STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE DAILY

Region: Africa

Date: 13 March 2026

Scope: Security | Energy | Politics | Diplomacy | Investment

Classification: Client Confidential

Executive Assessment

Across Africa, governments are tightening regulatory oversight over natural resources while simultaneously seeking external capital to expand energy, mining, and infrastructure capacity. Policy decisions in Senegal, Zimbabwe, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo reflect a broader pattern in which states are attempting to strengthen fiscal control over extractive sectors while addressing governance and transparency concerns that have historically shaped investor perceptions.

At the same time, several countries are accelerating strategic investment pipelines across hydrocarbons, minerals, and power generation. Libya, Egypt, Angola, Ethiopia, and Nigeria are positioning themselves to attract large-scale upstream and infrastructure investment, while climate and technology finance initiatives are increasingly structured through blended public–private mechanisms. The current landscape therefore reflects a dual dynamic in which governments pursue resource-sector expansion while recalibrating regulatory frameworks to capture greater economic value from strategic assets.

FOCUS COUNTRIES AND SUBJECTS

Libya

Massad Boulos is reportedly working on a framework to unify the Khalifa Haftar and Abdul Hamid Dbeibeh camps through a power-sharing government without elections. The arrangement would allow both sides to retain their current positions while jointly managing the state apparatus. Such a formula could temporarily stabilize elite competition while entrenching Libya’s pattern of negotiated political fragmentation.

House of Representatives Speaker Aguila Saleh withdrew the controversial import tax decision and instructed the Central Bank to cancel the measure following public backlash. The reversal highlights the sensitivity of fiscal policy in Libya’s inflationary environment and suggests weakening political leverage for Saleh within eastern institutions.

Presidential Council Vice President Musa al Koni and British Ambassador Martin Reynolds discussed institutional unification alongside cooperation on security and migration management. European engagement continues to prioritize administrative stabilization and migration governance rather than constitutional restructuring.

The National Reconciliation Bloc within the High Council of State called for an investigation into Arkenu Oil Company over allegations of illegal Libyan oil exports. Concerns over opaque

hydrocarbon flows continue to raise questions about revenue oversight and state control over the energy sector.

TotalEnergies restarted production at the Mabruk oil field for the first time since 2015, reaching roughly 25,000 barrels per day. The reopening supports Libya's strategy of reactivating suspended oil fields and improving national output capacity.

Egypt

Petroleum Minister Karim Badawi approved the 2026–2027 investment budget for South Valley Egyptian Holding Petroleum Company. Cairo also plans to launch tenders for four new oil and gas exploration blocks in the Red Sea to attract international investors.

Authorities are preparing a separate international tender for gas exploration in the Western Mediterranean basin. The program aims to drill seventeen exploration wells during the 2026–2027 fiscal year in order to expand reserves and stabilize domestic gas supply.

Senegal

Prime Minister Ousmane Sonko announced that the government intends to renegotiate energy and mining contracts and is considering nationalization of the Yakaar-Teranga gas project. The initiative reflects a stronger resource-sovereignty posture that could reshape investor expectations in Senegal's emerging hydrocarbon sector.

Authorities also declared plans to revoke seventy-one mining licenses over contractual violations and froze the accounts of Industries Chimiques du Sénégal until approximately 250 billion FCFA in debt is repaid. The move signals a stricter regulatory approach toward the mining and industrial sectors.

Nigeria

Eni is preparing a $10 billion investment program to develop the Etan and Zabazaba offshore fields after resolving its long-running dispute with the Nigerian government over the OPL 245 block. The project will include a floating production storage and offloading vessel with capacity of around 150,000 barrels per day together with new pipeline infrastructure.

Africa – Ethiopia | Mauritania | Angola

Ethiopia signed a new €250 million cooperation framework with Italy covering the period 2026–2028 and expanding partnerships in health, renewable energy, agriculture, and infrastructure. The agreement highlights continued European economic engagement in the Horn of Africa despite the country's recent political strains.

Ethiopian Investment Holdings and the Ministry of Mines also signed agreements with three companies worth $4.2 billion to develop iron ore, potash, and gold projects, including new operations in the Danakil region. The program aims to strengthen Ethiopia's role in fertilizer supply chains and expand export revenues from minerals.

Mauritania signed a three-year cooperation agreement with the Islamic Corporation for the Development of the Private Sector expected to mobilize up to $900 million for mining and private sector development. Separately, Madkour Holding and GoGas agreed to develop a gas-

fired power plant in Nouakchott supplied by the Banda and Tevet gas fields with an initial capacity of 200 MW planned for 2028.

Angola attracted approximately $21.8 billion in investment commitments for infrastructure, energy, and industrial projects, with Chinese financing playing a central role. Corcel PLC also accelerated exploration activity in the Kwanza Basin after completing a 326-kilometer 2D seismic survey in Block KON-16 to support potential new drilling targets.

Southern Africa – Zambia | Zimbabwe | South Africa | Mozambique

Zambia is seeking international investors to increase copper production to 3 million tons annually by 2031, reinforcing the mining sector's dominant role in national exports. Globeleq entered the Zambian power market after acquiring a 51 percent stake in Lunsemfwa Hydro Power Company from Norfund.

Zimbabwe is negotiating with Sinomine Resource Group over the potential resumption of lithium concentrate exports following the government's ban on raw mineral shipments. Authorities are attempting to shift the industry toward domestic processing and higher-value mineral supply chains.

Mozambique plans to present a portfolio of renewable energy projects including solar, wind, hydro, and transmission infrastructure to European investors at the RENMOZ investment event in Brussels. The initiative aims to accelerate the country's energy transition and attract international financing.

LAM Mozambique Airlines has been unable to place two recently purchased Embraer 190 aircraft into service for three months because of financial constraints. International Monetary Fund officials have expressed concern over the airline's rising debt burden.

South Africa's Coega Development Corporation announced a plan to invest approximately 22 billion rand in metal processing and metallurgy projects within the Coega Industrial Development Zone. The program aims to attract up to 28 billion rand in additional investment over the next decade.

Washington also announced plans to intervene at the International Court of Justice in support of Israel in the case filed by South Africa concerning the Gaza war. The diplomatic move highlights continuing legal and political tensions between Pretoria and the United States.

West and Central Africa – DRC | Ghana | Mali | Liberia

Democratic Republic of the Congo President Félix Tshisekedi launched an audit into alleged irregularities in the public payroll system after earlier reports identified more than 60,000 ghost workers. The investigation could reshape fiscal governance and administrative oversight.

Fleurette Group agreed to pay €25.8 million to close a corruption investigation in the Netherlands related to mining licenses issued during the presidency of Joseph Kabila. The settlement reflects continued international scrutiny of Congo's historical mining agreements.

Newcore Gold expanded its drilling program at the Enchi Gold Project in Ghana to 60,000 meters and plans to complete a prefeasibility study by June 2026. Sylla Gold Corp also secured

full ownership of three exploration licenses covering approximately 17,200 hectares at the Niaouleni Gold Project in Mali.

In Liberia, CDC Secretary-General Jefferson Tamba Koijee accused Local Government Minister Francis Sakila Nyumalin of fueling tensions along the Liberia-Guinea border through illegal mining activity around the Makona River. The dispute underscores how cross-border resource competition can escalate local political friction.

Africa – General

Microsoft announced a major investment program worth hundreds of millions of dollars aimed at expanding artificial intelligence adoption across Africa. The company is also partnering with MTN Group to deliver AI tools to an estimated 300 million mobile subscribers.

Proparco invested $15 million in the African Transition Acceleration Fund designed to finance early-stage climate infrastructure projects. FSD Africa Investments and Allied Climate Partners added a further $50 million to the initiative, which aims to reach a total capitalization of $200 million.

The United States and Burundi signed two agreements focused on developing nickel and lithium resources. The cooperation reflects Washington's growing interest in diversifying strategic mineral supply chains through African partnerships.

Gabon's transitional president Brice Oligui Nguema dismissed French intelligence adviser Jean-Charles Solon after thirteen years leading the presidency's surveillance center. Authorities plan to appoint a Gabonese intelligence official to the role for the first time, signaling a shift toward greater national control over sensitive security institutions.

Forward Outlook

The next seven days are likely to be shaped by how African governments balance regulatory assertiveness with the need to maintain investment momentum in strategic sectors. Several states are tightening oversight over extractive industries and public finance systems, particularly where mineral revenues and hydrocarbon flows constitute the backbone of fiscal stability. Decisions related to contract renegotiations, export restrictions, and governance audits therefore carry implications not only for individual projects but also for the credibility of national investment regimes.

In West Africa, policy signals from Senegal and Zimbabwe illustrate the tension between resource sovereignty and investor confidence. Dakar's review of energy and mining contracts reflects a broader regional pattern in which governments seek greater fiscal returns from newly emerging hydrocarbon and mineral sectors. Zimbabwe's lithium export restrictions similarly highlight a strategic shift toward domestic processing and value-added production, a policy direction that could influence investment decisions across the critical-minerals supply chain.

Central Africa's operating environment will remain sensitive to governance reforms and legal scrutiny in the mining sector. The audit of the public payroll system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the settlement involving historical mining licenses demonstrate continued international attention to state accountability and resource governance. Such developments are

likely to shape perceptions of regulatory risk in one of the world's most strategically important mineral provinces.

North Africa's stability indicators will continue to be influenced by political coordination in Libya and upstream energy recovery in Egypt. Negotiations aimed at constructing a power-sharing arrangement between rival Libyan factions signal renewed external efforts to contain political fragmentation through elite bargaining rather than electoral processes. At the same time, the gradual reactivation of oil fields and exploration licensing initiatives across the region indicates that hydrocarbon output and investment flows remain central to broader economic stabilization strategies.

FORWARD LOOK FOR 7 DAYS:

- Libya – Power-sharing negotiations between rival political camps
- Senegal – Contract renegotiation risks in gas and mining sectors
- Zimbabwe – Lithium export policy and Chinese investor negotiations
- DRC – Outcomes of public payroll audit and governance reforms
- Egypt – Progress of new offshore exploration tenders
- Angola – Investor follow-through on major infrastructure commitments
- Africa – Expansion of climate and technology financing initiatives