



## THE EARLY WARNING MONITOR

*GLIC Weekly Report*

*5th September, 2025*

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

#### **NIGER BOAT CRASH DEATH TOLL HITS 30**

The National Emergency Management Agency has confirmed that 30 people lost their lives in the tragic boat accident that occurred in the Gausawa community, Borgu Local Government Area of Niger State. The agency added that 50 passengers were rescued from the incident, while one more body was recovered. The accident, which happened on Tuesday, involved a boat carrying about 90 passengers along a water channel in Gausawa.

Punch: Niger boat crash death toll hits 30 September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### ***Analysis***

Boat accidents in Nigeria, notably in states such as Niger, Kebbi, and Kwara, represent a persistent and deeply troubling safety crisis driven by systemic shortcomings across the inland water transport sector. At the core of this issue is the rampant practice of overloading vessels beyond their safe passenger and cargo capacities, which critically undermines boat stability and significantly increases the risk of capsizing when vessels encounter challenging conditions like rough waters or sudden weight shifts. Further exacerbating the problem is the prevalent use of ageing, poorly maintained, and structurally deficient boats—many of which are wooden and ill-suited for commercial navigation. The absence of a national boat design policy allows these unsafe vessels to remain in operation, heightening vulnerability to mechanical failures and accidents. Although regulatory frameworks exist through institutions like the National Inland Waterways Authority (NIWA) and the Nigerian Safety Investigation Bureau (NSIB), enforcement remains consistently weak and ineffective. This regulatory gap fosters an environment where illegal and unsafe practices thrive without meaningful penalties or corrective actions. Compounding these issues is the frequent absence or misuse of life jackets. Passengers often board boats without wearing available life-saving equipment due to a lack of awareness or disregard for safety protocols. The limited presence of organised and proactive rescue operations further diminishes survival chances when accidents occur. Human factors play a significant role: inadequate training for boat operators and passengers' willingness to ignore safety guidelines contribute to the high fatality rates witnessed across the country. While the Nigerian government has recently demonstrated a renewed commitment to tackling these challenges through policy reforms and distributing safety equipment, meaningful progress demands more than regulatory changes. It requires a fundamental cultural shift that places safety as an uncompromising priority for all participants in the water transport ecosystem—government agencies, operators, and passengers alike. Only with sustained enforcement, enhanced public education, improved vessel standards, and robust rescue mechanisms can Nigeria hope to curb the recurring tragedies on its inland waterways and protect lives more effectively.

# ***NIGERIA***

## **HUNGER GROWS IN NIGERIA AS AID CUTS REDUCE FOOD SUPPLIES**

Destitute families displaced by conflict in northeastern Nigeria are finding nutrition centres closed or running low on food as a result of a collapse in aid funding from the United States and other Western countries. Africa's most populous nation has 31 million people facing food shortages, more than any other country, according to the U.N. The worst crisis is in the northeast, where 2.3 million people have been forced from their homes and farmlands during 15 years of war between Islamist insurgents and the army.

Reuters: Hunger grows in Nigeria as aid cuts reduce food supplies September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **NIGERIAN MILITARY KILL OVER 28 MILITIA IN NORTHEAST BORNO STATE**

Nigeria's air force killed more than 15 Islamist militia fighters in an airstrike on their hideout around the Sambisa Forest in the northeastern Borno state, a spokesperson said on Thursday. Nigeria has faced a 16-year Islamist insurgency in the northeast led by Boko Haram and its offshoot ISWAP, causing mass casualties, displacement and a deepening humanitarian crisis. Air Commodore Ehimen Ejodame said the operation, carried out on September 3, targeted fighters and commanders linked to recent attacks. The strike followed intelligence and surveillance that confirmed militant activity in the area, he said.

Reuters: Nigerian military kill over 28 militia in northeast Borno state September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **NIGERIA'S DANGOTE REFINERY GASOLINE UNIT COULD BE SHUT FOR 2-3 MONTHS, IIR SAYS**

The gasoline unit at Nigeria's 650,000 barrel-per-day Dangote refinery may be shut for 2-3 months for repairs, industry monitor IIR Energy told clients on Thursday, which could lead to a tighter gasoline market. The unit has been shut since around August 29 after catalyst leaks. The refinery plans to attempt to restart the 204,000 bpd Residue Fluidized Catalytic Cracking Unit (RFCCU) on September 20, but major repairs and equipment replacement could keep the unit shut for months, IIR Energy said.

Reuters: Nigeria's Dangote refinery gasoline unit could be shut for 2-3 months, IIR says September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **NARD INSISTS ON STRIKE, SAYS OVER 2,000 DOCTORS OWED**

The Nigerian Association of Resident Doctors reiterated its resolve on Wednesday to embark on a nationwide strike on September 10 if the Federal Government and its relevant agencies fail to meet its demands. The President of NARD, Dr. Tope Osundara, disclosed this in an exclusive interview with our correspondent. He said the association met with the Federal Government on Monday, but the discussions yielded no positive outcome.

Punch: NARD insists on strike, says over 2,000 doctors owed September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **EXPERTS DECRY POOR DISEASE SURVEILLANCE, UNVEIL AI DETECTION TOOL**

Leading researchers and public health experts have expressed concerns over Nigeria's fragile infectious disease surveillance system, warning that the current systems in place are inadequate for timely detection and response to outbreaks. They described the country's infectious disease surveillance system as outdated, underfunded, and incapable of providing real-time data critical for preventing deadly outbreaks.

Punch: Experts decry poor disease surveillance, unveil AI detection tool September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2025.

### **NAF'S AIRSTRIKES KILL 15 TERRORISTS, DESTROY DOZENS OF HIDEOUTS IN BORNO, YOBE**

The Nigerian Air Force (NAF) has said its airstrikes have killed no fewer than 15 Boko Haram terrorists in an identified hideout of Zuwa in Sambisa Forest of Borno and Yobe states. Its spokesman, Air Commodore Ehimen Ejodame, in a statement yesterday in Maiduguri, said: "The multiple airstrikes were based on our intelligence and surveillance reconnaissance that confirmed the active presence of Boko Haram commanders and their fighters at Zuwa hideout."

Guardian NG: NAF's airstrikes kill 15 terrorist, destroy dozens hideouts in Borno, Yobe September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **ARMY RECOVERS 158 CATTLE, COMPELS TERRORIST'S FAMILY MEMBER TO SURRENDER**

The Nigerian Army has intensified its operations across the country, recovering 158 cattle, compelling a terrorist's family member to surrender, and preventing multiple criminal activities in a series of coordinated missions. Online TV streaming services Confirming the development in a statement yesterday, the Acting Director of Army Public Relations, Lieutenant Colonel Appolonia Anele, said that on September 2, 2025, troops of 192 Battalion (Main) in Gwoza, Borno State, received the surrender of an adult female relative of ISWAP/JAS terrorists. Preliminary investigations revealed that she surrendered from Chikide Village with a token sum of N4,500. She was subsequently handed over to the 26 Task Force Brigade Military Intelligence unit for profiling. In Zamfara State, troops of 1 Brigade at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Danmarke responded to intelligence reports of terrorist movement after livestock rustling in Kyairu Village. Their swift action forced the criminals to abandon the animals, which were later recovered and handed over to local authorities.

Guardian NG: Army recovers 158 cattle, compels terrorist's family member to surrender September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **VILLAGERS DECRY GUNMEN'S FUNERAL LEVY IN ANAMBRA, IMO**

Some community leaders in the Lilu and Agwa communities in Anambra and Imo states, respectively, have lamented that grieving families are being forced to pay burial levies to gunmen who were also responsible for the killings of community members. The leaders disclosed this on Thursday while speaking on the state of their communities at the relaunch of the Amnesty

International report on extrajudicial killings in the South-East, held in Ikeja, Lagos State. Speaking virtually at the event, the Palace Secretary of the Lilo community, Dr Dominic Okoli, lamented that between 2020 and 2025, no fewer than 25 people were killed by gunmen, and no fewer than 30 houses were destroyed and looted. He added that the recurring attacks had transformed the once-peaceful agrarian community into a shadow of its former self.

Punch: Villagers decry gunmen's funeral levy in Anambra, Imo September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **PANIC AS FIVE BODIES FOUND ALONG LAGOS RIVERBANK**

At least five bodies were recovered along the riverbank in the Oreta area of the Igbogbo community on Wednesday, while another person was gruesomely killed in Bayeku on Tuesday, both in the Ikorodu area of Lagos State. The development comes amid rising cases of cult clashes in the state, which have forced the police command to redeploy some divisional heads. Although details of the incident remain sketchy, residents confirmed that the Bayeku attack involved the brutal killing of a man whose wrist and leg were severed, while five corpses were later found in Oreta.

Punch: Panic as five bodies found along Lagos riverbank September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **SOLDIERS KILL BANDIT, RECOVER AK-47 IN KWARA AMBUSH**

Troops of the 22 Armoured Brigade achieved a major breakthrough during an operation in Babana, Borgu LGA of Niger State, neutralising armed bandits and recovering one AK-47 rifle, a magazine with 30 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, and a motorcycle. The body of the neutralised suspect was handed over to the appropriate authorities. Brigadier General Ezra Barkins, Commander of the Brigade, commended the troops' resilience and urged continued efforts against criminal groups. He reaffirmed the Army's commitment to intensified operations aimed at eliminating bandits from Kwara communities. The update was shared by Captain Stephen Nwakwo on Thursday, August 28, 2025.

Punch: Soldiers kill bandit, recover AK-47 in Kwara ambush September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **7 CULTISTS ARRESTED WITH HUMAN SKULL IN AKWA IBOM**

The Akwa Ibom State Police Command has arrested seven suspected cultists linked to violent attacks in Ikot Osura, Ikot Ekpene Local Government Area. The suspects, believed to be members of the banned Ku Klux Klan Confraternity, were found with a human skull. Police spokesperson, DSP Timfon John, disclosed in a statement that the arrests followed a complaint from an Akwa Ibom State Polytechnic student, who was ambushed on August 25, 2025. The victim, a former cult member, was severely injured and robbed of ₦41,000 and his Redmi 13C phone. The suspects were apprehended on August 28 for cultism, robbery, and illegal possession of arms.

Punch: 7 Cultists Arrested with Human Skull in Akwa Ibom September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

### **WOMAN BURNT TO DEATH BY MOB IN NIGER OVER ALLEGED BLASPHEMY**

The Niger State Police Command has confirmed the mob killing of a young woman, identified as

Ammaye, in Mariga Local Government Area over alleged blasphemy. Ammaye, a popular food seller and Muslim faithful, was reportedly confronted after an exchange with her nephew, who joked about marrying her to “fulfil the Sunnah.” Her response was deemed blasphemous, sparking outrage among local youths. She was taken before the District Head of Kasuwan Garba, where she allegedly repeated the remark. The mob subsequently lynched and burnt her before security operatives could intervene. Police spokesperson Wasiu Abiodun said investigations and arrests were ongoing.

Punch: Woman Burnt to Death by Mob in Niger Over Alleged Blasphemy September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

### **SUSPECT ARRESTED IN EBONYI BEHEADING OVER LAND DISPUTE**

The Ebonyi State Police Command has arrested a suspect over the alleged beheading of Dick Nnachi, a middle-aged man from Oso-Edda community in Edda Local Government Area. Police spokesperson, DSP Joshua Ukandu, confirmed the incident, linking it to a decade-long land dispute between Oso-Edda and the neighboring Amasiri community in Afikpo. He stated that officers had been deployed to restore calm, while government efforts to demarcate the disputed land continue. Ukandu added that investigations are ongoing despite the arrest. Similar tragedies were reported in January in Amai, Delta State, where a 70-year-old man and his daughter were also beheaded.

Punch: Suspect Arrested in Ebonyi Beheading Over Land Dispute September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

## ***AFRICA***

### **IN BESIEGED SUDAN CITY, CIVILIANS FACE DEATH IF THEY TRY TO ESCAPE**

The Rapid Support Forces (RSF) have seized four of Darfur’s five provinces—South, East, Central, and West—in a swift offensive against the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). Their advance now threatens North Darfur, spreading fear among civilians. Residents, particularly from non-Arab communities, fear RSF’s record of abductions, sexual violence, and extrajudicial killings targeting men and boys. In response, many, like 27-year-old Imam, have joined Popular Resistance groups supported by the SAF to defend their neighborhoods. The RSF’s indiscriminate violence against both civilians and fighters underscores the worsening humanitarian crisis and escalating ethnic dimensions of Sudan’s conflict.

Aljazeera: In besieged Sudan city, civilians face death if they try to escape September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **AFRICAN COUNTRY DECLARES NEW EBOLA OUTBREAK**

The Democratic Republic of Congo has confirmed a new Ebola outbreak in Kasai province, with at least 16 deaths, including four health workers, and 28 suspected cases. Tests identified the Zaire strain, with a fatality rate estimated at 57%. This marks the country’s 16th recorded epidemic. Rapid response teams, backed by WHO, are strengthening surveillance, isolation, and vaccination

efforts. Congo holds 2,000 doses of the Ervebo vaccine for frontline workers and contacts. The outbreak comes amid armed conflict and other health crises, including Mpox. Ebola, highly contagious through bodily fluids, last struck Congo in 2022, following a devastating 2018–2020 epidemic.

RT: [African country declares new Ebola outbreak](#) September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **COLOMBIAN MERCENARIES JOIN RAPID SUPPORT FORCES FIGHTING IN SUDAN**

Sudanese Prime Minister Kamil Idris appealed to Colombians in Spanish, urging them to value cultural icons like García Márquez and Neruda over mercenary warfare, after reports of Colombians fighting for Sudan's Rapid Support Forces (RSF). His message followed Sudanese state TV's claim that a plane carrying 40 Colombian fighters was shot down in Nyala, South Darfur. Colombian President Gustavo Petro echoed the plea, warning veterans not to join foreign wars. Colombian involvement is longstanding: in 2024, reports revealed over 300 nationals fighting with the RSF. Documents recently seized at the Libya-Sudan border confirmed Colombian participation in the ongoing conflict.

Lemonade: [Colombian mercenaries join Rapid Support Forces fighting in Sudan](#) September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **‘A WAR OF ATROCITIES’ – UN HUMAN RIGHTS INVESTIGATORS WARN SUDANESE CIVILIANS ARE PAYING THE HIGHEST PRICE**

A UN fact-finding report, A War of Atrocities, details widespread war crimes in Sudan's conflict between the army (SAF) and Rapid Support Forces (RSF). Both sides have targeted civilians, executing, torturing, and raping people, while destroying infrastructure and attacking hospitals. The RSF has assaulted non-Arab communities in Darfur, worsening displacement, with 12.1 million uprooted since April 2023. Women and girls face systematic sexual violence with little access to support. Humanitarian workers are also under attack, with over 84 killed. The report urges justice, arms embargoes, ICC support, and civil society engagement, warning that inaction would betray Sudanese victims and international law.

News UN: [‘A war of atrocities’ – UN human rights investigators warn Sudanese civilians are paying the highest price](#) September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## ***THE GLOBE***

### **NATO TROOPS ON UKRAINE BATTLEFIELD WOULD BE ‘LEGITIMATE TARGETS’ – PUTIN**

At the Eastern Economic Forum in Vladivostok, President Vladimir Putin warned that any Western troops deployed to Ukraine during ongoing hostilities would be considered “legitimate military targets.” He argued such deployments would be pointless if a peace deal were reached, stressing that Russia would honor agreed security guarantees for both sides. Putin criticized the West's push



to draw Ukraine into NATO as a root cause of the conflict and noted that Kiev's backers have not engaged Moscow seriously on security guarantees. Meanwhile, European nations continue debating security commitments, though most reject sending ground forces, despite Ukraine's appeals.

RT: NATO troops on Ukraine battlefield would be 'legitimate targets' – Putin September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **LISBON FUNICULAR CRASH PORTUGAL INTL**

At least 16 people lost their lives and 21 others were injured after a funicular carriage derailed in Lisbon, Portugal, on Wednesday evening. The incident, involving the historic Gloria funicular, occurred just after 6 p.m. local time, and authorities are still investigating the cause. Eyewitnesses described a terrifying scene as one of the cars came off the tracks and sped uncontrollably down the street before crashing into a building. A witness named Bruno told CNN Portugal the car looked like a toy being tossed around, followed by screams, a loud crash, and a cloud of smoke. Portugal has declared three days of mourning.

CNN: Lisbon Funicular Crash Portugal Intl September 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **BEIJING'S MISSILE FASHION WEEK: CHINA SHOWS THE US WHO'S BOSS**

China marked the 80th anniversary of victory over Japan with a major military parade in Beijing's Tiananmen Square, showcasing advanced weapons and signaling doctrinal shifts. The event unveiled the DF-61 mobile ICBM, DF-31BJ, DF-5C with global reach, and the JL-3 submarine-launched missile, all enhancing China's nuclear deterrent. Air-launched JL-1 missiles, hypersonic CJ-1000 cruise missiles, and YJ-18C ship-based systems highlighted growing strike capabilities. New ZTZ-201 tanks, support vehicles with drones, and advanced laser defense systems were also displayed. Analysts noted the parade reflected China's evolving strategy, positioning it as a stronger rival to the US and reshaping the Indo-Pacific military balance.

RT: Beijing's missile fashion week: China shows the US who's boss September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

### **TRUMP CONSIDERING STRIKES IN VENEZUELA**

CNN reported that US President Donald Trump is weighing military strikes against drug cartels in Venezuela, alongside the recent deployment of eight warships and a submarine to the Caribbean. A missile strike on a suspected smuggling boat was seen as the first step in targeting cartels and potentially weakening President Nicolás Maduro. Washington has already imposed sweeping sanctions and raised its reward for information leading to Maduro's arrest to \$50 million. While Trump denied regime-change plans, Secretary of State Marco Rubio vowed to confront cartels globally. Maduro dismissed the allegations, warning Venezuela would resist and comparing US claims to Iraq.

RT: Trump considering strikes in Venezuela September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **ISRAEL HAS OFFICIALLY MOVED ON FROM DESTROYING HAMAS TO ERASING PALESTINE**

In August, Benjamin Netanyahu clarified Israel's strategy: dismantle Hamas, seize Gaza militarily, and later transfer control to a "non-Hamas" civilian administration. Israel's cabinet approved preparations for an assault on Gaza City, calling up tens of thousands of reservists as air and ground strikes escalated. Simultaneously, West Bank settlement expansion, especially the E1 plan, advanced, undermining prospects for a Palestinian state. International condemnation has mounted, while humanitarian conditions in Gaza collapse into famine. A proposed ceasefire remains stalled. Israel's approach increasingly merges military action and territorial reconfiguration into a single agenda, aiming to entrench control and weaken Palestinian self-determination permanently.

RT: Israel has officially moved on from destroying Hamas to erasing Palestine September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

## **US GENERALS INVOLVED IN EUROPEAN PLAN TO SEND 10,000 TROOPS TO UKRAINE**

The Wall Street Journal reported that US military officials, alongside European allies, are helping draft a plan for "security guarantees" for Ukraine, advocated by Paris and London. The proposal involves deploying over 10,000 troops once a peace deal with Russia is reached. Forces would be split into two groups: one for training Ukrainian troops and another as a "reassurance force." Twenty-six nations have pledged support, with input from US generals, though Washington's commitment remains unclear. Russia strongly opposes NATO troop involvement, with President Putin warning they would be legitimate targets. Some proposals suggest non-NATO troops forming a US-overseen buffer zone.

RT: US generals involved in European plan to send 10,000 troops to Ukraine September 6<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

