



ML Strategies Update

ML
STRATEGIES

David Leiter

djleiter@mlstrategies.com

Georgette Spanjich

gmspanjich@mlstrategies.com

ML Strategies, LLC

701 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

Washington, DC 20004 USA

202 296 3622

202 434 7400 fax

www.mlstrategies.com

SEPTEMBER 5, 2013

AFRICA UPDATE

Leading the News

Egypt

On August 29th, Egyptian authorities arrested senior Muslim Brotherhood leader Mohamed el-Beltagy, bringing the number of Muslim Brotherhood members arrested in the past several days over 60. Beltagy, who was wanted on charges of inciting violence, had been in hiding since the crackdown on protest camps in mid-August. Other notable arrests included the son of the Muslim Brotherhood's top strategist, Khairat el-Shater, and Mohamed Soltan, a U.S. citizen and son of Muslim Brotherhood leader Salah Soltan. News of the arrests was shared [here](#).

On August 29th, three Egyptian Government Ministers issued a statement again labeling *Al Jazeera's* broadcasts on developments in the country as a national security threat. Allegedly, unnamed government agencies have been ordered to close the network. News of efforts to further curtail *Al Jazeera's* operations follows the detention of four employees of the network's English division earlier in the week. The full story can be viewed [here](#).

On August 29th, *Reuters* published an analysis of the latest developments in Egypt. According to the report, while the military takeover of the government capitalized on public discontent with President Mohamed Morsi, events since President's Morsi's ouster have neutralized the Muslim Brotherhood and paved a way for the return to old order, similar to the rule of President Hosni Mubarak, who was toppled in 2011. The analysis can be accessed [here](#).

On September 1st, Egyptian news outlets reported public prosecutor Hesham Barakat has referred deposed President Mohamed Morsi and 14 other members of the Muslim Brotherhood to a criminal court in Cairo on charges of committing acts of violence and inciting killings. These charges come in addition to an ongoing investigation into President Morsi's role in a 2011 prison break during the uprising against President Hosni Mubarak. More information is available [here](#).

On September 2nd, as members of the Muslim Brotherhood attacked a police station in Cairo and planned new mass protests, a judicial panel convened by Egypt's military-led government advised the

government it may have standing for a legal challenge that would remove the Muslim Brotherhood's non-governmental organization status. If successful, the move could diminish the role of the Muslim Brotherhood in future politics. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On September 3rd, following a number of small clashes since Friday, thousands of Islamists demonstrated in the streets to mark two months since the toppling of President Mohamed Morsi. At least seven people were killed. Meanwhile, President Adly Mansour was interviewed on state television, where he said the interim government's plan for a return to civilian government was on track and emergency law will be lifted soon. Developments in Egypt were reported [here](#).

On September 3rd, an Egyptian military court in Cairo sentenced 11 Muslim Brotherhood members to life in prison and another 45 Muslim Brotherhood members to 5 years in jail for violence against the Egyptian army in the port city of Suez on August 14th. Eight other defendants were acquitted. The sentences were described [here](#).

On September 3rd, Egyptian state media reported 15 militants were killed by rocket fire in the Sinai Peninsula. According to witnesses, attacks perpetrated by army helicopters against suspected militant strongholds and arms stockpiles continued as the first deaths were reported. Developments were noted [here](#).

On September 3rd, the *Associated Press* reported on deteriorating security conditions in the Sinai Peninsula. Leader of Al Qaeda's Afghanistan branch Ramzi Mawafi is believed to be in the Sinai coordinating militant groups, money, and weapons to launch attacks on Egypt. Egyptian authorities have also expressed concerns that other well-known terrorists, including a leader of Al Qaeda's Iraq branch Abu Mohammed al-Adnani, Al Qaeda leader Ayman al-Zawahri, and former member of Al Qaeda in North Africa Moktar Belmoktar, may be coordinating in the Sinai to launch attacks against the Egyptian military. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 4th, reports surfaced that U.S. officials have recommended President Barack Obama suspend a significant amount of U.S. assistance to Egypt. Allegedly, Administration officials have suggested suspending all foreign military assistance, with the exception of funds used directly for security in the Sinai Peninsula and the Gaza Strip. The U.S. currently spends \$1.5 billion annually on aid to Egypt, including \$1.3 billion in military assistance. A final decision on U.S. aid to Egypt is not expected until after Congress votes on the authorization of military force in Syria, likely the week of September 9th. Details can be found [here](#).

On September 5th, interim Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim survived an assassination attempt when his convoy was bombed as it passed through Nasr City in eastern Cairo. At least 22 people were wounded in the attack and an unidentified body, which security officials believe may belong to an attacker, was found at the scene. It remains unclear where the bomb was planted and no group has claimed responsibility for the attack. A full report has been posted [here](#).

On September 5th, the U.S. Embassy in Cairo condemned the terrorist attack on interim Interior Minister Mohammed Ibrahim's convoy and issued a security message to U.S. citizens in Egypt following the attack. The Embassy advised U.S. citizens to avoid areas where unrest has recently occurred, as well as police stations and large gatherings of security forces, which may be targeted for additional attacks. The security message can be read [here](#).

Democratic Republic of Congo

On August 29th, the U.N. Security Council issued a statement reiterating its call for the M23 rebel group, the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), and other armed groups in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) to disband and lay down their arms. In addition, the statement repeated condemnations of attacks against the U.N. Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO). More information is available [here](#).

On August 30th, contrary to observations by U.N. peacekeepers, Rwanda's Deputy Ambassador to the U.N. Olivier Nduhungirehe expressed certainty that bombs entering Rwanda from the DRC were fired by Congolese armed forces (FARDC). The U.N. has accused M23 rebels of shelling into

Rwanda. Comments from Deputy Ambassador Nduhungirehe were shared [here](#).

On August 30th, U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-moon's office issued a statement condemning the latest bout of violence in the DRC, including the M23's shelling of areas in the eastern DRC and along the border with Rwanda, and encouraging a political approach to ending armed conflict. The statement also noted U.N. Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson and Special Representative to the DRC Martin Kobler are fully engaged in diplomatic efforts to end the violence. The full story can be viewed [here](#).

On September 1st, the *Associated Press* reported the leaders of three opposition parties in the DRC will boycott national reconciliation talks planned this week by DRC President Joseph Kabila. The opposition leaders, including presidential election runner up Etienne Tshisekedi, have said they will continue to reject talks until a neutral facilitator is identified. Details can be seen [here](#).

On September 2nd, the U.N. announced Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson's travel to the DRC for a four-day regional tour with representatives from the African Union (AU), the European Union (EU), and the U.S focused on facilitating peace in the region. Prior to the arrival of international envoys, Special Envoy Robinson met with U.N. Special Representative to the DRC Martin Kobler and participated in discussions with U.N. partners in Goma. A report on Special Envoy's Robinson's travel can be found [here](#).

On September 2nd, immediately upon arriving in Kinshasa, U.N. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson urged all parties in the eastern DRC to promptly put an end to violence in order to rebuild trust in peace efforts. News on Special Envoy Robinson's arrival in Kinshasa is available [here](#).

On September 2nd-3rd, Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Ambassador Linda Thomas-Greenfield was on foreign travel to Kigali, Rwanda, for meetings with government officials on the situation in the eastern DRC. Assistant Secretary Thomas-Greenfield also visited the Kigali Genocide Memorial Center. After concluding her trip in Kigali, Assistant Secretary Thomas-Greenfield traveled to the DRC for a tour of the region. Information on Assistant Secretary Thomas-Greenfield's travel was shared [here](#).

On September 3rd, the State Department announced U.S. Special Envoy to the Great Lakes Region of Africa and the DRC Russell Feingold's first trip to the region. Special Envoy Feingold will participate in a joint visit to the DRC, Rwanda, and Uganda, accompanied by Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Linda Thomas-Greenfield, U.N. Special Envoy for the Great Lakes Region Mary Robinson, EU Special Representative to the AU Koen Vervaeke, and Special Representative of the AU Chairperson for the Great Lakes Region Boubacar Diarra. Meetings will focus on implementation of the Peace, Security, and Cooperation Framework for the DRC and the Region. Special Envoy Feingold will then travel to Burundi for meetings with the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) and to Ethiopia for meetings with the AU. The announcement on Special Envoy Feingold's travel has been posted [here](#).

On September 4th, in advance of the ICGLR meeting, regional Defense Chiefs and Ministers of Foreign Affairs met in Uganda to discuss developments in the security situation in the DRC. Regional government representatives agreed the offensive against M23 rebels in the eastern Congo must be halted in order to allow peace talks in Kampala to proceed. In addition, there was consensus the MONUSCO intervention brigade must also fight Rwandan, Burundian, and Ugandan dissident groups, including FDLR, Forces Nationale de Liberation (FNL), and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF). An article on the meeting can be read [here](#).

On September 5th, the ICGLR convened an emergency session at the Commonwealth Resort Munyonyo in Uganda to address violence in the eastern DRC. Participation is expected from delegations from Angola, Burundi, the CAR, the Republic of Congo (ROC), the DRC, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Sudan, Tanzania, and Zambia. More on the ICGLR summit can be found [here](#).

Central African Republic

On August 29th, Deputy Director of the U.N. Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees' (UNHCR) Bureau for Africa Liz Ahua said authorities in the Central African Republic (CAR) must protect civilians amidst renewed violence. Over the past 10 days, reports have surfaced of arbitrary arrests, detention, torture, extortion, armed robberies, physical violence, restricted movement, and lootings against civilians. These conditions have resulted in more than 206,000 internally displaced persons and more than 63,000 refugees fleeing the CAR since December. Details were reported [here](#).

On August 30th, the U.N. World Food Programme (WFP) reported on efforts to provide food relief to those displaced by violence in the CAR. WFP articulated plans to assist approximately 81,000 people this month, although the provision of assistance is challenged by the closure of the border between Cameroon and the CAR. WFP estimates as many as 1.6 million people in the CAR are in need of assistance, including food, protection, health care, water, sanitation, and shelter. The situation in the CAR was described [here](#).

Sudan/South Sudan

On September 3rd, a South Sudanese delegation led by President Salva Kiir traveled to Khartoum, Sudan, at the invitation of Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir. Following a lengthy meeting, President Kiir and President Bashir announced oil will continue to flow between Sudan and South Sudan, despite Sudan's threat to shut down oil pipelines this Friday. The two leaders also discussed the future of the Abyei region. An article on the meeting can be read [here](#).

Kenya

On September 3rd, Deputy Speaker of Kenya's National Assembly released an order for a special assembly to be held with the parliament for the purposes of debating Kenya's membership in the International Criminal Court (ICC). Even if the legislature votes to put Kenya on the path to withdrawal from the ICC, next week's trial for Deputy President William Ruto and a November trial for President Uhuru Kenyatta will proceed as planned. Information on the vote can be seen [here](#).

On September 5th, Kenya's parliament voted overwhelmingly to withdraw the country from the jurisdiction of the ICC. While countries may voluntarily join the ICC, withdrawal requires the submission of a formal request to the U.N. The withdrawal process may span as long as one year. More information was shared [here](#).

South Africa

On September 1st, former South African President Nelson Mandela was discharged from a hospital in Pretoria where he had been receiving treatment for a recurring lung infection since June 8th. President Mandela was transported to his home by ambulance, where he will continue to receive intensive care. According to a statement issued by President Jacob Zuma's office, President Mandela's condition remains critical and can sometimes be unstable. The full statement can be read [here](#).

United States – Africa Relations

State Department

On August 29th, the State Department issued a statement in response to Ghana's Supreme Court's ruling upholding President John Dramani Mahama's victory in the December 2012 presidential election. State Department Deputy Spokesperson Marie Harf applauded the peaceful resolution of disputes related to the election and indicated the willingness of the U.S. to continue to work with Ghana to maintain democratic governance, rule of law, and stability. The full statement was posted [here](#).

On August 30th, the State Department published a press release on U.S. Ambassador to Egypt Anne Patterson's departure from Cairo. Ambassador Patterson will return to Washington as the Senate considers her nomination to serve as Assistant Secretary of State for Near Eastern Affairs. Ambassador David Satterfield will take a leave of absence from his position as Director General of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO) in the Sinai Peninsula to serve as Charge d'Affaires at the

U.S. Embassy in Cairo. The press release can be read [here](#).

On September 3rd, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic and Business Affairs Jose Fernandez met with Ambassador of Morocco to the U.S. Rachad Bouhlal at the Department of State. The meeting was noticed on the State Department's daily appointment schedule, available [here](#).

On September 4th, the State Department announced American women executives who will serve as mentors to participants in this year's 2013 Global Sports Mentoring Program, which will be held September 8th-August 9th. Participants in this year's program include emerging leaders from Egypt, Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, and Uganda, among other countries. The goal of the program is to engage and empower a new generation of women and girls through sports. The mentors were announced [here](#).

On September 4th, the *New York Times* reported on the forthcoming findings of a review panel on diplomatic security created consistent with one of the recommendations made from the Accountability Review Board (ARB) on Benghazi. The five-person panel, led by former Secret Service Director Mark Sullivan and tasked with identifying best practices in the public and private sectors for diplomatic security, is expected to recommend elevating the importance of the Bureau of Diplomatic Security at the State Department. An article on the review panel can be read [here](#).

On September 5th, Secretary of State John Kerry hosted a swearing-in ceremony for U.S. Ambassador-designate to the DRC James Swan at the Department of State. The ceremony was noted on the State Department's public schedule, which can be seen [here](#).

On September 5th, Secretary of State John Kerry issued a statement in recognition of Swaziland's Independence Day on September 6th. Secretary Kerry emphasized collaboration on health issues, noting Swaziland's progress towards an AIDS-free generation. The full statement has been posted [here](#).

Department of Defense

On August 30th, an international security cooperation task force composed of U.S., U.K., Spanish, and Dutch Marines embarked on a three-month effort to strengthen capabilities of West African partner nations. The task force will conduct practical application exercises in security techniques and tactics with military personnel from Senegal, Nigeria, Ghana, Cameroon, and Benin. An article on the mission can be read [here](#).

On August 30th, U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) reported on USAID's Joint Humanitarian Operations Course (JHOC), offered to U.S. military personnel at AFRICOM headquarters in Stuttgart, Germany. The two-day course prepares participants on disaster response techniques and enhances understanding of civil-military roles in international disaster response. Information on the course can be accessed [here](#).

On September 3rd, the Pentagon shared a video report for Exercise Shared Accord 2013, recently held in South Africa. The biannual event, which is focused on strengthening the military capabilities of African partners and enhancing overall military skills, is one of the largest training exercises conducted on the continent. The video can be watched [here](#).

On September 3rd, Amphibious Squadron Four reported on a community service project recently completed by the U.S. sailors and Marines of the USS Carter in Seychelles. The project, organized by the U.S. Embassy in Seychelles, allowed U.S. military personnel to make improvements to Beau Vallon School in anticipation of the new academic year. Details related to the service event can be viewed [here](#).

Department of the Treasury

On September 3rd, the Department of the Treasury's Office of Foreign Asset Controls (OFAC) published a notice in the *Federal Register* seeking comments on the effectiveness of licensing procedures that allow for the export of food and medicine to Sudan under the Trade Sanctions

Reform and Export Enhancement Act of 2000. Feedback will be included in OFAC's biannual report to Congress, which will cover licensing operations from October 2010 through September 2012. Comments are due to OFAC by October 3rd. More information can be accessed [here](#).

Securities and Exchange Commission

On September 2nd, the deadline for the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) to appeal a federal judge's decision to vacate the Dodd-Frank conflict minerals rule requiring energy and mining companies to disclose payments made to foreign governments passed, indicating the SEC will not appeal the ruling. The SEC must now reconsider the rule and address issues raised by the court's ruling, including the promulgation of exemptions for countries that prohibit such disclosure, including Angola. A description of the SEC's next steps is available [here](#).

U.S. Congress

On September 3rd, Ranking Member of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations Karen Bass (D-CA) distributed invitations for the 2013 Africa Braintrust event to be held at the Washington Convention Center on September 20th. Speakers will include AU Commission Chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma, Sierra Leone's President Ernest Bai Koroma, and Burkina Faso's President Blaise Compaore. An agenda and logistics can be viewed [here](#).

On September 3rd, *CQ News* reported on House Republicans' continuing pursuit of accountability for the September 11th attack on the U.S. compound in Benghazi. A House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on the attack is expected when Congress returns the week of September 9th. House Foreign Affairs Committee on the Middle East and North Africa Chairman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (F-FL) has condemned Secretary of State John Kerry's decision to reinstate four State Department officials who were put on leave following the attack. In addition, House Oversight and Government Reform Committee Chairman Darrell Issa (R-CA) has announced plans to review the personnel reassignments. Details can be found [here](#).

North Africa

On August 29th, the *New York Times* reported on the efforts of Nafeer, a volunteer youth initiative based in Khartoum, Sudan, to respond to the humanitarian crisis caused by heavy rain and flooding. More than 300,000 people in Sudan have been directly affected, 74,000 homes damaged or destroyed, and dozens killed. An article on the situation in Sudan has been posted [here](#).

On August 31st, following a week of protests organized by opposition groups in Tunisia known as the National Salvation Front, thousands of Tunisians marched on Tunis reiterating calls for the resignation of the Islamist-led administration and the dissolution of the assembly elected in 2011 to write the country's constitution. While the government has offered a roadmap to a new government, protestors continue to demand the immediate resignation of current officials. The latest developments were reported [here](#).

On September 3rd, the U.N. Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) announced 55,000 people in South Sudan's Jonglei State have been provided with humanitarian assistance, including food, water, household goods, sanitation, and hygiene support. The latest on the humanitarian response to the conflict in Sudan can be accessed [here](#).

On September 4th, the Central Bank of Tunisia's Board of Directors issued a warning that the ongoing political crisis in Tunisia is threatening the fundamentals of Tunisia's economy more than ever. Since the assassination of opposition leader Mohamed Brahmi on July 25th, opposition groups have demanded the immediate resignation of the current government, while the ruling Islamist Ennahda Party has insisted on completion of a new constitution before accepting a new non-partisan regime. The bank's warning was announced [here](#).

On September 4th, *The Niles* reported on South Sudanese President Salva Kiir's efforts to address the gender balance in his new cabinet. The new cabinet, sworn in on August 7th, positions women as

the heads of more than a quarter of all government agencies, as opposed to just two positions in the former 21-member cabinet. Women in leadership positions include Minister for Telecommunication and Postal Service Rebecca Joshua Okwaci, Minister for Electricity and Dams Jemma Nunu Kumba, Minister for Land, Housing, and Planning Juan Benniua, Minister for Gender and Social Development Awut Deng Acuil, and Minister for Youth, Culture, and Sports Nadia Arop Dudi. Details can be viewed [here](#).

East Africa

On August 29th, Israeli Interior Minister Gideon Sa'ar announced plans to begin deporting African immigrants, primarily from Eritrea and Sudan, to Uganda. Since 2006, when African immigrants began crossing the Egyptian border in significant numbers, Israel has rejected requests for political asylum and instead implemented policies, including financial incentives and threats of jail time, to encourage African migrants to leave the country. The full story is available [here](#).

On August 30th, the second TedxMogadishu event was held in Somalia, perceived as a sign the security conditions in the country may be stabilizing. Similar to the TEDx events held in California and in more than 150 countries throughout the world, TedxMogadishu focused on spreading innovations in technology, entertainment, and design. The event was initially planned for June, but was ultimately postponed following an attack perpetrated by Al Shabaab against a U.N. base in the capital. Information on TedxMogadishu can be found [here](#).

On September 2nd, *BBC News* reported Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete has ordered the expulsion of illegal immigrants and criminals to Rwanda, as a result of spiked tensions between Tanzania and Rwanda out of Tanzania's concern that Rwanda is supporting M23 rebels and fueling conflict in the DRC. Approximately 6,600 people are estimated to have crossed the border into Rwanda in the past month. The tensions were reported [here](#).

On September 3rd, Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud's motorcade was ambushed by Al Shabaab militants launching rocket-propelled grenades as it approached the port town of Marka. While President Mohamud escaped the attack and arrived safely in Marka, Al Shabaab's Spokesman Sheikh Abdiasis Musab said the militants killed several AU and Somali troops escorting the convoy and destroyed two armored vehicles. An account of the attack was posted [here](#).

On September 3rd, U.N. independent expert on human rights in Somalia Shamsui Bari commended Somalia for approving a roadmap to help promote and protect human rights. The two-year plan was adopted during a special session for the Cabinet of Ministers convened by Somali Prime Minister Abdi Farash Shirdon while Bari was visiting the country August 26th-29th. Bari called for authorities in Somalia to consult civil society organizations as the roadmap is finalized. Details are available [here](#).

On September 4th, the U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) published its report, "Transnational Organized Crime in Eastern Africa: A Threat Assessment," highlighting crime threats facing the region. The report recommends regional actions to combat migrant smuggling, ivory trafficking, and maritime piracy. The full report can be downloaded [here](#).

On September 4th, attorneys at King & Spalding LLP speculated foreign mining companies operating in Kenya whose licenses are canceled or revenues decreased as the result of new drilling charges and royalty schemes may be able to seek compensation from Kenya through international investment arbitration tribunals. Protections for investors exist under bilateral investment treaties (BITs), which Kenya has entered into with several countries, including France, Germany, the Netherlands, Switzerland, and the U.K. A legal analysis can be viewed [here](#).

West Africa

On August 28th, a Nigerian court agreed to extradite Lawal Olaniyi Babafemi, a Nigeria citizen accused of traveling to Yemen with members of Al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) between 2010 and 2011 and receiving \$8,600 in compensation to recruit English-speaking radicals from Nigeria, to the U.S. If convicted, Babafemi could be imprisoned for 10 years in the U.S. News of the court's ruling was reported [here](#).

On August 29th, U.N. independent expert on human rights in Cote d'Ivoire Doudou Diene welcomed the National Assembly's passage of new laws on nationality and land tenure. The law on nationality codifies Cote d'Ivoire's international commitments on statelessness and human rights, while the law on land tenure promotes intercommunity cohesion and joint economic prosperity. The U.N. said passage of the laws is a milestone towards reconciliation. More information can be seen [here](#).

On August 30th, following a Supreme Court ruling upholding his victory in Ghana's December 2012 presidential election, President John Dramani Mahama delivered an address on the decision. President Mahama said Ghana has exhibited political maturity that shows the rest of the world the country can lay its own foundation. He said the Court's ruling also demonstrates the need to strengthen Ghana's political institutions and extended friendship to the leaders of the New Patriotic Party (NPP) who petitioned the Supreme Court on the election. Comments from President Mahama were captured [here](#).

On August 31st, former Nigerian Vice President and former presidential candidate Atiku Abubaka, along with seven Nigerian Governors or the People's Democratic Party (PDP) announced a splinter group opposed to President Goodluck Jonathan. The move is widely perceived as a threat to President Jonathan's aspirations to run for another term in 2016. Details are available [here](#).

On September 1st, Senegalese President Macky Sall announced the departure of Prime Minister Abdoul Mbaye's. Former Justice Minister Aminata Toure has been appointed to serve as the new Prime Minister. Prime Minister Toure will become Senegal's second female head of state, following Mame Madior Boy, who served as Prime Minister from 2001 to 2002. Details can be found [here](#).

On September 3rd, security personnel at Benin City Airport arrested Leroy Ugaga, who attempted to access the runway with the intent of illegally boarding an Arik Air flight destined for Abuja, Nigeria. The incident follows a similar event on August 24th, where 13-year-old Daniel Ohikhenka stowed away in an aircraft wheel compartment for an Arik Air Flight from Benin City to Lagos, Nigeria. The full story was discussed [here](#).

On September 3rd, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) announced new efforts to support children in Mali in returning to school following a period of conflict with Tuareg rebels and Islamist insurgents in the northern part of the country earlier this year. UNICEF will provide learning materials for more than 90,000 students, training for more than 9,000 teachers, and temporary classrooms as schools are repaired. The announcement was posted [here](#).

On September 4th, Malian President-Elect Ibrahim Boubacar Keita took the oath of office, pledging to help unify the country after rebellion, a coup, and Islamic insurgency. A formal inauguration ceremony will be held in two weeks. Additional information is available [here](#).

On September 4th, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CNB) announced it will resist pressures to devalue the naira. Although the naira has fallen over the past several months, CNB's Deputy Governor for Financial System Stability Kingsley Moghalu said the bank has no plans to change the exchange rate band of the currency. Comments from CNB representatives can be found [here](#).

On September 4th, the Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger Delta (MEND) militant group in Nigeria issued a statement advising Nigeria's second largest oil company, Chevron Nigeria Limited, to evacuate the Escravos Terminal and Tank Farm by October 1st or else face imminent attack. Details can be seen [here](#).

On September 4th, Dangote Industries completed an agreement for a \$3.3 billion loan to Standard Chartered and Guaranty Trust Bank for the construction of an oil refinery and petrochemical plant in Nigeria. The refinery is anticipated to produce 400,000 barrels per day, making it the largest refinery in Africa and transforming Nigeria into an oil exporter. Details on the loan agreement were reported [here](#).

On September 4th, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Regional Office for Africa and the Sub-regional Office for West Africa appealed to the international community for increased funding

to address hunger in the Sahel. Previously, FAO requested \$113.1 million, which could support almost 6 million of 11 million people in need in the Sahel region. To date, only \$19.4 million has been received. More information on the situation in the Sahel can be viewed [here](#).

Sub-Saharan Africa

On August 28th, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released a working paper on taxation methods used in Sub-Saharan Africa, emphasizing most nations' dependence on resource-related tax revenues. The paper finds high natural resource prices have resulted in increases in revenue, but suggests this income is volatile, requiring other taxation strategies to fund public expenditures. The full paper can be downloaded [here](#).

On August 29th, *Times Live* reported approximately 300 animals have been transported from a private game reserve in southeastern Zimbabwe to the Zambezi National Park near Victoria Falls for the benefit of participants in the U.N. World Tourism Summit, co-hosted by Zimbabwe and Zambia. Details can be viewed [here](#).

On August 30th, Zimbabwe-based Stanbic Bank Chairperson Sternford Moyo announced the bank has remained profitable, despite economic and banking challenges. In the first six months of 2013, the bank recorded a 28.81% growth in net profit, as net profit grew from roughly \$6 million to \$8 million in a year's time. More information is available [here](#).

On September 2nd, the South African Development Community (SADC) announced its verdict on the July 31st presidential elections, stating it viewed the elections as credible, but questioning overall fairness. The analysis found state media to be highly polarized and identified several issues with voter rolls. In addition, the SADC called on the U.S. and EU to lift sanctions on Zimbabwe, claiming that sanctions assisted President Robert Mugabe's reelection. A summary of the SADC's findings can be seen [here](#).

On September 2nd, King Mswati III of Swaziland declared the kingdom has a new monarchical democracy political system. King Mswati said he received a vision from God during recent unseasonal thunderstorms that prompted the change. Pro-democracy groups and unions in Swaziland have criticized the declaration, claiming that a monarchy is inherently undemocratic. The full story can be accessed [here](#).

On September 3rd, the U.N. WFP estimated 2.2 million people in Zimbabwe are anticipated to need food assistance before the March harvest. The increasing need for assistance is due to a number of factors, including weather, the high costs of agricultural supplies, and a sharp increase in the costs of grain. To meet the need for assistance, WFP will continue to operate its Cash/Food for Assets program in Zimbabwe and will distribute local cereals and imported vegetable oils to those in need. The situation in Zimbabwe was described [here](#).

On September 3rd, *Law360* reported on the potential impacts of continuing U.S. and EU sanctions on Zimbabwe's mining sector following recent presidential elections. Under both U.S. and EU law, the Zimbabwe Mining Development Corporation (ZMDC) remains a sanctioned entity. While the U.S. and the EU said they would reconsider current relations with Zimbabwe following fair and peaceful elections, both the U.S. and the EU have expressed concerns about the credibility of the elections. An analysis of the sanctions has been posted [here](#).

On September 3rd, 80,000 gold miners in South Africa went on strike after workers rejected an offer for a 6% increase in wages. The National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) has significantly decreased its demands, now calling for a 10% increase as opposed to a wage increase of 60%. The strikes are estimated to cost South Africa approximately \$30 million per day in lost output. Details can be found [here](#).

On September 3rd, an appeals court in Gaborone, Botswana, made history with a ruling upholding the rights of women in Botswana to inheritance under customary law. In a unanimous decision, the judges rejected an assertion that by tradition only males have the right to inheritance. Information on the court's decision can be seen [here](#).

On September 4th, foreign policy advisor to South African President Jacob Zuma Lindiwe Zulu joined the SADC in calling on the U.S. and the EU to engage with Zimbabwe and to lift sanctions on Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe and his close aides. Zulu's comments can be read [here](#).

On September 4th, City Power employees in Johannesburg, South Africa, went on strike demonstrating their refusal to work after hours. The strike resulted in power outages impacting several areas of Johannesburg, including former President Nelson Mandela's home in Houghton. City Power subcontractors brought generators to President Mandela's home, which has been reconfigured to provide him with critical care following his recent discharge from the hospital. The full story is available [here](#).

On September 5th, Angolan Foreign Affairs Minister Georges Rebelo Chikoti traveled to Lisbon, Portugal, to meet with Community of Portuguese Language Countries (CPLC) Executive Secretary Murade Isaac Murargy. Minister Chikoti and Executive Secretary Murargy discussed conditions in Guinea Bissau ahead of November 24th elections, as well as the need for the international community to explore all options for peace in Syria. A summary of the meeting was posted [here](#).

On September 5th, Swaziland's most prominent labor leader Vincent Ncongwane was detained at his office and placed under house arrest by government forces tasked with preventing his participation in a pro-democracy march. The march is one of several activities planned in conjunction with Swaziland's Global Week of Action for Democracy, which is intended to highlight the lack of democracy and human rights abuses in the country. More information can be seen [here](#).

On September 5th, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (Agra) chaired by former U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan and backed by the Rockefeller and Gates Foundations, kicked off a two-day discussion in Maputo, Mozambique, focused on African agriculture. The dialogue is intended to bring together policy makers and private sector leaders to discuss how farmers can benefit from agricultural innovations, secure lines of credit and insurance, and gain better access to markets. Details on the meeting can be viewed [here](#).

General Africa News

On August 30th, the National Basketball Association (NBA) finalized a deal with SuperSport, a satellite television provider across Africa, to allow U.S. basketball games to be broadcast live in 47 African territories, beginning this season. The deal was brokered as a result of increasing African interest in U.S. basketball due to increased recruitment of African players. News of the deal was reported [here](#).

* * *

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

Boston | Washington www.mlstrategies.com

Copyright © 2012 ML Strategies. All rights reserved.

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

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