

Mozambique: Sworn in despite boycott

Mozambique's new President Daniel Chapo was sworn in in Maputo. Addressing around 2,500 guests at the heavily guarded ceremony, Chapo said that 'together we will restore patriotism and the pride of being Mozambicans'. Police fired shots to disperse the crowd outside Independence Square, where the ceremony took place, as Chapo's motorcade departed afterwards. More than 300 people have been killed in clashes with security forces since the elections in October. 16.01.2025

Burkina Faso: Colonial wigs banned in courts

President Ibrahim Traoré has banned judges from wearing British and French colonial style wigs. In announcing this decision, President Traoré emphasised the importance of moving away from colonial traditions and adopting practices that reflect Burkina Faso's cultural heritage. The ban is part of his efforts to strengthen national identity and assert the country's sovereignty. 15.01.2025

Water in Lake Tanganyika continues to rise

The town of Uvira in South Kivu is facing a severe humanitarian crisis as the waters of Lake Tanganyika continue to rise. The floods have caused widespread destruction, flooding more than 3,000 homes and displacing over 36,000 people. Months after the floods began, the situation continues to deteriorate, leaving thousands of people in urgent need of aid. 15.01.2025

Ghana: 400-million-dollar cathedral project

Ghana's government will review controversial plans to build a \$400 million national cathedral, according to new President John Mahama. Former President Nana Akufo-Addo, whose party was voted out of office in December's elections, had promised to build the cathedral after blaming God for his party's success in 2016. Akufo-Addo's government said the cathedral would be privately funded, but \$58 million of taxpayers' money has so far been spent on the project. The Ghana National Cathedral was intended to be a sacred place for all Christians to hold national worship services. It will also house a Bible museum and a national conference centre. Ghana is a deeply religious country in which 70% of the population are Christians. Work on the cathedral had stalled after the contractors wrote to the government stating that they were not prepared to continue because they were not being paid. Ghana is being hit by the worst economic crisis in a generation. 15.01.2025

South Africa: 'Zama Zamas' recovered

Rescue workers have recovered 36 bodies and 82 survivors from the gold mine in a two-day operation. Police began laying siege to the mine in the town of Stilfontein, about 150 kilometres southwest of Johannesburg, in August, cutting off food and water for months to force the illegal miners, Zama Zamas, to the surface and arrest them as part of a crackdown on illegal mining. The government was criticised for cracking down on the 'Zama Zamas'. It had also closed all but one of the mine's exits. Last week, a court ordered the government to allow a long-delayed rescue operation to go ahead. 13.01.2025

136 million dollars in military aid

Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi has visited Namibia, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Chad and Nigeria. In Abuja, Wang held talks with Nigerian President Bola Ahmed Tinubu and Foreign Minister Yusuf Tuggar and

reaffirmed China's commitment to Africa. 'China will strongly support Africans to tackle African problems in an African way. The people of Africa are the true masters of this continent,' Wang said. During the trip, Wang announced that China would pledge one billion yuan (136 million dollars) in military aid to Africa. He also pledged to train 6,000 soldiers and 1,000 police officers across the continent, emphasising Beijing's commitment to regional security. 15.01.2024

Comoros: Sworn in for fourth term of office

President Azali Assoumani, sworn in for his fourth term on Sunday, promised to work for peace and develop the economy rapidly. One person was killed and at least 25 injured in violent protests that erupted in the country, a group of three islands off the coast of Mozambique, after electoral authorities re-elected Assoumani for another 5-year term with 63% of the vote. Comoros, with a population of around 800,000, has experienced around 20 coups or attempted coups since gaining independence from France in 1975. Opposition leaders claimed that the recent presidential election was rigged as ballots were falsified, 'more votes than registered voters' were recorded at several polling stations and voting ended before the official close. 14.01.2025

Mali: Gold worth 245 million dollars confiscated

The Canadian mining company Barrick Gold (ABX.TO) has announced that it will have to suspend its mining activities in Mali after the government confiscated gold reserves from the company's Loulo-Gounkoto complex over the weekend and flew them out by helicopter. Around three tonnes had been stolen. The company informed the Malian government that the seizure meant that it was now 'forced' to temporarily suspend mining at the Loulo and Gounkoto mines. 14.01.2025

Nigeria: Mass evacuation of street children

Authorities in northern Nigeria's largest city have begun evacuating more than 5,000 street children who are seen as a 'security threat' and a growing problem as the economic crisis forces more people to fend for themselves. Sharia police, the Hisbah, have been carrying out midnight raids on motor parks, markets and street corners in the regional capital Kano since the beginning of the year, evacuating the children as they sleep. 'We have so far picked up 300 of these boys from the streets and taken them to a camp earmarked for their rehabilitation,' said the Director General of Hisbah, Abba Sufi. 14.01.2025

Mozambique: Three-day protests

Opposition leader Venancio Mondlane, whose return from exile last week led to clashes between supporters and the police in the capital Maputo, has called for three days of protests this week. 13.01.2025

Chad: Governing party wins majority

According to the preliminary results of last month's parliamentary elections, which were largely boycotted by the opposition parties, Chad's ruling party has won the majority of seats. President Mahamat Idriss Deby's party, the Patriotic Salvation Movement, won 124 of the 188 seats in the National Assembly. 13.01.2025

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

Tanzania: Presumed Marburg outbreak