

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 21 December 2023 – 10 January 2024

Africa Risk Consulting – Your first choice for Africa due diligence, country assessments, strategic advice and compliance consulting.

LinkedIn | Twitter | The ARC Insider podcast

9 Jan 2024 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Shabelle*. Foreign affairs ministry releases a statement on the ongoing tensions between **Somalia** and **Ethiopia**, highlighting the importance of protecting the independence and territorial integrity of member states of the **Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)** regional bloc while also offering to mediate as Djibouti currently holds the rotating presidency of IGAD;

9 Jan 2024 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *Anadolu Agency*. **Somalia's** President **Hassan Sheikh Mohamud** says Eritrea has shown support for Somalia amid tensions with **Ethiopia** over a port deal;

9 Jan 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Anadolu Agency*. **Jordan's** King **Abdullah II** completes his three-day working visit to Rwanda, pledging to advance ties between the two countries;

8 Jan 2024 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Bank of Tanzania's** monthly economic review for December shows tourism receipts jumped by 37.5% to \$3.3 billion in the year to November, while tourist arrivals rose by 27% to 1.797 million;

7 Jan 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *EWN*. **United Nations** voices alarm about rising ethnic tension and calls to violence in the DRC following the disputed December elections;

6 Jan 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Reuters*. **United States** expresses concern over President **Evariste Ndayishimiye's** call to citizens last week "to stone gay people";

6 Jan 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Reuters*. **Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI)** cancels the votes cast for 82 candidates, including three ministers and four governors, who contested in the legislative and local council elections and who it says were involved in illegal activities including fraud, illegal possession of voting material and intimidation;

6 Jan 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Anadolu Agency*. Rwanda denies that it has held discussions with **Israel** over possibly accepting **Palestinians** fleeing the **Gaza Strip**, saying it is disinformation published by the Israel media;

6 Jan 2024 **Mogadishu (Somalia)** *The Guardian*. **Somalia's** President **Hassan Sheikh Mohamud** signs a bill voiding a preliminary agreement for **Somaliland** to provide landlocked **Ethiopia** with port access to Somaliland's coast, in a largely symbolic move intended to rebuke both parties over a deal that has inflamed tensions across the **Horn of Africa**;

5 Jan 2024 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Business Insider*. **French** oil conglomerate **TotalEnergies** sends a team to Uganda to initiate a land acquisition assessment of the controversial **East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)** project;

5 Jan 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Business Insider*. Kenya says it has welcomed the first batch of foreign tourists who arrived under a simplified entry system it hopes will encourage more visitors;

5 Jan 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Aljazeera*. President **William Ruto** is locked in a row with the judiciary, threatening to disobey court orders restricting his flagship policies and accusing judges of corruption;

3 Jan 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Africa News*. Principal opposition candidates formally declare their decision not to challenge the re-election of incumbent president **Félix Tshisekedi** after the **Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI)** announced on 31 December that Tshisekedi was re-elected with 73% of the vote;

3 Jan 2024 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *Africa*. **Tanzania Investment Center (TIC)** members discuss during a board meeting ways to support economic growth and attract a much larger number of foreign investors as the government attempts to remove the barriers preventing investment;

3 Jan 2024 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Africa Union*. **African Union Commission** chair **Moussa Faki Mahamat** calls for calm and mutual respect to de-escalate the simmering tension between Ethiopia and **Somalia**;

3 Jan 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *The New Times*. **Rwanda Mining, Petroleum and Gas Board (RMB)** revokes licences of seven local mining companies over “serious deficiencies” including failure to meet environmental and labour standards;

2 Jan 2024 **Mogadishu (Somalia)** *BBC*. **Somalia** has described an agreement that landlocked **Ethiopia** made with the self-declared republic of **Somaliland** over sea access as an act of “aggression” and says it is recalling its ambassador to Ethiopia, declaring the controversial port deal as “null and void”;

1 Jan 2024 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Africa News*. The **United States (US)** officially removes Uganda as a beneficiary of the **African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)** over human rights violations, and also removes the **Central African Republic, Gabon and Niger** from AGOA;

1 Jan 2024 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Aljazeera*. Ethiopia signs a memorandum of understanding with **Somaliland**, a breakaway region of **Somalia**, to gain access to the **Red Sea** in exchange for a stake in its flagship carrier **Ethiopian Airlines**, outlining the broad sketches of a possible future pact between **Addis Ababa** and **Hargeisa**;

31 Dec 2023 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Al Jazeera*. **Mohamed Hamdan Daglo**, the head of **Sudan’s** paramilitary **Rapid Support Forces (RSF)**, visits Djibouti, which has been driving regional ceasefire initiatives in the current conflict between RSF and **Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF)**;

31 Dec 2023 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Aljazeera*. **Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante (CENI)** says incumbent president **Felix Tshisekedi** has won a second term in office with 73% of the vote, according to provisional results, in a vote that opposition leaders have dismissed as a “sham”;

31 Dec 2023 **Kampala (Uganda)** *South China Morning Post*. Uganda is expected to start building the \$5 billion **East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP)** in January after the first shipment of pipes arrived from **China**, as opposition to the massive project intensifies;

30 Dec 2023 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Anadolu Agency*. Rwanda rejects **Burundian** President **Evariste Ndayishimiye’s** accusations that it is supporting the rebel group **RED-Tabara** which is based in eastern **Democratic Republic of Congo** and claimed an attack in Burundi on 23 December;

29 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Bloomberg*. Kenyan consumer prices rose to 6.6%, the slowest pace in almost two years in December, while economic growth accelerated by 5.9%, more than expected in the third quarter, delivering some respite for the battered **East African** economy;

29 Dec 2023 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Bloomberg*. Kenya’s currency depreciated 21% against the dollar in 2023, its largest annual drop since 1993;

28 Dec 2023 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Garowe Online*. President **Ismail Omar Guelleh** facilitates another round of talks between **Somalia** and **Somaliland** over Somaliland's secession;

27 Dec 2023 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *BNN Breaking*. Newly appointed ambassador of **Japan**, **Hara Keiichi**, presents his credentials to national assembly and reiterates Japan's desire to strengthen diplomatic relations between the two countries;

27 Dec 2023 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Financial Times*. Ethiopia has become the third **African** country to formally default on its debt in as many years, after missing the deadline this week to make a \$33m interest payment on its only international bond;

27 Dec 2024 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Financial Times*. **United States (US)** ratings house **Fitch Ratings** downgrades the country's credit rating to "restricted default" after a grace period expired for a payment originally due on 11 December;

23 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Africanews*. Government confirms that 20 people have been killed in western Burundi in an attack claimed by rebel group **RED-Tabara**;

22 Dec 2023 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *North Africa Post*. Burundi and **Belgium** sign a \$82.13m cooperation agreement covering areas including health, education, agriculture, climate change and good governance;

22 Dec 2023 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *The Guardian*. Rwandan dissidents, including a former presidential bodyguard, living in the **United Kingdom (UK)** reject UK prime minister **Rishi Sunak's** claim that Rwanda is a safe country;

Africa Risk Consulting is a limited company registered in England with registered number 5947530. Registered company address: 25 Farringdon Street, London, EC4A 4AB

If you wish to unsubscribe, please click on this link: [Unsubscribe - Zimbabwe Weekly Chronology](#)