

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 8 - 14 January 2026

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13 Jan 2026 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Daily Nation*. Energy and petroleum cabinet secretary **Opiyo Wandayi** and principal secretary for petroleum, **Mohamed Liban** note that Kenya is at a pivotal point in its bid to become an oil exporter as progress on the **Lokichar** oil project hinges on securing financing, final investment decisions and export infrastructure;

13 Jan 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Tanzania ranks in Group A – the highest tier - in the **World Bank's GovTech Maturity Index 2025**, reflecting advanced use of digital technologies in government;

13 Jan 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *EWN*. Uganda shuts down internet access nationwide before the 15 January general elections, citing the need to prevent misinformation and violence amid a crackdown on the opposition;

12 Jan 2026 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *All Africa*. Kigali vice-mayor in charge of urbanisation and infrastructure, **Fulgence Dusabimana**, notes that parliamentary oversight in Kigali highlights delays in key infrastructure projects, including the **Kigali Infrastructure Project, Rwanda Urban Development Project II**, and **Nyabugogo Bus Terminal**, due to contractor challenges, rising costs, and slow budget execution;

12 Jan 2026 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *KT Press*. M23 rebels ask **Angola**'s President **João Lourenço** to clarify reports of a new Angola-based peace initiative, warning that parallel mediation tracks could undermine the ongoing **Doha (Qatar)** talks, which it considers the primary negotiation framework;

12 Jan 2026 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *La Prosperite*. **Council of Ministers** present the 2026 budget, totalling \$22 billion, with a focus on security, structural economic transformation, and social policies like universal health coverage and free primary education, while gradually increasing the tax burden from 12.5% in 2026 to a targeted 17% over five years to ensure fiscal sustainability;

12 Jan 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *News24*. Opposition leader **Bobi Wine** warns of potential protests if upcoming elections are rigged, signalling rising political tensions;

12 Jan 2026 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Daily Nation*. Former ICT cabinet secretary **Eliud Owalo** resigns from his state position and is positioning himself for a 2027 presidential run, signalling plans to launch or align with a new political party;

11 Jan 2026 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Ethiopia Observer*. Prime minister **Abiy Ahmed** visits Djibouti City to meet President **Ismaïl Omar Guelleh**, aimed to strengthen bilateral cooperation amid regional tensions following **Ethiopia**'s agreements with **Somaliland** and **Egypt**'s recent port and energy deals with Djibouti;

11 Jan 2026 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. Prime minister **Abiy Ahmed** meets **Djibouti**'s President **Ismail Omar Guelleh** to discuss regional geopolitics, security and strengthening

bilateral cooperation, particularly in trade, logistics and port-related projects, amid rising tensions in the **Horn of Africa**;

11 Jan 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** and **Chinese** foreign minister **Wang Yi** meet to discuss boosting trade, investment, and the **Tazara** railway cooperation;

8 Jan 2026 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. **Chinese** foreign minister **Wang Yi** visits Ethiopia, reaffirming **China's** "all-weather" partnership and proposing a **Horn of Africa** peace and development initiative amid rising regional tensions, including fears of renewed Ethiopia-**Eritrea** conflict;

8 Jan 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** reshuffles her cabinet, notably replacing home affairs minister **Boniface George Simbachawene** with **Patrobas Katambi**, while also making a series of other ministerial and diplomatic changes;

8 Jan 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Monitor*. **Bank of Uganda** (central bank) indicates that exports reach a record USh 46 trillion (\$12.9 billion) in 2025, driven mainly by a 44% surge in gold exports to \$5.8 billion and strong coffee sector performance;

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