

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 13 - 19 February 2025

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19 Feb 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters*. Tourism minister **Rebecca Miano** says tourism sector earnings are expected to reach KSh 650 billion (\$5.02 billion) in 2025 up from KSh 452.2 billion (\$3.49 billion) in 2024;

18 Feb 2025 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Reuters*. Burundi is reportedly withdrawing its soldiers from eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**;

18 Feb 2025 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *UNHCR*. **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)** reports that between 10,000 and 15,000 people have crossed into Burundi over the last few days from eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**;

18 Feb 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *The East African*. President **Felix Tshisekedi** meets with his **Angolan** counterpart, **João Lourenço**, to discuss mediating the crisis in eastern DRC;

18 Feb 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *AFP*. DRC sends a letter to the **United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**, denouncing what it calls inaction of the UNSC after **Rwanda**-backed **M23** rebels seized **South Kivu** provincial capital **Bukavu**;

18 Feb 2025 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *Addis Standard*. Information ministry issues a statement rejecting former **Ethiopian** president **Mulatu Teshome**'s allegations that Eritrea is engaging in actions to reignite war in northern Ethiopia while criticising Western press for "disproportionate negative coverage" of the country;

18 Feb 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Anadolu Agency*. **Turkey** hosts the first round of technical negotiations between **Somalia** and Ethiopia to continue easing tensions;

18 Feb 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Belga News Agency*. Foreign ministry announces Rwanda will suspend its development cooperation programme with **Belgium**, accusing it of taking sides in the conflict in eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**;

18 Feb 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *AFP*. **Ugandan People's Defence Force (UPDF)** deploys additional soldiers to **Bunia** in eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** to help fight local militia;

17 Feb 2025 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Middle East Monitor*. The ruling **Rassemblement populaire pour le Progrès (RPP)** signs a political partnership agreement with **Turkey**'s ruling **Adalet ve Kalkınma Partisi (AKP)** in a bid to strengthen bilateral relations;

17 Feb 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Addis Standard*. Former president **Mulatu Wirtu** publishes an opinion piece in **Qatar**-headquartered **Al Jazeera** in which he accuses **Eritrea**'s President **Isaias Afwerki** of exploiting divisions in the **Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF)** to reignite war in northern Ethiopia;

17 Feb 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Reuters*. Bondholders say there are significant flaws in the latest **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** report on Ethiopia stating that the country is facing a solvency issue, which would require bondholders to grant Ethiopia debt relief;

17 Feb 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Eastleigh Voice*. **Kenya Power** CEO **Joseph Siror** says Kenya has overtaken **Sudan** and **Djibouti** as **Ethiopia's** top electricity buyer, importing power worth KSh 1.63 billion (\$12.59m) in the year to July 2024;

17 Feb 2025 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Government spokesperson **Gerson Msigwa** reports that the **Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (JNHPP)** is nearly completed, with only 0.2% of work remaining, and is on the brink of producing 2,115MW;

17 Feb 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Business Day*. Detained opposition leader **Kizza Besigye** is taken to hospital after going on a hunger strike last week as calls for his release continue;

16 Feb 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Le Monde*. **M23** rebels seize **South Kivu's** provincial capital, **Bukavu**;

16 Feb 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Fana BC*. Foreign affairs minister **Gedion Timothewos** meets with **Madagascar's** foreign affairs minister, **Rasata Rafaravavitafika**, to discuss enhancing cooperation;

15 Feb 2025 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *France24*. Foreign minister **Mahmoud Ali Youssouf** is elected as **African Union Commission** chairperson;

15 Feb 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *FT*. **Switzerland**-headquartered **Glencore** has reportedly held preliminary discussions about selling its copper and cobalt mines in DRC, but rejected an unsolicited bid last month as the offer was too low;

15 Feb 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Reuters*. **Ugandan Defence Forces (UDF)** chief General **Muhoozi Kainerugaba** threatens on social media platform **X** (formerly **Twitter**) to invade **Bunia** in eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)** unless "all forces" surrender their arms;

14 Feb 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *AU*. Heads of state arrive in Addis Ababa for the 38th **African Union (AU) Summit**;

14 Feb 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Reuters*. **European** parliament has urged the **European Union (EU)** to freeze direct budget support for Rwanda until it breaks ties with **M23** rebels;

13 Feb 2025 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *AFP*. President **Evariste Ndayishimiye** says Burundian soldiers will attack if under fire in eastern **Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)**, where they are deployed to assist Congolese armed forces in fighting against the **Rwanda-backed M23** rebels;

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