



Situation Room Brief (Early November 2022)

Content

Central Africa

DRC: ADF rebel attack in the east targets a health facility

- Artillery fire on M23 rebel positions
- Shots fired in Ituri
- Violent clashes between army and M23 rebels continue

East Africa

Sudan: Agro-pastoral violence near Juba

- State of emergency in Darfur

Flash

Ethiopia: Government and Tigray rebels sign agreement to end hostilities

Kenya: Deployment

DRC: ADF rebel attack in the east targets a health facility

Fifty people kidnapped, three dead, pharmacies looted, ransacked and burned, a health center, trucks and other property set on fire: this is the heavy toll of the attack, on the night of Tuesday, November 8 to Wednesday, November 9, 2022, by the ADF-Nalu rebel group in Kabasha, a locality in the province of North Kivu, in eastern DR Congo. Father Roger Malengera, parish priest of the nearby town of Maboya, described the deadly situation and called on the authorities to guarantee the safety of the population and their property. The inhabitants of Kabasha, a locality located between Butembo and Beni in the Congolese province of North Kivu, were surprised at night by suspected ADF-Nalu who killed, looted, set fire to, kidnapped and committed other acts of barbarism before fleeing. According to Father Roger, "The bandits came as usual. They were armed. It was around 1:00 am. They began by attacking the police station. Then they started shooting bullets everywhere in Kabasha, breaking down doors and looting everything from stores to pharmacies."¹

A doctor, who was on duty at the health center, is among the missing, continued the pastor, who also reported two deaths, a woman who was in her burned house and a baby who fell from her mother's back as she fled. According to Kalunga Meso, head of the Buliki "grouping", the administrative entity in which Kabasha is located, a third person was found dead in the bush.²

- **Artillery fire on M23 rebel positions**

Heavy and light weapons were heard in the morning of Friday, November 11, 2022, between Kahunga and Mabenga, about 10 km north of the town of Kiwanja in Rutshuru (North Kivu). Several sources speak of an FARDC attack against M23 rebel positions in the area. The heavy artillery fire took place between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. between the locality of Kabaya, in the groups of Kisigari and neighboring Rugari. To date, no reports of these attacks are available. According to some inhabitants contacted on the spot, the farmers who were camping in their fields in the locality of Kahunga have returned to the city of Kiwanja. A psychosis has been observed in this entity, where rebel troops have already been on alert for more than three days. On the Kiwanja-Nyamilima axis, to the north-east of Kiwanja, other gunfire was heard at around 1 p.m. local time, still on the same Friday, around Nkwenda, some ten kilometers from Kiwanja. It should be remembered that for the past two days, sources in the region have been talking about an advance by FARDC soldiers, who have already taken control of Mabenga.³

The high-voltage line linking Goma to the Matebe hydroelectric power station, built by the Virunga National Park in Rutshuru territory, was affected by the fighting, according to its operator. Electricity supply was disrupted in the afternoon in the town of more than one million people. The bombing comes three days after two Congolese army fighter jets and two helicopter gunships struck rebel positions.⁴

¹ <https://www.vaticannews.va/fr/afrique/news/2022-11/rd-congo-la-localite-de-kabasha-attaquee-par-les-adf-nalu.html>

² <https://www.voafrique.com/a/rdc-attaque-de-rebelles-adf-dans-l-est-contre-une-structure-de-sant%C3%A9-vis%C3%A9e/6827100.html>

³ <https://www.radiookapi.net/2022/11/11/actualite/securite/rutshuru-les-fardc-lancent-des-tirs-dartillerie-lourde-sur-les>

⁴ <https://afriquedia.tv/2022/11/11/rdc-tirs-dartillerie-sur-des-positions-des-rebelles-du-m23/>

- [Shots fired in Ituri](#)

At least two Ugandan police officers were killed in an exchange of fire on Lake Albert (Ituri) between a Ugandan marine police unit and a militia group from the Patriotic Resistance Force of Ituri (FRPI), which is opposed to the peace process. The incident took place on the night of Wednesday, November 9, 2022, precisely around the islet of Matete in the territory of Irumu. According to security sources, six other Ugandans were taken hostage and then brought back to Koga, the headquarters of these assailants. Several corroborating sources say that this group of militiamen who are opposed to the peace process has increased its attacks on the waters of Lake Albert. This latest attack on Wednesday occurred in Matete, not far from Rukwanzi on the border with Uganda, where these militiamen go to fish. A security source reported that armed men identified as Ugandan navy patrol boats opened fire on the militiamen. The latter returned fire and killed four Ugandans. But other sources report two dead and six other Ugandans captured and taken to Koga, one of the strongholds of these attackers. These deserting FRPI militiamen also seized weapons and a Ugandan navy boat. The FARDC spokesman in Ituri, Lieutenant Jules Ngongo, condemned this act. He recalled that the FRPI unilaterally signed a peace agreement and committed itself to the peace process. He awaits the start of the DDRC-S program.⁵

- [Violent clashes between army and M23 rebels continue](#)

Violent fighting with heavy weapons between the army and M23 rebels continued on Monday, November 14, 2022, some 20 kilometers north of the large strategic city of Goma, in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), according to local civilian and military sources. Clashes have been taking place since the end of the week in this sector, considered as one of the last locks on the National Road 2 towards Goma, capital of North Kivu, a city of more than one million inhabitants which the M23 has been approaching for two weeks. In addition, other M23 movements have been reported some 40 km northwest of Goma, in the Virunga National Park, renowned for its gorillas but also known to serve as a rear base for armed groups, notably the Forces the Democratic Liberation Forces of Rwanda (FDLR).⁶

For the time being, the Congolese army has not given any assessment of these clashes, while the M23 side has claimed the destruction of four T55 battle tanks. Meanwhile, Uhuru Kenyatta, the former Kenyan president, is continuing his consultations in Kinshasa, where he arrived after meeting with President Felix Tshisekedi on Sunday.⁷

⁵ <https://www.radiokapi.net/2022/11/10/actualite/securite/ituri-au-moins-2-morts-dans-les-echanges-des-tirs-entre-la-branche>

⁶ <https://fr.africanews.com/2022/11/14/rdc-violents-combats-contre-le-m23-dans-le-territoire-de-nyiragongo/>

⁷ <https://www.opale-magazine.com/2022/11/14/rdc-les-affrontements-violents-entre-larmee-et-les-rebelles-du-m23-se-poursuivent/>

Sudan: Agro-pastoral violence near Juba

Near the southern Sudanese capital, violence perpetrated by cattle breeders against indigenous farmers left five people dead on Friday, November 11, 2022. This is just one more incident in a crisis that seems far from being resolved, and which has claimed hundreds of victims since the beginning of the year. Pastoralists from the northern state of Jonglei often seek refuge in Equatoria after fleeing their region because of flooding and violence. But tensions continue with the local population. Images have circulated on social networks showing the bodies of five men, victims of the latest attack. It took place in the village of Nyerjebe, in the Lokiliri area, a part of Juba County devastated by agro-pastoral conflicts.⁸

An "unacceptable" and "inhumane" act, which risks "triggering inter-community violence" according to Edmond Yakani, a figure in South Sudanese civil society and director of the organization Cepo. He called on the authorities of the states of Central Equatoria and Jonglei to intervene so that the perpetrators are apprehended: "The Dinka cattle breeders must abolish the practice of killing innocent civilians with whom they come into contact during their migratory movements in the forests". It gave them a 72-hour ultimatum to "return unconditionally to their areas" or they would be "forcibly evicted. However, similar calls have gone unheeded many times in the past. This latest incident demonstrates that no lasting solution has yet been put in place.⁹

- [State of emergency in Darfur](#)

Sudan's Central Darfur state declared a state of emergency "for one month" after more than 24 people were killed in a tribal conflict, tribal dignitaries and the official Suna agency reported Monday, November 14, 2022. Governor Saad Adam Babiker, quoted by Suna, said the state of emergency was declared late Sunday night because "both sides of the conflict fired live ammunition at the reconciliation commission that was trying to resolve the conflict."¹⁰

The conflict broke out last week between the Arab tribes of Misseriya and Aulad Rached in villages near Zalingei, the capital of Central Darfur in western Sudan. A Misseriya tribal leader said it started with a stolen moped. The fighting, which has left at least 24 people dead according to the Suna news agency, continues despite a state of emergency. "Houses have been burned and the situation is still out of control despite the dispatch of government troops," added an Aoulad Rached dignitary.¹¹

⁸ <https://www.rfi.fr/fr/afrique/20221114-soudan-du-sud-plusieurs-morts-dans-des-violences-agro-pastorales-pr%C3%A8s-de-juba>

⁹ <https://headtopics.com/fr/soudan-du-sud-plusieurs-morts-dans-des-violences-agro-pastorales-pres-de-juba-31656523>

¹⁰ <https://www.lefigaro.fr/flash-actu/etat-d-urgence-au-darfour-apres-24-morts-dans-un-conflit-tribal-20221114>

¹¹ <https://www.voaafricaine.com/a/etat-d-urgence-au-darfour-apres-24-morts-dans-un-conflit-tribal/6833256.html>

Ethiopia: Government and Tigray rebels sign agreement to end hostilities

With less than 48 hours to go before the anniversary of the two-year conflict, the federal government of Ethiopia and the rebel authorities in Tigray signed an agreement on Wednesday, November 2, 2022, in Pretoria for a "cessation of hostilities" and "orderly disarmament. Among the main points of the declaration signed by the Ethiopian government and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), the two parties pledged to "safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ethiopia. TPLF fighters will be "disarmed, demobilized and reintegrated" according to a specific program. The two sides agreed "to implement transitional measures including the restoration of constitutional order in the Tigray region, a framework for the resolution of political disputes and a policy framework for transitional justice to ensure accountability, truth and reconciliation," the Ethiopian authorities announced. The Ethiopian government will "strengthen its collaboration with humanitarian agencies to continue to deliver assistance to all those in need. It will also "continue its efforts to restore public services and rebuild infrastructure in all communities affected by the conflict.¹²

Kenya: Deployment

Kenya announced Wednesday, November 2, 2022 the deployment of troops in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) as part of a regional military intervention to support the Congolese regime against rebels active in the eastern DRC. "As neighbors, the fate of the DRC is linked to ours," President William Ruto said in Nairobi at a ceremony to present the contingent ready to leave, recalling that the regional force is also to include troops from Burundi, Uganda and South Sudan, sent "on a mission to protect humanity. "We will not allow armed groups, criminals and terrorists to deprive us of our common prosperity," the Kenyan head of state continued, without specifying a timetable for the deployment of troops.¹³

¹² https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2022/11/02/guerre-en-ethiopie-apres-deux-ans-de-conflit-au-tigre-rebelles-et-forces-gouvernementales-acceptent-une-treve_6148258_3212.html

¹³ https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2022/11/02/le-kenya-annonce-l-envoi-de-troupes-en-rdc-pour-combattre-les-rebelles_6148238_3212.html

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