Swahili Today Weekly

The week's most-read stories, in one place



NEWS

The Number 7 That Belonged to the World: A Tribute to Cristiano Ronaldo

There are footballers you admire, footballers you enjoy watching, and footballers whose careers become part of your own life. For me, Cristiano Ronaldo has always belonged to the last category.

BY JOSEPHS QUARTZY · 5 NOV 2026

Full story on page 3 ›

ALSO IN THIS EDITION



Tanzania: Tundu Lissu Gets Four Years in Prison After High Court Rejects Treason Charge

Page 3 ›



Former Simba Coach Fadlu Returns to Tanzania as a rival Yanga Head Coach

Page 3 ›



Dangote Launches $2.5 Billion Namibia Fuel Project to Expand Southern African Trade

Page 3 ›

In this edition

NEWS 3

The Number 7 That Belonged to the World: A Tribute to Cristiano Ronaldo 3

Tanzania: Tundu Lissu Gets Four Years in Prison After High Court Rejects Treason Charge 3

Former Simba Coach Fadlu Returns to Tanzania as a rival Yanga Head Coach 3

Dangote Launches $2.5 Billion Namibia Fuel Project to Expand Southern African Trade 3

Tanzania Police Warn of Planned Disruption Ahead of Tundu Lissu Verdict 4

Kenya’s Phoebe Okowa Wins Full Nine-Year Term at International Court of Justice 4

Somalia Rejects Israel’s Appointment of Ambassador in Somaliland 4

CHOGM 2026: Britain Opens Talks on Slavery Apology, but Reparations Remain Disputed 4

Tshisekedi Sets Great Lakes Priorities, Puts Illegal Mineral Exploitation and Regional Security in Focus 5

DRC Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Arrives in Tanzania for Great Lakes Women’s Parliamentary Conference 5

Somaliland–Israel Ties Move Forward With Ambassador’s Appointment and Embassy Plans 5

Ramaphosa Warns Against ‘Corruption Mafia’ Ahead of South Africa’s Local Elections 5

Bobi Wine Names Besigye and Other Detained Ugandans at Washington Human Rights Event 5

Mnangagwa Urges Zimbabwean Students in Russia to Return Home and Help Build the Country 5

Dakar 2026: Senegal Opens Africa’s First-Ever Olympic Event in a Celebration of Culture and Youth 5

News

The Number 7 That Belonged to the World: A Tribute to Cristiano Ronaldo

BY JOSEPHS QUARTZY · 5 NOV 2026



There are footballers you admire, footballers you enjoy watching, and footballers whose careers become part of your own life. For me, Cristiano Ronaldo has always belonged to the last category. I have supported him since 2008, which means that for more than 18 years, I have carried an attachment to a player, a shirt and a national team that has never really belonged to my country. I am not Portuguese. I do not even speak Portuguese. Yet, whenever Portugal played, I found myself hoping, celebrating, worrying and sometimes suffering as though the result had a personal connection to me. And now, after all these years, the man who made that possible has …

Read the full story ›



Tanzania: Tundu Lissu Gets Four Years in Prison After High Court Rejects Treason Charge

BY SWT NEWS DESK · 6 NOV 2026

Tanzania's High Court has acquitted opposition leader Tundu Antiphas Lissu of treason but convicted him of incitement and sentenced him to four years in prison, bringing a dramatic turn to a case that has kept the CHADEMA national chairman in detention for more than 18 months.

The judgment was delivered on Friday, November 6, by a three-judge panel at the High Court's Dar es Salaam Sub-Registry, led by Justice Dunstan Ndunguru alongside Justices James Karayemaha and Ferdinand Kiwionde.

The court ruled that the prosecution had failed to prove a central element of the treason charge: that Lissu intended to intimidate the government. However, the judges found that his statements urging citizens to prevent and disrupt the 2025 General Election amounted to incitement, convicting him under Section 390 of the Penal Code.

The decision means Lissu has avoided the more serious treason conviction, which carries the death penalty under Tanzanian law, but remains behind bars following his conviction…

Read the full story ›



Former Simba Coach Fadlu Returns to Tanzania as a rival Yanga Head Coach

BY JOSEPHS QUARTZY · 7 NOV 2026

South African coach Fadlu Davids has returned to Tanzania, but this time he is taking charge of a club whose name carries a very different meaning for supporters of his former employers. The former Simba SC head coach has officially joined Young Africans SC (Yanga), bringing an unusual twist to one of East Africa's most fiercely contested football rivalries.

Davids arrived at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, November 7, 2026, where he spoke enthusiastically about returning to a country he described as home. He was welcomed by supporters and club representatives as he began a new chapter with the Jangwani-based side.

"Tanzania feels like home," Davids said, expressing appreciation for the welcome he has received from Tanzanians. He added that he was happy to be back and looking forward to working with what he described as a big club.

His appointment is particularly interesting because of the club he previously coached.

Read the full story ›



Dangote Launches $2.5 Billion Namibia Fuel Project to Expand Southern African Trade

BY JOSEPHS QUARTZY · 5 NOV 2026

Nigerian industrialist Aliko Dangote has launched a US$2.5 billion fuel storage and regional pipeline project in Namibia, in a major investment expected to strengthen petroleum distribution and expand trade links across Southern Africa.

Namibian President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah joined Dangote, chairman and chief executive of Dangote Group, at the launch ceremony on Wednesday, November 4, at Farm 58 near the coastal town of Walvis Bay.

The project includes a petroleum storage facility with a planned capacity of 600 million liters, comprising 360 million liters of diesel and 240 million liters of petrol. It also includes plans for a regional pipeline network extending approximately 1,700 kilometers inland from Walvis Bay towards markets in neighboring

News CONTINUED

countries.

According to Dangote, the proposed network is intended to connect Namibia with Botswana, Zambia, Zimbabwe, Malawi and the southern Democratic Republic of Congo. The final route and length will depend on detailed engineering studies, route surveys and regulatory approvals.

Read the full story ›



Tanzania Police Warn of Planned Disruption Ahead of Tundu Lissu Verdict

BY NYAMBITA MAGOMA · 5 NOV 2026

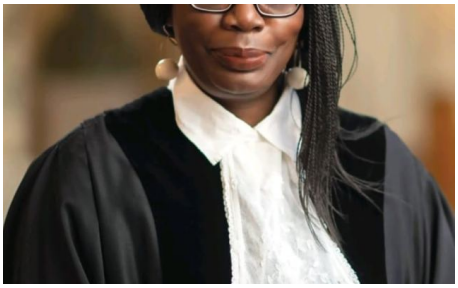
Tanzania's Dar es Salaam Special Police Zone has warned of possible violence and acts of sabotage on November 6, saying it is monitoring individuals suspected of mobilizing people to travel to the city ahead of a major court ruling.

In a public statement dated November 3, the police said they were tracking groups allegedly encouraging people both inside and outside Dar es Salaam to converge in the city, with some suspected of planning disturbances and other unlawful activities.

The warning comes as the High Court prepares to deliver its judgment on Friday, November 6, in the treason case against opposition leader Tundu Lissu. Lissu, chairman of the opposition party CHADEMA, has been detained since his arrest in April 2025.

Police said they would take legal action against anyone found involved in plans to cause disorder, violence or sabotage. They also urged residents to respect the court's established procedures for attending and following proceedings.

Read the full story ›



Kenya's Phoebe Okowa Wins Full Nine-Year Term at International Court of Justice

BY ANNA FARAJA · 4 NOV 2026

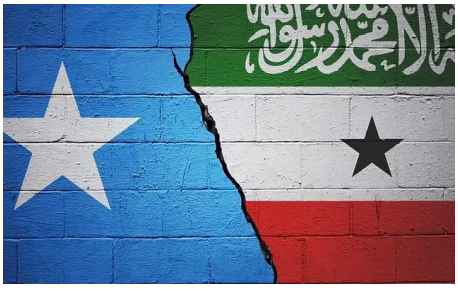
Kenyan legal scholar Professor Phoebe Okowa has secured a full nine-year term as a judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), following her election by the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council on Tuesday, November 3.

Okowa received 183 votes in the General Assembly, comfortably exceeding the required absolute majority, while also securing the necessary support in the 15-member Security Council. Her election followed several rounds of voting as the two UN bodies worked to agree on candidates for five positions on the Court.

Her victory means she will continue serving at the ICJ for a full term beginning on February 6, 2027, and running until 2036. She was among nine candidates competing for the five available positions.

The election also followed a challenging contest in which African support was initially divided among several candidates. Sierra Leone eventually withdrew its candidate, Professor Charles Jalloh, and backed Okowa in an effort to consolidate support behind an…

Read the full story ›



Somalia Rejects Israel's Appointment of Ambassador in Somaliland

BY ANNA FARAJA · 4 NOV 2026

The Federal Government of Somalia has strongly condemned Israel's accreditation of an ambassador in Hargeisa (capital of the self-declared Republic of Somaliland) and its plans to establish an embassy in the city, describing the moves as violations of Somalia's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

In a statement issued on November 3, 2026, Somalia's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation said Israel had taken the measures without the consent of the federal government, making them "null and void" and without legal effect.

The ministry reaffirmed that Hargeisa and the wider Somaliland region remain an integral and inseparable part of the Federal Republic of Somalia. It argued that establishing diplomatic relations and permanent diplomatic missions on Somali territory requires the consent of the sovereign state, citing the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

The statement follows Israel's announcement that its ambassador to Somaliland, Michael Lotem, had presented his credentials to Somaliland President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi at the Presidential Palace in…

Read the full story ›



CHOGM 2026: Britain Opens Talks on Slavery Apology, but Reparations Remain Disputed

BY SWT NEWS DESK · 4 NOV 2026

Britain has agreed to enter structured discussions with countries and communities affected by the transatlantic slave trade, bringing renewed attention to demands for reparatory justice during the 2026 Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in Antigua and Barbuda.

The agreement, recorded in the Commonwealth leaders' communiqué issued on November 3, comes after years of calls from Caribbean governments and reparations advocates for Britain to confront its historical role in the trafficking and enslavement of Africans and the lasting consequences of the system.

In the communiqué, Commonwealth leaders welcomed the United Kingdom government's agreement to engage in a "structured, time-bound, inclusive and good-faith dialogue" with affected parties on the transatlantic trafficking of enslaved Africans and its historical harms.

The statement also acknowledged developments in the reparatory justice campaign, including a United Nations General Assembly resolution recognizing the trafficking of enslaved Africans and racialised chattel enslavement of Africans as the gravest crime against humanity.

Read the full story ›

News CONTINUED



Tshisekedi Sets Great Lakes Priorities, Puts Illegal Mineral Exploitation and Regional Security in Focus

BY ANNA FARAJA · 4 NOV 2026

Democratic Republic of the Congo President Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi has outlined key priorities for the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) for 2026–2027, placing the fight against illegal exploitation of natural resources, institutional reforms and regional security at the centre of the organisation's agenda.

Tshisekedi discussed the priorities on Tuesday, November 3, during a meeting with ICGLR Executive Secretary Dr Mubita Luwabelwa at the Cité de l'Union Africaine in Kinshasa, according to a statement from the Congolese presidency.

Luwabelwa visited the Congolese leader to obtain guidance on the organization's priority areas for the coming period. The discussions covered efforts to address the illegal exploitation of natural resources, institutional reforms, cooperation among member states, and issues relating to peace and security.

Speaking after the meeting, Luwabelwa said the delegation had come to receive instructions from the organisation's incumbent president on the various priority matters.

Read the full story ›



DRC Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Arrives in Tanzania for Great Lakes Women's Parliamentary Conference

BY NYAMBITA MAGOMA · 2 NOV 2026

Democratic Republic of the Congo Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Tuluka has arrived in Tanzania to participate in the first Women's Parliamentary Conference for the Great Lakes Region, a four-day gathering bringing together women legislators and other regional leaders to discuss peace, security and development.

Suminwa was received at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam by Tanzania's Minister for Communication and Information Technology, Angellah Jasmine Mbelwa Kairuki, ahead of the conference, which runs from November 2 to 5 at the Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC).

The Congolese prime minister is attending as a distinguished guest at the conference, organised by Tanzania's Parliament in collaboration with the Forum of Parliaments of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (FP-ICGLR). The gathering is being held under the theme, "For a Peaceful and Developed Great Lakes Region."

Approximately 250 delegates are expected to attend, including women parliamentarians from the 12 member states of the International Conference on…

Read the full story ›



Somaliland–Israel Ties Move Forward With Ambassador's Appointment and Embassy Plans

BY ANNA FARAJA · 2 NOV 2026

Israel has taken another step towards establishing a permanent diplomatic presence in Somaliland after its ambassador, Michael Lotem, presented his credentials to President Abdirahman Mohamed Abdullahi in Hargeisa, advancing a relationship that has become a major source of disagreement over Somalia's territorial integrity.

The ceremony took place at the Presidential Palace in Hargeisa last week, according to Israel's Foreign Ministry. It was followed by a cornerstone-laying ceremony for a new Israeli embassy in the city, signalling plans to establish a permanent diplomatic mission in the territory.

The appointment is the latest development since Israel formally recognised Somaliland as an independent state on 26 December 2025, becoming the first United Nations member state to take that step since Somaliland declared its independence from Somalia in 1991.

Israeli Foreign Minister Gideon Sa'ar described the exchange of ambassadors as another stage in strengthening relations between the two sides.

"Israel is determined to develop and strengthen its relations with Somaliland," Sa'ar…

Read the full story ›

Ramaphosa Warns Against 'Corruption Mafia' Ahead of South Africa's Local Elections

South African President Cyril Ramaphosa has urged registered voters to participate in the country's local government elections on Wednesday, November 4, calling for municipal leaders who can restore basic services, maintain public infrastructure and confront corruption.

In remarks ahead of the vote, Ramaphosa said South Africa needed municipalities that responded to the everyday concerns…

Read the full story ›

Bobi Wine Names Besigye and Other Detained Ugandans at Washington Human Rights Event

Ugandan opposition leader Robert Kyagulanyi, popularly known as Bobi Wine, has joined human rights defenders and former political prisoners at Washington's Lincoln Memorial to call for the release of detained political figures, bringing renewed international attention to cases involving prominent members of Uganda's opposition.

Read the full story ›

Mnangagwa Urges Zimbabwean Students in Russia to Return Home and Help Build the Country

Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa has urged students studying in Russia to return home after completing their education and use their skills to support the country's development, calling their studies an investment in Zimbabwe's future.

Mnangagwa appealed for an engagement with approximately 60 Zimbabwean students in Moscow on 27 October, where he challenged them to…

Read the full story ›

Dakar 2026: Senegal Opens Africa's First-Ever Olympic Event in a Celebration of Culture and Youth

Senegal has made history by hosting the first Olympic sporting event ever held on African soil, as the Dakar 2026 Youth Olympic Games officially opened on Saturday with a ceremony celebrating Senegalese identity, African culture and the ambitions of a new generation.

The opening ceremony took place at the Abdoulaye Wade Stadium in Diamniadio…

Read the full story ›

Most read this week

1 **The Number 7 That Belonged to the World: A Tribute to Cristiano Ronaldo**

2 **Tanzania: Tundu Lissu Gets Four Years in Prison After High Court Rejects Treason Charge**

3 **Former Simba Coach Fadlu Returns to Tanzania as a rival Yanga Head Coach**

4 **Dangote Launches $2.5 Billion Namibia Fuel Project to Expand Southern African Trade**

5 **Tanzania Police Warn of Planned Disruption Ahead of Tundu Lissu Verdict**

6 **Kenya’s Phoebe Okowa Wins Full Nine-Year Term at International Court of Justice**

7 **Somalia Rejects Israel’s Appointment of Ambassador in Somaliland**

8 **CHOGM 2026: Britain Opens Talks on Slavery Apology, but Reparations Remain Disputed**

9 **Tshisekedi Sets Great Lakes Priorities, Puts Illegal Mineral Exploitation and Regional Security in Focus**

10 **DRC Prime Minister Judith Suminwa Arrives in Tanzania for Great Lakes Women’s Parliamentary Conference**

Swahili Today Weekly

Join the conversation on our community site, where readers discuss the stories of the week.

social.todaysw.com www.todaysw.com