

ARC East Africa Chronology 14 – 20 May 2026

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19 May 2026 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Reuters*. An outbreak of the rare Bundibugyo strain of **Ebola** in eastern DRC has escalated to 131 deaths, prompting the **World Health Organisation** to declare it a public health emergency of international concern;

19 May 2026 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. The **Coalition for Ethiopian Unity (CEU)**, a major four-party opposition alliance, threatens to boycott the country's upcoming 1 June general election unless the government addresses severe systemic irregularities;

19 May 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. President **Samia Suluhu Hassan** is scheduled to travel to **Rwanda** to participate in the **Africa Nuclear Energy Summit**, underlining regional efforts to explore and expand alternative energy solutions across the continent;

19 May 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. The **East African Community (EAC)** and the **Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)** accelerate efforts to integrate their regional digital systems to enhance trade;

19 May 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Africa News*. President **Yoweri Museveni** signs the controversial **Protection of Sovereignty Bill** into law, criminalising the promotion of foreign interests and banning anyone from implementing or developing policies without government approval;

18 May 2026 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Reuters*. **Nigeria**-headquartered **Dangote Group** increases its planned investment in an Ethiopian urea fertiliser plant to over \$4 billion from the initially announced \$2.5 billion due to an expanded project scope;

18 May 2026 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Daily Nation*. Interior cabinet secretary **Kipchumba Murkomen** confirms four deaths, 30 injuries, and 348 arrests following violent protests in Kenya over rising fuel prices;

18 May 2026 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Africa Confidential*. **United States (US)**-based **Human Rights Watch** releases a new report detailing atrocities Rwandan soldiers and the **M23** rebel group allegedly conducted against civilians in eastern **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, placing renewed pressure on **Western** governments to impose sanctions on Rwanda and M23;

18 May 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Health minister **Mohamed Mchengerwa** meets with **United States (US)** global health official **Brad Smith** in **Geneva (Switzerland)** to discuss a new health pact aimed at boosting local drug production;

18 May 2026 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *BBC*. The **World Health Organisation (WHO)** declares the **Ebola** outbreak in the DRC a public health emergency of international concern after the virus spreads to neighbouring **Uganda**;

16 May 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL)** is set to launch direct flights connecting Dar es Salaam and **Zanzibar to Moscow (Russia)** via **Seychelles** later this year under a newly established bilateral agreement;

15 May 2026 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *SABC News*. The **Africa CEO Forum** concludes in Rwanda with business and political leaders urging faster regional integration to transform fragmented markets into a unified economic force capable of competing globally;

15 May 2026 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Reuters*. **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)** and Rwanda are heading for a diplomatic showdown over the leadership of the **Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF)** (international organisation of Francophonie), with DRC fielding **Juliana Lumumba** to challenge the Rwandan incumbent secretary general, **Louise Mushikiwabo**;

15 May 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Reuters*. Health ministry confirms an outbreak of the highly infectious **Ebola** virus disease involving the Bundibugyo strain;

14 May 2026 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena*. The **United States (US)** lifts the arms embargo on Ethiopia that was originally imposed in 2021 during the conflict with the **Tigray People's Liberation Front**;

14 May 2026 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. Following a mission to Dar es Salaam, the **International Monetary Fund (IMF)** mission chief **Nicolas Blancher** highlights Tanzania's recent stability gains while emphasising the urgent need to support SMEs and prioritise job creation;

14 May 2026 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Bloomberg*. Exiled opposition leader **Bobbi Wine** warns that an impending influx of crude oil wealth will only accelerate political oppression under President **Yoweri Museveni**, who was recently sworn in for a seventh term;

10 May 2026 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *CGTN*. **Chinese** President **Xi Jinping's** special envoy, **Losang Jamcan**, attends the inauguration of Djibouti President **Ismail Omar Guelleh** as he was sworn in for a sixth term following his April re-election;

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