

## STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE DAILY

**Region:** Somalia-Democratic Republic of the Congo-Nigeria-Burkina Faso

**Date:** 17 April 2026

**Scope:** Security | Diplomacy | Defence

**Classification:** Client Confidential

### Executive Assessment

Political risk is rising in Somalia, where the expiration of parliament without agreement signals institutional instability, while parallel electoral preparations and external diplomatic engagement indicate a fragmented transition process. Türkiye's deepening engagement—particularly in energy—suggests expanding strategic influence but does not offset internal uncertainty.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the situation remains structurally volatile. Despite new MOUs and existing ceasefire frameworks, lack of implementation combined with continued AFC/M23 activity and external pressure on Rwanda indicates a high risk of continued escalation. Diplomatic efforts are active but not yet translating into operational de-escalation.

Nigeria continues to face entrenched insurgent and criminal threats. ISWAP activity, including executions and attacks, alongside bandit operations, reflects sustained insecurity in the northeast and central regions, with state responses remaining reactive.

Burkina Faso shows intensified military operations and administrative tightening, indicating an aggressive counterinsurgency posture. However, the scale of operations and dissolution of civil entities suggest a security-first approach with potential governance trade-offs.

### NIGERIA

- Nigeria's Minister of Defence Christopher Gwabin Musa met with his counterpart Yaşar Güler in Antalya, Türkiye
- The Nigerian Army announced that Brigadier General Oseni Braimah, who was killed by ISWAP in the Benisheikh attack—an incident it had previously denied and claimed resulted in only two officers and two soldiers killed—has been laid to rest

# MINTEL WORLD

Conflict and energy consultancy

- Suspected armed groups reportedly attacked civilian communities in Isin and Ifelodun areas of Kwara State,, abducting several people, injuring others, and rustling livestock
- ISWAP announced that it executed two individuals in Borno State, on accusations of sorcery
- Local sources reported that security forces repelled an ISWAP/JAS attack in Benisheikh, Borno State.

## SOMALIA

- Puntland authorities stated that Somalia has entered a period of uncertainty after parliament's term expired on April 14, 2026, without a political agreement, urging the president to secure an inclusive electoral deal within one month
- Galmudug authorities announced preparations for one-person, one-vote elections in Somalia
- President Recep Tayyip Erdoğan met with President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud in Istanbul, Türkiye, discussing bilateral relations and reaffirming Türkiye's commitment to strengthening trade and energy cooperation with Somalia, as well as its support for Somalia's sovereignty
- State Minister for Foreign Affairs Ali Mohammad Omar stated that Israel's recognition of a region in Somaliland violates Somalia's sovereignty and threatens regional stability

## DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- President Félix Tshisekedi traveled to Antalya, Türkiye, to attend the Antalya Diplomacy Forum
- The United States stated that Rwanda's escalation of the conflict constitutes a violation of the Washington Accords, calling for the immediate withdrawal of Rwandan troops and respect for the sovereignty of the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- Two memoranda of understanding were signed in Switzerland, covering the transfer of 2,000–3,000 FARDC troops back to the Congolese government and the expansion of the EJVM ceasefire monitoring mechanism to include AFC/M23 representatives.

# MINTEL WORLD

Conflict and energy consultancy

- AFC/M23 forces claimed they launched coordinated attacks on the densely populated areas of Chambombo, Kumadepo, and Bulengero in Kalehe territory.
- The Congolese army announced that joint operations with the Ugandan army in Mambasa, Ituri, resulted in the rescue of 140 civilians held hostage by ISCAP.

## BURKINA FASO

- The Burkina Faso army announced that operations conducted between April 1–13, 2026, across Liptako, Nakambé, and Boucle du Mouhoun regions inflicted heavy losses on armed groups, including over 100 militants neutralized in Soum .
- The Burkina Faso government, through Minister of Territorial Administration Émile Zerbo, officially dissolved and banned 118 associations from operating nationwide