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#### Senegal

Pop: 12.4mn. GDP: \$12.9bn. Growth: 4.7% Violence could mar the regional municipal and rural elections in the first quarter of 2009. President Abdoulave Wade's PDS is divided and the opposition PS has a chance of revival after losing in 2007.

#### Gambia

Pop: 1.7mn. GDP: \$0.8bn. Growth: 4.5% International pressure will grow on President Yahya Jammeh's autocratic regime for its record of extrajudicial killings, torture and kidnappings. Plans for uranium and oil production will vield little; farm sector remains weak

#### Cape Verde

Pop: 0.5mn. GDP: \$1.7bn. Growth: 5.1% Under President Pedro Pires' pragmatic rule, Cape Verde's good governance and high growth will continue in 2009, qualifying it to be one of the few African countries to meet most of the UN's Millennium Development Goals.

#### Guinea-Bissau

Pop: 1.7mn. GDP: \$0.4bn. Growth: 2.8% The PAIGC's winning of 67 seats in the November 2008 parliamentary elections offers President João Bernardo 'Nino' Vieira a slim chance to stabilise the fractious political system amid threats from the military and foreign drug traffickers.

#### Guinea

Pop: 9.4mn. GDP: \$5.3bn. Growth: 3.7% A junta led by Captain Moussa Dadis Camara seized power in December 2008 and is under international pressure to hold elections and cede power by July. It will review bauxite, gold and iron ore mining contracts.

#### Sierra Leone

Pop: 5.8mn. GDP: \$1.8bn. Growth: 5.1% President Ernest Bai Koroma must manage a power struggle within the ruling APC, after which a cabinet reshuffle is likely. He must also start to deliver on his electricity and healthcare promises.

#### Liberia

Pop: 3.8mn. GDP: \$1.2bn. Growth: 11.0% China Union's \$1.2bn. investment in iron ore mining boosts economy as will the restart of diamond and timber exports. President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf's minority government will remain under pressure in parliament.

## Côte d'Ivoire

National elections are postponed until October due to political problems with voter registration. President Laurent Gbagbo wants to undermine an alliance between oppositionists Alassane Ouattara and Henri Konan

## Ghana

Pop: 23.4mn. GDP: \$16.8bn. Growth: 5.6% The narrow victory of President John Atta Mills and the NDC in presidential and parliamentary elections will constrain the new government's ability to tackle economic problems before oil production starts in 2010.

## Togo

Pop: 6.6mn. GDP: \$2.8bn. Growth: 2.4% Key constitutional reforms are set to be approved and implemented ahead of national elections in 2010 when President Faure Gnassingbé will face oppositionist Gilchrist Olympio.

## Benin

Pop: 9.0mn. GDP: \$5.9bn. Growth: 5.1% Since President Thomas Yayi Boni's FCBE lost control of the National opposition, he has tried to rule by the constitution.

## Nigeria

Pop: 147.9mn. GDP: \$210bn. Growth: 5.8% Worries about President Umaru Yar'Ardua's health continue in 2009, prompting a jostling for power in the ruling PDP. A constitutional review will report in March. Oil Minister Rilwanu Lukman will oversee the sector's reforms.

#### Morocco

King Mohammed VI celebrates ten years in power in July, having set up truth and reconciliation commissions. Yet Premier Abbas el Fassi's government is much criticised. Fears of a new war in Western Sahara.

#### Western Sahara

Pop: na. GDP: na. Growth: na Polisario is threatening to restart the war - for the first time since 1991 due to Morocco's instransigence on holding a referendum on the territory. United States diplomat Christopher Ross takes over as mediator.

#### Mauritania

Pop: 3.1mn. GDP: \$3.0bn. Growth: 5.9% Coup leader General Abdel Aziz can expect tougher African, European and US sanctions after the junta announced unconvincing plans for elections in May. Economic pressures will mount due to lower revenues from oil and mining.

#### Algeria

Pop: 33.9mn. GDP: \$159bn. Growth: 3.8% Parliament's passing of constitutional changes in 2008 allows President Abdelaziz Bouteflika to run for a third term in April: he is justifiably confident of winning.

#### Mali

Pop: 12.3mn. GDP: \$7.3bn. Growth: 3.9% Recent attacks by Tuareg rebels have elicited a strong response from President Amadou Toumani Touré, whose government faces local elections in March. ATT is to review

#### Tunisia

Pop: 10.2mn. GDP: \$39.2bn. Growth: 3.7% President Zine el Abidine Ben Ali's fifth term in office will begin after he wins October's presidential elections. He has no recognised successor: Premier Mohammed Ghannouchi's government is full of lightweights.

#### Burkina Faso

Pop: 14.8mn. GDP: \$8.3bn. Growth: 4.6% President Blaise Compaoré is preparing his next and perhaps final run for the presidency in 2010. Despite a poor record on corruption and human rights, his government will

continue to receive EU aid

#### Chad

Libya

to succeed him.

Pop: 10.8mn. GDP: \$8.8bn. Growth: 2.8% President Idriss Déby Itno's survival this year will depend on strengthening his grip on his own forces, more military support from France and the weakening of Sudan's capacity to sponsor rebel attacks on Ndjamena.

Pop: 6.2mn. GDP: \$78.9bn. Growth: 7.8%

housing, transport and power to mark

Gadaffi's rule. A constitutional reform

may separate the Guide from day-to-

day government; his children compete

Huge investment is promised in

40 years of Colonel Moammar el

#### Central African Rep.

Pop: 4.3mn. GDP: \$2.0bn. Growth: 4.2% President François Bozizé will try to move forward with his plans for a power-sharing government with oppositionists and an amnesty for rebel factions, despite scepticism.

#### Uganda

ERITREA

**ETHIOPIA** 

D.JIBOUTI

**SOMALIA** 

Mogadishu

(Fr.)

Rwanda

Burundi

Antananarivo

Pop: 9.7mn. GDP: \$3.8bn. Growth: 5.0%

The negotiated return of Rwandan

troops to eastern Congo-Kinshasa will

place President Paul Kagame at the

reduce diplomatic pressure on him.

He looks sure of re-election in 2010.

centre of peace negotiations and

Pop: 8.5mn. GDP: \$1.2bn. Growth: 4.0%

This year will test the 2008 power-

government and rebel leader Agathon

Rwasa's Palipehutu-FNL. Tensions

Nkurunziza's CNDD-FDD prepares

Pop: 21.4mn. GDP: \$8.4bn. Growth: 6.3%

Renamo's Afonso Dhlakama will lead

protests after November 2008's local

elections. President Armando Guebuza

will win a second term in national

elections in November; his Frelimo

party will dominate parliament.

sharing agreement between the

may rise as President Pierre

for the 2010 elections.

Mozambique

MADAGASCAR MAURITIUS

Pop: 30.9mn. GDP: \$12.9bn. Growth: 5.9% continues as President Yoweri Museveni promotes cabinet and military loyalists. The FDC's Kizza Besigye can expect to face dissent;

#### Somalia. Prime Minister Meles Zenawi will ramp up pressure on oppositionists and civic activists

The long march to the 2011 elections Norbert Mao will be the DO candidate.

#### Djibouti

Ethiopia

Pop: 0.8mn. GDP: \$0.9bn. Growth: 5.6% An opposition boycott of the 2008 parliamentary elections means that President Omar Guelleh's ruling UMP coalition will continue to dominate the legislature. Djibouti's territorial dispute with Eritrea will rumble on.

Pop: 75.5mn. GDP: \$151bn. Growth: 4.5%

Gamal's position in the succession

stakes against political and military

oressure on clandestine Muslim

Brotherhood activists.

Sudan

Eritrea

rivals. The government will increase

Pop: 38.5mn. GDP: \$37.0bn. Growth: 8.0%

International Criminal Court issuing

an arrest warrant for President Omer

el Beshir for war crimes in Darfur. The

census and election plans may further

weaken the North-South peace deal.

Pop: 4.8mn. GDP: \$1.5bn. Growth: 2.0%

President Issavas Afewerki wants to

force Ethiopia to accept the virtual

oppositionists and Islamist forces in

Somalia. Economic pressure grows.

Pop: 79.1mn. GDP: \$23.5bn. Growth: 6.0%

Enmity with Eritrea will continue to

policy following its withdrawal from

dominate Addis Ababa's foreign

ahead of the 2010 elections.

boundary demarcation and will

continue to back Ethiopian

A tumultuous year starts with the

Octogenarian President Hosni

Mubarak wants to boost his son

#### Somalia

Pop: 8.7mn. GDP: na. Growth: na Fighting between Islamists loyal to Al Shabaab and those loyal to ARS is set to intensify in early 2009. Plans for a government of national unity will rely on regional commitment and wellequipped peacekeepers.

#### Kenya

SEYCHELLES

Victoria •

Pop: 37.5mn. GDP: \$30.3bn. Growth: 3.7% The grand coalition between President Mwai Kibaki and PM Raila Odinga will work uneasily while its members quarrel over investigations into political violence and corruption, and the census, due by the end of 2009.

## Tanzania

Pop: 40.4mn. GDP: \$19.8bn. Growth: 6.3% President Jakaya Kikwete will boost his anti-corruption and economic management credentials ahead of national elections that he and the CCM are slated to win in 2010. A major cabinet reshuffle looms in 2009.

## Sevchelles

Pop: 0.1mn. GDP: \$0.8bn. Growth: 0.5% President James Michel's government faces growing pressure as tourism earnings plummet but improving relations with Mauritius may help plans for joint oil and gas exploration beyond their maritime borders.

## Comoros

Pop: 0.6mn. GDP: \$0.5bn. Growth: 1.2% President Ahmed Sambi has been greatly strengthened by the AU's March 2008 intervention against Mohammed Bacar's secessionist regime in Anjouan. China and the IMF are lending the government \$6 mn.

## Madagascar

Pop: 19.7mn. GDP: \$9.0bn. Growth: 6.0% President Marc Ravalomanana's TIM faces a new opposition group led by Roland Ratsiraka, after an opposition victory in the mayoral elections in the capital. A major new ilmenite project will start exports in 2009.

Ahead of the 2010 elections, Premier Navin Ramgoolam's Labour government will try to mitigate the economic slowdown's effects on sugar and textile exports. Paul Bérenger will struggle to form an opposition

Pop: 2008 population GDP: 2008 Gross Domestic Product Growth: GDP growth prediction for 2009 Sources: World Bank Development Indicators; IMF

constitutional reform proposals and sell off more state firms.

Pop: 14.2mn. GDP: \$4.9bn. Growth: 3.6%



## Sahara (under UN **MAURITANIA MALI NIGER**

■ Ndjamena **NIGERIA** ■Abuja CENTRAL CAMEROON REPUBLIC Malabo EQUATORIAL GUINEAS

SÃO TOMÉ & PRÍNCIPE Libreville CONGO-São Tomé

GABON BRAZZAVILLE RWANDA Kigali CONGO-KINSHASA Brazzaville (DEM. REP.

Dodoma TANZANIA Dar es Salaam Lubumbashi ANGOLA MALAWI Lilongwe ZAMBIA

Lusaka 🔳

**SUDAN** 

Juba

**UGANDA** 

BURUNDI

Kampala

ZIMBABWE NAMIBIA BOTSWANA Gaborone \_\_/ Johannesburg SWAZILAND

Maseru LESOTHO **AFRICA** 

Port Elizabeth

Pop: 13.9mn. GDP: \$4.0bn. Growth: 6.5% national elections in May. Veteran of parliament.

## Zimbabwe

Pop: 13.4mn. GDP: na. Growth: -2.1% Regional states and international Robert Mugabe and MDC's Morgan power-sharing government; the economy will deteriorate further.

## Lesotho

The opposition ABC's Tom Thabane will challenge LCD Premier Pakalitha Mosisili and the ruling LCD-NIP coalition. Former President of Botswana Ketumile Masire will mediate in the dispute.

## Swaziland

Pop: 1.1mn. GDP: \$3.2bn. Growth: 1.8% King Mswati III continues his opposition to political reform and step up pressure on Mswati.

Politics will get increasingly bitter as economic problems worsen. South Africa's trades unions may be able to

## 2009 Calendar

April January February March May June July August September October November December 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 7 14 21 28 Monday Monday 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 1 8 15 22 29 Tuesday Tuesday 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 2 9 16 23 30 Wednesday Wednesday 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 3 10 17 24 31 Thursday Thursday Friday 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 6 13 20 27 3 10 17 24 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 4 11 18 25 Friday Saturday 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 7 14 21 28 4 11 18 25 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 5 12 19 26 Saturday 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 1 8 15 22 29 5 12 19 26 3 10 17 24 31 7 14 21 28 5 12 19 26 2 9 16 23 30 6 13 20 27 4 11 18 25 1 8 15 22 29 6 13 20 27 Sunday

Assembly to a united and determined decree. He will also attempt to reform

## Pop: 30.9mn. GDP: \$84.4bn. Growth: 4.0%

Niger

## President Mamadou Tandja's supporters want to change the another term in the December TUNISIA due to start in 2010.

## constitution to allow him to stand for elections. Niger is selling its uranium to China and France; oil production is

## Rabat Casablanca

## EGYPT Western

# ■ Nouakchott



Conakry -Freetown LEONE D'IVOIRE GHANA
Monrovia Yamoussoukro SIERRA LEONE LIBERIA

Cameroon

Pop: 18.5mn. GDP: \$24.0bn. Growth: 4.0%

limits in 2008, 75-year-old President

Paul Biya is set to run again in 2010.

Succession talk will cause ructions in

the ruling RDPC as attention focuses

Pop: 0.5mn. GDP: \$13.5bn. Growth: 4.1%

President Teodoro Obiang Nguema

will celebrate 30 years of power in

presidential elections. The promotion

of veteran ruling party lovalist Ignacio

Tang to the premiership presages

Congo-Kinshasa (DRC)

Pop: 62.4mn. GDP: \$11.8bn. Growth: 8.3%

growing challenge from the conflict

President Joseph Kabila faces a

in the eastern provinces. Lower

World Bank support.

South Africa

Zambia

PF party.

commodity prices will slow down

major mining projects and concerns

about accountability will cut IMF and

Pop: 11.9mn. GDP: \$12.6bn. Growth: 4.6%

President Rupiah Banda must contend

with rivalries and prepare a fractious

MMD for national elections in 2011 as

copper exports crash. Oppositionist

Michael Sata will see divisions in his

Pop: 47.6mn. GDP: \$296bn. Growth: 2.8%

ANC President Jacob Zuma is set for

victory in the presidential elections at

the cost of more defections to ANC

dissidents in COPE. Should Zuma

Motlanthe is the natural substitute.

stumble, incumbent Kgalema

on the plans for his son, Franck.

Equatorial Guinea

August and win December's

more closing of the ranks.

Having removed presidential term

## São Tomé & Príncipe Pop: 0.2mn. GDP: \$0.2bn. Growth: 6.0% Delays to oil production plans weaken

#### President Fradique de Menezes and his uneasy coalition government ahead of 2010 elections. Falling state income will make the coalition harder to manage.

Gabon Pop: 1.3mn. GDP: \$14.3bn. Growth: 4.2% Defence Minister Ali Ben increases his control of the military, boosts his international profile and competes with his sister Pascaline in the race to succeed his ageing father, President Omar Bongo Ondimba.

## Congo-Brazzaville

Pop: 3.8mn. GDP: \$10.5bn. Growth: 7.4% President Denis Sassou-Nguesso will easily win the elections due in July, having co-opted leading oppositionist Bernard Kolélas and emasculated the electoral commission. Budgetary problems will mount as oil earnings

## Angola

Pop: 17.0mn. GDP: \$88.5bn. Growth: 11.1% After a crushing victory in legislative elections in 2008, President José Eduardo dos Santos and the MPLA are assured of an easy win in the first post-war presidential elections which are due in September.

## Namibia

Pop: 2.1mn. GDP: \$7.7bn. Growth: 3.1% President Hifikepunye Pohamba's authority is weakening and he may not stand as SWAPO candidate in national elections in December. SWAPO is certain to win and former Premier Hage Geingob is tipped to replace Pohamba.

## Botswana

Pop: 1.9mn. GDP: \$13.4bn. Growth: 4.1% President Ian Khama faces falling world prices for diamond exports, but his ruling BDP is poised to win the October legislative elections. Khama will continue to support the Zimbabwe opposition and criticise Mugabe.

#### Cape Town Malawi

The DPP, MCP and UDF prepare for politicians ex-President Bakili Muluzi and John Tembo will play key roles. President Bingu wa Mutharika may win another term but not gain control

organisations will pressure President Tsvangirai to break the stalemate on

Pop: 2.0mn. GDP: \$1.7bn. Growth: 3.2%

Mauritius Pop: 1.3mn. GDP: \$7.9bn. Growth: 3.8%