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Conflict and energy consultancy

STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE WEEKLY

Region: Somalia-Nigeria-Democratic Republic of the Congo-Mali-Niger-Burkina Faso
Date: 11 April 2026
Scope: Security |Diplomacy | Defence
Classification: Client Confidential

SOMALIA

President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has reaffirmed the government's commitment to its strategy of finalizing the constitution and implementing a universal suffrage (one-person, one-vote) electoral model. Meeting with high-level political and security delegations in Baidoa, the President thanked the actors involved in the process that culminated in the departure of former regional leader Laftagareen, declaring that the regional transition would be peaceful. While in the city, he also chaired a high-level security conference focused on accelerating operations against Al-Shabaab and enhancing inter-agency coordination. State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ali Omar discussed the transition strategy and stabilization steps with Raisedon Zenenga, the acting head of the United Nations Transition Mission (ATMIS). Accusing the federal government of undermining the administrative structure, Puntland President Said Abdullahi Deni announced that Puntland is waging a "justified war" and ordered security forces to be on full alert against infiltration and terrorist threats.

Auditor General Ahmed Gutale met with the Ambassador of the Republic of Türkiye to Mogadishu, Alper Aktaş, to discuss the implementation of the memorandum of understanding signed with the Turkish Court of Accounts and the enhancement of auditing capacity with the support of TİKA. Minister of Defense Ahmed Moallim Fiqi and Chief of Defense Forces Brigadier General Ibrahim Mohamed Mohamud inspected the military deployments in Baidoa and the training center established in cooperation with the United Kingdom.

The Somali National Army (SNA) conducted area control operations in Buur-Hakaba in the South West State. The Ministry of Defense announced that approximately 70 Al-Shabaab militants, including senior commanders, were neutralized, 90 to 95 militants were wounded, and 8 logistics vehicles were destroyed in airstrikes carried out with the support of the international coalition around Tawarmooge in the Mudug region. Furthermore, it was reported that 12 Al-Shabaab militants were neutralized in air operations in Gasarta in the Bay region; an improvised explosive device (IED) belonging to the group was destroyed in the Gololey area of the Middle Shabelle region; and during an intelligence-driven operation in Mogadishu's Deynile district, a logistics vehicle transporting mortar ammunition and explosives concealed among agricultural products was intercepted, resulting in the capture of a suspect.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

The AFC/M23 has confirmed its participation in the resumption phase of the Doha Process negotiations, which were relocated to Switzerland due to the war in Iran. The FARDC announced that it repelled simultaneous attacks carried out by the AFC/M23 in South Kivu and redeployed to villages in the Lubero countryside following the group's withdrawal.

It has been reported that during the February-March 2026 period, 263 AFC/M23 elements—including 4 officers—in North Kivu, and 30 in the Mikenge, Minembwe, and Sukola 2 sectors of South Kivu voluntarily laid down their arms and surrendered. It was also noted that Tushunguti, the administrative center of the Ziralo grouping in the Kalehe territory of South Kivu, briefly fell under AFC/M23 control before being recaptured through a counter-operation led by the FARDC and supported by Wazalendo militias, resulting in the re-establishment of strategic positions in the area.

Meanwhile, it was reported that the AFC/M23 dispatched reinforcements to strategic locations in the north of Walikale and the Masisi countryside in North Kivu. Fierce clashes erupted between the AFC/M23 and FARDC forces—backed by Wazalendo militias—in Walikale, Masisi, and Rutshuru, with 7 AFC/M23 militants neutralized during the armed engagements in Walikale.

The AFC/M23 claimed that the Congolese army conducted airstrikes around Minembwe using a Sukhoi-25 fighter jet and armed drones, bombing the settlements of Mikenke and Nyabyondo.

Furthermore, it was reported that ISCAP attacks along the Mambasa-Dingbo axis in Ituri province resulted in the burning of at least 15 commercial spaces and a house, leaving 3 civilians injured. Army troops responding to the incidents reportedly neutralized 5 attackers.

NIGERIA

Nigerian security forces continue their area control and operational activities against armed groups across the country. It was announced that 31 civilians abducted from a church in Kaduna state were rescued in an operation conducted by army troops; however, civil society organizations in the region rejected this statement, declaring that the victims remain in captivity. It was reported that three terrorists were neutralized, logistics vehicles were seized, and suspects were detained as part of Operation HADIN KAI, conducted in coordination with the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) in Geidam. Furthermore, over 30 armed bandits were neutralized by security forces in Zamfara state, an insurgent providing logistics supply was neutralized in an ambush set in the Gwoza area of Borno state, an attack on a military base in Kwara state was successfully repelled, and two ISWAP informants were captured during intelligence operations along the Niger border in Borno.

The army announced that an attack on the 29th Task Force Brigade in Benisheikh, Borno state, was thwarted by troops under the command of Brigadier General Oseni Braimah, and official authorities denied allegations that Brigadier General Braimah lost his life in the clash. The army had previously denied reports regarding Brigadier General Musa Uba, who died in

an ISWAP ambush last year, but it was later revealed that the brigadier general was indeed killed in that ambush.

In response, ISWAP claimed to have carried out coordinated attacks on positions in Pulka, Warabe, Benisheikh, and Ngamdu in Borno state, killing at least five soldiers—including Brigadier General Braimah—and three CJTF militiamen, destroying 40 vehicles, and capturing the Pulka military base. An analysis of the attacks indicates that some positions were targeted with diversionary assaults, while the main camps were the focus of more comprehensive and intense attacks. The group also claimed responsibility for an attack in Borno that claimed the lives of 10 civilians; asserted that it executed two captured government informants in Alijila Mari; claimed to have killed a soldier by targeting a military position in Monguno; and stated that it attacked a militia patrol around Gajiram.

On the other hand, suspected Boko Haram militants reportedly damaged an armored vehicle and killed five security personnel in attacks on the Damasak internally displaced persons (IDP) camp and the Nganzai police station in Borno. In the Nuku settlement in the Kaiama local government area of Kwara, five forest rangers were killed by suspected Boko Haram members, and the group also released a new video showing civilians abducted from Woro.

A clash between JNIM and ISSP was recorded in Kebbi state, marking their conflict in Nigeria; JNIM claimed to have killed one person and seized ammunition in this clash. Meanwhile, Lakurawa elements massacred civilians and torched houses in the Shanga area of Kebbi state. Heavy attacks on the Bagna and Erena settlements in the Shiroro area of Niger state resulted in the deaths of over 70 people, triggering civilian abductions and mass displacement. In other village raids in the same state, 20 people, including security personnel, were killed. Armed elements abducted 150 civilians—mostly women and children—from the villages of Kurfa Danya and Kurfan Magaji in Zamfara, and 6 people from the village of Gazau in Sokoto; additionally, 7 civilians were massacred in the Sabon Garin Pali settlement in Bauchi. Due to the escalating cycle of violence and threats of retaliation, approximately 2,000 civilians from communities in the western part of Zamfara's Tsafe area were forced to flee their settlements.

MALI

Foreign Minister Abdoulaye Diop has declared that Mali officially supports Morocco's proposed autonomy plan for the Western Sahara region, which envisions the election of local legislative, executive, and judicial bodies while retaining foreign affairs and defense authorities in Rabat. Ammunition and equipment were supplied by Russia to the 100th Military Base in Sénou; furthermore, it was reported that a large-scale military convoy comprising armored vehicles and Chinese-made air defense systems arrived in the capital, Bamako. The Malian army announced that 25 terrorists were neutralized in two airstrikes conducted in the Kékoro forest near the Zantiebougou and Kontza Peulh locations, and that a

terrorist group was neutralized during operations around the town of Sofara. The FLA claimed that an armored vehicle belonging to the Army-Africa Corps inventory was targeted in Tiwraghen, in the Kidal region, and that two kamikaze drone attacks were carried out against army positions in Aguelhok. Additionally, JNIM claimed to have targeted army patrols with improvised explosive devices (IEDs) southwest of Tessalit and along the Loulouni-Sikasso axis, asserting that at least two soldiers lost their lives in these incidents.

NIGER

As defense cooperation between Türkiye and Niger gains momentum, a protocol stipulating the provision of in-country military training support to Niger was signed following delegation-level talks led by Turkish Minister of National Defense Yaşar Güler and Nigerien Minister of Defense General Salifou Mody.

Seeking to strengthen its territorial control on the ground, the Nigerien army carried out Operations "Damissa," "Almahaou," and "Nalewa Dole" in the Dosso, Tillabéri, and Diffa regions, neutralizing six terrorists and seizing a large quantity of weapons, ammunition, and motorcycles.

Meanwhile, armed groups continue their operations targeting security forces and infrastructure in the region, with various claims emerging regarding their recent activities.

The ISSP claimed to have destroyed two vehicles and hijacked another during an attack on the National Gendarmerie headquarters in Tebaram, Tahoua region. It also asserted that it killed 35 JNIM militants in Petelkole, Tillabéri—marking the first direct clash between the two groups—justifying the act by accusing the JNIM militants of targeting civilians.

For its part, JNIM claimed to have ambushed army troops attempting to cross the Niger River along the Say axis in the Tillabéri region, killing three soldiers and seizing military equipment. The group also claimed to have inflicted casualties by targeting a military vehicle with an improvised explosive device (IED) on the route between Bossia and Toura in the same region.

Additionally, ISWAP alleged that it executed an informant accused of leaking information to the military near the town of Chetimari in the Diffa region.

BURKINA FASO

The government of Burkina Faso has rejected a Human Rights Watch (HRW) report—which alleged that the army, allied militias, and al-Qaeda-linked groups killed over 1,800 civilians and displaced tens of thousands of people between 2023 and 2025—describing it as "assumptions and baseless serious allegations."

An analysis of the security dynamics on the ground reveals that armed groups are continuing their operational activities against both state military/paramilitary elements and one another. In this context, JNIM claimed to have killed three soldiers and six VDP members, seizing ammunition during attacks on a military position in Ouahigouya and a VDP position in Sodokouri. The group also asserted that it had taken control of a VDP checkpoint in the village of Bindo in rural Ouahigouya, as well as a military outpost in Bissiga.

It was further alleged that JNIM targeted forest rangers and civilians by attacking two additional villages near Bissiga; seized various military equipment, including a mortar, during its operations against a military position in Kongaye and an outpost along the Pissila-Pibaore axis; and killed five soldiers in an attack on an outpost in the Mouan region.

In the context of the competition for territory and influence among non-state armed actors, it was reported that four ISSP militants were killed and their weapons were seized during a clash between the ISSP and JNIM in the Séno region.