

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 13 - 19 June 2024

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18 Jun 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Barron's.* A lawyer for **Taylor Christian Thomson**, a **United States (US)** citizen on trial in DRC over the coup attempt in May, says Thomson suffered torture during his arrest;

18 Jun 2024 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Borkena.* Mines minister **Million Matheos** says drilling of 19 wells has confirmed that there are over 21 billion cubic metres of natural gas in the **Ogaden** region;

18 Jun 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters.* A parliamentary panel recommends that the government scrap several proposed new taxes under its **Finance Bill 2024** including the proposed 16% VAT on bread and a new 2.5% motor vehicle tax;

18 Jun 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *EWN.* Police arrest 335 protestors who gathered around parliament to demonstrate against the **Finance Bill 2024**;

18 Jun 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *SF Group.* Protests are expected across Nairobi today against the **Finance Bill 2024**;

17 Jun 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *iAfrica.* **African Union (AU)** denounces the recent "*massacres*" in eastern DRC, expressing concern over the rising levels of violence in the region;

17 Jun 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Africanews.* **National Electoral Commission** confirms the final list of candidates for the upcoming 15 July election, presenting three presidential candidates including incumbent **Paul Kagame**;

16 Jun 2024 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *AFP.* **United Nations (UN)** deploys additional peacekeepers in more areas in DRC to help with a new wave of violence from various armed groups;

15 Jun 2024 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Reuters.* Cabinet passes a bill that will allow foreign banks to set up local subsidiaries and foreigners to acquire shares in domestic lenders as government continues to work to liberalise the economy;

15 Jun 2024 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *The East African.* **United States**-headquartered fund management firm **BlackRock** confirms it is selling off its equity investments in emerging and frontier markets, including Kenya and **Nigeria**, due to liquidity challenges in these markets and difficulty in repatriating funds;

15 Jun 2024 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The East African.* **European Union (EU)** joins the **World Bank** in cutting funding for Tanzania's wildlife conservation programmes over human rights violations allegations;

15 Jun 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Bloomberg.* **European Union (EU)** is considering doubling funding for the **Rwandan Defence Force** contingent that is fighting **Islamic State**-linked jihadists in **Mozambique**;



- 14 Jun 2024 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *Anadolu Agency.* **United Nations** high commissioner for human rights **Liz Throssell** says concerns persist about the ongoing violations by members of the **Eritrea Defence Forces** in **Ethiopia**'s **Tigray** region;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Reuters.* Finance minister **Audace Niyonzima** presents the 2024/2025 budget, set at 4.4 billion BF (\$1.5 billion), a 15.9% increase compared to last year due to the unfreezing of civil servant's salary bonuses;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Djibouti (Djibouti)** *Garowe Online.* Foreign affairs minister **Mahamoud Ali Youssouf** meets with **Ethiopia**'s prime minister **Abiy Ahmed** to discuss diplomatic ties;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *News24.* Rwanda accuses the **United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)**, which says it has evidence that refugees in Rwanda are not safe, of applying double standards and "*lying*" to a **United Kingdom** court about Rwanda's treatment of refugees;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *New Times.* President **Paul Kagame** reshuffles his cabinet, notably appointing **Olivier Nduhungirehe** as foreign affairs minister and **Yousuf Murangwa** as finance minister;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *CNBC Africa*. Minister of state in the president's office for planning and investment **Kitila Mkumbo** tells parliament that Tanzania's economy is set to grow by 5.4% this year;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Reuters.* Finance minister **Matia Kasaija** says the budget deficit is projected to rise to 5.7% of GDP in the 2024/2025 financial year, up from 4.5% in the current financial year;
- 13 Jun 2024 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Zawya.* High court charges three ruling **National Resistance Movement (NRM)** legislators with corruption for trying to influence the state-funded **Uganda Human Rights Commission (UHRC)** to inflate its budget;

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