



## THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

*GLIC Weekly Report*

*18<sup>th</sup> July, 2025*

### ***Top of the Agenda***

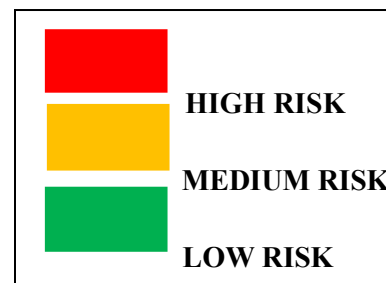
#### **MAHMUDA TERRORIST GROUP KILLS SEVEN RESIDENTS, ABDUCTS SEVERAL OTHERS IN KWARA COMMUNITY**

The newly emerged terrorist group known as Mahmuda invaded Kemanji Village in Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State on Monday; killing seven people. Sources stated that three victims were killed on Sunday, while four others were slaughtered on their farms on Friday. The attackers also reportedly set a farm settlement in the village ablaze. The Muhmuda terrorists attacked Kemanji village on Sunday, killing three people and one woman. They also kidnapped a countless number of people.

Sahara Reporters: [Mahmuda Terrorist Group Kills Seven Residents, Abducts Several Others in Kwara Community](#) July 15, 2025.

### ***Analysis***

The Mahmuda terror group is a new armed group that split from the deadly terror group, Boko Haram, in late 2024 and operates in North-central Nigeria, mostly in Kwara and Niger states. Operating from forested camps within Kainji Lake National Park—a vast terrain that cuts across Kwara, Niger, and Kebbi States—the militants are believed to be imposing their form of law and governance. Residents living near their encampments have reported being subjected to harsh rules, Islamic tax collection (Zakat), and forced land reallocations. Since this armed group is already in Kwara state, Ekiti and Oyo states should tighten their security to prevent the spread and infiltration of this terror group. Although they have a security outfit that ensures everyone's safety in the southwest region. The Amotekun corps, a security outfit set up by state governors in the southwest, has efficiently and effectively curbed insecurity in the region and reduced the crime rate. This crisis serves as a stark reminder: terror groups are no longer limited to the nation's northeast. They are spreading into central Nigeria, exploiting gaps in governance and stretching the limits of Nigeria's overstretched security architecture. The growing insecurity across Nigeria, especially the occupation of ungoverned spaces by these armed groups, poses grave threats to national security and rural livelihoods. If this menace is not quickly nipped in the bud, Nigeria sinks gradually into a state of anarchy where terrorists gain ground and usurp state power.



# ***NIGERIA***

## **NCDC issues health warning on cholera, yellow fever and dengue fever**

As Nigeria's flood season worsens, the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (NCDC) has issued a nationwide health alert due to the rising risk of waterborne and vector-borne diseases. Cholera cases are increasing, with 34 states reporting suspected infections—Zamfara alone accounts for 32%. Other affected states include Bayelsa, Adamawa, Delta, Lagos, and Rivers. The NCDC also warns of potential surges in yellow fever and dengue fever, especially in flood-prone areas. The alert, signed by NCDC Director General Jide Idris, follows a weather forecast from NiMet highlighting increased flood risks in states like Sokoto, Kaduna, and Yobe.

Premium Times: <https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/808082-ncdc-issues-health-warning-on-cholera-yellow-fever-and-dengue-fever.html> July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **REJECT NNAMDI KANU'S NO-CASE SUBMISSION, FG TELLS COURT**

The Federal Government on Friday urged the Federal High Court in Abuja to reject the no-case submission filed by the detained leader of the proscribed Indigenous People of Biafra, Nnamdi Kanu. The Federal Government's lead counsel, Adegboyega Awomolo (SAN), made the plea while responding to the no-case application presented by Kanu. Awomolo told the trial judge, Justice James Omotosho, that Kanu had made a broadcast on Radio Biafra in which he openly and publicly declared his intention to break up Nigeria. He added that Kanu not only threatened to disintegrate the country but also declared his plan to establish a Republic of Biafra.

Punch: [Reject Nnamdi Kanu's no-case submission, FG tells court](#) July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **CSOS CONDEMN ENUGU ACTIVIST'S DETENTION, DEMAND RELEASE**

A coalition of civil society organisations under the banner of the Action Group on Free Civic Space has raised the alarm following the alleged prolonged detention of a human rights advocate, Comrade Emmanuel Acha. Speaking at a media briefing held in Lagos on Wednesday, the coalition, led by Okechukwu Nwanguma, condemned the arrest, alleged torture, and ongoing prosecution of Acha, who is also the Chairperson of the Enugu State Civil Society Network. According to the group, Acha was reportedly arrested in Enugu in April 2025 and transferred to a prison facility in Abakaliki, Ebonyi State. The coalition alleged that Acha was arrested without a warrant, physically assaulted, and had been detained for over three months without proper medical care.

Punch: [CSOs condemn Enugu activist's detention, demand release](#) July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **LAGOS ROYAL FAMILY PROTESTS INSTALLATION OF NEW MONARCH**

Members of the Onikoyi Royal Family in Lagos State have rejected the recent installation of a new Oníkòyí of Ikoyi and Moba Land, describing the process as illegal and a violation of the established chieftaincy declaration guiding succession to the throne. On Tuesday, nine out of the 10 branches of the ruling house staged a peaceful protest at the old palace of the Oníkòyí in the Idumota area of Lagos Island. The aggrieved ruling house accused the Lagos State Government of breaching the

rotational succession arrangement enshrined in the Onikoyi Chieftaincy Declaration of 2006, published in Gazette No. 45.

Punch: Lagos royal family protests installation of new monarch July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **EKITI COURT RESTRAINS HERDERS FROM FARMLAND OVER CROP DAMAGE**

The owner of MAO Organic Farms, expressed joy over an Ekiti State Chief Magistrate Court ruling restraining herders from encroaching on his farm. He praised the state government for its swift response and legal support after his crops were destroyed by herds last year. Okunoye had taken Fulani herder Alhaji Ibrahim Wakili and others to court over the incident. In his ruling, Chief Magistrate Abayomi Adeosun issued an order prohibiting Wakili and his associates from further encroaching on MAO Organic Farms or any farmland within the state, marking a legal victory for embattled farmers in the state.

Punch: Ekiti court restrains herders from farmland over crop damage July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## ***WEST AFRICA***

### **IBRAHIM TRAORE DISSOLVES BURKINA FASO'S ELECTION BODY**

Burkina Faso's military leadership, under Captain Ibrahim Traoré, has dissolved the country's independent National Electoral Commission. According to the electoral body, Burkina Faso's junta has disbanded the national election commission, saying it is too costly and easily influenced by foreigners. Territorial Administration Minister Emile Zerbo stated that the council of ministers had approved the plan to dissolve the commission, adding that the Ministry of Territorial Administration would now oversee all election-related matters. The reforms will result in the disbandment of the 15-member commission, which was made up of representatives from political parties and civil society groups and was responsible for overseeing national elections. Moreover, the step could tighten the junta's grip on power and further delay the country's return to democratic governance.

The Kenya Times: Ibrahim Traore Dissolves Burkina Faso's Election Body July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## ***AFRICA***

### **CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC POSTPONES LOCAL ELECTIONS AGAIN**

The Central African Republic (CAR) has once again delayed its long-overdue local elections, shifting the planned August 2025 date to December. The move has intensified political tensions, deepened public mistrust in the electoral process, and triggered fresh calls for reform from opposition parties and international observers. The postponement was confirmed by Prime Minister Félix Moloua during a Strategic Committee meeting held on 11 July 2025. As a result, the local elections will now be held concurrently with the presidential and parliamentary elections,

also scheduled for December. This overlap has sparked concern over the country's preparedness to manage three critical votes simultaneously.

Town Press: Central African Republic Postpones Local Elections Again July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **SUDAN CONFLICT INTENSIFIES IN NORTH KORDOFAN AND DARFUR**

In Sudan, the civil war continues to rage. Over the weekend, the army announced it had regained control of a strategic town in North Kordofan state from the paramilitary Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Last Thursday, the RSF shelled residential areas in Obeid city, the capital of North Kordofan, resulting in at least four deaths and multiple injuries. Meanwhile, intense fighting is escalating in Darfur, particularly around the besieged city of El Fasher. The humanitarian crisis is worsening.

France24: Sudan conflict intensifies in North Kordofan and Darfur July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **SUDAN'S WAR IS AN ECONOMIC DISASTER: HERE'S HOW BAD IT COULD GET**

Since April 2023, Sudan has been devastated by a war between the Sudanese Armed Forces and the Rapid Support Forces, initially a power struggle that escalated into a national crisis. Over 14 million people have been displaced, with health and education systems collapsing and food insecurity affecting more than half of the 50 million population. The conflict has crippled key sectors, deepening poverty, unemployment, and economic decline. In November 2023, Sudan's finance minister reported economic losses exceeding US\$26 billion—more than half the value of the country's economy the previous year—highlighting the war's catastrophic toll on the nation.

The Conversation: Sudan's war is an economic disaster: here's how bad it could get July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **WORLD'S OLDEST CLIMATE FUND TARGETS WILDLIFE BONDS FOR EVERY COUNTRY IN AFRICA**

The world's oldest multilateral climate fund, the Global Environment Facility, is planning a new wave of wildlife conservation bonds in a bid to help African countries save endangered species and ecosystems. Wildlife bonds, which provide low cost funding in return for cutting poaching or other measures, were pioneered in 2022 with a World Bank-backed rhino bond and have seen a number of other examples since. There was an issue targeting chimpanzee protection in Rwanda last year, and last month the GEF approved one for lemur conservation in Madagascar. Fred Boltz, head of programming at GEF, which is linked to the World Bank, told Reuters on the sidelines of a meeting of African environment ministers that it aims to do one for every one of the 54 countries in Africa.

Reuters: World's oldest climate fund targets wildlife bonds for every country in Africa July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## ***THE GLOBE***

### **ISRAEL ATTACKS SYRIA AS GAZA DEATH TOLL SURGES PAST 80 SINCE DAWN**

Israel's military struck the Syrian defence ministry in Damascus and government forces in southern Syria for a third day on Wednesday, as deadly sectarian fighting in the mostly Druze province of Suweida continued. Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said it was "working to save our Druze brothers". Interim Syrian President Ahmed al-Sharaa accused Israel of causing a "large-scale escalation". More than 350 people are reported to have been killed since Sunday, when clashes between Druze militias and Bedouin tribes erupted in Suweida. The Syrian military reportedly began to withdraw its forces from Suweida late on Wednesday, as the US said it had agreed "steps" to end the violence.

Aljazeera: Israel attacks Syria as Gaza death toll surges past 80 since dawn July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **NORTH KOREA IS NOW A MORE IMPORTANT ALLY FOR RUSSIA THAN IRAN OR CHINA**

North Korean fighters have joined intense battles in Russia's Kursk region, where Ukrainian forces are mounting a counteroffensive. While NATO allies have avoided deploying troops, North Korea has become a key ally to Russia, supplying ammunition and heavy weapons. According to Oleg Ignatov of Crisis Group, North Korean soldiers are professional and disciplined, though initially unprepared for modern drone warfare. However, they quickly adapted. Analysts note that North Korea now plays a more vital role for Russia than Iran or China. Signs indicate that the Russia–North Korea alliance is strengthening, signaling deeper military and strategic cooperation between the two countries.

Aljazeera: 'North Korea is now a more important ally for Russia than Iran or China' July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **RUSSIA MONITORING WESTERN WEAPONS DELIVERIES TO UKRAINE, KREMLIN SAYS**

Moscow is closely monitoring the West's supply of weapons to Ukraine, the Kremlin's spokesperson says shortly after United States President Donald Trump announced the resumption of arms deliveries to Kyiv. The comments from the Kremlin came two days after the US president showed growing impatience with Russia over its war in Ukraine. In his sharpest rebuke of Moscow so far, Trump announced on Monday that Putin had until early September, 50 days, to accept a peace deal or his country would face steep US sanctions. Trump said they would be secondary tariffs targeting Russia's trading partners in a bid to isolate it from the global economy. He also added that he would supply more weapons to Ukraine with European allies buying "billions and billions" of dollars of US military equipment to be transferred to Kyiv.

Aljazeera: Russia monitoring Western weapons deliveries to Ukraine, Kremlin says July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **THE BATTLE FOR THE MIDDLE EAST IS GOING GLOBAL**

Global events increasingly reflect the growing confrontation between the Western bloc, led by the United States and its allies, and the countries of the so-called “World Majority,” coalescing around BRICS. This geopolitical tension is particularly evident against the backdrop of escalating conflicts in the Middle East, where the actions of the US and Israel are seen as manifestations of Western hegemony, while BRICS nations and their partners are increasingly positioning themselves as defenders of multipolarity, sovereignty, and a just international order.

RT: [The battle for the Middle East is going global](#) July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **TRUMP TELLS ZELENSKY NOT TO ATTACK MOSCOW**

US President Donald Trump said on Tuesday that he told Ukraine’s Vladimir Zelensky not to target Moscow with military strikes. The statement comes in response to media speculation that he had encouraged Kiev to carry out long-range missile attacks deep into Russia. The Financial Times reported on Tuesday that Trump had privately asked Zelensky whether he could hit Moscow and St. Petersburg if Washington supplied long-range weapons. Zelensky reportedly replied that he could.

RT: [Trump tells Zelensky not to attack Moscow](#) July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **CHINA HITS BACK AT US OVER RUSSIA SANCTIONS BILL**

China has condemned proposed U.S. legislation that would allow 500% tariffs on countries trading with Russia, calling it “illegal unilateral sanctions” that hinder efforts to resolve the Ukraine conflict. The plan, pushed by Senator Lindsey Graham, would give former President Trump sweeping authority to target nations like China, India, and Brazil. Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Lin Jian strongly opposed the move, warning against “long-arm jurisdiction” and stressing that “there are no winners in a tariff war.” He urged the U.S. to pursue “dialogue and negotiation” instead of punitive measures, arguing that diplomacy is the only viable path to peace in Ukraine.

RT: [China hits back at US over Russia sanctions bill](#) July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **AL-SHABAAB CAPTURES TOWN IN AFRICAN STATE – REUTERS**

Al-Qaeda-linked Al-Shabaab terrorists have captured the town of Tardo in Somalia’s central Hiiran region and are pushing forward with a longstanding offensive that has displaced thousands across the East African nation. The fragile central government in Mogadishu has struggled to fight off Al-Shabaab despite foreign military support. An African Union peacekeeping force drove the militant group out of the capital in 2011, but it still controls large swaths of land in Somalia’s southern and central regions, carrying out sporadic bombings and gun attacks on civilians and military infrastructure.

RT: [Al-Shabaab captures town in African state – Reuters](#) July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **KREMLIN RESPONDS TO TRUMP’S 50-DAY ULTIMATUM**

Russia needs time to assess US President Donald Trump’s threat to impose severe sanctions on Moscow’s trading partners if the Ukraine conflict is not resolved within 50 days, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov has said. Speaking to reporters on Tuesday, Peskov described Trump’s remarks as “quite serious.” “We undoubtedly need time to analyze what was said in Washington.

And if and when President Putin deems it necessary, he will certainly comment on it,” Peskov said. At the same time, the spokesman said the recent shift in Trump’s position will not be interpreted in Kiev as a call for peace.

RT: [Kremlin responds to Trump’s 50-day ultimatum](#) July 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **FIRE GUTS IRAQ SHOPPING CENTER**

A fire at a newly opened mall in eastern Iraq's Wasit province killed more than 60 people, including women and children, Iraqi officials said Thursday. The nation's Interior Ministry said in a statement that 61 people died most of them from suffocation, in the blaze that broke out late Wednesday in the city of al-Kut. Civil defense teams were able to rescue more than 45 people who were trapped inside the building, the statement said. Among the dead were 14 charred bodies that remain unidentified, the ministry said. French news agency AFP cited the ministries as saying most of the dead were found in bathrooms.

CBS: [Fire guts Iraq shopping center](#) July 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025.