



ML Strategies Update

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AFRICA UPDATE

Leading the News

Egypt

On July 10th, the *New York Times* reported that since the Egyptian military removed President Mohamed Morsi from office, energy shortages have ended and police forces have returned to the streets. According to the article, improvements suggest Government officials loyal to former President Hosni Mubarak may have intentionally undermined President Morsi's policies. The full article has been posted [here](#).

On July 11th, reacting to comments made by State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki that Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi's government was not a democratic rule, Egyptian Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Badr Abdelatty said the comments reflect understanding of political developments in Egypt and are a sign the U.S. will not stop foreign aid. Spokesperson Psaki's comments and more information on the reaction in Egypt can be seen [here](#).

On July 11th, following the arrest of several Muslim Brotherhood leaders, authority over the case of ousted Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi's imprisonment and escape during the uprising that led to the toppling of former Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak was transferred from an appeals court to the State Security prosecutor for further investigation. Details on the situation were reported [here](#).

On July 11th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon spoke with Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohamed Kamel Amr. Secretary-General Ban expressed concern for the continued detentions and arrest warrants issued for Muslim Brotherhood leaders and reiterated U.N. support for the aspirations of the Egyptian people. A readout of the conversation can be accessed [here](#).

On July 11th, White House Press Secretary Jay Carney criticized the Egyptian military's arbitrary arrests and detention of supporters of deposed President Mohamed Morsi. Press Secretary Carney noted arrests of members of just one party are counter to Egypt's efforts to return to an inclusive, civilian, democratically elected government. Comments from Press Secretary Carney can be read

[here](#).

On July 11th, the *New Republic* published a piece authored by Michelle Dunne speculating on Egypt's future. Dunne suggested Egypt could follow a path similar to Turkey, where the political process is driven by military intervention that results in strong political institutions. Alternatively, Dunne said Egypt could follow Algeria, which suffered a decade of civil war following its period of political unrest. Dunne's full analysis is available [here](#).

On July 12th, protestors sympathetic to ousted President Mohamed Morsi continued to gather in front of Cairo University, in Ramsis Square, and in Nasr City, where some have started to erect tents. Leaders of the demonstrations calling for President Morsi's reinstatement have indicated they will maintain their sit-ins and rallies. Developments on the pro-Morsi demonstrations are noted [here](#).

On July 12th, the *Wall Street Journal* reported on emerging support for deposed President Mohamed Morsi from Egyptians who are expressing opposition to the military's intervention because it disrupted the democratic process. There is concern this group may oppose any candidate put forward by the interim government in upcoming elections. More information can be found [here](#).

On July 12th, President Barack Obama spoke with King Abdullah bin Abd al-Aziz Al Saud of Saudi Arabia regarding the situation in Egypt. The leaders agreed the U.S. and Saudi Arabia share interest in Egypt's stability. President Obama also expressed concern for ongoing violence and articulated the need for an inclusive political process in Egypt that leads back to democratically elected civilian government. A readout of the call has been posted [here](#).

On July 12th, State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki articulated the Obama Administration's position that the Egyptian military should release deposed President Mohamed Morsi. Spokesperson Psaki also indicated the Administration's recognition of Adly Mansour as interim President and said U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson has met with President Mansour. A recording of the State Department's daily press briefing can be watched [here](#).

On July 12th, Chairman of the House Appropriations Foreign Operations Subcommittee Kay Granger (R-TX) said the Subcommittee may act to allow for the continuation of U.S. aid to Egypt, even if President Mohamed Morsi's ousting is considered a coup. She indicated Congress may consider a waiver provision that allows for the continuation of aid if deemed in the U.S. national security interest. Remarks from Representative Granger can be viewed [here](#).

On July 13th, the public prosecutor's office in Egypt announced the launch of a criminal investigation against former President Mohamed Morsi. Officials say the investigation relates to accusations of spying, inciting violence, and bringing about economic ruin. Details on the accusations are available [here](#).

On July 14th, Egyptian Foreign Minister Mohamed Kamel Amr stepped down from his post, expressing his belief that political transition in Egypt requires a new minister. Later in the day, Nabil Fahmy accepted the interim Foreign Minister position while interim Prime Minister Hazem El-Beblawi continued negotiations regarding other interim cabinet positions. Details on the changes in Egypt's Government are available [here](#).

On July 14th, prosecutors in Egypt froze the financial assets of 14 Muslim Brotherhood leaders. Some analysts believe the move represents growth in the crackdown on the Islamist group that could potentially hinder political reconciliation in Egypt. Developments were reported [here](#).

On July 14th Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns departed on foreign travel to Cairo for meetings with interim government officials, civil society, and business leaders. An announcement on Deputy Secretary Burns' trip to Egypt can be seen [here](#).

On July 15th, Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns met with interim President Adly Mansour and interim Prime Minister Hazem El-Beblawi. The Islamist Nour Party and the Tamarud movement rejected invitations to meet with Deputy Secretary Burns, accusing the U.S. of attempting to meddle in Egypt's affairs. Deputy Secretary Burns also addressed the press in Cairo and said Egyptians are the

only ones who can determine their future. He also reiterated the U.S. stance to avoid supporting any particular political party or group. More information on Deputy Secretary Burns' reception in Egypt can be found [here](#). A transcript of Deputy Secretary Burns' statements is available [here](#).

On July 15th, during the State Department daily press briefing, State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki discussed Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns' trip to Egypt. She noted the Deputy Secretary met with members of the interim government, but not with members of the Muslim Brotherhood. A full transcript of the briefing can be found [here](#).

On July 16th, interim President Adly Mansour swore in a new cabinet. The new cabinet does not include any members of Islamist parties, including the Muslim Brotherhood, who has declined to participate in the interim government until Mohamed Morsi is reinstated as President. Among the 30 ministers are three Christians and three women - more than in any previous Egyptian Government. Minister of Defense General Abdel Fattah El-Sisi will retain his post. More information on the new cabinet is available [here](#).

On July 16th, Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee Carl Levin (D-MI) reiterated his call to end U.S. aid to Egypt until the interim government proceeds with new elections and amendments to the constitution. Senator Levin was unsure if the U.S. would proceed with the previously scheduled delivery of four F-16 fighter jets to Egypt. Remarks from Senator Levin have been posted [here](#).

On July 17th, during press availability in Amman, Jordan, Secretary of State John Kerry said the removal of President Mohamed Morsi by the Egyptian military helped Egypt to avoid the possibility of civil war. When asked if the U.S. had determined whether or not the incident constitutes a military coup, Secretary Kerry responded the circumstances in Egypt are complex and indicated there would be no rush to judgment. Comments from Secretary Kerry can be seen [here](#).

On July 18th, following her visit to Cairo for meetings with interim government leaders and members of the Muslim Brotherhood, European Union (EU) Foreign Policy Chief Catherine Ashton called for the release of ousted President Mohamed Morsi and other political prisoners in Egypt. She said she was reassured during her visit that President Morsi is being well cared for. Remarks delivered by Chief Ashton in Egypt can be accessed [here](#).

Democratic Republic of Congo

On July 14th, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations Herve Ladsous announced U.N. peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) signed a contract with an unnamed company to initiate the use of unarmed drones to monitor conditions in the eastern Congo on a trial basis. While U.N. peacekeepers have been operating in the Congo for more than a decade, this marks the first time the U.N. will use unmanned aerial vehicle technology. Details on the deal were noted [here](#).

On July 15th, DRC Government Spokesperson Lambert Mende said at least 130 people, including 10 soldiers, were killed in clashes that began on Sunday between army forces and M23 rebels in North Kivu province. 120 of those killed were M23 fighters. Another 12 rebels were captured and the land previously held by rebels was reclaimed by Government forces. Comments from Spokesperson Mende can be viewed [here](#).

On July 15th, the Office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) announced an emergency shipment of humanitarian supplies to Uganda to assist approximately 66,000 refugees from the DRC who have crossed the border since clashes reignited in Kamungo. The emergency aid was noted [here](#).

On July 15th, U.N. Acting Special Representative in the DRC Moustapha Soumare put all U.N. peacekeepers in the DRC on high alert to protect civilians in Goma as M23 rebels advanced from Mutaho towards the capital. According to the U.N. Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO), heavy artillery and a battle tank were used by rebels in earlier clashes. The alert was noticed [here](#).

On July 15th, the Rwandan Defense Ministry said two bombs were fired from the DRC into Rwandan territory. Rwandan Defense Spokesman Joseph Nzabamwita suggested the bombs were deliberately fired by the DRC military and the U.N. intervention brigade operating in the DRC. Details on the bombing are available [here](#).

On July 16th, despite the shipment of new humanitarian supplies to DRC refugees in Uganda, UNHCR expressed increasing concern about renewed fighting between Congolese Government Forces (FARDC) and M23 rebels in North Kivu province. UNHCR noted the violence has increased the number of refugees fleeing to Uganda to as many as 600 people per week. More from UNHCR on the situation in the DRC can be found [here](#).

On July 17th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon issued a statement expressing concern over reports of serious mistreatment of M23 rebel detainees by the FARDC, including human rights violations and the desecration of corpses. MONUSCO has raised the issue with FARDC leaders and is reconsidering support for the FARDC units believed to be involved. More on the U.N.'s reaction to reports from the DRC can be seen [here](#).

On July 18th, hundreds of protestors took to the streets of Goma accusing DRC President Joseph Kabila of failure to neutralize rebel groups and put a stop to fighting between M23 fighters and Government forces. Demonstrators also reacted to reports the Government intended to replace senior army officers in Goma, where protestors shut down roads and closed businesses. A report on the protests can be viewed [here](#).

South Sudan

On July 11th, the U.N. Security Council unanimously voted to extend the U.N. Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) through July 15, 2014. The Security Council called on UNMISS to continue to prioritize the protection of civilians and to deploy assets accordingly. More information on the Security Council vote has been posted [here](#).

On July 12th, UNMISS expressed concern for new violence in Jonglei State and the mobilization of armed youth in Pibor. As a result of new clashes, UNMISS has initiated aerial reconnaissance flights, increased its military presence in Gumruk and Pibor, and developed contingency plans to protect civilians in the event of more attacks. An article on UNMISS's response to the violence in Jonglei State can be read [here](#).

On July 12th, State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki issued a press statement regarding the ongoing violence in Jonglei State. Spokesperson Psaki expressed concern about reports of civilian abuses, looting, destruction of homes and humanitarian facilities, and mobilization of armed youth and clashes in Pibor country. The State Department urged all parties, including the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) to end the violence and use dialogue to work towards peace. The full statement is available [here](#).

On July 15th, U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan Toby Lanzer said the U.N. and NGO humanitarian partners have gained access to Pibor county, where thousands of people have been stranded since January due to fighting in Jonglei State. As humanitarian aid is delivered to Pibor County, Coordinator Lanzer also noted UNMISS, the Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS), and the World Health Organization (WHO) are working together to address approximately 200 casualties in Manyabol village. An article on the situation in South Sudan can be read [here](#).

On July 15th, *Voice of America* published a report on continued violence in the Jonglei State of South Sudan. Ethnic violence between the Lou Nuer and Murle groups has caused the loss of dozens of lives, according to the report, available [here](#).

On July 17th, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos issued a statement calling on all parties in Jonglei to stop the violence immediately, prevent further unnecessary loss of life, and restore an environment conducive for the delivery of humanitarian aid. According to U.N. estimates, more than 100,000 civilians have been cut off from aid due to continued fighting. Under-Secretary-General Amos' statement has been posted [here](#).

Sudan

On July 13th, a joint patrol of the African Union (AU) – U.N. Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) was ambushed by an unidentified armed group in South Darfur. Seven UNAMID peacekeepers were killed and an additional 17 military and police personnel were injured in the firefight. The incident was reported [here](#).

On July 13th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, UNAMID Joint Special Representative Mohamed Ibn Chambas, and the U.N. Security Council all condemned the attack on the UNAMID joint patrol in Darfur and called on the Government of Sudan to investigate the attack and bring the perpetrators to justice. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On July 16th, the International Criminal Court (ICC) called on Nigerian authorities to arrest Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir, who was visiting Abuja for an AU health care summit, and surrender him to the Court. An arrest warrant for President al-Bashir was issued in 2009 for crimes against humanity and genocide in Darfur. While Nigeria is a party of the Rome Statute, which requires parties to follow ICC orders, President Al-Bashir has visited other party States without being detained. More information is available [here](#).

On July 16th, following the ICC's call for his arrest in Nigeria, President al-Bashir left the AU meeting. During the meeting, the AU passed a resolution calling on its members to ignore the warrants. An article on the situation can be read [here](#).

Nigeria

On July 15th, in a video released by Boko Haram, Abubakar Shekau indicated the militant group will continue to attack schools and kill teachers who support non-Muslim education. In the statement, Shekau denied responsibility for an attack on July 6th at a boarding school in Yobe. More information on Shekau's statement is available [here](#).

Mali

On July 11th, Governor of Kidal Adama Kamissoko returned to his job after more than a year of absence due to a surge of violence in Mali. While more than 200 Malian soldiers are in Kidal to monitor the security situation, opponents to the Malian military have recently staged demonstrations injuring two U.N. peacekeepers, a French soldier, and two civilians. Developments in Kidal were noted [here](#).

On July 17th, during a meeting of heads of member states of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), West African leaders called for \$25 million in international aid to support elections in Mali, scheduled for July 28th. More on the call for international assistance for upcoming elections can be found [here](#).

Zimbabwe

On July 14th, early voting began in Zimbabwe for security personnel and police who will be on duty on election day. Zimbabwean officials acknowledged chaos at many voting stations, where materials were not delivered in time for authorities who are unable to vote on July 31st to cast votes. Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai is already protesting early voting in court. More on early voting in Zimbabwe can be found [here](#).

On July 15th, the EU indicated it will allow the South African Development Community (SADC) to oversee and evaluate elections in Zimbabwe scheduled for July 31st. The EU has suggested it will remove sanctions on Zimbabwe if the election is generally accepted as fair and open. Details on the EU sanctions against Zimbabwe are available [here](#).

On July 16th, Press Office Director Patrick Ventrell responded to questions regarding the upcoming elections in Zimbabwe. While indicating the U.S. has called for free, fair, and transparent elections,

Director Ventrell expressed concerns that security and media reforms have not been implemented in accordance with the Global Political Agreement and the SADC electoral roadmap. Comments from Director Ventrell can be read [here](#).

On July 17th, the Research and Advocacy Unit (RAU) shared some of the findings of its audit of voter rolls in Zimbabwe, including analyses showing more than 1 million names of people who are deceased or have left Zimbabwe remain on the rolls. Auditors also found registration bias in favor of rural constituencies, which tend to be strongholds for President Robert Mugabe and the Zimbabwean African National Union – Patriotic Front (ZANU-PF) party. More information from the audit can be accessed [here](#).

South Africa

On July 15th, former South African President Thabo Mbeki said Nelson Mandela is in the care of excellent doctors. President Mbeki suggested President Mandela will return home soon. Additional comments from President Mbeki are available [here](#).

On July 18th, South African President Jacob Zuma issued a statement wishing former President Nelson Mandela a happy birthday. While President Mandela remains hospitalized in Pretoria, President Zuma confirmed his health is steadily improving. President Zuma's statement has been posted [here](#).

On July 18th, South Africa celebrated the 95th birthday of former President Nelson Mandela. Family members have indicated the former President is making significant progress as he battles several health conditions. A report on celebrations for Mandela's birthday can be found [here](#).

On July 18th, President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama issued a statement in recognition of former South African President Nelson Mandela's 95th birthday. The President and the First Lady called on people everywhere to engage in service as recognition of President Mandela's commitment to equality, reconciliation, and human dignity. The full birthday message can be seen [here](#).

United States – Africa Relations

White House

On July 12th, the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) held a briefing on President Barack Obama's recent trip to Africa and the new Power Africa initiative President Obama announced while in Tanzania to increase investment in reliable, affordable, and sustainable power in Africa. A recording of the discussion can be watched [here](#).

On July 15th, the *New York Times* published an editorial on President Obama's Power Africa initiative. The editorial notes the initiative has strong potential, but its success will largely depend on the overall design and implementation of the plan. The editorial can be read [here](#).

State Department

On July 12th, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman met with Foreign Minister of Burkina Faso Djibril Bassole at the State Department. The meeting was included on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, which can be found [here](#).

On July 12th, State Department Chief of Protocol Capricia Penavic Marshall hosted a farewell reception at the State Department for Ambassador of Tunisia to the U.S. H.E. Mokhtar Chaouachi. The reception was noted [here](#).

On July 16th, the State Department issued a statement condemning the murder of AIDS activist Eric Ohena Lembembe who was found tortured to death in his home in Yaounde, Cameroon. Lembembe was the Executive Director of the Cameroon Foundation for AIDS (CAMFAIDS) and an advocate for human rights for LGBT people. The full statement is available [here](#).

On July 17th, Chief of Protocol Ambassador Capricia Penavic Marshall accepted credentials for the Ambassador-designate of Tanzania Liberata Rutageruka Mulamula at the Department of State. The meeting was seen on the Department's daily public schedule, posted [here](#).

USAID

On July 11th, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah met with State Department Senior International Press Officer Holly Jensen for an episode of LiveAtState, the Department's interactive web chat platform for engaging international media. Administrator Shah spoke about President Barack Obama's recent trip to Africa and addressed USAID efforts in the DRC, noting the agency provides agricultural support and food to hundreds of communities in the country. A transcript and video replay of the webinar are available [here](#).

Department of Defense

On July 15th, U.S. Army Africa Public Affairs reported on an environmental health and field sanitation military-to-military event recently conducted by U.S. Army Africa at Malawi Defense Force (MDF) headquarters in Lilongwe. The course addressed a number of topics including medical threats, personal hygiene, water supply, food service sanitation, waste disposal, management of arthropods, and prevention of heat and cold injuries. The training course was described [here](#).

On July 15th, Marine Corps Forces Africa reported on a mobile medical outreach mission conducted by the Armed Forces of Liberia (AFL), U.S. service members, and Grand Cape Mount County health officials. The mission, led by AFL saw more than 2,000 residents living in three remote villages who have limited access to health care services and facilities. An article on the mobile health mission can be read [here](#).

On July 16th, U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) Public Affairs reported on a ceremony recently held at Nigerien Airbase 101 in Niamey during which the U.S. handed over two new Cessna airplanes and 10 Toyota trucks to Niger Armed Forces. The planes will enhance Nigerien forces' ability to move cargo and the trucks will be used to improve border security in Niger. More on the transfer of the items to Niger through U.S. defense cooperation programs can be viewed [here](#).

On July 16th, the Naval Small Craft Instruction and Technical Training School (NAVSCIATTS) reported on a training program developed in partnership with the Nigerian Joint Maritime Security Training Center (JMSTC) to assist African forces in developing security capacity. Exchanges through the program are focused on recent maritime threats, including counter piracy. More information on the program can be found [here](#).

U.S. Congress

On July 15th, *Congressional Quarterly* reported House leaders will likely delay floor consideration of the FY14 defense appropriations bill on the floor until next week, allowing more time for House members to be briefed on potentially controversial amendments. Several amendments submitted to the House Rules Committee seek to address U.S. military aid to Egypt. More information can be seen [here](#).

On July 16th, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a hearing on S. 980, the Embassy Security and Personnel Protection Act of 2013. The legislation, dedicated to the four Americans killed during the September 11th attack on the U.S. diplomatic compound in Benghazi, would provide new authorizations for the State Department to implement the recommendations of the Accountability Review Board (ARB). Witnesses included Acting Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security Gregory Starr and Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for High Threat Posts Bill Miller. The hearing was archived [here](#).

On July 17th, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held two separate hearings to consider the nominations of Samantha Power to serve as Representative of the U.S. to the U.N., and Catherine Russell to serve as Ambassador-At-Large for Global Women's Issues. More information on the

hearings is available [here](#) and [here](#).

On July 18th, the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations held a hearing entitled “Is There an African Resource Curse?” Witnesses included Corinna Gilfillan of Global Witness, USA, Mohammed Amin Adam of the Africa Center for Energy Policy, and Anquan Boldin of Oxfam America. Information on the hearing can be accessed [here](#).

North Africa

On July 17th, Director General of the U.N. Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization Irina Bokova condemned the killing of Egyptian photojournalist Ahmed Assem el-Senousy. El-Senousy was shot on July 8th as he was covering a demonstration for the *Al-Horreya-Wal-Adalah* newspaper. Director General Bokova urged all parties to respect the rights of journalists to carry out their work in safe conditions. More on the U.N. reaction to the killing can be viewed [here](#).

On July 18th, South Sudanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesperson Mawien Makol Arik said South Sudan has started to reduce its oil output from 200,000 barrels per day to 160,000 barrels per day, in anticipation of Sudan’s decision to close two cross-border pipelines on August 7th. Sudan claims South Sudan is supporting Sudanese Revolutionary Front rebels – an accusation South Sudan has denied. An article on the tensions can be read [here](#).

East Africa

On July 10th, Ethiopian Foreign Ministry officials announced they anticipate Ethiopia will join the World Trade Organization (WTO) in 2015. Ethiopia first applied for membership in 2003, but since then has been asked to liberalize its state-run banking and telecommunications sectors as a condition of WTO membership. In 2012, the WTO lowered membership standards for developing countries. An article on Ethiopia’s WTO aspirations can be seen [here](#).

On July 12th, U.N. Director of Operations for the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) John Ging concluded a visit to Mogadishu. Director Ging said while the humanitarian situation in Somalia has improved, greater investment is needed to break the cycle of violence in the Horn of Africa. According to OCHA, one million Somalis require humanitarian assistance and 1.7 million are in need of sustained aid to prevent perpetuation of crisis. More comments from Director Ging have been posted [here](#).

On July 12th, the World Bank released its Service Delivery Indicators (SDI) for Kenya. The SDI highlights an increasing availability of health facilities and schools across Kenya, but the report notes the quality of education and health care must still be improved to ensure future prosperity. A press release and the full report can be accessed [here](#).

On July 12th, Heathrow Airport closed both of its runways to incoming and outgoing flights after an Ethiopian Airlines Boeing Dreamliner caught fire. No one was on board at the time and no injuries were reported. Ethiopian Airlines was the first operator to resume Dreamliner flights after incidents raised concerns for battery fires earlier this year. This fire remains under investigation. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On July 14th, opposition activists in Ethiopia conducted a rare demonstration to express outrage over reporters and political activists currently imprisoned under anti-terrorism laws. The government dismissed the protests as extreme and suggested the protesters were inappropriately calling for the release of convicted criminals. More information on the protests is available [here](#).

On July 15th, the U.N. World Food Program (WFP) said approximately 12,000 Somali refugees in Ethiopia are receiving monthly cash entitlements beyond traditional food rations. An additional 13,000 refugees will begin receiving cash payments in October. The cash payments are intended to allow refugees to diversify their diets beyond basic rations. More information can be found [here](#).

On July 15th, the ICC announced the trial of Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto, due to begin in

September, will be held in The Hague, Netherlands, rejecting requests from Deputy President Ruto that the trial begin in Kenya or Tanzania. Deputy President Ruto and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta face charges of crimes against humanity following the 2007 Kenyan presidential elections. The decision from the ICC regarding the case's location can be found [here](#).

On July 17th, speaking at a conference on land forces, Lieutenant General Andrew Gutti, force commander for the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), discussed future military forces needed in Africa. He called for future forces to be light and agile, requiring costly training in the short term to build forces that are effective and easier to maintain in the long run. Excerpts from Lieutenant General Gutti's presentation can be viewed [here](#).

West Africa

On July 11th, U.N. Assistant-Secretary-General for Human Rights Ivan Simonovic completed his first visit to Guinea-Bissau. Assistant-Secretary-General Simonovic participated in a National Conference on Impunity, Justice, and Human Rights, where he argued for an end to impunity in the country. He also visited Mansoa prison, the Judiciary Police detention center, Simon Mendes Hospital in Bissau, and the law faculty of Bissau University. An article on the trip can be read [here](#).

On July 12th, an executive meeting of the AU opened in Nigeria to focus on health issues facing the continent, including HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, and malaria. The meeting encouraged AU governments to follow through on a previous commitment to dedicate 15% of their budgets for health-related activities. More information on the meeting is available [here](#).

On July 12th, Governor of the Ziguinchor region of Senegal announced Movement of Democratic Forces of Casamance (MFDC) rebels freed nine hostages captured in May. The hostages were part of a group of twelve employees of a South African bomb disposal company, who were working to clear mines in southern Senegal. Three of the hostages were released at the end of May. The full story can be found [here](#).

On July 15th, the office of French President Francois Hollande confirmed the death of geologist Philippe Verdon, who was captured in 2011 by Al Qaeda affiliates operating in Mali. More information on Verdon's death is available [here](#).

On July 15th, the International Maritime Bureau (IMB) issued its annual report, urging continued vigilance for piracy in Africa. While piracy attacks in Africa have decreased during the first several months of 2013, violence in the Gulf of Guinea remains a concern. According to the report, many merchant vessels off the coast of Somalia have taken preventative measures to avoid attacks. The IMB report on piracy in Africa can be downloaded [here](#).

On July 15th, *Ventures* reported Nigeria may soon be outpaced by Angola as Nigeria's top oil producer. Nigeria's oil production figures have dropped, primarily due to oil theft and failure of the legislature to pass the petroleum industry bill (PIB), which would reform Nigeria's oil sector. The Senate is currently holding meetings with private sector stakeholders on the legislation. Details were reported [here](#).

On July 16th, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon appointed Abdoulaye Mar Dieye of Senegal to serve as Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Africa at the U.N. Development Programme (UNDP). The announcement on the appointment has been posted [here](#).

On July 16th, the U.N. Security Council issued a statement calling for increased cooperation between countries in Africa's Sahel region, West Africa, and the Maghreb to combat threats of terrorism, transnational crime, and drug trafficking. In particular, the statement highlighted the threats posed by Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM) and the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa. More information can be viewed [here](#).

On July 17th, during a meeting of ECOWAS leaders held in Abuja, Nigeria, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan called on the AU and the EU to lift sanctions on Guinea-Bissau ahead of elections scheduled for November. Sanctions were imposed after a 2012 military coup in the country out of

concern the coup would increase problems with drug trafficking and terrorism in West Africa. Remarks delivered by President Jonathan can be seen [here](#).

On July 17th, 1,015 victims of former Chadian dictator Hissene Habre filed a lawsuit in Senegal, where the former leader is being tried for war crimes against humanity and torture committed during his eight year rule. The lawsuit, which requests that Habre's assets be frozen and used to compensate Chadian victims, will be heard as part of criminal proceedings. A report on the lawsuit has been posted [here](#).

On July 18th, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan hosted Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta for a bilateral meeting at the State House in Abuja. During the meeting, Nigerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Olugbenga Ashiru and Kenyan Foreign Affairs Cabinet Secretary Amina Mohamed signed three agreements to expand foreign relations and international trade between Nigeria and Kenya. Details on the meeting and the agreements are available [here](#).

Sub-Saharan Africa

On July 11th, U.N. Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs Valerie Amos and European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid, and Crisis Response Kristalina Georgieva embarked on a two-day mission in the Central African Republic (CAR) to observe needs for humanitarian aid. The leaders met with CAR transition government officials, including President Michel Djotodia and urged authorities to restore rule of law to prevent impediments to the delivery of humanitarian aid. Details on the mission to the CAR can be found [here](#).

On July 11th, the *Washington Post* ran a story on a Transparency International report on corruption that found a hospital in Zimbabwe charged mothers in labor \$5 for every time they screamed while giving birth. While the fees have allegedly been addressed, a \$50 delivery charge remains. Annual income per person in Zimbabwe is approximately \$150. The full story is available [here](#).

On July 12th, former African National Congress (ANC) Youth League President and current leader of the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) Julius Malema held a press conference in Johannesburg, South Africa, where he said his developing political party stands a good chance of toppling the ANC in future elections. Remarks from Malema are available [here](#).

On July 13th, Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and the ZANU-PF party dismissed accusations of their involvement in a plot to assassinate South African President Jacob Zuma and his spokesperson, Lindiwe Zulu. Documents unveiling the plot also implicate Zambian President Michael Sata. The full story can be seen [here](#).

On July 14th, Italian Prime Minister Enrico Letta condemned remarks by Italian Senate Vice President of the Northern League and a former minister under Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi Roberto Calderoli, in which he said Italian Minister of Integration Cecilia Kyenge had the features of an orangutan. Minister Kyenge, who was appointed to the cabinet in April, is originally from the DRC and has Italian citizenship. Details on the incident can be accessed [here](#).

On July 15th, U.N. Special Representative for Burundi Parfait Onanga-Ayanga delivered a message from Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to Burundi's first Sectoral Conference, held in Bujumbura. Secretary Ban called on the international community to continue to assist Burundi on its path towards peace and sustainable development and called for all sectors to contribute to efforts to fight poverty and promote economic growth in the country. Secretary's Ban's full message has been posted [here](#).

On July 15th, Director General of UNESCO Irina Bokova visited the Republic of Congo. Director General Bokova met with President Denis Sassou Nguesso on issues including music promotion, respect for the environment, and protection of biodiversity, attended the opening ceremony of the Pan African Music Festival (FEESPAM), and launched a new teacher training program. An article on Director General Bokova's trip to the Republic of Congo can be read [here](#).

On July 15th, South African mining companies offered a 4% wage increase to union workers, but the increase is far lower than what is being demanded by the unions. Declining gold prices have put

companies like AngloGold Ashanti and Harmony Gold Mining in a difficult position with unions, which are asking for a 60% increase in entry-level wages. An article on the wage battle in South Africa can be read [here](#).

General Africa News

On July 15th, *The Guardian* published an article on the current financial services industry challenges in Africa. The article notes that mobile banking offers some solutions to the current challenges on the continent. The article can be read [here](#).

On July 15th, *Deutsche Welle* published a report on India's investment in Africa. Trade between India and Africa increased by 30% from 2005 – 2011, and experts suggest there is an increasing rivalry emerging between China and India for trade supremacy on the continent. The report on India's efforts to invest in Africa is available [here](#).

On July 16th, *The Washington Post* published an article on changing global demographics. The article, which includes several interactive charts, notes Africa is expected to experience “a population explosion nearly unprecedented in human history.” The article and charts can be found [here](#).

On July 16th, *The Guardian*, in its “Voices of Africa” blog, posted a story on the increasing prominence of contemporary Africa art. Over the last several years, art from Africa has been increasingly sought globally, and prices have significantly appreciated. The story on the emergence of African art is available [here](#).

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