

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 21 – 27 August 2025

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26 Aug 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *The East African*. Over 500 Rwandan refugees return home from the **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** under a **United Nations**-supported repatriation programme;

26 Aug 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *The East African*. National assembly majority leader **Kimani Ichung'wah** introduces a bill that could lead to a tax on air travel, targeting both local and international airline tickets, following a similar move by **Tanzania**, signalling a regional trend of increasing government revenue from the aviation sector;

26 Aug 2025 **Gitega (Burundi)** *The East African*. Burundi concludes its 2025 electoral process with local-level voting, including village and neighbourhood polls;

26 Aug 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Daily Nation*. Government hires **United States (US)**-headquartered lobbyists, **Continental Strategy**, owned by former US ambassador **Carlos Trujillo**, as US-Kenya relations face scrutiny amid calls by US senate foreign relations committee chairman **Jim Risch** to review ties;

26 Aug 2025 **Zanzibar (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Zanzibar plans to invest \$400m to modernise its port infrastructure;

25 Aug 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *The East African*. Prime minister **Abiy Ahmed** says the **Kurmuk Gold Factory** will begin production at half capacity in 2026, with potential to generate up to \$1 billion annually;

25 Aug 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. Ethiopia ranks 138th out of 163 countries in the **2025 Global Peace Index**;

25 Aug 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Kigali Today*. President **Paul Kagame** rejects claims that the **Rwandan Defence Forces** were involved in killings in eastern **Democratic Republic of Congo**, calling the accusations false and politically motivated;

24 Aug 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. The national dialogue commission prepares agenda-gathering sessions in **Canada** and the **United States (US)** to engage the Ethiopian diaspora following a previous successful discussion in **South Africa**;

23 Aug 2025 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *The Libya Observer*. **Libya's** foreign affairs ministry signs an agreement with Djibouti's foreign ministry for political consultation during the **9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD9)**;

23 Aug 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Kigali Today*. Foreign minister **Olivier Nduhungirehe** visits Rwanda's pavilion at **Expo 2025 Osaka Kansai** in **Japan**, where he meets with Rwandan representatives and commends their efforts in promoting the country;

23 Aug 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *La Prosperite*. Prime minister **Judith Suminwa** meets with her **Ivorian** counterpart **Robert Beugré Mambé** during the **9th Tokyo International Conference on African Development** conference to strengthen bilateral cooperation;

22 Aug 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Reuters*. Rwanda rejects the **United Nations** and **United States**-headquartered Human **Rights Watch** reports stating that **M23** fighters killed between 140 and 319 people, mostly farmers, in **Rutshuru territory (Democratic Republic of Congo)** between 9 and 21 July;

22 Aug 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters*. **United States**-headquartered **S&P Global** upgrades Kenya's long-term sovereign credit rating from 'B-' to 'B', citing reduced near-term external liquidity risks supported by strong export earnings and diaspora remittances;

21 Aug 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. Federal government is reportedly deploying troops to the **Tigray Region** as tensions escalate between rival factions, particularly the **Debretsion Gebremichael**-led **Tigray People's Liberation Front** and breakaway groups like the **Tigray Peace Force**;

21 Aug 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Africa News*. Kenya requests **China's** approval to convert a \$5 billion **United States (US)** dollar-denominated loan for its **Standard Gauge Railway** into yuan to reduce pressure on its foreign exchange reserves and alleviate debt serving costs;

21 Aug 2025 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Vodacom Tanzania** reports a net profit of Sh90.5 billion (\$34.6m) for the year, driven by strong operational performance;

21 Aug 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Reuters*. Uganda reaches an agreement with the **United States (US)** to temporarily host nationals who may not qualify for US asylum and are unwilling to return home;

21 Aug 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *CNBC Africa*. The **National Bank of Rwanda** (central bank) **Monetary Policy Committee** raises the benchmark rate by 25 basis points to 6.75% from 6.5%, aiming to curb persistent 7% inflation driven mainly by food prices;

20 Aug 2025 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Radio Tamazuj*. **South Sudan** and Djibouti sign an agreement to develop a **White Nile** trade corridor, providing South Sudan with new sea access and boosting regional commerce;

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