

GLIC Weekly Report 25<sup>th</sup> July, 2025

### Top of the Agenda

## TOGO PROTESTS ERUPT AFTER CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES EXTEND FAURE GNASSINGBÉ'S GRIP ON POWER

Protests are set to continue in Togo this Friday, following the government's adoption of a new constitution that allows long-time leader Faure Gnassingbé to remain in power indefinitely, now in the role of prime minister. At least five demonstrators have died in recent weeks during confrontations with security forces in the capital, Lomé. The new constitutional framework, introduced in early 2024 without a public referendum, transfers all executive authority to the prime minister and reduces the presidency to a ceremonial role. Faure Gnassingbé, who has ruled since 2005, was officially installed as prime minister in May. The new president, 86-year-old Jean-Lucien Savi de Tové, was selected by the legislature.

Africa News: <u>Togo Protests Erupt After Constitutional Changes Extend Faure Gnassingbé's Grip On Power</u> July 25, 2025.

### **Analysis**

The continuous street protest in Togo as a result of the long-time leader Faure Gnassingbé transition into the office of Prime Minister with overwhelming government control poses a threat to the peace and regional geo-political stability of West Africa. The protest poses a great threat because there is no strategic engagement by the Togolese government, ECOWAS and the African Union with the protest organisers, who are largely led by young people, artists, and online activists, rather than the traditional opposition politicians. The lingering protest, if not effectively and speedily addressed, can transmute into a severe political turmoil in Togo, with severe humanitarian consequences. This will nonetheless contribute to the fragile state of the West African region, which currently faces a resurgence of military coups and a fragile political situation. Common denominators and causal factors for the intrusion of the military in the countries include political instability and tensions rising from poor governance by the political elite. The Togo situation provides a test case for the ECOWAS to act against constitutional coups and tenure elongation by incumbent presidents in the region.



### **NIGERIA**

# FACING AID CUTS, WORLD FOOD PROGRAMME WARNS OF "HUNGER CRISIS" IN NIGERIA

Nigeria is facing "an unprecedented hunger crisis," and the need for food is rising across west and central Africa while funds are shrinking, the UN food agency's regional head said. Margot van der Velden said nearly 31 million people in Nigeria are facing acute food insecurity and need life-saving food — a number "equivalent to the entire population of Texas going hungry." But the regional director of the World Food Program said that due to severe funding cuts starting in August, "we will face the heartbreaking reality of having to suspend humanitarian aid for the populations in areas devastated by conflict." That means over 1.3 million people in Nigeria will lose access to food and nutritional support, 150 nutrition clinics in Borno state in the northeast where Islamic militants are active may close and 300,000 children will be at risk of severe malnutrition, and 700,000 displaced people "will be left with no means of survival," she said. Africa News: Facing aid cuts, World Food Programme warns of "hunger crisis" in Nigeria July 25th, 2025.

## TURKEY WARNS TINUBU GOVERNMENT OVER PRESENCE OF CIA-BACKED FETO TERROR NETWORK IN NIGERIA

The Turkish government has issued a stern warning to the Bola Tinubu regime regarding the alleged continued operations of the Fethullah Terrorist Organization (FETO) in Nigeria's education and healthcare sectors. According to Ambassador Mehmet Poroy, Türkiye's newly appointed envoy to Nigeria, the group, founded by the late exiled cleric Fethullah Gülen and designated a terrorist organization by Ankara, poses a serious threat to national sovereignty and stability wherever it operates. The terrorist group, now banned in Turkey and several allied states, continues to operate under the guise of humanitarian aid, interfaith dialogue, and educational outreach, particularly in countries with weak regulatory oversight of foreign NGOs.

West Africa Weekly: <u>Turkey Warns Tinubu Government Over Presence of CIA-Backed FETO Terror Network in Nigeria</u> July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

## NAFDAC UNCOVERS EXPLOSIVE CHEMICAL WAREHOUSE IN KANO, SEALS FACILITY

The National Agency for Food and Drug Administration and Control (NAFDAC) on Wednesday uncovered and sealed a warehouse in Kano containing 88,560 litres of controlled chemicals, including 60,000 litres of sulphuric acid and 28,560 litres of nitric acid—both used in making explosives. The discovery was made in Kwakwachi, Fagge Local Government Area. NAFDAC's Director-General, Prof. Mojisola Adeyeye, represented by Dr. Martins Iluyomade, described the quantity of concentrated acids as alarming. Also found were 330 empty jerricans previously filled and distributed to unknown individuals, raising serious concerns about public safety and illegal chemical circulation.

Punch: NAFDAC uncovers explosive chemical warehouse in Kano, seals facility July 24th, 2025.

# PROTEST HITS ILORIN, KWARA STATE AS TENSIONS ESCALATE, PHOTOS EMERGE

Tensions escalated in the ancient city of Ilorin, Kwara State, on Wednesday, July 23, 2025, as hundreds of disgruntled residents staged a protest to express their disappointment over the ongoing political feud between Governor AbdulRahman AbdulRazaq and the senator representing Kwara Central, Saliu Mustapha. The demonstrators, including youths, women, and traditional stakeholders from across Ilorin, took to major roads, demanding an immediate end to the growing political hostilities that they believe are undermining peace and development in the state.

Legit: Protest Hits Ilorin, Kwara State as Tensions Escalate, Photos Emerge July 24th, 2025.

#### SOLDIERS KILL TOP B'HARAM COMMANDER, CAMERA MAN IN BORNO

Troops of Operation Hadin Kai have neutralized a senior Boko Haram commander, Ibn Khalid, along with scores of other insurgents, including the group's cameraman, in a series of operations across Borno State. According to a statement by Captain Reuben Kovangiya, Acting Deputy Director of Army Public Relations, the operations spanned remote areas, including Monguno, Bitta in Gwoza LGA, Sambisa Forest, Madagali, and Kaga LGAs. Troops recovered weapons, ammunition, and logistics supplies, including RPGs, AK-47 magazines, and a camcorder. In Monguno, soldiers repelled infiltration attempts and tracked fleeing terrorists via blood trails. At least 17 terrorists were killed in subsidiary offensives.

Sahel Standard: Soldiers kill top B'Haram commander, camera man in Borno July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

#### **HEAVY RAINS OVER NIGERIA**

Cold clouds were sighted over Western Chad Republic. These clouds are expected to give thunderstorms accompanied with heavy rains over Borno, Yobe, Bauchi, Gombe, Taraba, Kaduna, Jigawa, Kano, and Katsina States. Some important signs and actions to take note of include avoiding driving under heavy rains, disconnecting electrical equipment from electrical sockets and tay away from tall trees to avoid being hit by broken trees and branches.

Nimet: Heavy Rains Over Nigeria July 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025.

## NIHSA ISSUES FLOOD ALERT FOR 27 STATES, FCT BETWEEN JULY 22 AND AUGUST 5

The Nigeria Hydrological Services Agency (NIHSA) has issued a flood alert for 27 states and the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), warning of possible severe flooding between July 22 and August 5, In a statement on Tuesday, the agency's Director-General, Umar Mohammad, said the warning followed a new forecast aligned with NIHSA's 2025 Annual Flood Outlook (AFO), released in April. Mohammad said over 739 communities across 162 local government areas (LGAs) are at risk during the period under review. States identified in the high-risk category include Adamawa, Akwa Ibom, Anambra, Bauchi, Bayelsa, Benue, Borno, Cross River, Delta, Ebonyi, Edo, FCT,

Gombe, Imo, Jigawa, Kebbi, Kogi, Kwara, Lagos, Nasarawa, Niger, Ogun, Ondo, Plateau, Rivers, Sokoto, Taraba and Yobe. The agency urged emergency management agencies and state governments to activate response plans, while advising residents in flood-prone areas to prepare for possible evacuation

TVC News: <u>NIHSA Issues Flood Alert For 27 States</u>, FCT Between July 22 and August 5 July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025...

### **AFRICA**

#### DR CONGO AND REBELS PLEDGE TO SIGN PEACE DEAL

The Democratic Republic of the Congo (DR Congo) and the M23 rebel group have pledged to sign a peace agreement by August 18, after months of talks mediated by Qatar to end decades of escalating violence in the Central African nation. Congolese officials and M23 representatives signed a declaration of principles in Doha on Saturday, setting out a new timeline for peace, according to statements from both parties and the Qatari government.

RT: DR Congo and rebels pledge to sign peace deal July 21st, 2025.

## ALGERIA'S PRESIDENT TEBBOUNE OFFERS TO MEDIATE BETWEEN MALIAN AUTHORITIES AND REBEL TUAREG FORCES

Algerian President Abdelmadjid Tebboune says he is ready to help mediate between Malian authorities and rebel forces in the country's north but only if Mali makes an official request for intervention. The regime in Bamako has been battling the CMA coalition of Tuareg independentists and Arab nationalists since 2023. During his address to the national press on Friday, President Tebboune said his country would not accept mercenaries on the 1400 km border with Mali, despite his country's strong ties with Russia. Bamako has accused Algiers, which has its own Tuareg population, of harboring terrorists who cross the border to launch attacks in Mali. In recent months, the two North African neighbors have swapped accusations of cross-border drone strikes.

Africa News: <u>Algeria's President Tebboune offers to mediate between Malian authorities and rebel</u> Tuareg forces July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

# OIL-RICH SUDANESE REGION BECOMES NEW FOCUS OF WAR BETWEEN ARMY AND RIVAL FORCES

Sudan's oil-rich Kordofan region has become a key battleground in the ongoing war between the national army and the Rapid Support Forces (RSF), marking a dangerous escalation in a conflict that has ravaged the country for over two years. The violence reflects a shocking disregard for civilian life, with rising fears of a worsening death toll as the RSF reportedly prepares to seize El-Obeid, capital of North Kordofan. Given the region's vast size, around 390,000 square kilometers,

the battle for control is expected to be prolonged and devastating, with grave implications for humanitarian stability and regional security..

BBC: Oil-rich Sudanese region becomes new focus of war between army and rival forces July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### AU SPECIAL SAHEL ENVOY ENGAGES IN HIGH-LEVEL TALKS WITH MALI'S GOITA

The newly appointed Special Envoy of the African Union (AU) for the Sahel region, President Évariste Ndayishimiye of Burundi, held a telephone conversation on July 21 with the President of Mali's transitional government, Colonel Assimi Goita, as part of a diplomatic effort to restore dialogue between the AU and the Sahel states, the two leaders discussed the evolving political and security situation in the Sahel, the prospects for renewed engagement between the African Union and members of the Confederation of Sahel States and pathways to inclusive dialogue across the region. This move by the African Union signals a renewed continental strategy to stabilize the Sahel and bridge divides that threaten to fragment regional cooperation.

West Africa Weekly: <u>AU Special Sahel Envoy Engages in High-Level Talks with Mali's Goita</u> July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### THE GLOBE

#### POLAND ADVISES CITIZENS TO LEAVE RUSSIA

Poland's Foreign Ministry has advised all Polish citizens residing in Russia to leave the country if possible, amid deteriorating relations driven by the Ukraine conflict. The advisory warns against all travel to Russia, citing security concerns and Russia's designation of Poland as a "hostile state." Since 2022, Poland has been on Russia's list of "unfriendly states" due to its strong support for Ukraine and alignment with Western sanctions. This status allows Moscow to impose restrictions on Polish diplomatic and economic activities. The ministry urged Poles to exit Russia using any available commercial or private means unless unavoidable personal circumstances require otherwise.

RT: Poland advises citizens to leave Russia July 24th, 2025.

#### ZELENSKY COMPLAINS WESTERN BACKERS TOO SLOW TO SEND MONEY

Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky has expressed frustration over the lack of tangible benefits for Ukraine from NATO's increased military spending plans. At a recent summit, NATO members pledged to raise defense spending to 5% of GDP, while the EU launched the €150 billion SAFE program to boost military capabilities through low-interest loans. Although ten countries have shown willingness to access these funds and support Ukraine, Zelensky noted that no actual transfers have occurred. He emphasized the need for concrete action, as Western commitment to long-term funding for Ukraine appears to be weakening despite ongoing promises.

## THAILAND LAUNCHES FIGHTER JETS AS CLASHES ERUPT WITH CAMBODIA OVER DISPUTED BORDER

Tensions between Thailand and Cambodia escalated as Thailand deployed F-16 fighter jets against Cambodian military targets along their disputed border. The airstrikes followed a landmine explosion that injured a Thai soldier and earlier armed clashes near the Ta Muen Thom Temple in Surin province. Thailand accused Cambodian forces of attacking a Thai base, using drones, and firing into civilian areas, wounding three civilians. Cambodia, however, claimed it acted in self-defense against a Thai incursion. Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet condemned the strikes, urging calm while defending the country's actions. Residents and hospital patients near the conflict zone were evacuated.

CNN: Thailand launches fighter jets as clashes erupt with Cambodia over disputed border July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

#### IRAN AGREES TO RESUME NUCLEAR TALKS WITH EUROPEAN STATES

Iran, France, Germany, and the UK have agreed to resume talks regarding Tehran's nuclear program next week, Tasnim News Agency reported on Sunday, citing an anonymous source. The time and location are still under negotiation, but the talks are expected to take place at the level of deputy foreign ministers from Iran and the three European countries, according to the agency. RT: Iran agrees to resume nuclear talks with European states July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

#### RUSSIAN TRAINING WARSHIP ARRIVES IN AFRICAN STATE

Russian naval training ship the Smolny has docked in Equatorial Guinea for its second official visit, the African Initiative news agency reported on Sunday. The vessel, part of Russia's Baltic Fleet, was received in the capital Malabo by senior officers of the Equatorial Guinean Navy, Russian Ambassador Karen Chalyan, and embassy staff. Unlike previous deployments, this year's voyage for the Smolny begins in Equatorial Guinea and will include stops in South Africa, Tanzania, Sao Tome and Principe, the Republic of the Congo, and Vietnam, before concluding in Vladivostok, Russia, in late September. The ship is carrying around 400 personnel, including 200 naval cadets enrolled in at-sea training.

RT: Russian training warship arrives in African state July 21st, 2025.

### IRAN ANNOUNCES NUCLEAR TALKS WITH RUSSIA AND CHINA

Russia, China, and Iran will hold talks on Tuesday to discuss Tehran's nuclear program, Esmaeil Baghaei, a spokesman for the Iranian Foreign Ministry, has announced. He noted that a separate round of talks with European nations is scheduled for later this week. Speaking to reporters on Monday, Baghaei said that the trilateral talks would also focus on the threats by Britain, France, and Germany to reimpose UN sanctions on Iran over its nuclear program.

RT: Iran announces nuclear talks with Russia and China July 21st, 2025.

# TORRENTIAL RAIN LEAVES AT LEAST 18 DEAD IN SOUTH KOREA, TRAIL OF DEVASTATION

Severe wet weather in Gapyeong, about 62 kilometers (38.5 miles) northeast of Seoul, South Korea eased on Monday after days of heavy rain that caused floods and landslides, resulting in at least 18 fatalities. Some residents recalled narrow escapes from flooding after 173 millimeters (6.8 inches) of rain inundated the area in just 17 hours on Sunday. Throughout South Korea, damage from the rain was reported to 1,999 public structures and 2,238 private facilities, including farms. Reuters: Torrential rain leaves at least 18 dead in South Korea, trail of devastation July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

#### STORMS HIT SOUTHERN CHINA MAINLAND IN WAKE OF TYPHOON WIPHA

Following Typhoon Wipha's landfall, southern China experienced intense storms and heavy rainfall, triggering early warning signals for flash floods and landslides. Cities in Guangdong province, including Yangjiang, Zhanjiang and Maoming, were drenched, with over 20 rivers surpassing flood warning levels. The storm system is expected to regain strength over the Gulf of Tonkin before striking northern Vietnam. In response, Vietnamese authorities placed coastal provinces on high alert, anticipating severe flooding and landslides. This sequence of escalating meteorological activity exemplifies an early warning signal of climate-driven extreme weather events, underscoring the urgency for improved regional preparedness and transboundary disaster coordination.

Reuters: Storms hit southern China mainland in wake of Typhoon Wipha July 21st, 2025.

## UKRAINE ATTEMPTS TO EXPORT GEOPOLITICAL CONFLICT TO WEST AFRICA, FALSELY CLAIMS "DRONE AGREEMENT" REACHED WITH GHANA

The Ukrainian government is facing backlash after President Volodymyr Zelensky falsely claimed a drone production agreement with Ghana, raising serious diplomatic concerns in West Africa. Zelensky's statement on social media suggested that Ghana was prepared to finance Ukrainian drone manufacturing and collaborate on border security. Ghanaian officials have since denied any such agreement, viewing the claim as an attempt to export Ukraine's conflict with Russia into West Africa. The incident comes at a sensitive time, as Ghana works to rebuild diplomatic ties with the Confederation of Sahel States amid regional security and political tensions.

West Africa Weekly: <u>Ukraine Attempts To Export Geopolitical Conflict To West Africa, Falsely Claims "Drone Agreement" Reached With Ghana</u> July 21<sup>st</sup>, 2025.