



## ML Strategies Update

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## AFRICA UPDATE

### Leading the News

#### ***Egypt***

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Egyptian Minister of Defense General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi announced the replacement of President Mohamed Morsi with Adly Mansour and the suspension of the Egyptian constitution. He announced peaceful protest will be allowed to continue and a new media code of ethics will be established. Following the announcement, the military arrested 12 Muslim Brotherhood leaders and moved to shutdown media outlets sympathetic to President Morsi, who was placed under house arrest. Details on the ousting of President Morsi can be seen [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, United Nations (U.N.) Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement reiterating calls for non-violence and restraint in Egypt. The statement also expressed support for the aspirations of the Egyptian people. The full statement is available [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, President Barack Obama issued a statement expressing concern about the Egyptian military's overthrow of the country's democratically elected President and suspension of the constitution. President Obama said the U.S. will not take sides and avoided labeling the situation a coup. He also called on the military to act quickly to return power to a democratically elected civilian government and directed relevant U.S. agencies to review implications for U.S. aid to Egypt. The full statement can be read [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the *Associated Press* reported the U.S. embassy in Cairo had been put on ordered departure status, with all nonessential personal ordered to leave Egypt in anticipation of more violence following the ouster of President Mohamed Morsi. The report has been posted [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki echoed President Barack Obama, declining to characterize the Egyptian military's actions as a coup and making it clear the U.S. will not take sides. Spokesperson Psaki also dismissed comparisons of recent events to the U.S. response to the fall of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak in 2011. A transcript of the press briefing can be accessed

[here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee Jim Inhofe (R-OK) applauded the Egyptian military's efforts to respond to the Egyptian people. He also said the Muslim Brotherhood has done nothing to benefit Egyptians and is unfit to govern. Comments from Senator Inhofe are available [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Brookings Institution published an opinion piece by Hafez Ghanem on the future of Egypt. Ghanem analyzed the failings of President Morsi and said a long battle between the Muslim Brotherhood and the Egyptian military could lead to thousands of victims, instability, and economic decline. The full op-ed can be read [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Adly Mansour, who was recently appointed Chief Justice of Egypt's Supreme Court, was sworn in as Egypt's interim President. President Mansour will serve until elections are held on a date yet to be determined. In a speech following the swearing in ceremony, President Mansour commended the Egyptian military and media and praised the Egyptian people for correcting the path of revolution. Details on Egypt's new interim president can be found [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohammad Badie was arrested in Marsa Matrouh near the Libyan border. Following the removal of President Mohamed Morsi, arrest warrants were issued for a total of 300 Muslim Brotherhood officials, including Badie's deputy, Khairat el-Shater. More information on the arrest and the outstanding warrants was reported [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, President Barack Obama convened his national security team for a meeting on developments in Egypt. The team discussed outreach to Egyptian authorities, including Secretary of State John Kerry's conversations with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohamed Kamel Amr and Egyptian Constitution Party President Mohamed ElBaradei, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's conversations with Egyptian Defense Minister General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi, and Deputy National Security Advisor Anthony Blinken's conversation with Egyptian Deputy Minister of Defense Mohamed Al-Assar. The national security team condemned the violence in Egypt, while agreeing to remain neutral. More information on the meeting is available [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, the *Washington Times* published an op-ed authored by Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) advocating for an end to U.S. aid to Egypt. By providing aid to Egypt, Senator Paul argued the U.S. ties itself to despots and leads Egyptians to associate the U.S. with ousted President Mohamed Morsi. The full op-ed was published [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, *New York Times* columnist David Brooks published an op-ed with reasons why Egypt struggles to develop a democratic society. Brooks suggested radical Islamists are incapable of running a modern government. The full op-ed is available [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, violent reactions to the ousting of President Mohamed Morsi ensued, with the Egyptian Health Ministry reporting 30 people killed and as many as 1,000 others injured. Throughout the country, loyalists to the Muslim Brotherhood protested, while demonstrators in Tahrir Square celebrated the military's removal of President Morsi. Large protests also continued outside the Republican Guard barracks, where it is believed President Morsi is being held by the military. Developments in Egypt were reported [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement expressing concern for the security situation in Egypt. Secretary-General Ban called on security forces to protect protestors and called on demonstrators to protest by peaceful means. The statement issued by Secretary-General Ban has been posted [here](#). U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNHCHR) Navi Pillay also issued a news release, which can be accessed [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, the African Union (AU) suspended Egypt's membership. Head of the AU Commission Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma said the suspension is covered by the organization's doctrine on unconstitutional changes of government. Egypt's suspension will not be lifted until constitutional order is restored. More on Egypt's suspension from the AU can be viewed [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, House Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Ed Royce (R-CA) and Ranking Member Eliot Engel (D-NY) issued a joint statement in support of the Egyptian military's decision to remove President Morsi from power. The statement, which calls on the military to form a transparent transitional government, is available [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Egyptian state media reported and later rolled back reports that Mohamed ElBaradei, former chief of the U.N. nuclear agency and 2005 winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, would be appointed Egypt's interim Prime Minister. Speculation was reported after a meeting between ElBaradei and interim President Adly Mansour. The reversal came as Islamists who helped overthrow President Mohamed Morsi threatened to withdraw support for the transitional government if ElBaradei became Prime Minister. An article related to ElBaradei's appointment can be read [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry published a press statement on the ongoing violence in Egypt. Secretary Kerry condemned the violence that is dividing Egyptians and urged all parties to remain calm. He also reiterated the U.S. remains neutral and continues to support Egypt's democratic transition. The full statement can be seen [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the State Department shared an update on Secretary Kerry's calls pertaining to Egypt. Secretary Kerry has been in touch with U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson, Egyptian Constitution Party President Mohamed ElBaradei, Qatari Foreign Minister al-Attiyah, Omani Sultan Qaboos, Emirati Foreign Minister bin Zayed, Saudi Foreign Minister Saud al-Faisal, and Turkish Foreign Minister Davutoglu. During these calls, Secretary Kerry reaffirmed U.S. support for reforms that meet the aspirations of the Egyptian people and respect for rule of law. The update is available [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the Department of Defense released a readout of Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel's recent conversations with Egyptian Minister of Defense General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi and Crown Prince bin Zayed of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) regarding the situation in Egypt. Secretary Hagel urged the need for peaceful civilian transition in Egypt and noted the importance of security in the region. The full readout has been posted [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, following negotiations among opposition groups, there was allegedly consensus to put forward Ziad Bahaa-Eldin, an economist and member of the Social Democratic Party, as a candidate for interim Prime Minister. As part of the agreement, Mohamed ElBaradei is anticipated to be nominated as interim Vice President. Details can be accessed [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Egyptian Ambassador to the U.S. Mohamed Tawfik discussed the situation in Egypt on ABC's "This Week," where he insisted Egypt has not undergone a military coup. While Ambassador Tawfik was appointed by President Mohamed Morsi, he expressed support for the current movement against President Morsi and called on the Muslim Brotherhood to accept President Morsi's removal. A recording of Ambassador Tawfik's remarks can be viewed [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Martin Dempsey addressed events in Egypt on CNN's "State of the Union." Chairman Dempsey said the world needs Egypt to be stable and he speculated it may take a while for democracy in Egypt to take hold. The interview with Chairman Dempsey has been archived [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Bob Corker (R-TN) said on "Fox News Sunday" the U.S. should urge calmness and allow the Egyptian military to move the country towards democracy. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI) agreed and said the U.S. can help to promote stability in the region during Egypt's transition. A transcript of the discussion can be found [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Senator John McCain (R-AZ) appeared on CBS's "Face the Nation," where he labeled the ousting of President Mohamed Morsi as a coup d'etat. He also called on the Obama Administration to suspend U.S. aid to Egypt until a new constitution is in place and free and fair elections are completed. A clip of Senator McCain can be watched [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Chairman of the House Intelligence Committee Mike Rogers (R-MI) said on CNN's "State of the Union" that President Barack Obama should be able to make the case for continued U.S.

support for the Egyptian military. Additional comments from Representative Rogers can be found [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, a mass shooting occurred outside of the facility where ousted President Mohamed Morsi is believed to be detained. While soldiers claim they began firing in response to an attack launched by gunmen of a terrorist group, President Morsi's supporters claim they were unarmed and keeping vigil. The incident, which is the single deadliest incident since former President Hosni Mubarak was toppled in 2011, killed at least 51 civilians and one police officer, and wounded more than 300 others. A report on the incident can be accessed [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the Al Nour party suspended its participation in the formation of an interim government following the ousting of President Mohamed Morsi. The ultraconservative Islamist party supported the fall of President Morsi, but indicated its decision came in response to violence at an officers' club in Cairo. More on the Al Nour party's position can be read [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the killing of more than 50 people protesting outside of the Republican Guard headquarters in Egypt. Secretary-General Ban called for investigation of the attack by independent national bodies and called for those responsible to be brought to justice. Secretary-General Ban's statement can be found [here](#). UNHCHR also issued a release condemning the violence, available [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney said protestors in Egypt do not consider the military's intervention to remove President Mohamed Morsi a coup. While he indicated the White House is still reviewing the situation in Egypt and planning for consultations with Congress, he said it would be a mistake to make immediate changes to Egyptian aid. The U.S. currently provides Egypt with \$1.3 billion annually in military aid and \$250 million in economic assistance. More comments from Press Secretary Carney have been posted [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Carl Levin (D-MI) said the U.S. should suspend aid to Egypt until new elections are scheduled and amendments are made to Egypt's constitution. He suggested even if the White House refuses to label the uprising in Egypt a coup, Congress may still pass a bill or resolution to suspend aid. Comments from Senator Levin can be viewed [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Speaker of the House of Representatives John Boehner (R-OH) defended the actions of the Egyptian military to remove President Mohamed Morsi from office. Speaker Boehner expressed support for the military, saying it acted on behalf of the Egyptian people. A recording of remarks delivered by Speaker Boehner on Egypt can be watched [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, *Politico* speculated that labeling the military takeover in Egypt as a coup might require the U.S. to stop military aid to Egypt, with negative impacts for U.S. defense contractors. Companies likely to be affected by a freeze on aid include General Dynamics, who has recently sold tanks to Egypt, Boeing, who has recently provided Egypt with military helicopters, and Lockheed Martin, who has sold Egypt F-16 fighter jets. The full *Politico* report is available [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, interim President Adly Mansour appointed former Finance Minister Hazem el-Beblawi as interim Prime Minister and liberal opposition leader Mohamed ElBaradei as interim Vice President. In addition, Egyptian Minister of Defense General Abdel Fattah al-Sisi said a referendum for a new constitution will be held in four and a half months and parliamentary elections within six months, with a presidential election to follow. Supporters of ousted President Mohamed Morsi immediately denounced the roadmap. Developments in Egypt were reported [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki said Obama Administration officials are encouraged the interim Egyptian government has laid out a plan for a return to democratically elected civilian government, including the amending and holding a referendum on the Egyptian constitution, as well as parliamentary and presidential elections. A transcript of the press briefing has been posted [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS) expressed support for the Obama Administration's

decision to resist labeling the overthrow of President of Mohamed Morsi a coup. Senator Wicker said this approach gives both the Administration and Congress more options to respond to situation in Egypt, including debate on U.S. aid. Senator Wicker's comments have been archived [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, Saudi Arabia, the UAE, and Kuwait announced \$12 billion in cash and loans to Egypt to help stabilize the transitional government and promote peace in the region. Unlike other countries that have supported President Mohamed Morsi, such as Qatar and Turkey, the Saudis and the Emirates have viewed Morsi's regime as a threat to stability in the region. An article on new foreign aid to Egypt can be read [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, Egypt's top prosecutor ordered the arrest of Muslim Brotherhood leaders, including Mohamed Badie, who are believed to have incited the violence in Cairo that killed more than 50 protestors. A spokesman for the Muslim Brotherhood said none of the targeted leaders have been arrested and some were still participating in the vigil at Rabaa Adawiya mosque, where supporters of President Mohamed Morsi have gathered. Details can be accessed [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, acting head of the U.N. Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) Lakshmi Puri expressed concern for the high prevalence of sexual assaults against women during protests in Egypt. She stressed the need for women to make their voices heard without fear of violence and called for zero tolerance for assaults and rapes during the protests. U.N. Women's feedback on the situation in Egypt can be seen [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney reiterated the Obama Administration will take its time in determining whether or not President Mohamed Morsi's ouster was a coup that would trigger a freeze on U.S. aid. While he declined to comment specifically on the delivery of four more F-16 fighter jets to the Egyptian military, Press Secretary Carney said aid already in the pipeline will not be affected. He also defended U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson, who is facing criticism for seeking to engage the Muslim Brotherhood. A transcript of the press briefing can be found [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, Pentagon Press Secretary George Little reported that Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel has talked to Egyptian Defense Minister General Abdul Fattah al-Sisi by phone seven or eight times since July 2<sup>nd</sup>. While he did not disclose details, Press Secretary Little reported the conversations have been relatively lengthy. More on the relationship between Secretary Hagel and General Sisi is available [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, *Reuters* reported Pentagon officials will proceed with the delivery of four F-16 fighter jets to Egypt in the coming weeks, likely in August. The fighter jets are part of a \$1.5 billion U.S. aid package to Egypt. The *Reuters* report has been posted [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, speaking at a Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) briefing on military strategy, Marine Corps Commandant General Jim Amos said two U.S. amphibious warships, including an assault ship and a transport ship, have been moved off the coast of Egypt. General Amos said the recent repositioning of the ships will allow the U.S. flexibility in responding to crisis in Egypt. Information on the briefing can be seen [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Senator Rand Paul introduced a bill that would label the ousting of President Mohamed Morsi as a coup d'etat, requiring a freeze on U.S. aid. The bill would suspend the delivery of defense articles, including F-16 fighter jets, to Egypt until democratic national elections and a peaceful transition of power are completed. Senator Paul's legislation can be accessed [here](#).

## **Sudan**

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>-July 4<sup>th</sup>, a series of violent events occurred in Nyala, the capital of South Darfur, involving Sudan's National Security, contingents of Central Reserve Forces known as Abu Tira, and pro-government militias. The violence began when a militia leader known as Tukron attempted to take a member of the Security Services hostage. Following the initial gunfire, contingents of Abu Tira surrounded the living quarters of the Security Services, extending the gunfight. Two militia leaders, two staff members of the NGO World Vision International, a Major in the Security Services, and a baby were killed in the attacks. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, three blue helmets were injured when an unidentified armed group launched an attack against a joint AU-U.N. Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) convoy. A UNAMID ambulance was also ambushed as part of the attack, which occurred near Labado in East Darfur. More information was reported [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Herve Ladsous concluded a visit in Darfur, noting a deteriorating security situation in the region. He praised the efforts of UNAMID and condemned recent attacks against peacekeepers and others seeking to promote peace and stability. Additional comments from Under-Secretary-General Ladsous and details on his trip to Darfur have been posted [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator in Sudan Ali Al-Za'tari condemned the killing of NGO workers in Darfur. He called the attack a heinous act and cautioned that people in Darfur will suffer if humanitarian work must be scaled back in response to the recent violence. Remarks from Coordinator Za'tari can be seen [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, in recognition of South Sudan's Independence Day, head of the U.N. Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) Hilde Johnson reported to the U.N. Security Council on progress and challenges in South Sudan. She noted achievements include improved relations with Sudan, dialogue with armed groups, and advancements in national reconciliation, but cautioned fighting between Government forces and armed groups remains a problem, with thousands of civilians displaced since January. An article on the briefing is available [here](#).

## ***Nigeria***

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, suspected gunmen from Boko Haram launched a pre-dawn attack against the Government Secondary School in Mamudo village, a boarding school in northeast Nigeria. Victims were shot and the school was set ablaze, leaving 29 students and one teacher dead. Dozens of children are anticipated to have escaped, but have not been found since the attack. More information was reported [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) issued a statement condemning the attack on the boarding school in Nigeria. Since June 16<sup>th</sup>, a total of 48 students and 7 teachers have been killed in four attacks on schools in the region. The UNICEF statement can be found [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Yobe State Governor Ibrahim Gaidam ordered the closure of all secondary schools in the state until the new academic year begins in September. The announcement comes following the attack on the boarding school in Mamudo village – the third attack on a school in the state in recent weeks. The announcement of school closures in Nigeria was noted [here](#).

## ***Somalia***

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Somali reporter for *Kalsan TV* Liban Abdullahi Farah was killed by three gunmen in Galkayo, the capital of Somalia's Mudug region. Given Farah's work on a series of reports on election campaigns in Puntland, a semi-autonomous region north of Galkayo, investigators believe the murder may have been politically motivated. More information on the attack can be found [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Head of the U.N. Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) Nicholas Kay condemned the killing of Liban Abdullahi Farah, the fifth journalist to be murdered in Somalia this year. He also called on Somalia to protect journalists and urged restraint in the politically tense Puntland region. More on UNSOM's reaction to the attack can be viewed [here](#).

## ***Mali***

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) expressed concern about food security in Mali due to thousands of people displaced by conflict and the pre-harvest lean season currently underway. According to U.N. figures, nearly 1.4 million people require immediate food assistance, primarily in northern Mali. An article on the status of humanitarian aid in Mali can be read [here](#).

On July 6<sup>th</sup>, officials in Mali lifted a state of emergency to allow for campaigning for the presidential election to be held on July 28<sup>th</sup>. The state of emergency was declared in January when French forces intervened to help drive Islamist extremists from the country. More the 25 candidates will compete in the upcoming election. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the *Washington Post* published an editorial on the upcoming elections in Mali. The article suggests while Mali has progressed quickly following the removal of Islamist militants from northern regions of the country, authorities should take more time to ensure elections are properly executed. The full editorial can be read [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Abdoulaye Bathily as Deputy Special Representative for the U.N. Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). Bathily currently serves as Senior Minister in the Office of the President of Senegal. Secretary-General Ban also appointed David Gressley of the U.S. as Deputy Special Representative at MINUSMA and U.N. Resident Coordinator, Humanitarian Coordinator, and Resident Representative of the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP). News of both nominations has been posted [here](#).

### ***Democratic Republic of Congo***

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, an article by Aaron Hall and Sasha Lezhenev was published in *AllAfrica* with details on the current situation between M23 rebels and the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC). The article can be read [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, in response to rumors that a draft peace agreement between the DRC Government and M23 rebels was ready to be signed, the M23 rebel group called for a ceasefire before resuming peace negotiations. The M23 also refuted claims that a comprehensive agreement had been achieved and indicated several issues remain to be addressed. More on the status of peace negotiations in the DRC can be found [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the commander in charge of the U.N. brigade in the DRC Lieutenant-General Carlos Alberto Dos Santos Cruz said the main goal of the mission is to stop atrocities wherever they occur in the eastern portion of the country. However, Lieutenant-General Cruz cautioned the intervention brigade is not the magic solution to all of the DRC's problems. Additional comments from Lieutenant-General Cruz are available [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson, along with the International Conference for the Great lakes Region (ICGLR) and the NGO Femmes Africa Soladarite (FAS), convened a three-day meeting in Bujumbura, Burundi, to address women's roles in bringing peace to Africa's Great Lakes region. More than 100 women, including ministers from Burundi, the DRC, Rwanda, and Uganda, will address implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region. An article on the meeting can be read [here](#).

### ***Guinea***

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Government of Guinea and local opposition groups signed an agreement that will allow legislative elections to be held at the end of September. Elections that had been scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup> were postponed due to protests in response to rumors that President Alpha Conde planned to rig the vote. More information on the agreement can be accessed [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement congratulating parties in Guinea on reaching an agreement for legislative elections. He called on the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI), the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS), the European Union (EU), and the Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF) to work with the U.N. in assisting Guinea in adhering to the electoral timeline. More feedback from Secretary-General Ban can be seen [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, the electoral commission in Guinea indicated it intends to hold legislative elections on September 24<sup>th</sup>. President Alpha Conde must approve the proposed date. An article on the

democratic process in Guinea can be read [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the U.N. Peacebuilding Commission's (PBC) Guinea Configuration welcomed the agreement between political leaders in Guinea that will allow for legislative elections at the end of September. The Configuration urged that elections should be inclusive, free, and transparent and called for implementation of the accompaniment and appeasement provisions of the agreement that will allow for the success of upcoming elections. Additional feedback from the Configuration can be found [here](#).

## **Zimbabwe**

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, the nine justices on Zimbabwe's Constitutional Court unanimously upheld the July 31<sup>st</sup> date for presidential elections. Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai, Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) leader Welshman Ncube, and other political activists had filed applications with the court seeking an extension on scheduling elections. Information on the court's ruling can be seen [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, Coca-Cola Zimbabwe removed an open palm symbol from its cans after the Zimbabwe African National Union – Patriotic Front (Zanu-PF) accused the company of campaigning for Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai because the symbol was similar to the campaign symbol used by the MDC. The symbol has been replaced with the Zimbabwean flag. The full story can be found [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, speaking at a campaign rally in Maronera, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai said additional reforms are needed to ensure free and fair elections on July 31<sup>st</sup>. To differentiate his campaign from competitor President Robert Mugabe, Prime Minister Tsvangirai also discussed his plan to create more jobs in Zimbabwe. A report on the campaign rally can be seen [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, in anticipation of upcoming elections, Zimbabwean Prime Minister Moran Tsvangirai unveiled a coalition hoping to unseat President Robert Mugabe. Notably the coalition includes President Mugabe's former Finance Minister Simba Makoni and the Zanu-Ndonga, a political party previously allied with President Mugabe. If victorious in the July 31<sup>st</sup> elections, the coalition has vowed to create a unity government. News on the coalition can be read [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Zimbabwean Finance Minister Tendai Biti said \$85 million is still needed to execute elections at the end of July. Wrapping up a month-long voter registration drive, Minister Biti said the lack of funds has made planning for the vote a nightmare. More information on the resources needed for upcoming elections in Zimbabwe is available [here](#).

## **South Africa**

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, *CNN* reported South African President is on kidney dialysis, but responsive to others and not in a vegetative state. An article on Mandela's battle with a lung infection and other health issues is available [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, executives at the South African Broadcasting Corporation (SABC) reported that members of the Mandela family recently held a sensitive meeting with public broadcasters and demanded that *CNN* be given preferential access to cover President Mandela's funeral. *CNN* has denied purchasing rights to the funeral as President Mandela remains gravely ill at a hospital in Pretoria. Details are noted [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, after visiting former South African President Nelson Mandela, South African President Jacob Zuma said President Mandela remains in critical condition, but is responding to treatment. The latest details on Mandela's health can be found [here](#).

## **United States – Africa Relations**

### **White House**

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, President Barack Obama confirmed he will nominate Patrick Gaspard, currently

Executive Director of the Democratic National Committee (DNC), to serve as U.S. Ambassador to South Africa. Details on Gaspard and the nomination are available [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, President Barack Obama nominated Mark Childress as U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania. Childress currently serves as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Planning at the White House. An announcement on the nomination has been posted [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the Brookings Institution published an opinion piece by Lauren Greubel and Rebecca Winthrop with reflections on Michelle Obama's trip to Africa. Greubel and Winthrop note education was the main focus for the First Lady, who emphasized improving opportunities for children across the continent. The full op-ed is available [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, President Barack Obama nominated John Hoover, who currently serves as the Director of the Office of Regional and Security Affairs for the State Department's Bureau of African Affairs, to serve as U.S. Ambassador to Sierra Leone. News on the nomination can be seen [here](#).

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) will hold a briefing to explore the impacts of President Barack Obama's recent trip to Africa and to discuss the new Power Africa initiative President Obama announced while in Tanzania to increase investment in reliable, affordable, and sustainable power in Africa. Panelists will include Christopher Camponovo of Symbion Power, Ben Leo of ONE, Ambassador Robert Perry of the Corporate Council on Africa, and Sarah Ladislav of CSIS. Information on the event can be found [here](#).

### **State Department**

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry released a statement commemorating Cape Verde's National Day. Secretary Kerry highlighted the contributions of Cape Verdeans to the U.S. and said the country has become one of Africa's greatest political and economic success stories. The full statement can be read [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry issued a statement congratulating Comoros on 38 years of independence. Secretary Kerry offered his best wishes for continued peace and prosperity as the country begins its second decade of democracy. The full statement is available [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry issued a statement in recognition of Malawi's Independence Day. Secretary Kerry recognized Malawi as a democratic leader in southern Africa and recognized partnership on issues including food security, agriculture, women's rights, and health care. The full statement can be read [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry published remarks congratulating South Sudan on the second anniversary of its independence. Secretary Kerry expressed support for South Sudan's sustained commitment to democracy and good governance, justice and accountability, and respect for rule of law and human rights. Secretary Kerry's remarks can be viewed [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, reporters questioned Spokesperson Jen Psaki on a recent article in *Vanity Fair* that details the September 2012 attack on the U.S. Embassy in Benghazi. Reporters questioned how the attackers were able to obtain detailed knowledge of the embassy's layout. Spokesperson Psaki referred reporters to the Accountability Review Board (ARB) report on the attack. A full transcript of the briefing is available [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the State Department's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the American Alliance of Museums, announced the selection of 11 new projects as part of the Museums Connect program that links U.S. and overseas communities through museum-based exchanges. Projects selected this year include a partnership between the Egyptian Agricultural Museum in Giza and the Monterey County Agricultural and Rural Life Museum in King City, California, and between the Gidan Makama Museum Kano in Nigeria with the Phipps Conservatory and Botanical Gardens in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. A press release can be read [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry shared a statement recognizing Sao Tome and Principe

Independence Day. Secretary Kerry applauded the country's commitment to economic and democratic development and its example of stability in the Gulf of Guinea. The full statement has been posted [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman met with Ethiopian Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Berhane Gebrechristos at the State Department. The meeting was noticed on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, which can be accessed [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Under Secretary of State for Economic Growth, Energy, and the Environment Robert Hormats met with an American Chamber of Commerce-Egypt Delegation. The meeting, which was held at the State Department, was noted [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Chief of Protocol Ambassador Capricia Penavic Marshall attended a National Day of South Sudan celebration hosted by the Ambassador of South Sudan to the U.S. Akec Khoc Aciew Khoc in Washington, DC. Ambassador Marshall's participation was included on the Department's daily schedule, found [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, Ambassador-At-Large to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons Luis CdeBaca met with South African Deputy Minister of Justice and Constitutional Development Andres Nel. Notice of the meeting can be seen [here](#).

### **USAID**

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the USAID Press Office released information on the recently launched \$47 million, three-year Scaling Seeds and Technologies Partnership. The initiative will assist farmers in Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, and Tanzania in strengthening their seed sectors, promoting commercialization, and improving agricultural technologies. More information on the partnership can be seen [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah participated in a Center for Global Development event on U.S. partnership with Africa on economic growth and development. Administrator Shah reported on his recent travel with President Barack Obama to Senegal, South Africa, and Tanzania, as well as the Administration's new commitments to the continent related to growing economic opportunities, doubling electricity, working with African youth, improving food security and global health, and attracting trade and investment. Details on the event have been posted [here](#).

### **Department of Defense**

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) announced a change in command ceremony will be held on July 12<sup>th</sup> as AFRICOM's command senior enlisted leader (CSEL) U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sergeant Jack Johnson, Jr. departs for a new assignment. Chief Master Sergeant Johnson will be succeeded by U.S. Army Command Sergeant Major Darrin Bohn. More information on the change in command is available [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.S. soldiers participating in the Western Accord 2013 exercise in Accra, Ghana, visited Ghanaian teachers and students at Roman Ridge Private School. The soldiers discussed their own teaching experience in the U.S. and the role of the National Guard. Details on the visit can be found [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.S. AFRICOM Public Affairs released a transcript of AFRICOM Director of Logistics Brigadier General James Johnson's remarks delivered at the recent 2013 Senior Leaders Seminar hosted by the Africa Center for Strategic Studies (ACSS). Brigadier General Johnson talked to 50 African security sector leaders about AFRICOM's role in supporting U.S. policy towards Africa and building security partnerships on the continent. The transcript can be viewed [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Army Africa published an article on a collaborative exercise between U.S. doctors and medical professionals in the DRC. The U.S. physicians offered advice to DRC professionals and provided care to more than 340 patients. The article on the collaboration is available [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Marine Corps Forces Africa reported that sailors of Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground

Task Force (MAGTF) Africa recently completed a second 10-week training exercise with Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) soldiers. The training was intended to increase the logistics capabilities of UPDF personnel while allowing U.S. sailors the opportunity to earn the Enlisted Fleet Marine Force Warfare Specialist designation. An article on the training engagement can be read [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the *New York Times* published an article on the U.S. drone base established in Niger in February, as well as the role of unmanned aircraft in combating Islamist extremists in Africa, especially in recent operations conducted in Mali. According to the article, the establishment of the new drone base in Niger is representative of the growing prioritization of Africa as a U.S. national security interest. The full article can be accessed [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, U.S. AFRICOM Public Affairs published an interview with U.S. Air Force Academy Cadet First Class Joseph Abakunda, an international cadet scheduled to graduate in 2014 and become an officer in the Rwandan Air Force. In the interview, Abakunda addresses how his decision to join the military was influenced by the 1994 Rwandan genocide and how professional development activities with AFRICOM are helpful in building the capacity of African militaries. The interview has been posted [here](#).

### ***Department of Justice***

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, a U.S. federal court convicted three Somali pirates who hijacked the yacht *Quest* in 2011 and killed four American hostages. The convicted Somalis may receive the death penalty during a sentencing that is scheduled for late July. An article on the trial can be read [here](#).

### ***U.S. Congress***

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the House Foreign Affairs Committee held a joint subcommittee hearing on "The Terrorist Threat in North Africa: Before and After Benghazi." Witnesses included Daveed Gartenstein-Ross of the Foundation for Defense of Democracies, Aaron Zelin of The Washington Institute for Near East Policy, Daniel Byman of Georgetown University, and Mike Lovelady, the brother of Algerian gas plant terrorist attack victim, Victor Lovelady. A recording of the hearing can be watched [here](#).

On July 11<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a nominations hearing where the Committee considered the nomination of former State Department Spokesperson Victoria Nuland to serve as Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs. While Committee member Senator John McCain (R-AZ) has expressed support for Nuland's nomination, other Republican Committee members, including Senator Rand Paul (R-KY) and Ron Johnson (R-WI) indicated the hearing was a tool to probe further on Nuland's role in the Obama Administration's response to the attack in Benghazi. More information on the hearing is available [here](#).

### **North Africa**

On June 26<sup>th</sup>, the Green Climate Fund, headquartered in Songdo Incheon City, South Korea, elected Hela Cheikhrouhou of Tunisia as its first Executive Director. Cheikhrouhou is a former Citibank investment banker and currently serves as head of the Energy, Environment, and Climate Change Division of the African Development Bank (AfDB). In her new position, Cheikhrouhou will identify \$100 billion per year that can be used to help poor countries adapt to the impacts of climate change. News on Cheikhrouhou's election can be seen [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, prompted by successful protests in Egypt, opposition activists in Tunisia launched a similar Tamarud movement to express disagreement with the current Ennahda ruling coalition. The protestors argued Tunisia's current government is promoting an Islamist state and limiting freedom while failing to achieve economic goals. Details on the Tunisian protests are available [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, French President Francois Hollande arrived in Tunis, Tunisia, leading a delegation of Government officials and business leaders to participate in meetings and the signing of cooperation agreements to enhance the bilateral economic relationship. President Hollande praised Tunisia's democratic transition and announced new development loans and grants. An article on the French delegation's travel to Tunisia can be seen [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, the National Forces Alliance (NFA) in Libya indicated it intends to boycott the remainder of a meeting of the General National Congress (GNC) due to delays in drafting a law that would elect a new constitutional committee. An article on the boycott can be found [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, security officials in Egypt reported Islamic militants had bombed a natural gas pipeline in the el-Arish in the Sinai. The attack on the pipeline to Jordan, which marks the first attack on Egypt's natural gas pipelines in more than a year, disrupted the flow of gas. A report on the attack has been posted [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, the *Washington Post* published a story on the latest developments in the Sahrawi population's efforts to achieve independence of the Western Sahara from Morocco. While Moroccan citizens have grown to outnumber Sahrawis in the Western Sahara, the U.S. and most other countries do not recognize Morocco's sovereignty over the region. The full report can be read [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the *Washington Post* reported technology manufactured by California-based Blue Coat Systems used for Internet monitoring has been detected on Government and commercial networks in Sudan. While it remains unclear how the technology is being used, experts have expressed concern it could be used to spy on opposition groups. The U.S. currently imposes a ban on the sale of such technologies to autocratic states. Details were reported [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the Center for National Policy (CNP) held a discussion to examine current U.S. policy towards Egypt. Participants included Gregory Aftandilian of CNP, Karim Haggag of National Defense University, and Amy Hawthorne of the Atlantic Council. More information on the event can be viewed [here](#).

## **East Africa**

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, the Ethiopian parliament began debating an increase in defense spending by more than 15%. The increase would bring the total defense budget to approximately \$400 million. Ethiopian officials reject speculation the increase is influenced by tensions with Egypt over the Blue Nile Dam project, instead suggesting the increase is on par with the country's growing economy. Details were noted [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, a letter to AU officials from Somali Minister of Foreign Affairs Fawzia Yusuf Adam, who also serves as AU Deputy Prime Minister, was mistakenly sent to journalists, exposing Somalia's belief that recent violence in Kismayo was instigated by Kenyan soldiers serving as part of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). Kenyan authorities have yet to respond to the letter. *BBC* first reported on the letter [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, the European Naval Force reported the MV Albedo, a Malaysian-flagged ship hijacked by pirates off the coast of Somalia in November 2010, had sunk in rough seas. While the European Naval Force reported 15 crew members remain unaccounted for, pirate commander Hassan Abdi reported at least six pirates and two crew members were killed. The full story is available [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, two-time, Ethiopian, Olympic gold medalist for distance running Haile Gebrselassie said he plans to run as an independent candidate for a seat in the Ethiopian parliament in 2015. He also alluded to a future presidential run. Comments regarding Gebrselassie's political ambitions have been posted [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Antonio Guterres arrived in Mogadishu, where he advocated for a phased approach for assisting Somali refugees who wish to return home after more than two decades of conflict. Factional fighting in Somalia has created more than 1.1 million internally displaced persons (IDP) and forced more than one million others to flee to neighboring countries, including Kenya, Ethiopia, and Yemen. An article on Commission Guterres' visit to Somalia can be read [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, financial experts Kenneth Kitariko of African Alliance and the Uganda Securities Exchange (USE) and Gabriel Kitua of the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) predicted a regional

East African stock exchange could take off within the next year or two. The regional stock exchange would help integrate the capital markets of Kenya, Uganda, Tanzania, and Rwanda, totaling approximately \$31 billion. Details on the potential regional stock exchange have been posted [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, only a week after intercepting 775 pieces of ivory weighing 1.3 metric tons at the port in Mombasa headed from Uganda to Malaysia, Kenyan authorities intercepted another large consignment of smuggled elephant ivory in Nairobi. The 3.3 metric tons of ivory, also destined for Malaysia, was disguised as nuts. A report on the incidents can be seen [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, *Voice of America* published an article on ongoing trade battles between Kenya and Tanzania to attract the landlocked, neighboring countries of Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi, Zambia, and the DRC. Kenya is in a race to make its port of Mombasa more attractive to trade, while Tanzania seeks to make improvements within its port town of Dar es Salaam. Details on the trade situation in East Africa are available [here](#).

On July 12<sup>th</sup>, the World Bank and Kenya will release Service Delivery Indicators (SDI) for the country. SDI, which measures the effectiveness of education and health spending, was first implemented in Kenya. More information on the release of the indicators is available [here](#).

### **West Africa**

On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, Mosunmola “Mo” Abudu, known as Africa’s Oprah Winfrey, launched Africa’s first global black entertainment network in Lagos, Nigeria. The new network, EbonyLife TV, will air programming targeting middle class African women. More information on the new network was reported [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief Heiner Bielefeldt concluded his first official visit to Sierra Leone. During his six-day visit, Special Rapporteur Bielefeldt met with Government officials and agencies and representatives of religious communities and civil society organizations and observed that religious diversity and tolerance has helped Sierra Leone to overcome a decade of war. More on Special Rapporteur Bielefeldt’s visit to the country is available [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan and other Government officials opposed a proposal by Nigeria’s House of Representative to remove an impunity clause from the country’s constitution. The provision currently protects the President, Vice President, State Governors, and deputies from prosecution while in office. A report on the debate can be read [here](#).

On July 8<sup>th</sup>, Nigerian Minister of Information Labaran Maku said Nigerians in the Diaspora invested more in the country than foreign investors last year. In 2012, Nigerians remitted home \$22 billion, comparative to the inflow of \$8 billion in foreign direct investment. Minister Maku encouraged further investment in Nigeria and specifically in the country’s power, mining, agriculture, and rail sectors. Information on investments in Nigeria has been posted [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, a Nigerian court sentenced four members of the Boko Haram extremist group to life in prison on charges for conspiracy and assault related to a an April 8, 2012 bombing on an electoral commission office that killed 16 people, and a July 12, 2012 church bombing that left three dead. Details on the sentencing can be found [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, U.K. Home Secretary Theresa May announced the U.K. Government’s decision to officially designate Boko Haram as a terrorist organization and asked the British parliament for its support. The terrorist designation will allow the U .K. to impose punitive measures against supporters of Boko Haram. Information on U.K. policy towards Boko Haram can be viewed [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Special Representative for West Africa Said Djinnit addressed the U.N. Security Council and noted the region continues to face multiple political and security challenges. Special Representative Djinnit highlighted the Sahel region, the Gulf of Guinea, and the Mano River as primary areas of instability. Additional comments from the meeting are available [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan and Chinese President Xi Jinping signed

agreements facilitating \$1.1 billion in low-interest loans for infrastructure projects in Nigeria. The agreements were signed as part of President Jonathan's four-day trip to China with a delegation of Cabinet ministers. More on the agreements and President Jonathan's trip to Beijing can be seen [here](#).

### **Sub-Saharan Africa**

On June 25<sup>th</sup>, the European Commission published an implementing regulation formalizing the European Union's (EU) Kimberly Process suspension of the diamond trade with the Central African Republic (CAR). The Kimberley Process was started in 2000 to monitor the trade in rough diamonds to ensure they did not originate from conflict zones. The CAR was suspended from the Kimberly Process in May, following the coup in March. The implementing regulation can be downloaded [here](#).

On July 3<sup>rd</sup>, South African Environment Minister Edna Molewa said South Africa will seek permission at the next meeting of parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) to sell \$1 billion worth of its stockpile of rhino horn. The sales will be used to finance conservation and are intended to dry up the black market. More on the announcement is available [here](#).

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Daryl Impey of South Africa, riding for Orica-GreenEdge, became the first African to take possession of the Tour de France yellow jersey. The yellow jersey is worn by the competitor finishing all stages of the race in the fastest combined time. More on the race can be found [here](#).

On July 5<sup>th</sup>, UNHCR reported on a month-long visit to the CAR to observe conditions for more than 200,000 internally displaced persons (IDPs) and 20,000 refugees impacted by insecurity following the ousting of the CAR Government earlier this year. U.N. staff reported prevalence of arbitrary arrest and illegal detention, torture, extortion, armed robbery, physical violence, rape, abduction, and lootings. Many schools are closed and access to health and other basic services remains limited. Details on the situation in the CAR can be viewed [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, the newly appointed U.N. Special Envoy to the CAR General Babacar Gaye arrived in Bangui. Upon arriving in the capital, Special Envoy Gaye, who also serves as head of the U.N. Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the CAR (BINUCA), outlined top priorities including restoration of security, respect for human rights, humanitarian assistance, and renewed political dialogue. Information on Special Envoy Gaye's arrival in the CAR has been posted [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, the organization Doctors Without Borders (MSF) warned of the serious medical and humanitarian needs in the Central Africa Republic (CAR) following the coup executed in March by the Seleka coalition. MSF says the international community must continue to be engaged in the CAR, and it indicated just 31% of the funds necessary for the country has been currently disbursed. The full MSF report can be found [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, South African President Jacob Zuma announced a fourth reshuffling of his cabinet. President Zuma fired three cabinet ministers, including Human Settlement Minister Tokyo Sexwale, an anti-apartheid activist who has been critical of President Zuma's handling of the economy, and Communications Minister Dana Pule, who has been accused of giving a firm run by her boyfriend preferential treatment. Minister of Traditional Affairs Richard Baloyi was also let go. Details on changes in President Zuma's cabinet are available [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, an inquest jury reached a verdict of unlawful killing in the case of Jimmy Mubenga, and Angola native who was restrained by G4S security guards on a flight leaving Heathrow Airport on which he was being deported in October 2010. Mubenga had just finished a jail term for committing actual bodily harm. Prosecutors will now reconsider filing charges against the three security guards involved in the incident that led to Mubenga's death. The full story was reported [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed former Deputy President of South Africa Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka as the new head of U.N. Women. Mlambo-Ngcuka will replace Michelle Bachelet, who vacated the position in March to run for another term as President of Chile. News on the appointment can be viewed [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, South African President Jacob Zuma said he does not need to defend his decisions to reorganize the executive cabinet. Members of the press suggest the move is purely political and not based on effective governance. Additional information on the dismissals is available [here](#).

On July 10<sup>th</sup>, the *Associated Press* reported on a growing movement among supporters of President Paul Kagame in support of removing presidential term limits from Rwanda's constitution. Currently, Rwandan presidents are limited to two, seven-year presidential terms. A change regarding term limits may allow President Kagame to hold office beyond 2017. An article on presidential term limits in Rwanda can be read [here](#).

### **General Africa News**

On June 27<sup>th</sup>, the World Bank released its report on Africa Development Indicators for 2012-2013. The report offers macroeconomic, sectoral, and social indicators that provide information on the progress of development programs and aid flows in the region. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

On July 7<sup>th</sup>, *Reuters* reported on the increased interest among American universities to invest endowments in Africa. Endowment managers cite Africa's developing middle class and renewed political stability as reasons to invest on the continent. More information on the increasing interest in investing in Africa can be found [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, *The Guardian* published a profile of Judith Tebbutt, a British woman who was captured by Somali pirates in 2011. Tebbutt recently published a book, *A Long Walk Home*, detailing over six months in captivity. The profile on Tebbutt and her return back to London is available [here](#).

On July 9<sup>th</sup>, Transparency International released its annual report surveying corruption by public officials. This year's report looked at 24 African countries. In 11 African countries, more than half of those surveyed reported paying a bribe within the past year, with bribes reported most prevalent in Liberia and Sierra Leone. In several African nations, including Nigeria, Kenya, and Zimbabwe, more than 80% of those surveyed said police were affected by corruptions. Participants in Rwanda reported the lowest levels of corruption, with 56% of those surveyed saying that corruptions has decreased in the last two years. The full report can be downloaded [here](#).

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