The Early Warning Monitor
GLIC Weekly Report

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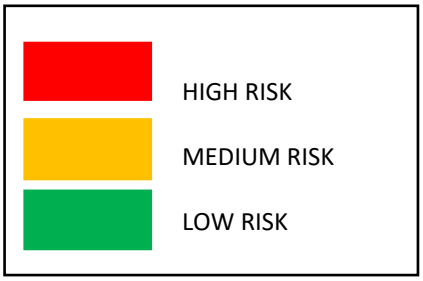

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Gen. Leo Irabor Early Warning Systems Centre (GLIC), as the preventive-security arm of the Nigerian Institute of International Affairs (NIIA), monitors converging risks across climate, public health, security, governance, and elections. Therefore, this executive summary presents the Centre's current threat picture, identifying where early signals demand anticipatory governance rather than reactive response.

In the area of Climate and Environmental Stress, the centre reports that Nigeria enters the COP31 cycle with a financing requirement of $336.5 billion (2026–2035). $195bn for mitigation and $141.5bn for adaptation, against a fiscal backdrop that remains borrowing dependent. Parallel climate shocks are accumulating globally: an El Niño-driven monsoon failure has forced India to prioritise food security over its 20% ethanol blending target, with the ratio likely falling to about 15%; satellite data ahead of COP31 in Türkiye have exposed landfill methane plumes of up to 7.4 metric tonnes per hour, underscoring the monitoring gap between pledged reductions and verified emissions.

On Health Security, the Bundibugyo Ebola outbreak has expanded beyond the DRC, with imported cases confirmed in Kenya and Nigeria (Abuja) and a crude case fatality ratio of 48.3% in the DRC. Separately, Mexico has culled 225,860 laying hens following its first commercial H5N1 outbreak in over two years, and Senegal's diphtheria outbreak has spread to 13 regions. The first documented human infection with Shamonda virus in France, fatal in an immuno compromised patient, confirms that zoonotic spill over events is no longer theoretical. These developments argue for strengthened cross-border surveillance at Nigerian points of entry.

On international peace and security, the Bonga offshore facility was attacked by gunmen in fast boats, temporarily disrupting production and resulting in the abduction of a US vessel captain, a reminder that the Gulf of Guinea's offshore perimeter remains permeable. In the Strait of Hormuz, unknown projectiles have struck multiple commercial vessels, including a 19,000-tonne container ship, signaling persistent navigational risk in a choke point that affects global energy flows. Domestically, the Zamfara police ambush killed at least five officers and three community guards, part of a documented toll of 98 police deaths across 21 states between January and October 2026.

Political and Governance Risks revealed that Nigeria's 2027 electoral cycle is already contested. INEC has flagged 268 voter records for suspected AI-generated photographs, while the EU and INEC have launched a joint summit on AI-driven electoral misinformation. The Federal High Court's nullification of the ADC leadership and Atiku Abubakar's nomination has introduced legal uncertainty into the opposition landscape. The Centre's dominant finding is that Nigeria faces simultaneous, cross-domain stressors such as fiscal, epidemiological, maritime, and electoral threats that interact and amplify one another. As much as the government must therefore respond according, citizens at home and abroad are also cautioned to remain safe and informed in and outside the Federal Republic of Nigeria.

CLIMATE CHANGE AND ENVIRONMENT

NIGERIA FACES $336.5 BILLION CLIMATE FINANCE CHALLENGE OVER THE NEXT DECADE

Nigeria will require approximately $336.5 billion between 2026 and 2035 to implement its climate action commitments, according to Tenioye Majekodunmi, Director-General of the National Council on Climate Change. The funding requirement comprises $195 billion for emissions mitigation and $141.5 billion for climate adaptation. The proposed investments are expected to support critical sectors, including energy, agriculture and infrastructure, while creating jobs and strengthening economic resilience. The announcement also highlights the difficulty of mobilizing sufficient domestic and international resources to translate Nigeria's climate policies into practical interventions.

The early warning implication is that inadequate or delayed climate financing could leave Nigeria increasingly exposed to floods, droughts, desertification, coastal erosion and other climate-related hazards. Agriculture-dependent communities, vulnerable households and infrastructure in high-risk areas could experience greater losses if adaptation programmes, early warning systems and resilience projects remain underfunded. The financing gap also threatens the implementation of emissions-reduction commitments and the transition towards cleaner energy. Without clear funding arrangements, transparent project delivery and stronger coordination between federal and state authorities, climate commitments may remain largely aspirational. Mobilising investment for disaster preparedness, resilient agriculture, flood management and climate information services is therefore essential to reducing future economic and humanitarian risks.

EL NIÑO DROUGHT THREATENS INDIA'S FOOD SECURITY AND ETHANOL PRODUCTION

India is prioritizing food security over biofuel production after severe El Niño-related drought conditions reduced monsoon rainfall by nearly 13% below normal, damaging corn and sugarcane crops. Reuters reported on November 4, 2026, that shortages of ethanol feedstock could reduce the share of ethanol blended into petrol from 20% to approximately 15–17% during the current supply year. Corn and sugar prices have risen by around 40%, while rice prices increased by 20%. Food inflation reached 7.74% in September, up from 5.97% in August. The government

has restricted procurement of sugar-based ethanol as drought-hit farmers struggle with limited water supplies.

The early warning implication is that prolonged drought could intensify food-price inflation, agricultural losses and energy insecurity simultaneously. Water shortages threaten further reductions in corn and sugarcane production, potentially limiting food availability, increasing pressure on household budgets and worsening rural livelihoods. Reduced ethanol production could also increase India's dependence on imported crude oil, exposing the economy to international price volatility. Livestock producers may face additional pressure if damaged grains are diverted to ethanol rather than animal feed. Continued monitoring of rainfall deficits, reservoir levels, crop forecasts, food prices and ethanol feedstock availability is essential to identify worsening food and energy pressures.

SATELLITE DATA REVEALS MAJOR METHANE LEAKS FROM TURKISH LANDFILLS AHEAD OF COP31

Satellite observations have revealed significant methane emissions from landfill sites across Turkey ahead of COP31, which the country will host in Antalya from November 9–20, 2026. UCLA researchers analyzing Carbon Mapper satellite data identified the Seymen landfill near Istanbul as a major methane hotspot, releasing an estimated average of 7.4 metric tonnes of methane per hour. The facility receives approximately 8,500 tonnes of waste daily. Despite existing gas-capture systems that convert landfill methane into electricity, substantial leaks persist. Turkey's waste-sector methane emissions increased by nearly 25% between 2014 and 2024, raising concerns about its waste-management practices and climate commitments.

The early warning implication is that uncontrolled landfill methane emissions pose a growing risk of accelerated global warming and increased climate-related hazards. Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas that contributes significantly to near-term temperature increases. Continued emissions from poorly managed landfills could intensify heatwaves, droughts, extreme rainfall and other climate-related risks. Communities near major landfill sites also face potential exposure to unpleasant odours and harmful landfill gases. The risk is particularly concerning where gas-collection systems are poorly maintained, organic waste is not separated and methane leakage remains undetected. Satellite monitoring, improved landfill management, organic-waste recycling and effective emissions regulation are critical to preventing further emissions.

H5N1 BIRD FLU OUTBREAK DETECTED IN MEXICO, THREATENING POULTRY HEALTH AND FOOD SUPPLY

Mexico has reported its first outbreak of highly pathogenic H5N1 avian influenza in commercial poultry in more than two years, following detection of the virus at a laying-hen farm in Umán, on the Yucatán Peninsula. According to the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), the infection affected a flock of 225,860 hens, all of which were subsequently culled to prevent further transmission. Mexican authorities confirmed the outbreak after unusual mortality among the birds and activated emergency veterinary and biosecurity measures. The affected farm was quarantined, while investigations and surveillance were initiated to determine whether other poultry facilities or wild birds had been exposed.

The early warning implication is that the outbreak creates a risk of further transmission across poultry farms, potential disruption to poultry production and increased pressure on food supply chains. Farms within the surrounding area are particularly vulnerable, especially where poultry populations are densely concentrated, or biosecurity measures are inadequate. Further spread could trigger additional culling, production losses, higher poultry and egg prices, and restrictions on poultry trade. H5N1 also presents a potential zoonotic risk, particularly to people handling infected birds or contaminated materials, although no human infections were reported in this outbreak. Monitoring unusual bird deaths, migratory bird populations and neighbouring poultry farms is essential to detect further transmission early.

DOZENS OF PILOT WHALES STRANDED ON NEW ZEALAND COAST, RAISING CONCERNS OVER MARINE WILDLIFE MORTALITY

The incident highlights the recurring risk of mass whale strandings along New Zealand's coastline, where dozens of pilot whales became stranded on November 5, 2026. Pilot whales are highly social animals that travel in closely connected groups, meaning that when one or more become disoriented or move into shallow waters, the rest of the pod may follow. Such events can result in multiple deaths, particularly when whales remain out of the water for extended periods. Rescue operations are often complicated by the animals' size, difficult coastal terrain, tides and the physical demands of returning them safely to deeper waters.

The early warning implication is that mass strandings can cause substantial marine wildlife mortality within a short period, particularly when animals are trapped on remote, rocky coastlines where rescue access is difficult. The death of all 43 whales demonstrates the severity

of the incident and the limitations of emergency intervention once a large pod becomes stranded. Although the cause remains unknown, the event highlights the need for rapid reporting of unusual whale movements, coordinated coastal surveillance and timely mobilisation of trained marine-rescue teams. Further investigation is also important to determine whether environmental, navigational or biological factors contributed to the stranding and whether similar incidents could affect nearby coastlines.

DELHI AIR POLLUTION DETERIORATES AHEAD OF DIWALI, FORCING SCHOOLS TO ADOPT ONLINE LEARNING

India has ordered schools in and around Delhi to offer online classes as air pollution in the capital worsens ahead of Diwali, scheduled for November 8, 2026. On November 6, Delhi recorded an Air Quality Index (AQI) of 382, placing it in the very poor category, far above the Central Pollution Control Board's healthy benchmark of 50. Authorities also encouraged remote working, advised residents to postpone private gatherings and introduced stricter pollution-control measures. The deterioration is driven by vehicle emissions, construction dust and crop-residue burning, while cold weather and unfavorable wind conditions are preventing pollutants from dispersing. Firecracker emissions during Diwali are expected to add further pressure.

The early warning implication is that Delhi faces a heightened risk of severe air pollution, with potentially serious consequences for public health, particularly among children, older adults and people with respiratory or cardiovascular conditions. The combination of stagnant atmospheric conditions, existing pollution and anticipated firecracker emissions could push AQI levels beyond 400 into the severe category. Prolonged exposure may increase respiratory distress, aggravate asthma and other lung conditions, and place additional pressure on healthcare services. Continued monitoring of AQI readings, wind conditions and pollution hotspots is essential. Authorities should be prepared to expand exposure-reduction measures, enforce restrictions on major emission sources and issue timely public-health alerts.

NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

GUNMEN KILL EIGHT SECURITY PERSONNEL IN ZAMFARA POLICE AMBUSH

On November 3, 2026, armed attackers ambushed a police convoy near Gidan-Giye village in Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara State, northwestern Nigeria, killing at least eight security personnel. The victims comprised five police officers and three members of the Zamfara

Community Protection Guard. The attackers reportedly opened fire on a 15-seater bus, destroying the vehicle, and seized five AK-47 rifles. Police recovered the bodies of five officers, rescued seven personnel and evacuated two injured officers for treatment. Some officers were reportedly abducted, while authorities continued efforts to locate them and apprehend the perpetrators.

The attack indicates escalating insecurity in Zamfara State and the growing operational capabilities of armed groups targeting security personnel. It highlights vulnerabilities in police movements, intelligence gathering and rural security coordination. The killing and possible abduction of officers could further undermine public confidence, weaken security presence and embolden criminal networks across neighboring communities. Early warning measures should include enhanced intelligence gathering, community-based reporting mechanisms and continuous surveillance of identified high-risk routes. Security agencies should strengthen patrol coordination, improve convoy protection, provide adequate communication equipment and conduct targeted operations to rescue abducted personnel, recover stolen weapons and prevent further attacks.

MILITANTS ATTACK SHELL'S BONGA OFFSHORE FACILITY AND ABDUCT AN OIL VESSEL CAPTAIN

Militants in speedboats attacked Shell's Bonga offshore oil facility in the Niger Delta, forcing the company to shut down production as a precautionary measure. The facility, located approximately 120 kilometers off Nigeria's coastline, had a production capacity of about 220,000 barrels of oil per day. In a related incident, armed attackers reportedly abducted the American captain of an oil supply vessel operating in the area. The attacks highlighted the growing security threats facing Nigeria's offshore oil infrastructure and maritime operations. The incident raised concerns about disruptions to crude oil production, economic losses and the safety of maritime personnel.

The attack highlights the vulnerability of Nigeria's offshore oil infrastructure and maritime operations to militant activities. It signals a potential escalation of insecurity in the Niger Delta, with risks of further kidnappings, sabotage, production disruptions and economic losses. Continued attacks could undermine investor confidence, threaten national revenue and disrupt regional energy supplies. Early warning measures should include strengthened maritime surveillance, intelligence-sharing among security agencies and monitoring of suspicious

movements around offshore installations. Government should enhance naval patrols, improve coordination with oil companies, establish rapid-response mechanisms, strengthen community engagement, and address underlying grievances contributing to militancy in the Niger Delta.

ETHIOPIA AND SUDAN: BOTH COUNTRIES SHUT CONSULATES AMID ESCALATING DIPLOMATIC TENSIONS

Ethiopia and Sudan have closed each other's consulates near their shared border, marking a further deterioration in diplomatic relations amid accusations of supporting opposing armed groups. Ethiopia ordered six Sudanese diplomats in the border town of Assosa to leave within 48 hours, prompting Sudan to close Ethiopia's consulate in Gedaref and expel its diplomatic staff. Sudan accuses Ethiopia of allowing the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) to launch drone attacks against civilian infrastructure from its territory, while Ethiopia accuses Sudan of supporting Tigrayan rebels. Both countries deny the allegations. The escalating dispute raises fears of wider conflict across the Horn of Africa.

The diplomatic breakdown between Ethiopia and Sudan signals rising tensions that could escalate into cross-border confrontations and regional instability. Mutual accusations of supporting armed groups may encourage proxy warfare, increase military mobilisation along their shared border and undermine existing diplomatic relations. The situation could also worsen the humanitarian crisis by triggering population displacement and disrupting cross-border trade. There should be urgent African Union-led mediation, diplomatic engagement to address mutual allegations, strengthened border monitoring and intelligence-sharing, and the establishment of joint mechanisms to prevent military escalation. Both governments should prioritize dialogue, respect territorial sovereignty and avoid actions that could intensify regional insecurity.

EUROPE: BOMB THREATS DISRUPT COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS ACROSS SEVERAL COUNTRIES

A wave of bomb threats has disrupted air travel across Europe, forcing several passenger aircraft to make emergency landings, change routes and undergo extensive security inspections. According to Reuters, the threats affected airlines including Ryanair, Finnair, LOT Polish Airlines, Wizz Air and Aer Lingus. Some flights were escorted by fighter jets, while passengers and crew were evacuated for security checks. Although no explosives have been discovered, the repeated threats have raised concerns about possible coordinated security attacks or hybrid

warfare. Authorities are investigating the incidents, but the individuals or organizations responsible remain unidentified.

The widespread bomb threats highlight growing vulnerabilities in Europe's aviation security system and the potential use of coordinated threats to disrupt critical transportation infrastructure. Such incidents could cause public panic, operational disruptions, financial losses, and declining passenger confidence. They also raise concerns about terrorism, cyber-enabled threats and possible hybrid warfare targeting critical infrastructure. Early warning measures should include enhanced intelligence-sharing among European security agencies, continuous monitoring of suspicious communications and improved threat assessment systems. Airport authorities should strengthen screening procedures, emergency response coordination and passenger evacuation protocols. Governments should also investigate the perpetrators and improve cross-border security cooperation to prevent further incidents.

UNKNOWN PROJECTILE STRIKES COMMERCIAL VESSEL OFF OMAN AMID STRAIT OF HORMUZ TENSIONS

A commercial vessel was struck by an unidentified projectile while sailing near Oman, amid heightened security tensions around the strategically important Strait of Hormuz. The incident was reported by the United Kingdom Maritime Trade Operations (UKMTO), which monitors maritime security threats in the region. The strike raised concerns about the safety of international shipping routes, particularly as tensions involving regional powers continue to threaten maritime operations. The Strait of Hormuz is a critical global energy corridor through which a significant proportion of the world's oil supply passes. The incident underscores growing risks to commercial vessels, energy transportation and regional stability.

The attack signals increasing maritime insecurity around Oman and the Strait of Hormuz, raising concerns about the potential escalation of regional tensions into wider maritime confrontations. Continued attacks could threaten commercial shipping, disrupt global oil supplies, increase insurance costs and destabilize international energy markets. It also highlights the vulnerability of critical maritime trade routes to unidentified weapons and hostile actors. Early warning measures should include enhanced maritime surveillance, intelligence-sharing and continuous monitoring of suspicious vessel movements. Naval forces should strengthen patrols, establish rapid-response mechanisms, improve communication with commercial shipping operators and

encourage diplomatic engagement to prevent further escalation and protect international maritime trade.

RUSSIAN STRIKES KILL CIVILIANS AND DAMAGE CRITICAL ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

Russia intensified its attacks on Ukraine, striking a humanitarian aid distribution centre and shelter in Komyshuvakha, Zaporizhzhia region, killing at least 31 people and leaving more than 45 missing. The victims included civilians, police officers and rescue workers. Separately, Russia launched 289 drones, 17 ballistic missiles and 59 cruise missiles across nine Ukrainian regions, targeting power plants and critical infrastructure. The attacks damaged hospitals disrupted electricity supplies and caused emergency power outages. The escalation occurred ahead of US-mediated peace negotiations scheduled for November 10–11 in Abu Dhabi, raising concerns about civilian protection and Ukraine's energy security.

The intensified Russian attacks on Ukraine indicate a growing threat to civilian safety and critical infrastructure, particularly humanitarian facilities, hospitals, and energy installations. Continued strikes could increase civilian casualties, trigger mass displacement, worsen humanitarian conditions and disrupt electricity supplies, especially during winter. Attacks on humanitarian operations may also undermine relief delivery and increase risks for aid workers. Early warning measures should include strengthening early warning and civilian evacuation systems, improving the protection of critical infrastructure, expanding humanitarian assistance, establishing emergency response mechanisms, and intensifying diplomatic negotiations towards a sustainable ceasefire. International monitoring and accountability mechanisms should also be strengthened to discourage further attacks.

ELECTION AND GOVERNANCE

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT THREATENS SANCTIONS OVER INFLATED PUBLIC CONTRACTS

The Federal Government warned heads of government-owned agencies, corporations, councils, authorities and commissions against inflated contract awards and other procurement violations. In a circular issued by the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, George Akume, accounting officers were directed to comply strictly with the Public Procurement Act 2007 or

face sanctions. The government specifically raised concerns about contracts exceeding approved price benchmarks, arrangements that restrict competition and practices that undermine regulatory oversight. The directive places renewed attention on procurement compliance and the responsibility of public institutions to ensure that government expenditure follows established procedures.

The early warning implication is that procurement violations can weaken public financial management, increase the cost of government projects and create opportunities for corruption and the diversion of public resources. Although the government's warning signals an intention to strengthen compliance, its effectiveness will depend on transparent procurement processes, independent audits and consistent enforcement against offending officials and contractors. Monitoring should focus on whether investigations are initiated, sanctions are applied and procurement records are made accessible for public scrutiny.

INEC FLAGS 268 VOTER RECORDS OVER SUSPECTED AI-GENERATED PHOTOGRAPHS

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) identified 268 records in its preliminary Register of Voters for further examination over suspected AI-generated photographs and other irregularities. The commission's Director of Information and Communication Technology, Lawrence Bayode, explained that its Automated Biometric Identification System had identified questionable entries during the register-cleaning exercise. The development comes ahead of the 2027 general elections and follows public concerns about the accuracy of the voter database. INEC is expected to investigate the flagged records and address valid complaints before certifying the final register on 15 December 2026.

The early warning implication is that weaknesses in voter registration systems could create opportunities for electoral manipulation and undermine confidence in the credibility of the register. The use of AI-generated identities also demonstrates how emerging technology can introduce new challenges for election administration. INEC should publish the outcome of its investigation, explain the verification procedures used and provide an opportunity for affected

citizens to challenge errors. Independent scrutiny by political parties, civil society organisations and election observers will be important to establishing public confidence in the final register.

EU AND INEC SEEK STRONGER COLLABORATION AGAINST AI-DRIVEN

The European Union Support to Democratic Governance in Nigeria and INEC called for stronger cooperation among electoral stakeholders to address AI-driven misinformation and foreign information manipulation ahead of the 2027 general elections. The call was made at a national summit in Abuja themed Beyond the Ballot: Safeguarding Electoral Information in the Age of AI. EU Ambassador to Nigeria and ECOWAS, Gautier Mignot, warned that elections could be undermined without altering actual ballots through fabricated announcements, false results and misleading information capable of eroding public confidence. The summit brought attention to the growing relationship between digital information integrity and electoral credibility.

The early warning implication is that disinformation could become a significant source of electoral tension, particularly when fabricated results, manipulated images or false announcements circulate during sensitive stages of the electoral process. Such content could provoke public distrust, hostility towards electoral institutions and disputes over announced results. INEC, technology platforms, security agencies, media organisations and civil society groups should strengthen fact-checking, rapid-response communication and public digital-literacy initiatives. Clear and timely official communication will also be essential to preventing false information from filling gaps in public knowledge.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT FOR STATE POLICE ADVANCES AFTER APPROVAL BY STATE ASSEMBLIES

Nigeria's proposed constitutional amendment to establish state police services advanced after at least 28 State Houses of Assembly approved the proposal, exceeding the constitutional threshold of 24 states required for an amendment. The National Assembly confirmed receipt and verification of the state resolutions, while the amendment process moved towards transmission to President Bola Tinubu for assent. The proposal would allow state governments to establish and control their own police forces alongside the existing federal police structure. The development

represents a major institutional debate about the organisation of policing, security responsibilities and the distribution of authority between federal and state governments.

The early warning implication is that decentralising policing could alter Nigeria's security governance structure and create opportunities for more locally responsive law enforcement. However, implementation will require clear constitutional safeguards, accountability mechanisms, funding arrangements and operational coordination with federal security institutions. Without these protections, state police could face challenges involving political interference, uneven institutional capacity, human rights violations and the possible misuse of security agencies by state authorities. The legislative process and the proposed framework for oversight, recruitment and operational independence should therefore receive close scrutiny.

NATIONAL JUDICIAL COUNCIL SUSPENDS THREE JUDGES OVER MISCONDUCT

The National Judicial Council (NJC) reportedly recommended 28 candidates for judicial appointments across six states, while suspending three judicial officers for one year without pay over alleged misconduct and breaches of judicial procedure. The Council also issued warnings or cautions to other judicial officers. The actions form part of the judiciary's internal disciplinary and administrative responsibilities and come at a time when public confidence in judicial independence and accountability remains important to Nigeria's democratic institutions. The development highlights the role of the NJC in addressing professional misconduct and maintaining standards within the judicial system.

The early warning implication is that judicial accountability is essential to maintaining public confidence in the administration of justice. Misconduct, procedural irregularities or perceived selective discipline can undermine confidence in the courts, particularly when the judiciary is called upon to resolve politically sensitive disputes and electoral petitions. The NJC should ensure that disciplinary decisions follow transparent procedures, while judicial appointments should be based on merit, integrity and professional competence. Continued monitoring should examine whether disciplinary recommendations are implemented and whether institutional reforms strengthen judicial independence and public accountability.

COURT NULLIFIES ADC LEADERSHIP AND ATIKU ABUBAKAR'S 2027 PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDACY

A Federal High Court in Abuja voided the leadership of the African Democratic Congress (ADC) under former Senate President David Mark and invalidated the presidential candidacy of former Vice-President Atiku Abubakar for the January 2027 election. The judgment held that the caretaker committee responsible for the party's primary was illegally constituted. The ruling also affects the party's nominations and its ability to field candidates, although the ADC has indicated that it will appeal. The dispute follows earlier litigation over the party's leadership and highlights the growing influence of internal party administration and judicial intervention in the preparations for the 2027 elections.

The early warning implication is that unresolved party leadership disputes can disrupt candidate selection, weaken internal democratic processes, and generate uncertainty in the wider electoral environment. The ruling also raises questions about the relationship between party autonomy, compliance with electoral law and the judiciary's role in resolving political disputes. The appeal process, INEC's response and the ability of party stakeholders to resolve internal disagreements through lawful procedures should be monitored. Political actors should avoid portraying unresolved legal claims as established facts, while the electoral commission should communicate its position transparently and consistently.

GOVERNMENT REVENUE SAVINGS RISE TO ₦3.56 TRILLION AMID CONTINUED BORROWING

A report by Agora Policy indicated that the Federal Government and other tiers of government recorded combined savings of ₦3.56 trillion from Federation Account revenue between January and September 2026. The amount represented a 95 per cent increase from the ₦1.83 trillion recorded during the corresponding period in 2025. However, the report also highlighted the Federal Government's continued reliance on borrowing to finance budget deficits, raising questions about the relationship between public revenue management, savings and debt obligations. The findings draw attention to the fiscal choices of the three tiers of government and the need for greater transparency in the management and allocation of national resources.

The early warning implication is that increased government savings do not automatically translate into improved public welfare or sustainable fiscal management, particularly where borrowing and debt-servicing obligations remain substantial. Differences between revenue accumulation, expenditure priorities and borrowing decisions may create challenges for budget implementation and service delivery. Federal and state governments should provide clearer explanations of the purpose and location of accumulated savings, strengthen budget transparency, and demonstrate how borrowing contributes to productive investment. Legislative oversight and independent fiscal analysis will be important in assessing whether public resources are being managed sustainably.

PUBLIC HEALTH

BUNDIBUGYO VIRUS (EBOLA) OUTBREAK CONTINUES TO SPREAD IN AFRICA

The Bundibugyo virus disease outbreak continues to pose a major public health threat across parts of Africa, particularly the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Kenya and Nigeria. As of 5 November 2026, the DRC had recorded 10,741 confirmed cases and 5,230 related deaths, with transmission affecting eight provinces. Kenya has also reported nine confirmed cases, including two deaths. Nigeria recorded an imported case on 20 October involving an individual with a travel history to Uganda. As of 4 November, 62 contacts had been identified and placed under monitoring.

Preventing further transmission requires strengthened disease surveillance, early identification and isolation of suspected cases, and effective contact tracing. Nigerian health authorities should intensify screening at airports and other points of entry, particularly for travellers arriving from affected countries. Healthcare workers must maintain strict infection prevention and control measures, including the use of personal protective equipment (PPE). Public awareness campaigns should also educate communities on symptoms, transmission routes and the importance of reporting suspected infections promptly.

FIRST DOCUMENTED HUMAN INFECTION WITH SHAMONDA VIRUS REPORTED IN FRANCE

The World Health Organization (WHO) reported the first documented human infection with Shamonda virus in France on 2 November 2026. The infection involved an older immunocompromised man who developed severe neurological complications, including encephalitis, and subsequently died on 8 October. Shamonda virus was previously known to primarily affect animals, particularly cattle, and had not been documented in humans before this incident. The source and route of infection remain under investigation, with transmission through

the bite of infected midges considered a possible route. The virus was first isolated from cattle in Nigeria in 1965.

Prevention should focus on strengthening collaboration between human and animal health authorities through a One Health approach. Surveillance of livestock and other potentially affected animals should be intensified, while unusual neurological illnesses should be investigated and reported promptly. Further laboratory research is necessary to establish the possible routes of transmission and assess the risk to humans. Public awareness should also encourage proper animal-handling practices, environmental hygiene and protection against insect bites.

DIPHTHERIA OUTBREAK SPREADS ACROSS 13 REGIONS IN SENEGAL

Senegal is experiencing an expanding diphtheria outbreak, with 456 confirmed cases and 14 deaths reported as of 1 November 2026. According to epidemiological figures released by the country's Ministry of Health and Public Hygiene, the outbreak has spread across 60 health districts in 13 of the country's 14 medical regions. Dakar recorded 61 cases, followed by Kaolack with 58, Thiès with 51 and Diourbel with 48 cases. The geographical spread indicates increasing pressure on disease surveillance and public health response systems, particularly in communities with inadequate vaccination coverage.

Preventing further transmission requires intensified routine immunisation and targeted vaccination campaigns, particularly among children and other vulnerable populations. Health authorities should strengthen active case detection, ensure prompt isolation and treatment of suspected cases, and provide access to appropriate antibiotics and diphtheria antitoxin. Public health education should encourage parents to complete their children's vaccination schedules, while healthcare workers should maintain strict infection prevention and control practices to reduce transmission within healthcare facilities and affected communities.