1. Eritrea

**Eritrea pledges to address human rights challenges**

Eritrea has defended its election to the United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC), arguing it is party to several human rights treaties and has submitted periodic reports regarding its record. The statement issued by the information ministry, follows an outcry by human rights activists and groups, who challenged the election of Cameroon, Somalia and Eritrea on HRC. The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the United Nations system made up of 47 States responsible for the promotion and protection of all human rights around the globe.

2. Kenya

**Public debt burden to hit Sh5.6 trillion**

Kenya's public debt is expected to hit Sh5.6 trillion by next June and about Sh7 trillion in 2022 when President Uhuru Kenyatta will complete his second and final term. This is according to this year’s annual public debt management report by Treasury Cabinet Secretary Henry Rotich tabled in the National Assembly yesterday. *Daily Nation*

**Matiangi warns politicians fuelling violence in Marsabit**

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiangi has warned that stern action will be taken against politicians fuelling violence in Marsabit. Through a statement, the CS observed that the skirmishes in the region were as a result of incessant political interference. *Capital News*

3. Sudan

**Sudan appoints new peace envoy to S.Sudan**

Sudan’s President Omar al-Bashir on Wednesday appointed a peace envoy to South Sudan, mired in conflict since it won independence from its northern neighbour in 2011. Former ambassador to Juba, Jamal al-Sheikh, was put in charge of “following the implementation” of the peace deal signed last month by warring South Sudanese parties, Bashir told a gathering of Sudanese diplomats. *Capital News*
4. Uganda

Ugandans celebrate iconic cable-stay bridge over River Nile

Ugandans are celebrating the commissioning of a new cable stay bridge over the river Nile in the Eastern town of Jinja, described by President Yoweri Museveni as ‘spectacular’, after he toured it by night. The Source of the Nile Bridge, commissioned on Wednesday, is expected to enhance economic and regional integration with neighbouring countries like Kenya, provide safer travel and enhance tourism. Africa News