GLIC Weekly Report

30thMay, 2025

Top of the Agenda

NIGERIA

21 DEAD, 10 MISSING IN DEADLY NIGER STATE FLASH FLOOD

A devastating flash flood has claimed 21 lives and left more than 10 persons missing in Mokwa Local Government Area of Niger State, following a torrential downpour that struck overnight. According to a statement issued by the Acting Director General of the Niger State Emergency Management Agency (NSEMA), Ibrahim Hussaini, the disaster struck the communities of Tiffin Maza and Anguwan Hausawa in Mokwa town during heavy rainfall of high intensity that lasted for several hours. The floodwaters submerged and washed away over 50 residential houses along with their occupants, resulting in significant casualties and property loss. In response, NSEMA, in collaboration with the Mokwa Local Government Authority, local divers, and courageous volunteers, launched immediate search and rescue operations to find survivors and recover bodies. "So far, 21 corpses have been recovered, while search and rescue efforts are ongoing to locate more than 10 persons still missing." NSEMA has assured the public of continued efforts to provide support and relief to the affected families and communities.

Channels News: Niger Flash Flood May 29, 2025.

Analysis

The devastating flood in Niger state is a strong signal for more torrential downpour and call for sustainable inter-agency collaboration to mitigate the vulnerabilities of Nigerian communities for the remaining of the rainy season. Government at all levels should be involve with relevant agencies to prevent a reoccurrence with proactive steps to ensure that preventive measures are sustained from rural to urban areas nationwide.



NIGERIA

SENATE SEEKS INCREASED SECURITY SURVEILLANCE IN TARABA, PLATEAU, BAUCHI BORDERS

The Senate has called on security agencies to immediately establish more security camps and increase surveillance along the borders of Taraba, Plateau, and Bauchi states in response to escalating violence and banditry in the region. The resolution followed a motion of urgent national importance moved by Senator Isa Shuaibu Lau (Taraba North), in the wake of a deadly farmer-herder clash in Munga Lelau and Maigami villages under the Karim Lamido Local Government Area of Taraba State. According to Lau, the crisis began on Friday, May 23, 2025, and escalated over the weekend resulting in the death of 60 to 70 persons, destruction of 47 houses, and displacement of more than 200 residents.

Channels News: <u>Senate Seeks Increased Security Surveillance In Taraba, Plateau, Bauchi Borders</u> 28th May, 2025.

NAFDAC UNCOVERS FAKE DRUG FACTORY IN DELTA, ARRESTS SUSPECT'S WIFE

The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control has uncovered an illegal drug factory in an uncompleted storey building at Azagba-Ogwash in the Delta State Capital Territory. The uncompleted building belonging to the fake drug producer, one Ekene Igwe, has a factory on the ground flat, which is also used as a residential apartment. The Deputy Director in charge of NAFDAC Investigation and Enforcement of the Federal Taskforce for South South/South East, Mr Babatunji Omoyeni, on Tuesday, stated that the agency raided the factory and arrested one Blessing Igwe, wife of the prime suspect who is at large.

PunchNG: NAFDAC uncovers fake drug factory in Delta, arrests suspect's wife 27th May, 2025.

DIPHTHERIA OUTBREAK: IMO SCHOOLS SHUT OVER DEATH OF CHILDREN.

A diphtheria outbreak in Mbutu Community, Aboh Mbaise Local Government Area of Imo State, has led to the deaths of several children, prompting an immediate closure of schools in the area. The exact number of fatalities remains unconfirmed, Daily Trust reports on Wednesday. The Chairman of Aboh Mbaise LGA, Iheukwumere Alaribe, confirmed the development in a statement issued on May 26, 2025.

PunchNG: Diphtheria outbreak: Imo schools shut over death of children 28th May, 2025.

AT LEAST 42 KILLED IN WEEKEND ATTACKS IN NIGERIA'S BENUE STATE, LOCAL OFFICIAL SAYS

Thirty-two bodies were recovered from Sunday's assaults on the Ahume and Aondona villages, while 10 more were killed in a separate attack on the villages of Tyolaha and Tse-Ubiam on Saturday, said Victor Omnin, chairman of the Gwer West local government."It's a pathetic situation. As we speak, we are still recovering corpses," Omnin told journalists.Benue is in Nigeria's Middle Belt, a region where the majority Muslim North meets the largely Christian South. The region faces competition over land use, with conflicts between herders, who seek grazing land for their cattle, and farmers, who need arable land for cultivation. These tensions are often worsened by overlapping ethnic and religious divisions.Benue Governor Hyacinth Iormem

Alia's office said a Catholic priest was also shot in the area by the assailants, and is in critical but stable condition.

MSN: At least 42 killed in weekend attacks in Nigeria's Benue state, local official says 27th May, 2025.

WEST AFRICA

HOW WEST AFRICA'S TERROR GROUPS GET FUNDING

Despite pressure from military campaigns, Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimin (JNIM) remains resilient by regrouping and leveraging illicit economies. Its recent 2024 operation in Burkina Faso highlights its adaptability. Like other jihadist groups in the West Africa-Sahel region, including Boko Haram, JNIM finances its activities through artisanal mining, kidnapping, livestock theft, and money laundering. Artisanal gold mining is central to its operations, generating over US\\$30 billion annually in areas under its control. According to Swissaid, the gold is mainly exported to the UAE, Turkey, and Switzerland. Disrupting these illicit financial flows is essential to weakening the group's influence and capabilities.

Nation Africa: How West Africa's terror groups get funding 27th May, 2025.

AFRICA

FORCE WILL NOT RESOLVE SOUTH SUDAN CRISIS - MOSCOW

Escalating violence in South Sudan cannot be solved by military force, Russian Foreign Ministry spokesperson Maria Zakharova has warned. Clashes between the East African country's government forces and opposition groups have spiraled into a humanitarian and political catastrophe. "The sharp deterioration of the situation in South Sudan in recent months is a cause for serious concern," Zakharova said, noting that the armed confrontations have led to rising casualties, including among civilians. Fighting has intensified in Africa's youngest country since early this year, with alarming reports of ethnic-driven violence and breaches of a fragile 2018 peace deal that had once offered a path to unity.

RT: Force will not resolve South Sudan crisis – Moscow 28th May, 2025.

CONGO'S WAR CHEST DRIES UP AS REBELS CRIPPLE THE ECONOMY AMID SOARING MILITARY COSTS

Congo is grappling with soaring military costs and declining tax revenues due to an offensive by Rwandan-backed rebels, who now occupy much of the country's eastern borderlands, a revised wartime budget under consideration by lawmakers showed. The International Monetary Fund said this month that the fighting was straining public finances, citing the closure of revenue collection offices in areas controlled by the M23 rebels and elevated security spending linked to

the conflict. Initially expected in mid-March, President Felix Tshisekedi's cabinet approved the budget bill on Friday. It now goes to parliament for debate and voting.

Nation Africa: <u>Congo's war chest dries up as rebels cripple the economy amid soaring military costs</u> 28th May, 2025.

AFRICA'S PEACEKEEPING IN CRISIS AS WARRING SIDES OUTSOURCE COMBAT

At the International Security Conference on Africa in Kigali, a grim outlook on African peacekeeping emerged. Experts criticized stagnant approaches, rising costs, and poor results, citing the \\$25 billion UN missions in the DRC that failed to reduce armed groups. Peacekeeping missions like Aussom in Somalia face collapse due to blocked UN funding, particularly by the US. The proliferation of advanced weapons and drones, often supplied by foreign powers, complicates modern warfare. Speakers urged Africa to take charge of its security, with President Kagame stressing self-reliance, good governance, and rejecting dependency on external actors for the continent's peace and stability.

The East Africa: Africa's peacekeeping in crisis as warring sides outsource combat 25th May, 2025.

SUDAN DENIES US CHEMICAL WEAPONS CLAIMS

Sudan has firmly denied US accusations that its army used chemical weapons during its military operations. Khartoum called the claims "baseless" and denounced new US sanctions as unjustified. "The Ministry of Foreign Affairs categorically denies the unfounded allegations... that the Sudanese army used chemical weapons in response to the aggression and invasion Sudan is facing. The Ministry strongly condemns the actions the US administration has announced it will take based on these false claims," the statement said. Sudan expressed astonishment that the US resorted to anonymous leaks in American media months ago, instead of using the proper international channel - the Organisationfor the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), where both nations are members and Sudan holds a seat on the Executive Council.

The East African: <u>Sudan denies US chemical weapons claims</u> 26th May, 2025.

UGANDA CUTS MILITARY TIES WITH GERMANY OVER 'SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES' BY ENVOY

"The Uganda People's Defence Forces has with immediate effect suspended all ongoing defence and military cooperation activities with the Federal Republic of Germany," UPDF spokesperson Chris Magezi said in a statement posted on X platform on Sunday. The decision was "in response to credible intelligence reports that the current German Ambassador to Uganda His Excellency Mathias Schauer is actively engaged in subversive activities in the country", Magezi said. Magezi gave no details of any existing military cooperation between Uganda and Germany. The German spokesperson said there was no formalised military cooperation between the two countries. Uganda has its troops in the African Union peacekeeping force in Somalia, Aussom, which is partly funded by the European Union, of which Germany is a member.

The East African: <u>Uganda cuts military ties with Germany over 'subversive activities' by envoy</u> 26th May, 2025.

KENYA BACKS MOROCCO AUTONOMY PLAN FOR WESTERN SAHARA, RABAT SAYS

Morocco says that Kenya has backed its autonomy plan for Western Sahara, following direct lobbying by Rabat to put to end the independence quest by the region that is also a member of the African Union. These revelations emerged on Monday after Kenya's Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs, Musalia Mudavadi, met with his Moroccan counterpart, Nasser Bourita in Rabat. It signals a change of stance by Nairobi, though this is hardly surprising given that the two countries have been inching closer since President William Ruto came to power in 2022.

The East African: <u>Kenya backs Morocco autonomy plan for Western Sahara, Rabat says</u> 26th May, 2025.

GLOBAL

WHO CUTS BUDGET AFTER US WITHDRAWAL, FACES \$1.7BN SHORTFALL

The World Health Organisation tried to stabilise its finances at its annual assembly which ended on Tuesday, but still remains well short of reaching its already reduced target. Hit by the withdrawal of its biggest donor, the United States, the WHO trimmed its already smaller 2026-2027 budget from \$5.3 billion to \$4.2 billion. The UN health agency's programme budget for 2024-2025 was \$6.8 billion. The slimmer budget plan was approved during the World Health Assembly, which serves as the WHO's decision-making body.

PunchNG: WHO cuts budget after US withdrawal, faces \$1.7bn shortfall 28th May, 2025.

WORLD LIKELY TO BREACH TEMPERATURE RECORDS, EXCEED 1.5°C LIMIT BY 2030

Get ready for several years of even more record-breaking heat that pushes Earth to more deadly, fiery and uncomfortable extremes, two of the world's top weather agencies forecast. There's an 80% chance the world will break another annual temperature record in the next five years, and it's even more probable that the world will again exceed the international temperature threshold set 10 years ago, according to a five-year forecast released Wednesday by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the UK Meteorological Office.

Africa News: World likely to breach temperature records, exceed 1.5°C limit by 2030 29th May, 2025.

SEVEN DEAD AS MIGRANT BOAT CAPSIZES IN SPAIN'S CANARY ISLANDS

A boat carrying migrants capsized within reach of shore as it arrived at Spain's Canary Islands on Wednesday and four women and three girls drowned, authorities said. In the chaotic scene at El Hierro's port, survivors clung to ropes and life preservers tossed by rescuers. Spain's maritime rescue service said the boat tipped over as rescuers started removing young people onto a rescue craft positioned between the migrant one and the quay. The movement of people on the boat

caused it to turn over, the service said. Local media said the small boat appeared to be packed with over 100 people. A helicopter evacuated two other children, a girl and a boy, to a hospital in serious condition after they nearly drowned, the service added.

Africa News: Seven dead as migrant boat capsizes in Spain's Canary Islands 29th May, 2025.

UK EYEING PERMANENT ARCTIC MILITARY PRESENCE – TELEGRAPH

The British government may be considering establishing a permanent military presence in the Arctic due to the perceived threat from Russia, The Telegraph has reported, citing "speculation" around the forthcoming Strategic Defence Review. While NATO has been actively ramping up its military capabilities in the region, London has made a point of strengthening individual partnerships with Norway and Iceland. Russia has repeatedly insisted that NATO's continuing militarization of the Arctic is unwarranted, and that Moscow will have to mirror its moves to maintain the balance.

RT: <u>UK eyeing permanent Arctic military presence – Telegraph</u> 28th May, 2025.

PUTIN OUTLINES BASIS FOR PEACE IN EUROPE

Russian President Vladimir Putin has emphasized that lasting peace in Europe requires a security framework that guarantees protection for all nations without undermining any country's interests. Speaking at a security conference in Moscow, Putin reaffirmed Russia's stance on the need for an equal and indivisible security architecture. He criticized the West, particularly NATO, for violating this principle by expanding eastward since the 1990s, contrary to past assurances given to the Soviet Union. Russia views NATO's intent to include Ukraine as a central factor in its conflict with Kiev, highlighting growing tensions over Europe's security landscape.

RT: Putin outlines basis for peace in Europe 28th May, 2025.

US READY TO APPLY 'MAXIMUM PRESSURE' ON RUSSIA – STATE DEPT

US President Donald Trump is prepared to apply "maximum pressure" on Russia if Ukraine peace talks fail to produce results, State Department spokesperson Tammy Bruce has told Fox News. The US president's patience has "worn thin" and that he has expressed his frustration in his recent posts on Truth Social, Bruce told the network in a clip posted by Fox and Friends on Monday. Earlier this week, Trump stated that Russian President Vladimir Putin had gone "crazy" following a series of retaliatory strikes carried out by Moscow in Ukraine, adding that the Russian president is "playing with fire." Moscow, in turn, suggested that Trump might be not well-informed about mass Ukrainian attacks against Russian civilians.

RT: <u>US ready to apply 'maximum pressure' on Russia – State Dept</u> 28th May, 2025.

RUSSIA COULD TARGET BERLIN IF GERMAN MISSILES HIT MOSCOW

Russia would not rule out a direct strike on Berlin if German personnel help Ukraine target Moscow with German-supplied Taurus missiles, RT Editor-in-Chief Margarita Simonyan, has warned. Speculation that Germany could supply Ukraine with Taurus missiles – capable of striking targets up to 500km away and potentially reaching the Russian capital from Ukrainian territory – was reignited after Chancellor Friedrich Merz said Berlin and its partners had lifted restrictions on the range of Western weapons Ukraine is allowed to use. German officials,

however, have not confirmed any decision to send the Taurus system, and a Bild report on Wednesday suggested that the government in Berlin still considers doing so "taboo."

RT: Russia could target Berlin if German missiles hit Moscow 28th May, 2025.

US MILITARY COMMAND COULD EXIT AFRICA

AFRICOM, the U.S. Africa military command, is reassessing its presence on the continent as African nations reconsider their defense ties with the West. General Michael Langley, speaking in Nairobi, stated he has discussed the review with several African defense ministers and presidents, urging them to express their needs if AFRICOM remains important to them. This reassessment aligns with U.S. media reports suggesting the Trump administration is considering merging AFRICOM with the European Command in Germany to improve efficiency. The shift reflects broader geopolitical changes and evolving military relationships between Africa and Western powers.

RT: <u>US military command could exit Africa</u> 28th May, 2025.

RUSSIA RELIABLE PARTNER TO AFRICA IN STRENGTHENING SOVEREIGNTY – LAVROV

Moscow remains a reliable and steadfast partner to African nations by supporting efforts to strengthen their sovereignty, which is threatened by modern forms of colonialism, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov has said. Lavrov made the remarks on Monday during an Africa Day event at the Russian Foreign Ministry in Moscow, addressing an audience of African diplomats and officials. The senior diplomat reiterated Russia's longstanding support for African nations, beginning in the Soviet era when Moscow backed national liberation movements and contributed to the collapse of colonial systems.

RT: Russia reliable partner to Africa in strengthening sovereignty – Lavrov 27th May, 2025.