

ARC East Africa Weekly Chronology 22 – 28 May 2025

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27 May 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *La Prosperite*. Residents report that bandits known as Kulunas are terrorising the **Kimbwala** neighbourhood in Kinshasa by throwing stones at homes and causing fear among residents, who are now urging authorities to restore order;

27 May 2025 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *TipRanks*. **British Virgin Islands**-headquartered **Alpha Exploration Ltd** initiates its 2025 drilling programme at its 514km² **Kerkasha** concession in Eritrea;

27 May 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *Amnesty International*. **United Kingdom**-headquartered **Amnesty International** alleges that Rwanda-backed **M23** rebels have killed, tortured, and unlawfully detained civilians in eastern **Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)**, with some detainees held in inhumane conditions or forcibly disappeared;

27 May 2025 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **Nordic Week 2025** is underway in Tanzania, a collaborative initiative organised by the embassies of **Denmark, Finland, Norway, and Sweden** aimed at strengthening corporation, private investment and accelerating energy sector reforms;

27 May 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Monitor*. **Bank of Uganda** (central bank) initiates consultations and pilot programmes to explore the introduction of a central bank digital currency, aiming to modernise its financial system and enhance financial inclusion;

26 May 2025 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *Borkena*. Regional administration minister **Woldenkiel Abraham**, passes away with government not announcing a replacement to this key political role that serves as the equivalent to deputy president;

26 May 2025 **Kigali (Rwanda)** *New Times*. Cabinet, chaired by President **Paul Kagame**, approves bilateral air service agreements with 12 countries, including **France, Canada, and Poland**, to enhance international air transport and promote trade and tourism;

26 May 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters*. **World Bank** revises Kenya's growth forecast for 2025 downwards from 4.5% to 4%, citing high debt levels, high lending rates and a decline in private sector credit;

26 May 2025 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. The **Bank of Tanzania** (central bank) is preparing to release a comprehensive study on central bank digital currencies, aiming to evaluate their potential impact on the country's financial ecosystem and payment systems by June;

26 May 2025 **Nairobi (Kenya)** *Reuters*. Finance minister **John Mbadi** says the government plans to sell more of its shareholdings in telecom operator **Safaricom**, as it seeks to raise KSh 149 billion (\$1.16 billion) through the sale of shares in the 2025/2026 financial year;

25 May 2025 **Kinshasa (DRC)** *Financial Times*. Officials are reportedly optimistic about reaching a mineral deal with the **United States (US)** by the end of June, which would promote

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US investment in the critical minerals sector alongside US support to end the **Rwanda-backed M23** conflict;

25 May 2025 **Kampala (Uganda)** *Monitor*. Tensions between Uganda and **Germany** escalate following Uganda's decision to sever defence ties with Germany, citing alleged subversive activities by German ambassador **Matthias Schauer**;

24 May 2025 **Djibouti City (Djibouti)** *Garowe Online*. President **Ismail Omar Guelleh**, who has held office since 1999 and is 77 years old, does not rule out seeking a sixth term in the April 2026 presidential election, despite the country's constitution imposing an age limit of 75 for presidential candidates;

22 May 2025 **Addis Ababa (Ethiopia)** *Addis Standard*. Ethiopian and **South Sudanese** military officials agree to boost joint operations to address illegal activities and strengthen border security, with a focus on contraband and fostering community cooperation;

22 May 2025 **Dar es Salaam (Tanzania)** *The Citizen*. **African Export-Import Bank** commits to investing at least \$1 billion in Tanzania's public and private sectors over the next year;

22 May 2025 **Bujumbura (Burundi)** *Burundi Times*. **Banque de la République du Burundi** (central bank) is spearheading a comprehensive digital transformation of the nation's financial sector, aiming for full implementation by November 2025;

22 May 2025 **Asmara (Eritrea)** *Independent*. Data indicates that in the first quarter of 2025, Eritreans became the most common nationality among migrants crossing the **English Channel** to the **United Kingdom**, accounting for 20% of the 6,420 arrivals whose nationality was known;

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