

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 7 – 13 Dec 2023

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13 Dec 2023 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Africanews*. **Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI)** (independent national electoral commission) reports that conditions in **Rutshuru** and **Masisi (North Kivu province)** are not right for polls to open in the 20 December presidential election, adding that in Rutshuru fewer than 10% of voters have been enrolled and fewer than 1% in Masisi;

13 Dec 2023 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *AFP*. **Electoral Commission** announces the presidential election will take place on 15 July 2024;

13 Dec 2023 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Monitor*. Energy and mineral development ministry reports that by 2025, Uganda will start the production of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) to replace wood as a source of energy;

12 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *AfDB*. **African Development Bank (AfDB)** approves \$696.41m in financing for Burundi and **Tanzania** to help build 650 km of rail infrastructure to develop the **Central Corridor** network;

12 Dec 2023 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Africa.com*. **World Bank** approves a new **International Development Association (IDA)** credit of \$15m to help improve competitiveness and resilience of agri-food value chains in Djibouti;

12 Dec 2023 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *The East African*. Police confirm they have arrested state minister for peace **Taye Dendea** for collaborating with anti-peace forces “*who want to destroy Ethiopia*”;

12 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters*. President **William Ruto** says that from January visitors to Kenya will no longer require a visa and can receive electronic travel authorisation in advance on a new platform;

12 Dec 2023 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *New Times*. **United Kingdom** parliamentarians vote in favour of a new migration treaty with Rwanda;

11 Dec 2023 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Reuters*. A senior finance ministry official confirms that Ethiopia will hold an investor call with its international bondholders on 14 December following confirmation on 9 December that it would be unable to pay a \$33m bond coupon due today, meaning that it has defaulted on its debt;

12 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Nation*. President **William Ruto** says during his **Jamhuri Day** speech that his policies to cut spending and increase revenue are working and that Kenya is now out of debt distress;

11 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *The East African*. Kenya, **Colombia** and **France** commission a global team of experts to consider the impact of developing countries’ increasing debt levels on their ability to deal with climate change;

11 Dec 2023 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Reuters*. The **United States (US)** announces that parties involved in the conflict in eastern DRC have agreed to a 72-hour ceasefire, which both the DRC and **Rwandan** governments back;

11 Dec 2023 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *Africa Oil & Gas Report*. **France**-headquartered **Maurel & Prom** signs an agreement with government in connection with the acquisition of all existing shares of **United Kingdom**-headquartered **Wentworth Resources**, a deal Maurel & Prom says has strengthened its partnership with the state-owned **Tanzania Petroleum Development Company (TPDC)** and opens a path for TPDC to increase its ownership in the **Mnanzi Bay** project;

10 Dec 2023 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Africanews*. President **Felix Tshisekedi** continues his re-election campaign in **Goma (North Kivu)**, asking citizens for their votes so the fight against rebels that control large areas of the province can continue;

10 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *AP*. A power blackout hits Kenya at 8 pm, with transport minister **Kipchumba Murkomen** stating shortly after that government is making a formal request to the police to investigate possible acts of sabotage and coverup;

10 Dec 2023 **Dodoma (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Government reports having achieved 66% of its **Development Vision 2025**, listing one notable benchmark of progress, namely Tanzania improving its **Human Development Index (HDI)** from 0.40 to 0.55 in 2022;

9 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Region Week*. Vice president **Prosper Bazombanza** opens the 23rd edition of the **East African Community (EAC) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) Trade Fair**;

9 Dec 2023 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *RFI*. **Intergovernmental Authority in Development (IGAD)** heads of state and government host an extraordinary summit in Djibouti to discuss the conflict in **Sudan**;

9 Dec 2023 **Kampala (Uganda)** *The East African*. **United States (US)** department of treasury sanctions commissioner general of prisons **Johnson Byabashaija** over allegations of torture in Uganda's correctional facilities;

9 Dec 2023 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Africanews*. A court in **Hoima** rules against 42 families claiming inadequate compensation for use of land to develop the oil megaproject that will include the construction of the **East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)**;

8 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Jeune Afrique*. Supreme court sentences former prime minister **Alain-Guillaume Bunyoni** to life in prison on charges of attempting to overthrow the government, illicit enrichment and destabilising the economy;

8 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Africanews*. National assembly approves the composition of the **Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI)** (independent national electoral commission), appointing government spokesman **Prosper Ntahorwamiye** as the new president, drawing criticism from the opposition;

7 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Anadolu Agency*. Government announces its intention to send 1,500 casual farm labourers to **Israel** as part of a broader effort to foster collaboration between the two countries in the agricultural sector;

7 Dec 2023 **Hanang (Tanzania)** *Daily News*. President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** visits Hanang district to assess the extent of the mudslide disaster that has killed 76 people, injured 117 and impacted approximately 1,150 households;

7 Dec 2023 **Zanzibar (Tanzania)** *Daily News*. Zanzibar hosts the **World Bank's International Development Association (IDA)** midterm review meeting which has brought together over 300 participants including IDA donors and borrower representatives;

7 Dec 2023 **Kampala (Uganda)** *The East Africa*. Members of parliament approve three loans amounting to USh 5.2 trillion (\$1.38 billion), pushing the country deeper into debt, which totalled USh 88.8 trillion (\$23.5 billion) at end of August;

6 Dec 2023 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **South Korea**-headquartered **Mirae Green Chemical Co. Ltd** announces the completion of a \$5m cashew nut process and cashew nutshell liquid factory in **Mkurungab** district (**Coast Region**) which will serve as a key foreign exchange earner;

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