

Egypt: Death sentence for Muslim Brotherhood representative

The Supreme Court for State Security in Cairo has sentenced eight members of the Muslim Brotherhood to death for their role in the deadly riots in 2013. The men were accused of conspiring to overthrow the government of Abdel Fattah el Sissi, who himself had come to power after the fall of Mohamed Morsi. They were also accused of killing police officers and destroying public property. Among those convicted is the Brotherhood's supreme leader, Mohamad Badie, the eighth Supreme Leader of the Muslim Brotherhood, who led the group between 2010 and 2013 when he was arrested during the army coup against the Morsi government. 06.03.2024

Liberia: Establishment of a war crimes court

The lower house of the Liberian parliament has approved a motion to establish a war crimes court - more than two decades after the end of a devastating civil war. In 2009, a Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommended the establishment of such a court, but the motion was rejected partly because a number of accused warlords remain influential. Around a quarter of a million people died during the civil wars in Liberia between 1989 and 2003. The atrocities included massacres, rape, cannibalism and the forced recruitment of child soldiers.

Lawsuit over child labour in mines dismissed

A US federal appeals court has dismissed a lawsuit alleging that 5 major technology companies (Apple, Microsoft, Tesla, Dell Technologies and Google parent company Alphabet) were involved in the use of child labour to mine cobalt in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The court ruled that the purchase of cobalt by the companies did not mean that they were involved in the forced labour of children. The case was first filed in 2019 by the human rights organisation International Rights Advocates, which represented child workers who had been injured while working in Congolese cobalt mines, as well as the families of children who had died in the mines. DR Congo produces 60% of the world's supply of cobalt, which is used to manufacture most electronic devices.

Zimbabwe: Sanctions revised

The US has imposed sanctions on Zimbabwean President E. Mnangagwa, his wife, three companies and eleven individuals, including the Mnangagwas, Vice President Constantino Chiwenga and retired Brigadier General Walter Tapfumaneyi, for alleged involvement in corruption and human rights abuses. With the exception of those listed on Monday, restrictions on Zimbabweans previously under US sanctions will be lifted. 05.03.2024

Mauritius: Six Hindu pilgrims killed

The pilgrims were travelling on foot to the Grand Bassin lake, which is considered sacred by Hindus in Mauritius and where the religious Shivaratri festival is celebrated at the weekend. Suddenly, a chariot made of wood and bamboo with figures of Hindu gods burst into flames. The cart had probably come into contact with electricity cables. The dead were between 18 and 20 years old. Seven other people were injured. 05.03.2024

Chad: Mahamat Idriss Déby confirms candidacy

Interim President Mahamat Idriss Déby has declared that he will run in the long-awaited presidential elections this year. His candidacy was supported by representatives of the political groups that make up his coalition "For a

United Chad", which claims to include over 200 parties. The military leader's announcement came just three days after his main rival in the elections, Yaya Dillo, was shot dead under suspicious circumstances in the capital N'Djamena. Déby took power in 2021 following the death of his long-ruling father Idriss Déby Itno, who was killed in clashes with rebels. He was sworn in in 2022 and promised a return to civilian rule within 18 months, but extended the transition period by two years. 05.03.2024

7-day mourning period - Ali Hassan Mwinyi "Mr Permission"

Tanzania's second President Ali H. Mwinyi has died at the age of 98. He pushed through tough economic and political reforms that led the East African country from socialism to an open economy and multi-party democracy. He was president from 1985 to 1995. President Samia Suluhu has declared a seven-day period of mourning. The national flag will be flown at half-mast during this period to honour Mwinyi's services. 04.03.

Mozambique: Jihadist attacks displace tens of thousands

According to government figures, 67,321 people have been displaced in the province of Cabo Delgado. A fortnight ago, new unrest broke out in northern Mozambique. The displaced people are being housed in temporary shelters in Eráti or with relatives. Cabo Delgado is rich in natural gas and many other minerals but has been plagued by terrorist attacks by jihadist groups since 2017, in which more than 3,000 people, most of them civilians, have been killed. 04.03.2024

Withdrawal of UN peacekeepers from Kamanyola

Kamanyola is the first MONUSCO base in South Kivu following the joint signature of the DRC government on the accelerated, phased, orderly and responsible withdrawal of MONUSCO (Mission de l'Organisation des Nations Unies en République Démocratique du Congo). The MONUSCO force arrived in the Congo in 2010 after taking over from an earlier UN peacekeeping mission (2005). The aim was to protect civilians and humanitarian personnel and to support the Congolese government in its efforts to stabilise and consolidate peace. The Kamanyola base is located in a particularly vulnerable area of the Ruzizi plain. From now on, the Congolese National Police will be responsible for security in the region. Eastern DRC has been plagued for years by more than 120 armed groups seeking a share of the region's resources (e.g. gold) and trying to protect their communities, some of them accused of being secretly supported by DRC's neighbours and foreign powers.

Ghana: Blackout during presidential speech

The state-owned Electricity Company of Ghana (ECG) on Thursday cut power supply to Parliament over debts totalling 23 million Ghanaian cedi (\$1.8 million). The power outage interrupted a debate on the President's State of the Nation Address. An emergency generator restored power to the chamber a few minutes later. However, other parts of the parliament building remained without power for most of the day before the supply was restored. The electricity company, which is struggling with major financial difficulties, frequently cuts off power to customers in debt. 01.03.2024

More Info: <https://netzwerkafrika.de/>

7th Summit of the Forum of Gas Exporting Countries
Niger: EU police support withdrawn early