1. Democratic Republic of Congo

**At least 27 drown as riverboat capsizes in DR Congo**

At least 27 people drowned and others were presumed dead after a riverboat capsized on a tributary of the Congo River in northern DR Congo, a local official said Wednesday. “We pulled 27 bodies from the Mongala river after the craft capsized overnight,” provincial governor Alpha Belo-Ngwata told AFP. “Other bodies are still underwater. Rescue teams are trying to recover them,” he added, unable to provide a precise toll. *Capital News*

2. Kenya

**President Kenyatta signs Finance Bill 2018 into law**

President Uhuru Kenyatta has signed into law the Finance Bill 2018 allowing taxation of fuel at the rate of eight per cent based on a contentious vote by Parliament. Through his twitter account, the Head of State gave his commitment to ensure proper utilization of public resources. “I have signed into law the Finance Bill 2018. I give my commitment that I will ensure proper utilisation of public resources for a better Kenya.” *Capital News*

**Uhuru Kenyatta signs Finance Bill 2018, raises cost of living**

President Kenyatta has signed into law Finance Bill 2018, which was passed by the National Assembly Thursday. In a Twitter post on Friday, Mr. Kenyatta, who whipped Jubilee MPs to ensure the bill that raises the cost of living is passed, vowed to ensure proper use of public funds. *Daily Nations*

3. Nigeria

**Nigeria suspends relaunch of national airline**

Nigeria is suspending the relaunch of its national airline just over two months after it announced the new venture, the country's aviation minister has said. *Aljazeera*
4. Rwanda

**The mixed tale of women's empowerment in Rwanda**

Kigali, Rwanda - In this old building in the colourful Nyarugenge district, one of the oldest areas in Rwanda's capital, Kigali, women sit at wooden tables, dutifully tending to a collection of colorful textiles. Ripples of occasional laughter rupture the looping drone of a dozen sewing machines as the women cut, sew and stitch anything from stylish dresses and bags to fashionable accessories. *Aljazeera*

5. South Africa

**D-Day for Ramaphosa's economic stimulus plan**

President Cyril Ramaphosa will unveil an economic stimulus package on Friday morning at 10:00 that he hopes will lift South Africa's sluggish economic growth rates and create jobs. Concrete plans for an economic stimulus package were announced by Ramaphosa, in his capacity as ANC President, in late July after an NEC lekgotla. *News24*

6. Tanzania

**Lake Victoria, Tanzania: Dozens drown in ferry capsize**

At least 42 people have died after a ferry carrying hundreds of people capsized on Lake Victoria, Tanzania. One official told the Reuters news agency the number who drowned could be more than 200. Rescue efforts have been halted until dawn on Friday. The MV Nyerere ferry overturned near the shore between the islands of Ukora and Bugolora. *BBC Africa*

**Magufuli mourns as death toll from Tanzania ferry accident reaches 42**

President John Magufuli has sent his condolences to victims of a ferry accident that has killed at least 42 people according to a statement from State House. A frantic rescue operation is underway in Tanzania where a passenger ferry capsized in Lake Victoria on Thursday. A government official told Reuters that up to 200 people are believed to have drowned, but so far only 42 have been confirmed dead. *Africa News*

7. Uganda

**Uganda police escort Bobi Wine home to cheers from fans**

Lawmaker Robert Kyagulanyi popularly referred to as Bobi Wine returned to Uganda after receiving specialist medical treatment in the United States. He flew to the U.S. after alleging torture at the hands of the military after he was arrested during a political campaign where president Yoweri Museveni’s convoy was stoned by opposition elements according to government. Local media have reported that the lawmaker’s brother has been arrested by police at the Entebbe International Airport. A number of journalists have also been arrested. *Africa News*