

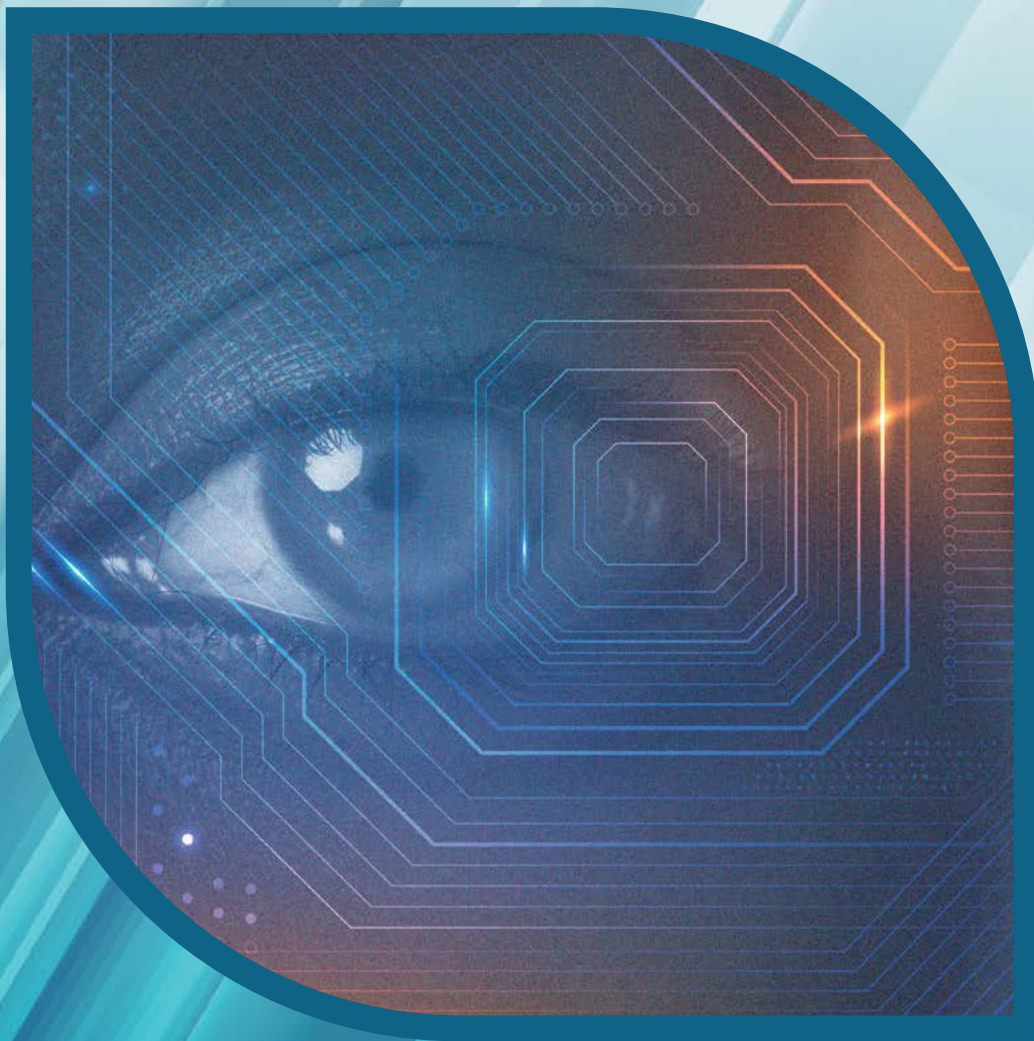


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MAY 2022

UGANDA

17TH MAY 2022

UGANDA TO WITHDRAW SOLDIERS FIGHTING ADF IN DR CONGO THIS MONTH.

The Allied Democratic Forces, which began as an uprising in Uganda but has been based in Congo since the late 1990s, pledged allegiance to ISIL (ISIS) in mid-2019. Uganda will pull troops from neighbouring Democratic Republic of the Congo in two weeks, the military has said, after a joint operation against Islamist insurgents since late last year.

Last December, President Yoweri Museveni's government sent hundreds of soldiers into east Congo in December to join the Congolese military in an assault on the bases of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). Uganda's deployment of at least 1,700 soldiers constituted the largest foreign intervention in Congo in over a decade, apart from a United Nations peacekeeping operation.

The ADF [began as an uprising](#) in Uganda but has been based in Congo since the late 1990s. It pledged allegiance to ISIL (ISIS) in mid-2019 and is accused of killing hundreds of villagers in frequent raids over the past two years. There was no reason given for the planned Ugandan withdrawal or update on the status of the operation against the ADF.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/17/uganda-to-withdraw-soldiers-fighting-adf-in-dr-congo-this-month>

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

24TH MAY 2022

DRC HAS MORE TO LOSE THAN GAIN IN REGIONAL BLOC – OPPOSITION

Opposition leader believes the DRC has to lose than gain from its recent integration into the eastern African bloc. This April, the Democratic Republic of Congo joined the East African Community (EAC).

It effectively became the seventh member of a regional bloc comprising Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and South

Sudan. “The EAC now spans from the Indian Ocean to the Atlantic Ocean making the region competitive and easy to access the larger African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA),” Peter Mathuki, the body’s secretary-general said at the time. Beyond trade, a regional collaboration in tackling longstanding conflict in parts of the mineral-rich DRC, especially in its eastern region, is also being touted as

one of the reasons for it joining the community.

The current violence in the DRC is partly rooted in the massive refugee crisis and spill over from the 1994 genocide in Rwanda. After Hutu génocidaires fled to the eastern DRC and formed armed groups, rival Tutsi and opportunistic rebel groups arose, as well.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2022/5/24/qa-drc-has-more-to-lose-than-gain-in-regional-bloc-opposition>

KENYA

13TH MAY 2022

IT'S A STRUGGLE FOR SURVIVAL, WHY KENYA AND ITS WIFE LIFE NEED TOURISTS TO RETURN.

Covid dealt a blow to tourism and the conservation funds it provides. But as visitors slowly return, the sector is looking for new ways to thrive every day, for the past 20 years, Joyce Naserian has laid out her handmade curios near an entrance to the Masai Mara park to sell to passing tourists.

Her earnings have helped the 46-year-old feed and educate all four of her children. In northern Kenya, about 1,200 semi-nomadic women earned [more than 9m Kenyan shillings \(£62,000\) selling beadwork](#) to visitors at 43 community wildlife conservancies in 2020. Just as it was Naserian in the Mara, selling the beadwork was a solid money earner for these women. But that was before Covid.

The collapse of eco-tourism during the pandemic has spelled disaster for conservation initiatives and livelihoods in [Kenya](#) and beyond. Cuts to budgets and staff, reduced salaries and stalled development and education projects have plunged communities into poverty, leading to a rise in poaching and the illegal wildlife trade.

TOP KENYAN PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE PICKS FEMALE RUNNING MATE

16TH MAY 2022

Kenyan opposition leader Raila Odinga on Monday chose a former justice minister as his running mate in elections set for August, making her the first ever female candidate on a major presidential ticket in the East African country.

Martha Karua, an attorney and seasoned politician, has a reputation for speaking her mind and could prove

a popular choice among voters excited to see a woman among the country's top leaders. Karua, who unsuccessfully ran for president in 2017, is nicknamed "the iron lady" for her reputation as a tough competitor and has railed against official corruption.

I believe in my heart of hearts that if we can erode the power of corruption in our midst, we can finally cross the Rubicon

to the promised land, she said in a speech Monday. Odinga's announcement came the day after rival, deputy president William Ruto, picked lawmaker Rigathi Gachagua as his running mate. Both running mates are ethnic Kikuyus underscoring the importance of that voting bloc that encompasses a wide and ballot rich part of central Kenya.

SOURCE.

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-government-and-politics-elections-presidential-kenya-902802365e071e9f137b721ad1f77fb9>

RWANDA

19TH MAY 2022

RWANDA TO GET FIRST BATCH OF ASYLUM SEEKERS FROM UK THIS MAY

In April, both countries signed a controversial immigration deal to take those who enter the United Kingdom illegally to the eastern African state. Rwanda expects the first group of 50 asylum seekers to be transferred from the United Kingdom by the end of May, a government spokesperson has said.

In April, the UK government announced plans to send people seeking asylum to the East African country. But earlier

this month, it said it expected lawyers to lodge claims to prevent their removal. “According to the information we have, the first batch of migrants will arrive by the end of the month,” Rwanda’s deputy government spokesman Alain Mukurarinda said on Thursday. “But ... it is the British government that knows how many will come and when they will come.”

In April, both countries [signed a controversial immigration deal](#) to take those who enter the UK illegally to the eastern African state. For its part in the scheme, Rwanda will net \$158m. The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) condemned the scheme as an “egregious breach of international law” and “contrary to the letter and spirit of the Refugee Convention”. Other Western countries like Denmark are also [considering similar deals](#) with Rwanda.

SOURCE:

[: https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/19/rwanda-to-get-first-batch-of-asylum-seekers-from-uk-this-may](https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/19/rwanda-to-get-first-batch-of-asylum-seekers-from-uk-this-may)

RWANDA ACCUSES CONGOLESE FORCES OF CROSS-BORDER SHELLING.

24TH MAY 2022

Rwanda's military has accused neighboring Congolese forces of injuring several civilians in cross-border shelling and asked regional monitors to investigate.

Rwanda defense force spokesman Co. Ronald Rwivanga said authorities are engaging Congo counterparts

over the shelling that Rwanda says struck areas in Musanze district on Monday morning. Rwanda has asked that the expanded joint verification mechanism urgently investigate.

Some Congolese authorities have accused Rwandan forces of supporting armed groups in, mineral-rich

eastern Congo, where dozens of such groups are active. Rwanda has described allegations of supporting rebels in Congo as baseless. Fighting reportedly continues between Congolese forces and an armed group called M23.

SOURCE

<https://apnews.com/article/africa-rwanda-kigali-f15398437a0f83c1939e8208d84179cd>

SOMALIA

14TH MAY 2022

SOMALIA SET TO HOLD OVERDUE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

CITING SECURITY REASONS, POLICE IN SOMALIA ANNOUNCE A CURFEW IN MOGADISHU AHEAD OF THE LONG-DELAYED ELECTION.

Somalia is set to hold its long-delayed presidential vote this weekend, ending the convoluted [electoral process](#) that raised tensions in the country when the president's term expired last year without a successor in place.

Authorities have registered 39 presidential candidates for Sunday's election, a list that includes incumbent Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, two former presidents, several top officials, and one woman – Fawzia Yusuf Haji Adam, a legislator who once served

as Somalia's foreign minister. The vote will take place amid heightened insecurity as the al-Qaeda-linked armed group al-Shabab, which opposes the federal government, continues to stage [lethal attacks](#) in the capital and elsewhere in the Horn of Africa nation.

In recent months, al-Shabab has repeatedly tested the defences of the Halane military camp, which is protected by African Union peacekeepers. A suicide bombing on Wednesday killed at least four people, including two government

soldiers, at a checkpoint near the heavily fortified airport area where legislators will meet on Sunday to choose a new president.

At a news conference on Saturday, police spokesman Abdifatah Aden announced a full curfew in the capital, Mogadishu, covering traffic and people, from Saturday at 9pm (18:00 GMT) until Monday at 6am (03:00 GMT). Lawmakers, security personnel and all other officials involved in the vote are still free to move during those hours.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/14/somalia-to-hold-overdue-presidential-election-on-may-15>

THREE DEAD AS AL-SHABAB ATTACKS AU PEACEKEEPERS CAMP

3RD MAY 2022

The al-Shabab attack comes amid a protracted political crisis in Somalia and a drought crisis in the Horn of Africa. The armed group al-Shabab has attacked an African Union mission troop camp in the Shabelle region in central Somalia, a local elder and the group have said.

“We were awoken by huge blasts early in the morning. The blasts were at the African Union mission base. Heavy exchange of gunfire followed,” local elder Mohamed Nur told the Reuters news agency on Tuesday by phone from El Baraf, about 130km (80 miles) to the north of the capital, Mogadishu.

Another resident, who lives in a village near the scene, said three civilians had died in the crossfire. He also said he saw two helicopters flying by and gunfire coming from them. Al-Shabab, which has been fighting for years to topple the central government and establish its own rule based on its strict interpretation of Islamic law, claimed responsibility for the attack.

“The Mujahideen launched a pre-dawn raid on an ATMIS [African Union Mission] military base in El Baraf, middle Shabelle region,” al-Shabab said in a statement. “After a fierce firefight, the Mujahideen managed

to overrun the base and are now in complete control of the entire military base.” Farah Hussein, a shopkeeper, told Reuters from El Baraf that after the initial attack, helicopters were seen flying above the scene.

“We heard some gunshots and sounds of weapons being fired from the helicopters,” he said by phone. “The ATMIS forces are also in the jungles pursuing the al-Shabab fighters. So far, we know three civilians died and five others were injured in the fighting.” Officials in Shabelle and the African Union mission were not immediately available to comment on the attack.

SOURCE:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/5/3/somalia-three-dead-as-al-shabaab-attacks-au-peacekeepers-camp>

SOUTH SUDAN

SOUTH SUDAN SELLS FUTURE OIL TO PAY SALARY ARREARS

The announcement that South Sudan's crude oil has been sold in advance to pay for salary arrears has come in for criticism. The Finance Minister Agak Achuil said output up until 2027 had been sold in order to pay the salaries of civil servants, who have not been paid since around September 2021. But a prominent economist

has hit at the government, saying it has failed to manage the economy properly. "If you decide to make your life depend on loans, you consume the future," said Ahmed Morgan Yanga, a professor of economics at the University of Juba. He said it was akin to "pronouncing the country economically dead".

Oil is the backbone of the economy in South Sudan, which is recovering from a brutal civil war that erupted not long after its independence in 2011. Dr Yanga said the government should not just rely on oil revenues, recommending it look to minerals and the tourism sector to raise money.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/c302m85q54lt/south-sudan>

UN SECURITY COUNCIL RENEWS SOUTH SUDAN ARMS EMBARGO

The United Nations Security Council had renewed an arms embargo on South Sudan by another year. The UN's resolution to extend the ban through May next year passed with 10 out of 15 votes, with Gabon, Kenya, India, Russia, and China abstaining. The council also extended targeted sanctions against South Sudanese individuals. Rights group Amnesty International

has welcomed the decision. "The embargo is crucial to curtailing the flow of weapons that have been used to commit or facilitate war crimes, human rights violations and abuses including conflict-related sexual violence," in a statement. South Sudan has protested against the US-drafted resolution as unfair to "the people of South Sudan, who suffer under the cruelty of the UN sanctions and arms

embargo", its foreign affairs ministry said. A UN panel of experts had recommended that the council extend the arms embargo because of "persistent ceasefire violations" and rising violence in the country. The embargo was first imposed in 2018 after a peace agreement ended five years of a civil war that killed hundreds of thousands of people and displaced millions.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/c302m85q54lt/south-sudan>

SUDAN

PROMINENT SUDAN WOMEN'S ACTIVIST WINS RIGHTS AWARD

A prominent Sudanese women's rights activist who was detained earlier this year in a crackdown following the October 2021 coup has won a global human rights award. Amira Osman Hamed is among this year's winners of the Front Line Defenders Award for Human Rights Defenders at Risk, the organization. The activist and engineer, who is now in her 40s, has been fighting for Sudanese women's rights for two decades. She has been a victim

of past human rights violations, according to the awards organizer, and was in 2013 detained and charged after she refused to put on a headscarf, worn by Muslim women to cover their hair.

She was also charged in 2002 for wearing trousers and was in January this year taken from her house and held incommunicado by security officers before later being released. "Nevertheless,

she never deterred from her mission and actively participated in peaceful demonstrations," Frontline Defenders said in the statement announcing the winners. The Amalgamated Rural Teachers Union of Zimbabwe was also named as an award winner for its work on improving poor wages and the working conditions of rural teachers. The organization named three other rights defenders from Afghanistan, Belarus and Mexico as winners.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cq23pdgvgm8t/sudan>

BUSINESSES SHUT AS SUDAN FORCES AND PROTESTERS CLASH

Sudanese security forces clashed with anti-coup protesters in Khartoum on Thursday, leading to injuries but no loss of life, local media reported. The authorities closed

a major bridge that links the capital to two nearby cities ahead of the protests. Many businesses were forced to close due to the protests, Radio Dabanga reported. The demonstrations

were organized by the Sudanese neighborhood resistance committees, grassroots groups that have been leading calls for civilian rule since last October's military coup.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cq23pdgvgm8t/sudan>

SUDAN LIFTS STATE OF EMERGENCY IMPOSED SINCE COUP

Sudan's military government has lifted a state of emergency which it imposed after seizing power in a coup six months ago. The country's ruling security and defense council said the decision was made at a meeting

headed by the military leader, General Abdel Fattah al-Burhan. It said the move was aimed at creating the right atmosphere for dialogue. Protests against the military government have continued since the coup in October. Clashes with police

have killed nearly 100 people since then. In recent days security forces have arrested many protesters, targeting the leaders of the resistance movement.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/topics/cq23pdgvgm8t/sudan>

ETHIOPIA

ETHIOPIA'S TIGRAY FORCES ANNOUNCE RELEASE OF THOUSANDS OF POWs

The Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) says 4,208 prisoners of war, including 401 women, to be released in amnesty. The Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) announced the prisoner release on Twitter on Friday, amid an escalating war of words between Ethiopian and Tigray regional

officials over provocations and preparations for another round of fighting in the country that has been mired in conflict for more than 18 months. Ethiopia's civil war erupted in November 2020 when the central government sent troops in to topple the Tigray region's governing TPLF party, saying it was in response

to rebel attacks on army camps.

Hundreds of thousands of people have been driven to the brink of famine, more than two million people have been displaced and more than nine million left in need of food aid, the United Nations has said.

SOURCE: ALJAZEERA

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news>

ETHIOPIA HAS WORLD'S BIGGEST DISPLACED POPULATION - REPORT

Five million people have been internally displaced in Ethiopia, the highest number of such people registered in a single country, according to a report. The annual report by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) also cites the Democratic Republic of Congo, Afghanistan and Myanmar as having seen their highest number of internally displaced people in 2021. It comes as a record 59 million people globally were recorded as being internally displaced by the end of last year due to protracted conflicts and new waves of

violence. That's an increase of over four million globally from a year earlier, the report adds. The report by the displacement monitoring organization founded by the Norwegian Refugee Council reveals that sub-Saharan Africa was the most affected. In northern Ethiopia, an 18-month civil war has unleashed a massive humanitarian crisis in which millions are uprooted from their lives. The exact death toll of the war - marked by accusations of abuses and atrocities that some of which rights groups say could amount to war crimes - remains unclear.

In the country's northernmost region of Tigray where fighting initially broke out in November 2020, millions are still in a desperate need of aid. In other parts of the country, an unprecedented surge in ethnic and religious violence saw tens of thousands fleeing their homes. A government military operation in the country's largest Oromia region is currently under way against the armed group the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) - and is feared could result in civilian deaths and worsen the humanitarian crisis.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cwlw3xz047jt/ethiopia>

TANZANIA

‘BACK ONLINE’: TANZANIA’S PRESIDENT RIGHTS PREDECESSOR’S WRONGS

President Samia Hassan is mending frayed relations with the West and getting neglected projects back on stream. Former President John Magufuli had pushed Tanzania towards new levels of authoritarianism and turned the country into a global pariah

due to his denial of COVID-19. Hassan’s trip to the US in April, her second in less than a year, was viewed by her supporters as proof that Tanzania is charting a new course. “It’s a 180-degree turn from what her predecessor was like,” Fahad Awadh, co-founder of YITZ

Agro Processing, a cashew nut company based in Zanzibar told Al Jazeera. “She is going out and building bridges with these other countries. She has travelled a lot in the last year going to the UK, France, Belgium, Dubai and Kenya and Uganda in the region.”

SOURCE: ALJAZEERA

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news>

TANZANIA LEADER HOLDS NIGHT MEETING OVER FUEL PRICES

Tanzania’s President Samia Hassan held an emergency meeting of her cabinet on Sunday night over price hikes of fuel in the country. The country’s energy regulator, Energy and Water Utilities

Regulatory Authority, last week announced record high fuel prices. The cabinet meeting in the coastal city of Dar es Salaam was attended by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa, the ministers of energy and finance,

among others. “The president directed those present to find an immediate solution to the rising fuel prices in the country,” the president’s office said in a statement.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cjnwl8q4qdr/tanzania>

ERITREA

SOMALI TROOPS ARE IN ERITREA, OUTGOING PRESIDENT REVEALS

The outgoing Somali president has for the first time publicly spoken about the presence of Somali troops in Eritrea. While handing over office to the incoming president, Mohamed Abdullahi Farmajo said he had officially given the files concerning the recruits to his successor President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud. Early last year reports emerged that thousands

of soldiers were being trained in Eritrea - claims that were denied by the government despite protests in Mogadishu. But in a twist of events, a year later the former president has confirmed their presence in Eritrea. He said the 5,000 troops had completed their military training last year, but their return was delayed due to the election period. There were accusations that the recruits

were involved in the civil war in northern Ethiopia, where the federal government is fighting the Tigray People's Liberation Front. A UN report submitted to the General Assembly in 2021 said Somali soldiers were fighting alongside Eritrean troops who were backing the federal government, allegations that the Somali government denied.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news>

TIGRAY FORCES CLASH WITH ERITREAN ARMY - REPORTS

Forces in Ethiopia's northern Tigray region have clashed with the Eritrean army along the border, a credible source in Addis Ababa has told the BBC. The source added that the clashes happened in the Tigrayan area of Rama, and the disputed town of Badme, which

an international tribunal has awarded to Eritrea. Both sides engaged in shelling using heavy artillery, the source said. Other sources in Tigray also said there had been fighting at the border. "Tigrayan forces retreated and the fight halted last night. However, it demonstrates the

TPLF's aggressive behavior," the source said, referring to the Tigray People's Liberation Front, which is in control of the region. It has been fighting Ethiopian forces and their Eritrean allies since November 2020.

SOURCE: BBC AFRICA NEWS

<https://www.bbc.com/news/topics/cz4pr2gdgjyt/eritrea>

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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>