



## ML Strategies Update

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**David Leiter**

[djleiter@mlstrategies.com](mailto:djleiter@mlstrategies.com)

**Georgette Spanjich**

[gmspanjich@mlstrategies.com](mailto:gmspanjich@mlstrategies.com)

**Dan Durak**

[ddurak@mlstrategies.com](mailto:ddurak@mlstrategies.com)

**ML Strategies, LLC**

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20004 USA  
202 296 3622  
202 434 7400 fax  
[www.mlstrategies.com](http://www.mlstrategies.com)

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## AFRICA UPDATE

### Leading the News

#### **Kenya**

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, masked gunmen stormed the Westgate shopping mall in Nairobi, Kenya, killing at least 39 people and wounding more than 150 others. Police engaged in a standoff with the attackers, who were heavily armed and claimed to be holding an unknown number of hostages into Saturday evening. Somalia-based Islamist militant group Al Shabaab quickly claimed responsibility for the attack, calling it revenge for Kenya's military operations in Somalia. Details were reported [here](#).

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and the Security Council condemned the terrorist attack in Kenya. The Security Council issued a statement condemning the attack in the strongest terms and reiterating the U.N.'s commitment to combatting terrorism. The statement can be read [here](#).

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry condemned the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall and offered condolences to the family and friends of victims. While no Americans were reported killed, Secretary Kerry mourned the loss of the wife of a foreign service national working for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID). He noted the U.S. has offered assistance to Kenya and stands by ready to assist. Secretary Kerry's statement can be seen [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, the legal team representing Kenyan Deputy President William Ruto asked for adjournment of his International Criminal Court (ICC) trial to allow his return to Kenya in the wake of the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, a spokesman for the Kenyan military announced that most of the hostages at the Westgate mall had been rescued and security forces had taken control of most parts of the building. Earlier on Sunday, 49 people had been reported missing and were presumed hostages of the Al

Shabaab attackers. By Sunday, the death toll had risen to 68 people, with 175 people reported wounded. An update on the situation was provided [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, in a televised address from U.N. headquarters, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon condemned the terrorist attack in a Kenyan shopping mall. He expressed condolences to the family and friends of those killed, including a retired staff member for the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF). Secretary-General Ban noted he spoke with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta shortly after the attack and remains in close contact with Executive Director of the U.N. in Nairobi Sahle-Work Zewde. Secretary-General Ban's remarks were recorded [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, President Barack Obama called Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta to express condolences for the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall. President Obama reiterated U.S. support for bringing the perpetrators of the attack to justice, as well as the shared commitment to combating terrorism in East Africa. A press release is available [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry said he had spoken with Kenyan Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed and U.S. Ambassador to Kenya Robert Godec regarding the terrorist attack in Nairobi. Secretary Kerry said the attack shows the breadth of the challenge of addressing ruthless and reckless terrorists. Secretary Kerry's comments were shared [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah issued a statement calling the terrorist attack in Kenya shocking in its brutality and brazenness. He expressed sadness for the loss of Ruhila Adatia-Sood, a Kenyan radio and television personality and the pregnant wife of Ketan Sood, a Foreign Service National serving at the U.S. Mission in Nairobi. On behalf of USAID, Administrator Shah agreed to stand with the Kenyan people as they recover from the attack. Administrator Shah's full statement can be accessed [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Subcommittee on African Affairs Chris Coons (D-DE) issued a statement on the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall. He expressed condolences to the victims and noted that Kenya is an important U.S. ally and regional security partner in combating Al Shabaab in Somalia. Senator Coons also announced a Subcommittee hearing, which will be held on October 8<sup>th</sup>, to examine security challenges in Somalia and the threat of Al Shabaab. The statement can be viewed [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Chairman of the House Homeland Security Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence Peter King (R-NY) appeared on ABC's "This Week," where said he expected U.S. authorities to explore American ties to Saturday's terrorist attack in Kenya. Representative King noted 40-50 Americans have traveled to Somalia to receive terrorist training from Al Shabaab. A recording of Representative King's comments can be watched [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Reuters speculated security improvements at U.S. shopping malls would be made in light of the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall in Kenya. Additional security measures may include increasing use of off-duty police officers, putting more non-uniformed security into uniform, and enhancing coordination with local police. The full article can be read [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Kenyan Foreign Minister Amina Mohamed appeared on "PBS Newshour" where she said two or three Americans and one Brit were among the perpetrators of the terrorist attack in Kenya. She said the Americans were 18 to 19 years old, Somali or Arab origin, and lived in Minnesota or one other place in the U.S. The British jihadist was described as a woman who had previously engaged in terrorism. State Department officials said there was no definitive evidence of the nationalities or identities of the perpetrators. Details are available [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, in a speech delivered at the Ohio State University, Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud said Al Shabaab poses a global threat, as evidenced by reports that some of the Westgate attackers may have lived in the U.S. President Mohamud said he had spoken with Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and said he plans to visit Kenya soon. Excerpts from the speech were recorded [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Ghana mourned the death of one of its most famous poets, Kofi Awonor, who

was killed in the terrorist attack at the Westgate mall. Awonor previously served as Ghana's Ambassador to the U.N., served as President of Ghana's Council of State, and taught at American universities. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Kenyan shilling dropped by 0.2% as investors watched the events at Westgate unfold. Because the Kenyan market is made up of many foreign investors, shares in firms that are popular with foreign investors also retreated. While a slide should be expected, analysts believe the shilling's overall decline will not be massive. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Africa Subcommittee Karen Bass (D-CA) issued a statement on the ongoing hostage crisis in Kenya. She said the international community must do more to combat terrorism and called for the perpetrators of the attack in Nairobi to be brought to justice. The full statement was published [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta announced the standoff with Al Shabaab militants at the Westgate mall had finally ended, leaving 61 civilians and six security officers dead and nearly 200 people wounded, including 62 victims who remain hospitalized. Three floors of the mall collapsed in the fighting, killing at least one attacker. Five other attackers were killed by gunfire and 11 additional suspects were arrested. President Kenyatta declared three days of national mourning beginning on Wednesday. More on President Kenyatta's announcement was reported [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Al Shabaab took to Twitter to deny information shared by Kenyan officials on the attackers at the Westgate mall. Al Shabaab has denied that any women were involved in the attack, suggesting attackers may have been dressed as women to sneak weapons past mall security. Meanwhile, Kenyan authorities indicated they were continuing to investigate the nationalities of the attackers, as well as reports that Samantha Lewthwaite, the widow of 7/7 bomber Germaine Lindsay also known as the "White Widow," may have been involved in the attack. Details were reported [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Al Shabaab accused Kenyan Government forces of demolishing the Westgate mall and burying 137 hostages in rubble. Via Twitter, the terrorist group also accused the Kenyan Government of using chemical weapons to end the siege. Kenyan Government Spokesman Manoah Esipisu denied the accusations, saying that no chemical weapons were used and the collapse of the floors in the mall was caused by a fire set by the attackers. Additional information can be found [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Special Representative for Somalia Nicholas Kay condemned the attack in Nairobi launched by Somalia-based terrorist group Al Shabaab. He asked the international community to contribute to an intensified campaign to address the threat posed by Al Shabaab internationally. Special Representative Kay also requested additional resources for the African Union (AU) Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to carry out the campaign. Comments from Special Representative Kay were noted [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, U.S., British, and Israeli intelligence agencies pooled their resources to assist in the forensic investigation of the Nairobi shopping mall terrorist attack. Germany and Canada are also assisting the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) with the investigation. Details on international assistance to Kenya can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, several Members of Congress reacted to concerns that Somalia-based terrorist group Al Shabaab may attack the U.S. Senate Intelligence Committee Chairman Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) said this concern is real and Senator John McCain (R-AZ) said the Kenyan attack demonstrates Al Shabaab's resilience. Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin (D-MI) said concerns of domestic terrorism may have been dramatized in light of the attack in Kenya and House Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Intelligence Mac Thornberry (R-TX) said the recent attack was not a tipping point for Al Shabaab becoming a threat to the U.S. More feedback was posted [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Islamic extremist group Al Shabaab claimed responsibility for additional attacks in two Kenyan towns near the Somali border that resulted in the deaths of three people. Al Shabaab leader Mukhtar Abu Zubeyr promised additional attacks in Kenya until Kenyan forces are pulled out of Somalia. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Moody's determined that the Nairobi shopping mall attack is credit negative and will adversely affect the country's growth and fiscal revenues, primarily due to a hit to tourism. The rating agency said it did not see any effect on foreign direct investment (FDI), Kenya's planned international bond, or multilateral financing for infrastructure projects. Moody's currently rates Kenya at B1 with a stable outlook. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, *Reuters* anticipated a counter-terrorism response targeting Al Shabaab's finances due to the uptick in violence perpetrated by the terrorist group. The U.N. estimates Al Shabaab has earned more than \$25 million annually from illicit exports of charcoal from Somalia to Gulf Arab states. Al Shabaab is also thought to raise revenue by extorting small businesses. The full report can be read [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, the *Associated Press* reported Somali-Americans, primarily from Minnesota, are continuing to leave the U.S. to join Al Shabaab. Since 2007, at least 22 men left the U.S. to join the terrorist group. In addition, at least 18 men and three women in Minnesota have been charged for their ties to Al Shabaab. The full report can be accessed [here](#).

### ***U.N. General Assembly***

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, in advance of the U.N. General Assembly summit, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met with Chairperson of the AU Commission Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma to discuss furthering the partnership between their organizations. The two leaders discussed several pressing issues in Africa including the need for humanitarian assistance in the Central African Republic (CAR) and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), as well as the need for continued international attention in Mali, Somalia, Guinea-Bissau, Sudan, South Sudan, and the Western Sahara. An article on the meeting can be read [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, despite controversy, Sudanese President Omar Hassan al-Bashir said he still planned to attend the U.N. General Assembly meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>. President Bashir is wanted by the ICC on genocide charges for crimes committed in the Darfur region over the past ten years. Meanwhile, State Department officials warned President Bashir would not receive a warm welcome if he were to attend. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, on the sidelines of the U.N. General Assembly, the Regional Oversight Mechanism of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region met to discuss progress on the agreement's implementation. At the end of the meeting, participants adopted a communique condemning continued M23 attacks against the Armed Forces of the DRC (FARDC) and U.N. peacekeepers, as well as the shelling of Rwandan territory, and calling on international development partners to pursue projects to promote peace. Information on the meeting can be accessed [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, in his remarks to the U.N. General Assembly, Zambian President Michael Sata emphasized the need for global partnerships to address poverty and achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). He also noted Zambia's progress on reducing mortality rates for mothers and children. Highlights from President Sata's speech are noted [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Malawian President Joyce Banda told the U.N. General Assembly that moving income to poor households will help address the poverty and development challenges that must be overcome to meet the MDGs. President Banda said Malawi is on track to achieve the MDGs related to reducing maternal and child mortality, combating disease, and ensuring environmental sustainability. Excerpts from President Banda's address can be found [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, during general debate at the U.N. General Assembly, Ugandan President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni described how the country is using revenue derived from natural resources to improve its infrastructure and boost the economy. He said broader economic and political integration across the continent will increase Africa's access to global markets. Details can be seen [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Gabonese President Ali Bongo expressed concern for the rise of terrorism in

Africa and called for international assistance to meet growing threats. Addressing the theme of the post-2015 development agenda, President Bongo stressed the importance of predictable funding for development obtained from both public and private sources. President Bongo's remarks to the U.N. General Assembly were posted [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Liberian President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf thanked the U.N. Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) for its help in putting the country on a path of irreversible progress. President Johnson-Sirleaf noted Liberia has reached a 7% average annual growth rate and has seen additional progress in security sector reforms. Comments from President Johnson-Sirleaf were recorded [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, in a speech to the U.N. General Assembly, South African President Jacob Zuma said international demands may inhibit Africa's growth post-2015. President Zuma said prerequisites for development and partnerships serve as non-tariff barriers. President Zuma suggested African nations should attempt to solve poverty through economic growth, social development, and environmental sustainability. Highlights from the address can be viewed [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Mozambique's President Armando Emilio Guebuza called on the U.N. General Assembly to provide international support in key parts of Africa where peace and security are needed to advance development. He highlighted several hotspots, including Madagascar, the DRC, and Guinea-Bissau. More on President Guebuza's speech was reported [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan raised security issues facing Africa with the U.N. General Assembly, including piracy, terrorism, and threats posed by chemical and nuclear weapons. President Jonathan later met with U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon to discuss violence in the northern part of the country and the need for humanitarian aid. Nigeria plans to seek election to one of five non-permanent seats on the Security Council in 2014 and 2015. More information can be accessed [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, President Barack Obama addressed the U.N. General Assembly. President Obama said there has been greater international cooperation to enhance security, but said challenges remain, referencing the terrorist attack in Kenya. He also noted U.S. support for peaceful movements in North Africa, including in Egypt and Tunisia. In addition, President Obama addressed efforts the U.S. has taken prevent mass atrocities and to protect human rights, including in Mali, in East Africa, and Libya. The full text of President Obama's speech is available [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, AU Chairperson and Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Dessalegn said that rapid economic growth in Africa, as well as progress on development, could make the 21<sup>st</sup> century the "African century." He stressed that Africa will need continued international support to sustain the progress made on the MDGs beyond 2015. Additional remarks from Chairperson Dessalegn were provided [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, DRC President Joseph Kabilo presented to the U.N. General Assembly. He called for all nations to be altruistic in setting post-2015 development goals and urged greater political participation by women and youth. President Kabilo said progress on development in the DRC will only be hypothetical until there is peace and he advocated for the implementation of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation for the DRC and the Region. Highlights of the address were noted [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Rwandan President Paul Kagame called for an end of trade barriers to create a more conducive environment for investment in Africa. During his speech to the U.N. General Assembly, President Kagame also advised governments to empower citizens through the development process. Parts of President Kagame's speech can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan provided the U.N. General Assembly with an update on the country's progress towards rule of law and democratization. He also addressed security challenges in the country, including the smuggling of narcotics and arms and illegal immigration. Segments of Prime Minister Zeidan's address can be viewed [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, while hosting a meeting of EU and U.N. humanitarian officials, French Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius said the Security Council must adopt a resolution to boost U.N. operations in

the CAR. Foreign Minister Fabius warned the CAR is at risk of becoming “a new Somalia” if it does not receive immediate support. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, during an event on the MDGs, participating countries adopted a document acknowledging progress on the eight MDGs established in 2000, while also pledging to act on remaining challenges. The signers also agreed to hold a high-level summit in September 2015 to adopt new development goals that will balance economic transformation, social justice, and environmental protection. More information can be seen [here](#).

### **Egypt**

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, the State Department notified Congress it plans to spend the remaining \$500 million appropriated for U.S. assistance to Egypt. The procedural notification, however, did not make clear how the funds will be spent. While Administration officials have recommended suspending most aid to Egypt, a formal decision has yet to be made. Funding may otherwise be used to compensate American companies for their losses in ending assistance programs. Details can be found [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, senior State Department officials held a special press briefing on Secretary of State John Kerry’s meeting with interim Egyptian Foreign Minister Nabil Fahmy. According to State Department officials, the leaders discussed the importance of progress on a political roadmap and building democratic institutions to the U.S.-Egypt relationship. Secretary Kerry and Foreign Minister Fahmy also discussed the importance of free speech and efforts to combat terrorism. The meeting also included a brief exchange on regional issues, including the situation in Syria. A transcript from the briefing can be viewed [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Cairo Court for Urgent Matters issued an injunction dissolving the Muslim Brotherhood and confiscating its assets until a higher court renders a more permanent decision on the group’s status. The Muslim Brotherhood responded by calling the ruling an attack on democracy and an attempt to ban the Muslim Brotherhood from participating in political activities. Information on the court’s ruling was reported [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup> the military-led interim Egyptian Government reacted to an injunction issued by a lower court in Cairo to disband the Muslim Brotherhood. Egyptian officials indicated they would postpone any actions to implement the court’s order and wait for the lower court’s ruling to be upheld by a higher court. Meanwhile, senior Muslim Brotherhood officials continued to reject the lower court’s ruling and vow to repeal it. More on the Cabinet’s response is available [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, following a ruling from Cairo’s administrative court dissolving the Muslim Brotherhood, Egyptian security forces shuttered the office of the newspaper for the Muslim Brotherhood’s political party. Security forces also seized furniture and other Muslim Brotherhood documents. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the McCain Institute for International Leadership hosted a debate entitled “Egypt: Is the Military the Answer?” Participants included Juan Williams of *Fox News*, William Kristol of *The Weekly Standard*, Anthony Cordesman of the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), Michele Dunne of the Administrative Conference of the U.S. (ACUS), and Jackson Diehl of *The Washington Post*. Details were noted [here](#).

### **Guinea**

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, following U.N. mediated talks between the Government of Guinea and opposition parties, authorities agreed to postpone the elections scheduled for September 24<sup>th</sup> to September 28<sup>th</sup>. Elections have been repeatedly postponed since President Alpha Conde was elected three years ago. While main opposition leader Cellou Dalein Diallo had wanted a longer delay, he said he was satisfied the agreement will allow for voter list errors and the stationing of polling stations to be addressed. Information on the agreement was reported [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the State Department welcomed the agreement to delay legislative elections in Guinea until September 28<sup>th</sup>. State Department Spokesperson Jen Psaki said the additional time

allows for technical preparations to take place. She also noted the U.S. Embassy in Conakry is working with Guinean and international counterparts to ensure elections further Guinea's democratic transition. The full press release is available [here](#).

### ***Swaziland***

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, voters in Swaziland headed to the polls in a second round of parliamentary elections. While 55 seats in the parliament are electable (with an additional 10 seats appointed by the King), political opposition groups expressed concerns the elections would be rigged to maintain King Mswati III's power. The 30-member senate is appointed by the King and the parliament. An article on the polls can be read [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, following the close of polls, Swaziland's Election and Boundaries Commission (EBC) announced winners in the 55 parliamentary constituencies up for election, but declined to announce vote counts in every race. The EBC indicated full results may not be available until next week. According to the official results, 46 of the 55 candidates elected will be new to parliament. Details can be seen [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Jan Sithole was elected as one of 55 independent MPs in Swaziland's parliamentary polls. Mr. Sithole leads the Swaziland Democratic Party (Swadepa) and has stated his intent to bring a bill of rights to parliament to reaffirm the constitutional guarantees to freedom of expression, association, and the press. More information can be seen [here](#).

### **United States – Africa Relations**

#### ***White House***

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, National Security Advisor Susan Rice met with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud at the White House. Topics discussed included ways to strengthen democratic institutions and promote economic development in Somalia, as well as strategies for addressing terrorism in the country and improving security. A statement on the meeting can be viewed [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, President Barack Obama met with Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan. The two leaders discussed the importance of counterterrorism efforts in Nigeria, as well as U.S. support for Nigerian efforts to strengthen democratic governance and ensure future elections that are peaceful, transparent, and credible. President Obama and President Jonathan also agreed to cooperate on enhancing access to energy through Nigeria's participation in Power Africa and to support Nigerian entrepreneurs through the Young African Leaders initiative. A report on the meeting can be accessed [here](#). Remarks delivered by President Obama before the meeting were posted [here](#).

#### ***State Department***

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, the State Department issued a press release on the \$69 million pledge made by the U.S. delegation to the New Deal Conference for Somalia in support of Somalia's New Deal Compact. The Compact focuses on strengthening programs in community stabilization, economic growth, education, democracy, governance, and rule of law. The press release was shared [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry met with Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud at the Department of State. Secretary Kerry and President Mohamud discussed collaborative efforts to promote security and fight terrorism in Somalia. They also discuss political reconciliation in Somaliland and Puntland. Joint remarks delivered before the meeting were posted [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, following a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing held last week on the Accountability Review Board (ARB) on Benghazi investigation, ARB Chairman former Ambassador Thomas Pickering said he did not agree with former Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Michael Mullen's decision to tell then-Secretary of State Hillary Clinton's Counselor and Chief of Staff Cheryl Mills that he had concerns about then-Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Diplomatic Security Charlene Lamb testifying on the attack. Lamb was criticized in the ARB report and

reassigned last month. Details are available [here](#).

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry issued a statement sending best wishes to Mali on its 53<sup>rd</sup> independence day. Secretary Kerry applauded the recent elections in Mali and the country's return to a peaceful democracy. He also committed to working with new Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita to address the challenges in promoting national reconciliation and making progress on security sector reform. The full statement can be accessed [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry announced \$10 million in new funding for a new initiative called "Safe from the Start." Funds will allow the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and other humanitarian partners to prevent and respond to gender-based violence in humanitarian emergencies. The announcement was made [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry released a statement congratulating Guinea Bissau on its 40<sup>th</sup> independence day. Secretary Kerry commended Guinea-Bissau for its efforts to hold timely elections later this year and urged the transitional government to pursue a robust agenda including national reconciliation, improved governance, fiscal transparency, and economic reforms. The full statement can be seen [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry met with President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Joseph Kabila in New York City. The meeting was noticed [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns met with Tunisian President Moncef Marzouki. The meeting was listed on the State Department's daily schedule, which can be viewed [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, Assistant Secretary of State for Population, Refugees, and Migration Anne Richard and USAID Assistant Administrator for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance Nancy Lindborg hosted a roundtable for non-governmental and international organization representatives to encourage financial commitments to the newly announced "Safe from the Start" program. Ambassador-At-Large for Global Women's Issues Catherine Russell also attended the event. Details were noted [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry met with Ghanaian President John Mahama. Secretary Kerry also participated in a Global Health event with President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) partner countries. Secretary Kerry was joined by Namibian President Hifikepunye Pohamba, Rwandan President Paul Kagame, and South African Ambassador to the U.S. Ebrahim Rasool. Remarks delivered by Secretary Kerry can be found [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns met with Ethiopian Foreign Minister Tedros Adhanom at the Ethiopian Mission to the U.N. in New York City. The meeting was reported [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman met with Malawian President Joyce Banda. She also met with Algerian Foreign Minister Ramtane Lamamra. The meetings were noticed [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Ambassador-At-Large for Global Women's Issues Catherine Russell delivered remarks at the African First Ladies Tea, hosted at World Vision in New York City. Ambassador Russell's participation was noted [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of State John Kerry held a bilateral meeting with Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zeidan in New York City. Secretary Kerry also held a bilateral meeting with Rwandan President Paul Kagame. The meetings were included on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, which can be seen [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Deputy Secretary of State Bill Burns delivered remarks at a Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC) event on promoting private investment in Africa. He also attended a Libya Ministerial event hosted by the U.N. with Assistant Secretary of State for Conflict and Stabilization

Operations Frederick Barton. In addition, Deputy Secretary Burns hosted a bilateral meeting with new Malian President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita. Deputy Secretary Burns' schedule was published [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Wendy Sherman met with Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf in New York City. The meeting was reported [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs Kerri-Ann Jones attended the Clinton Global Initiative Partnership to Save Africa's elephants, as well as a wildlife trafficking event co-hosted by the Governments of Gabon and Germany. More on Assistant Secretary Jones' schedule was shared [here](#).

### ***U.S. Agency for International Development***

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, speaking at the dedication of a statue of Nelson Mandela at the Embassy of South Africa in Washington, DC, USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah announced a partnership with the Nelson Mandela's Children Fund USA and the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital Trust to support the Nelson Mandela Children's Hospital in Johannesburg, South Africa. The partnership will produce funding for advanced medical equipment and educational technology for the new facility, slated for opening in June 2015. A press release can be viewed [here](#).

### ***Department of Defense***

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel hosted an honor cordon for Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud. Secretary Hagel met with President Mahmud, senior members of his cabinet, and the Chief of the Somali National Army General Dahir Elm. The leaders discussed the importance of enhancing security in Somalia, as well as how the U.S. military and the international community may assist in training Somali national security forces. A press release on the meeting can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel hosted an honor cordon to welcome Burkina Faso's President Blaise Compaore to the Pentagon. The event was noted on the Department's daily schedule, which can be found [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Combined Joint Task Force – Horn of Africa Public Affairs reported on a 10-week exercise conducted with U.S. Marines and Sailors with Burundi National Defense Force soldiers due to conclude this week. The goal of the exercise is to build the security capabilities of Burundi forces in advance of their deployment to AMISOM. An article on the exercise can be read [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, the *Washington Post* reported the U.S. military has moved a large fleet of drones from Camp Lemonnier, Djibouti to a makeshift airstrip in a more remote part of the country. The move follows several drone accidents, which raised concerns about potential crashes with passenger planes. The drone fleet has been part of counterterrorism operations targeting Al Shabaab in Somalia. The full article can be viewed [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Army Africa's Surgeon Office reported on a recently completed three-day training course on tactical combat casualty care held in N'Djamena, Chad. Among the topics addressed by the course were flesh abrasions, amputations, difficulty breathing, and unconsciousness. Details on the course were posted [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, U.S. Army Africa Public Affairs reported on the recent completion of African Deployment Partnership (ADAPT) training by Benin military forces. The ADAPT program seeks to build deployment capacity for African partners in the areas of peacekeeping, counterterrorism, and humanitarian relief. The training is conducted by U.S. Army Africa and funded by the U.S. Department of State. Details are available [here](#).

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

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, the Podesta Group filed a registration under the Foreign Agents Registration Act (FARA) with the Department of Justice (DOJ) for a month-long lobbying engagement with the

Government of Somalia. For the month of September, the Government of Somalia paid the Podesta Group \$120,000 to arrange meetings with U.S. Government officials. The registration filing can be downloaded [here](#).

### ***U.S. Trade and Development Agency***

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>-October 3<sup>rd</sup>, the U.S. Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) hosted a reverse trade mission (RTM) to the U.S. for a delegation of public and private sector representatives from Southern Africa's rail sector. The goal of the mission was to allow the delegation to learn more about U.S. technologies and best practices for intermodal freight transportation. Details were noted [here](#).

### ***Securities and Exchange Commission***

On September 18<sup>th</sup>, the National Retail Federation and the Retail Litigation Center Inc. joined the U.S. Chamber of Commerce, the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), and the Business Roundtable (BRT) in their opposition to a Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) Dodd-Frank rule that would require companies to disclose their use of conflict minerals, including those originating from the DRC. In an amicus curiae brief, the retail groups argued the rule disproportionately impacts manufacturers relative to those that only contract to manufacture goods. Details are available [here](#).

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

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, news broke that House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA) planned to travel to Libya this week as part of his investigation of the attack in Benghazi. Representative Issa was traveling with a senior policy advisor for the Committee and a congressional liaison for the military. According to a travel itinerary, Representative Issa was not scheduled to visit Benghazi. More information was reported [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Ranking Member Elijah Cummings (D-MD) sent a letter to Chairman Darrell Issa requesting that he postpone his trip to Libya until Democratic members of the Committee are invited to join the delegation. Committee Member Gerry Connolly (R-VA) also criticized the trip for violating Representative Issa's stated principles regarding the bipartisan nature of international delegations. Ranking Member Cummings' letter can be downloaded [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee held a confirmation hearing on several African ambassadorships. The Committee considered the nominations of Dwight Bush to serve as Ambassador to Morocco, Mark Childress to serve as Ambassador to Tanzania, Thomas Daughton to serve as Ambassador to Namibia, Matthew Harrington to serve as Ambassador to Lesotho, Eunice Reddick to serve as Ambassador to Niger, John Hoover to serve as Ambassador to Sierra Leone, and Michael Hoza to serve as Ambassador to Cameroon. A recording of the hearing can be watched [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Foreign Relations Committee Chairman Robert Menendez (D-NJ) and Ranking Member Bob Corker (R-TN) introduced a bill to extend authorities and enhance oversight of PEPFAR, which Senator Corker noted as being especially effective in Africa. A press release on the bill's introduction can be found [here](#).

### **North Africa**

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, more than one-third of Libyan oil production came back online as militia groups reopened the valves for a critical pipeline between oil fields and the city of Tripoli. The militant groups that had been involved in ousting former dictator Muammar Gadhafi lifted a strike that had reduced oil production to 10% of its capacity in recent weeks. Production was expected to increase from 150,000 barrels to 700,000 barrels over the course of the week. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, General Electric (GE) signed contracts totaling \$2.7 billion in power generation with companies within the Algerian government. The largest contract will result in six new power plants that will add 8 gigawatts to Algeria's generating capacity - a 70% increase. An article on the contracts can be read [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, clashes continued in Sudan's capital city of Khartoum between protestors angry about the lifting of fuel subsidies to raise revenue. At least six deaths have been reported since riots broke out on Monday. Protestors called for regime change as demonstrations began in other cities throughout the country. Details can be found [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, amidst ongoing protests against the revocation of fuel subsidies, Sudan experienced an Internet outage. While the country has previously experienced Internet outages caused by brief technical problems, experts see similarities between the recent outage and a similar event in early summer when Internet service was blocked at government direction ahead of a large protest. The outage was reported [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Joint Special Representative for Darfur Mohamed Ibn Chambas attended a meeting on the implementation of the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) hosted in Qatar. The agreement, negotiated with assistance from Qatar, sets a framework for a permanent ceasefire to fighting in the Darfur region between government forces and rebel groups. Special Representative Chambas cautioned security on the ground is critical to the success of the agreement. Information on the meeting was posted [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, French drug company Sanofi began construction of a new \$95 million plant in Algeria. Sanofi already has two other manufacturing sites in the country. By 2016, medicine spending in Africa is expected to reach \$30 billion, driven by an annual growth rate of more than 10%. More information can be seen [here](#).

### **East Africa**

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, members of Eritrea's Freedom Friday Movement launched an underground newspaper, distributed using informal links and social media networks. The launch comes on the 12<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Eritrean Government's decision to ban all private media. An article on the newspaper's launch can be read [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Kenyans United Against Poaching (Kupao) launched a website to expose renowned poachers. The group is hopeful public shaming will prevent poaching and that the website will be helpful in collecting data and identifying trends that can help fight the practice. The website may be visited [here](#).

On September 22<sup>nd</sup>, Hikma Pharmaceuticals agreed to bring fresh capital into Pharmacure, a local company operating in Ethiopia since 1998. Collaboration between the two companies will lead to the creation of a joint venture, HikmaCure, with an initial investment of \$50 million. The agreement will see HikmaCure continuing to operate in Ethiopia, producing oral and injectable products. More information can be found [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, The African Business Awards hosted a ceremony to recognize Ethiopian Airlines as the "African Business of the Year" for 2013. The company was recognized for achieving fast growth despite a slowing of economic activity in the global aviation sector. The award was announced [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, two Kenyan police officers were killed and one was injured in an attack in northeast Kenya near the Somali border. The attack occurred at the Assistant Country Commissioner's office, where 12 vehicles were also burned. No specific group has been charged for the attack. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, China's state-owned oil company, China National Offshore Oil Corporation (CNOOC), won a \$2 billion deal to develop the Ugandan Kingfisher oil field. The company will develop the field over a four-year period, with an initial capacity of 30,000 to 40,000 barrels of oil per day. The area is believed to hold approximately 196 million barrels of oil. More information can be seen [here](#).

### **West Africa**

On September 16<sup>th</sup>, *Environmental Health Perspectives* published a study detailing the impacts of climate change on malaria transmission in West Africa. Researchers found that despite projected changes in temperature and rainfall, the impact of climate change on the prevalence of malaria will be negligible over the next century. The study abstract can be downloaded [here](#).

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, *Bloomberg* reported at least 1,000 barrels of oil were stolen from Nigeria each day during the first quarter of 2013. Because Nigeria depends on oil exports for 80% of its revenue and 95% of its foreign currency income, President Goodluck Jonathan has called for assistance from the international community in identifying the countries that receive Nigeria's stolen crude oil and the loopholes where proceeds are laundered. An article on the issue can be read [here](#).

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, French President Francois Hollande declared the war against Islamic extremists in Mali had been won. France began military operations in Mali in January 2013 with the objective of forcing Islamic militant groups to retreat. Despite announcing victory, President Hollande promised to keep French forces in the country as long as threat persist. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, Ivory Coast ministers voted to file a motion to dismiss the ICC's arrest warrant for ex-first lady Simone Gbagbo. Instead, lawmakers believe they can administer a fair trial through the Ivorian courts to rule on the ICC charges that Gbagbo committed crimes against humanity. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 21<sup>st</sup>, Nigerian police in Abuja assaulted a building occupied by suspected Boko Haram militants, killing at least seven individuals. The State Security Service claims that the police were investigating a weapons cache in the building when they came under fire from Boko Haram. Witnesses claimed those killed were not members of Boko Haram and said they did not instigate the incident by firing at police. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon met with Cote d'Ivoire's President Alassane Ouattara to discuss the country's progress towards peace following a period of unrest after the 2010 presidential elections. The leaders discussed the structure of the U.N. Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and efforts to prevent sexual violence. Secretary-General Ban also thanked President Ouattara for his leadership of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and Cote d'Ivoire's contributions to the Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA). A readout of the meeting is available [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, in partnership with the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the World Food Programme (WFP), the Government of Mali shared the findings an Emergency Food Security Assessment conducted in the country. The study finds approximately 1.3 million people in Mali require food assistance. WFP is currently facing a \$67 million shortfall and FAO is facing a \$12 million gap in resources needed to address the food crisis. More information was shared [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, MINUSMA confirmed it was responding to allegations of sexual abuse by U.N. peacekeeping troops. The incident occurred in Gao on September 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. MINUSMA provided assistance to the alleged victim and is notifying troop contributing countries as the investigation continues. More on MINUSMA's response can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, Senegalese President Macky Sall cut his U.N. visit short to address the two-week long cutoff of water and power sources in the country. Senegalese officials have blamed the service outages on faulty equipment and are concerned that flooding caused by the rainy season will make it difficult to respond. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, the Nigerian Senate opened an investigation into the killing of seven individuals in the capital city of Abuja. While Nigerian security forces claim that elements of the Boko Haram were inside the building, witnesses reported those who were killed were unarmed squatters. The investigation was announced [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, Nigerian police forces alleged that Islamic militants killed a pastor and his son and later torched a church in northeast Nigeria. Corporal Musa Ibrahim also reported that militants killed the village head of Dorawa and used explosives to set five homes on fire. Dorawa is located

about 60 miles from Yobe, one of the three northeastern states under a military emergency. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 26<sup>th</sup>, a U.N. backed special court in The Hague rejected the appeal against war crimes convictions from the lawyers of former Liberian President Charles Taylor. While President Taylor claims his actions were only contacting the rebels to stop the fighting, Judge Richard Lussick said his crimes were some of the most heinous in human history. More information can be seen [here](#).

### **Sub-Saharan Africa**

On September 19<sup>th</sup>, South African Police Minister Nathi Mthethwa provided an update on crime statistics for the first part of 2013. He reported an increase in the number of suspects arrested and convicted. Bank robberies and cash-in-transit robberies declined, while residential robberies and car hijackings increased. The murder rate remained stable. Additional statistics can be accessed [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, UNHCR appealed to the international community for an additional \$21.3 million to assist DRC refugees who have fled to Uganda in the wake of recent violence. The additional funds will be used to provide humanitarian assistance through the end of the year. In total, UNHCR has requested \$43.7 million to support Congolese refugees in Uganda. The request is only 28% funded. Details are available [here](#).

On September 20<sup>th</sup>, upon concluding a two day visit to the CAR, WFP Regional Director for West Africa Denise Brown announced a ramp up in U.N. activities to assist people displaced in the country. Despite ongoing violence, WFP has reopened offices in northern parts of the country and deployed mobile teams that will serve the humanitarian needs of roughly 500,000 displaced people in the northwest part of the CAR. More information was reported [here](#).

On September 23<sup>rd</sup>, the Government of Madagascar, in partnership with the FAO, launched a locust control campaign. The campaign will treat more than 2 million hectares of locust infected areas with pesticides released through aerial operations. The campaign's objective is to avert a food crisis that could potentially impact 13 million people. The campaign was announced [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, U.N. Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons (IDPs) Chaloka Beyani urged the CAR Government to protect the rights of IDPs and to help facilitate the humanitarian response. Special Rapporteur Beyani said the lack of security in the country has led to human rights violations and abuses, including rapes and looting. Additional observations were shared [here](#).

On September 24<sup>th</sup>, the DRC's Ministry of Public Health launched a measles vaccination campaign with the goal of vaccinating all children between the ages of 6 months and 9 years in the Equateur and Orientale provinces. A similar campaign is planned for November in the Kivu provinces. According to government statistics, measles is responsible for the deaths of nearly 1,120 children in the DRC this year. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, South African President Jacob Zuma issued a statement noting that former South African President Nelson Mandela is continuing to respond to treatment provided at his home in Houghton for his recurring lung infection. President Zuma described President Mandela's condition as critical but stable. Details were reported [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, mining company Anglo American settled a suit by gold miners with the lung disease silicosis. Richard Meeran, the lawyer who brought the suit against the gold mining company in 2004, was unable to give details of the settlement. Silicosis causes shortness of breath, and makes victims highly susceptible to tuberculosis. This suit is one of several brought against the gold industry in South Africa. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 25<sup>th</sup>, government officials in Angola said the country's plans to invest \$23 billion in its electricity grid by 2017 will only be effective if energy companies become more efficient. Currently, oil output represents over 95% of the country's exports and 45% of GDP. Only about 30% of the population has access to electricity and current home and business consumption often results in

blackouts. More information can be seen [here](#).

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