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★ TOP STORY — SOUTH SUDAN

PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE SURVIVES ATTEMPTED ARREST BY UNIDENTIFIED GUNMEN IN JUBA, ALLIANCE SAYS

The National Alliance of Political Parties says its chairman Cornelio Kon Ngu was intercepted by armed men in plainclothes near its Juba headquarters, and calls for protection for candidates and an urgent investigation.



Juba, the capital of South Sudan, where the alliance says the attempted arrest took place near its headquarters. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

THE CHAIRMAN WRITES — INSIDE THIS EDITION

“A Fair Chance for Our Young People: Education, Health and a Future Built at Home” — by Dr. Joseph Makuer Nyieth. Read his article on the page that follows.

FROM THE CHAIRMAN — OPINION & VISION

A Fair Chance for Our Young People: Education, Health and a Future Built at Home

By Dr. Joseph Makuer Nyieth

Thursday, November 19, 2026 — From the Chairman



Dr. Joseph Makuer Nyieth. (Photograph supplied by the author.)

I think about the young people of South Sudan and what they deserve: a real chance to learn, to stay healthy, and to build a life in their own country. For me, education and healthcare are not extras — they are the foundation. A nation rises when it invests in its people. A child in a classroom and a mother who can reach care safely — that is where real strength begins for me. When a young person can learn, they can find work, serve their community and take a full part in the life of the nation. When families can reach healthcare with dignity, they can plan, work and raise their children without the constant fear that a treatable illness will take everything from them. A country that neglects its classrooms and its clinics neglects its own future, and I will keep saying that investing in people is the first work of any serious leadership.

None of this is possible without peace. Lasting peace and stability are where everything else begins. Peace is not just the silence of guns — it is families sleeping without fear, children walking safely to school, and neighbours trusting one another again. Without peace, no school can stay open with confidence and no clinic can serve its community in safety. With peace, our young people can learn, our traders can travel, and our families can build. A peaceful and democratic South Sudan is the foundation on which every other hope for our country must stand, and protecting that peace is the duty of all of us, together.

We will only hold that peace if we see ourselves first as one people and one nation. I believe South Sudan is strongest when we are united beyond tribalism and united in diversity. Our diversity is a strength, not a reason to divide, and no young South Sudanese should be denied a chance to learn, to work or to lead because of tribe or origin. When we meet one another first as fellow citizens, we can disagree honestly and still build together. One people, one nation is not only a saying I repeat; it is how I believe we must see one another if our country is to hold together and move forward.

Our young people also deserve institutions they can trust. I believe South Sudan deserves governance that serves the people — not the other way round. For me, good governance and the rule of law mean no one is above justice and every citizen can trust the institutions of their own country. I speak of democracy, transparency, accountability and inclusive governance because our people deserve to know how decisions are made, to have those decisions explained, and to be included in the life of their country regardless of where they come from. A young graduate looking for a first opportunity should face a fair system, not a closed door. Leadership is a trust given by the people, and institutions that answer to the people are the ones that will carry this nation forward.

The economy must serve the same purpose. I believe an economy is only strong when ordinary families can feel it — when a farmer, a trader, a teacher and a young graduate can all find honest work and a fair chance to build a better life. I stand for sustainable economic growth that is equitable and reaches ordinary South Sudanese. Growth that reaches only a few is not the future I want for South Sudan. When ordinary people can earn a living, reach a market safely, send their children to school and care for their families, the whole country becomes more stable and more hopeful. That is the prosperity I mean when I speak of peace, justice and prosperity: prosperity felt in the home and in the village, shared fairly among our people.

This is also why I hold a vision of two ideological systems for our politics — one party conservative and the other liberal, or a democratic party — competing peacefully on ideas and programmes, not tribalism or personalities, so voters get a clear choice. I shared my daily political briefing with you again today because I believe citizens should follow the affairs of their country closely and judge every programme for themselves. When politics is organised around ideas, every side must explain its

programme, listen to the citizens and earn their trust. When politics is organised around tribe or personality, the real questions of the people — peace, schools, clinics, work and justice — are pushed aside. A peaceful competition of ideas gives every voter dignity, because the voter is choosing a direction for the country.

This is the spirit in which I lead the Patriotic People's Party, and it is why I invite my fellow South Sudanese to join me in this work. We stand for a peaceful and democratic country, for lasting peace and stability, for unity beyond tribalism, for good governance and the rule of law, for sustainable economic growth that reaches ordinary people, and for real investment in people through education and healthcare. Building a just and prosperous nation is not the work of one man or one party alone. It is the work of a whole people who believe their country can be better and who are ready to build it together, in the spirit of South Sudan.

Tonight I return to the young people I began with. Give a young South Sudanese an education, protect their health, keep the peace around them and open a fair economy before them, and there is nothing they cannot build. I will keep working for that South Sudan, and I will keep inviting every South Sudanese, at home and abroad, to choose ideas over division and hope over fear. One people, one nation.

— Dr. Joseph Makuer Nyieth, Chairman, Patriotic People's Party (PPP)

SOUTH SUDAN

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Presidential candidate survives attempted arrest by unidentified gunmen in Juba, alliance says

The National Alliance of Political Parties says its chairman Cornelio Kon Ngu was intercepted by armed men in plainclothes near its Juba headquarters, and calls for protection for candidates and an urgent investigation.



Juba, the capital of South Sudan, where the alliance says the attempted arrest took place near its headquarters. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — The National Alliance of Political Parties in South Sudan has announced that its chairman and presidential candidate, Cornelio Kon Ngu, narrowly escaped an attempted arrest by unidentified armed men in plainclothes near the alliance's headquarters in the capital, Juba. The announcement, carried on Friday, places the safety of presidential candidates at the centre of the country's preparations for general elections now scheduled for February 2027.

In a statement issued on Thursday, the office of the alliance's official spokesperson said the incident took place at about 6:30 in the evening as Kon Ngu was leaving the coalition's headquarters on his way home. He was intercepted by individuals in civilian clothing who refused to identify themselves, and, according to the statement, two of them were carrying small firearms. The alliance said this was the second such incident involving the head of the coalition.

The alliance expressed deep concern regarding the safety of presidential candidates amid ongoing preparations for the general elections. It called on security and government authorities to provide the necessary protection for Kon Ngu, to launch an urgent investigation to uncover the circumstances of the incident and identify those behind it, and to hold the perpetrators legally accountable.

The National Alliance emphasised that ensuring the freedom of political activity and providing a secure environment, free from intimidation, lies at the core of the responsibilities of state institutions, in order to guarantee the participation of all political forces in the upcoming electoral process. Political activity, it argued, cannot be meaningful if candidates fear for their personal safety when they leave their own offices.

The developments on the ground come just hours after Kon Ngu announced the alliance's categorical rejection of the National Elections Commission's decision to move the vote to 11 February 2027. The alliance gave the Commission a 72-hour ultimatum to rescind the revised schedule, signalling its intent to pursue legal action to challenge the decision's legality. The attempted arrest and the election-date dispute together illustrate how contested the road to the ballot has become.

For ordinary South Sudanese, the episode raises a practical question that goes beyond one candidate: if senior political figures require special protection to move around the capital, what confidence can first-time voters have as registration continues across the country? Juba Global News Network will follow the authorities' response to the alliance's call for an investigation and report any official statement as soon as it is issued.

(Source: Voice of Emirates / National Alliance of Political Parties statement — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Elections move to 11 February 2027 as voter registration runs nationwide

The National Elections Commission has moved polling day from 22 December 2026 to Thursday 11 February 2027, while registration continues at 3,161 centres until 28 November.



Voter registration is under way at 3,161 centres across South Sudan's ten states and three administrative areas. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — South Sudan's National Elections Commission has set Thursday 11 February 2027 as the new date for the country's general elections, moving polling from 22 December 2026 under a revised electoral timetable that also resets the dates for voter registration, candidate nominations, campaigns and the announcement of results. The elections will be the first since independence in 2011.

Under the revised calendar, voter registration runs from 14 November to 28 November 2026, covering a 15-day period across

the country's ten states and three administrative areas. The Commission says the exercise covers 3,161 registration centres, and NEC Chairperson Gabriel Bol Deng said the commission had recruited and trained 22,127 registration officials to oversee it, alongside constituency returning officers.

The timetable provides for publication of the provisional voters' register on 29 November, followed by its public display from 30 November to 6 December, allowing eligible voters to raise objections and request corrections before the final register is published in January 2027. Eligible citizens are required to present a passport, national identity card or other acceptable evidence of identity and age.

Candidate nominations follow their own track: signature forms are published from 29 November to 13 December, nominations are submitted in December, and the final list of candidates is scheduled for publication between 18 and 21 January 2027. The official campaign period begins on 27 December 2026 and runs for 45 days until 9 February 2027, followed by an election silence day on 10 February.

The Commission expects to declare final results on 15 February, with official publication on 16 February 2027, and provides for the settlement of election disputes in the months that follow. The revised timetable maintains 102 geographical constituencies for the National Legislative Assembly and 290 constituencies for State Legislative Assemblies, based on the constituencies used in the 2010 general elections.

Commission spokesperson Josephine Achiro Fortelo has been at pains to communicate that the election was not postponed but adjusted to allow outstanding processes to be completed. Whatever the wording, the practical advice for voters is unchanged and urgent: registration closes on 28 November, and anyone who is not on the register cannot vote in February.

(Source: National Elections Commission (NEC); The Dawn; People Daily — reported with Juba Global News Network)

President Kiir urges Jonglei and Greater Pibor leaders to strengthen peace ahead of elections

President Salva Kiir Mayardit has directed authorities in Jonglei State and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area to intensify peace efforts and mobilise communities ahead of the February 2027 elections.



Juba, seat of the presidency, from where the directive to Jonglei and Greater Pibor authorities was issued. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — President Salva Kiir Mayardit has directed authorities in Jonglei State and the Greater Pibor Administrative Area to intensify efforts to promote peace, strengthen peaceful coexistence and mobilise communities ahead of the February 2027 general elections, according to reporting in Juba on Friday.

The directive links two agendas that South Sudanese know are inseparable: security in the states and credibility at the ballot box. Jonglei and Greater Pibor have a long history of intercommunal violence, cattle raiding and revenge attacks, and flare-ups there have repeatedly displaced families and closed roads and markets for weeks at a time.

Peace mobilisation ahead of an election is not only about preventing violence on polling day. Registration teams, civic educators and eventually candidates and observers all need to move freely across counties that, in bad seasons, can only be reached with difficulty. A peaceful environment is therefore a logistical precondition for the timetable the National Elections Commission has published.

Local authorities carry much of the practical burden: chiefs, commissioners and administrators are the people who convene peace meetings, receive early warnings of raiding parties and negotiate the return of abducted women and children and stolen cattle. National directives matter most when they are matched by resources and follow-through at that level.

The President's instruction also speaks to communities directly. Peaceful coexistence is built in markets, water points and grazing corridors long before it is tested at a polling station, and leaders who mobilise their communities for registration and voting are being asked to mobilise them for calm as well.

Juba Global News Network will track how Jonglei and Greater Pibor authorities translate the directive into meetings,

agreements and deployments on the ground, and will report verified developments from both areas as the campaign season approaches.

(Source: One Citizen Daily Newspaper — reported with Juba Global News Network)

US deportees in South Sudan faced hunger as guards pocketed family money, families say

An Associated Press investigation reports that migrants deported by the United States to South Sudan endured hunger and detention, while guards solicited money from families. South Sudan's Foreign Ministry says detainees receive adequate care.



Humanitarian conditions in South Sudan remain severe, with millions facing hunger after years of conflict and floods. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — Migrants deported by the Trump administration to countries other than their own have endured hunger, thirst and other deprivations while being detained indefinitely in places with poor human rights records and little oversight, the Associated Press reports. For those expelled to South Sudan, and their families, the ordeal has come at an additional cost.

Guards have solicited and received thousands of dollars from detainees' families, who were told the money would be used to improve conditions for their loved ones. Instead, the guards pocketed most of the money, families said, while detainees went for days without food or clean water, and months held incommunicado. 'They used our desperate situation,' said Ngoc Phan, a United States citizen whose husband Tuan Phan had been detained in South Sudan for nearly a year before he was repatriated to Vietnam in June.

In addition to the Phans, the Associated Press interviewed six other people familiar with the treatment of detainees in South Sudan, including relatives and lawyers. Five deportees remain in custody in South Sudan, a country where millions face severe hunger and poverty after years of civil conflict and devastating floods.

When asked about the AP's findings, a spokesperson for South Sudan's Foreign Ministry said detainees are given adequate food, water and medical care, and are allowed regular contact with relatives and lawyers while it works to resolve their individual cases. The spokesperson said the government pays for all the associated costs. The two accounts — families and the ministry — cannot both be wholly correct, and the AP's reporting is presented here with both sides as published.

Under a series of agreements whose details remain unclear, the Trump administration has deported thousands of people to more than 30 countries that are not their own, advocates say, as part of a broad crackdown on immigration. In July 2025, after a legal battle that ended with a Supreme Court ruling, Phan and seven other migrants with criminal convictions were deported to South Sudan.

Relatives and lawyers for detainees still in South Sudan say they have little faith the detention will end or conditions will improve without pressure from the United States government or international organisations. The AP reports that staff at the US Embassy in Juba have been instructed not to visit the detainees or follow up on their treatment, according to its sources.

(Source: Associated Press — reported with Juba Global News Network)

ECONOMY

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Finance Ministry and Central Bank advance digital banking with real-time settlement system

The Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Central Bank of South Sudan are preparing the official launch of a Real-Time Gross Settlement system, a step towards modernising financial transactions.



Digital and mobile payments are central to plans to modernise South Sudan's banking system. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — The Ministry of Finance and Planning and the Central Bank of South Sudan are preparing for the official launch of the Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) system, marking a significant step towards modernising the country's financial transactions and replacing manual banking processes with digital payments, Juba reporting said on Friday.

Real-time gross settlement is the plumbing of a modern banking system: instead of banks netting off payments against each other at the end of the day, each large payment is settled individually and immediately in central bank money. For businesses, that means a payment sent in the morning is final by the afternoon; for the central bank, it means a clearer, minute-by-minute picture of liquidity in the banking system.

South Sudan's economy still runs heavily on cash, and manual processes slow everything from government payments to interbank transfers. Traders who move goods between Juba and the states describe payments as one of the friction points of doing business, alongside transport and exchange-rate volatility. A working RTGS does not solve those problems, but it removes one layer of delay and uncertainty from every large transaction.

Digital banking also matters for ordinary customers. As mobile money and bank apps spread, customers expect transfers between banks to behave like transfers within one bank — instantly and reliably. Interbank settlement is the invisible machinery that makes that expectation realistic, and its absence is one reason customers often keep money inside a single institution.

The launch will be judged on reliability rather than ceremony. Banks will need to connect their systems, staff will need training, and the central bank will need to publish clear rules for what happens when a payment fails. Businesses will watch the first weeks closely: a settlement system that works quietly is a success; one that interrupts payments would quickly become the story.

Juba Global News Network will report the launch date and the banks participating as soon as the Ministry and the Central Bank confirm them, and will explain in plain language what changes for customers and what does not.

(Source: One Citizen Daily Newspaper — reported with Juba Global News Network)

SOUTH SUDAN

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Safe sanitation is essential to dignity and equality, editorial argues on World Toilet Day week

Across South Sudan, many women and girls still face difficulties accessing safe and hygienic sanitation, particularly in rural communities, schools and public places.



Safe water and sanitation facilities remain out of reach for many communities across the region. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — Access to safe sanitation is a basic human right and an important part of promoting gender equality, a Juba editorial argued this week. Across South Sudan, many women and girls continue to face difficulties accessing safe and hygienic sanitation facilities, particularly in rural communities, schools and public places.

The argument is practical before it is rhetorical. A school without a safe, private latrine is a school that older girls attend irregularly or leave early. A market without facilities is a workplace where women traders manage their health in silence. A clinic without sanitation puts mothers and newborns at risk at precisely the moment they are most vulnerable.

Sanitation is also a public-health intervention. Where open defecation is common and water sources are unprotected, diarrhoeal disease spreads quickly, and children under five pay the highest price. Latrines, handwashing and safe water are unglamorous infrastructure, but few investments prevent more illness per dollar.

This week's continental reporting carried the same theme. In Ghana, World Vision figures cited by AllAfrica said 6.13 million Ghanaians still practise open defecation, and a Capital FM commentary for World Toilet Day argued sanitation must become an affordable investment for every household. South Sudan's challenge is of the same kind, deepened by years of conflict, flooding and displacement.

Floods deserve special mention. Across the Sudd and the northern floodplains, seasonal water destroys pit latrines and contaminates wells, setting communities back every year. Sanitation that cannot survive the flood season is not a finished job; raised, lined and flood-resilient designs cost more at the start and far less over time.

The editorial's conclusion is a challenge to budgets as much as to attitudes: count sanitation in school, clinic and market construction from the first drawing, maintain what is built, and measure success by whether a girl can attend school with dignity every day of the month.

(Source: One Citizen Daily Newspaper (editorial) — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Machar tells special court disagreements over Nasir force rotation disrupted deployment plans

Former First Vice President Dr Riek Machar has told the court that disagreements over force deployment disrupted plans to rotate SSPDF troops in Nasir before the March 2025 violence.



Juba, where the special court proceedings are being heard. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — The former First Vice President, Dr Riek Machar, has told the special court that disagreements over force deployment disrupted plans to rotate South Sudan People's Defence Forces troops in Nasir before the March 2025 violence, according to court reporting in Juba on Friday.

The evidence goes to the heart of the sequence of events in Upper Nile State in early 2025, when clashes around Nasir escalated into a national political crisis. How a planned rotation was discussed, agreed or disputed between the parties is one of the factual questions the court is working through, testimony by testimony.

Force rotation sounds administrative, but in a country where the peace agreement's security arrangements remain incomplete, moving troops in and out of a tense town is a political act as much as a military one. Who commands, who is replaced, and which community reads the movement as protection or as threat — these questions decide whether a rotation calms a town or ignites it.

The proceedings are being followed closely because they test

whether South Sudan's courts can handle the most sensitive political questions of the transition in open process, with evidence tested in public. For families in Nasir and for displaced people still waiting to go home, the court's findings will matter long after the headlines move on.

Juba Global News Network reports court proceedings from verified reporting only, attributes claims to those who make them, and does not treat testimony as proven fact until the court itself decides.

(Source: One Citizen Daily Newspaper — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Humanitarian coordinator calls for stronger Ebola readiness in South Sudan

UN Resident and Humanitarian Coordinator Ramanathan Balakrishnan has called for increased preparedness for a potential Ebola outbreak, as Kenya counts down to Ebola-free status next door in the region.



Health and humanitarian workers prepare for disease outbreaks across the region. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JUBA — The United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator in South Sudan, Ramanathan Balakrishnan, has called for increased preparedness and readiness to respond to a potential Ebola virus disease outbreak in the country, Juba reporting said on Friday.

The call is timely. Kenya has just discharged its last Ebola patient and begun a 42-day countdown to being declared Ebola-free, after an outbreak that began with a traveller from the Democratic Republic of Congo through Uganda — a reminder of how quickly the virus crosses the same borders South Sudanese traders, patients and families cross every day.

Preparedness is unglamorous work done before any case appears: surveillance at border points and clinics, isolation capacity, protective equipment, trained rapid-response teams, laboratory pathways and risk communication in languages people actually speak. Each element is cheap compared with the cost of a late response, and each is hard to improvise once a suspected case is already in a crowded ward.

South Sudan's health system carries heavy burdens already — malaria, cholera in flood seasons, measles and the everyday emergencies of a young population. Ebola readiness therefore has to be built into the system rather than bolted on: the same surveillance officers, ambulances and community health workers serve every threat.

The coordinator's message, as reported, is that readiness is a standing obligation, not a reaction. Juba Global will report verified steps — trainings, supplies, simulation exercises and official guidance — as agencies and the Ministry of Health announce them.

(Source: One Citizen Daily Newspaper; United Nations — reported with Juba Global News Network)

AFRICA

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Kenya discharges last Ebola patient and begins 42-day countdown to Ebola-free declaration

Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale announced the last patient had recovered and left treatment on 11 November. If no new case appears, Kenya will be declared Ebola-free on 23 December.



Nairobi, Kenya, where health officials announced the discharge of the last Ebola patient. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

NAIROBI — Kenya has discharged its last Ebola patient, beginning a 42-day countdown that could allow the country to be declared free of the disease on 23 December 2026 if no new cases are detected. Health Cabinet Secretary Aden Duale announced the development in Nairobi, saying the final patient had recovered and left the treatment facility.

Kenya confirmed its first case on 6 October 2026, in a Kenyan who had travelled home from the Democratic Republic of Congo through Uganda. The last confirmed case was recorded on 19 October. In total, nine confirmed cases were recorded: the first patient transmitted the virus to four family members and four healthcare workers. The first patient and his mother died; the other seven patients recovered.

The countdown began on 12 November, after the last patient was discharged and the remaining 11 contacts completed their monitoring period in good health. Forty-two days is twice the longest incubation period of the virus, which is why the World Health Organization uses it as the threshold: survive it without a new case, and the chain of transmission is considered broken.

Officials stressed what the milestone does not mean. Kenya is not yet officially disease-free, surveillance continues, and there are no restrictions on movement, public gatherings, tourism or trade within the country — a point Duale underlined by saying Kenya remains open for business, tourism, trade and travel, in line with WHO advice against travel and trade restrictions.

For East Africa, the episode is both a relief and a rehearsal. The outbreak was contained because the first case was detected, contacts were traced and patients were isolated quickly — preparation, not luck, as regional commentators put it this week. South Sudan's humanitarian coordinator is calling for the same readiness at home, a call this newspaper endorses in full.

(Source: Associated Press; United Nations; Kenya Ministry of Health via Conven — reported with Juba Global News Network)

SPORT

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Marathon champion Peres Jepchirchir banned for three years over EPO, athletics integrity unit says

Kenya's reigning world marathon champion Peres Jepchirchir has been banned for three years after EPO was detected in her samples, France 24 and Athletics Illustrated report.



Marathon running has brought Kenya global glory — and, this week, a painful integrity headline. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

NAIROBI — Kenyan athletics superstar and reigning marathon world champion Peres Jepchirchir has been banned for three years for doping, in one of the most damaging cases to hit Kenyan distance running. The Athletics Integrity Unit banned the champion after EPO was detected in her blood and urine samples, according to reporting this week.

Athletics Illustrated reported on 18 November that Jepchirchir was one of three Kenyan athletes sanctioned: three-year bans for Jepchirchir and Loleo, and a six-year ban for Korir. France 24's Africa coverage carried the ban as its lead sports story on 19 November, reflecting how far the news travels when a reigning world champion falls.

EPO — erythropoietin — is the classic endurance drug: it stimulates red blood cell production, carrying more oxygen to working muscles. For a marathon runner, that is precisely the advantage the rules exist to prevent. A three-year ban at championship level removes an athlete from an entire Olympic and world-championship cycle.

Kenya's runners are national heroes and global ambassadors, and every doping case taxes the reputation earned by hundreds of clean athletes. Anti-doping officials argue that catching champions, not only journeymen, is what makes a testing system credible; athletes' advocates counter that education, whereabouts support and clean coaching structures must grow alongside enforcement.

The ban is reported here as announced by the integrity authorities. As with all such cases, the athlete's own response and any appeal are part of the story, and Juba Global will report them as they are published.

(Source: France 24; Athletics Illustrated; Athletics Integrity Unit reporting — reported with Juba Global News Network)

ECONOMY

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Egypt secures $2.3 billion IMF agreement as recovery programme nears its final reviews

Egypt is set to receive about $2.3 billion from the International Monetary Fund following a staff-level agreement on the final reviews of its $8 billion lending programme.



Cairo, Egypt, whose $8 billion IMF programme is approaching its final reviews. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

CAIRO — Egypt is set to receive approximately $2.3 billion from the International Monetary Fund following a staff-level agreement on the final reviews of its $8 billion lending programme, providing additional financing support as the country prepares to exit the arrangement, Africanews reported.

IMF programmes are marathons of conditionality: disbursements arrive in tranches, each unlocked by a review of inflation, reserves, debt and reform promises. Reaching the final reviews of an $8 billion programme means Egypt has stayed broadly on the path agreed with the Fund through a period of currency pressure, inflation and regional shocks.

For households, the programme's success is measured differently — in the price of bread, fuel and medicine, and in whether wages keep pace. Governments across Africa face the same translation problem: macroeconomic stabilisation that does not eventually lower the cost of living loses public consent, however clean its spreadsheets.

Egypt's financing matters beyond its borders. It is one of Africa's largest economies, a major buyer and seller in regional markets, and the operator of the Suez Canal, whose revenues ripple through world trade. A steadier Egyptian economy is steadier ground for the whole region, including Sudan and the Red Sea corridor.

The agreement is staff-level, meaning it still requires the Fund's formal processes before money moves. Juba Global will report the disbursement and the conditions attached when they are confirmed.

(Source: Africanews; NM Media Africa — reported with Juba Global News Network)

South Africa holds interest rates at 7.25% in split decision as inflation risks persist

South Africa's central bank has maintained its benchmark rate at 7.25%, opting for caution despite rising inflation and pressure on the rand, with the decision split among policymakers.



Johannesburg, South Africa's financial capital, where the Reserve Bank's rate decision was closely watched. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JOHANNESBURG — South Africa's central bank has maintained its benchmark interest rate at 7.25%, opting for caution despite rising inflation and pressure on the rand. Daily Maverick's monetary coverage described the hold as steady at year-end, with the inflation spectre lingering over the decision.

A split decision is information in itself: it tells markets that the committee is balanced between those who fear cutting too early and reigniting inflation, and those who fear holding too long and strangling growth. In South Africa, where unemployment is the deepest economic wound, that argument is not academic — every quarter-point is a debate about jobs.

For borrowers, a hold means no relief yet on mortgages, vehicle finance and business loans priced off the policy rate. For savers and pension funds, it means real returns survive another meeting. For the rand, the decision signals that the Reserve Bank will defend price stability even when the politics of the moment would prefer cheaper money.

The South African decision sits in a busy week for African central banks. Ghana cut its benchmark rate by 300 basis points to 11%, according to regional reporting, while Angola cut by 75 basis points to 14% as inflation fell to an 11-year low. Three neighbours, three different inflation stories — a reminder that 'African monetary policy' is many policies, not one.

Juba Global's economy desk will keep tracking the region's rate decisions together, because South Sudanese traders and savers feel them through import prices, remittance costs and the dollar long before official statistics arrive.

(Source: NM Media Africa; Daily Maverick — reported with Juba Global News Network)

AFRICA

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Archaeologists uncover floor of medieval cathedral in Old Dongola, northern Sudan

Archaeologists have unearthed the original floor of a monumental medieval cathedral in Old Dongola, which the excavation team believes could be larger than the White House.



Northern Sudan's Nile valley holds some of Africa's richest medieval heritage, including Old Dongola. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

OLD DONGOLA — Archaeologists have unearthed the original floor of a monumental medieval cathedral in Old Dongola, northern Sudan, which the excavation team believes could be larger than the White House, Nation Africa reported on Friday.

Old Dongola was the capital of Makuria, one of the great Christian kingdoms of medieval Nubia, whose churches, monasteries and painted walls drew travellers a thousand years ago. A cathedral floor is not a small find: floors fix the true footprint of a building, reveal its phases of construction and repair, and sometimes preserve inscriptions, burials and the wear patterns of centuries of worshippers.

The scale comparison — larger than the White House — is the team's way of telling the public that this was no village chapel. Medieval Nubia built monumentally, in dialogue with Byzantium, Egypt and Ethiopia, and Dongola's remains are among the strongest correctives to any idea that Africa's medieval history was small or isolated.

The discovery comes while Sudan is at war, which makes heritage work both harder and more urgent. Sites cannot be guarded by scholarship alone; documentation — measured plans, photographs, records of every layer — is what allows a damaged site to be understood, protected and, where necessary, restored. Every season of careful excavation now is a deposit against future loss.

For South Sudanese readers, Dongola is also a reminder of a shared Nile valley past that long predates modern borders. Juba Global will follow the excavation team's publications as the floor is cleaned, recorded and interpreted.

(Source: Nation Africa — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Zimbabwe destroys 250,000 landmines, but funding cuts threaten 2030 clearance goal

Zimbabwe has destroyed a quarter of a million landmines, yet demining organisations warn that funding cuts threaten the goal of clearing the country by 2030.



Landmine clearance saves lives and returns farmland, but depends on sustained funding. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

HARARE — Zimbabwe has destroyed 250,000 landmines, but funding cuts threaten the 2030 goal of clearing the country, Africanews and Nation Africa reported this week. The mines are a legacy of the liberation war, laid in dense belts along the borders more than four decades ago.

Landmines are weapons that never sign peace treaties. They wait in fields, footpaths and grazing land, and their victims are overwhelmingly civilians — farmers, herders and children — injured years after the armies that laid them have gone home. Every mine destroyed is a quantifiable good; every hectare released is a field a family can plough without fear.

Clearance is slow, skilled and expensive. Deminers work metre by metre with detectors and prodders, in heat, under strict safety discipline, and the cost per mine is high because the cost of a mistake is absolute. That is why funding cuts bite so hard: a paused programme does not merely pause — teams disperse, skills are lost and surveyed ground must sometimes be re-surveyed.

The 2030 goal is Zimbabwe's commitment under the international mine-ban framework, which sets deadlines precisely to keep clearance from becoming a permanent, postponable intention. Donors weighing cuts should weigh them against the alternative arithmetic: emergency surgery, prosthetics, lost schooling and lost harvests, paid by the poorest rural families for another generation.

South Sudan knows this ledger from its own minefields and unexploded ordnance. Juba Global salutes the deminers, and will

report the funding decisions that decide whether 2030 is met.

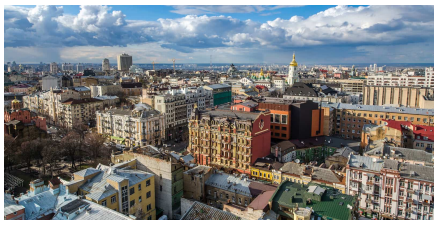
(Source: Africanews; Nation Africa — reported with Juba Global News Network)

WORLD

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Russian strikes on Kyiv kill eight as bridges targeted, mayor says; Poland reports airspace violations

Kyiv's mayor said Russian overnight strikes targeted bridges and killed eight people, with 28 injured across nine regions. Poland said Russia violated its airspace overnight.



Kyiv, Ukraine, which came under renewed overnight missile attack. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

KYIV — Ukrainian capital Kyiv's Mayor Vitali Klitschko said Russian overnight strikes targeted bridges in Kyiv and killed eight people. Ukrainian Prime Minister Serhiy Koretsky said 28 people were injured across attacks on nine regions, according to the day's verified briefings.

Ukrainian drones reportedly struck the Dorogobuzh chemical plant in Russia's Smolensk region, in the now-familiar pattern of reciprocal long-range strikes: Russia hits Ukrainian infrastructure and cities; Ukraine hits Russian military-industrial and energy targets deep behind the front line.

The war's diplomatic track moved in parallel. US Special Envoy Jared Kushner, in closed-door peace talks in recent months, has discussed NATO membership for Ukraine if Ukraine cedes territory to Russia, sources told the Wall Street Journal. President Trump called into a meeting Kushner and Steve Witkoff were having with European leaders and President Zelenskyy and told them President Putin wants to end the war, according to sources in the room cited by Axios.

Poland, meanwhile, said Russia violated its airspace overnight with three objects — allegedly two missiles and one drone — as Poland prepared military exercises involving the 'Coalition of the Willing' that groups Ukraine's allies. Airspace violations along NATO's eastern flank have become a recurring test of alliance response times and rules of engagement.

Estonia announced it would close its border with Russia for at least six months, drawing an accusation from Russian Foreign Ministry spokeswoman Maria Zakharova that Estonia was planning a new 'Iron Curtain'. The exchange captures the week's pattern: battlefield pressure, alliance friction and diplomacy all moving at once, none yet decisive.

(Source: Just Security Early Edition; Open Chronicle — reported with Juba Global News Network)

World court rules Myanmar committed genocide against the Rohingya

The International Court of Justice ruled, 9–6, that Myanmar's security forces committed acts intended to destroy a substantial part of the Rohingya population in northern Rakhine State.



Rohingya refugees, whose case before the world court has produced a landmark genocide ruling. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

THE HAGUE — The International Court of Justice ruled that Myanmar committed genocide against the Rohingya, the first such finding against a state by that court. In a 9–6 decision, the court found that Myanmar's security forces committed mass killings, widespread sexual violence and other acts intended to destroy a substantial part of the Rohingya population in northern Rakhine State.

The Rohingya, a Muslim minority in Buddhist-majority Myanmar, were driven out in their hundreds of thousands in 2017, most to camps in Bangladesh that have since become some of the largest refugee settlements on earth. A court finding of genocide — the gravest word in international law — carries legal and moral weight far beyond the courtroom, even where enforcement is slow.

Genocide requires intent to destroy a group in whole or in part, which is why such cases take years: judges must find not only that atrocities occurred, but that they were committed with that specific purpose. A 9–6 split shows the court divided even as its majority reached the historic conclusion.

For survivors in the camps, the ruling is recognition before it is remedy. Repatriation, citizenship, compensation and accountability for commanders remain unresolved political questions, and no judgment from The Hague answers them by itself. But recognition matters: it fixes the historical record in law, where denial cannot easily reach it.

African readers will recognise the pattern — South Sudan's own

commissions and courts wrestle with how to document atrocity credibly. The Rohingya ruling is a reminder that documentation done carefully, however slowly, can one day become a judgment.

(Source: Open Chronicle; One Turn News; Morning Briefing — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Trump, Xi and Putin hold first three-way summit in Shenzhen and issue joint peace declaration

The leaders of the United States, China and Russia met in Shenzhen and signed a four-point joint declaration — though reports say the 70-minute talks produced no breakthrough on Ukraine, Iran or nuclear arms.



Shenzhen, China, host of the first three-way summit between the US, Chinese and Russian presidents. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

SHENZHEN — The leaders of the United States, China and Russia met in Shenzhen on Thursday and signed a four-point joint declaration after their first three-way meeting, in what several outlets called a historic summit. Presidents Trump, Xi and Putin issued a joint peace declaration, according to the day's global briefings.

The outcome, however, was narrower than the staging suggested. After approximately 70 minutes of talks, the leaders announced no breakthrough on Ukraine, Iran or nuclear-arms limitations, the Bangladesh Chronicle's morning briefing reported. A four-point declaration after 70 minutes is a framework for future argument as much as an agreement.

European reactions were pointed. German Chancellor Friedrich Merz warned that European countries would not accept a settlement negotiated by major powers without meaningful European participation — a rejection of any new 'Yalta', the 1945 conference where great powers divided Europe over Europeans' heads. The EU and UK, meanwhile, held their own summit in Brussels to deepen their renewed strategic partnership.

For Africa, great-power summits are not spectator sport. Decisions — or non-decisions — on Ukraine affect grain and fertiliser prices; on Iran, oil; on nuclear arms, the global security order in which African states must trade and borrow. A declaration without breakthroughs still moves markets, because it tells investors the era of predictable rules is not returning yet.

Juba Global presents the summit as reported: a genuine first, a signed declaration, and — on the evidence of the same day's reporting — no settled outcome on the wars it discussed.

(Source: One Turn News; Open Chronicle; Bangladesh Chronicle — reported with Juba Global News Network)

COP31 countries demand stronger climate deal as Antalya talks reach final day

France, Panama and a cross-regional group of countries told the COP31 Presidency the draft agreement is not good enough, after fossil-fuel language was dropped from the text.



Delegates negotiate at COP31 in Antalya, Türkiye, where fossil-fuel language became the final-day battleground. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

ANTALYA — Countries that do not usually negotiate together stood side by side in Antalya on Friday with a message for the COP31 Presidency: the agreement on the table is not good enough. Led by France and Panama, ministers and representatives from Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Spain, Sweden, Vanuatu and others demanded stronger climate action on the summit's final scheduled day.

'We cannot tell the world we are now getting to 1.5 degrees of warming and then do business as if nothing was happening,' said France's Minister for Ecological Transition, Monique Barbut. For many people, she underscored, the climate crisis is not a 'North' or 'South' issue but a question of survival.

Panama's Environment Minister Juan Carlos Navarro, who announced earlier in the week that his country would formally object to any COP31 agreement failing to include fossil-fuels language, was equally direct: 'It is not acceptable to have a COP or a cover document that does not even mention fossil fuels, and we simply will not put up with it.' Because UN climate

decisions are adopted by consensus, a single formal objection can prevent adoption.

Reuters reported that negotiators had stripped any reference to ending the use of fossil fuels from a slimmed-down draft deal published on Thursday, even as the draft acknowledged warming could exceed 1.5°C. The protesting countries listed six priorities: science-based decisions, an explicit orderly transition away from fossil fuels, fair climate finance from those most responsible, clean electrification, methane cuts, and delivery on adaptation funding — which UN Secretary-General António Guterres urged governments to triple by 2035.

South Sudan, among the countries most exposed to floods and drought, has more at stake in these paragraphs than most delegations in the room. Juba Global will report the final COP31 outcome — adopted, weakened or deferred — as soon as it is confirmed.

(Source: UN News; Reuters — reported with Juba Global News Network)

ECONOMY

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Global stocks fall for fifth straight day as AI doubts drag markets lower

The S&P 500 lost about 2% on Thursday in its fifth straight session of losses, Japan's Nikkei fell 4.8% after Anthropic's Nasdaq debut, and investors questioned AI valuations.



Trading screens tell the week's story: five straight days of falls as AI valuations were questioned. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

NEW YORK — United States stocks fell for a fifth straight day, with the S&P 500 losing about 2% on Thursday, and Asian markets dropped sharply, as investors doubted the valuations placed on artificial intelligence companies. Japan's Nikkei fell 4.8% after Anthropic's Nasdaq debut, according to the day's market reporting.

Anthropic priced its initial public offering at $83 a share, above its initial range, valuing the AI company near $1.1 trillion, according to the Morning Briefing's technology summary. A debut that large, followed immediately by a broad sell-off, captures the market's split mind: AI is plainly transformative, and plainly priced as if the transformation were already complete.

Sell-offs travel. Pension funds in London, sovereign funds in the Gulf and insurers in Johannesburg all hold the same handful of giant technology names, so a New York wobble reprices retirement savings on every continent. African markets feel it second-hand — through risk appetite, the dollar and the price investors will pay for new African debt.

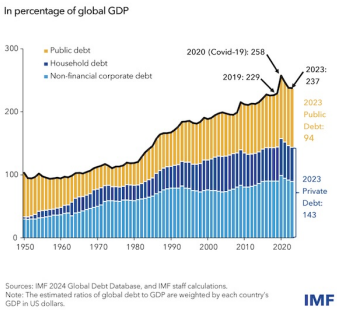
The week's other market-adjacent news underlined the turbulence: the White House changed cybersecurity leadership after a week of major technology outages, with National Cyber Director Sean Cairncross leaving, and Italy fined Meta €805 million over Android photo access, according to the same briefings. Technology is now simultaneously the market's engine, its risk and its regulator's workload.

None of this makes AI a bubble by itself, and Juba Global does not offer investment advice. It makes the honest summary this: the world's savings are now heavily bet on a technology whose profits have not yet caught up with its prices, and this week investors asked, for five days running, whether they should be.

(Source: One Turn News; Open Chronicle — reported with Juba Global News Network)

IMF warns global public debt is nearing 100% of world GDP, highest since World War II

IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva warned at the APEC summit that global public debt is approaching 100% of world GDP — with 22 African countries already in or near debt distress, the AfDB says.



Finance ministries worldwide face the same arithmetic: debt near 100% of world GDP. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

WASHINGTON — IMF Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva warned at the APEC summit that global public debt is approaching 100% of world GDP, the highest level since World War II, according to the day's briefings. When the world's governments together owe roughly a full year of everything the world produces, the margin for the next crisis is thin.

Africa feels the debt era first and hardest. AllAfrica reported this week, citing the African Development Bank, that 22 African countries face debt distress and 14 are at high risk. High global interest rates mean treasuries spend revenue on interest that was meant for clinics, roads and teachers — a quiet austerity imposed by arithmetic rather than ideology.

The mechanics matter for readers. Debt itself is not the enemy: borrowed money that builds a power station or a railway can pay for itself. The danger is expensive, short-term, foreign-currency debt taken for consumption, which must be rolled over at whatever rate the market demands on the day it falls due. Much of the current distress is of exactly that kind.

Senegal illustrated the politics this week: its president moved to implement 2026 budget changes by decree after lawmakers rejected revisions, deepening a standoff that

threatens a $2.2 billion IMF programme, according to regional reporting. Debt is never only a finance-ministry problem; it becomes a constitutional one when the money runs out.

South Sudan, largely shut out of capital markets, watches this debate as a future borrower. The lesson of the neighbours is available free of charge: borrow slowly, in the open, for things that earn — or pay the tuition later, with interest.

(Source: Morning Briefing / IMF at APEC; AllAfrica / African Development Bank — reported with Juba Global News Network)

WORLD

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Houthi missiles damage Riyadh financial tower as Iran war enters ninth month

Houthi missiles hit Riyadh's financial district, damaging the Public Investment Fund tower, while tanker attacks intensified in the Strait of Hormuz and the US Senate blocked a measure to end the Iran war.



Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, whose financial district was damaged in the reported missile strike. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

RIYADH — Houthi missiles hit Riyadh's financial district, damaging the Public Investment Fund tower and other buildings, according to the day's global reporting. Saudi Arabia also intercepted another Houthi missile and five drones, with Riyadh among the reported targets on Friday, following Houthi claims that they had attacked Saudi airports, military bases and the capital's financial district.

The strikes land inside a wider war. The Iran war has entered its ninth month, Iran has stepped up attacks on tankers in the Strait of Hormuz, and a tanker caught fire after hitting a mine, according to One Turn's conflict summary. Hormuz carries a fifth of the world's oil; every incident there is priced into fuel at pumps from Juba to Johannesburg within days.

In Washington, Senate Republicans blocked a measure directing President Trump to end the Iran war or win congressional approval to continue it — the first vote on the issue since the midterm elections. The resolution had passed the House in September by the largest bipartisan margin to date, but failed 51 to 48 in the Senate. Trump told Axios he would not make a decision about the next step in the Iran war until the new year.

Iraq, caught between the belligerents, deployed federal security forces in Jurf al-Sakhar, a stronghold of the Iran-aligned Kataib Hezbollah group, under a deal seeking to limit the group's reach. Prime Minister Ali al-Zaidi had ordered the move against the group, which officials accused of running an oil-smuggling network siphoning state-owned oil.

For South Sudan, an oil exporter whose budget rises and falls with crude prices, a war around Hormuz is not distant news: it moves the price of the country's single main export and the cost of everything it imports. Juba Global will keep the conflict on its front pages for exactly that reason.

(Source: One Turn News; Just Security; Bangladesh Chronicle — reported with Juba Global News Network)

AFRICA

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Youth Olympics open in Senegal, the first Olympic event held in Africa

The Youth Olympics have opened in Senegal — the first Olympic event ever held on African soil — in a landmark week for African sport.



Dakar, Senegal, host of the first Olympic event held in Africa. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

DAKAR — The Youth Olympics have opened in Senegal, the first Olympic event held in Africa, Nation Africa reported in its continental roundup. For a continent that has supplied generations of Olympic champions, hosting an Olympic event at home is a overdue correction of geography.

Youth Games are where the next decade's stars first appear: athletes in their mid-teens, many competing internationally for the first time, in front of crowds who can see themselves in the competitors. The legacy argument for host cities is always contested, but the inspiration argument is simple and visible in every schoolyard where a new sport takes root after a home Games.

Senegal's hosting also tests the Olympic movement's promise to spread its events beyond the wealthy world. Smaller, youth-focused Games are the affordable end of the Olympic family — the model most often proposed for future African bids for the senior Games themselves.

African sport had a mixed week alongside the celebration: Kenya's marathon champion Peres Jepchirchir received a three-year doping ban, reported elsewhere in this edition, while Uganda moved to protect itself against Ebola with quarantine measures for returnees from Congo, and African destinations took top honours at the World Tourism Awards 2026.

Juba Global will follow South Sudanese and East African young athletes at the Games and report their results as they are confirmed.

(Source: Nation Africa — reported with Juba Global News Network)

Africa cannot afford to delay regulating autonomous weapons, campaigners argue at COP31 week

AllAfrica carried the argument that Africa cannot afford to delay regulating autonomous weapons, as the continent's just-transition ambitions faced hurdles at COP31 and debt distress spread to 22 countries.



Technology — including autonomous weapons — is outpacing the rules meant to govern it, campaigners warn. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

NAIROBI — Africa cannot afford to delay regulating autonomous weapons, AllAfrica argued in one of the week's most-shared continental commentaries — a warning that arrives as artificial intelligence reshapes battlefields from Ukraine to the Red Sea, both covered elsewhere in this edition.

Autonomous weapons — systems that can select and engage targets without a human pulling the final trigger — raise a question law has not answered: when such a system kills wrongly, who is responsible? The commander, the programmer, the manufacturer, the state? Campaigners argue that unless that question is answered in advance, it will be answered afterwards by victims, in vain.

Africa's stake is direct. The continent hosts many of the world's peace operations, imports much of its advanced weaponry, and has the most to lose from a global norm that lets powerful states set the rules alone. African diplomats helped shape the landmine and cluster-munition bans; the argument is that this is the same fight, one technology earlier.

The same AllAfrica front page carried the week's other continental themes: Africa's just-transition ambitions facing hurdles at COP31, and the African Development Bank's count of 22 countries in debt distress, 14 at high risk. Regulation, climate and debt share a moral: rules written without Africa are usually written at Africa's expense.

Juba Global carries the argument as commentary, attributed to its publisher, and will report formal negotiations on autonomous weapons as they proceed in the UN and African Union.

(Source: AllAfrica; The View Africa — reported with Juba Global News Network)

SOCIETY

Juba Global News Network — verified reporting, every source credited.

Nearly 600 women killed in South Africa within three months, BBC Africa reports

BBC News Africa reported that nearly 600 women were killed in South Africa within three months, even as the country's overall murder rate falls to an average of 60 killings a day.



South Africa's crime statistics tell two stories at once: falling overall murders, and relentless violence against women. (Photo via image search; original source recorded in the edition manifest)

JOHANNESBURG — Nearly 600 women were killed in South Africa within three months, BBC News Africa reported on Friday, in figures that land as the country prepares to mark the annual campaign against gender-based violence. Africanews, in parallel, reported that South Africa's murder rate falls overall — but killings still average 60 a day.

The two statistics together describe a country making real, uneven progress. A falling murder rate matters: it means thousands of families a year spared the worst phone call. But violence against women is not falling at the same pace, which tells researchers the drivers differ — much of it happens at home, by known men, behind doors that policing alone cannot open.

South African civil society has made femicide a national argument for years, forcing it into budgets, policing plans and presidential addresses. The lesson travelled across the continent long ago: naming the pattern, counting it honestly and publishing the count are the first steps, because uncounted violence is officially deniable violence.

South Sudan's own debates — over early marriage, domestic violence and the protection of women in displacement sites — are different in detail and similar in structure. This newspaper reports the South African figures because honest counting elsewhere strengthens the case for honest counting at home.

If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, contact local police or a protection service first. News coverage follows; safety cannot wait for it.

(Source: BBC News Africa via The View Africa; Africanews — reported with Juba Global News Network)

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