



ML Strategies Update

ML
STRATEGIES

David Leiter

djleiter@mlstrategies.com

Georgette Spanjich

gmspanjich@mlstrategies.com

David Shirbroun

dshirbroun@mlstrategies.com

ML Strategies, LLC

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20004 USA

202 296 3622

202 434 7400 fax

www.mlstrategies.com

MAY 9, 2013

AFRICA UPDATE

Leading the News

Sudan/South Sudan

On May 4th, Kuol Deng Kuol, the top Dinka leader in Abyei, the region disputed by Sudan and South Sudan, was shot and killed. A United Nations (U.N.) peacekeeper from the U.N. Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) was also killed and two others were injured. Members of the Dinka tribe, which has allegiance with South Sudan, allege the attack was perpetrated by leaders of the Misseriya, an Arab tribe in the region aligned with Sudan. Meanwhile, Misseriya leaders blame Mayok's death on a shooting incident with Ethiopian U.N. peacekeepers stationed in Abyei. An article on the incident can be read [here](#).

On May 5th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement on the killing of Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol and a U.N. peacekeeper in Abyei. Secretary-General Ban condemned the killings and attributed the violence to the Misseriya tribe. Amid continuing tensions in the region, Secretary-General Ban also encouraged the Governments of Sudan and South Sudan to demilitarize Abyei. The full statement has been posted [here](#).

On May 6th, the U.N. Security Council also released a statement condemning the attack that killed Kuol Deng Kuol and a UNISFA peacekeeper and wounded two other U.N. blue helmets. The Security Council expressed condolences to the families of the victims, called on groups in Abyei to maximize restraint, and welcomed the Government of Sudan's announcement of a thorough investigation. More information on the Security Council's response to the attack can be found [here](#).

On May 6th, State Department Acting Deputy Spokesperson Patrick Ventrell said the U.S. deplores the violence in Abyei that killed Ngok Dinka Paramount Chief Kuol Deng Kuol and an Ethiopian UNISFA peacekeeper. He called upon Sudan and South Sudan to thoroughly investigate the attack and to establish the joint administration and police force for Abyei. Additional comments from Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell are available [here](#).

Somalia

On May 2nd, the U.N. Security Council unanimously approved the creation of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM). The mission, which will be based primarily in Mogadishu, will deploy on June 3rd for one year. The new mission will be tasked with supporting the African Union (AU) Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) in peace building, coordinating international support, and promoting human rights and rule of law. Details on the new U.N. mission in Somalia can be viewed [here](#).

On May 5th, a suicide bomber targeting a Qatari delegation visiting Somalia drove a car packed with explosives into the delegation's convoy in Mogadishu. According to Ahmed Adan, a spokesperson for Somali Prime Minister Abdi Farah Shirdon, and District Commissioner Abdi Warsame, no one in the convoy was injured, but eight bystanders were killed and another seven were injured. The Islamist extremist group Al-Shabaab has claimed responsibility for the attack. A report on the bombing can be read [here](#).

On May 5th, the U.N. Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) issued a statement condemning the suicide bombing in Mogadishu. In the statement, Special Representative of the Secretary-General Augustine Mahiga expressed condolences to the friends and families of victims and pledged continued U.N. support leading up to the international Conference on Somalia in London this week. The full UNPOS statement is available [here](#).

On May 7th, Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and British Prime Minister David Cameron held a joint press conference on the London Conference on Somalia. While both leaders recognized progress that has been made in rebuilding Somalia after two decades of conflict, they also identified humanitarian and security challenges requiring international assistance. At the conference, leaders pledged \$130 million in aid for Somalia. Additional international meetings on Somalia are scheduled to take place later this month in conjunction with the Africa development summit in Tokyo and during a European Union (EU) conference planned for September. An article on the joint press conference can be read [here](#).

On May 7th, in conjunction with Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns' participation in the second London Conference on Somalia, the State Department released a fact sheet on U.S. aid to the country. Since 2009, the U.S. has provided over \$1.5 billion in assistance to Somalia, including \$545 million in FY12. U.S. aid has been used for security, development, and humanitarian activities. The London Conference on Somalia was attended by more than 50 partner countries and representatives of the AU, U.N., and International Monetary Fund (IMF). The full fact sheet can be seen [here](#). A transcript of Deputy Secretary Burns' remarks at the conference has been posted [here](#).

On May 7th, U.N. Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson addressed the London Conference on Somalia. Deputy Secretary-General Eliasson called for coordination in the provision of assistance to Somalia. He also recognized the 2016 deadline for Somalia to adopt a new constitution and called for prioritization of security, rule of law, coordination of internal aid, and protection of citizens. Deputy Secretary-General Eliasson's full remarks can be seen [here](#).

On May 7th, in recognition of the London Conference on Somalia, Djibouti's Minister of Foreign Affairs Mahamud Ali Youssouf published an opinion piece outlining his vision for the stabilization and economic development of the Horn of Africa. Minister Youssouf argued economic prosperity, rule of law and effective institutions, democracy, and tolerance are the four pillars needed to ensure progress in the region. The full op-ed can be read [here](#).

Democratic Republic of Congo

On May 3rd, the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) said the security situation in the Katanga province of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) remains volatile. WFP Spokesperson Elisabeth Byrs reported that attacks carried out by Mai Mai fighters and worsening humanitarian conditions have forced more than 200,000 people to leave their homes. According to U.N. statistics, there are more than 354,000 displaced persons in Katanga province. More information has been posted [here](#).

On May 6th, U.N. Special Envoy for Africa's Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson briefed the U.N. Security Council on her recent trip to Africa. Special Envoy Robinson reported there are encouraging

signs the push for peace in the DRC will be successful. She noted Presidents Paul Kagame of Rwanda, Yoweri Museveni of Uganda, and Pierre Nkurunziza of Burundi expressed commitment to implementing the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region and said DRC President Joseph Kabila and President Kagame are continuing bilateral discussions on planning for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in July. Special Envoy Robinson also articulated support in the region for the recently approved offensive U.N. Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO). Additional comments from Special Envoy Robinson can be read [here](#).

On May 7th, a Pakistani peacekeeper of MONUSCO was killed when unidentified assailants ambushed a U.N. mission military convoy in the South Kivu province of the DRC. Various rebel groups have a presence in the province, but it is no longer considered a stronghold of the M23 rebel group, which launched an offensive against DRC forces and U.N. peacekeepers in the region last year. A report on the attack can be seen [here](#).

On May 8th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement condemning the killing of a Pakistani peacekeeper in an attack South Kivu province. Secretary-Ban called on the DRC Government to bring the perpetrators of the attack to justice, noting the assassination of peacekeepers falls under the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC). MONUSCO has already launched an investigation into the attack. Secretary Ban's full statement can be found [here](#).

On May 8th, the U.N. Security Council joined U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon in condemning the targeted attack on a U.N. military convoy in South Kivu province. The Security Council also called for a swift investigation of the incident that brings the perpetrators to justice. The full Security Council Statement can be viewed [here](#).

On May 8th, the U.N. Joint Human Rights Office (UNJHRO) released a report on its investigation into mass rapes and killings that occurred in South Kivu province in November 2012. The report finds Congolese armed forces (FARDC) raped more than 102 women and 33 girls as they fled the advance of the M23 rebel group. The report also notes that M23 rebels are guilty of human rights violations. The full report can be downloaded [here](#).

Nigeria

On May 2nd, State Department Acting Deputy Spokesperson Patrick Ventrell noted a Deputy Assistant Secretary in the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor, will be traveling to Abuja, Nigeria, for meetings with Nigerian officials on the latest violence in Baga and broader human rights issues. Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell also clarified the U.S. is still providing aid to Nigeria following the recent attack. Comments from Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell can be found [here](#).

On May 4th, fighting between Christians and Muslims in the Taraba state of Nigeria killed nearly 40 people. The fighting reportedly occurred during a funeral procession when an argument erupted between members of the Jukun ethnic group and local Hausa and Fulani youths. More information on the violence is available [here](#).

On May 7th, fighters of the Boko Haram militant group attacked the town of Bama, where they released more than 100 prisoners and killed 42 people. The strike is one of the deadliest by Boko Haram since 2009. Thirteen Boko Haram members were killed in the fighting. Details on the attack can be found [here](#).

Tanzania

On May 5th, a bombing during the opening of a new Catholic church in the Tanzanian town of Arusha killed two people and wounded 60 others in attendance. The region where Arusha is located is predominantly Christian. More information on the attack is available [here](#).

On May 6th, four Saudi Arabians and four Tanzanians were arrested in connection with the Sunday church bombing in Arusha. Officials said it was still unclear what type of weapon – a home-made

explosive or a specialized device – was used to execute the attack. More information on the suspects can be found [here](#).

Libya

On March 5th, amidst tensions in Tripoli as protestors continued to surround the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice, Libya's General National Congress passed legislation banning Gadhafi Administration officials from holding political office. It is unclear if the new law will impact some current senior officials, such as Head of the General National Congress Moahmed al-Magariaf and Prime Minister Ali Zaidan. The law will go into effect in 30 days and will be implemented by a committee that determines which government officials meet exclusion criteria. An article on the new law can be read [here](#).

On May 7th, Libyan Defense Minister Mohammed al-Barghathi resigned, but shortly thereafter withdrew his resignation. Despite the Libyan parliament's passage of legislation banning Gadhafi officials from government, Minister Barghathi's resignation was influenced by gunmen continuing to surround the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Justice and continued calls for the entire current government to step down. Details on Minister Barghathi's resignation and reversal can be found [here](#).

On May 8th, the U.S., the U.K., and French embassies in Tripoli issued a joint statement encouraging Libyans to refrain from armed protest and violence following the passage of political isolation legislation by Libya's General National Congress. The embassies called for the country's institutions to be allowed to operate without intimidation and for democratically elected leaders to be permitted to carry out their responsibilities. The full statement is available [here](#).

On May 8th, Prosecutor of the ICC Fatou Bensouda told the U.N. Security Council if Libya can conduct fair, transparent, and just proceedings for alleged perpetrators of violence during the pro-democracy uprising in 2011, Libya could set an example for other States. She also indicated the ICC is currently in the process of documenting the most serious crimes committed by former Gadhafi officials. More information on Bensouda's report to the Security Council has been posted [here](#).

Chad

On May 2nd, four officials, including two generals and two lawmakers, were arrested as the result of a foiled attempt to overthrow the Government of Chad. While details of the plot have yet to be released, officials were allegedly found in possession of documents outlining plans for a coup. An initial report on the arrests can be viewed [here](#).

United States – Africa Relations

White House

On May 6th, following the leak of some testimony for the May 8th House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on the attack in Benghazi, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney dismissed accounts contradicting the findings of the Accountability Review Board (ARB). He noted the Department of Defense (DOD) has already addressed issues related to the availability of Special Forces and noted claims regarding former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's request for the State Department's Bureau of Counterterrorism to stay out of responding to the attack have also already been refuted. Additional comments from Press Secretary Carney can be read [here](#).

On May 8th, in response to the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on the September 11th attack in Benghazi, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney accused Republicans of using the hearing to politicize the tragedy. He reiterated the White House's confidence in former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton in handling the attack and stressed President Barack Obama's commitment to preventing future terrorist attacks at U.S. diplomatic facilities. Clips from the White House press briefing can be watched [here](#).

State Department

On May 2nd, news broke that the State Department's Office of Inspector General will review the internal audit performed on the September 11th attack on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi. The initial audit found systemic failures in management and leadership, but did not recommend that any personnel be fired because no government employees were found in breach of their duties. Details on the special review of the audit are available [here](#).

On May 2nd, State Department Acting Deputy Spokesperson Patrick Ventrell said Victoria Toensing, a lawyer who had falsely stated on television that she had approached State Department officials to obtain a security clearance related to the Benghazi investigation, is now actually pursuing a security clearance through the Office of the Legal Advisor to assist in her representation of an unknown State Department employee. Remarks from Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell have been posted [here](#).

On May 3rd, Secretary of State John Kerry participated with Vice President Joe Biden at the American Foreign Service Association (AFSA) Memorial Plaque Ceremony. During the ceremony, Secretary Kerry and Vice President Biden honored U.S. Ambassador to Libya Chris Stevens, Sean Patrick Smith, Ty Woods, and Glen Doherty, who were all killed in the September 11th attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi. Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman, and Acting Coordinator for International Information Programs Maureen Cormack also attended the ceremony. Secretary Kerry's remarks can be read [here](#).

On May 3rd, as part of the State Department's Free the Press Campaign, State Department Acting Deputy Spokesperson Patrick Ventrell recognized Ahmed al-Nour, one of Sudan's prominent journalists and editor of the al-Sahafa newspaper, who was ousted from his position by Sudanese security forces on accusations of insulting a member of the national intelligence and security services. Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell called on the Government of Sudan to release all journalists imprisoned for criticizing the government. More comments about al-Nour can be found [here](#).

On May 3rd, State Department Acting Deputy Spokesperson Patrick Ventrell addressed questions regarding a letter Representative Frank Wolf (R-VA) sent to President Barack Obama criticizing an invitation extended to Sudanese Presidential Advisor Nafie al Nafie to visit Washington. Representative Wolf objected to the invitation because of human rights abuses linked to Presidential Advisor Nafie. Acting Deputy Spokesperson Ventrell noted the State Department's position that accepting the Sudanese delegation will allow for direct dialogue on conflict resolution and will help advance U.S. policy goals in Sudan. Representative Wolf's letter can be read [here](#).

On May 5th, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Robert Hormats departed on foreign travel to South Africa through May 14th for meetings with government and business community representatives. He also participated in the World Economic Forum on Africa. A State Department announcement on Under Secretary Hormats' travel can be viewed [here](#).

On May 6th, Secretary of State John Kerry welcomed Thailand's Foreign Minister Surapong Tovichakchaikul to the State Department. In brief remarks before their meeting, Secretary Kerry recognized the partnership between the U.S. and Thailand on security issues in Africa, including in Darfur and in the Horn of Africa, and on issues related to anti-piracy. Secretary Kerry's remarks have been posted [here](#).

On May 6th, State Department Director of Policy Planning David McKean met with Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S. Mohamed Tawfik at the State Department. The meeting was included on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, which is posted [here](#).

On May 7th, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman delivered opening remarks at the U.S.-Liberia Partnership Dialogue, held at the U.S. Institute for Peace. A Liberian delegation led by Minister of Foreign Affairs Augustin Ngafuan, participated in the event, which was intended to promote diplomatic and economic cooperation between the U.S. and Liberia. Among the issues discussed were agriculture and food security, energy and power infrastructure, and Liberia's development strategy. More information on the U.S.-Liberia Partnership Dialogue can be viewed [here](#). An agenda for the event can be found [here](#). Remarks delivered by Under Secretary Sherman are available [here](#).

On May 7th, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Robert Hormats completed a TV interview with *CNBC* at the U.S. consulate in Johannesburg and attended a Country Team meeting at the U.S. embassy in Pretoria. Under Secretary Hormats also participated in a lunch focused on wildlife trafficking and anti-poaching, spoke during a panel presentation at the University of Pretoria, and delivered a speech titled, "Global Trade Partners in the 21st Century," with Catherine Grant of the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). Details on Under Secretary Hormats' activities in South Africa can be viewed [here](#).

On May 8th, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Robert Hormats participated in several events as part of the World Economic Forum, including sessions focused on job creation in Africa, U.S. foreign policy in Africa, and African infrastructure. Under Secretary Hormats' full schedule can be seen [here](#). Additional information on the World Economic Forum is available [here](#).

On May 8th, Assistant Secretary of State for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs William Brownfield and Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Jose Fernandez met separately with Tunisian Ambassador to the U.S. Mokhtar Chaouachi. Both meetings were included on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, which can be read [here](#).

On May 9th, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman delivered remarks at the National Press Club in celebration of South Africa's Freedom Day. The event was hosted by South African Ambassador to the U.S. Ebrahim Rasool and his wife Rosieda Shabodien. A notice on the event can be found [here](#).

On May 9th, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Robert Hormats continued meetings in Pretoria and Cape Town, South Africa. Under Secretary Hormats met with South African Minister of Transport Dikobe Ben Martins, South African Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies, and ESKOM CEO Brian Dames. Under Secretary Hormats' full schedule can be viewed [here](#).

USAID

On May 8th, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah departed on travel to Johannesburg, South Africa, to participate in the World Economic Forum. Following the last session of the forum, Administrator Shah joined African Development Bank (AfDB) President Donald Kaberuka and Swedish Minister for International Development Cooperation Gunilla Carlsson to launch the Agriculture Fast Track Fund in Cape Town. Additional information on the announcement is available [here](#).

Department of Defense

On May 1st, *Foreign Policy* reported on the U.S. military presence in Africa. Beyond the support provided by U.S. forces to international operations in Mali, the hub at Camp Lemmonier, Djibouti, and involvement in the hunt for Joseph Kony, U.S. forces currently operate eight drone bases on the continent, including in Djibouti, Seychelles, Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Sudan, Niger, and Burkina Faso. A map and satellite images of drone bases in Africa can be accessed [here](#).

On May 1st, U.S. Africa (AFRICOM), Central (CENTCOM), and European (EUCOM) Commands concluded a workshop at DOD's George C. Marshall European Center for Security Studies focused on selecting and validating course curriculum for a new Countering Narcotics and Illicit Trafficking course. The workshop emphasized resources on the transit of goods from source countries under the jurisdiction of AFRICOM and CENTCOM to receiver countries in EUCOM. Details on the workshop and the new course can be found [here](#).

On May 6th, Marine Corps Forces Africa reported on an unmanned-flying vehicle familiarization course recently completed by U.S. Marines and their German and Moroccan counterparts in Agadir, Morocco, as part of the Intelligence Building Workshop of Exercise Africa Lion 13. This particular exercise focused on the capabilities of the Raven-B unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV), which include reconnaissance, surveillance, and target acquisition. An article on the completion of the exercise can be read [here](#).

On May 8th, Deputy Secretary of Defense Ash Carter departed on foreign travel to Stuttgart, Germany for the EUCOM change in command ceremony. While in Stuttgart, Deputy Secretary Carter is expected to visit AFRICOM headquarters. A notice on Deputy Secretary Carter's travel can be viewed [here](#).

On May 9th, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel addressed the Washington Institute for Near East Policy's Soref Symposium. In his remarks, Secretary Hagel was expected to discuss his recent travel to Egypt and security challenges in the region. More information on the symposium has been posted [here](#).

U.S. Congress

On May 4th, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee issued a witness list for its May 8th hearing investigating the September 11th attack in Benghazi. According to a press announcement, the witnesses were expected to expose information about the attack differing from the ARB findings. Witnesses included Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Counterterrorism Mark Thompson, Foreign Service Officer Gregory Hicks, and Diplomatic Security Officer Eric Nordstrom. The Committee's announcement is available [here](#).

On May 5th, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA) appeared on *Face the Nation* where he discussed the September 11th attack in Benghazi. Representative Issa said the Administration made a political decision to avoid labeling the attack as terrorism while witnesses in Libya thought the violence was an act of terrorism all along. A video clip of Representative Issa's appearance on *Face the Nation* can be watched [here](#).

On May 5th, Representatives Stephen Lynch (D-MA) and Jason Chaffetz (R-UT), members of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee, appeared on *Fox News Sunday*. While Representative Lynch said the Obama Administration's talking points on the September 11th attack in Benghazi were faulty, he blamed House Republicans for the lack of public information on the attack. Representative Chaffetz blamed the Obama Administration for blocking potential witnesses from testifying and alluded to whistleblowers planning to appear before the Committee. A transcript of *Fox News Sunday* has been posted [here](#).

On May 6th, Ranking Member of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Elijah Cummings (D-MD) accused Chairman Darrell Issa of releasing portions of an interview with Gregory Hicks in a selective and distorted manner. Hicks, who became the top U.S. diplomat in Libya following the death of U.S. Ambassador Chris Stevens, said a special operations team set to fly to Benghazi after Stevens' death, but before others were killed, was ordered to stand down by Special Operations Command Africa. Hicks also criticized U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. Susan Rice for Libyan President Mohammed Magariaf's report that the attack was premeditated. Details on Hicks' meeting with congressional investigators can be found [here](#).

On May 7th, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing to consider the nominations of James Knight to serve as U.S. Ambassador to the Republic of Chad and Deborah Jones to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Libya. Senators Lindsey Graham (R-SC), Ron Johnson (R-WI), and Richard Burr (R-NC) have previously indicated a hold may be placed on Jones' nomination pending further investigation of the attack on U.S. facilities in Benghazi. During her testimony, Jones pledged to hunt down those responsible for the attack and to continue to work with the Libyan Government to promote stability. Video from the hearing is available [here](#).

On May 7th, Senator Lindsey Graham posted a note on his Facebook page articulating his belief that "the dam is about to break on Benghazi." In his post, Senator Graham compared the Administration's response to the attack to the Watergate scandal. He also speculated further investigation would uncover political manipulation and place new blame on State Department officials, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton. Senator Graham's Facebook page can be accessed [here](#).

On May 7th, the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing on U.S. job growth and Africa exports. Witnesses

included Stephen Lande of Manchester Trade, Peter Hansen of the Law Office of Peter C. Hansen LLC, Sharon Freeman of the All American Small Business Exporters Association, and Barbara Keating of Computer Frontiers. Additional information and a recording of the hearing can be viewed [here](#).

On May 8th, Senator Lindsey Graham appeared on *Morning Joe*, where he said the current light footprint approach to U.S. involvement in Libya and Egypt has been ineffective. He also called on the Administration to clarify claims that the September 11th attack in Benghazi can be blamed on a hateful video. A recording of Senator Graham's appearance on MSNBC can be watched [here](#).

On May 8th, House Armed Services Committee Chairman Buck McKeon (R-CA) released a letter received from Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs Elizabeth King regarding his request for an unclassified timeline of events on September 11th in Benghazi. Assistant Secretary King denied Representative McKeon's request, stating that an unclassified timeline had been released and no classified version exists. The full letter has been posted [here](#).

On May 8th, the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee held a hearing titled, "Benghazi: Exposing Failure and Recognizing Courage." During his testimony, Gregory Hicks, the former Deputy Chief of Mission in Libya, reported U.S. forces were stymied in efforts to travel from Tripoli to Benghazi to assist in the response to the September 11th attack. He also testified he was told by State Department officials not to meet with congressional investigators on the attack. An archived webcast of the hearing can be found [here](#).

North Africa

On May 2nd, the *Wall Street Journal* reported at least 60 miners were killed in an accident in the Jebel Amir district of Darfur when mine walls weakened by heavy rains collapsed. Since the accident, gold mining operations have been suspended as the search for survivors continues. The incident marks the deadliest mining accident in the country since gold mining ramped up following the secession of South Sudan in 2011. The *Wall Street Journal* report can be read [here](#).

On May 2nd, the U.S. military attaché in Egypt and two members of his family were injured in a car accident in the 6th of October district of Cairo. The U.S. military attaché was driving the embassy vehicle when it was hit by a truck and flipped over. The truck driver died at the scene, but the military attaché and his family are expected to recover. Details on the accident can be viewed [here](#).

On May 3rd, CNN reported that three or four Yemeni men with connections to Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) took part in the September 11th attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi. It is believed the men were dispatched to Benghazi to perpetrate the attack. Following the attack, it is likely the men stayed briefly in Libya and then moved on to northern Mali, where they may have connected with jihadist leader Moktar Belmoktar. The full CNN report can be found [here](#).

On May 3rd, Sonatrach and the Anadarko Petroleum Company began delivering oil outside the El Merk complex in Algeria. El Merk is set to produce 127,000 barrels of crude oil and condensates per day by the end of the year. The production at El Merk is a positive development for the country's energy industry following the January terrorist attack at the In Amenas plant. More information on El Merk and the partnership between Sonatrach and Anadarko is available [here](#).

On May 6th, Egyptian Civil Defense Forces fought a fire at Upper Egypt's Security Directorate in Qena. The fire, thought to have been caused by an electric short circuit, destroyed the departments of criminal inspection and documentation. Five army recruits who fought the fire were injured. An investigation of the incident is ongoing. More information on the fire is available [here](#).

On May 7th, Egyptian President Mohammed Morsi announced an anticipated reshuffling of his cabinet – the second reorganization since President Morsi took office last June. Despite criticism of his handling of the economy, Prime Minister Hesham Kandil retained his position. President Morsi replaced nine ministers, designating new Ministers of Finance, Planning, and Investment in a move to put the Muslim Brotherhood in control of the ministries most relevant to IMF and multilateral lending negotiations. Opposition groups, including the National Salvation Front and the Free Egyptians party

have expressed disappointment with the new cabinet. Details can be seen [here](#).

On May 7th, the Women's National Conference on Constitutional Development, hosted by the South Sudan Women General Association and the National Democratic Institute, with support from the U.N. Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), kicked off in the South Sudanese capital of Juba. The conference brought together representatives from all ten states of South Sudan to agree on recommendations for South Sudan's new constitution. An article on the conference can be read [here](#).

On May 7th, Tunisia and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) reached a loan agreement that will provide Tunisia with funds to upgrade its gas supply network. KFAED is set to loan \$77 million to Tunisia, according to the agreement signed by Tunisian Minister of Development and International Cooperation Lamine Dughri and KFAED Director General Abdulwahhab Al-Bader. A notice on the agreement is available [here](#).

On May 8th, the U.N. World Health Organization (WHO) launched a vaccination campaign to combat the meningitis outbreak declared in the Upper Nile State on April 30th. Three people have died of meningitis since April 12th and 87 others are currently receiving treatment. An announcement on the new campaign can be viewed [here](#).

On May 8th, U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights Navi Pillay urged the Egyptian Government to allow draft legislation on the activities of civil society organizations to be reviewed by Egyptian and international human rights experts to ensure it meets international standards. She also indicated Office of the High Commissioner on Human Rights has submitted comments on the draft bill. Remarks from Commissioner Pillay can be read [here](#).

East Africa

On May 4th, Bank of Uganda Director for Financial Stability Charles Abuka said the number of Ugandans using mobile money transfer systems has surpassed 9 million, up from 2.9 million users in 2011. The growth in mobile fund transfers is due to greater mobile phone usage, as well as the fact that all five major mobile phone operators in Uganda have mobile fund transfer platforms (MTN Mobile Money, Waridpesa, Airtel Money, Msente, and Orange Money). Additional information on mobile money transactions in Uganda has been posted [here](#).

On May 4th, the *East African* reported on new Open Data for International Development (AidData) research finding that East Africa has received roughly \$11 billion in investment and development aid from China over the past decade. Tanzania and Uganda received the most Chinese investment, receiving \$4.6 billion and \$4.5 billion respectively. Kenya received \$1.6 billion in aid, followed by Rwanda with \$469 million and Burundi with \$165 million. The *East African* report on Chinese investment in the region can be seen [here](#).

On May 5th, investigators looking into the mysterious death of Kenyan Senator Mutula Kilonzo, who died in his Maanzoni home on April 27th, ruled out a heart attack as the cause of death and speculated the Senator may have been poisoned. It is unclear if the poisoning was accidental, self-inflicted, or an act of murder and investigators are following leads related to a mysterious visitor at the ranch on the day of Senator Kilonzo's death. The latest developments on the investigation are available [here](#).

On May 6th, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta arrived in London to attend the London conference on Somalia and to hold bilateral meetings with U.K. Prime Minister David Cameron and other government officials. Despite criticism from human rights groups for inviting President Kenyatta to London, U.K. officials have responded that Kenya's participation at the conference is essential. A statement on President Kenyatta's travel to the U.K. can be read [here](#).

On May 6th, the ICC announced the postponement of the May 28th trial date for Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto and former radio presenter Joshua Sang. A new date will be announced on May 14th, following meetings with both the prosecution and defense. More on the trial's postponement can be found [here](#).

On May 6th, *BBC* reported that Kenya sentenced Iranians Ahmad Mohammed and Syed Mousavid to life in prison for possessing explosives that were allegedly going to be used for terrorist attacks in Nairobi and Mombasa. The Iranian government denied involvement, but has agreed to help the men through the appeals process. Details on the convictions are available [here](#).

On May 6th, *Daily Nation* reported the British government is secretly negotiating a settlement to thousands of Kenyans detained under the Mau Mau uprising. During decolonization, the eight-year Mau Mau insurgency caused as many as 30,000 deaths and led to between 80,000 and 300,000 people detained and tortured in camps. Following the Kenyan Government's decision to lift the ban on the Mau Mau in 2002, survivors have initiated lawsuits for compensation. An article on the secret negotiations can be read [here](#).

On May 6th, *Daily Nation* reported Eritreans in exile in Europe are using automated telephone calls to spread dissent to the regime of President Issaias Aferworki. In Eritrea, political statements opposing the President have generally left dissenters in jail without trial. According to U.N. data, 1,500 native Eritreans are fleeing the country each month in light of the Government's failure to implement the 1997 constitution and to release political prisoners. Details on the efforts of Eritreans to spread political dissent can be viewed [here](#).

On May 7th, the American Security Project (ASP) hosted a briefing entitled "U.S. National Security and the New Somalia: Reflections from the Former Prime Minister." During the event, former Somali Prime Minister Abdiweli Mohamed Ali, who held the position until October 17, 2012, discussed the security and political progress that has been made in Somalia and its significance to U.S. national security interests. Additional information on the discussion can be found [here](#).

On May 7th, the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) lowered its lending rate from 9.5% to 8.5%. The CBK cited low and stable inflation and exchange rate stability as reasons for the decrease. More information on the CBK's decision is available [here](#).

On May 9th, as investigations into his mysterious death continue, the late Senator Mutula Kilonzo was buried at his Mbooni home in Makueni County. Previous reports speculated that Senator Kilonzo would be buried at his Maanzoni ranch in Machakos County, where he died. President Uhuru Kenyatta and former Prime Minister Raila Odinga are expected to attend the graveside funeral service. Details on Senator Kilonzo's funeral plans have been posted [here](#).

West Africa

On May 2nd, *BBC* reported British and Irish military personnel, as part of the European Union Training Mission to Mali (EUTM), are training an initial group of 800 Malian troops as French forces plan to leave the country. The objective of the ten-week training program is to create four Malian battalions and to build cohesion so native forces are capable of defending the country against extremist threats. Additional information on the EUTM's activities in Mali is available [here](#).

On May 5th, Special Advisor to Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan Reuban Abati unveiled details of the Nigerian delegation, traveling to the World Economic Forum in Cape Town, South Africa. Led by President Jonathan, other members of the delegation included Minister of Foreign Affairs Olugbenga Ashiru, Minister of Finance Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Minister of Petroleum Resources Diezani Allison-Madueke, Minister of Trade and Investment Olusegun Aganga, Minister of Agriculture Akinwunmi Adesina, and Minister of Mines and Steel Development Alhaji Musa Mohammed Sada. The delegation also participated in the Grow Africa Investment Forum, held jointly in Cape Town. President Jonathan also met with South African President Jacob Zuma, Deputy President Kgalema Motlante, and other South African officials handling trade. Additional details on the Nigerian delegation can be viewed [here](#).

On May 6th, former member of the Nigerian House of Representatives Farouk Adamu Aliyu said a Northerner must become president in Nigeria's 2015 presidential elections or there will be no more Nigeria. Aliyu's remarks come in response to recent comments delivered by leader of the Niger Delta Volunteer Force Mujahid Asari Dokuba, who earlier said there will be no peace in the country if current President Goodluck Jonathan is denied a second term. More comments from Aliyu can be

read [here](#).

On May 7th, U.N. Independent Expert on Human Rights in Côte d'Ivoire Doudou Diene concluded a visit to the country to assess the reconciliation process since reunification following the civil war in 2002. During his weeklong visit, Diene met with a number of high-level officials, including Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan, as well as representatives of government ministries, judicial officials, security officials, and the head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. Additional details on Diene's trip to Côte d'Ivoire can be found [here](#).

On May 8th, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) energy company RAK Petroleum announced that it bought out Mondoil Enterprises. The acquisition expands RAK Petroleum's asset base into the Ivory Coast. More information on the deal is available [here](#).

Sub-Saharan Africa

On May 2nd, the South African Treasury started the first round of public consultation on proposed rules to limit interest deductions by targeting hybrid debt, connected person debt, transfer pricing, and acquisition debt. The proposed rules are currently under consideration for inclusion in a forthcoming draft of the Taxation Laws Amendment Bill, due to be released for comment and public hearings in June. Comments on the new proposed rules will be accepted through May 24th. Information on the proposed rules is available [here](#).

On May 3rd, South African President Jacob Zuma traveled to the Republic of Congo (ROC) for a bilateral meeting with his Congolese counterpart President Denis Sassou N'Guesso in Brazzaville. During the meeting, the presidents discussed progress on the implementation of agreements signed during President Sassou N'Guesso's visit to South Africa in 2010. They also discussed mutual interests such as aviation, mining, agriculture, railways, and telecommunications, and agreed on greater potential for increased bilateral trade and investment. An article on the meeting has been posted [here](#).

On May 3rd, Angola's Central Bank introduced new regulations focused on ownership disclosure, auditing, and risk management. The new regulations were influenced by recommendations from the IMF and the World Bank. According to Banco Angolano de Investimentos Executive Director Joao Fonseca, the new regulations are anticipated to increase transparency and oversight. Details on Angola's new banking regulations can be viewed [here](#).

On May 3rd, the Technology Innovation Agency (TIA) consortium, including the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) South Africa, the University of Cape Town (UCT), and East Coast Access (ECA) launched its ARTIST technology in the African market. The technology allows for streaming video on mobile devices in low bandwidth or congested environments. The technology is designed to operate on 3G and EDGE, the most used systems in rural South Africa. An article on the launch of the new technology can be read [here](#).

On May 3rd, following the "Guptagate" incident in which members of the Gupta family with ties to South African President Jacob Zuma landed a private plane carrying 200 wedding guests at Waterkloof Air Force Base four South African security officials were suspended from their posts. South Africa Justice Minister Jeff Radebe has pledged to fully investigate how the plane was allowed to land at one of South Africa's most important military sites. New developments on Guptagate are reported [here](#).

On May 3rd, the EU set a deadline of early 2014 for southern African countries to agree to open up their markets to European trade. Currently countries in sub-Saharan Africa are able to export duty-free products to Europe, although the EU has threatened tariffs and a loss of trade benefits if new agreements are not met. An article on developing trade relations between the regions is available [here](#).

On May 6th, Ghanaian President John Mahama met with South African President Jacob Zuma at President Zuma's residence in Pretoria. The leaders discussed several shared interests, including democratization on the continent, the recent Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS)

Summit, and financing for infrastructure projects in Ghana. President Mahama was in South Africa in advance of the World Economic Forum to be honored as a special guest at the second ordinary session of the Third Parliament of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). A report on the meeting is posted [here](#).

On May 6th, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe, speaking at the 49-nation Committee of Intelligence and Security Services, said African nations must be increasingly vigilant against foreigners who seek to exploit the continent for its resource reserves. More information on President Mugabe's comments is available [here](#).

On May 6th, Director-General of the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Irina Bokova called on authorities in the Central African Republic (CAR) to take measures to protect wildlife in light of a rise in poaching following armed violence in Bangui. Director-General Bokova also sent a message to CAR Prime Minister Nicolas Tiangaye asking that specific attention be paid to Dzanga-Sanga National Park, which appears on the U.N. World Heritage List. An article on how violence in the CAR has impacted wildlife can be viewed [here](#).

On May 6th-7th, leaders from China and Africa met in Gaborone, Botswana, for the 4th International Roundtable on China-Africa Health Cooperation, hosted by Botswana's Ministry of Health, Peking University's Institute for Global Health, and China's Chamber of Commerce and Ministry of Commerce. The conference focused on how China can share progress on research and development with African nations to address health issues including HIV, malaria, reproductive health, human resources, and access to vaccines and commodities. More information on the forum is available [here](#).

On May 7th, Zimbabwean Constitutional and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Eric Matinenga introduced the constitutional bill in Zimbabwe's House of Assembly, following the endorsement of the draft constitution in a referendum earlier this year. The bill is expected pass the House of Assembly later this week and to move quickly through the Senate. More information on the legislative process for adopting Zimbabwe's constitution can be found [here](#).

On May 7th, U.K.-based low cost African airline, Fastjet, announced it was one step closer to launching its business in South Africa. Fastjet plans to lease a Boeing 737-300 from Starcargo Airlines for six months while the company obtains the necessary permission from South African regulators to operate its Airbus 319 jets between Johannesburg and Cape Town. Flights are scheduled to begin on May 31st. An article on the lease can be read [here](#).

On May 7th, the Mauritian Board of Investments released new statistics showing increased South African investment in the island nation. Approximately 30% of foreigners who purchased property on the island through the Integrated Resort Schemes (IRS) are from South Africa. The IRS initiative was established by Mauritius to facilitate the acquisition of resort and residential properties by foreigners. An article on the new statistics can be viewed [here](#).

General Africa News

On May 6th, *Bloomberg Businessweek* reported that Sub-Saharan countries are expected to sell more than \$7 billion in debt this year. The report suggests governments in Africa are taking advantage of low interest rates to fund infrastructure projects in the region. Details on various African nations' plans to sell bonds can be found [here](#).

On May 6th, Ernst & Young unveiled its annual Africa attractiveness survey for 2013. The survey found that South Africa remains the top African destination for foreign direct investment (FDI), with 154 new projects last year. Other popular destinations for FDI are Egypt and Morocco. The survey also finds FDI projects from the U.K. increased over the past year, while those from the U.S. and France were down. The research shows the sector with the highest growth potential in Africa is mining and metals. The full survey can be viewed [here](#).

On May 6th, iHub Research released a new comparative study on the seven information and communications technology (ICT) hubs in Africa, located in Ghana, Cameroon, Uganda, Rwanda, Kenya, Tanzania, and Zambia. The study finds ICT hubs in Africa are similar in that they are driven by

members of their local communities, but differ in their management structure, guiding principles, and sustainability models. The full study can be downloaded [here](#).

On May 7th, YPO Global Pulse unveiled its annual confidence index. According to the data, business confidence in Africa grew more than six points in the fourth quarter of 2012. The index stayed largely unchanged in the first quarter of 2013 at 67.3 points. The growth in business confidence was driven by a growing consumer class across the continent. The full confidence index is available [here](#).

On May 7th, Save the Children issued its 14th annual report on infant mortality rates throughout the world. The report, *Surviving the First Day*, notes the top 14 countries with the worst first-day survival rates are all located in Africa. According to the report, four low-cost health care solutions could save one million lives each year. The report can be found [here](#).

On May 8th, Tullow Oil released an operational update for its exploration and production efforts throughout Africa. The update highlights new wells that are being drilled and notes the production efficiency of current wells. The update can be found [here](#).

On May 8th, CNN reported on the expanding hotel business in Africa. The report notes business centers on the continent are experiencing increasing demand for hotel rooms. Although there are bureaucratic and logistical challenges, hotel operators say are confident about the future in Africa. The article on the increasing need to accommodate business travelers in Africa is available [here](#).

On May 9th, the World Bank hosted a forum in Washington on road safety throughout the world. The forum highlighted the difficulties many children, especially in impoverished nations, face on a daily basis as they try to get to school. Panelists emphasized that these deaths are predictable and preventable. More information on the event can be found [here](#).

* * *

[Click here to view ML Strategies professionals.](#)

Boston | Washington www.mlstrategies.com

Copyright © 2013 ML Strategies. All rights reserved.

This communication may be considered attorney advertising under the rules of some states. The information and materials contained herein have been provided as a service by the law firm of Mintz, Levin, Cohn, Ferris, Glovsky and Popeo, P.C.; however, the information and materials do not, and are not intended to, constitute legal advice. Neither transmission nor receipt of such information and materials will create an attorney-client relationship between the sender and receiver. The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements or solicitations. Users are advised not to take, or refrain from taking, any action based upon the information and materials contained herein without consulting legal counsel engaged for a particular matter. Furthermore, prior results do not guarantee a similar outcome.

The distribution list is maintained at Mintz Levin's main office, located at One Financial Center, Boston, Massachusetts 02111. If you no longer wish to receive electronic mailings from the firm, please visit <http://www.mintz.com/unsubscribe.cfm> to unsubscribe.