1. DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

**Fears in DRC that President Joseph Kabila will run for third term**

Presidential hopefuls in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) have until Wednesday to file their candidacy with the electoral commission ahead of an election in December. The Congolese people are waiting to see if President Joseph Kabila will submit his documents to run again. *Al Jazeera*

**DRC’s Katumbi won’t quit trying to get home for poll deadline**

Democratic Republic of Congo opposition leader Moise Katumbi, repeatedly blocked from returning home to contest presidential polls, will try every avenue to get through, his spokesman said Sunday. On Friday and Saturday, Katumbi was refused entry from Zambia as he tried to get home before a deadline Wednesday to submit his candidacy for presidential polls due December 23. *The East African*

**DRC opposition leader Katumbi blocked at border**

Democratic Republic of Congo opposition leader Moise Katumbi was on Saturday again blocked from returning home as he attempted to get across the border from Zambia, his supporters said. Earlier, Katumbi said he was determined to try again to return home to run in presidential elections after being turned back at the frontier on Friday. On Saturday he appeared to be poised to finally return when Delly Sesanga, secretary-general of Katumbi's Ensemble (Together) coalition, told AFP he was in the process of completing formalities on the Zambian side of the border. *News 24*

**DRC's Bemba to return to Europe after filing presidential bid**

Ex-rebel DR Congo leader Jean-Pierre Bemba will head back to Europe after returning to the African country this week to launch his bid for the presidency in December's long-delayed elections, a leader of his party said Saturday. The former DRC vice president arrived in the capital Kinshasa on Wednesday after 11 years abroad — a decade of it behind bars — and on Thursday officially launched his bid to succeed long-serving President Joseph Kabila. *Daily nation*

**Bemba's return to Kinshasa causes disquiet among opposition parties**
Is DRC President Joseph Kabila working with his former vice-president, Jean Pierre Bemba, to derail budding opposition unity? That was the question on the lips of opposition supporters when Mr. Bemba arrived in Kinshasa on Wednesday from Brussels to a huge welcome. He has said that he plans to vie for the presidency in the December 23 elections. Opposition leaders, particularly those supporting exiled businessman Moise Katumbi claim that the government fast-tracked Mr. Bemba's return after 10 years in exile and prison, while blocking the return of others who want to present their presidential papers before the August 8 deadline. The East African

2. EGYPT

Egypt's military says 52 fighters killed in the Sinai Peninsula

Egypt's military says it has killed 52 fighters in the Sinai Peninsula over the past few days as part of its ongoing efforts to eliminate armed groups in the sparsely populated desert region. The army announced in a statement on Sunday that security forces had additionally destroyed 15 vehicles laden with weapons and ammunition while trying to infiltrate its western border and 17 more in the southern military region. Al Jazeera

3. KENYA

School tragedy: Pain, anger after bus crash kills pupils

A school community in Mwingi town is mourning the lives of 10 pupils whose lives were cut short in a grisly road crash on Saturday night. The pupils from St Gabriel’s Boarding Primary School, a private academy run by the Kitui Catholic Diocese, were returning home from a five-day study tour in Mombasa when their school bus collided with a truck near Mwingi town at around 11pm on Saturday night. Eight pupils died on the spot, six others were seriously injured, and more than 20 suffered various degrees of injury. Daily nation

Rashid Echesa's claim stirs debate on a looming Cabinet reshuffle

Amid rife speculations of a looming Cabinet reshuffle, Sports Cabinet Secretary Rashid Echesa stirred heated debate on Saturday when he sensationally claimed that ODM leader Raila Odinga is promising his job to opposition supporters. Mr. Echesa’s remarks come amid speculation that President Uhuru Kenyatta is planning to sack some of the ministers mentioned in corruption scandals, or those who have failed in their roles to pave way for opposition figures allied to Mr. Odinga following the duo’s March 9 peace deal. Daily nation

Kenya staring at crisis as debt hits Sh100 billion

The national government is staring at a crisis of offsetting more than Sh100 billion in pending bills owed to various suppliers and entities. The amount is strewn across government ministries, departments, commissions, independent offices and state corporations, among others. The National Youth Service (NYS), under the ministry of...
Public Service, Youth and Gender has Sh5.6 billion in pending bills from 2013 to 2017, the highest among state departments. **Daily nation**

4. **MALI**

**Candidate Soumaila Cisse goes to court alleging vote fraud**

Opposition candidate Soumaila Cisse is mounting a legal challenge in Mali's constitutional court alleging "ballot box-stuffing" after he came in a distant second to incumbent President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita in the first round of the country's presidential election. Keita won 41.42 percent of votes in the July 29 presidential poll, easily ahead of Cisse with 17.8 percent. They will face off in a second-round runoff on Sunday, August 12. **Al Jazeera**

5. **SOUTH SUDAN**

**South Sudan's rival leaders sign power-sharing agreement**

South Sudan's warring parties have reached a power-sharing deal to end a civil war that has killed tens of thousands of people and displaced millions in the world's youngest country. President Salva Kiir and his rival Riek Machar were in neighboring Sudan on Sunday to sign the deal, under which the rebel leader is set to return to a unity government as the first of five vice presidents. **Al Jazeera**

**South Sudan government and rebels sign peace deal**

President Salva Kiir and rebel leader Riek Machar signed the deal in neighboring Sudan. The deal, which will see Mr. Machar return to power as one of five vice-presidents, is aimed at ending a five-year civil war which has killed tens of thousands and displaced millions. Previous attempts to find a peaceful solution have failed. **BBC**

6. **SOMALIA**

**Soldiers killed in al-Shabab military base attack near Mogadishu**

At least three soldiers have been killed near Somalia's capital, Mogadishu, in a suicide car bomb attack at a military base claimed by the al-Shabab armed group. Sunday's explosion took place near the gate of the base in Afgoye town, 30km south-west of Mogadishu, according to security officials and al-Shabab. **Al Jazeera**

**Violence as troops deploy in Ethiopia's Somali region**

Soldiers were deployed in Jigjiga, the capital of the Somali region, after an apparent rift between local authorities and the national government. Protesters set fire to a church and looted shops and targeted non-Somalis. The government recently accused regional officials of carrying out human rights abuses. There has also been disagreement over the distribution of the region's oil wealth. **BBC**

**Uganda**
Uganda, Rwanda yet to restore cordial relations

Relations between Rwanda and Uganda remain strained despite a meeting in March between Presidents Paul Kagame and Yoweri Museveni to ease tension. Reliable sources intimate that in the months that followed the meeting in Entebbe the tension between the neighbouring countries escalated. “If anything, the situation is worse than it was in March when the two Presidents met. Rwanda believes Uganda did not act on the issues highlighted in the diplomatic note. Arrests and deportation of Rwandans by Uganda increased,” an intelligence source told. The East African. Daily nation

7. ZIMBABWE

After polls, Zimbabweans anxiously hope for a new era

As life slowly returns to normal in Zimbabwe's capital, Emmerson Mnangagwa, the winner of a hotly contested presidential election, prepares to take charge of a politically divided nation facing a prolonged and severe economic crisis. Addressing these major problems is the most urgent task now facing his soon-to-be sworn-in administration. A former vice president, 75-year-old Mnangagwa first took office in November following a military intervention that put an end to the near four-decade rule of his mentor, Robert Mugabe. Al Jazeera

Zimbabwe election row: Opposition supporters denied bail

More than 20 opposition supporters in Zimbabwe have been denied bail, after they were arrested and charged with inciting public violence. Six people were killed on Wednesday, when soldiers opened fire at a protest against alleged vote-rigging in Monday's election. President Emmerson Mnangagwa of the ruling ZANU-PF party was declared the winner. Al Jazeera

Zimbabwe was better under my dad's rule': Robert Mugabe's son

Former president Robert Mugabe's son, Robert Junior, has taken to social media to express sorrow at the scenes of violence that gripped the Zimbabwe capital last week. In a post to his Instagram account, the 26-year-old said the scenes were ones he found unfamiliar, suggesting Zimbabwe was better under his father's rule. "This is not the Zimbabwe I grew up in. This is not the Zimbabwe I know," he said in words to accompany a picture of a burning vehicle. News 24