

Lens of Terrorist Operations & Acts of Violence in Africa

MARCH 2023



Preamble

The African continent is still tormented by the phenomenon of terrorism that is escalating and casting a shadow over its population, so the Continent has become, at present time, a hotbed of global violence and extremism and a fertile soil where the roots of terrorist organizations are planted. Africa provides for enabling factors that spread violent conflicts, extremist ideas and extremist beliefs. During March, we monitored the bloodshed of more than 705 victims of terrorism, which is a decrease in the number of victims by 182 victims from the previous month. However, this percentage is still very high compared to the peaceful, secure, and stable world we aspire to achieve. Therefore, Maat issued its monthly report, "Lens of Terrorist Operations and Violent Acts in Africa" to monitor the transformations that the phenomenon is taking place in the African continent during March, and to follow the international and regional efforts made to curtail it, and what detracts from the importance of these efforts, in an attempt to increase these anti-terrorism efforts.

First: Monitoring methodology adopted in the report

A. Monitoring methodology

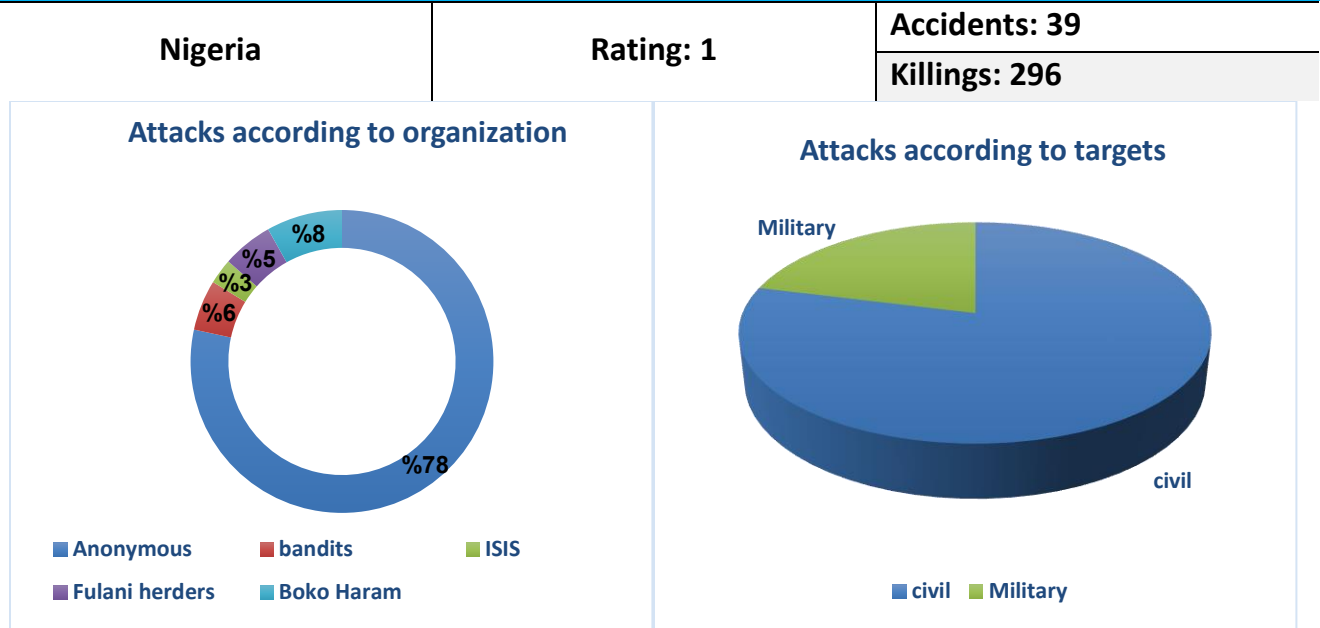
The report, "**Lens of Terrorist Operations and Acts of Violence in Africa**", adopts a methodology of direct monitoring of terrorist operations reported in the Arab, Western and African media on the African continent, which mainly relies on open sources such as the Internet, as well as reliable and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



On March 2, Boko Haram militants stormed Lengama in the northwestern part of the local council, kidnapped villagers, and transported them to the Gudumbali border area with the Republic of Niger.¹ On March 3, gunmen kidnapped 3 family members of the traditional ruler of Sarkin Kudu, in Ibi local government council.² On March 5, gunmen attacked the Maru Division Police headquarters in the Maru LGA, killing two officers.³ On the same day, gunmen attacked and killed the head of Maigari town in Rimin Gado Local Council of Kano State, Dahiru Abba, and led the local council in Kano state, Dahir Aba.⁴ On March 6, at least 50 people were killed during attacks by Fulani herders on six communities in the Kwande Local Government Area of Benue State that lasted for four days.⁵ On March 7, gunmen stormed communities centered in the local government areas of Rafi and Chichi in Niger State, killing at least 6 civilians and kidnapping nearly 50 others.⁶ On the same day, gunmen destroyed the house of the HDP candidate in the House of Representatives in Imo State.⁷ On March 8, Boko Haram militants launched an attack outside Gogo village, 18 km from Dikwa town in Borno State, close to the Sambisa Forest, killing 37 fishermen.⁸ On March 10, militants attacked Gro Homes along

¹ Boko Haram abducts seven villagers in Borno, TheGuardian, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/brz33c>
² Gunmen kidnap Taraba monarch's two wives, son, Daily post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/vv7lra>
³ Killings have no place in Nigeria' — Tinubu condemns attack on police station in Zamfara, The Cable, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/nfco5z>
⁴ Unknown gunmen kill monarch in Kano, The Guardian, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/1z5blf>
⁵ 50 feared killed as suspected herdsmen invade Benue communities, Punch, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/s3kblh>
⁶ Nigeria: Unidentified assailants kill six and kidnap up to 50 people in Niger State on March 7, CRISIS 24, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/nql5uj>
⁷ Gunmen raze country home of Imo Assembly candidate, Ozoemena, Ripples Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/73c5pu>
⁸ Jihadists kill 37 fishermen in north Nigeria, say militia, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/gctceg>

Kochibe in Kubwa District Federal Capital Territory, which led to the kidnapping of 9 civilians.⁹ Boko Haram militants also carried out an attack near the village of Dikwa, in northeastern Nigeria near the border with neighboring Chad, killing at least 29 people.¹⁰ On March 11, armed Fulani herders attacked Zangoon Kataf Local Government Area in Kaduna State, killing 17 people.¹¹ On the same day, gunmen killed a member of the Jinnah Council in Ebonyi state.¹² Militants also launched an attack on a property in Chicakor near Kobua district of Bwari District Council in the country's capital, and an unknown number of residents were kidnapped¹³. On March 12, gunmen attacked the Delta State House of Representatives Speaker and People's Democratic Party candidate along the Warri/Sapele highway, but he survived.¹⁴ On 13 March, armed men launched an attack on communities in the local government areas of Baikoro and Munya in Niger State, killing a village chief and a medical practitioner and kidnapping more than 60 people.¹⁵ On March 14, militants launched an attack on a community in Langson district in northern Nigeria's Kaduna state, killing at least 10 people and wounding dozens.¹⁶ Unidentified gunmen also abducted the Consensus Party candidate in the House of Representatives in Rivers State around the Rumwegbo community in the Obio-Akbor Local Government Area of the state.¹⁷

On March 15, bandits ambushed security personnel in Igo village, in the local government area of Monia, Niger state, killing a Nigerian army major and 7 other security personnel.¹⁸ On March 16, 3 people, including a sitting councillor, were killed on the platform of the Peoples' Democratic Party (PDP) by gunmen in Ile Teton area of Idi Arrere, in Ibadan, capital of Oyo state.¹⁹ On 17 March, armed men attacked the village of Mujifa in Kankara Locality in Katsina State, northern Nigeria, killing 22 villagers and injuring dozens, including women and children.²⁰ Three Nigerian soldiers were killed and 11 others were wounded, including seven civilians, when a bomb exploded on a highway in northeastern Nigeria, near the border with

⁹ Gunmen attack Abuja estate kidnap nine, Pilot Newspaper, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/tsvfpo>

¹⁰ حركة بوكو حرام تقتل 29 شخصا شمال شرقي نيجيريا، القدس العربي، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/hy897y>

¹¹ Gunmen in north Nigeria kill at least 16 people: Government, ahramonline, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/vtbtetu>

¹² Gunmen kill ward councillor in Ebonyi, Ripples Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ghxibi>

¹³ Gunmen Attack Estate In Abuja, Abduct Unspecified Number Of People, Anglican Cable Network Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/o3uhfa>

¹⁴ Delta State PDP Governorship Candidate, Oborewori Escapes Assassination As Gunmen Open Fire On Convoy, Sahara Reporters, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ce76mb>

¹⁵ Niger: Gunmen kill soldier, vigilantes, village head, medical practitioner, The Sun Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/z5ycmw>

¹⁶ Gunmen kill 10 civilians in north Nigeria attack, China.Org.cn, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/hjievvy>

¹⁷ Gunmen reportedly kidnap Accord Party Assembly candidate in Rivers, Ripples Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/myr1en>

¹⁸ Bandits kill major, seven others in Niger, Punch, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ipbbd8>

¹⁹ Oyo: Gunmen kill PDP councillor, 2 others in Ibadan, The Sun, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/bygv>

²⁰ Armed criminals in Nigeria killed 22 villagers, Prensa Latina, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/3p01>

Cameroon.²¹ Also, 9 security personnel were killed in an ambush by bandits at the site of gas pipelines in the Monia local government area, Niger state.²² On March 18, at least 17 people were killed in various electoral violence in Delta, Lagos, Rivers, Cross River, Niger, Akwa Ibom, Osun and Benue states.²³ At least 51 vigilantes patrolling on election day in Zamfara state were killed by terrorists.²⁴ Unidentified gunmen also killed the General Manager of the Campaign of the Progressive Congress Party in the Ahuada West locality in Rivers State.²⁵ On March 19, terrorists affiliated with ISIS attacked the city of Mafa, about 40 km from Maiduguri, the capital of Borno State, with the aim of disrupting the counting of election votes. There is no information on the number of victims.²⁶ Election officials on duty were also attacked while on their way to a collection center in the state capital, Lokoja, after the parliamentary elections in Kogi,²⁷ injuring some and taking away at least 19 others in the city of Kogi.²⁸ On March 20, the deputy head of the village Okordia Akumuni in the local government area of Bayelsa state was killed by herdsmen.²⁹ On March 21, a 19-year-old girl was abducted from her home in Imuru Community, Osi Local Government Area, Ondo State.³⁰

On March 22, it was confirmed that two police officers were shot dead, while three others were wounded by bullets from the Nigerian army in a deadly clash in Jalingo, the capital of Taraba state in the northeast.³¹ On 23 March, at least 5 people were killed in renewed attacks by suspected herders on some communities in Otukpo and Agato Local Government Areas, Benue State.³² The son of a former police officer and another person were abducted by shepherds on their way from Ugbukoli village to Ekyadulur in northeastern Ovia district of Edo state.³³ On March 26, gunmen attacked a checkpoint along Kenyatta Road, near the main gate of the University of Nigeria in Enugu State, southeastern Nigeria, killing two police officers.³⁴ On the same day, gunmen killed 6 people in Odioko community in West Ahuda Local

²¹ Mine blast kills 3 soldiers, injures 11 in northeast Nigeria, cgtm, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/z19c>

²² 9 Security Operatives Killed, 6 Missing In Niger Attack, leadership, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/3a8o>

²³ 17 Feared Killed as Violence, Apathy, Voter Suppression Mar Nigeria's Governorship, State Assembly Elections, Arise News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/0l2r>

²⁴ Terrorists kill 51 vigilante members in Zamfara, vanguard, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/athv>

²⁵ Gunmen Kill Rivers APC Campaign DG On Election Day, All Africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/tq7i>

²⁶ **Dozens Of Terrorists Killed During Attack On Election Collation Centre In Northeast Nigeria**, humangle, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/seak>

²⁷ Six missing as gunmen attack election personnel in central Nigeria: police, XINHUANET, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/wh3f>

²⁸ Gunmen kidnap 19 INEC staff, cart away election materials, PM News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/n1yo>

²⁹ 1 killed as herders invade Bayelsa village, Daily Trust, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/wusj>

³⁰ Gunmen kidnap teenage girl, demand N10m ransom, Century Chronicle, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/lewq>

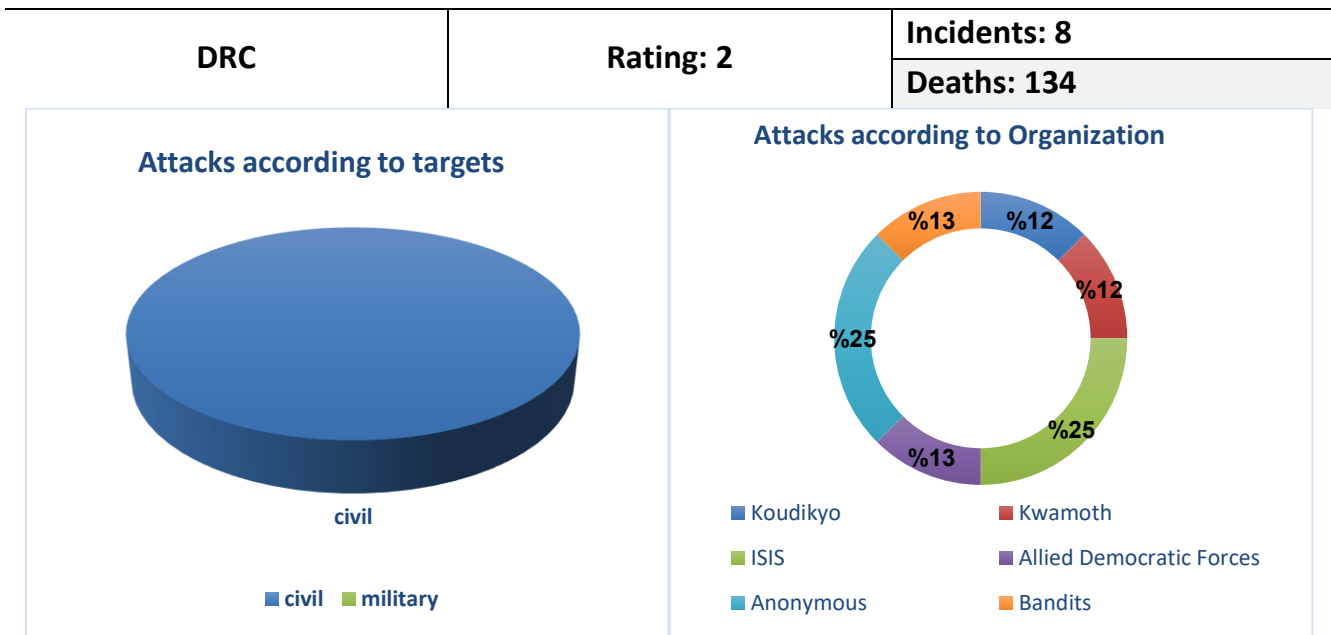
³¹ **Nigerian soldiers shoot kill 2 police, injure 3**, IranPress, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/xp6f>

³² Herders kill five in Benue communities, Punch, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/nyli>

³³ Suspected herders kidnap son of ex-cop, other in Edo, Punch, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/a4r0>

³⁴ Gunmen attack police checkpoint, kill two officers, Premium Times, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/e09g>

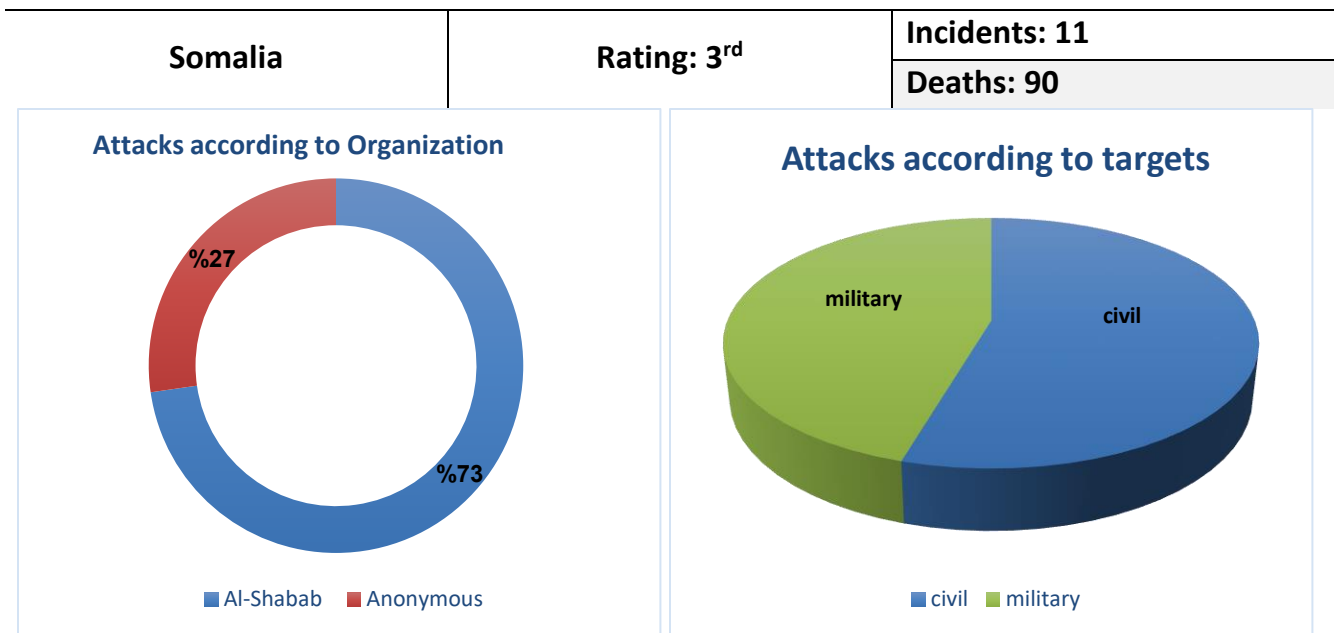
Government Area, Rivers State.³⁵ Armed men also kidnapped a farmer on his way from his farm in Omo-Ekiti, Oi local government.³⁶ On March 27, unidentified gunmen killed 4 Nigerian Security and Civil Defense forces in Imo State, by orchestrating an ambush at Ekisu market of Omolulu community in Ngor-Okpala Local Government Area.³⁷ On March 29, 3 farmers were killed and several injured when suspected herdsmen invaded the Subi community in Awan Local Government Area, Edo State.³⁸ It was also announced that 5 of the more than 60 kidnapped victims of Adono in Kafen Koro district of Baikoro and Beni in local government areas of Munia, Niger State, were executed by their captors for failing to meet the deadline for payment of N100 million ransom demanded by the kidnapers.³⁹ On March 30, herdsmen attacked a secondary school in Oriri Local Government Area, Oyo State, southwestern Nigeria, injuring several teachers and students.⁴⁰



On March 8, militants of the Islamic State-affiliated Allied Democratic Forces killed more than 40 people in two attacks on the nearby villages of Mukundi and Musa in Beni District, North Kivu Province, in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.⁴¹ On March 12, ISIS militants attacked the village of Kirendera in North Kivu Province, eastern Congo, killing 19 people.⁴² On

³⁵ Gunmen kill 6 persons in Rivers community, Daily Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/l3i8>
³⁶ Gunmen kidnap farmer in Omu-Ekiti, demand N3 million ransome, Daily Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/cxpl>
³⁷ Gunmen kill NSCDC personnel, two others in Imo, Peoples Gazette, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/zj6w>
³⁸ **One Killed, Many Declared Missing as Suspected Herdsmen Attack Edo Community, This Day, Mar 2023.** <https://rb.gy/yz0t>
³⁹ Niger: Bandits execute 5 kidnap victims after ransom deadline passes, The Sun, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/jl91>
⁴⁰ Suspected Herdsmen Attack Secondary School In Oyo, Southwest Nigeria; Injure Students, Teachers, sahara reporters, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/y6ge>
⁴¹ More than 40 killed in suspected eastern DR Congo rebel attacks, France24, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/bfzipj>
⁴² DRC: militants kill 19 in village raid, Voice of Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/dvrp0z>

March 18, Koudikyo militants launched an attack on five villages in Mahagi in Ituri and North Kivu province in eastern Congo, killing more than 22 civilians.⁴³ On 19 March, ISIS launched an attack on the village of Ngoli located in Lubero District in North Kivu Province, which left 9 people dead.⁴⁴ During March 21-22, gunmen in military uniform attacked St. Octavian's Grand School in the northeastern part of Butembo.⁴⁵ On March 24, 14 Tiki community members, including two traditional chiefs, were killed in Kembasi village, Bagata district, Kwilo district, by Kwamoth district militia.⁴⁶ On March 25, at least 5 people were killed and 4 injured in an attack by bandits on the outskirts of Goma, eastern Congo.⁴⁷ On March 29, unidentified gunmen killed more than 25 political activists in the city of Lubumbashi in southeastern Congo.⁴⁸



On March 1, unidentified gunmen attacked the port city of Bossaso in Puntland, killing a Badhan Local Council deputy.⁴⁹ On March 2, Al-Shabaab launched a mortar attack on the police headquarters in a highly protected area in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, killing at least two people and wounding six others.⁵⁰ On March 4, Al-Shabaab fighters opened fire on the Dar Salam Villa cafe, north of the capital, Mogadishu, killing 5 people and injuring 3 others.⁵¹ On

⁴³ East Congo militants kill at least 22 in string of attacks, REUTERS, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/vv6q>

⁴⁴ داعش "يتبنى هجوماً دامياً في جمهورية الكونغو الديمقراطية، العربي الجديد، مارس <https://rb.gy/84k8>

⁴⁵ Gunmen attack Catholic seminary in eastern DR-Congo, La Croix Network, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/tyo9>

⁴⁶ DRC: 14 tribesmen killed by militia in west, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/e3a2>

⁴⁷ Five killed in DR Congo village attack, citizen digital, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/xch8>

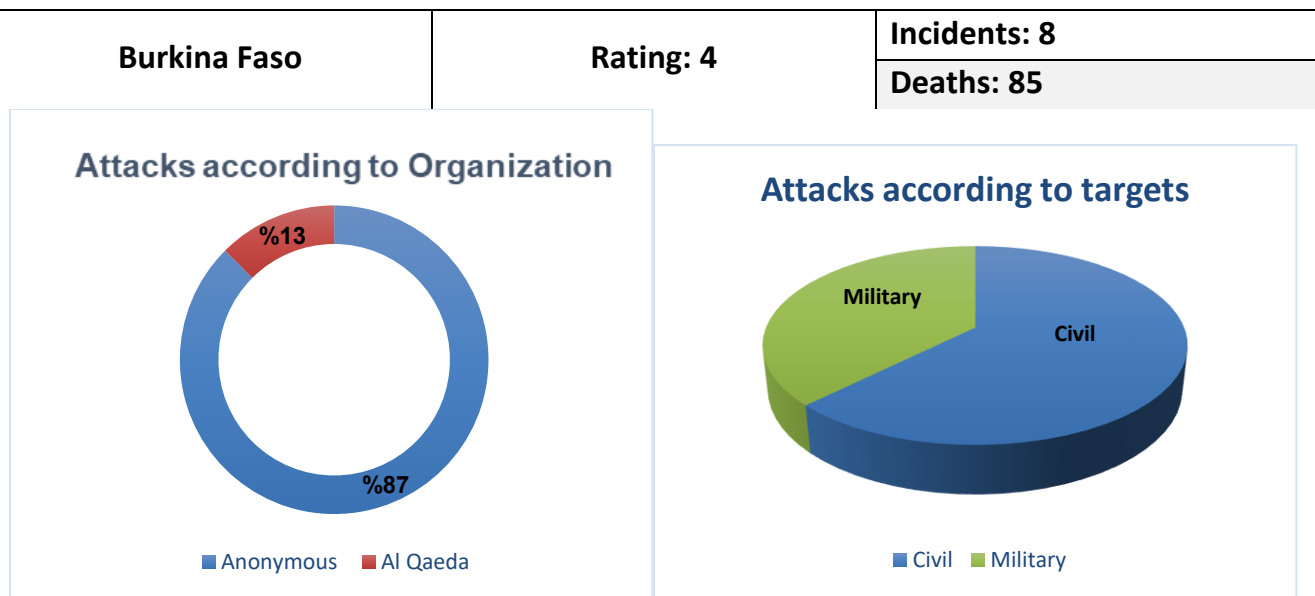
⁴⁸ More than 20 DR Congo political party activists killed, Nation Africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/c4pf>

⁴⁹ Gunmen attack kills Badhan local council lawmaker in Bosaso town, hiiraan online, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/hu7ipt>

⁵⁰ Mortar attack kills at least two in Somalia's capital, Somaliguadian, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/nbfia1>

⁵¹ Somalia: Five Killed, 3 Hurt in a Shooting At Mogadishu Cafe, all africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ww6823>

March 7, Al-Shabaab militants attacked a military base in the town of Jani Abdullah, 60 km outside the coastal city of Kismayo, killing at least 7 soldiers and wounding 15 others.⁵² On March 11, Al-Shabaab militants attacked the Hyatt Hotel in the capital, Mogadishu, killing 13 civilians.⁵³ On the same day, Al-Shabaab gunmen attacked a police station in the village of Soka-Holiha in the Heliwa district in northern Mogadishu, and the number of victims is still unknown.⁵⁴ Gunmen also killed a prominent traditional sheikh in Galkayo after he left the Ramadani mosque.⁵⁵ On March 14, an al-Shabaab suicide bomber detonated a guest house in Bardera town in Gedo region, southwestern Somalia, where government officials were staying, killing at least 9 people⁵⁶ and wounding 11, including a governor and several military commanders.⁵⁷ On 21 March, Al-Shabaab launched an attack on a military base in Ron Nargod district of Middle Shabelle governorate, where they engaged in a gun battle with the Somali National Army, killing 51 soldiers and wounding 10 others.⁵⁸ Also, a group armed with pistols killed one of the most famous clan elders in Mogadishu in front of his house in the Terbunka neighborhood in Hadan district in the capital, Mogadishu.⁵⁹ On March 29, gunmen from the Al-Shabaab movement crossed the Shabelle River and attacked the military base in the Bartiri area, south of the city of Baldwin, Hiran Governorate, and the number of casualties is still unknown.⁶⁰



⁵² Several Soldiers Killed in Al-Shabaab Attack on Somalia Army Base, The Defense Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ug7ywh>

⁵³ Somalia.. 13 dead in an attack targeting a hotel in Mogadishu, القدس, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/syrzxa>

⁵⁴ Gunmen attack a police checkpoint in Somali capital, Shabelle Media Network, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/qvudro>

⁵⁵ Prominent elder gunned down in Galkayo, hiiraan online, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/cp2u6e>

⁵⁶ Witnesses say extremist attack in Somalia kills at least 9, AP News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/lokyzs>

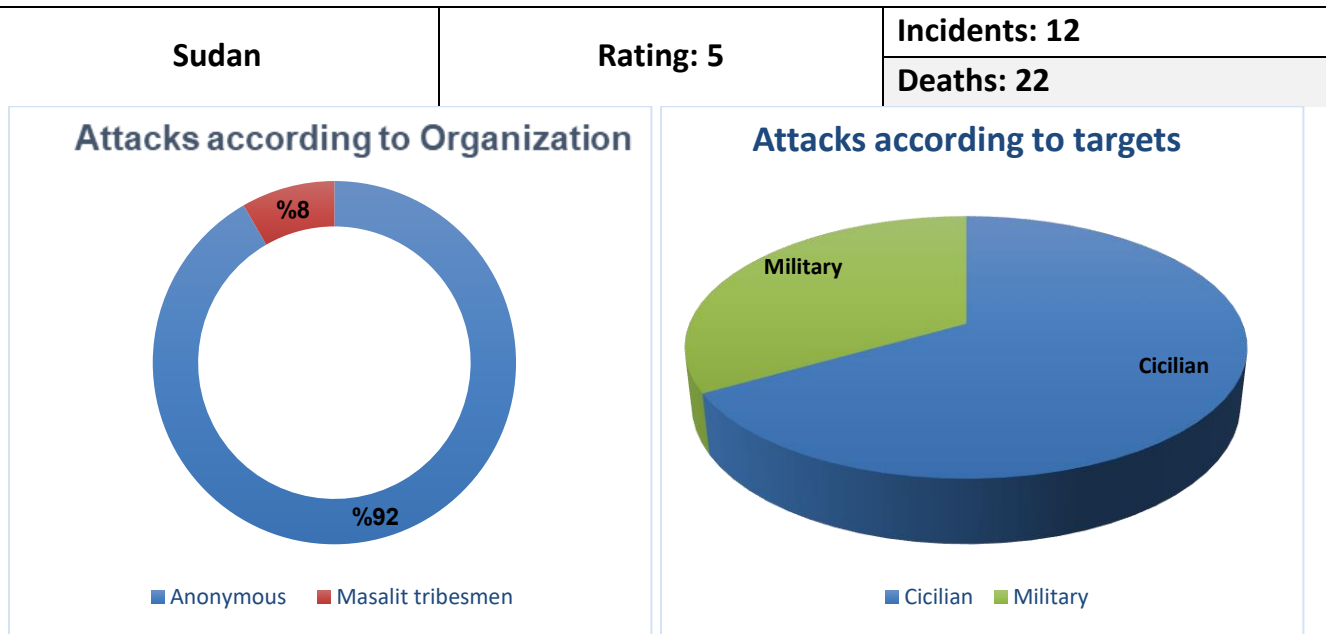
⁵⁷ Somalia suicide bombing kills 5, injures 11, including governor, africanews, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/btmz4l>

⁵⁸ صور لهجوم مقاتلي حركة الشباب على القوات الخاصة في مديرية رونغود جنوب الصومال، وكالة شهادة الإخبارية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/i2xw>

⁵⁹ مقتل أحد شيوخ العشائر في مقديشو من قبل مسلحين، راءات صومالية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/b97q>

⁶⁰ مسلحو حركة الشباب يهاجمون قاعدة عسكرية في هيران، قراءات صومالية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/myv3>

On March 2, armed men attacked the village of Orima, about 10 kilometers from Ouahgoya, the capital of the Northern Region, killing 14 civilians and several injuries.⁶¹ On March 4, gunmen affiliated with al-Qaeda⁶² attacked a military unit in the village of Zaba, Nyala governorate, in the Boucle du Mouhoun region (northwest), killing at least 11 soldiers and an assistant⁶³. On March 9, unidentified gunmen killed 11 soldiers and wounded 4 others during an operation to reclaim territory in the eastern provinces of Tapua, Bolgo and Kolbelogu, and in several other regions in the east and north of the country.⁶⁴ On March 16, 18 people, including two volunteer militiamen, were killed in two separate attacks in the village of Tuabin in the eastern Bolgo state and the northern province of Lorum.⁶⁵ Between March 19 and 20, eastern Burkina Faso witnessed a series of attacks that claimed the lives of 11 people, including army volunteers.⁶⁶ On March 22, 4 soldiers and 10 volunteers from the army were killed in Zarkom, near the city of Kaya in northern Burkina Faso, during a terrorist attack that coincided with the visit of the military commander to the country in the same region of the center and north.⁶⁷ On March 29, more than 100 terrorists attacked the village of Kosuka in Yatenga Prefecture, killing 6 people, including four volunteers to defend the homeland.⁶⁸



⁶¹ Burkina Faso: At least 12 civilians killed in northern attack, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/qoownf>

⁶² تنظيم القاعدة يعلن مسؤوليته عن مقتل 11 جندي في بوركينا فاسو، أخبار الآن، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/m3wjqa>

⁶³ At least 11 people killed in northwest Burkina Faso ambush, China.org.cn, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/nv0ef3>

⁶⁴ بوركينا فاسو.. مقتل 11 جنديا و112 مسلحا خلال عملية عسكرية، سكاى نيوز عربية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/zpccge>

⁶⁵ New Attacks In Troubled Burkina Kill 18, Barron's, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/t0scp5>

⁶⁶ Suspected Jihadists Kill 11 in Eastern Burkina Faso, thedefensepost, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/sopv>

⁶⁷ At least 14 members of Burkina Faso security forces killed in terror attack, France24, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/0d4m>

⁶⁸ 2023 مقتل ستة مدنيين بينهم أربعة مساعدين للجيش بهجوم في بوركينا فاسو، الجمهورية، مارس <https://rb.gy/edj9>

On March 3, a member of the South Sudan People's Defense Forces (SSPDF) stationed in Raga County, Western Bahr El Ghazal State, was killed during an attack by Sudanese gunmen on its soldiers who were patrolling in Seri Malaga, west of Raga town.⁶⁹ On the same day, gunmen attacked the village of Saraf Omra in North Darfur, killing 3 people and wounding dozens.⁷⁰ On the 6th of March, a policeman was killed and another injured in an attack by armed shepherds belonging to one of the border pastoral tribes.⁷¹ On March 12, the grandson of a prominent leader was killed in an attack by gunmen on a vehicle on the Khartoum-Qatina road.⁷² On the same day, two people were killed and four others were injured in an attack by gunmen in the Abta administrative unit in Central Darfur state, western Sudan.⁷³ On March 14, a policeman was killed and two others were injured on El Fasher Road in Kabkabiya, North Darfur, after gunmen attacked their car in the Nabq area.⁷⁴ On the same day, another person was killed in another separate attack on a passenger car on the road between Jebel and Foro Baranga, West Darfur.⁷⁵ On March 17, gunmen ambushed the CEO of Kabum Locality and his driver on the Umlabasa-Kabum road, killing both.⁷⁶ An officer was killed and 2 others were wounded in an attack by gunmen on a Central Reserve Police vehicle on the Kabkabiya El Fasher road in western Sudan.⁷⁷ On March 20, two policemen were wounded in an attack by unidentified gunmen on a focal point in the Jurf area of Mersheng locality, north of Nyala, in South Darfur state.⁷⁸ During 23-24 March, violence broke out between African Masalit tribesmen and Arab shepherds in West Darfur, which resulted in the deaths of at least 5 persons.⁷⁹ On March 28, 4 police officers were killed and 4 others were injured in a clash with an armed gang that was looting cars on the road linking Central and West Darfur.⁸⁰

Third: Monitoring Terrorist Operations in Africa

1- North Africa Region

a. Libya

On March 9, the Tobruk Security Directorate was subjected to an armed attack on the headquarters of the Directorate by a tribal group to free an imprisoned outlaw, and the number

⁶⁹ Armed Sudanese criminals kill SSPDF soldier in Raga County, Radio Tamazuj, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/6jle8j>

⁷⁰ <https://rb.gy/gxrk9s> اشتباكات تتجدد في السودان.. قتلى في أعمال عنف شمالي دارفور، العربي، مارس 2023.

⁷¹ <https://rb.gy/zmphpw> مصرع شرطي وإصابة آخرين في هجوم مسلح، نياً ميديا، مارس 2023.

⁷² هجوم مسلح يقود إلى مقتل حفيد الشيخ بدر بطريق الخرطوم القطينة، أخبار السودان، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/lhloaq>

⁷³ <https://rb.gy/jmldkf> مقتل وإصابة 6 مواطنين في هجوم مسلح، سودا ميديا، مارس 2023.

⁷⁴ **Marauding armed bandits kill police officer, injure two others in North Darfur**, Dabanga, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/bgt4yi>

⁷⁵ **Marauding armed bandits kill police officer, injure two others in North Darfur**, المرجع السابق

⁷⁶ Bandits in Sudan's Darfur kill senior govt figure, Darfur24, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/3h2d>

⁷⁷ <https://rb.gy/teta> **السودان.. مقتل شرطي وإصابة آخرين في هجوم مسلح**، تاق برس، مارس 2023.

⁷⁸ <https://rb.gy/loa3> إصابة شرطين في هجوم مسلح في جنوب دارفور، دبنقا، مارس 2023.

⁷⁹ killed in west Sudan tribal violence, rights group says, abc news, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/89m2>

⁸⁰ مقتل 4 عناصر من الشرطة في اشتباك مع عصابة مسلحة، نبض السودان، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/85pl>

of victims is unknown.⁸¹ On March 11, 2 members of the Al-Rahba Al-Dura battalion were killed by members of the Al-Aswad Tajoura Brigade, during clashes between the two battalions, east of Tripoli.⁸² On March 20, unknown gunmen killed a young man in the city of Zawiya, west of Tripoli.⁸³ On March 29, the head of the Internal Security Agency, Tripoli, was kidnapped in front of his house in the Al-Andalus neighborhood, by unknown gunmen.⁸⁴

b. Morocco

On March 2, the charred and mutilated body of a policeman was discovered in a rural area of the Casablanca region.⁸⁵

c. Algeria

On the 9th of March, the urban security headquarters was subjected to an attempt to break into by a group of armed persons backed by attack dogs, which resulted in bodily harm to police personnel and material damage to private and public property.⁸⁶

2- East Africa Region

d. Kenya

On March 15, two people were killed in separate attacks in Baringo, Kager village, and Turkana, Lorugon village, by armed bandits.⁸⁷ On March 16, two people were murdered in the provinces of El Gio-Marrakesh and West Pokot by bandits. On March 17, a 12-year-old boy was massacred by armed raiders in West Pokot.⁸⁸

e. South Sudan

On 10 March, an SPLA officer was killed in Al Ma'arid in a revenge attack by Al Shabab militants in Bentiu camp for internally displaced persons.⁸⁹ On March 11, Mandari militants attacked the car of the deputy governor of the dissolved Eastern Lakes State near the Mobil checkpoint, injuring him.⁹⁰ On 16 March, at least 10 people in Western Bahr El Ghazal, South Sudan, including three children, were killed after they mistook unexploded ordnance for scrap metal and two other children were injured.⁹¹ On 17 March, a humanitarian convoy transporting food and humanitarian aid was attacked in Auror County, Jonglei State, killing two people and

⁸¹ شاهد بالفيديو : هجوم مسلح على مديرية امن طبرق، المشهد الليبي، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/4slvkc>

⁸² ليبيا.. قتيلان في اشتباكات بين فصليين مسلحين بمدينة تاجوراء (فيديو)، RT ONLINE، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/7nulia>

⁸³ [The Libya Update](https://rb.gy/5e68), Twitter, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/5e68>

⁸⁴ اختطاف رئيس جهاز الأمن الداخلي بطرابلس على يد مسلحين مجهولين، الشاهد، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/zox8>

⁸⁵ Morocco: Suspected jihadists arrested after police officer's murder, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/pjic1>

⁸⁶ عنابة: مجلس القضاء ينشر تفاصيل مهاجمة 60 شخصا لمقر الشرطة، الشروق، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/on58>

⁸⁷ Two more killed in fresh bandit attacks in the Kenyan North, livestock stolen, Nation Africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/cdxbnw>

⁸⁸ Bandits kill five amid KDF-backed security operation, Nation Africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/7324>

⁸⁹ مقتل ضابط بحركة "مشار" في هجوم انتقامي داخل مخيم بانتيو للنازحين، راديو تمازج، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/ejnn1j>

⁹⁰ Gunmen shot, injure ex-deputy governor, Sudans Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/t5dkei>

⁹¹ Discarded explosives in South Sudan kill 10, including kids, Toronto Star, <https://rb.gy/usk7>

injuring another.⁹² On March 25, unidentified gunmen shot 3 children in their home in the Negarish district of Loric district.⁹³

f. Ethiopia

On March 16, unknown gunmen killed 8 people and injured 4 others in the city of Mithara, in eastern Ethiopia.⁹⁴ On March 27, two people were killed and 4 others were wounded in an attack on an Orthodox church in the city of Shashimene in the Oromia region, about 250 kilometers south of the capital.⁹⁵

3- West Africa Region

g. Côte d'Ivoire

On March 11th, gunmen killed Mauritians near a shop they work in, in the city of Kesbou, in Ivory Coast.⁹⁶

h. Mali

On March 2, JNIM carried out an attack between Nara and Marja in Koulikoro state, killing two soldiers of the Malian army.⁹⁷ On March 4, two ICRC workers were kidnapped on the road between Gao and Kidal.⁹⁸ In March, unidentified persons opened fire on a German army patrol in the city of Gao, in northern Mali, without causing any injuries.⁹⁹ On March 14, 4 members of the Platform movements, along with dozens of civilians, were killed by ISIS fighters during a bloody battle in the Bedouin camps in the Ikdiwas area, 50 km from the city of Gao.¹⁰⁰

i. Mauritania

On March 5, two members of the National Guard were killed and others injured when four terrorists managed to escape from the central prison in Nouakchott.¹⁰¹

4- Central Africa Region

j. Cameroon

On March 1, a priest of a separate Christian community was kidnapped and murdered in the town of Opala, Leké region, in central Cameroon, by unknown persons.¹⁰² On March 3, armed robbers in a taxi stormed a local branch of Pavut Credit Union located in Small Mancun,

⁹² <https://rb.gy/6due>. مارس Radio Tamazuj اونثشا: تدين الهجوم على عمال الاغائة بجنوب السودان، 2023.

⁹³ <https://rb.gy/9mbv>. 2023 مقتل ثلاثة أطفال بالرصاص في "تفاريش" والسلطات تتحرك، السودان اليوم، مارس

⁹⁴ Unidentified gunmen murder eight people in eastern Ethiopia city, mereja.com, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/7guu>

⁹⁵ مصرع وإصابة 6 في هجوم على كنيسة باثيوبيا، فيتو، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/6fgx>

⁹⁶ قتلى وجرحى في هجوم مسلح على موريتانيين في ساحل العاج (أسماء)، نيض، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/kcers>

⁹⁷ <https://rb.gy/pskwax> كوليكيرو : مقتل جنديين من الجيش المالي بين نارا و مرجا (الزلاقة)، مؤسسة النهضة الإعلامية، مارس 2023.

⁹⁸ Two Red Cross Workers Kidnapped in Mali: ICRC, VOA, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/gpzilw>

⁹⁹ <https://rb.gy/vtvju5> إطلاق النار على دورية تابعة للجيش الألماني في مالي دون وقوع إصابات، الشروق، مارس 2023.

¹⁰⁰ <https://rb.gy/qd3wda> غاو : مقتل عشرات المدنيين و أربع مقاتلين من غاتيا خلال هجوم في منطقة أكرديواس (بلات فورم)، صوت الشرق، مارس 2023.

¹⁰¹ <https://rb.gy/tuyrjp>، مارس 2023. DW موريتانيا: مقتل حارسين في إطلاق نار بعد فرار جهاديين من سجن،

¹⁰² Clarification on the killing of a priest in Obala, Cameroon, Vatican News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/kwivf3>

Bamenda, stealing huge sums of money and injuring one person.¹⁰³ On March 5, separatists in his northwest region blocked roads and attacked military vehicles to disrupt the Senate elections, resulting in an unknown number of casualties.¹⁰⁴ On March 10, Boko Haram terrorists attacked the border village of Zamja in the far north of Cameroon, killing a woman.¹⁰⁵ On March 19, at least 6 people were killed and others were injured, in attacks launched by the Boko Haram terrorist group in two separate attacks on the town of Jebriili and the town of Watatofu in the Mayo-Tsanaga province in the far north of Cameroon.¹⁰⁶

k. Central Africa

On March 9, militants of the Russian Wagner Group attacked a brewery of the French beverage giant Castel in Bangui, the capital of the Central African Republic.¹⁰⁷ On March 15, 5 civilians were killed and 7 others injured in an attack on an FARDC position by rebel Communist Party fighters in Wawa village, located about 52 kilometers from the town of Grimari in Ouaka Prefecture.¹⁰⁸ On March 19, unidentified gunmen attacked the Chemolo gold mine near Bambari, killing 9 Chinese miners and injuring two others.¹⁰⁹

5- South Africa Region

l. Mozambique

On March 14, an unknown armed group killed 3 villagers in Cabo Delgado, northern Mozambique, and kidnapped 10 women and children.¹¹⁰

m. South Africa

On March 6, a man was shot dead and a woman injured in Durban, when gunmen opened fire on the car they were traveling in.¹¹¹ On 13 March, heavily armed gunmen attacked police officers who were transporting prisoners in Limpopo, resulting in the escape of 6 prisoners awaiting trial.¹¹² On March 18, an accountant who was investigating high-profile corruption cases, along with his son, was shot dead by gunmen.¹¹³ On March 21, five people, including a nine-year-old boy, were shot dead in two separate shootings in Durban.¹¹⁴

¹⁰³ Bamenda: Gunmen rob three financial institutions in broad daylight, [Mimi Mefo Info](https://rb.gy/ulgo0y), Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ulgo0y>

¹⁰⁴ Cameroon Says Rebel Attacks Intensify to Disrupt March 12 Senate Elections, all Africa, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ntsqu3>

¹⁰⁵ Elderly Woman Beheaded By Boko Haram In Far North Cameroon, HumAngle, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/wygsq6>

¹⁰⁶ الكاميرون: مقتل 6 أشخاص في هجوم لبوكو حرام، تقديم، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/32df>

¹⁰⁷ CAR: Is beer at the heart of France, Russia's battle for influence?, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/hionlg>

¹⁰⁸ جمهورية إفريقيا الوسطى: مقتل خمسة مدنيين في هجوم شنه متمردى تحالف الوطنيين من أجل التغيير في قرية واوا، lendjampost، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/byyr>

¹⁰⁹ CAR: Gunmen storm gold mine near Bambari killing nine Chinese workers and wounding two others March 19, CRISIS GROUP, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/3zud>

¹¹⁰ Mozambique: Three beheaded, 10 abducted in attack on Cabo Delgado village, LUSA, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/5h8xpi>

¹¹¹ Man Shot and Killed, Injured Woman Drives to Safety As Gunmen Open Fire in Durban., briefly, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/fimwi>

¹¹² Gunmen attack police, free 6 'dangerous' prisoners in Limpopo, Independent Online and affiliated companies, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/38c7n>

¹¹³ Cloete Murray: South African corruption investigator shot dead, BBC, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/sevsp>

¹¹⁴ people, including a child, shot dead in two separate incidents in Durban, eyewitness news, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/w9zn6>

Fourth: African Countries' Efforts to Curb the Phenomenon of Terrorism

With the continued chronic spread of the epidemic of terrorism on the continent and the multiplicity of motives behind terrorist recruitment operations, whether economic or social, due to the challenges that some countries suffer from, such as poverty, political weakness and economic collapse, in addition to the expansion of its spread methods, African countries have made some necessary efforts.

a. Nigeria

On March 3, the forces conducted combat patrols in pockets of terrorists in Avnuri and Malam Fatori general area of Apadam Local Government Area of Borno State, but did not make contact with the terrorists. On the same day, troops raided gang camps around General Tokoroa in Chikun Local Government Area, Kaduna State, Zago Village in Mariga Local Government Area, Niger State, and Jingemi in Gosau Local Government Area, Zamfara State, neutralizing 5 bandits and rescuing 16 kidnap victims. On March 4, the forces responded to an attack on Anguan Lelo in Royom Local Government Area, Plateau State, and the criminals fled.¹¹⁵ On the same day, forces conducting a stop and search operation along the main supply route Monguno - Kikino - Cross Kawa - Baga arrested 2 suspects who were transporting some quantities of packaging and other logistics for terrorists.¹¹⁶ During March 7-10, at least 443 repentant Boko Haram terrorists and their families surrendered to the Nigerian Army in Borno State.¹¹⁷ On March 8, the forces rescued the Cross River Women's Commissioner, who had been held hostage since she was kidnapped by unidentified gunmen on February 1, by implicitly ambushing the kidnapers around the creek.¹¹⁸ On the same day, the Sector 3 Nigerian forces deployed in Damasak intercepted 70 family members of the terrorists, including 43 women and 30 children.¹¹⁹ During the period from March 13 to 19, the Nigerian Army of the Multi-National Hybrid Force neutralized about 20 terrorists, captured 83 suspected Boko Haram terrorists and handed them over to the Nigerian authorities, and destroyed three hostile bases and logistic warehouses.¹²⁰ On the 19th, at least 60 terrorists were killed while responding to the attack on the town of Mafa in northeastern Nigeria.¹²¹ On 25 March, forces succeeded in clearing Boko Haram hideouts in Bula Ajida, Bula Yaga, Bula Lambaye, Kolori, Bula Omar and New Chirchur in Bama

¹¹⁵ Military Operations: Troops Attack ISWAP , IPOB, Bandits and other Terrorists nationwide, PR Nigeria, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/i4mw>

¹¹⁶ Troops arrest 900 suspected terrorists' collaborators, Daily Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ouvb>

¹¹⁷ Over 443 repentant Boko Haram terrorists, families surrender to Army, The Guardian, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/0b3p>

¹¹⁸ Nigerian troops rescue local female official kidnapped by gunmen, XINHUANET, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/vdjh>

¹¹⁹ Troops arrest 900 suspected terrorists' collaborators, مرجع سبق ذكره

¹²⁰ Niger: Army claims to have killed about 20 "terrorists" near Nigeria, African news, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/mym7>

¹²¹ Election day attack: Soldiers kill 60 terrorists in Borno, Punch, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/sv1z>

Local Government Area, and destroyed a large camp of the group between Bula Ajida and Bula Yaga.¹²²

On March 27, the forces of Operation Haden Kaye of the Nigerian army raided the ISWAP (Islamic State in West Africa) base in Dikwa, Borno State, and eliminated 41 jihadists, including a prominent leader.¹²³ On March 29, the forces repulsed an attack by terrorists on a military base in Borno, inflicting heavy losses on the fighters.¹²⁴ During March 30-31, Nigerian Army forces operating in the Chikun Local Government Area of Kaduna State killed 5 bandits.¹²⁵

b. Somalia

On March 6, the Somali Special Forces killed 14 Al-Shabab militants, including a leader, during an operation in the southern state of Jubbaland.¹²⁶ On March 8, a military court in Puntland executed 13 militants who were members of Al-Shabaab and the Islamic State.¹²⁷ On March 12, the Somali army killed 7 members of the Al-Shabaab movement, including a field leader, and wounded 5 others in the village of Mido, 26 km from the city of Afmadou, in the Lower Juba region.¹²⁸ On March 16, a consultative conference was launched between Somali leaders in the city of Baidoa, led by two-day discussions on the structure of national security and combating terrorism. The Somali Minister of Defense and the US Ambassador to Mogadishu signed an agreement to enhance the capabilities of the country's armed forces, especially the Deneb commandos.¹²⁹ On March 20, 43 members of Al-Shabaab were killed during bloody battles between terrorist groups in the Julis Mountains, northeastern Somalia.¹³⁰ On the same day, the Somali army repelled a terrorist attack by Al-Shabaab targeting an army camp in the village of Dar Naim in the Middle Shabelle region,¹³¹ killing 30 Al-Shabaab members.¹³² On March 23, an operation carried out by Deneb forces with the support of the Jubaland security forces in Lower Juba governorate resulted in the killing of 23 members of the youth militia.¹³³ On March 29, the Somali National Army repelled two separate terrorist attacks on military bases in the central and southern regions of Somalia.¹³⁴ On the same day, US soldiers joined the Somali army in

¹²² Rampant Nigerian troops raid six Boko Haram camps, kill unconfirmed numbers of terrorists in Bama, security digesting, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/4486>

¹²³ Nigerian Army Operation Hadin Kai Raids ISWAP Base, Kills 41 Jihadists, bnn, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/o9ae>

¹²⁴ Troops repel another ISWAP attack on military base in Borno, The Cable, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/61v8>

¹²⁵ Nigerian troops kill five bandits, recover weapons, Daily Post, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/snco>

¹²⁶ Somali army shoots down 14 members of extremist group, plenglish, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/gqh2>

¹²⁷ Somali Military Court Executes 13 Militants, 5 Soldiers, VOA, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/m2al>

¹²⁸ الجيش الصومالي يعلن مقتل 7 إرهابيين وإصابة 5 جنوبي البلاد، سيوتنك عربي، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/m00w>

¹²⁹ الأمن القومي والإرهاب.. مؤتمر لقادة الصومال واتفاق عسكري مع واشنطن، العين الإخبارية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/wt8z>

¹³⁰ 43 Al-Shabaab Members Killed in Somalia, Asharq AL-awsat, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/6l8e>

¹³¹ Somali forces repulse Al-Shabaab attack on army camp, somalisignal, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/3r0f>

¹³² الجيش الصومالي يعلن مقتل ما يزيد عن 30 مسلحا من "الشباب" الإرهابية، سيوتنك عربي، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/jiml>

¹³³ الجيش الوطني يقتل 23 من مقاتلي حركة الشباب في ولاية جوبالاند، somaliatoday.net، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/9a52>

¹³⁴ Somalia army foils raids on two military bases, XINHUANET, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/hrio>

preparation for the second phase of the war against Al-Shabaab, and elements of the US Special Forces arrived in Mahas, about 300 km from the capital.¹³⁵ On March 30, a commander in the terrorist Kharijite militia surrendered to the Somali army forces in the village of "Maya Farah" in Lower Shabelle Governorate.¹³⁶ The UAE has also provided financing for the training of Somali forces in order to equip the army and prepare it to take over security tasks from the African peacekeeping forces, whose mandate expires in December 2024.¹³⁷

c. Burkina Faso

On March 9, the Army General Staff announced that 112 terrorists had been neutralized in recent days during several operations against jihadists in the north and east of the country.¹³⁸

d. Niger

On March 24, Niger's Ministry of Defense announced that forces from the army's Operation El Mahaw anti-terrorist operation had launched an anti-militant operation that included an incursion into Mali and neutralized at least 79 terrorists during it.¹³⁹

e. Libya

On March 6, the security authorities in eastern Libya began an investigation with the terrorist leader, who was arrested while trying to sneak back to his hometown in Ajdabiya.¹⁴⁰

f. Mozambique

Mozambican Defense Minister Christofao Tshome has asked foreign military personnel stationed in the country to share their knowledge with Mozambican security forces to help end violent extremism.¹⁴¹

g. DRC

Congo has received troops from Kenya and Burundi as part of the East African Community regional force that supports the DRC, and Angola is sending a contingent to the DRC to try to force the militias to comply with a ceasefire and avoid escalation in the region.¹⁴² On March 1, the spokesman for the "North Kivu-Sukola 2" operations sector, east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, announced that the army forces had regained control of the strategic city of Rubaya (east of the country).¹⁴³ On March 26, the DRC army announced that it had been able to liberate 11 hostages kidnapped by the Allied Democratic Forces militia, following joint

¹³⁵ US Soldiers Join Somali Army in its War Against Shabaab, Asharq Al-Awsat, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/kblw>

¹³⁶ استسلام قيادي بارز في ميليشيات الخوارج الإرهابية إلى الجيش الصومالي، بوابة الأهرام، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/hozy>

¹³⁷ الإمارات في الصومال.. عقارب الساعة نحو الأمن والاستقرار، العين الإخبارية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/lbe1>

¹³⁸ Burkina Faso: 11 soldiers and 112 "terrorists" killed in fighting, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/lthr>

¹³⁹ Niger army entered Mali in 'unprecedented' hunt for 'terrorists': ministry, TRT World, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/9mvm>

¹⁴⁰ ليبيا.. التحقيق مع قيادي إرهابي بشأن عودته إلى الشرق، سكاى نيوز عربية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/5ey4>

¹⁴¹ Mozambican Government Asks for Help Fighting Terrorism, VOA, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/dftgj>

¹⁴² A regional African force comes to help Congo stop the rebel group M23, verangola, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/ji7oq>

¹⁴³ الكونغو الديمقراطية تستعيد السيطرة على مدينة «روبايا» الاستراتيجية شرق البلاد، مركز الإمارات للدراسات والبحوث الاستراتيجية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/j7plj>

operations by the DRC and Ugandan army forces in the Beni region since the beginning of March.¹⁴⁴

h. Egypt

On March 3, the Ambassador of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Brussels discussed with the Chief of Staff of the European Union Military Committee the strategic partnership between Egypt and the European Union, especially in the areas of security and defense, in addition to exchanging assessments on common challenges and threats. The ambassador also reviewed the Egyptian efforts in the areas of combating terrorism and the interest in building capacities and transferring expertise in the fields of cybersecurity, demining, combating improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and combating terrorism, especially in light of the co-presidency of Egypt and the European Union of the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum, which began in March.¹⁴⁵

i. Tunisia

On March 14, a Tunisian court convicted to death two citizens of the North African country in a 2020 suicide attack that killed a policeman near the US embassy.¹⁴⁶

j. Algeria

On March 1, the Criminal Court of First Instance in Casablanca, east of Algiers, sentenced a prominent terrorist to 8 years in prison after convicting him of the felony of joining a terrorist group.¹⁴⁷ On March 5, the US State Department Spokesperson's Office announced that the US Undersecretary of State for Arms Control would meet with senior officials in Algeria to discuss security, combating terrorism and the proliferation of weapons in the Sahel and Libya.¹⁴⁸ In the period from 08 to 14 March, units and detachments of the People's National Army carried out several operations that yielded qualitative results, such as the fact that a prominent terrorist, active within terrorist groups in the Sahel region since 2012, surrendered to the military authorities in Bordj Badji Mokhtar in the 6th Military Region. Joint detachments of the People's National Army (04) also stopped elements supporting terrorist groups.¹⁴⁹ On March 28, the Algerian president proposed a review of the UN peacekeeping forces' plan of action to include counter-terrorism operations, especially in the countries of the African continent.¹⁵⁰ On March 30, the "El-Hajjar" Court of the Annaba Judicial Council issued its decision against members of the "Sidi Salem" gang, following an armed attack they launched on a security center in the

¹⁴⁴ جيش الكونغو الديمقراطية يحرر 11 رهينة من أيدي الميليشيات بإقليم كيفو الشمالي، اليوم السابع، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/6o08j>

¹⁴⁵ مصر تبحث مع الاتحاد الأوروبي الشراكة الإستراتيجية والتعاون في مكافحة الإرهاب والهجرة غير الشرعية، وكالة أنباء الشرق الأوسط، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/30eov>

¹⁴⁶ الإعدام لشخصين ضالعين في هجوم جهادي في تونس، فرانس 24، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/dt695>

¹⁴⁷ ضمن 40 متشددا.. القضاء الجزائري يدين "أبا الدحاح"، أصوات مغربية، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/yt51b>

¹⁴⁸ مسؤولية أميركية تبحث في الجزائر انتشار السلاح بالساحل، الشرق الأوسط، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/eq3pl>

¹⁴⁹ الحصيلة العملياتية للجيش الوطني الشعبي في الفترة من 08 إلى 14 مارس 2023، وزارة الدفاع الوطني، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/jtok8>

¹⁵⁰ تبون يقترح مراجعة خطة عمل "قوات حفظ السلام" لتشمل محاربة الإرهاب، msn، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gv/s1a4n>

Annaba region, which led to the destruction of public property of the state, violent assaults on public forces, and incitement to violence and gathering gunman. The decision came with prison sentences ranging from 6 months to 20 years for 82 members of the gang and financial fines.¹⁵¹

k. Mauritania

On March 11, the Mauritanian government confirmed the killing of three out of four "jihadists" who escaped from prison on March 5, and the arrest of the fourth during an operation in the Adrar desert region in the north of the country to arrest them.¹⁵²

l. Morocco

On March 15, three gunmen belonging to the terrorist organization ISIS were arrested and arrested, accused of killing a policeman, after "security operations" in Casablanca and in the Sidi Harazem area near Fez (north).¹⁵³

m. Côte d'Ivoire

Côte d'Ivoire delivered a shipment of military equipment, valued at 2.3 billion CFA francs, to the authorities of Burkina Faso; In order to address insecurity and combat terrorism.¹⁵⁴

n. Uganda

On March 29, a 1,000-strong unit left for the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) as part of the East African Community regional force that includes Burundi and Kenya, which aims to contain the M23 rebels who began attacks on Congolese army positions in June last year and occupied several areas.¹⁵⁵ On March 31, army forces entered Private Bunagana, a town in North Kivu, in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which is still under the control of terrorists.¹⁵⁶

o. South Africa

On March 13, police in Limpopo launched a massive manhunt after a group of heavily armed gunmen freed six prisoners awaiting trial.¹⁵⁷

Fifth: the Phenomenon of Terrorism Trends in Africa

a. relative distribution of victims of terrorist operations in the five African regions:

Hotbeds of terrorism are spread in Africa's five regions, despite varying differences between each region, as is the case in the regions of North and South Africa compared to East, West and

¹⁵¹ أحكام قاسية بالسجن على "عصابة عنابة" في الجزائر، بي بي سي عربي، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/q41n8>

¹⁵² مقتل 3 واعتقال آخر خلال اشتباكات بين الجيش الموريتاني ومجموعة إرهابية، اليوم السابع، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/c9a11>

¹⁵³ المغرب: اعتقال 3 موالين لـ«داعش» للاشتباه في قتلهم شرطياً، الشرق الأوسط، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/2wnsm>

¹⁵⁴ كوت ديفوار تُرسل مساعدات عسكرية إلى بوركينا فاسو لمكافحة الإرهاب، بوابة الأهرام، مارس 2023. <https://rb.gy/g8g8f>

¹⁵⁵ Uganda deploys 1,000 troops to eastern DRC, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/k5g3k>

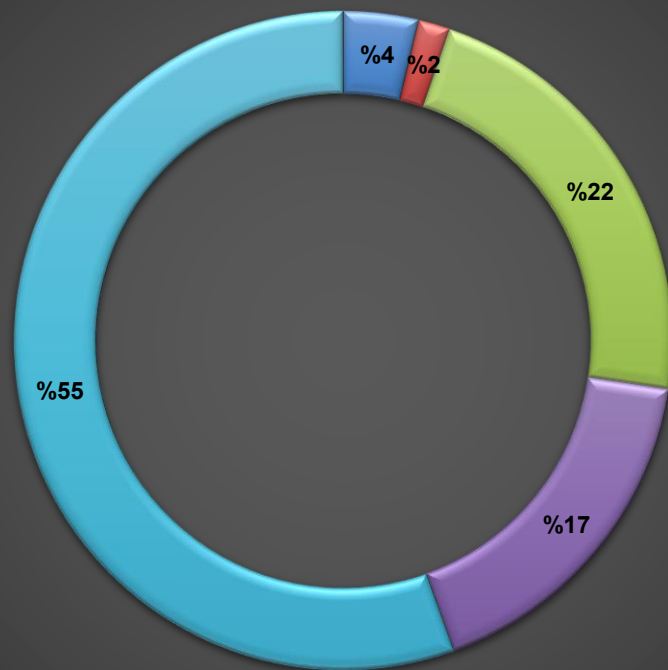
¹⁵⁶ Regional force: deployment of Ugandan troops in Bunagana under M23 control, acpongo, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/vgk2v>

¹⁵⁷ Gunmen attack police, free 6 'dangerous' prisoners in Limpopo, Independent Online and affiliated companies, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/38c7n>

Central Africa that have always been in the first ranks in terms of the number of victims and acts of violence. However, the presence of some regions in the last ranks did not make them free from the permeation of terrorism which penetrated their borders, despite the anti-terrorism African efforts.

West Africa ranked first for the next month in a row since February 2023, with 391 killings, in light of the growing activity of armed gangs, Boko Haram, and the terrorist organization ISIS in Nigeria. **Central Africa** came second with 156 killings, after it ranked third last month, and this escalation was represented in the increase in the operations of armed militias in the Congo in addition to the activity of the Allied Democratic Forces and ISIS, while the activity of separatists grew in the northwest in Cameroon with the activity of Boko Haram. **East Africa came** in third place with 121 killings, and this represents a noticeable decline in terrorist operations after it witnessed 314 killings and ranked second last month, but this did not negate the growing presence of the Al-Shabaab movement in Somalia, which carried out 8 operations during the current month. As usual, North and South Africa occupied the last ranks, with 26 killings for the first and 11 killings for the latter.

Rate of victims of violence and terrorism by region

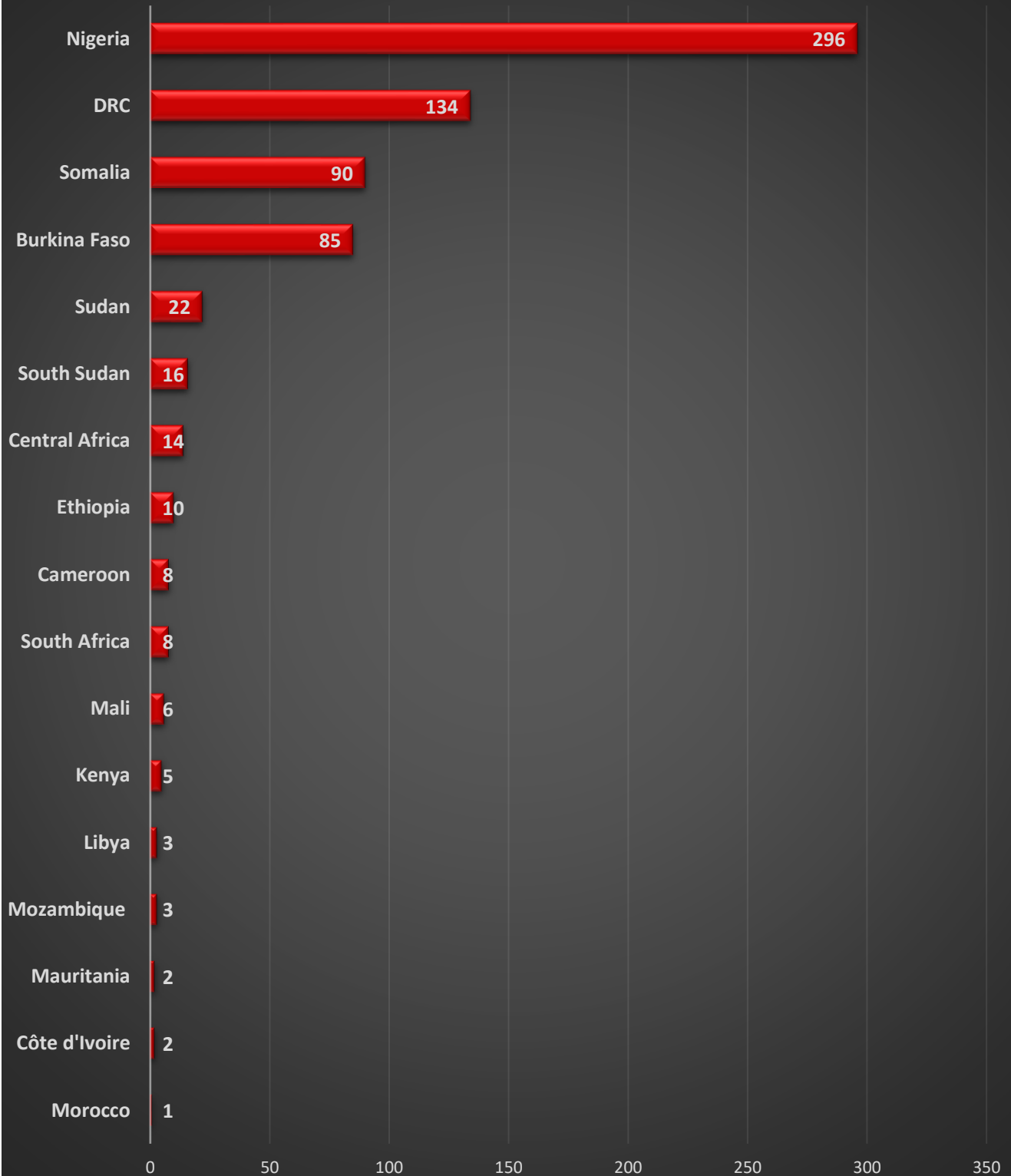


■ North Africa
 ■ South Africa
 ■ Central Africa
 ■ East Africa
 ■ West Africa

b. Numerical distribution of victims of terrorism by country:

Over the past years, the African continent has turned into one of the strongholds of terrorist organizations, which permeated most, if not all, of its countries. However, some countries, especially North African countries, have been witnessing a relative lull in the number of terrorist attacks for years, while terrorism is active in other countries, causing them to witness hundreds of operations in one month. Accordingly, **Nigeria ranked first in terms of the number of victims**, with 296 killings, with an increase in amounts not witnessed since the beginning of the year, as it ranked third in February and fourth in January. In the second place came **the Democratic Republic of the Congo**, with 134 deaths, and this is also a noticeable increase from last month when only 41 deaths were recorded. While **Somalia fell to third place**, with 90 deaths, 102 deaths lower than last month when it ranked second. Burkina Faso ranked fourth with 85 dead, after it ranked first last month. Sudan came in last place with 22 deaths, a slight decline from last month, when it recorded 42 deaths.

Number of victims of violence and terrorism in Africa by country



Sixth: The Role of International Mechanisms in Combating Terrorism in Africa during March:

Terrorism in Africa has aggravated turning into an issue that can't be overlooked or turned a blind eye to. Rather, its consequences have been witnessed and felt by all countries worldwide, obligating the international community to take strenuous steps to achieve the goal of eliminating it. In March, we monitored these efforts at the military, security and international levels.

On the military level, the annual Flintlock military exercises kicked off on March 1, with a week of academic training before moving to command posts and tactical exercises on March 7, which this year is marked for the first time by having a site dedicated to naval operations.¹⁵⁸ It will last for two weeks and will train about 1,300 military personnel from 29 countries in Ghana and Ivory Coast, amid the escalation of jihadist violence linked to al-Qaeda and the Islamic State group.¹⁵⁹

During March 1-2 the Focus Group meeting of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS in Africa was held in Niamey, Niger. With the participation of 38 members of the Coalition, which highlighted various counter-ISIS initiatives on the continent, facilitated regional discussion on addressing the ISIL threat and identified gaps in counter-terrorism capabilities in West Africa, the Sahel, East Africa, Central and Southern Africa.¹⁶⁰

On the security level, a roundtable discussion was held on March 19 on the topic "Indivisible Security: Capabilities and Contributions of Parliaments", with the participation of members of parliaments of the African continent with their Russian colleagues, which focused on the importance of protecting sovereignty, non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, and combating Poverty, counterterrorism and military biological threats.¹⁶¹

At the international level, on March 28, the United Nations Security Council held a high-level debate on combating terrorism by strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, headed by Mozambique.

UN Secretary-General António Guterres expressed his particular concern about the situation in Africa that has made poverty, hunger, lack of basic services, unemployment and unconstitutional changes in government a fertile ground for the expansion of terrorist groups and the flow of fighters, money and weapons. In addition to the Internet factor, which has

¹⁵⁸ Digital Press Briefing on Exercise Flintlock in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire, U.S Department Of the state, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/gtudi>

¹⁵⁹ US trains West African militaries as jihadi threat spreads, African News, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/bfhk>

¹⁶⁰ Joint Statement by the Co-Chairs of the Global Coalition to Defeat ISIS Africa Focus Group, U.S Department of the state, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/4oxk1>

¹⁶¹ Members of the parliaments of the African continent discussed with Russian colleagues joint efforts to ensure global security, [The Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation](https://rb.gy/m3e1o), Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/m3e1o>

become a global platform for spreading violent ideologies further. He highlighted regional counter-terrorism initiatives - from joint efforts in the Sahel, Lake Chad Basin and Mozambique to the recent Extraordinary African Union Summit on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government, and the assistance of the United Nations to African member states, including prevention, trials and rehabilitation, and also stressed that the fight against terrorism will never pay off if human rights continue to be denied and undermined.¹⁶²

Conclusion & Recommendations

Despite the decline in the number of victims of violence and terrorism in the continent compared to the past two months and since the beginning of the year, and although the difference is not large, this did not prevent the continued exacerbation of the threat of terrorism on the continent, as 48 percent of deaths in the continent are related to terrorism globally, with the Sahel region turning into a new hotbed of terrorist attacks.¹⁶³ Based on the above, the recommendations of Maat are as follows:

First: Maat expresses its deep concern about the lack of military cooperation between African countries, given its continuous dependence on Western powers in the fight against terrorism, and stresses the need for there to be joint African military cooperation in which efforts are intensified to eliminate hotbeds of terrorist organizations, including enhancing transparency between the security services in information about the strongholds of these organizations, instead of fighting each African country individually, and even urging African countries to discuss a joint military plan, targeting the youth movement organizations in Somalia and Boko Haram in Nigeria, during the coming period, because they represent nearly half African terrorism.

Second: Within the framework of the African Union's Agenda 2063, Maat recommends to the United Nations to provide funding and full support that makes African anti-terrorism initiatives effective and innovative, in order to be in line with the new approach of dangers pursued by terrorist organizations.

Third: In terms of developing preventive policies in the field of combating terrorism and not just the immediate military treatment, Maat urges the governments of African countries to carefully plan to support the pillars of stability on all political, economic and social levels, which in turn will automatically contribute to mitigating violence in the region and preventing the

¹⁶² Speakers Warn Security Council Terrorism Spreading across Africa at Alarming Rate, Call for Greater Support, Enhanced International, Regional Cooperation, United Nations, Mar 2023. <https://rb.gy/u0rlj>

¹⁶³ Speakers Warn Security Council Terrorism Spreading across Africa at Alarming Rate, Call for Greater Support, Enhanced International, Regional Cooperation, المرجع السابق

spread of extremist tendencies, given that political persecution, violation of rights, and suffering from poverty and hunger are key factors in creating the phenomenon.

Fourth: The situation in the continent no longer allows for the disappearance of any resources or competencies that can contribute, even in a small percentage, to solving the problem. Therefore, Maat urges the international community to take into account the inclusion of female competencies in its plans to combat terrorism in the continent, given the huge number of women who have become engaged in such organizations in an effort to make them more resistant to such attractions.

Fifth: Maat calls for the importance of balancing all intellectual efforts with all military efforts within the framework of regional attempts to combat terrorism. Maat has noticed that the African efforts are focused only on the military effort, despite the great importance that the process of exchanging visions and ideas carries by focusing on the roots of the problem and presenting constructive proposals, especially with the transformations taking place in the phenomenon of terrorism today. Therefore, Maat proposes that a periodic meeting be organized on a monthly basis, related to combating terrorism, to be held at the regional level and to discuss obstacles, challenges, and ways to address it.