

August 2020

# H+K

## Africa Digest

Summary of Key Political & Economic Developments

Angola · Ethiopia · Ghana · Kenya  
Mozambique · Nigeria · Rwanda  
South Africa · Tanzania · Uganda

  
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Strategies



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# COVID 19 Summary of cases as of 7<sup>th</sup> September 2020

COUNTRY	COVID 19 CASES	RECOVERIES	DEATHS
Kenya	35,103	21,230	597
Tanzania	509	183	21
Ethiopia	58,672	21,307	918
Angola	2,965	1,198	117
Mozambique	4,444	2,615	27
Uganda	3,667	1,564	41
Rwanda	4,374	2,235	19
Nigeria	55,005	43,013	1,057
Ghana	44,777	43,693	283
South Africa	638,517	563,891	14,889

Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/>



## Covid-19 News Roundup

### Angola

Angola maintains closed borders to fend off COVID-19

Ref: 9 August 2020

The country recently said it will maintain closed borders to fight and prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in the country.

[Read more](#)

Nation joins African “saving lives” campaign

Ref: 20 August 2020

African countries, including Angola, will soon launch a campaign to protect borders, travel, economy and the schooling activity.

[Read more](#)

### Ethiopia

COVID-19 spreads inside detention centers

Ref: 21 August 2020

During recent unrest, sectarian arrested thousands of protesters, opposition members and journalists.

[Read more](#)

Eritrean refugees in Ethiopia resist camp closure amid COVID-19 fears

Ref: 17 August 2020

A plan by the government to relocate around 27,000 Eritrean refugees to two already overcrowded camps is yet to be shelved, despite concerns by aid organisations over both the risk of spreading COVID-19 and the confusion the stated policy has caused.

[Read more](#)

### Ghana

NCCE intensifies COVID-19 education campaign

Ref: 26 August 2020

The National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) has intensified its mass sensitisation and education campaign on the coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

[Read more](#)

House approves GH¢174.7m COVID-19 tax waiver for health workers

Ref: 17 August 2020

Parliament has by a resolution approved a request by government for tax waiver amounting to GH¢174,696,712 for health workers as part of measures in the fight against Coronavirus disease (COVID-19).

[Read more](#)

### Kenya

Country to probe alleged fraud in coronavirus funds

Ref: 26 August 2020

Amid continuing protests, the President recently called for investigations into alleged embezzlement of funds meant to fight the coronavirus outbreak.

[Read more](#)

WHO says drop in COVID-19 cases in the country a result of low testing, contact tracing

Ref: 31 August 2020

The World Health Organisation has put an asterisk on the progressive drop in COVID-19 cases in the country over the last three weeks.

[Read more](#)

### Mozambique

Mozambique announces another 30 days of state of emergency

Ref: 27 July 2020

Mozambique will enter another 30 days of state of emergency from 7 August, to tackle COVID-19, while the government seeks to relax some restrictive measures in three phases in the near future, Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi announced recently.

[Read more](#)

Mozambique responds to gender-based violence in the context of COVID-19

Ref: 14 August 2020

The Government, the European Union (EU) and the United Nations (UN) approved the 2020 Annual Work Plan of the EU-funded Spotlight Initiative to end violence and harmful practices against women and girls, amid new challenges brought by COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

## Nigeria

### World Bank approves \$114 million response funds

Ref: 8 August 2020

The World Bank has approved the sum of \$114 million to assist the country in its fight against the coronavirus pandemic.

[Read more](#)

### FG postpones resumption of international flights to Sept 5

Ref: 27 August 2020

The Federal Government recently shifted the resumption date for the commencement of international flights into and out of Nigeria from August 29, 2020, to September 5, 2020.

[Read more](#)

## Rwanda

### Country pilots home-based care for Covid-19 cases

Ref: 11 August 2020

The Ministry of Health is testing whether community-based management for Covid-19 is feasible in the country, with the possibility of using it to manage the pandemic.

[Read more](#)

### Israel lists Rwanda as only African country in "Green" category

Ref: 27 August 2020

Some of the measures put in place to boost tourism between Israel and Rwanda include RwandAir's direct flight to Tel Aviv that began mid-last year and would fly three times a week, before being halted as a result of Covid-19.

[Read more](#)

## South Africa

### Coronavirus: South Africa crime rate plummets during lockdown

Ref: 14 August 2020

The police minister said most types of crimes went down between April and June including sexual assault and arson.

[Read more](#)

### Health Minister Zweli Mkhize confirms COVID-19 antibody tests are now legal

Ref: 25 August 2020

Recently, Health Minister Zweli Mkhize announced; "I am pleased to announce that the director-general for health has issued guidelines for the use of SARS CoV 2 antibody tests and that Sahpra announced its approval of several test kits, both lab based and point of care or bedside rapid tests.

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## Tanzania

### Tanzania's President says country is virus free. others warn of disaster

Ref: 4 August 2020

More than 88 days have passed since the country reported even a single new coronavirus case — far longer than any other African country.

[Read more](#)

## Uganda

### 155 new COVID-19 cases registered, more health workers infected

Ref: 27 August 2020

The number of registered COVID-19 case has jumped to 2,679 after the Ministry of Health announced 155 new patients recently.

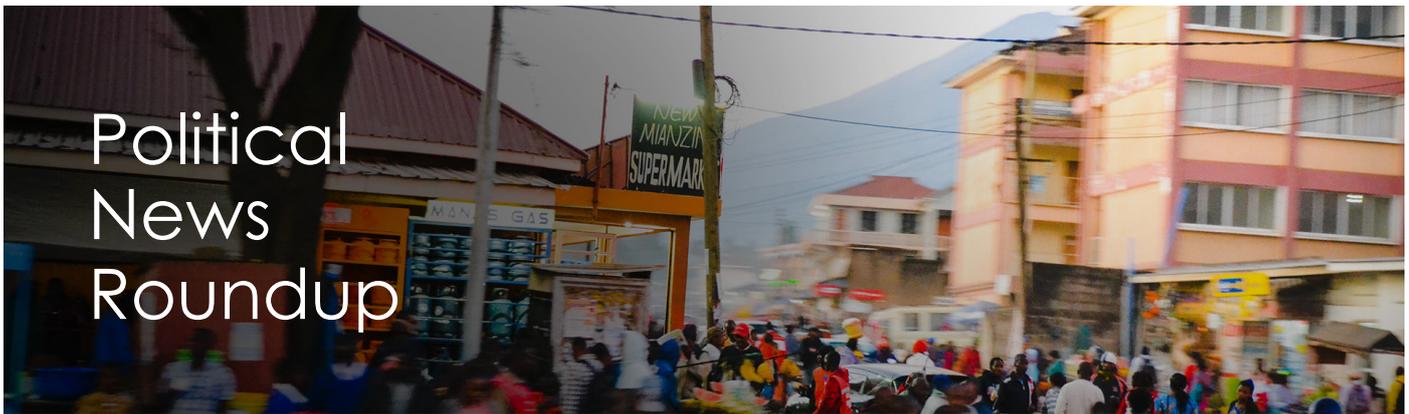
[Read more](#)

### Covid-19 vaccine trials to start in December

Ref: 27 August 2020

The Uganda Virus Research Institute (UVRI) is partnering with Imperial College London to start the first Covid-19 vaccine trial in the country by December.

[Read more](#)



# Political News Roundup

## Angola

Shame on SA: Angola, improbably, has become the region's anti-corruption poster child

Ref: 19 August 2020

Recently, three African liberation movements that had been (and remain) in power for decades had major changes at the top.

[Read more](#)

AfDB presents findings of the Green Mini-Grid market assessment

Ref: 5 August 2020

The assessment was conducted with the technical assistance of Carbon Trust, in collaboration with the Government and in consultation with key stakeholders such as development partners and private sector representatives.

[Read more](#)

Security forces accused of killing at least 7 while enforcing COVID-19 restrictions

Ref: 26 August 2020

Amnesty International and the Angolan human rights group OMUNGA are accusing security forces of killing at least seven people while implementing COVID-19 restrictions in the southern African country.

[Read more](#)

## Ethiopia

Opposition figures held without charge

Ref: 15 August 2020

Authorities have been detaining dozens of opposition members and journalists for prolonged periods and often without charge since late June 2020, raising serious rights concerns.

[Read more](#)

Political tensions rise ahead of planned regional elections

Ref: 18 August 2020

Country's northernmost region of Tigray should scrap plans to hold elections next month, as they may poison relations with Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's government, the International Crisis Group has warned.

[Read more](#)

Tensions rise between Ethiopia's former leaders, Government

Ref: 12 August 2020

Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF), which ruled the country for three decades until 2018, has vowed to hold its own regional vote, an action the national government said would violate the constitution.

[Read more](#)

## Ghana

Aviation Ministry readies for airports reopening

Ref: 28 August 2020

The Ministry of Aviation and its agencies are putting in place robust measures to ensure the safe reopening of the Kotoka International Airport (KIA) to international passenger traffic.

[Read more](#)

Reopening of tertiary institutions amid COVID-19: Education Ministry completes nationwide 2nd phase disinfection exercise

Ref: 24 August 2020

The Ministry of Education has completed the disinfection exercise in response to the directive by the government that all tertiary institutions nationwide should be disinfected as part of measures to reduce the risk of students' exposure to COVID-19.

[Read more](#)

Establishment of petroleum, petrochemical hub -Ghana to earn US\$1.56bn in export tax

Ref: 25 August 2020

The establishment of a petroleum and petrochemical hub in Ghana will earn the country about US\$1.56 billion in export taxes annually, the Parliamentary Select Committee on Mines and Energy has noted.

[Read more](#)

## Kenya

### I'll declare 2022 political plans after BBI concluded

Ref: 27 August 2020

ODM leader Raila Odinga will announce his 2022 political plans after the Building Bridges Initiative process is concluded.

[Read more](#)

### Revenue sharing row has shaken up political camps

Ref: 5 August 2020

Before the sixth attempt by the Senate last week to pass the proposed formula for sharing county revenue, Kenya had solid political camps whose loyalties were known before debate on virtually every issue.

[Read more](#)

### Politics should not be used to divide the country says DP William Ruto

Ref: 23 August 2020

Deputy President William Ruto recently came out to preach peace as succession politics rages amid frosty relationship between him and President Uhuru Kenyatta.

[Read more](#)

## Mozambique

### Third time lucky: Will Mozambique's peace deal last?

Ref: 6 August 2020

Recently at the signing ceremony of the latest peace accord between the government and opposition group Renamo, I wondered whether, on the third try, this peace deal would hold.

[Read more](#)

### Defence Minister tight-lipped about insurgency

Ref: 1 August 2020

Defence and Military Veteran Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula continues to be tight-lipped on South Africa's response to the extremist insurgency in northern Mozambique.

[Read more](#)

### Mozambique: SADC promises support against terrorism

Ref: 18 August 2020

The 40th Heads of State summit of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), meeting in Maputo recently, pledged "commitment to support the country in addressing terrorism and violent attacks".

[Read more](#)

## Nigeria

### FG to support NAFDAC on vaccine research to meet global standard



Ref: 28 August 2020

The Minister of Health, Osagie Ehanire, says the Federal Government will support the National Agency for Food and Drug Administration Control (NAFDAC), to meet international standards in research into the development of a vaccine for the new coronavirus.

[Read more](#)

### Enough is enough – Buhari reads riot act to Ghanaian authorities over harassment of Nigerians

Ref: 28 August 2020

The Government has said it will no longer tolerate harassment of its citizens in Ghana. Minister of Information and Culture, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, said this in a statement he personally signed and made available to DAILY POST recently.

[Read more](#)

### Nigeria's Akinwunmi Adesina gets second term as AfDB boss

Ref: 27 August 2020

Nigeria's Akinwunmi Adesina has been affirmed as the president of the African Development Bank for another term by the board of governors of African Development Bank.

[Read more](#)

## Rwanda

### Rwanda, Burundi army spy chiefs end talks, agree on border security

Ref: 27 August 2020

Rwanda and Burundi have negotiated a path towards enforcing security at their common border, a move aimed at ending longstanding hostilities and a return to the good relations they once shared.

[Read more](#)

### Country seeks arrest of genocide suspect living in France

Ref: 27 August 2020

Prosecutors have issued an arrest warrant for a former official suspected of being among the architects of the country's genocide.

[Read more](#)

## One step forward, two back - - Biruta on relations with Uganda

Ref: 12 August 2020

While there has been some progress in the release of citizens who were illegally arrested, the country continues to witness continued harassment of her citizens in Uganda.

[Read more](#)

## South Africa

Why political killings have taken hold – again – in KwaZulu-Natal



Ref: 10 August 2020

A kind of civil war erupted in the country in the 1980s, and ran into the first half of the 1990s.

[Read more](#)

South Africa pushing closer to economic and political disaster

Ref: 12 August 2020

When DCD opened its doors in the Eastern Cape in 2013, it was the first factory set up to take advantage of the country's abundant wind-power resources.

[Read more](#)

Parliament forges ahead with nationalisation of SA Reserve Bank

Ref: 26 August 2020

Parliament is forging ahead with a process aimed to amend the law to allow for the nationalisation of the South African Reserve Bank (SARB).

[Read more](#)

## Tanzania

TCRA suspends Clouds FM and TV for seven days, station goes off air

Ref: 27 August 2020

Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has suspended the operations of Clouds Television and Clouds FM for seven days with effect from Friday August 28, 2020.

[Read more](#)

“Bulldozer” president is tightening his grip on international media ahead of elections

Ref: 20 August 2020

With the presidential election coming, the government has been clamping down and tightening its grip on media in the East African country.

[Read more](#)

Some judges are bravely ruling against the government

Ref: 15 August 2020

From the parade of politicians and journalists passing through, one might think that the Kisumu Resident Magistrate Court is a high-society haunt.

[Read more](#)

## Uganda

Besigye out of 2021 election race

Ref: 12 August 2020

The Forum for Democratic Change (FDC) is at crossroads after the party's founding president and four-time presidential candidate, Kizza Besigye, flatly turned down their plea to carry the party's flag again in the 2021 General Election.

[Read more](#)

MPs revive move to extend Parliament term to 7 years

Ref: 11 August 2020

Over a year after the Supreme Court upheld the Constitutional Court decision that rejected extension of the current term of Parliament and local councils for seven years, MPs are seeking other options to have the term of office extended as they had sought in the presidential age limit petition last year.

[Read more](#)

NEC endorses Museveni as NRM presidential flag bearer, Chairperson

Ref: 18 August 2020

The National Resistance Movement (NRM) National Executive Committee (NEC) members have endorsed President Yoweri Museveni as the party chairperson and presidential flag bearer in the 2021 general elections.

[Read more](#)

# Economic News Roundup

## Angola

### Country complies with IMF agreement

Ref: 3 August 2020

With an economy strongly affected by the 2014 economic crisis, which generated macroeconomic imbalances and revenue shortfalls, the country requested on 1 August to the IMF the resumption of discussions to implement technical assistance.

[Read more](#)

### Country yields US\$52 million with companies' privatization – official

Ref: 25 August 2020

The government has yielded a total of 31 billion kwanza (52.6 million U.S. dollars) with privatization of 14 companies, from 2019 to April this year, the Secretary of State for Finance and Treasury, Osvaldo Victorino Joao said on 24 August.

[Read more](#)

### Minbos resources' Cabinda project to feed the country

Ref: 26 August 2020

Minbos Resources Ltd (ASX:MNB) is poised to realise its goal of building a nutrient supply and distribution business that stimulates agricultural production and promotes food security in Angola and the broader Congo Basin.

[Read more](#)

## Ethiopia

### Move to bar foreign telcos slows liberalisation

Ref: 10 August 2020

The government has suspended the entry of foreign telecom infrastructure companies into the country, possibly slowing down the enthusiasm that arose after authorities announced plans to liberalise the market.

[Read more](#)

### Lessons from Ethiopian airlines' success despite pandemic

Ref: 31 August 2020

Recently, the World Health Organization (WHO) called on African countries to adopt comprehensive safety measures to prevent a surge in Covid-19 cases as air travel resumed.

[Read more](#)

## Ghana

### Revocation of licences of 9 banks: Govt pays all depositors 95% depositors of collapsed micro finance companies also paid

Ref: 28 August 2020

Government has completed the process of paying all depositors of the nine banks whose licenses were revoked in 2018.

[Read more](#)

### Over 100,000 farmers benefit from OCP Africa's agribooster programme

Ref: 27 August 2020

OCP Africa, in a partnership agreement with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture (MoFA), has increased its efforts to support the agricultural value chain in Ghana.

[Read more](#)

### 120,000 businesses receive COVID-19 support

Ref: 27 August 2020

Data from the National Board for Small-Scale Industries (NBSSI) indicates that about 120,000 out of 715,795 applicants have so far received financial support from the Coronavirus Alleviation Programme (CAP) Business Support Scheme.

[Read more](#)

## Kenya

### Kenya-US trade talks resume after hitch

Ref: 6 August 2020

Trade pact talks between Kenya and the US have resumed after stalling for several weeks, with the first round expected to be concluded in two weeks' time.

[Read more](#)

## Cost of bank loans hit fresh all-time low

Ref: 26 August 2020

Banks have cut the cost of credit to all-time low and reduced appetite to extend credit to high-risk borrowers in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic that has raised defaults to a 13-year high.

[Read more](#)

## Mitumba importation ban lifted

Ref: 16 August 2020

The ban on Mitumba importation has been lifted. In a statement recently the Kenya Bureau of Standards said the reprieve comes following the development of protocols to enhance protection and safety of traders and users while handling used textiles and shoes to avoid spread of coronavirus.

[Read more](#)

## Mozambique

### Mozambique's Area 1 LNG Project scores \$400m investment

Ref: 7 August 2020

The total project is estimated to cost about \$24 billion and is set to be the largest private foreign direct investments in Africa, and one of the largest LNG projects in the world.

[Read more](#)

## Some plastic bags to be banned from 2021

Ref: 19 August 2020

A new environmental law is being prepared by the Mozambican Ministry of Territory and Environment.

[Read more](#)

## UNDP supports economic recovery of 15,640 families affected by cyclones, conflicts in northern Mozambique

Ref: 21 August 2020

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the country's Post-Cyclone Reconstruction Office (GREPOC) started recently the activities to accelerate the economic recovery of 15,640 families affected by cyclones Kenneth in 2019, and the armed conflicts in the northern province of Cabo Delgado.

[Read more](#)

## Nigeria

### Recession will be short-lived — Finance minister



Ref: 28 August 2020

The Central Bank of Nigeria, CBN, recently, directed licensed bureau de change operators to sell dollars to customers at a rate not higher than N386 to the dollar.

[Read more](#)

### CBN to resume forex sales to BDCs, others

Ref: 28 August 2020

The Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) recently, announced that it will commence sales of dollars to Bureau de Change (BDC) operators soon to enable travelers have more access to foreign exchange following the announcement of the resumption of international flight.

[Read more](#)

## NBS report: Presidency says country's negative economic growth not so bad

Ref: 26 August 2020

Although the economy contracted by -6.10 per cent in the second quarter of 2020 (April to June), the contraction was not as bad as expected and was better than that of many other countries, the presidency said recently.

[Read more](#)

## Buhari signs amended Companies and Allied Matters Bill, CAMA 2020 into law

Ref: 7 August 2020

President Muhammadu Buhari recently assented to the Companies and Allied Matters Bill, 2020 recently passed by the National Assembly, which reforms the 30 years existing laws.

[Read more](#)

## Rwanda

### Central Bank maintains Repo rate at 4.5%, optimistic of economy picking up

Ref: 13 August 2020

The key repo rate is the maximum rate at which commercial banks invest their money at the central bank.

[Read more](#)

## Five highlights in country's new investment code

Ref: 13 August 2020

The new investment code has incentives for key priorities such as construction and development of Kigali Innovation City, creation and growth of the Kigali International Financial Centre (KIFC) as well as film production and post-production.

[Read more](#)

## South Africa

More German technical expertise to help Eskom, kick-start economy



Ref: 15 August 2020

A third wave of technical experts from Germany have landed in the to help upgrade the production capacity of German-owned factories and service companies based here, as well as to assist embattled state power utility Eskom.

[Read more](#)

GDP ranked as much as 53% in Q2: economists

Ref: 21 August 2020

Economists predict that the economy is likely to grow strongly in the third quarter of 2020, after the coronavirus pandemic caused a major contraction in Q2 2020.

[Read more](#)

New data suggests record economic drop

Ref: 13 August 2020

Key data released recently suggests a record economic contraction in the second quarter as the damage wrought by a nationwide lockdown to curb the spread of the coronavirus pandemic becomes clear. Manufacturing production, mining output and retail sales plunged in the three months through June as the country imposed a strict lockdown on 27 March that shuttered almost all activity except essential services for five weeks.

[Read more](#)

## Tanzania

Country is ahead of schedule

Ref: 19 August 2020

Since 2015, the Fifth Phase Government, under reform-minded President Dr. John Pombe Magufuli, has set an ambitious industrialization agenda in pursuit of the goals articulated in its National Development Vision 2025.

[Read more](#)

Tourism sector rebounds as virus fears wane

Ref: 15 August 2020

Hordes of tourists are flocking to the country as fears over the coronavirus pandemic are rapidly fading, raising hopes for the country's hardest-hit tourism sector, which is emerging from the ravages of the deadly pathogen.

[Read more](#)

Country keen to protect local goods in new trade pact with Britain

Ref: 25 August 2020

The country is looking to protect its locally-made goods in the trade negotiations with Britain that are underway, senior government officials have said.

[Read more](#)

## Uganda

Country seeks to ship oil to South Sudan, Rwanda

Ref: 19 August 2020

Uganda National Oil Company (UNOC) has said it is targeting weekly shipment of at least three million litres of petroleum products - petrol and diesel on barges via Lake Victoria as part of plans to restock the fuel storage terminal in Jinja.

[Read more](#)

Exports to Rwanda fall to Shs328m

Ref: 27 August 2020

Exports to Rwanda have fallen to a paltry Shs328m, explaining the damage caused by the yet to be resolved border dispute.

[Read more](#)

Flower exports recover, increase by 30 per cent

Ref: 19 August 2020

Flower exports recovered for the period ended June after suffering a massive decline occasioned by Covid-19.

[Read more](#)

# COVID 19 prevention measures



wear face mask



use alcohol-based hand sanitizer



wash hands often with soap and water



avoid touching eyes, nose or mouth



stay at home



cover your cough or sneeze

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