MINTEL WORLD

Conflict and energy consultancy

STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE DAILY

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Executive Assessment

The reporting indicates a continued high tempo of insurgent activity across the Sahel, particularly in Burkina Faso and Niger, where both JNIM and ISSP remain operationally active and capable of conducting coordinated attacks, territorial incursions, and inter-group clashes. Civilian targeting and livestock looting in Niger highlight persistent security vacuums and limited state control in rural areas.

In Somalia, federal forces appear to be consolidating gains in South West State, with coordinated military operations, leadership visits, and stabilization efforts suggesting a deliberate post-offensive governance phase. Continued U.S. (AFRICOM) involvement and NISA operations indicate sustained external support and pressure on Al-Shabaab networks.

Nigeria's arrests and security sweeps point to ongoing counterterrorism pressure on ISWAP/Boko Haram elements, though the need for reconnaissance disruption underscores persistent threat mobility. In eastern DRC, recurring clashes between AFC/M23 and Wazalendo signal a stable but unresolved front line, with limited territorial shifts but continued volatility.

Overall, the operational environment remains fragmented, with state forces achieving localized tactical gains but failing to establish durable security control across contested regions.

SOMALIA

• The Speaker of the House of the People, Sheikh Adan Madobe, met with acting ministers of the South West State in Baidoa; he instructed officials to accelerate their duties and ensure uninterrupted public services until regional elections are held.

• Somalia's Presidential Adviser on Constitutional Affairs arrived in Baidoa following the takeover by federal forces backed by South West State Salvation Forces; he stated that delivering aid to affected communities and engaging local leaders after the fall of Abdiaziz Hassan Mohamed Laftagareen's administration would be a priority.

• Türkiye's Ambassador to Mogadishu, Alper Aktaş, met with Somalia's Immigration and Citizenship Agency chief Mustafa Dhuhulow in Mogadishu; the sides discussed bilateral relations and citizen-related issues, following the December 2025 Ankara–Mogadishu framework on residence procedures, visa-on-arrival for diplomatic passport holders, and the establishment of a national Immigration Academy.

• Speaker Adan Madobe also met with senior military officers in Baidoa to discuss security operations; the meeting focused on stabilizing newly secured areas and accelerating military efforts after clearing militants from the Mogadishu–Baidoa road.

• The National Intelligence and Security Agency conducted two operations in coordination with international partners in Lower Shabelle (Kuunyo Barrow) and Middle Shabelle (Labagaras); it announced that facilities used for explosives production and weapon repair were destroyed, equipment and vehicles neutralized, and 7 militants killed in Kuunyo Barrow, while 21 militants were killed in a two-phase operation in Labagaras.

• AFRICOM announced that it conducted an airstrike targeting Al-Shabaab northwest of Kismayo.

• The National Intelligence and Security Agency deployed elite special forces to Baidoa ahead of the expected visit of President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud on Thursday; sources stated that the deployment is part of heightened security measures.

BURKINA FASO

• JNIM claimed that it had taken control of two VDP positions in Dedougou.

• JNIM claimed that it ambushed a VDP patrol in Banfora.

• JNIM claimed that it had taken control of a military position in Ouahigouya.

• ISSP claimed that 12 militants were killed and 3 captured in an attack on a JNIM position in Kodiolaye, Dori.

• The army reported that several terrorists were killed during an operation targeting JNIM in Bomborokuy on March 30, with motorcycles and ammunition seized.

NIGERIA

• The army arrested a suspect identified as a Boko Haram/ISWAP member, Abubakar Ali alias "Saina," at the Kilo Papa checkpoint while transiting to Maiduguri; interrogation revealed that the suspect was conducting reconnaissance, and he was handed over to relevant authorities for further investigation.

• The army announced that a kidnapping suspect was arrested in the Azir area of Damboa Local Government Area in Borno State.

• The army stated that illegal materials were seized during search and cordon operations conducted at Wulgo Junction, Gamboru Bus Terminal, and surrounding areas.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

• Heavy clashes were reported between AFC/M23 and Wazalendo forces in the Masisi area of North Kivu .

• AFC/M23 was reported to have withdrawn from some villages in Lubero while maintaining positions in strategic areas.

• Clashes were reported between AFC/M23 and Wazalendo forces in Ufamandu near Bukavu in North Kivu.

NIGER

• The Governor of Tahoua stated that at least 33 civilians were killed and 5 others injured in attacks carried out on March 26 in the villages of Tsougougi, Zata, and Dolé in the Konni Department of the Tahoua region; he added that the attackers also looted approximately 500 head of livestock.

MALI

• FLA claimed that 7 soldiers and Africa Corps personnel were killed and 9 others wounded in attacks on a military barracks in Anefis.