

REPORT

LENS OF TERRORIST OPERATIONS AND ACTS OF VIOLENCE IN AFRICA



FEBRUARY 2023

Preface

As the majority of countries worldwide experience a state of stability and feel secured from the threat of terrorism, Africa continues to bear the brunt of this phenomenon that impacts all levels not only the security one. Terrorism exacerbates the suffering of citizens on the economic and social level as well. The threat of terrorism and its extremist ideologies seriously impact the African societies and threatens stability, national security and unity, igniting wars and feeding civil conflicts. The situation in the Sahel region and West Africa is particularly aggravated, where ISIS-affiliated organizations and Boko Haram, the most violent organizations in particular, are active.

The ongoing activities of terrorist organizations in West Africa along with the presence of the terrorist Al-Shabaab movement in Somalia and the continued renewal of armed violence in Ethiopia have all resulted in the death of 887 people in Africa during February 2023.

First: Monitoring methodology adopted in the report

A. Monitoring methodology

The report, "**Lens of Terrorist Operations and Acts of Violence in Africa**", adopts a methodology of direct monitoring of terrorist operations reported in the Arab, Western and African media on the African continent, which mainly relies on open sources such as the Internet, as well as reliable and credible news websites.

However, for the sake of accuracy and reliability, scientific honesty obliges us to highlight the "error coefficient", which is likely to happen especially since some sources, whether local or international, may provide different numbers of victims or update their data few days after the monitoring process.

B. The concept of terrorism upon which the report is built:

No comprehensive, unified definition of terrorism at the international level has yet been agreed upon, but in this report, we will rely on the multiple definitions put by United Nations bodies, stipulated in the General Assembly Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (Resolution 69/40), as well as Security Council Resolution 1566, and the items included in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in which terrorism is defined as "Criminal acts, including acts committed against civilians, intended or calculated to cause death or serious bodily injury, or the taking of hostages with the intent to Creating a state of terror among the general public or in a group of persons or specific persons, or intimidating the population, or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act."

Second: The countries most affected by terrorism in Africa

Burkina Faso

Rating: 1

Incidents: 17

Deaths: 235

On February 4, armed people launched an attack on the town of Beni, northern district of Sinou, 40 km from the Sahel region, killing more than 22 civilians and three police officers, as well as injuring some others.¹ On the same day, 6 soldiers were killed by an explosive device on the Diapaga-Partiaga road, east of the country, when an improvised explosive device detonated.² Unidentified gunmen also launched an attack on the town of Dasa, in central Burkina Faso, killing 6 civilians and wounding another.³ On February 8, gunmen opened fire in the Boucle du Mouhoun Region in northwestern Burkina Faso at a car belonging to Doctors Without Borders carrying a medical team on the road between Didugou and Togan, killing two of the organization's staff.⁴ Three civilians and three volunteers with the security forces were also killed, in addition to a number of injuries, as a result of the attack on the village of Bkouri, in central eastern Burkina Faso.⁵ Rebels staged an ambush near the village of Komstinga in Naminting district in the North Central region, which resulted in the death of 7 gendarmes and 9 volunteers from the Self-Defense Force.⁶

On February 9, armed men launched an attack on the village of Sanakadougou, located in Komburi, in the Kossi region, northwestern Burkina Faso, killing at least 12 civilians and wounding six others.⁷ About 100 armed men also attacked the northwestern village of Dembo, killing seven Volunteers for the Defense of the Homeland and a number of the attackers.⁸ On February 12, a terrorist group killed at least 12 people in the village of Yargatinga near the eastern border with Togo and Ghana, including two volunteers from the Homeland Defense Militia⁹. On February 17, 5 people, including two soldiers, were killed in an attack by jihadists in the east of the country.¹⁰ At least 51 soldiers were killed in an ambush by jihadists in northern Burkina Faso, in the Oudalan province.¹¹

On February 20, 8 of Burkina Faso army soldiers were killed and 3 wounded in an ambush carried out by gunmen in the north of the country.¹² At least 19 soldiers were killed in an armed attack in "Tin Akof" in Oudalan district, and 30 other soldiers were wounded, in addition to a number of missing persons.¹³ On February 23, terrorists attacked a team of volunteers for the defense of the homeland, near "Bilga" in the "Namentenga" province, as a result of which 12 members were lost and 5 others were injured.¹⁴ On February 24, more than 70 soldiers were killed, dozens wounded, and 5 hostages taken in an ISIS ambush of a military convoy in northern Burkina Faso, near Diu in the Oudalane province of the Sahel.¹⁵

¹ At least 25 killed in Burkina Faso attack in Seno province, Reuters, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/kt6jd>

² At Least 18 Killed in Burkina Attacks, The Defense Post, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/q4zrtj>

³ Six killed in suspected jihadist attack in Burkina Faso, Newage, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ilwghc>

⁴ MSF condemns the brutal and deliberate killing of two of its employees in Burkina Faso, Médecins Sans Frontières, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/o0ieye>

⁵ Aid workers and civilians killed in twin Burkina Faso attacks, RFI, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/r0qrs1>

⁶ North Burkina Faso ambush kills at least 16 security forces, ZAWYA, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/w9endw>

⁷ Burkina: At least 12 civilians killed by suspected jihadists near Mali, Africaneews, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/mrtalh>

⁸ Burkina Faso: At least 19 killed in two separate attacks by jihadist groups, wionnews, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/z5e5yt>

⁹ Burkina Faso: At least 19 killed in two separate attacks by jihadist groups, wionnews, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/z5e5yt>

¹⁰ Africa news, Burkina Faso: 5 people killed in a jihadist attack, 27/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/0ackk7>

¹¹ Le Mond, Jihadist ambush in Burkina Faso kills 51 soldiers, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/ncjw0a>

¹² 2023/2/20, مقتل 8 جنود في كمين لمسلحين شمال بوركينا فاسو، <https://rb.gy/xygieh>

¹³ Crisis24, Burkina Faso: Unidentified assailants kill at least 19 soldiers in Tin-Akoff, Oudalan Province, Feb. 20. <https://rb.gy/fdf0sq>

¹⁴ 2023/2/23، قتيلاً في هجوم بشمال بوركينا فاسو، <https://rb.gy/v3hvcw>

¹⁵ VOA, Over 70 Soldiers Killed in Burkina Faso, Extremists Say, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/yk8gnu>

Somalia	Rating: 2nd	Incidents: 19
		Deaths: 192

On February 1, Al-Shabaab attacked with ten projectiles areas near the presidential palace in the capital, Mogadishu, and nearby security points.¹⁶ On February 5, Al-Shabaab targeted a commander of the Puntland forces and his bodyguard during a bombing on the road.¹⁷ On February 7, gunmen shot and killed a Jubaland regional parliamentarian in Mogadishu.¹⁸ On February 11, Al-Shabaab targeted a security point in the center of the Somali capital, Mogadishu, by detonating a tuk-tuk loaded with explosive materials¹⁹. A terrorist militia also launched an attack on the Somaliland National Army in the city of Las Anod, killing 20 people.²⁰ And 10 suicide bombers from the Al-Shabaab movement attempted to attack with two rigged cars a military center in the lower Juba region in the south of the country,²¹ wounding six soldiers while repelling the attack before it reached the center.²²

On February 13, an imam of a mosque in Wadajir district of Banadir region was killed by gunmen who shot him.²³ On February 15, a landmine explosion occurred in a coffee shop in Bosaso-Puntland, killing 4 people and injuring 13 others, including members of the Puntland forces.²⁴ On February 16, about 200 terrorists were killed as a result of the intensive military operations of the Somali army in the states of "Galmudug, Southwest, Jubaland".²⁵ On the same day, 5 members of Al-Shabaab were killed in an air strike by US forces on a remote town in Somalia.²⁶ Al-Shabaab fighters also attacked two government militia bases in the Barsengoni region of Juba state, southern Somalia, killing 38 and wounding 25 others.²⁷

On February 18, Karachi police office was attacked by a group of terrorists from 6 to 10 individuals, who stormed the premises carrying approximately 8 kg of explosive material in explosive vests²⁸. On February 19, at least three people were killed in an attack claimed by Al-Shabaab in a hotel in the city of Kismayo in southern Somalia²⁹. On 20 February, an explosive device attached to a vehicle exploded near Aden Abdullah Hospital in Mogadishu, injuring one person.³⁰

Al-Shabaab militants also attacked the residence of an officer in the "Abdiazzi" area in the capital, Mogadishu.³¹ On the same day, 10 civilians were killed and 3 others wounded in a surprise attack by Al-Shabaab, and on February 23, armed clashes took place between Somaliland forces

¹⁶ Several mortars hit near Presidential Palace ahead of regional security summit, News 360, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/cnsc7b>

¹⁷ <https://rb.gy/3y0xd4> مقتل قائد عسكري في تعجيب عوبة في ولاية بونت لاند الصومالية، قراءات صومالية، فبراير 2023.

¹⁸ Somalia: A Member of Jubaland Parliament Shot Dead in Mogadishu, All Africa, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/vt3auz>

¹⁹ انفجار يستهدف نقطة أمنية بمقديشو.. قنبلة في التوكتوك مصر اليوم، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/eabnir>

²⁰ ميليشيا إرهابية، تشن هجوما على جنود بأرض الصومال بالرغم من وقف إطلاق النار، بوابة الوسط، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/ljgnuf>

²¹ الجيش الصومالي يُحبط هجوماً انتحارياً لحركة الشباب الإرهابية، رؤية الإخبارية، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/9kjt0r>

²² Al-Shabaab attack foiled in Jubaland state of Somalia, Garowe Online, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/rb7nen>

²³ Gunmen kill an Imam in Somali capital, Shabelle Media Network, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/zju56g>

²⁴ قتل وجرحي بانفجار في مدينة بوصاصو، الصومال الجديد، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/nlkzvy>

²⁵ أعلنت السلطات الصومالية أن العمليات العسكرية التي تم تنفيذها خلال الأسبوع الماضي أسفرت عن مقتل 200 مسلح من حركة "الشباب"، 2023/2/16. <https://rb.gy/abhha2>

²⁶ Africa news, Somalia: 5 shebab killed in an American strike, 16/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/hrc3mo>

²⁷ إصدار جديد لحركة الشباب المجاهدين يوثق هجومها على قاعدتين للميليشيات الحكومية في بارسنجوني، 2023/2/19. <https://rb.gy/8nmaf4>

²⁸ The Economic Times, Karachi attack: Each suicide bomber's vest carried 8 kg explosives, 18/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/24jhwg>

²⁹ صيدا تي في، "أ.ف.ب": ثلاثة قتلى على الأقل في هجوم على فندق في جنوب الصومال، 2023/2/19. <https://rb.gy/u3dk9j>

³⁰ Crisis, Somalia: Explosion near Aden Abdulle Hospital in Mogadishu early Feb. 20, 20/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/9gvsup>

³¹ Crisis, Somalia: Ongoing militant attack in Abdiazzi District, Mogadishu, Feb. 21, <https://rb.gy/q71mfx>

and the central government forces, in violation of a truce that had been concluded by the two parties.³² On February 24, Al-Shabaab carried out a night ambush attack in Bosaso, a port city in Portland, killing 22 people.³³ On February 25, Al-Shabaab members executed the muezzin of the "Raghi Ali" mosque, after they kidnapped him while performing prayers and burned all his belongings, during an attack carried out by the movement in the state of "Hirshebeli".³⁴ On February 26, 4 Somalis were killed and 3 others were wounded in separate bombings and assassinations carried out by Al-Shabaab in three separate places in the capital, Mogadishu.³⁵ At least 38 people were killed in violent clashes following an attack by Somaliland forces on the town of Las Anod.³⁶ On February 28, at least 35 people, including eight members of one family, were killed when Al-Shabaab terrorists detonated two car bombs in central Somalia, the attack was in the town of Mahas in the Hiran region.³⁷ An African military convoy belonging to the African Union Mission in "Atmis" was also targeted in a mine attack in Southwest State.³⁸ In addition to the killing of 14 people, including 8 civilians, in a battle to lift the siege around the "Villa Rise" hotel.³⁹

Nigeria	Rating: 3rd	Incidents: 38
		Deaths: 188

On February 1st, 8 people, including a police chief and three other officers, were killed in North Central Nigeria by gunmen in a gun battle in Naka Township, Benue State.⁴⁰ Gunmen also launched an explosive device attack on an office of the Electoral Commission, a police station, and a residential building adjacent to the center in Anambra state, in the southeast of the country, which resulted in the death of one person and the wounding of another girl.⁴¹ On the same day, 1 was killed, 2 injured, and at least 10 women were kidnapped in a terrorist attack on Todun Majaji in Kontagora Local Government Area, Niger State.⁴² On February 2, gunmen shot dead the head of the Igemikoro Martial Court after they stormed the court in Ogota Local Government Area, Imo State, and south-eastern Nigeria.⁴³ Militants also bombed a police unit located in a town in the North Idemele Local Government Area of Anambra State, southeastern Nigeria, killing a police officer and a worker.⁴⁴

During February 2-3, terrorists killed more than 100 people including members of the guard⁴⁵ in an ambush in Bakuri Local Government Area of Katsina State and 15 women were abducted⁴⁶. On February 2-4, some militants launched a three-day attack in Benue State killing two people,

³² <https://rb.gv/jo1edn> الدستور، تجدد الاشتباكات بين قوات أرض الصومال وميليشيات موالية لمقتديشيو، 2023/2/23،

³³ All Africa, Somalia: Al-Shabaab Attacks Security Checkpoint in Puntland, 24/2/2023, <https://rb.gv/1nk0pq>

³⁴ <https://rb.gv/zxphlr> امرصد الأزهر، مقتل مؤذن وحرق ممتلكاته على أيدي عناصر "الشباب" بالصومال، 2023/2/25،

³⁵ <https://rb.gv/betgsz> الصومال اليوم، الصومال.. قتلى وجرحى في تغيرات إرهابية بالعاصمة مقتديشيو، 2023/2/27،

³⁶ <https://rb.gv/7wuzhe> الميادين، مقتل أكثر من 38 شخصا باشتباكات عنيفة في أرض الصومال، 2023/2/26،

³⁷ Arab new, 35 dead as twin bomb blasts hit Somalia, 28/2/2023, <https://rb.gv/ap2jgo>

³⁸ <https://rb.gv/gveveg> الصومال الجديد، استهداف قافلة عسكرية أفريقية بتفجير في ضواحي مدينة مراكا، 2023/2/28،

³⁹ BBC, Somalia Villa Rays attack: Siege ends leaving eight civilians dead, 28/2/2023, <https://rb.gv/ftex9m>

⁴⁰ Nigerian gunmen kill eight, including police chief, Reuters, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/mooz5i>

⁴¹ Electoral Commission office and police station attacked in Nigeria, one killed, Africanews, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/dnfjkk>

⁴² Terrorists kill one, abduct 10 women in Niger community, Akahi News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/uq4gmn>

⁴³ Gunmen kill Nigerian judge during court session, [The Premium Times, Nigeria](https://rb.gv/wc8mxe), Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/wc8mxe>

⁴⁴ Gunmen bomb another police facility in Nigeria, kill officer, vigilante operative, [The Premium Times, Nigeria](https://rb.gv/qecmyk), Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/qecmyk>

⁴⁵ Death toll in Katsina terrorists, vigilantes clash rises to 102, [The Premium Times, Nigeria](https://rb.gv/ei64un), Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/ei64un>

⁴⁶ How heavily-armed terrorists killed 100 guards in Katsina forest ambush – Vigilante, punch, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/6evnzq>

and on February 4 four people were killed in Ikopi⁴⁷. While on 3 February, unidentified armed men invaded Jor village in Leer Local Government Area of Kaduna State killing two persons⁴⁸. Armed men also attacked a checkpoint on the old Enugu-Onitsha road in Abagana community in Njekuka Local Government Area of Anambra State, killing two security personnel.⁴⁹ On 4 February, at least six people were killed⁵⁰ during an attack by a group of herdsmen on Aremujiga and Mulej communities in Osi Local Council of Ondo State that lasted for two weeks.⁵¹

On February 5, militants launched a separate attack in two communities in Bocos Local Government Area, Plateau State, which left three people dead and two others injured.⁵² On February 6, Anaku youths launched an attack on Amur in Ayalum local government area of Anambra state, killing eight people and kidnapping 6 others, while on February 7, militants killed the chief imam of the Central Bedouin Mosque in Rogan Ordu and kidnapped 14 others in Kajarko. LG, Kaduna State.⁵³ Gunmen also attacked the home of a lecturer at the Faculty of Education, Nnamdi Azikiwe University in Oka in Anambra state, southeastern Nigeria, and killed him.⁵⁴

On 8 February, at least three people were killed and four others kidnapped during the two-day border conflict in Ebonyi State after the Amasery community militia invaded Okpurukho, Ndi Obasi, Ujiri and Idema.⁵⁵ On February 9, herdsmen launched an attack on the Nagi community in Mbachohun Council, Western Local Government Area in Gwer, Benue State, killing six people and injuring an unknown number.⁵⁶ Militants also launched an attack on army forces in Kwale, Western Ndukwa Local Government Area of Delta State, killing four officers and wounding others.⁵⁷ On 10 February, gunmen fired at a vehicle carrying police officers to Abia in Ayala Local Government Area of Anambra State, killing three police officers.⁵⁸

On February 12, five policemen were killed in an armed attack near a village in Jurara Local Government Area in Nigeria's northern Niger state⁵⁹. Militants also burned the Oguta High Court located in the Oguta Local Government Area, Imo State⁶⁰. On February 13, gunmen attacked the Ogidi Police Divisional Headquarters Idemili North Local Government Area of the Anambra State, southeastern Nigeria, while the police managed to repel the attack without casualties⁶¹.

⁴⁷ Suspected herders kill six in Benue, injure soldiers, punch, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/gqkgdg>

⁴⁸ **Gunmen kill 2 in Kaduna, sun news online, Feb 2023.** <https://rb.gv/fbhfz>

⁴⁹ Gunmen Kill Two Security Operatives, Set Ablaze Nigerian Police Station In Anambra, Sahara reporters, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/yofugo>

⁵⁰ Nigeria Security Tracker Weekly Update: February 4-10, Council on Foreign Relations. <https://rb.gv/qspong>

⁵¹ Gunmen kill six in attacks on Ondo communities, Business Hallmark, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/6n49ef>

⁵² Gunmen kill 5, injure 2 in Plateau communities, Tribune Online, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/dx5p5o>

⁵³ Terrorists Kill Chief Imam, Abduct 14 Others In Fresh Attacks On Kaduna Community, Akahi News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/2tsvrb>

⁵⁴ Gunmen Kill University Lecturer In Anambra, Southeast Nigeria, Sahara Reports, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/4tgcq3>

⁵⁵ Three killed in Ebonyi communal clash, ait.live, Feb 2023. <https://bit.ly/3ybgGeD>

⁵⁶ Six killed, several injured in suspected herdsmen attack in Benue, International Center for Investigative reporting, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/bhxvk4>

⁵⁷ Hoodlums ambush troops in Delta, kill four soldiers, punch, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/9vu3q8>

⁵⁸ Gunmen kill 3 policemen in Anambra community, GUARDIAN Newspapers, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/qxjxfk>

⁵⁹ Gunmen kill 5 policemen in north Nigeria attack, XINHUANET, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/igdtxu>

⁶⁰ Gunmen set Imo High Court ablaze, punch, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/xjzcf>

⁶¹ Gunmen attack another police facility in Anambra, The Premium Times, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/3o7qdx>

On February 14, gunmen attacked the Munu, a community in the Abaji Area District Council in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), killing two villagers and kidnapping an unknown number⁶². On February 15, 3 people were killed during a protest and an attempt to hack the "Benin" branch of the Central Bank of Nigeria by gunmen⁶³.

On 18 February, Three police officers were killed by gunmen shelling Ogidi Police Divisional Headquarters in Idemili North Local Government Area of Anambra State, south-east of the country⁶⁴. During February 19-20, 8 policemen and 3 gunmen were killed in two attacks by separatists in Anambra state in southeastern Nigeria⁶⁵. While on 20 February, armed men attacked in large numbers a police station near Obosi in the North Local Government Area of Anambra State⁶⁶.

On February 21, armed men attacked Kogi State, without causing any casualties⁶⁷. At the same time, a group of gunmen killed 7 Nigerian policemen in the southeast of the country⁶⁸. An elderly woman was also burned alive in an attack by gunmen in the state of "Imo" in the southeast of the country, and they set fire to various houses during the attack⁶⁹. In addition, bandits have abducted a female councilor in Plateau State from her home to an unknown destination⁷⁰.

On February 22, gunmen attacked a media house in "Port Harcourt, Atlantic TV Network, and Wish 99.5 FM", in the "Obio" Local Government Area of "Rivers" State⁷¹. Gunmen also kidnapped the governor's wife of the "Amuro" in "Imo" state, also burned the homes of the heads of the Progressive Congress and the Workers' Party⁷². Gunmen kidnapped dozens of passengers traveling to different locations via the Zamfara-Funtua highway⁷³.

On 24 February, an attack was launched on some dedicated staff of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) camped at Tudunwada Primary School, in the Gombe metropolis, leaving 3 injured⁷⁴. On February 25, five were injured in an attack on voters by Boko Haram in Borno State, the Mandara Mountain⁷⁵. An attack was also on the Oshodi area of Lagos State, using motorcycles, and the gunmen started shooting to scare voters and disrupt the elections⁷⁶. In addition to the attack on Labor Party vehicles and buses in Lagos state⁷⁷. On 26 February, at least one person was killed and another injured in an attack on a collection center in the Takai

⁶² Again, gunmen attack Abuja village, kill 2, abduct scores, The Times, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/i5nu5q>

⁶³ Business Day, Three feared dead as security agencies foil attack on CBN Benin, 15/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/eirm30>

⁶⁴ Times premium, Again, gunmen bomb police facility in South-east, kill three officers, 18/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/uqegfp>

⁶⁵ 2023/2/21, مقتل خمسة شرطييين في هجومين جنوب شرق نيجيريا، الخليج، <https://rb.gy/qphi0j>

⁶⁶ Punch, Three feared dead as gunmen attack another Anambra police station, 20/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/q85pkg>

⁶⁷ The Cable, Gunmen attack LG headquarters in Kogi with explosives, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/on23rq>

⁶⁸ Reuters, Ahead of Nigeria elections, gunmen kill seven police officers in southeast, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/i4tmfi>

⁶⁹ Times premium, Gunmen burn woman alive in Imo, raze commissioner's residence, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/kdqx6e>

⁷⁰ Punch, Bandits kidnap Plateau female councillor, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/2mbaic>

⁷¹ Daily Post, Gunmen attack media House owned by former Reps member in Rivers, 22/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/8dlxfl>

⁷² Punch, Gunmen kidnap Imo monarch's wife, raze houses of APC, LP chairmen, 23/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/shyqgu>

⁷³ Daily Post, Zamfara: Bandits kidnap scores along Gusau-Funtua highway, 22/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/lamp0t>

⁷⁴ Times premium, #NigeriaDecides2023: Hoodlums attack INEC officials in Gombe, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/rd4gon>

⁷⁵ Times premium, 5 injured as terrorists attack voters in Gwoza, Borno – Police, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/dsneoo>

⁷⁶ Daily Post, Nigeria Decides: Gunmen attack polling units, burn ballots papers in Lagos, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/zecclos>

⁷⁷ This Day, Thugs Attack Obi Supporters in Lagos, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/tvln5>

local government area of Kano state⁷⁸. On 28 February, the Nkboro Police Headquarters in the Abia state government area has been attacked by gunmen who are yet to be identified⁷⁹.

Ethiopia	Rating: 4	Accidents: 3
		Killing: 60

On February 2, at least 50 people, including police, women and children, were killed in the attack on Ano town by terrorists wearing the uniforms of the Oromo Liberation Army (OLA) rebels⁸⁰. On February 4, eight were killed and 4 others injured in the attack on a church in Shashamene, 250 kilometers (150 miles) south of Addis Ababa⁸¹. On February 7, the Murle tribe militants who crossed into Ethiopia's Gambella region from South Sudan killed two individuals and injured one⁸².

South Sudan	Rating: 5	Accidents: 4
		Killing: 42

On 2 February, 27 people were killed in clashes between a pastoralist community and armed men in Central Equatoria State, South Sudan⁸³. Four Red Cross Society volunteers were also killed in Kajo-Keji County, Central Equatoria State⁸⁴. On 16 February, an attack on a house in South Kordofan led to the death of a tribal leader affected by his wounds⁸⁵. On 23 February, 10 people died in an armed attack on a stationary boat carrying relief supplies between Juba and Mangala⁸⁶.

Third: Monitoring terrorist operations in African countries

a. Democratic Republic of the Congo

On 5 February, A United Nations peacekeeper from South Africa was killed and another wounded in an attack on their Oryx helicopter in Goma, eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)⁸⁷. On February 7, militants set fire to a UN convoy in eastern DRC, which was returning from a resupply mission north of Goma, the capital of North Kivu province and resulted in three demonstrators were killed during the attack⁸⁸. On February 11-12, the Codeco militia's attack on the gold-rich Ituri province in northeastern DRC killed more than 32 people and dozens have been killed more at the hands of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) with the Islamic State⁸⁹.

⁷⁸ Vanguard, One killed, another hospitalized, as thugs destroy collation centre in Kano, 26/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/lyvww5>

⁷⁹ Punch, Gunmen attack Abia police station, injure two officers, 28/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/fmx3gg>

⁸⁰ At least 50 killed in Ethiopia's Oromia region: Rights body, ahram online, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/a0mflp>

⁸¹ Eight Killed in Ethiopia Church Attacks: Rights Body, The Defense Post, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/cbee80>

⁸² News: Two killed, one injured in cross border raid by South Sudan's Murle militants in Gambella region, addis standard, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/a0p3ef>

⁸³ South Sudan violence kills 27 on the eve of pope's visit, The Financial Express, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/3rk2yq>

⁸⁴ South Sudan Red Cross, <https://rb.gy/jml2xo>

⁸⁵ RT «2023/2/16، النيابة بصدد طلب رفع الحصانة عن وزير النقل للتحقق من شهادته الجامعية، <https://rb.gy/lawwnc>

⁸⁶ Listen live, At least ten killed in Mangala boat attack, 23/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/sdz0nu>

⁸⁷ UN Peacekeeper Killed in Attack on Helicopter in DR Congo, VOA, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/945mgh>

⁸⁸ Attack on UN convoy in the DRC kills three demonstrators, lemode, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/it6ivq>

⁸⁹ At least 32 civilians killed in eastern Congo, says the U.N., The Associated Press, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/1ojhwu>

On February 15, five civilians were killed by ADF rebels in the eastern Ituri province⁹⁰. On February 20, the "March 23" rebels launched an attack on army positions in 4 villages in the Masisi region of North Kivu⁹¹. On February 28, unknown gunmen kidnapped 25 young men in the north of the country, in attacks on several villages in the region⁹².

B. Mali

On 1 February, The attack occurred on a checkpoint in San, 400 km east of the capital Bamako and about 80 km from the border with Burkina Faso., killing a policeman and a civilian and injuring a gendarme and three civilians⁹³. On February 7, jihadists attacked a checkpoint in the western Mali town of Nara, which is located near the border with Mauritania, killing two police officers and a gendarme⁹⁴. On February 9, three gendarmes were killed in an attack on the garrison of Nouara in Mali, 55 km from Adel Bkerou⁹⁵.

On February 21, a policeman and a civilian were killed and 7 others were injured when a homemade bomb exploded at a police checkpoint in western Mali on the road to Mauritania⁹⁶. Also, 3 UN peacekeepers were killed and 5 others were injured in a mine explosion in western Mali⁹⁷. On February 24, at least 19 civilians were killed in an attack on a village in central Mali⁹⁸.

Niger

On February 1, at least nine killed, injured one, and 6 people are still missing in an extremist attack on refugee camp located in the Tahoua region, west of Niger, bordering Mali⁹⁹. On 3 February, armed men staged an ambush along the Calabar-Ikom Highway between the Akamkapa Corridor and Beas Local Government Areas, Cross River State, in order to kidnap the former Minister of Niger Delta Affairs and gubernatorial candidate from the Popular Redemption Party in Cross River State, which resulted in two victims and a kidnapping four more while the target survived¹⁰⁰.

On February 10, ISIS militants ambushed forces, the troops were on patrol in the northern part of the Banibangou department, the attack took place in Tillaberi region in southwestern Niger near the Mali border¹⁰¹, killing at least 17 soldiers, wounding 13 others, and 16 soldiers are still missing¹⁰². On the same day, rebels launched an attack on the market of Shaibani village through Sarkin Bawa, while the police were able to repel them without any loss of life¹⁰³. On

⁹⁰The east African, Fears for DR Congo census as rebel attack kills five in Ituri, 16/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/0lg6xw>

⁹¹ حركة "23 مارس" تهاجم عدة مواقع لجيش الكونغو الديمقراطية، 2023/3/1، <https://rb.gy/qnkukh>

⁹² Ahram Online, Militants kidnap 25 youths in northern DR Congo, 28/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/ht0f0>

⁹³ مقتل شرطي ومدني في هجوم بشرق البلاد، صحراء ميديا، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/rk265r>

⁹⁴ Mali: Two police officers, one gendarme killed in latest attack, africanews, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/tqntup>

⁹⁵ مقتل ثلاثة دركيين في هجوم على حامية النواره بمالي 55 كم من عدل بگرو، وكالة أنباء الشرق، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/f58ezp>

⁹⁶ الغد، قتيلا في هجوم في غرب مالي بحسب السلطات، 2023/2/21، <https://rb.gy/w4h8x6>

⁹⁷ Peoples gazette, Three UN peacekeepers killed in central Mali blast, 21/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/hv0eaf>

⁹⁸ مقتل 12 شخصا في هجوم على قرية في مالي، 2023/2/24، <https://rb.gy/j3ckqz>

⁹⁹ At least nine killed in extremist attack on Niger refugee camp: Sources, Alarabiya news, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/z03h6a>

¹⁰⁰ 3 killed as former minister escapes 'assassination' in Cross River, Daily Trust, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/bq4lvq>

¹⁰¹ Suspected Militants Kill 10 Niger Soldiers, Defense Ministry Says, VOA, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/lexwdu>

¹⁰² مقتل 17 جنديا على الأقل في هجوم في إنتغامي (رسمي)، مؤسسة النهضة الإعلامية، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/rzzag7>

¹⁰³ Terrorists Kill Divisional Police Officer, Four Other Policemen In Niger State, North Central Nigeria, Sahara reporters, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/dfpsuy>

February 11, armed gangs attempted to attack some communities around **Gurara** near the Kwakuti-Dajigbe village area of Lambata, has led to the death of the Divisional Police Officer (DPO) and four other police¹⁰⁴.

Cameroon

During February 7-8, Boko Haram has killed at least eight fishermen in raids on the Logone and Chari regions communities around Lake Chad in Cameroon's Far North Region¹⁰⁵. On February 10, separatist fighters attacked an agro-industry company's truck near the town of Tikou, southwest Cameroon, killing six of its workers and wounding others¹⁰⁶. On February 13, three students killed in shooting at Michigan State University by a gunman and wounding many others¹⁰⁷. On February 17, two oil ship escorts were attacked near Cameroonian waters, in the Idabato subdivision of the Bakassi Peninsula¹⁰⁸. On February 25, an explosion by separatists during an annual racing competition injures 19 people, including 9 athletes and 10 civilians, including a child¹⁰⁹. On February 27, 15 gangsters stormed a voting collation center in the Alimosho neighbor-hood of Lagos, attacking party agents with knives and sticks¹¹⁰.

Central Africa

On 14 February, gunmen affiliated with the Patriotic Alliance for Change launched an attack on government forces in the village of Ndah, about 50 km (31 miles) from Peru, in northern CAR, killing 17 people and kidnapping 24 soldiers¹¹¹.

Kenya

On February 12, an armed gang ambushed in Nabimwet, Turkana Province, killing 3 police officers and wounding 7 others, including the commanding officer of the Police Squad, Public Security Unit and Rapid Deployment Unit¹¹². On February 14, at least 4 police officers were killed by an explosive device on the Dadaab Garissa highway in the northeast¹¹³. On February 17, 3 Al-Shabaab fighters were killed in the coastal Lamu area by the army forces, on the border with Somalia¹¹⁴. On February 19, an attack by bandits on Malango took the lives of a reservist and two herdsmen¹¹⁵. On February 22, the Kenya defense forces (KDF) was ambushed by dozens of bandits at Kainuk¹¹⁶. On February 24, two police officers were killed and 3 others wounded by Al-Shabaab, when an explosive device exploded on the road between Garcia and Dadaab¹¹⁷. On 25 February, three people were killed in Lkeek Sabuk area in Samburu West after

¹⁰⁴ Bandits Kill DPO, Four Other Policemen In Niger, channels, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ehialy>

¹⁰⁵ 8 fishermen killed in Boko Haram attack in Cameroon, XINHUANET, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/h0evhc>

¹⁰⁶ 6 Cameroonian workers killed in restive Anglophone region, XINHUANET, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/urm5sd>

¹⁰⁷ Three students killed in shooting at Michigan State University, Sunday island, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ykyd1v>

¹⁰⁸ Daily Post, Pro-Biafra militants attack oil vessel, kill 2 near Cameroon, 17/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/iotzpl>

¹⁰⁹ DW, Cameroon: Explosion during annual race injures several, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/ozepss>

¹¹⁰ Reuters, Gang attacks Nigerian electoral counting centre in Lagos, video shows, 27/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/kgwqh6>

¹¹¹ CAR: A rebel attack in Ndah leaves up to 17 people killed on Feb. 14, CRISIS 24, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/uua9bv>

¹¹² Kenya: Bandits kill three police officers during a gun attack, The North Africa Post, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/cnbha6>

¹¹³ Al Shabaab kills Kenyan Police Officers in Garissa, GAROWE ONLINE, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/6o5c9i>

¹¹⁴ English news, cn, Kenya says army kills 3 al-Shabab militants in coastal region, 17/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/5mlx4r>

¹¹⁵ Capital news, Police Reservist Among Three People Killed In Isiolo Bandit Attack, 19/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/m5ssiu>

¹¹⁶ Nation, Two bandits arrested after daring attack on KDF at Kainuk, 23/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/zh953m>

¹¹⁷ Crisis24, Kenya: Bomb explosions kills at least two security personnel near Dadaab, Garissa County, Feb. 24, <https://rb.gy/vm1ltm>

armed bandits raided several villages in the area¹¹⁸. 3 from KDF soldiers were also wounded while attacking bandits in several areas of a district, in the villages of Lesilampa, Lekirishati, Lempoko and Lengoseg¹¹⁹.

Mozambique

On 7 February, extremists in Cabo Delgado province, northern Mozambique, killed a worker for the international charity Doctors without Borders¹²⁰. On February 12th, Islamist militants attacked Nairoto village in Cabo Delgado province, 15 km from Nairoto mine, without causing any casualties¹²¹. On the same day, 80 jihadists attacked on the barracks of the Mozambican Defense and Security Forces, in the Neroto administrative center in the Montepuez district, in Cabo Delgado province, killing at least 5 soldiers¹²². On February 17, rebels launched an attack on Nairoto village in Cabo Delgado province with rocket-propelled grenades and light machine guns. As a result, 5 security personnel were killed¹²³.

Sudan

On 6 February, armed looting occurred in the Porta area near El Geneina, West Darfur, killing one person and injuring three others¹²⁴. On the 9th of February, gunmen attacked a commercial vehicle in the Al-Leouna area of Habila locality in South Kordofan state, injuring three civilians¹²⁵. On February 10, gunmen launched an attack on the convoy of the governor of the state in the west of the Gildo area in the West Jebel Marra locality in western Sudan, wounding three soldiers¹²⁶. On 14 February, gunmen ambushed a security patrol in Kerenik locality, West Darfur state, killing two soldiers and wounding three others¹²⁷. A citizen was killed, and nine others were injured during the tribal conflict in the Ksiba area on the border with Ethiopia, in the Basanda locality of the Gedaref state in eastern Sudan¹²⁸. On 14 February, a woman was killed by unknown gunmen near the Zamzam camp for the displaced near El Fasher, the capital of North Darfur, and five women were sexually assaulted in different regions of North and South Darfur¹²⁹.

On February 18, gunmen opened fire on a convoy carrying the governor of Central Darfur in the "Gildo" area, wounding three soldiers¹³⁰. On February 19, an attack was launched by Ethiopian forces and armed militias that entered Sudanese territory¹³¹. On February 25, two displaced persons were killed, and six were wounded by armed militia on the road between Mornei and

¹¹⁸ Nation, Armed bandits kill three in Saturday daytime attack, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/4iii5e>

¹¹⁹ Citizen digital, Five People Killed In Bandit Attack In Samburu, 25/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/15tuhe>

¹²⁰ Mozambique's extremist rebels kill aid worker in north, The Associated Press, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/rtmfpa>

¹²¹ Mozambique: Militants attack prompts evacuation of nearby mine near Nairoto, Cabo Delgado, CRISIS 24, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/vdoal5>

¹²² Mozambique: Armed men attack barracks in Nairoto, Cabo Delgado – AIM report, club of mozambique, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/pghols>

¹²³ Muggle head, Gemfields evacuates Mozambique gold project after violence erupts in nearby village, 17/2/2023, <https://rb.gy/boryb1>

¹²⁴ <https://rb.gy/bqsao7> مقتل شخص وإصابة أربعة آخرين في حوادث نهب مسلح بغرب دارفور، ديقنا، فبراير 2023.

¹²⁵ <https://rb.gy/gg9dke> إصابة ثلاثة أشخاص في هجوم مسلح جنوب كردفان، أخبار السودان، فبراير 2023.

¹²⁶ <https://rb.gy/5790xu> إصابة 3 عسكريين في هجوم مسلح على موكب والي وسط دارفور، سودان تريبيون، فبراير 2023.

¹²⁷ Two soldiers killed in fresh West Darfur attacks, Sudan tribune, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/tejrxh>

¹²⁸ <https://rb.gy/iofclu> مقتل مواطن وإصابة 9 على الأقل، في نزاع نو طابع قبلي، بين مكونات سكانية بمنطقة كسبية، نبض، فبراير 2023.

¹²⁹ <https://rb.gy/roifca> Uprising in sexual violence in Darfur, especially against displaced women, Dabanga, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/wzvtma>

¹³⁰ السودان اليوم، إصابة 3 عسكريين في هجوم مسلح على موكب والي وسط دارفور، 2023/2/18، <https://rb.gy/sw0qlj>

¹³¹ أخبار السودان، هجوم اثيوبي .. الجيش السوداني يتصدى لقوات إثيوبية بعد أشهر من اتفاق لحل ودي لفضايا الحدود، 2023/2/19، <https://rb.gy/sw0qlj>

Moro in Central Darfur¹³². Gunmen also launched an attack on a police station in the "Port Sudan" locality in the Red Sea state¹³³.

Libya

On February 1, an armed group kidnapped an Iraqi actress and activist from her home in the Libyan, Janzour city Balina, Sohag -Harjah village of Al-residents of Al. On February 3, 6 Coptic¹³⁴ Governorate, in the south of the country, were kidnapped by unknown gunmen¹³⁵. On February 6, two young men were shot dead in the Dhi Hilal area as part of the wave of suspicious assassinations in the country, coinciding with the talk of the return of an al-Qaeda leader¹³⁶. On February 10, 2 members of the Law Enforcement Department of the General Directorate of Security Operations were injured while they were working in maintaining security in Tajoura during an armed attack¹³⁷. On February 11, unidentified gunmen closed the coastal road at the level of the Dafniya Gate, west of Misurata, by constructing earthen berms, in protest against the non-payment of their financial dues¹³⁸.

Fourth: African countries' efforts to combat the phenomenon of terrorism

a. Nigeria

On February 2, Nigerian forces killed at least 37 Boko Haram terrorists during a raid on their camps in the villages of Kayamare, Habasha, and Yue in the Konduga Local Government Area of Northeast Borno State. They detained 13 ISIS logistical resources in West Africa State (ISWAP). On the same day, a patrol team of the Nigerian Army's 1st Division drove out the bandits on¹³⁹ the Kaduna-Bernin-Gwari highway and rescued 30 kidnapped victims in the Birnin-Gwari Local Government Area of Kaduna State¹⁴⁰. On February 4, terrorist forces raided Palang village on the outskirts of the Sambisa forest, neutralizing five terrorists and rescuing 55 civilians¹⁴¹. On February 6, several artillery fire missions were carried out in Tumbun Baribar, Tumbun Mata, Kai Kura, Kwatan Yobe, and Dumba in Kukawa LGA in Borno, killing about 42 terrorists¹⁴². Between February 8th and 13th, Nigerian forces acting on reliable intelligence ambushed Boko Haram ISWAP terrorists at locations within the local government areas of Gwoza, Mafa, and Bama in Borno State, during which ten terrorists were neutralized while others escaped with bullet wounds¹⁴³. On 9 February, Nigerian Army 1st Division and Operation Air Component forces during a 48-hour operation cleared Manini-Korega, Faren Rua, Kwanan Yashi, Makira, Dogon Dawa-Medaro, Kidanda-Yade road, Sabon Bernin, all in the Bernin Local Government

¹³² السودان اليوم، مقتل وإصابة 8 نازحين بهجوم مسلح في وسط دارفور، 2023/2/25، <https://rb.gy/17jamc>

¹³³ السودان اليوم، هجوم يستهدف قسم شرطة محلية بورتسودان بعد مقتل شخصين والشرطة تصدر بيانا، 2023/2/25، <https://rb.gy/r8lutr>

¹³⁴ مسلحون هاجموا منزلها.. تفاصيل جديدة حول اختطاف ممثلة عراقية في ليبيا إشاهد، صدى البلد، فبراير 2023، <https://rb.gy/koggnf>

¹³⁵ مجدداً.. خطف 6 أقباط مصريين في ليبيا ومطالبات بقدية، العربية، فبراير 2023، <https://rb.gy/zi1aek>

¹³⁶ مقتل عنصرين مسلحين يشعل فتيل اشتباكات جديدة في الغرب الليبي، independent عربية، فبراير 2023، <https://rb.gy/w9hgxs>

¹³⁷ Ministry of Interior: Two security personnel wounded in an armed attack, The Libya Observer, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/mlrir8>

¹³⁸ مسلحون يغلقون بوابة الدافنية في مصراته، ليبيا المستقبل، فبراير 2023، <https://rb.gy/gjs1d8>

¹³⁹ Nigerian troops kill 37 Boko Haram terrorists after raid on camps, The East African, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ecgdt0>

¹⁴⁰ Troops dislodge terrorists, rescue 30 abductees in Kaduna, The Sun, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ex6poi>

¹⁴¹ Nigerian military kills 77 terrorists in two weeks – Official, The Premium Times, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ubzrqk>

¹⁴² Nigerian military kills 77 terrorists in two weeks – Official، المرجع السابق

¹⁴³ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, PR Nigeria, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/pnec30>

Area Gwari and Dogon-Dawa-Kidandan, four bandits neutralized¹⁴⁴. Between the 9th and 12th of February, the forces on combat patrol responded to information regarding terrorist activities within the local government areas of Giwa, Birni Gwari, and Zango Katak of Kaduna State, five terrorists were neutralized, and the others fled with gunshot wounds¹⁴⁵. On February 11, the forces on combat patrol responded to the distress call about the terrorists' activities in Malam Maga in the Dikwa Local Government Area of Borno State. The terrorists fled upon seeing the forces, and the forces managed to rescue 20 kidnapped civilians. The forces also raided specific criminal houses at various locations within the South Isoko Local Government Area in Delta State and arrested eight suspects¹⁴⁶. On February 13, the air component conducted an air interception of a gathering of senior leaders and terrorist leaders in the Madara Mountains, neutralizing several terrorists including some of its key leaders while others escaped with serious injuries¹⁴⁷. On the same day, a similar operation was carried out in the Uwe fishing area in Borno after seeing about 50 terrorists in the general area; the site was bombed with many terrorists neutralized in the strike¹⁴⁸. Between February 13th and 18th, forces conducted an operation at Okigwe Local Government Area, Imo State based on a smart report of Biafra Indigenous/Eastern Security Network terrorists regrouping at the location, resulting in one terrorist being neutralized and another fleeing¹⁴⁹. On the same day, the forces, in cooperation with the Civilian Joint Task Force and Hunters, ambushed Boko Haram terrorists in Banki in Bama Local Government Area of Borno State along the Mainti and Dragmal axis, resulting in the neutralization of 8 terrorists¹⁵⁰. On February 14, Operation WHIRL PUNCH forces responded to information regarding the presence of Boko Haram terrorists in the Damba community in Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State and arrested three terrorists. Another air interception operation was carried out at the terrorists' specified location in Riawah, Kaduna State, which led to the neutralization of many terrorists. Also, between 16 and 18 February, the forces on patrol responded to a distress call regarding the kidnapping incidents in Kwanan Fulani, along the Jos-Abuja road in Plateau Local Government State, south of Jos, rescuing ten abducted civilians; the forces rescued 4 Civilians following clashes in the village of Yelwa Nono in Bocos Local Government Area¹⁵¹. Between February 16 and 19, the forces participating in a combat patrol responded to terrorist activities in Torba village and Kwana Kamabazawa village in Sabu Birnin Local Government Area of Sokoto State; the forces neutralized four terrorists and rescued 13 kidnapped civilians. Also, on the 16th, the forces conducted a combat patrol in Ungwan Birni in the Kajuru Local Government Area of Kaduna State; the forces managed to neutralize seven terrorists, and the others fled¹⁵². On 17 February, a joint Nigerian Army and Navy forces neutralized seven bandits during clearance operations in Kasu General Area, Chikun Local Government Area, Kaduna State¹⁵³. Between 19 and 20 February, the forces responded

¹⁴⁴ AGAIN, TROOPS OF 1 DIVISION NIGERIAN ARMY AND AIR COMPONENT OF OPERATION WHIRL GIVE TERRORISTS BLOODY NOSE, Nigerian Army, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/d9hjad>

¹⁴⁵ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁴⁶ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁴⁷ Nigerian troops kill over 100 Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists in 2 weeks, PM News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/prdtlu>

¹⁴⁸ Military kills over 100 terrorists in 2 weeks – DHQ, Vanguard, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/i55xxo>

¹⁴⁹ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵⁰ Nigerian Troops Eliminate Terrorists in Banki, Recover Weapons, EmergencyDigest, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/qvzdg2>

¹⁵¹ Military Rescues 14 Civilians, Continues Onslaught Against Terrorists, radionigeriaabuja, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/qzncck>

¹⁵² In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵³ Nigerian troops kill 7 terrorists, recover 5 motorcycles, ammunition in Kaduna LG, dailynigerian, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/h45trp>

to an indigenous Biafra terrorist attack in the local government areas of Oye and Onitsha South, Anambra State, neutralizing eight terrorists while others fled¹⁵⁴. On February 19, an air interception operation was conducted against specific terrorist enclaves in the Timbuktu Triangle in the Damduwa Local Government area in Borno after a smart report revealed a stockpile of weapons and supplies to the area to maintain the activities of the Islamic State in West Africa Province, so many terrorists were neutralized and their weapons destroyed and their structures¹⁵⁵. The forces also responded to an attack by the Indigenous Biafra/Eastern Security Network terrorists on a position along the Omuleri-Onitsha road. The forces neutralized 5 of the indigenous people and arrested 2 of them¹⁵⁶. On February 20, another air interception was carried out in Baranga and Dogon Chocó in the south and north of Tombons, which led to the killing of several terrorists¹⁵⁷. On the same day, the Nigerian Army forces of the 27th Brigade of the Task Force of Operation Hadden Kaye killed several ISIS terrorists in West Africa in Yobe¹⁵⁸.

Somalia

On February 1, Somalia hosted a summit of leaders from several neighboring countries in the Horn of Africa, Djibouti, Ethiopia, and Kenya, to discuss a coordinated military offensive against Al-Shabaab¹⁵⁹. On February 5, four Al-Shabaab fighters were killed during a military operation carried out by the Somali army in the areas of Qolola and Soya, near the Afmadow region of the Lower Juba region in southern Somalia¹⁶⁰. During the week from 9-15 February, more than 350 Al-Shabaab fighters were killed during a week-long operation that was carried out by the Somali National Army and regional forces in the southern and central regions of Somalia in Hieran, Hirshabelle state, Mudug, Galmudug state, and Lower Juba, Jubaland state¹⁶¹, also, some of them surrendered, including the leader of the movement and the explosives expert¹⁶². On February 10 alone, coalition forces including soldiers from the Somali National Army launched an airstrike in a remote area about 45 km southwest of Hobyo¹⁶³, Somalia, killing 117 Al-Shabaab militants¹⁶⁴. The Somali President also met with the Italian Minister of Defense to discuss ways to enhance cooperation between the two countries in the security and military fields, regional stability, and increase the Italian government's support for Somalia, especially regarding army reform and combating terrorism¹⁶⁵. On February 12, 18 Al-Shabaab militants were killed during an operation launched by Somali forces in the Middle Shabelle region¹⁶⁶. On February 14, the Somali army forces carried out a large-scale security operation in the Qaed area in the Mudug governorate, killing 50 members of the Al-Shabaab militia linked to Al-

¹⁵⁴ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵⁵ Nigerian troops kill over 100 Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists in 2 weeks, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵⁶ In Aggressive Raid, Nigerian Military Kills 133 ISWAP Fighters in N/East, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵⁷ Nigerian troops kill over 100 Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists in 2 weeks, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹⁵⁸ Troops 'kill ISWAP terrorists' in Yobe after 'failed attack', The Cable, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/obzkr0>

¹⁵⁹ Somalia hosts regional summit to discuss fighting al-Shabab, ALJazeera, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/9s1hmf>

¹⁶⁰ 4 Al-Shabaab Militants Killed in Southern Somalia, Qatar News Agency, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/uwqppp>

¹⁶¹ Somali Government Says Hundreds of Al-Shabab Militants Killed, VOA, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/5whunu>

¹⁶² Somalia says kills 200 Al-Shabab militants in week-long onslaught, Daily News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/cerwu6>

¹⁶³ 12 al-Shabab militants killed in Somalia air strike, XINHUANET, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/czfhjk>

¹⁶⁴ AFRICOM, Somalia Eliminates al-Shabab Militants, VOA, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/g6ewnx>

¹⁶⁵ 2023. العین الإخبارية، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/0hskqx> رئيس الصومال يلتقي وزير الدفاع الإيطالي.. تعاون أمني،

¹⁶⁶ 2023. مقتل 18 مسلحا، وكالة الأنباء العمانية، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/gvkoag> الجيش الصومالي.

Qaeda¹⁶⁷. On February 15, the US Africa Command, at the request of the Somali federal government, launched a raid in a remote area near Bakaduin, about 460 km northwest of Mogadishu, killing 5 Al-Shabaab fighters¹⁶⁸. On February 19, the US-Somali forces killed one of the Al-Shabaab militants in the “Gharsbali” area on the outskirts of the capital, Mogadishu¹⁶⁹. On February 20, the military forces targeted the positions of militants and destroyed hideouts of terrorists between the El Baad and Ronergod districts in the Middle Shabelle region, killing 26 Al-Shabaab militants¹⁷⁰. On February 21, the Somali National Army, with the support of regional forces and international partners, killed 42 militant terrorists of Al-Shabaab in the Kadali location near the Mahadayi district of Middle Shabelle, Hirshebelle State, in an operation that lasted 30 hours¹⁷¹. On the same day, the Somali government launched an air strike 320 miles northeast of Mogadishu, killing seven Al-Shabaab fighters¹⁷². It also carried out military operations targeting the suburb of “Janali” in the Lower Shabelle region in Southwest, killing four terrorists¹⁷³. On February 22, Somali government forces responded to an attack on a house in Abdelaziz district, north of Mogadishu, and were able to rescue many civilians and remove them from the house and other nearby buildings¹⁷⁴. On the same day, the Somali intelligence, in cooperation with the international coalition forces, carried out an air strike in the Hiran region in the center of the country, killing 20 Al-Shabaab fighters¹⁷⁵. On February 25, the security forces arrested three Al-Shabaab fighters in an operation in the Dinel district of Mogadishu¹⁷⁶. On February 28, more than 10 alleged Al-Shabaab militants were killed by Somali government forces and international partners in Berween, Hiran region¹⁷⁷.

A clash between the Somali army and Al-Shabaab in the areas of El Baad and Ronergod in the Middle Shabelle region, and the security forces managed to kill 26 terrorists from the movement¹⁷⁸.

On February 22, 22 members of the Al-Shabaab movement were killed in central Somalia in an air operation carried out by Somali intelligence with international partners in the town of “Shaw” in the Hiran region of Hirshebelle state¹⁷⁹.

C. Niger

On February 20th, the European Union announced the launch of a joint security and defense policy military partnership mission in Niger to support the country in its fight against terrorist armed groups¹⁸⁰.

¹⁶⁷ <https://rb.gy/cyrv21> الجيش يُعلن مصرع 50 مسلحا من عناصر حركة الشباب وسط الصومال وتحرير مناطق استراتيجية، الصومال اليوم، فبراير 2023.

¹⁶⁸ Somali, U.S. forces engage insurgents in support of the Federal Government of Somalia, U.S. Africa Command, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/ihv103>

¹⁶⁹ القوات الأمنية تقتل مسلحا حاول اغتيال جندي بضواحي مقديشو، الصومال الجديد، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/afglxx>

¹⁷⁰ مقتل 26 إرهابيا في الصومال، الاتحاد، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/pgcc3v>

¹⁷¹ 42 Al-Shabaab militants killed in a joint operation, Sonna, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/vzimiz>

¹⁷² Seven al-Shabaab militants killed in Somalia, Goobjoog, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/8t8htu>

¹⁷³ الجيش الصومالي يقضي على 130 إرهابيا خلال 24 ساعة، المصري اليوم، فبراير 2023. <https://rb.gy/oixsb6>

¹⁷⁴ Somali forces respond as ten civilians killed in jihadist attack in Mogadishu, African News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/vr6r79>

¹⁷⁵ 20 Shabaab Militants Killed in Somalia, Asharq Al Awsat, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/aavbaw>

¹⁷⁶ Security Forces Arrest 3 Al-Shabaab Militants in Mogadishu, Facility for Talo and Leadership, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/6tmegs>

¹⁷⁷ Airwars assessment, Airwars, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/dawsod>

¹⁷⁸ الصومال يعلن مقتل 26 إرهابيا جنوب البلاد، 2023/2/20، <https://rb.gy/wzn6yb>

¹⁷⁹ وكالة الانضول، مقتل 20 من حركة “الشباب” وسط الصومال، 2023/2/22، <https://rb.gy/hbpndx>

¹⁸⁰ Niger and Europe...Partnership and cooperation imposed by the lesson of Ukraine, Al-Ain News, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/vqytz1>

D. Burkina Faso

On February 2, the transitional government adopted the "Action Plan for Stability and Development," which included four axes, including the one to combat "terrorism", whose main target is to liberate the areas occupied by armed extremist groups, i.e. about 40% of the lands, and to create the necessary security conditions for the return of state authority and the population to these areas¹⁸¹. On February 9th, a joint statement was issued stating that Burkina Faso, Guinea and Mali asked their foreign ministers to propose a tripartite regional partnership to facilitate trade and address insecurity in the region. The officials went to Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, during the week to discuss ways of cooperation¹⁸². On February 17th, the forces repelled an ambush set up by gunmen between Diu and Orsi in Audalan province, and managed to kill 160 terrorists while losing 51 soldiers.¹⁸³ On February 20, the Armed Forces announced the recruitment of 50,000 volunteers to defend the homeland to confront the rising threat of terrorism and fight extremists, who currently occupy nearly half of the country.¹⁸⁴

E. Democratic Republic of Congo

On February 4, the heads of state of Central and East Africa met at the Bujumbura summit in Burundi, to discuss the security situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo in the midst of the escalation of violence in the east of the central African country, with the aim of the summit aiming to reach decisions that will improve the security situation and facilitate the achievement of peace in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo.¹⁸⁵

F. Mali

In the period February 6-7, 34 terrorists were killed in a special operation launched against armed terrorist groups in the Korintsa district of the Mopti region in central Mali, with the joint effort of the Malian army and the Ministry of Defense¹⁸⁶. On February 7th, Mali received the Russian Foreign Minister, following the delivery of military aid from Moscow, with the aim of establishing a new dynamic for security and economic cooperation between the two countries, according to the Malian Ministry of Foreign Affairs.¹⁸⁷ On February 23rd, the Prime Minister of Mali, during his meeting with the Prime Minister of Burkina Faso, called to stop relying on foreign armies in the face of terrorist groups operating in Burkina Faso and Mali¹⁸⁸.

¹⁸¹ Burkina Faso: The government adopts an action plan for stability and development, Constitution, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/2jkkqro>

¹⁸² Burkina Faso, Guinea, Mali on joint infrastructure, security, trade effort, TVP World, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/x28gf5>

¹⁸³ Burkina Faso army reports 160 'terrorists' and 51 military personnel killed in ambush in north of the country, news360, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/1nztqv>

¹⁸⁴ Burkina Faso decides to recruit 50,000 volunteers after agreeing to the withdrawal of French forces, Dasman, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/kjqaii>

¹⁸⁵ Central and East African countries discuss the security situation in the Congo, Madar, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/dlldkd>

¹⁸⁶ Malian army kills 34 terrorists in special operation, DT Next, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/qirkvq>

¹⁸⁷ Russia to Increase Security Cooperation with Mali, Asharq Al-Awsat, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/5k2dfk>

¹⁸⁸ Mali Prime Minister: We will defeat terrorism with the country's army, Syrian Arab News Agency, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/xlxjvq>

G. Sudan

On February 8th, Sudan received the Russian Foreign Minister to discuss the development of cooperation between the two countries and efforts to combat terrorism, with senior Sudanese officials.¹⁸⁹

H. Kenya

On February 9th, the Criminal Investigation Directorate (CID) appealed for volunteering information that could lead to the arrest of five dangerous terrorism suspects linked to Al-Shabaab terrorist network after believing that dozens of Al-Shabaab terrorists may have infiltrated into Kenya from Somalia and were planning an attack on Nairobi¹⁹⁰. On February 11th, Kenya's Minister of Foreign Affairs announced that the country was recording great success in combating the terrorist group linked to al-Qaeda, and that the administration had enhanced levels of security in vital facilities such as public places¹⁹¹. From February 13-24, Kenya hosted Justified Accord training, a multinational exercise that brings together more than 20 countries from 3 continents to increase partner readiness for peacekeeping, crisis response and humanitarian aid missions¹⁹². On February 13th, the Home Office announced the start of a joint security operation by the National Police Service (NPS) and the Kenya Defense Force (KDF) to expel armed terrorists who steal cattle in parts of Baringo, Samburu, Laikipia, Turkana, West Pokot and Elgeyo Marakwet counties¹⁹³. On February 15th, the Kenyan government announced in a statement that the Kenya Defense Forces would be deployed to support the National Police Service in response to the security emergency caused by the outbreak of road blocking accidents.¹⁹⁴ On February 24th, the Ministry of the Interior announced that a command center had been established for the operation announced on 13th, and sufficient security personnel, as well as ground and air equipment, had been deployed to ensure the success of the mission. The ministry also confirmed that Kenya is currently working with its neighbors Uganda and South Sudan to block any loopholes that allow criminals to move from a regional jurisdiction to another¹⁹⁵. On February 15th, the Kenya Defense Forces began to deploy in the volatile North Rift region in Kenya, parts of which are located on the borders of Eastern Equatoria State in southern Sudan¹⁹⁶. On February 16th, the Kenyan army killed 3 armed of Al-Shabaab movement in the coastal Lamu area near the Somali border¹⁹⁷.

I. Mozambique

From 13-17 February, Mozambique received the Director of Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) and the Commander of the European Union Training Mission in Mozambique

¹⁸⁹ Avrov confirms from Khartoum his country's cooperation with Sudan to confront "terrorism", Sky News Arabia, February 2023. <https://rb.gy/6tk9qr>

¹⁹⁰ Internal and external security threats rock new government's boat, Vellum, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/pcsfri>

¹⁹¹ Kenya calls US, UK terror alerts 'completely unfortunate', The East African, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/cgjke0>

¹⁹² Justified Accord, United States Africa Command, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/xkml0v>

¹⁹³ Security forces fully deployed and set to flush out bandits, Kindiki says, ntv, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/jaxvcg>

¹⁹⁴ Kenya to deploy troops in crackdown on bandits, Zawya, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/e0g44s>

¹⁹⁵ Security forces fully deployed and set to flush out bandits, Kindiki says, op

¹⁹⁶ Kenya deploys army to restive area bordering South Sudan, radiotamazuj, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/tv4o87>

¹⁹⁷ Kenyan Army kills 3 al-Shabab militants in coastal region, socialnews xyz, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gy/nxv6bt>

(EUTM MOZ), in order to discuss the mission's strategic progress and provide an initial update on current activities, challenges and major ongoing projects. He visited the Training Camps of Quick Reaction Forces (QRFs) and the Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) located in Katembe, Chimoio and Mavalan to observe how training activities are being developed.¹⁹⁸ After Nyusi and Kagame met on February 17th in Ethiopia, on the sidelines of the 36th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, the Mozambican president agreed with his Rwandan counterpart to strengthen the fight against terrorism in South Africa.¹⁹⁹ On Thursday February 23rd, the Mozambican Defense Forces presented 3 terrorists to journalists in the town of Mocimboa Da Praia, who left the jihadist camps and surrendered to the authorities. On February 24th, Rwandan forces, in cooperation with the Mozambican Defense and Security Forces, arrested more than 10 terrorists in Mocimboa da Praia, in the northern province of Cabo Delgado. On February 27th, the Rwandan forces arrested 7 terrorists near Malindi village, and 10 others in the bushes between the villages of Makulu, Kablesira and Malindi.²⁰⁰

J. Libya On February 4th, the Libyan government in charge held a meeting in Al-Rajma area, east of Benghazi, to discuss the current political situation, foreign military presence on Libyan territory, combating terrorism, illegal migration, and border protection²⁰¹. On February 20th, the Security Directorate of the Libyan city Tobruk announced the seizure of large quantities of dangerous arms south of the city, before they were smuggled into Egyptian territory through the desert oasis of Jaghbub.²⁰²

K. Chad

On February 21st, the authorities launched a mass trial of hundreds of alleged rebels accused of killing President Idriss Deby, who died in mysterious circumstances in 2021, two days after winning a sixth term.²⁰³ Chad is also preparing to sign a joint agreement to combat terrorism with Russia²⁰⁴.

L. Senegal

During the 36th Summit of the African Union in Ethiopia, the President of Senegal stressed the need to activate the African ready force and establish a counter-terrorism unit, calling on the UN Security Council to be more committed to combating terrorism in Africa, he called for urgent decisions to be taken to implement the results of the Dakar meeting regarding ongoing violence against women and girls in Africa.²⁰⁵

¹⁹⁸ The Director MPCC visits EUTM Mozambique, [European Union Training Mission in Mozambique](https://rb.gv/fkjuto), Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/fkjuto>

¹⁹⁹ Rwanda, Mozambique step up fight against terrorism – President Nyusi, AFRICA press, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/1mftf7>

²⁰⁰ Mozambique: Terrorists captured in Mocimboa da Praia – AIM report, club of Mozambique, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/v2oe6u>

²⁰¹ Marshal Haftar and Bashagha discussed current political situation, Libyan govt said, The Libya update, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/2o4xfq>

²⁰² Libyan weapons are a “chronic headache” for neighboring countries, The Independent Arabia, February 2023. <https://rb.gv/gb37vp>

²⁰³ Mass trial starts in Chad over former ruler Deby’s death, AP News, Feb 2023. <https://rb.gv/brjkhz>

²⁰⁴ Chad signs an agreement to cooperate in combating terrorism with Russia / Al-Fikr website translation, Al-Fikr, February 2023. <https://rb.gv/kbyuvs>

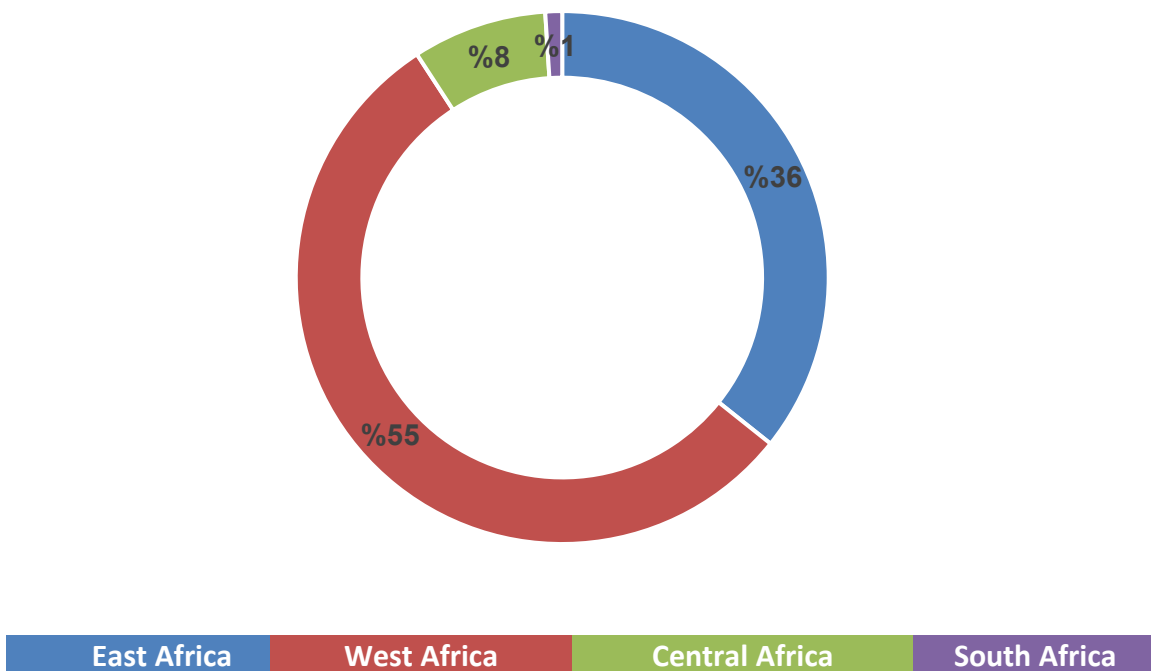
²⁰⁵ The African Summit in Addis Ababa discusses promoting peace and trade, Al-Masry Al-Youm, February 2023. <https://rb.gv/k8dsjh>

Fifth: Trends of the phenomenon of terrorism in Africa

A. The relative distribution of the victims of terrorist operations in the five regions:

During February, the West African region ranked first as a result of the continued activity of Boko Haram, Da'esh and some rebel organizations with 485 casualties. The East African region ranked second as a result of the activity of Al-Shabaab movement in Somalia and the renewal of ethnic conflict in Ethiopia. Terrorism killed 314 people, while the Central African region ranked third with 75 victims, while only 11 people were killed in the South African region, while North Africa ranked the quietest with only two deaths.

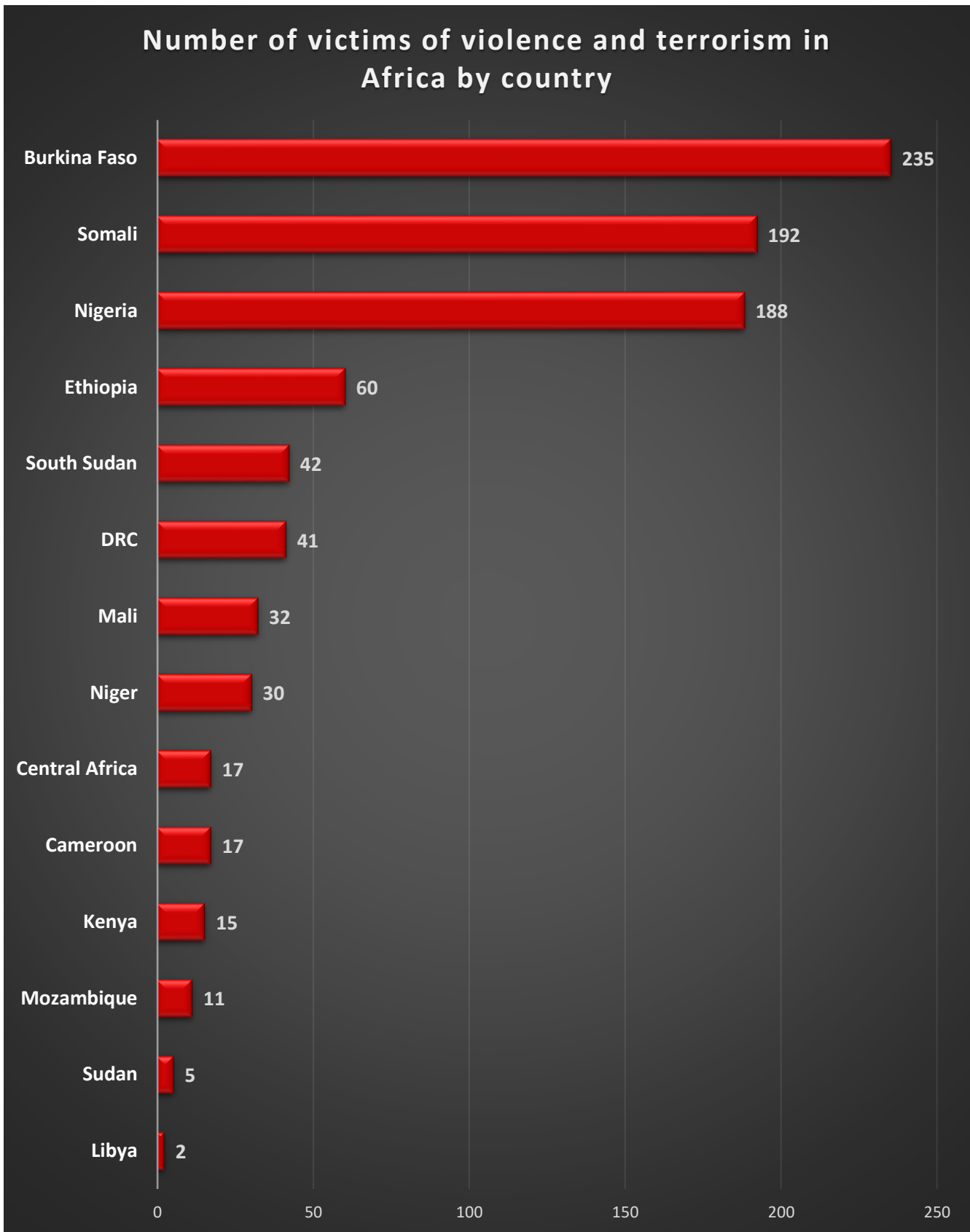
Percentages of victims of violence and terrorism by regions



A. Numerical distribution of terrorism victims by country

For years and months, terrorism has afflicted Africa and hinders its development, as a result of the deterioration of the situation and the continuation of ethnic conflicts that are sometimes fueled by external wills. The number of victims has increased dramatically, making Burkina Faso the first among African countries in the number of victims, with 235 deaths, compared to 83 deaths in the previous month, which means that a qualitative and logistical shift has occurred in the structure of terrorist organizations in Burkina Faso during the past month, while the continued activity of Al-Shabaab terrorist movement caused Somalia to rank second, with 192 deaths, while Nigeria, which suffers under the weight of Boko Haram and Da'esh organizations, ranked third with 188 deaths, while the renewed conflicts in Ethiopia caused it to rank second, as the fighting resulted in 236 dead, Burkina Faso ranked third with 83 victims, while Nigeria

ranked fourth with 71 victims, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo ranked fifth with 41 victims.



Sixth: The role of international mechanisms in combating terrorism in Africa during the month of February ²⁰⁶

In a previous resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in the implementation of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy, and for the Office of Counter-Terrorism to assess methodologies and tools to develop a results framework to ensure comprehensive and balanced implementation of the strategy by entities of the General Assembly. The United Nations, through the United Nations Global Compact, continues to support Member States in developing and implementing response measures within the framework of all four pillars of the strategy, which is the first pillar related to measures aimed at addressing the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism; the second pillar is related to measures to prevent and combat terrorism; and the third pillar is related to measures aimed at building the capacity of states to prevent and combat terrorism, and to strengthen the role of the United Nations in this regard; and the fourth pillar is related to measures aimed at ensuring respect for human rights for all and the rule of law as the main basis for counter-terrorism.

At the request of the General Assembly, the report of the Secretary-General was issued in February 2023, which confirmed that terrorism continues to pose a major threat to international peace and security, and although terrorism has already had a global scope, the threat posed is still increasing, especially in Africa. Terrorist activity continued to take on an intense character in West Africa and the Sahel region, reaching regions such as the Gulf of Guinea, that until recently, were largely untouched by this type of violence. Da'esh, al Qaeda and their regional affiliates have expanded their operations from the Ugandan border deep into the Democratic Republic of Congo, as well as smaller attacks in northern Mozambique. Coordinated attacks, land grabs, and recruitment of followers have also increased across the continent by a growing number of regulatory branches. In Somalia, Al-Shabaab intensified attacks and Boko Haram recruited new recruits in the Lake Chad basin.

The progress made by United Nations entities and Member States in implementing the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy is represented in 4 axes as follows:

First Pillar: Measures to address the conditions leading to the spread of terrorism

- The Office of Counter-Terrorism launched capacity-building initiatives in the field of strategic communications to enhance cohesion and respond to crises in East Africa. The International Organization for Migration has also implemented projects in African countries, including Ghana, Mozambique and Niger, to enhance social cohesion and community resilience in the face of violent extremism, with the participation of youth and civil society.

Second Pillar: Measures to prevent and combat terrorism

²⁰⁶

- The Institute for Disarmament Research supported the Economic Community of West African States to develop a sub-regional strategy to combat the proliferation of improvised explosive devices and their components.
- The United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre, in consultation with the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, the Office on Drugs and Crime, INTERPOL and the Office of Information and Communications Technology, continued to build capacities in the area of countering the financing of terrorism in North, East and Southern Africa. The program is developing the "gofintel" system, a leading technological solution in the field of financial intelligence

Third Pillar: Measures aimed at building the capacity of states to prevent and combat terrorism and to strengthen the role of the United Nations system in this regard

- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) provided assistance to Togo, Senegal and Mozambique, and supported the update of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional strategy and action plan

Fourth Pillar: Measures aimed at ensuring the protection of human rights and the rule of law as the main pillars of counter-terrorism

- The Working Group on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights, the Rule of Law and Support for Victims of Terrorism of the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact, has published a basic reference guide on human rights, in which the group provides detailed principles on national banning of organizations in counter-terrorism contexts and awareness-raising that is easy for the public to comprehend. The Office of Counter-Terrorism and OHCHR concluded a global project to strengthen the capacity of law enforcement officials in 6 countries in Africa and the Middle East to implement human rights-compliant counter-terrorism measures.
- The Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism also presented reports to the General Assembly on capacity-building and technical assistance, on the impact of counter-terrorism on peacemaking, building and maintaining peace, conflict prevention and resolution, and a follow-up report submitted to the Human Rights Council on the joint study on international practices in relation to secret detention in the context of countering terrorism. In 2022, the Special Rapporteur announced the launch of a global study on the impact of counter-terrorism measures on civil society, and held the first regional consultation within her mandate with civil society representatives from West, Central and East Africa.
- The Office on Drugs and Crime also provided capacity-building assistance to take into account the gender dimensions of criminal justice measures taken to address terrorism, and in the field of strengthening the role of women in preventing and combating terrorism, to more than 450 officials from 25 countries. In Uganda, Nigeria and West Africa, UNODC provided support for dealing with violent extremist prisoners.

The United Nations is also working in another direction, which is to strengthen the multilateral measures taken to combat terrorism. In this regard, the Office of Counter-Terrorism expanded the scope of its cooperation with the African Union and African sub-regional organizations for this purpose, in addition to supporting and cooperating with regional initiatives. The Counter-Terrorism Summit, which the Office and the Government of Nigeria intend to convene in 2023, will set specific priorities and actions for joint efforts to combat terrorism in Africa.

Finally, the United Nations made several recommendations in the context of the global strategy to combat terrorism. What concerns Africa can be limited to the following:

- In view of the severity of the terrorist threat in Africa, the international community must pay attention and urgent action, and this can be achieved by going collectively to address the terrorist threat facing African member states and supporting capacity-building initiatives on the continent, whether implemented by the United Nations or regional organizations, and cooperation should be strengthened with regional and sub-regional organizations and the development of mechanisms to combat terrorism at the level of the continent as a whole.
- Member States must mobilize their efforts to address the same vulnerabilities and grievances that terrorists exploit, especially conflict situations to deplete terrorists. Preventive approaches are also the best tool for combating terrorism, and increased and meaningful participation and genuine partnerships with civil society should be encouraged in the development, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of relevant policies and programs at the local, national, regional and international levels. In parallel, Member States should redouble their efforts to support development plans, human rights, gender equality, and the promotion of social justice.
- The need for Member States to adapt and understand emerging trends based on evidence to develop innovative solutions, and work to conduct more research and provide data to improve understanding of attacks launched by terrorist attacks based on the motive of hatred and racism or in the name of religion or belief, especially the risks arising from the misuse of terrorist groups information and communication technology.

Conclusion and recommendations

During February, Maat observed fundamental shifts in the structure of terrorist organizations in Africa, which led to shifts in their foci of activity, especially in West Africa. Accordingly, Maat presents the following recommendations:

1. Maat believes that despite the African legislation at the state level to limit the phenomenon of terrorism, these legislations are not sufficient to reduce this phenomenon. Rather, the main reason for the spread of the phenomenon is due to the absence of regional and continental coordination.
2. West African countries must reduce the phenomenon of soft borders, which are considered a safe haven for terrorist organizations for the movement of fighters

between countries, which causes changes in the structure of terrorist organizations, and shifts in the centers of activity of the organizations.

3. Maat recommends that the Ethiopian government work on developing a comprehensive national plan to reduce the rupture of the social fabric as a result of the civil war that has been going on for more than 15 months, which has claimed tens of thousands of deaths and hundreds of thousands of displaced people, with the need to respect the rights of sects as main components of society.
4. Maat calls on the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism to provide the necessary technical support to African governments, especially in the west and center of the continent, to work to limit the emergence of new extremists.
5. Maat recommends to the concerned international and regional bodies the need to appoint a special commissioner for the security situation and operations of violence and terrorism in Africa, and seeks to strengthen international humanitarian law, given the increasing waves of armed violence in the five African regions.
6. Fourth: Maat calls for intensifying cooperation in exchanging accurate information related to preventing and combating terrorism in a timely manner, especially among West African countries, where terrorist organizations are highly mobile.