo basin rainforest and peatlands, which are threatened by oil and gas exploration. The US secretary of state, Antony Blinken, made the announcement in Kinshasa

on Tuesday while expressing his concern over the sale of dozens of oil and gas permits in the DRC that included blocks in Virunga national park and the Cuvette Centrale tropical peatlands, part of an area described as “the worst place on the planet” to drill for oil and gas. DRC to auction oil and gas permits in endangered

gorilla habitat

Speaking alongside his DRC counterpart, Christophe Lutundula, after a meeting with the country’s president, Félix Tshisekedi, Blinken said Washington recognised the need for extra resources to protect the African country’s ecosystems,

which he said were crucial for avoiding climate catastrophe. Blinken said the working group would focus on growing the DRC's economy and financing to protect the rainforest and peatlands, adding that Kinshasa can help protect the Earth's atmosphere by making sure that mining and fossil fuel extraction projects only take place after a rigorous environmental impact assessment.

**A**s part of a landmark \$500m (£410m) forest protection deal signed with the DRC at Cop26 by Boris Johnson on behalf of a group of donor countries, Kinshasa has agreed to develop rules for environmental impact assessments for extractive projects by the end of 2023. It is hoped these assessments will rule out oil and gas exploration in the world's only remaining large rainforest that absorbs more carbon than it emits, and the planet's largest tropical peatlands, which store the equivalent of three years' global

emissions from fossil fuels "On climate, the Democratic Republic of Congo is vital to the future of the planet. It's as simple as that. The Congo basin rainforest absorbs more carbon than is emitted by the entire continent of Africa. It's a place of tremendous biodiversity. Its rainfall helps sustain agriculture across the region," said Blinken, who is on a tour of sub-Saharan Africa. "We agreed to work together to establish a formal working group to help Congolese achieve a balanced approach to responsible development of the country's resources that contributes to Congo's economic growth and to generating jobs. By conserving irreplaceable forests and other ecosystems and by undertaking development projects only after carrying out rigorous environmental impact assessments, the DRC can act on behalf of all the world's people to protect our shared home," he said. Lutundula said the DRC was committed to protecting his country's ecosystems while solving Kinshasa's "paradox" of

being a wealthy country with a poor population. Rich in many of the natural resources needed for the low-carbon transition, the DRC has sought to position itself as a climate solutions country, but environmentalists have criticised the oil and gas permits auction.

**“**The challenge is to find an equilibrium,” Lutundula said in the press conference with Blinken, by balancing the wellbeing of Congolese people and guaranteeing “a development framework”.

**T**he results of last month's auction are expected to be announced by the DRC in the next few weeks. Even if no projects go ahead, environmentalists fear that the creation of new roads and infrastructure to explore for fossil fuels will enable more deforestation in a country second only to Brazil in primary forest loss in 2021.

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2022/aug/10/us-drc-democratic-republic-congo-protection-rainforest-peat-lands-aoe>

**BLINKEN ARRIVES IN DRC; REGIONAL STABILITY TOPS AGENDA**

**U**.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken arrived in the Democratic Republic of Congo on Tuesday to raise

concerns that tensions with neighboring Rwanda could spread instability in the region. Political analysts say the United States

is also concerned about Russia and China's access to rare earth minerals in the DRC.



The top priority during Blinken’s two-day stay to Congo is pushing for peace between the DRC and Rwanda, which Kinshasa accuses of backing militia groups. Blinken is visiting the DRC as part of his second trip to Africa as the U.S. top diplomat. The trip follows a visit by his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, his first to Congo.

Analysts say the Cold War rivals are vying for influence in the DRC, which is marred with violence and conflict in its east because of the region’s rare minerals. Macharia Munene, an expert on international relations, said its part of a power play.

“The strategic resources, minerals and other critical ones that are used for industrial development as well as weaponry and technology, and Congo is extremely rich in these things so whoever can deny those things to other people becomes very poMunene said the conflicts in Congo are destabilizing the country along with neighboring Rwanda and by extension other nearby nations. He said the issue is one of concern to the United States.

“You never know who is going to come up and take advantage of the situation, to the detriment of the U.S. interest,” he said. “Now as [a] destabilizing force not just in eastern Congo but in Rwanda, maybe a bit of

Burundi.”

Another top issue amid the long-standing rivalry between DRC and Rwanda is the re-emergence of M23 rebels. Kinshasa says Kigali is backing the rebels, but Rwanda has repeatedly denied the allegations. Congo’s army, along with a United Nations mission in Congo known as MONUSCO, defeated the M23 in 2013. In November of last year, its forces began to reappear.

Their reappearance is threatening human rights in Congo, according to the United Nations. Separately, Amnesty International’s advocacy director for Africa, Kate Hixon, said the U.S. should remain focused on rights issues.

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.voanews.com/a/blinken-arrives-in-drc-regional-stability-tops-agenda/6694772.html>

31<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2022

**AT LEAST 14 DEAD IN REBEL ATTACKS IN EASTERN DEMOCRATIC CONGO.**

Suspected rebels have killed at least 14 civilians and kidnapped more than a dozen others in an attack in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, a witness and a local human rights group have said.

An army spokesman confirmed the attack on Wednesday, which took place in Ituri province on Tuesday evening, and blamed it on the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a Ugandan militia active in eastern DRC since the 1990s, which has pledged allegiance to the ISIL (ISIS) group.

The army killed five fighters and rescued a five-year-old girl who had been kidnapped, spokesman Antony Mwalushayi said. He did not give a number for the civilians who died.

**G**ilbert Sivamwenda, the president of the local human rights group for the chiefdom of Babila Babombi, said there were 16 dead in Biakato including 14 civilians and two ADF fighters.

**A**bout 15 farmers were also missing and several other people who cannot be found and are not responding to calls, Sivamwenda said.

“The nature of the attack was terrifying. They looted my shop before taking five members of my family into the bush,” said Biakato resident Augustin Kyala Malembe, who also counted 16 dead and said dozens of people were kidnapped.

### “THE ARMY INTERVENED BUT THE DAMAGE WAS DONE.”

**T**he ADF stages frequent deadly raids on villages in eastern Congo despite joint operations by the Congolese and

Ugandan armies to stamp it out.

**T**he group killed about 40 civilians in five villages in a string of attacks between Thursday and Monday.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/8/31/at-least-14-dead-in-rebel-attacks-in-eastern-dr-congo>

# SUDAN

28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## SUDAN: WEEKLY FLOODS ROUND-UP, NO. 04

**T**orrential rains and flash floods continue to wreak havoc across Sudan affecting tens of thousands of people. By 28 August, about 226,200 people have been affected, according to the Government’s Humanitarian Aid Commission (HAC), humanitarian organizations on the ground, and local authorities. The rains and floods destroyed at least 13,200 houses and damaged another 34,200 in 15 states. The government authorities reported that 89 people died and more than 30 people were injured since the beginning of the rainy season. The most affected states are Gedaref (45,270 people) Central Darfur (39,448), South Darfur (30,677), White Nile (26,592), Kassala (25,890), River Nile (15,722) and West Darfur (15,504). Nine other states have also been affected to varying degrees: West Kordofan (5,855), South Kordofan (5,765), North Kordofan (4,410), East Darfur (3,650), Sennar (3,164), Al Jazirah (2,250), Khartoum (1,296), and North Darfur (686). The floods have reportedly affected at least 500 health facilities, 1,000 water sources and over 2,500 latrines have been damaged or destroyed.

People have lost over 740 head of livestock and over 12,000 feddans (over 5,000 hectares) of agricultural land were affected by floods, which will contribute to already worrying levels of food insecurity.

**I**n 2022, more than 460,000 people could be affected by the floods, according to the 2022 Sudan Emergency Response Plan (ERP). In 2021, about 314,500 people were affected across Sudan, while between 2017 and 2021 on average 388,600 people were affected annually.

**A**ccording to the IGAD Climate Prediction and Applications Centre (ICPAC) forecast for 23-30 August, heavy rainfall (above 200 mm) is expected to hit a few locations in southern Sudan. Moderate rainfall (50-200 mm) is expected over southern to central Sudan, and light rainfall (less than 50 mm) is expected in central to northern Sudan.

**T**he water levels along the Nile and Atbara rivers are increasing, with the peak of the rainy season approaching. On 27 August, the water levels

at Khartoum and Atbara (some 300 km northeast of Khartoum) water stations were recorded at 16.75 meters and 15.88 meters respectively, both exceeding flooding risk levels. In Ed Deim station, 554 km south-east of Khartoum, the water level was recorded at 12.17 meters, which is above the critical level, but below the flooding risk level of 12.30 meters. In Shandi (northern Sudan), the water level is 17.20 meters, which is above the critical level of 17.10 meters, but below the flooding risk level of 17.60 meters.

**T**he rainy season in Sudan usually starts in June and lasts up to September, with the peak of rains and flooding observed between August and September. For more information on floods and updated figures of people affected and areas, as well as rainfall forecast and water levels at water stations on the Nile River please see the 2022 Floods Dashboard.

29<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## SEVERE FLOODING KILLS SCORES IN SUDAN

### FLOODING IN SUDANESE CITIES HAS CLAIMED AROUND 100 LIVES AND DISPLACED THOUSANDS, AND MANY ANGRY CITIZENS BLAME THE POLITICAL CLASS FOR ITS FAILURE TO ACT.

Sudan's rainy season brings torrential rains between May and October. This year's ongoing flooding has wreaked havoc across Sudan, including in the northern River Nile state, in the eastern states of el-Gezira, South Kordofan and Kassala and South Darfur in the west.

The catastrophe comes in tandem with a gruelling political, economic and social crisis in Sudan since the military coup of Oct. 25, 2021, when Sudan's army dissolved the transitional government of Abdalla Hamdok and declared a state of emergency. The floods prompted the Sudanese government to declare another state of emergency in the affected cities and deploy military equipment to help reduce human and economic losses. The floods claimed the lives of nearly 100 people and displaced around 136,000 from their homes, as well as destroying 31,000 homes and 238 health care facilities. The United Nations Office for the

Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported Aug. 21 that over 2,500 people in el-Managil, el-Gezira were displaced by the flash floods on Aug. 16-19. The statement read, "In 2022, more than 460,000 people could be affected by the floods, according to the 2022 Sudan Emergency Response Plan."

Lt. Gen. Abdel Fattah al-Burhan, head of the contested Sovereign Council that is currently running the country, visited the state of el-Gezira Aug. 21 to inspect the damage. He reassured residents that the state will support them and expressed his regret for the three years of the transitional period wasted in political rivalry.

In turn, the Forces for Freedom and Change, Sudan's civilian bloc that was ousted from power in the coup, called for a transparent investigation into systemic neglect that it alleges made the floods so devastating. In an Aug. 21 statement, the bloc demanded that the country be

declared a natural disaster area to receive regional and international support.

Many Arab countries such as Egypt, Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar have offered food and medical assistance.

Volker Peretz, head of the United Nations Integrated Mission to Support the Transitional Phase in Sudan, expressed his sympathy with those who lost their families, their homes or their sources of livelihood to the flooding. In an Aug. 23 tweet, Peretz said that the aid provided by the UN has so far reached 40,000 Sudanese, that many more will need assistance in the coming days and that the crisis shows the need for cooperation among Sudan's rival parties. Speaking to Al-Monitor, Sudanese economist Mohammad al-Nayer said the catastrophe is a natural outcome of years of neglect and corruption.

He added, “Omar al-Bashir’s regime did not care about developing the country’s infrastructure, nor rehabilitating storm drains, nor building or rehabilitating dams. Floods and torrential rains strike Sudan annually and the Sudanese government knows what to expect. The Bashir regime and the subsequent Sudanese governments were supposed to give utmost importance to developing infrastructure and drawing up a future plan to reduce the risks of floods and inundations. But this did not happen. Rather, they were preoccupied with political rivalries and neglected any economic and social development.”

In an Aug. 21 statement on Facebook, the independent Central Committee of Sudanese Doctors warned of a health disaster in the flood-stricken areas due to the lack of medical facilities, predicting the emergence of epidemic diseases.

Khalid Omer Youssef, Sudan’s former minister of cabinet affairs, warned in an Aug. 23 tweet, “The country’s pain and aches will not be limited to floods and torrential rain disasters.”

He added that a food crisis is likely to strangle the country in the coming weeks.” The coup has only driven the country to collapse. The forces

that resisted and are still resisting must reflect on their mistakes. They must know that the chance of getting out of this dark tunnel is only through collective action,” he warned. Nayer noted that the floods are damaging the Sudanese economy in the billions of dollars with the destruction of both property and infrastructure.

“The catastrophe left by the floods and torrential rains has taken a toll on Sudan’s people and economy. Concerted international efforts are required to provide all forms of support,” he said. “A severe economic crisis has befallen Sudan now, which ushers in many more crises, especially the looming food shortage,” he warned.

## SOURCE:

<https://www.al-monitor.com/originals/2022/08/severe-flooding-kills-scores-sudan>

## SUDAN FOOD SECURITY OUTLOOK UPDATE, AUGUST 2022

### HIGH FOOD PRICES, FLOODING, AND INTER-COMMUNAL CLASHES CONTINUE DRIVING HIGH NEEDS

**KEY MESSAGES.** Sudan will continue facing high humanitarian food assistance needs through September 2022, the peak of the lean season. High food prices and reduced access to cash income continue to limit poor household purchasing power and food access. Increased intercommunal clashes and flooding also continue to limit households’ access to their main livelihood activities. The number

of households facing Crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse outcomes is expected to remain high among IDPs, people recently affected by intercommunal clashes, flood-affected households, poor households in eastern and western Sudan, and urban poor households.

As of August 20, average to above average rainfall was recorded across most

of central, western, and eastern Sudan. The rainfall deficits recorded in June and July in the northern and southern parts of Sudan declined following improved rainfall in August. As of August 28, the flooding level threshold is above the Flood level at the Ed Deim, Khartoum, and Atbara stations, according to OCHA’s Sudan Flood Dashboard, with water levels above the Critical level at Shandi station.

Heavy rainfall and flash floods have affected over 226,000 people in 15 states, damaging and destroying homes, health care centre, cropped land, and livelihood assets.

**I**n August, the Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry reported late planting and below-normal cultivation in most traditional and semi-mechanized rain-fed and irrigated sectors due to delayed rainfall in June and July

and the high cost and shortages of agricultural inputs. However, heavy rainfall and flooding in late July and August continue to impact pasture and crop development in many areas in Al Jazira, River Nile, Sennar, Kassala, and South Darfur states. The compounding impact of late planting, high input prices, and flooding will likely compromise the upcoming harvest. Between July and August, staple food prices increased seasonally by 10-15 percent, remaining approximately 170-235

percent higher than August 2021 and about seven times higher than the five-year average across most monitored markets. The increase is driven by seasonally reduced market supply, increased demand, high transportation and production costs, and the continued devaluation of the SDG. Locally produced wheat prices remain relatively stable but at high prices.

## SUDAN SUMMONS ETHIOPIAN AMBASSADOR OVER ALLEGED DOWNED PLANE

**A**ugust 30, 2022 (KHARTOUM) – Sudan summoned Ethiopia’s ambassador to Khartoum to protest press statements he made about the alleged shot down of a plane loaded with weapons to insurgents in the Tigray region. On August 29, the Ethiopian Ambassador in Sudan held a press conference to reiterate the accuracy of the statement issued by the Ethiopian air force five days earlier about a plane that violated the Ethiopian air space after crossing the border from Sudan. In a statement issued on Tuesday, the Sudanese foreign ministry said that Ambassador Yibeltal Aemero Alemu was summoned

to denounce his statements to the local media, where he claimed that the Ethiopian army downed this unidentified plane. “These unfounded allegations violate the diplomatic traditions in communicating with the official authorities in the receiving country,” Director General of African Affairs, Ambassador Fadl Abdallah Fadl told Ambassador Alemu, according to the statement.

**T**he foreign ministry meant to limit its protest to the fact that the Ethiopian diplomat did not communicate with the foreign ministry over the plane, but preferred to hold a press

conference.

**N**onetheless, this is the first time that the Sudanese government describes the Ethiopian statement about the downed plane on August 24 as “unfounded allegations”.

**L**ast week, several Sudanese officials privately played down the Ethiopian statement about the plane. Also, the Sudanese government did not officially react to the allegation. Ethiopia had several times accused Sudan of supporting or hosting training camps for the TPLF.

### SOURCE:

<https://sudantribune.com/articlecategory/news/>



# ERITREA

28<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## ERITREAN AUTHORITIES SEIZE CONTROL OF CATHOLIC-OWNED SCHOOL, SET TO TAKE OVER ANOTHER

The government of Eritrea has taken over the Hagaz Agro-Technical School (HATS), a Catholic learning institution that the Brothers of the Christian Schools (LaSalle Brothers) established and have been running, an August 24 BBC report indicates.

In the BBC report, sources who maintained anonymity told BBC that Don Bosco Technical School in Dekemhare in Eritrea is “another Catholic-owned training college to be handed over to the government in September” this year.

The Hagaz Agro-Technical School “has been providing training in farm machinery, rearing of crops and animals, as well as soil conservation for the last 23 years,” the BBC report indicates. The school is also known for producing Shalku wines, a drink made from grappa and jam. From its dairy cattle, it

produces yoghurt and cheeses. These latest seizures are part of the confiscations that have been going on in the Horn of Africa nation since 2019, the government citing a 1995 regulation that limited activities of religious institutions.

Catholic Bishops in Eritrea opposed the regulation, arguing that the Church’s social services are not in opposition to the government.

“The Church’s life is connected with the service of the people,” the August 24 BBC report quotes members of the Catholic Bishops’ Conference of Eritrea as having stated in their letter to the Eritrean government. The Church leaders who operate through the Eritrean Catholic Secretariat (ErCS) are reported to have repeatedly called on the government of Eritrea “to nurture an inclusive democracy and end authoritarian tactics”, the August 24 report indicates.

“Many analysts believe the latest seizures are a retaliation for the Catholic Church’s call for reforms in the one-party state,” BBC has reported.

The Don Bosco Technical School that the Eritrean government is set to confiscate next month is located in Dekemhare city, the second largest city in Eritrea after the capital Asmara.

The school offers training in the field of building construction, metalworking, automotive mechanics, machine tool mechanics, carpentry, furniture, electricity, electronics and technical expertise.

The school guarantees about 160 students a year to obtain a professional diploma that allows them to find work and hope for a future without having to “flee” from their own country.

The Eritrean government that has allowed the Catholic Church to operate alongside the Eritrean Orthodox, Evangelical Lutheran, and Sunni Islam regards other religious groups in the country as foreign entities, the BBC report indicates.

## SOURCE:

<https://www.aciafrica.org/news/6556/eritrean-authorities-seize-control-of-catholic-owned-school-set-to-take-over-another>

11<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

# NOWHERE TO RUN: THE PLIGHT OF ERITREAN REFUGEES IN ETHIOPIA

Ethiopia has hosted large numbers of Eritrean refugees for years. Before the recent conflict, about 100,000 Eritrean refugees lived in camps in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region. They have fled some of the worst human rights conditions in the world, including widespread persecution and forced military conscription. Eritrea is a highly authoritarian country. Those who speak out, or are even suspected of opposition to government policy, have been jailed for years, tortured, executed, and disappeared. However, since late 2020, these Eritrean refugees found themselves caught up in

the conflict between Tigrayan forces, the central government, and other regional armed groups. The conflict quickly spiralled into a full-fledged civil war, with dangerous ethnic dimensions. It has made many parts of Ethiopia unsafe for the refugees. There has been progress toward peace, but the humanitarian need for Ethiopians and refugees that it hosts is still great. In fact, the World Food Programme just announced that it could run out of food for refugees as soon as October if action is not taken. I'm an expert on refugee issues and published a recent report to highlight the specific needs

of Eritrean refugees. It pulls together data from interviews with refugees, UN, NGO, government and civil society individuals. I've found that Eritrean refugees in Tigray and other parts of Ethiopia have been attacked by nearly all fighting groups. Before the conflict, Ethiopia was considered a safe place for refugees. It hosts one of the largest refugee populations in Africa, and is among Africa's economic powerhouses. But, it is now clear that Eritrean refugees, as well as other populations of refugees and some internally displaced groups, are struggling to find safety in Ethiopia.

## NOWHERE TO RUN

Eritrean refugees have been attacked by the Ethiopian Defense Forces, Eritrean

troops (that have invaded and remain in northern Ethiopia), Tigrayan groups, Amharan militia,

among others. In some cases, they were inadvertently caught in harm's way. In other cases, they

were explicitly targeted because of their ethnicity. Eritreans can easily be confused with Tigrayans, both of whom speak Tigrinya, and thus be targeted by those attacking Tigrayans. They have also been attacked by Eritrean troops, in some cases even kidnapped and taken back to Eritrea. The UN and wider aid community – even with the conflict subsiding – have no

means to guarantee their safety, let alone reach them with consistent and adequate aid. Early in the conflict, Eritrean troops entered Ethiopia and destroyed Ethiopia’s northern Eritrean refugee camps of Hitsats and Shimelba. Tens of thousands of Eritrean refugees were forced to flee further into the Tigrayan warzone. Others were killed or kidnapped back to

Eritrea, and some became the targets of other groups, as well. While some have managed to reach other camps in Ethiopia, or neighbouring countries like Sudan, most remain without anywhere to go and adequate assistance. For example, Eritrean refugees in the newly constructed Alemwach camp report dangerous conditions and a lack of food and medicine.

## DEVASTATING WAR

To be clear, the wider population of Ethiopia’s Tigray region, as well as parts of Amhara and Afar, have also been in dire straits over the course of the conflict. Famine has been used as a weapon of war in Tigray, with devastating

consequences. According to the World Food Programme, two million people are severely hungry. Human rights violations, including sexual violence, massacres and widespread detention, have also been widely reported over the course of the conflict. Making

matters worse, Ethiopia is now facing a crippling drought that could be the worst in 40 years. This unfolding scenario is already affecting the entire region, and refugees – already in a vulnerable state – will face further suffering, as well.

## A SAFE PLACE

Even if the Ethiopian government were to renew its commitment to protecting and assisting refugees on their territory – as it is bound to do under domestic and international law – would it be able to ensure protection and assistance for displaced groups amid such a fractured political, security, and ethnic landscape? The reality is that even if peace were achieved today (and there are still some major obstacles to overcome before a peace deal is reached) and humanitarian assistance was exponentially

increased, Ethiopia will struggle to provide adequate protection and assistance to Eritrean refugees in the coming years. While Ethiopia is first and foremost responsible for protecting and assisting refugees on its territory, the global refugee regime dictates that the rest of the world – states, NGOs, the UN, civil society and others – also have a duty to help Eritrean refugees caught in the crossfire. They need help finding safety elsewhere in the form of a durable solution whereby they can live in dignity and support themselves. The traditional refugee solutions

of returning to their home country or locally integrating into the host country offer little for Eritreans at this stage. Thus resettlement to other countries, including the United States, must be increased. Some 932 Eritrean refugees were admitted to the US in 2019, and around 200 Eritrean refugees arrived in the US between October 2021 and June 2022. There are about 35,000 Eritreans in the US to date. But this is a drop in the bucket compared to the level of need still in the region.

However, even if the US and other resettlement countries found resettlement places for much larger numbers of Eritreans and other refugees in need – scaling up staff is necessary to undertake the long screening process, which can sometimes take years for US-bound refugees – it will not be enough for those who need help now. While increasing resettlement capacity in the US

and other states is an important long-term response, there are other immediate steps that must be taken. UNHCR, NGOs and others in the humanitarian community need to continue to insist on unfettered access to all parts of Ethiopia, including the beleaguered camps where Eritreans have fled or been forced to reside. Humanitarians must also help Eritreans who seek to leave Tigray and they must work

with parties to the conflict to find ways to secure the refugee camps in other parts of Ethiopia where Eritreans are staying. Finally, the UN and US must continue to work toward lasting peace in Ethiopia, which includes accountability for denying humanitarian access and starving civilians. Without this broader context, Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia will never find safety or a solution to their displacement.

## SOURCE:

<https://theconversation.com/nowhere-to-run-the-plight-of-eritrean-refugees-in-ethiopia-186842>

24<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## **ERITREA: WHO IS WHO IN PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI'S INNER CIRCLE? ERITREA'S PRESIDENT ISAIAS AFWERKI IS A KEY PLAYER IN ETHIOPIA'S CIVIL WAR AND THE GEOPOLITICS OF THE HORN OF AFRICA. HIS AUTHORITARIAN RULE KEEPS THE COUNTRY ISOLATED INTERNATIONALLY, AS HE REMOVES THREATS TO HIS RULE, USING A PERMANENT STATE OF EMERGENCY AND MILITARY MOBILISATION TO TIGHTEN HIS GRIP ON THE PEOPLE AND THE ARMY.**

Isaias, 76, came to power in 1993 and has since ruled with an iron grip on the country. His People's Front for Democracy and Justice (PFDJ) regime does not hold elections and drafts young men for compulsory military training. Many people have fled conscription, with nearly 10% of the population having left the country as refugees. The government was previously under United Nations sanctions

for providing support to the Al-Shabaab rebels in Somalia, and the US imposed sanctions on the ruling party and military for involvement in the war in the neighbouring Tigray region of Ethiopia.

Eritrea fought for its independence from Ethiopia, winning the battle in 1993. Relations between the two neighbours were poor, with

a dispute over their borders still unsettled today. Ethiopia's Prime Minister Ahmed Abiy and Eritrea's Isaias signed a peace deal shortly after Abiy came to power in 2018, ushering in an era of closer cooperation. The Eritrean Defence Forces and Ethiopian troops fought against a rebellion in Tigray, which started in November 2022. The Tigrayan People's Liberation Front (TPLF) challenged the authority of Abiy. With peace talks now

underway in Tigray, The Africa Report takes a look the allies critical to the regime in Asmara as it prepares for its next chapter. influential Eritrean leader after President Isaias. He is the de facto foreign affairs minister and as such has played an important role in Eritrea’s participation in the Tigray conflict. Yemane is Isaias’ chief diplomat and implements the regime’s foreign policy. His official position is a special adviser to the President and head of political affairs of the PFDJ. He has been in the ministry of foreign affairs for more than three decades.

Foreign ministers come and go, but Yemane remains there. He goes wherever the foreign affairs minister goes. Yemane is originally from Aksum, Tigray. He came from a poor family, and his father was an activist for the Eritrean unification with Ethiopia.

**Y**emane is deeply involved in cooperation with Ethiopia, mainly because of the Tigray war. Yemane had lobbied various countries and talked to diplomats –particularly Africans and Israelis – in a bid to reduce the international pressure

on the Ethiopian government due to the Tigray war. He had been organising support for Ethiopia in various international institutions and had organised anti-Western intervention campaigns like the #No More campaign.

**H**agos Gebrehiwet is the head of economic affairs of the PFDJ. He oversees state-owned enterprises and the regime’s income. He oversees the finance ministry. Only Hagos and Isaias are in control of important financial information and resources.

## HAGOS IS FROM TEMBIEN, TIGRAY.

**R**egarding Hagos oversees the companies that operate under the army and potash and gold mining and exports. The Bisha Mining Project is a key source of income for the regime. He reports on income and expenditures to Isaias. He also manages the 2% tax levied on Eritreans in the diaspora.

**Y**emane is a chief bureaucrat and coordinates all ministerial offices and government institutions. He is a technocrat and the most competent manager in the inner circle.

**Y**emane has been minister of information since 2015. He was chief of staff of the office of the president and is a de facto deputy president.

**H**e is from Agame, Tigray. His father was a union-with-Ethiopia activist.

**A**braha Kassa is the regime’s chief spy. He is the head of the Eritrean National Security Agency. He manages and coordinates the country’s intelligence units.

## ABRAHA IS FROM ERITREA’S SOUTHERN BORDER REGION.

**H**e organises and leads intelligence units throughout the regime, including within the army. There are other figures, such as Colonel Simon Gebredingil within the

intelligence agency, but they do not have power. They do not have access to the decision-making and policy-making inner circle and to Isaias. They only execute commands. Regarding the army,

the main task of the intelligence agency is to spy on the army generals and officers. There is at least one intelligence agent in each armed forces leader’s office.

The army, since its establishment in 1970, has been somewhat independent of political leadership. Gradually, Isaias controlled the army.

However, there are no politically affiliated players in the army. They evolved from the battlefield during the armed struggle for independence and have little affiliation with the political circle. Army leaders who were involved in the political inner circle were imprisoned (Petros

Solomon, Berhane Gerezgher, Oqube Abraha) or exiled (Mesfin Hagos). The army and its leaders respect and execute the decision-making of the political leadership. But the generals and senior officers are never allowed to take military training in other countries and never permitted to make contact with outside professional networks.

Zemhret Yohannes is the regime's ideological wiz. He manages and the government's propaganda

machine as head of research and documentation at the PFDJ. He has less power in the inner circle and less access to Isaias.

His messaging focuses on Marxism, anti-imperialism and anti-Zionism. Zemhret is an expert in conspiracy theory. He is a Catholic and is from the Segheneyti area in southern Eritrea.

## SOURCE:

[https://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2022/Aug/187545/eritrea\\_who\\_is\\_who\\_in\\_president\\_isaias\\_afwerki\\_s\\_inner\\_circle.aspx](https://www.hiiraan.com/news4/2022/Aug/187545/eritrea_who_is_who_in_president_isaias_afwerki_s_inner_circle.aspx)

# UGANDA

26<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## PRESIDENT MUSEVENI RECEIVES CREDENTIALS FROM SIX NEW ENVOYS

Reiterates Uganda's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with the new envoys respective countries. President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni on Tuesday at State House, Entebbe received credentials from six envoys recently posted to Uganda.

The President received credentials from Ambassadors Muhammad Hassan Wazir (Pakistan), Ahmed Ibrahim Ahmed Awadelseed (Sudan), Maj. Gen. (Rtd) George Aggrey Awinow (Kenya), Ismail Ayobami Alatise (Nigeria), Nguyen Nam Tien (Vietnam) and the new High Commissioner of the Republic of Ghana to Uganda H.E Dampety Bediako Asare.

Speaking at the ceremony, President Museveni welcomed the new envoys & reiterated Uganda's commitment to strengthening bilateral ties with the new envoys respective countries. We look forward to

strengthen bilateral relations between our two nations, President Museveni told the new Pakistan envoy. On his part, H.E Muhammad Hassan Wazir hailed the great relationship between Pakistan and Uganda. He described President Museveni as the father of the nation and Africa at large.

President Museveni also welcomed the new Sudan Ambassador to Uganda H.E Ahmed Ibrahim Ahmed Awadelseed with whom they discussed various issues including the economy, Trade and Investment between the two countries. President Museveni noted that Sudan is the second after Italy in buying Ugandan unprocessed coffee calling on Sudan companies to partner with Uganda in investing in value addition to Ugandan coffee for the development of the two friendly countries.

Ambassador Ahmed Ibrahim commended the President for his support and guidance to the President and government of Sudan. He asked for President Museveni's guidance during his tenure as he tackles Trade, economy and investment as his key priority areas.

While presenting his credentials, H.E Maj. Gen. (Rtd) George Aggrey Awinow of the Republic of Kenya discussed the recent developments in Kenya including the recently concluded Presidential elections.

In the meeting with the new Nigerian High Commissioner to Uganda H.E, Ismail Ayobami Alatise, President Museveni called for involvement of the wanainch in solving the boko haram crisis and other extremists' groups. Since the group targets innocent civilians, use the people to fight insecurity since they are targets, he advised.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.mofa.go.ug/data/dnews/853/PRESIDENT%20MUSEVENI%20RECEIVES%20CREDENTIALS%20FROM%20SIX%20NEW%20ENVOYS.html>



8TH AUGUST 2022

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF SOMALIA, H.E HASSAN SHEIKH MOHAMUD, HAS TODAY ARRIVED IN UGANDA FOR A THREE-DAY STATE VISIT.

### SOMALI PRESIDENT, H.E HASSAN MOHAMUD, ARRIVES FOR STATE VISIT

The President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, has today arrived in Uganda for a three-day state visit at the invitation of his counterpart, H.E Gen. Yoweri Kaguta Museveni. H.E Mohamud was accompanied by a delegation including H.E Abdulkadir Mohamed Nour (Minister of Defense), Abshir Omar Jama (Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation), H.E Jibril Abdirashid Hagi Abdi (Minister of Commerce and Industry), Hon. Abdullahi Mohamed Ali (Member of Parliament), Hon. Abdirashid Nour Jiley (Member of Parliament), Hon. Senator Muna Omar Hassan Member of Parliament (MP), Hon. Ahmed Abdi Hashi (Member of Parliament), Hon. Amb. Mohamed Ali-Nur Hagi (Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs), Mr. Hussein Sheikh Mohamud (Chief of Staff), Mr. Abdizaiz Ibrahim Adam (Director General Ministry of

Commerce and Industry), among others.

The President and his delegation were received at Entebbe International Airport VVIP wing by Hon. Gen. Hajji Abubaker Jeje Odongo, the Minister of foreign Affairs, the Ugandan Ambassador to Somalia, H.E Prof. Turyamuhika Sam and the Deputy Ambassador of Uganda to Somalia, Maj. Gen. Nathan Mugisha. He was accorded a guard of honour by the Uganda Peoples Defense Force Officers (UPDF) and entertained by the crane dancers. President Mohamud is the newly elected president of Somalia since May 2022 and the founder and current chairman of the Union for Peace and Development Party. Previously he served as Somalia's eighth President from 2012 to 2017.

During his stay in Uganda, President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud will tomorrow (Tuesday, August 9, 2022) visit the Kapeeka Industrial Park and NEC Industries in Nakasongola.

He will later be joined by President Yoweri Museveni to address the Somalia-Uganda Investment and Business Summit at Speke Resort Munyonyo.

President Mohamud will also later open the newly renovated Somalia Embassy in Kampala before addressing Somalia business leaders.

An existing Framework Agreement signed between Uganda and Somalia in 2016 highlights areas of cooperation between different sectors and Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) of the two countries

ranging from Political Consultations (Foreign Affairs), Defence and Security, Police, Air

Transport, Trade and Investment, Health, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, Refugees, Financial

Services, Tourism and Culture, and many others.

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.mofa.go.ug/data/dnews/852/The%20President%20of%20the%20Federal%20Republic%20of%20Somalia,%20H.E%20Hassan%20Sheikh%20Mohamud,%20has%20today%20arrived%20in%20Uganda%20for%20a%20three-day%20state%20visit%20.html>

4<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

**WE CANNOT AFFORD TO TAKE NO ACTION AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE, SAYS H.E MUSEVENI**

President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni has said Uganda is committed to ensuring sustainable use of the environment and the natural resources saying these are at the core of sustainable development and critical for social economic development and transformation, healthy ecosystems and human survival.

Officiating at the closure of the 3-day Inter-Ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment and Climate Change in Munyonyo, Kampala, H.E Museveni noted that the issues concerning migration, environment and climate change are not new to Uganda and people, majority of whom are vulnerable with limited capacity to adapt to the impacts of climate change, have continued to experience increased frequency and intensity of floods, drought and landslides associated with the impacts of

climate change.

In 2010, we had to relocate and resettle about 3, 000 people from Mt. Elgon sub region, Bududa district in Eastern Uganda to Kiryandongo district in Western Uganda after their home villages were devastated by the landslides on March 1st 2010, Museveni said.

According to President Museveni, Africa particularly is disproportionately susceptible to climate change impact, causing loss of lives and livelihoods from the damage caused by climate change-related disasters. He said East Africa and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) and other African countries rely heavily on natural resources that must be protected at all times.

The changing climate and weather conditions are putting our communities, agriculture, health, water supply, hydro power production, road infrastructure and housing at more risk and making us more vulnerable. We cannot afford to take no action, Museveni said.

He reaffirmed commitment of African countries to the realisation of the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and Africa agenda 2063, saying climate change adaptation is key in addressing the impact of climate change at all levels including addressing loss and damage and increasing the resilience of communities, infrastructure and eco systems.

No country can address the challenge of climate change alone. We must

work together to increase adaptive capacities while minimizing the negative impact of climate-related displacement and involuntary migration, he further noted.

President Museveni rallied delegates to protect wetlands and plant more trees in their respective countries as a measure to cushion against environmental catastrophes.

He added that wetlands, forests and open water bodies in Uganda contribute 40 per cent of the rain the country receives, while 60 per cent of the rain comes from oceans. He said parts of West Nile in Uganda are getting more rains partly due the wetlands in South Sudan and the forests in Congo.

Therefore, by interfering with the forests and wetlands, we ourselves are destroying 40% of the rainfall of these areas. So, the countries of the great lakes, you really need to watch out! In Uganda here, I'm having war to make sure that no body cultivates in the wetland."

The President again advised farmers to stop growing rice in swamps since the economic activity causes a negative impact on the environment.

Swamps are tributaries of the river Nile. So, when you grow rice in the swamps, you are committing a very big crime. And this is us, not the Europeans. This must stop! Museveni warned.

H.E Salva Kiir Mayardit, the President of South Sudan who also addressed the conference, spoke highly of measures on climate adaptation and called upon countries to devote more resources towards climate change financing.

He said the Government of South Sudan has submitted its national adaptation plan to the UN framework convention on climate change.

The three-day Regional Inter-Ministerial Conference on Migration, Environment and Climate Change sought to raise awareness about the impact of climate change and environmental degradation on human mobility, ahead of the 27th session of the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP27) that will take place in Egypt from November 7-18.

The conference held under the theme: "Enhancing Cooperation in Relation to Climate Change Induced Human

Mobility, Including Migration, Displacement and Planned Relocation" was also addressed by the Executive Secretary of IGAD, H.E. Eng. Mahboub Maalim, the Deputy Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Mr Ovais Sarmad and the Egyptian Ambassador to Uganda, H.E Ashraf Mohamed Nabhan, among others.

The conference also saw Heads of Ministerial Delegations signing and adopting the Kampala Declaration on Migration, Environment and Climate Change, an important step to dealing with and responding to the impact of climate on migration, displacement and human mobility.

It attracted high-level representatives from countries including Burundi, Djibouti, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya and Rwanda. Others were Senegal, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The East and Horn of Africa is one of the most vulnerable regions to climate variability and climate change. The region regularly faces a wide range of natural hazards and slow-onset events and processes leading to different forms of human mobility (displacement, migration, returns and planned relocation).

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.mofa.go.ug/data/dnews/851/WE%20CANNOT%20AFFORD%20TO%20TAKE%20NO%20ACTION%20AGAINST%20CLIMATE%20CHANGE,%20SAYS%20H.E%20MUSEVENI.html>

# KENYA

9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## KENYA ELECTION LATEST UPDATES: MILLIONS VOTE FOR NEW PRESIDENT

**K**enyans are heading to the polls on Tuesday to select the successor to President Uhuru Kenyatta.

**T**he cost of living, high unemployment and rampant corruption have dominated the campaign season, with top presidential candidates Raila Odinga and William Ruto pledging to address the country's gaping inequality and focusing largely on domestic issues.

**T**he presidential race could be the first in the country's history to go to a runoff, with polls showing Odinga, a one-time rival of Kenyatta who has since allied with him, and Ruto, the current deputy president who has fallen out with Kenyatta, running neck and neck.

**O**verall, more than 16,000 candidates are vying for 1,879 elected positions, including members of the Senate,

the National Assembly, the County Assembly and governors.

**O**fficial results in the country of 53 million, with more than 22 million registered voters, will be announced within a week. Presidential candidates need more than half of all votes, as well as more than 25 percent of votes in over half of the country's 47 counties, to avoid a runoff.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/liveblog/2022/8/9/kenya-election-live-news-high-stakes-vote>

16<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## WILLIAN RUTO DECLARED WINNER OF KENYAN PRESIDENTIAL VOTE AMID CHAOS AT ELECTION CENTRE

**K**enya's Deputy President William Ruto has been elected as the country's next President; the electoral commission announced Monday.

**R**uto won with 50.49% of the vote, narrowly defeating veteran opposition leader and former Prime Minister Raila

Odinga, who was contesting his fifth election.

He will become Kenya's fifth President since independence, winning the seat on his first attempt. Ruto's party, the Kenya First coalition, has won a majority of seats in Kenya's senate, the second highest in the National Assembly.

The results announcement was delayed for more than two hours past the constitutional deadline and the country's electoral commission was split, after four officials disowned the commission's chairman Wafula Chebukati's results. The opposing officials staged a press conference of their own at another venue disputing

the official results. The IEBC's vice chair Juliana Cherera was among those who disagreed with the results but provided no evidence of irregularities.

Earlier Monday, Ruto's rival Odinga's coalition also rejected the election results before they had even been announced by Kenya's Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).

Odinga's chief agent Saitabao Kanchory told the press outside the national election center in Nairobi that they had not yet been able to cross

check the final result with their own tally.

“Once we see them, we want to verify them, when we verify them, we will be able to know and to tell the Kenyan people, because a result that is not verifiable is not a result.” Kanchory told reporters awaiting the results announcement.

The national tallying center briefly descended into chaos shortly after Odinga's coalition rejected the results, with fighting breaking out and chairs being thrown in the building.

## SOURCE:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/08/15/africa/ruto-wins-kenya-presidency-intl/index.html>

18<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## PRESIDENT KENYATTA HOLDS TALKS WITH RELIGIOUS LEADERS

President Uhuru Kenyatta today met and held talks with religious leaders at state house, Nairobi who paid him a courtesy call.

The interfaith group, including Archbishop Martin Kivuva of the Mombasa Catholic Archdiocese, Archbishop Antony Muheria of Nyeri, Anglican

Archbishop Jackson Ole Sapit and the Deputy of Secretary General of the Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims (SUPKEM) Hassan Ole Naado, commended president Kenyatta for his leadership which has ensured peace, stability and cohesion amongst the Kenyan communities.

The religious leaders expressed gratitude to the Head of State for working towards a united Kenya by creating a path of inclusivity for all Kenyans

Other members of the clergy who attended the meeting included Sheikh Yusuf Nasur Maki, Nairobi Catholic Archdiocese, Archbishop Philip

Anyolo, Bishop Emeritus David Oginde, Bishop Emeritus Silas Yego, Bishop Robert Langat, Canon Chris Kinyanjui and father Ferdinard Lugonzo.

The president thanked the religious leaders for their support and assured them that the process of transition will be smooth.

## SOURCE:

<https://www.president.go.ke/2022/08/18/president-kenyatta-holds-talks-with-religious-leaders/>

# RWANDA

8<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## RWANDA REJECTS UN REPORT ON SUPPORT FOR REBELS IN CONGO.

Rwanda's government is rejecting a report by United Nations experts saying they have solid evidence that members of Rwanda's armed forces are conducting operations in eastern Congo in support of the M23 rebel group whose deadly resurgence has led to talk of war as well as protests against the U.N. peace force.

The report is a tactic to distract from real issues, Rwanda government spokeswoman Yolande Makolo said in a statement describing the report as containing false allegations.

U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken will visit both countries next week, with the deadly turbulence in mineral rich eastern Congo leading the agenda. Rwanda accuses Congo of collaborating with another rebel group, the FDLR, and said regional security can't be achieved until that issue is addressed. The FDLR, was created by ethnic Hutus who

fled Rwanda during the country's 1994 genocide that killed at least 800,000 ethnic Tutsis and moderate Hutus. Congo has denied supporting the group.

Rwanda has a legitimate and sovereign right to defend our territory and citizens, and not just wait for disaster to unfold, Makolo said. in a new report to the U.N. Secretary Council, obtained by the Associated Press, the experts accused Rwanda's forces of violating a U.N. arms embargo against Congo by their direct intervention into the country, either to support the M23 rebel group or to conduct military operations against the FDLR.

Rwanda military members also violated sanctions by providing weapons, ammunition and uniforms to M23 rebels, the experts' report said. Attacks by the M23 have become more frequent, longer and stronger, and the territory under the groups' control has

significantly increased, causing massive displacement of civilians and indiscriminate shelling, the experts added.

The latest in eastern Congo insecurity has sparked deadly protests against the U.N. peacekeeping force there. Relations between Congo and its smaller neighbor Rwanda have been fraught for decades. Rwanda alleges that Congo gave refuge to Hutus who carried out the genocide. In the late 1990s, Rwanda twice sent its forces deep into Congo, joining forces with Congolese rebel leader Laurent Kabila to depose the country's longtime dictator Mobutu Sese Seko.

A meeting between Rwandan President Paul Kagame and Congolese president Felix Tshisekedi in Angola on July 6 produced a statement calling for a return to normal withdrawal of the M23 from its positions in Eastern Congo.

### SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-genocides-rwanda-united-nations-antony-blinken-64ba0a2d7ff3aa82d4a1666b99dd2a5b>



17<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## A JUDGE SAYS UK GOVERNMENT MUST DISCLOSE SOME RWANDA ASYLUM ADVICE

A judge ordered the British government Wednesday to reveal parts of the advice it received about a plan to send asylum seeker to Rwanda-information it had hoped to keep secret. But in a partial victory for the government, the judge said some of the material can be withheld from the public.

Several asylum seekers, aid groups and a border official's union are taking legal action against the government over the deportation agreement reached with Rwanda in April. Under the deal, Britain plans to send some migrants who arrive in the UK as stowaways or in small boats to Rwanda, where their asylum claims would be processed. If the applicants are

granted asylum, they would stay in the African country rather than returning to the UK.

Britain says the policy will deter people trafficking gangs who ferry migrants across the English Channel. Human rights groups say it is unworkable and inhuman to send people thousands of miles to a country they don't want to live in.

### SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-rwanda-immigration-migration-94c5c7296d74408aac73bc858f8ec2e7>

# BURUNDI

22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2022

## BURUNDI FIRST TO SEND SOLDIERS FOR REGIONAL FORCE IN CONGO

Soldiers from Burundi have deployed to troubled eastern Congo as the first part of a recently created Eastern African regional force to respond to crises. As you have seen, our soldiers have been received officially. They are in Congo on an official mission, the spokesman for Burundi’s army, Col. Floribet Biyereke, told the Associated

Press on Monday. He said a battalion had been sent.

The deployment was confirmed by a Congolese army spokesman, Lt. Marc Elongo who said the mandate is to track down all foreign and local armed groups in order to restore peace in the mineral-rich region bordering Rwanda and Uganda

where dozens of rebel groups operate.

The tensions between Congo and Rwanda, which Congo has accused of supporting the recently resurgent M23 rebel group, in part led the East African Community to another rebel group, the FDLR, which Rwanda considers a threat.

### SOURCE:

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-rwanda-kenya-east-burundi-51e4c5a207d34522429db74fd4d6a91f>

19<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

## BURUNDI CELEBRATES WORLD HUMANITARIAN DAY

Every year on 19th August, the humanitarian community comes together to celebrate World Humanitarian Day. Thirteen years after its first celebration, the aid community worldwide is grappling with the toll of a mega crisis. The devastating combination of conflicts, the climate emergency, geopolitics, the pandemic, poverty and a war has caused the number of

people who need humanitarian assistance to reach a record 303 million.

As this mega crisis continues, humanitarian workers step up to respond every day by providing lifesaving assistance such as food and cash, health and clean water, protection services and emergency education to millions of women, children and

men. Because as the saying goes, It takes a village. Just as it takes a village to raise a child, it takes a whole community to help people in need. As individuals, our impact is limited, but together we have tremendous power.

In Burundi, the humanitarian community, alongside the government, continues to provide for multi-sectoral

assistance to 947,000 most vulnerable people out of 1.8 million in need. However, despite the country progressively transitioning

towards development, challenges remain. Burundi is among the 20 most vulnerable countries in the world to climate change, generating

displacements, epidemics and affecting food security.

**SOURCE:**

<https://reliefweb.int/report/burundi/burundi-celebrates-world-humanitarian-day>

10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2022

**SOMALIA’S DROUGHT DISPLACEMENT TOPS 1 MILLION**

The number of people displaced by the record-breaking drought in Somalia has topped one million, with the United Nations warning of widespread famine if emergency needs are not soon met.

The United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, OCHA, said that during the month of July another 83,000 people were forced to flee their homes because of the drought, with the worst displacement coming in the Bay, Banadir and Gedo regions. Ishaku Mshelia, deputy emergency coordinator for the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, told VOA via telephone Wednesday that people are migrating in search of food and other assistance. He said the FAO is trying to help.

“Our ability as [a] humanitarian community is to be able to reach the affected people in their communities and provide the services that they need so that they ... don’t feel pushed to migrate,” Mshelia said. “Unfortunately, previous droughts, what we have seen is that a lot of mortalities have been reported where people that, unfortunately, died on their way to open areas in search of assistance.”

FAO Somalia said it needs \$130 million to fully fund its famine prevention plan, designed to help about a million people in rural areas. A statement issued by the FAO on Wednesday said that if the funding gap is not addressed, widespread famine may be inevitable.

Drought-related malnutrition has killed 500 children, according to the U.N. Children’s Fund, UNICEF. Authorities in Somalia’s Gedo region also confirmed to VOA more than 50 deaths of children due to suspected drought-related illnesses. The deaths were reported in the towns of Bardere and Beledhawo, which border Kenya.

Ali Yusuf Abdullahi, the Gedo regional administration spokesman, said that the region is witnessing a “catastrophic” situation due to drought. He said that people are fleeing in search of a better life and have gathered in major towns including Dolow, near the Ethiopian border.

**SOURCE:**

<https://www.voanews.com/a/somalia-s-drought-displacement-tops-1-million/6696046.html>

21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST 2022

## HOTEL SIEGE IN SOMALIA ENDS AFTER THREE HOURS WITH 21 DEAD AND 117 HURT.

Somali authorities on Sunday ended an attack by Islamic extremists that left 21 people dead and over 110 wounded when gunmen stormed a hotel in the capital. It took Somali forces more than 30 hours to contain the fighters who had stormed Mogadishu's Hayat Hotel on Friday evening in an assault that started with loud explosions.

The attack is the first major terror attack in Mogadishu since Somalia's new leader, Hassan Sheikh Mohamud, took over in May. The siege ended around midnight; police commissioner Abdi Hassan Hajar told reporters. "During the attack, the security forces rescued many civilians trapped in the hotel, including women and children," he said.

Health Minister Dr. Ali Haji Adam reported 21 deaths and 117 people wounded, with at least 15 in critical

condition. He noted that some victims may not have been brought to hospitals, and the death toll. The Islamic extremist group al-Shabab, which has ties with al Qaeda, claimed responsibility for the attack, the latest of its frequent attempts to strike places visited by government officials.

Al-Shabab opposes the federal government and outside groups that support it. Al-Shabab remains the most lethal Islamic extremist group in Africa and the biggest threat to political stability in the volatile Horn of Africa nation.

Police have not yet given a detailed explanation of how the attack unfolded and it remains unclear how many gunmen entered the hotel. A police officer told Reuters that two car bombs targeting the hotel's front barrier and gate had been used to gain access to the hotel on Friday evening.

Ismail Abdi, the hotel's manager, told The Associated Press early Sunday that security forces were still working to clear the area. The sound of gunfire ended at 9 a.m. Onlookers gathered outside the gates of the badly damaged hotel on Sunday morning, surveying the scene.

Somalia's previous president, Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, avoided any major confrontation with al-Shabab. But Mohamud has said his government will take the offensive against the group's thousands of fighters, with the backing of returning U.S. forces.

Al-Shabab charged via its Andalus radio station that the attack on the hotel was in response to Mohamud's assertion that he would eliminate the group from Somalia.

### SOURCE:

<https://www.cbsnews.com/news/somalia-hotel-attack-mogadishu/>

Compiled and edited by **Anna Dure Joseph** and **Nhial Koang Yuot**

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P.O. BOX 619, Hai Jebrona, Adjacent to Martyrs School,  
Opposite Simba Playground, Juba, South Sudan.  
Tel: +211 (0) 920 310 415 | +211 (0) 915 652 847  
<https://csps.org.ss>