1. Democratic Republic of Congo

**DR Congo's Kabila does not rule out contesting 2023 poll**

Democratic Republic of Congo President Joseph Kabila says he will leave office after the 23 December poll, but may seek re-election in the future. Mr Kabila, 47, said he would remain in politics after the poll as "there is still a long journey ahead". He became president of the resource-rich African state in 2001 following the killing of his father Laurent. His presidential mandate ended in 2016, but he has stayed in office as elections were repeatedly delayed. Dozens of opposition supporters have been killed in protests demanding that he step down and elections be held. **BCC**

2. Djibouti

**Leaders of Ethiopia, Djibouti and Sudan inaugurate Chinese-built projects in Ethiopia**

Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, Djiboutian President Ismail Omar Guelleh and Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir on Saturday inaugurated the Chinese-built Jimma Industry Park in Ethiopia's western town of Jimma, some 350 km west of the capital Addis Ababa. The three leaders also on Saturday laid the corner-stone for another Chinese-contracted major road infrastructure project as the Ethiopian government aspires to connect strategic towns in western Ethiopia, including the historic town of Jimma, with Agaro and Dedesa towns. **Xinhua**

3. Ethiopia

**Ethiopia aims blast economy forward with satellite launch**

Ethiopia plans next year to join an exclusive club of African nations: those with their own national satellites. The country's first satellite, due to be launched in September with China's help and backing, is being put in place in part to track environmental concerns, said the head of the Ethiopian Space Science and Technology Institute (ESSTI). **Standard Media**

4. Equatorial Guinea

**E Guinea army chief-of-staff fired: presidency**

Equatorial Guinea's army chief-of-staff, who was only appointed to the post in October, has been sacked by the president, state television has reported. President Teodoro Obiang Nguema, who has ruled the oil-rich country with an iron fist for 39 years, fired Colonel Ruslan Hermes Nguema Oyana for "irregularities committed in the exercise of his functions," said a presidential decree issued on Thursday evening. **News24**
5. Kenya

Kenya to host international aviation negotiation conference

The Kenya Civil Aviation Authority (KCAA) is set to host one of the major international aviation sector negotiation conference in Nairobi Monday. The 11th ICAO Air Services Negotiation Event (ICAN2018) will being held for the first time in East and Central Africa region. KBC

Asset freeze of Pipeline and NHIF chiefs begin

Multi-million shilling properties, including posh houses and bank accounts of parastatal chiefs facing graft charges, are to be frozen. Sources indicate the Asset Recovery Agency has profiled the wealth portfolio of the top managers of the National Hospital Insurance Fund and Kenya Pipeline Company, who face various charges linked to questionable spending of Sh3 billion. Standard Media

6. Mauritius

Mauritius leads in foreign investments in Rwanda

Mauritian investors currently have the most investments in Rwanda with a majority of their investments spread in tourism, energy, wholesale and manufacturing; according to a Foreign Private Capital survey conducted by the Central Bank to determine the direction, magnitude and trends of Foreign Private Investment. Mauritius accounted for 25.8 per cent of Foreign Private Capital inflows for 2017 at about $117 million. The New Times

7. Malawi

Malawi army soldier murdered

A Malawi Defense Force (MDF) soldier based at Mvera’s Support Battalion in Dowa has been murdered by unknown assailants. The deceased, Sydney Njelema, is said to have been murdered on 5 December around 6 pm at Chiwere village in the area of Traditional Authority Chiwere. Malawi 24

8. Niger

Niger shuts Airtel telecom offices over unpaid taxes

Niger on Saturday ordered the closure of the offices of the country's biggest telecoms operator Airtel, a subsidiary of India’s Bharti Airtel group, for unpaid taxes of 107 million dollars. Airtel has been present in Niger since 2001 and holds a 51% market share, according to the national telecoms regulator. News 24

9. Rwanda

Photo contest to promote Rwanda in China

The Rwandan Embassy in China has launched a photo contest in which different Chinese photographers will travel to Rwanda and take photos of tourist attractions, economic progress and cultural exchanges between China and Rwanda. The contest, launched on Friday at the Rwandan embassy in Beijing, will see Chinese photographers travel to Rwanda in January 2019 and take photos of different aspects of Rwanda including landscape, wildlife, and people. The New Times

Please note: The news items presented here are for informational purposes only. The views expressed within them are those of the authors and/or individuals quoted, not those of the Africa Policy Institute.
Diane Rwigara: Rwanda government critic acquitted

A Rwandan court in the capital, Kigali, has acquitted government critic Diane Rwigara and her mother of charges of inciting insurrection and forgery. Ms Rwigara was imprisoned for over a year, after being barred from running in presidential elections against the long-standing incumbent Paul Kagame. BBC

10. Somalia

Motion filed to impeach Somali president: statement

The top official of Somali’s parliament administration said on Sunday he had filed a motion with the speaker of parliament to impeach the country’s president, Mohamed Abdullahi, but the grounds for the move were unclear. “We have filed an impeachment against the president of the federal republic of Somalia,” Abdi Karim H. Abdi Buh said in a statement. Constitutionally, 92 lawmakers have to sign a motion for it to be submitted to the speaker. Parliament may debate the motion a week later. Somalia’s parliament has 275 lawmakers in total. A successful impeachment vote requires the backing of two thirds of all MPs. Reuters

Somalia signs UN-backed plan to tackle corruption

Somalia joined the world on Sunday in marking the International Anti-Corruption Day with the signing of the United Nations-backed plan aimed at tackling the vice in the country. Somalia’s Ministry of Justice and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) inked the Project Initiation Plan (PIP) which aims at strengthening government institutions to fight corruption and promote accountability. Xinuanet

11. Sudan

Sudan government officials killed in helicopter crash

At least seven local government officials have been killed in a helicopter crash in Sudan's eastern Gadarif state. The state's governor and three security officials were among the dead, the country's official news agency, SUNA, reported on Sunday. Aljazeera

12. Tanzania

Tanzania's Ol Doinyo Lengai shows early sign of eruption

A volcano in northeastern Tanzania is showing signs it may erupt. The Ol Doinyo Lengai - called the 'Mountain of God' by the Masai people - is the only known active volcano with lava that can move faster than a person. It's now threatening nearby villages and three major sites of early human development. Aljazeera

13. Togo

Togo opposition accuses govt of 'brutal' crackdown after 2 killed in protests

Togo's opposition has accused the government of deploying police and soldiers in a brutal crackdown in which two protesters were killed during a rally against upcoming elections. Security forces fired teargas and fought running battles on Saturday with demonstrators in the capital, Lome, and several other cities across the country. Daily Nation