

# *Lens of* **Terrorist Operations and Acts of violence in Africa**

August 2022







## Introduction

Africa is still haunted by the scourge of rampant terrorism and terrorist elements. The pace of terrorist operations and their repercussions on Africa are alarmingly accelerating, for, mainly, sheltering the most dangerous terrorist organizations worldwide and its rebel group, which are scattered across the continent. How much longer will terrorist groups continue to claim innocent lives, while receiving funds from sponsoring states and ideological support, through misleading facts that legitimize murdering and torturing others?

In this context, Maat for Peace, Development and Human Rights monitored last August the killing of over 450 people in Africa, as well as the displacement of more than 15,000 others due to violence. In light of this, Maat presents this report to provide a detailed coverage of the most prominent terrorist attacks and has made a number of recommendations in order to enhance the right to life and personal security in Africa.

## First: Monitoring methodology in the report

### A. Monitoring methodology

The report, "**Lens of Terrorist Operations and Acts of violence in Africa**", adopts a methodology of direct monitoring of terrorist operations reported in the Arab, Western and African media on the African continent, which mainly relies on open sources such as the Internet, as well as reliable and credible news websites.

However, for the sake of accuracy and reliability, scientific honesty obliges us to highlight the “error coefficient”, which is likely to happen especially since some sources, whether local or international, may provide different numbers of victims or update their data few days after the monitoring process.

### B. The concept of terrorism upon which the report is built:

No comprehensive, unified definition of terrorism at the international level has yet been agreed upon, but in this report, we will rely on the multiple definitions put by United Nations bodies, stipulated in the General Assembly Declaration on Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism (Resolution 69/40), as well as Security Council Resolution 1566, and the items included in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Strategy, in which terrorism is defined as “Criminal acts, including acts committed against civilians, intended or calculated to cause death or serious bodily injury, or the taking of hostages with the intent to Creating a state of terror among the general public or in a group of persons or specific persons, or intimidating the population, or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act.”



## Second: Prominent terrorist operations in Africa during August

### First: North Africa

#### a. Egypt

In continuation of the terrorist attacks of Da'esh, farmers were killed in the Jelbana area east of Qantara after an attack by Da'esh, while they were working in their agricultural land on August 31. The victims were surprised when they were fired upon by Da'esh, which is now besieged by the armed forces; a number of Da'esh members were killed.<sup>1</sup>

#### B. Libya

During the past month, Libya witnessed armed confrontations between groups affiliated with the "Support and Preservation of Stability" agency of the Presidential Council, headed by Gniwa al-Kakli, and the "777th Brigade" of the Chief of Staff and led by Haitham al-Tajouri, where at least 32 people were killed and 159 wounded as a result of the clashes in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, so far according to the latest official updates by the Ministry of Health of the Government of National Unity.<sup>2</sup>

#### C. Tunisia

The Tunisian Ministry of Defense announced the injury of two soldiers, as a result of a clash between a military formation during its mission, on August 12, with terrorist elements in Jebel Selloum, in the center of the west of the country<sup>3</sup>, that was while a Tunisian military formation was carrying out an operational mission in Jebel Selloum, in Kasserine governorate.

### Second: East Africa

#### a. Sudan

On August 5, armed militias fired shots at a displaced person in North Darfur state, as a result he was injured inside his farm in North Darfur state.<sup>4</sup> On the same day, 18 people were killed by "Chadian offenders" in the border area between the two countries, in the Bir Saliba area of Sirba locality.<sup>5</sup> In light of the border security threats between Chad and Sudan; 5 Sudanese security personnel were killed in an ambush by an armed group in the Darfur region.<sup>6</sup> On

<sup>1</sup> كويتس اليوم، عاجل | استشهاد قبلي وإبنة شرق القنطرة على يد التنظيم الإرهابي، 31 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3q8WRQV>

<sup>2</sup> العربية، ليبيا.. ارتفاع حصيلة قتلى مواجهات طرابلس إلى 23 و 140 مصاباً، 28 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3q8WRQV>

<sup>3</sup>

<sup>4</sup> التغير، مليشيات مسلحة تصيب نازحاً بالرصاص في دارفور، 5 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3JxRe7P>

<sup>5</sup> بوابة أفريقيا الإخبارية، السودان.. مقتل 18 شخصاً على يد نشاديين بمنطقة بير سليبة، 5 أغسطس، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3BNh8Tc>

<sup>6</sup> العيد الإخبارية، كمين "رقبة الجمل".. مسلحون يقتلون 5 عناصر أمنية بدرافور، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://al-ain.com/article/security-killed-armed-ambush-darfur>

[darfur](https://al-ain.com/article/security-killed-armed-ambush-darfur)



August 10, the Sudanese Chadian forces announced that the number of dead on both sides had reached about 27 people, and 36 others were wounded.<sup>7</sup>

## B. South Sudan

Since mid-August, there have been severe ethnic clashes in the Upper Nile region, specifically in the city of Tonga. According to the statistics of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), more than 15,000 people have been displaced due to the conflicts in and around Tonga, and more than 18 people have been killed. Waiting for official statistics, as floods have hindered access to that area so far.<sup>8</sup>

## C. Somalia

In early August, the Hiran region in central Somalia witnessed fierce fighting between the Somali army and the terrorist Al-Shabaab movement. The fighting, in which light and heavy weapons were used, occurred after the Somali National Army launched an attack on the town of “Bukri” near the city of Mahas in Hiran governorate, Hirshabelle state.<sup>9</sup> This is in addition to the assassination of a Somali clan elder in Afgoye in Lower Shabelle region, in southwestern Somalia.<sup>10</sup>

**On the other hand, the Ethiopian government continued its air raids in the Kony area** in Gedo region, Jubbaland State in southern Somalia.<sup>11</sup> On August 5, reports from Hiran Region, Hirshabelle State, indicated that a base in the “Gweel” area of the region was targeted with a truck bomb, where the Somali Special Forces known as “Gurgure” were stationed, without specifying an accurate statistic of casualties.<sup>12</sup>

In light of the continuation of military operations between the “Liu” police of the Somali region in Ethiopia and Al-Shabaab fighters on both sides of the border between Somalia and Ethiopia, on August 6, thousands of Ethiopian troops entered Dolo area in the Gedo border region in Somalia.<sup>13</sup>

On August 7, the presidential palace in Mogadishu was attacked by mortar shells that fell on neighborhoods in Wardigli district, in the center of the capital, Mogadishu. As a result, 3 people were injured, and the attack coincided with a session of the Somali People’s Assembly

<sup>7</sup> راديو دينقا، القوات المشتركة التشادية تكشف عن مقتل 27 شخص وإصابة 36 آخرين في أحداث ابوسليبية غرب دافور، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3zNFyJK>

<sup>8</sup> الأمم المتحدة، جنوب السودان: الأمم المتحدة تعرب عن القلق إزاء الاشتباكات المستمرة في ولاية أعالي النيل، 23 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3cHsYnl>

<sup>9</sup> الصومال الجديد، قتال عنيف بين الجيش الصومالي ومقاتلين من حركة الشباب في إقليم هيران، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط:

<https://bit.ly/3JsyN4j>

<sup>10</sup> الصومال الجديد، اغتيال أحد شيوخ العشائر البارزين في أفجوي، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3QfaQQ6>

<sup>11</sup> الصومال الجديد، طائرات إثيوبية تقصف منطقة في إقليم غدو بالصومال، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3vLhycp>

<sup>12</sup> الصومال الجديد، استهداف قاعدة لقوات صومالية خاصة في إقليم هيران بشاحنة مفخخة، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3A1oHV6>

<sup>13</sup> الصومال الجديد، دخول آلاف الجنود الإثيوبيين إلى إقليم غدو الحدودي في الصومال، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط:



in Villa Hargeisa, the headquarter of the temporary council in the Presidential Complex in Mogadishu to ratify the new government and its program.<sup>14</sup>

On August 10, 5 civilians were killed and 9 others were injured as a result of an attack by unknown gunmen on a wedding party in Afgoye city in Lower Shabelle region, adjacent to the capital Mogadishu. On the same day, it was announced that a number of civilians have been killed in Hiran region, central Somalia, as a result of a US air strike on Al-Shabaab fighters.<sup>15</sup> On August 14, fierce battles took place in Halfouli, one of the areas of the town of “Jalalaqsi” in Hiran region, and a fierce battle occurred between Al-Shabaab fighters and local militias called Ashab Al-Azarat, but the losses resulting from the fighting were not known.<sup>16</sup> An armed attack also occurred in Galkayo, the capital of Mudug region in central Somalia, where gunmen assassinated an official in the Ministry of Finance in the Puntland state government in Galkayo.<sup>17</sup>

On August 20, Al-Shabaab announced the execution of 6 people for spying for the CIA. The executions took place in a public square in the Kunio Pro area of Lower Shabelle region, adjacent to the capital Mogadishu.<sup>18</sup> On August 24, extremist gunmen assassinated Muhammad Nur Dirie, a prominent senior tribal sheikh, in the main Bakara market in Mogadishu.<sup>19</sup> Al-Shabaab fighters launched an attack on a base of Kenyan forces in the Tabeta area of Lower Juba in Jubaland state, in addition to killing at least 20 people during an intense clan conflict in the Tabled area. On August 20, terrorists launched an attack on a hotel in the Somali capital, Mogadishu, injuring 40 people and killing at least 16 others. The terrorists detonated two explosive devices outside the "Hayat" hotel, then stormed the building and opened fire on the guests and workers.<sup>20</sup>

#### **d. Ethiopia**

The continuation of the conflict between the militants of the Tigray People's Liberation Front and the forces of the central government in Ethiopia, in addition to the violation of the ceasefire and armistice previously announced last March, is unfortunate. That is what happened in the border triangle between the cantons of Tigray, Afar and Amhara, where heavy weapons were used, killing a family of 7 people and injuring dozens.<sup>21</sup>

The Ethiopian government also continues to launch raids on a residential area in the region; On August 26, 4 people were killed, including two children, and a number of injured,

<sup>14</sup> الصومال الجديد، هجوم بقائف هاون على القصر الرئاسي في مقديشو، 7 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3oYy0ia>

<sup>15</sup> الصومال الجديد، وسائل إعلام رسمية: غارة أمريكية تستهدف إسلاميين في الصومال، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3zNYDeP>

<sup>16</sup> الصومال الجديد، معركة شرسة بين مليشيات محلية ومقاتلي حركة الشباب في إقليم هيران، 14 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3AiXMEo>

<sup>17</sup> الصومال الجديد، اغتيال مسؤول في وزارة المالية في بونتلاند بجالكايو، 14 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3C7zl8U>

<sup>18</sup> الصومال الجديد، حركة الشباب تعدم 6 أشخاص بمزاعم تجسس، 21 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3KcAFpC>

<sup>19</sup> الصومال الجديد، اغتيال شيخ عشيرة بارز في مقديشو، 25 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3Tf0oK>

<sup>20</sup> مصراوي مقتل 16 شخصا وإصابة 40 آخرين في هجوم لحركة الشباب على فندق بالعاصمة الصومالية، 20 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3Rdofch>

<sup>21</sup> مرجع السابق



as a result of an air raid carried out by the Ethiopian army against targets in the Tigray region in the north of the country.<sup>22</sup>

On August 30, in a major escalation of hostilities after the collapse of the ceasefire, fierce fighting occurred between the forces of the Ethiopian government and the forces of the Tigray region, which reached the Sudanese border, where the Ethiopian government launched a night air raid targeting Ayder General Hospital in the city of Mekele, the capital of the Tigray region in north Ethiopia.<sup>23</sup>

### Third: West Africa

#### a. Chad

Early last month, armed groups carried out two separate incidents in the Gaga camp for Sudanese refugees in eastern Chad, which resulted in the killing of a Sudanese male and female refugee near the village of Sadad, to the north of the camp.<sup>24</sup> Nine people were killed in clashes between farmers and ranchers 500 kilometers from the Chadian capital, N'Djamena, which is riven by inter-communal strife.

#### b. Nigeria

On August 1, the Nigerian police announced that 7 people were killed and 2 others injured in an armed attack in Plateau state in the center of the country, responsible for this event is an armed group that attacked the village of Danda Chogoi in the Jos South area of the state.<sup>25</sup> On August 7, it was announced that armed men had killed 5 people, including an Indian, in an attack on a passenger bus in Kogi state in central Nigeria, where armed groups and gangs are active.<sup>26</sup> The Nigerian army has also succeeded in eliminating 3 terrorist elements of Boko Haram who are stationed in Ngum village in the northeast of the Mafa Local Government Area.<sup>27</sup> The Nigerian police announced that at least 46 people were killed and about 100 wounded in clashes that broke out this month between two warring ethnic groups in the southwest of the country.<sup>28</sup>

#### c. Mali

Da'esh carried out an armed attack on the Menaka region, northeastern Mali, near the border with Niger, which resulted in the killing of 16 people in that region.<sup>29</sup> On August 7, 10 civilians

<sup>22</sup> وكالة الاناضول، إعلام: 4 قتلى إثر غارة جوية للجيش الإثيوبي ضد تيغراي، 27 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3QXnBQ6>

<sup>23</sup> العربية، الحكومة الإثيوبية: القتال مع قوات تيغراي يمتد للحدود مع السودان، 31 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3ekMkQ5>

<sup>24</sup> راديو دنيقا، مقتل لاجئ ولاجئة سودانيين في حادثتين منفصلتين بمخيم قاقا بشرق تشاد، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3PSc2Ju>

<sup>25</sup> الوكالة العربية السورية للأنباء، مقتل 7 أشخاص في هجوم مسلح وسط نيجيريا، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://www.sana.sy/?p=1709154>

<sup>26</sup> الميادين، نيجيريا: مقتل 5 أشخاص في هجوم لمسلحين على حافلة في ولاية كوجي، 5 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3Qoe1oP>

<sup>27</sup> اخبار الأن، الجيش النيجيري يقضي على 3 عناصر من بوكو حرام، 14 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3AifaZw>

<sup>28</sup> المنار، مقتل 46 شخصا في اشتباكات بين مجموعتين عرقية في نيجيريا، 27 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3ztZUr1>

<sup>29</sup> بوابة أفريقيا، سقوط قتلى وجرحى في هجومين شمال شرقي مالي، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3ztZUr1>

were killed when bombs planted on the dead bodies of two civilians, whose relatives had come to receive them, exploded.<sup>30</sup> On August 9th, terrorist militants killed 17 Malian army soldiers and four civilians in an attack near the town of Tessit.<sup>31</sup> 5 Malian policemen were also killed and three others were missing in an attack in southwestern Mali.<sup>32</sup> On August 11, 42 Malian soldiers were killed and 22 others were wounded in an attack near the border town of Tessit between Mali, Niger, and Burkina Faso, by armed groups affiliated with the Islamic State in the region.<sup>33</sup> On August 16, a terrorist group linked to Al-Qaeda announced the killing of four members of the Russian private security group Wagner Group in an ambush in central Mali.<sup>34</sup>

At least six people were killed and others injured in an armed attack on a gold miner convoy in eastern Burkina Faso on 29 August. The attackers targeted the five support vehicles that had separated from the convoy and the guarding force.<sup>35</sup>

#### **d. Burkina Faso**

On August 3, nine volunteers in the army's auxiliary forces and three soldiers were killed in simultaneous attacks by suspected extremist gunmen in northern Burkina Faso, after they attacked a military unit in the rural town of Borzinga.<sup>36</sup> On August 9, the army announced in Burkina Faso that 15 of its soldiers had been killed, during battles against extremist rebels.<sup>37</sup> On August 26, at least seven civilians were killed in a “terrorist attack” targeting a gold mine logistics convoy.<sup>38</sup> On August 30, a soldier was killed and 28 terrorists were neutralized during two separate operations in northern and eastern Burkina Faso.<sup>39</sup>

#### **e. Cameroon**

On August 16, the Cameroonian authorities announced that a soldier, a policeman, and a civilian were killed in the west of the country, in an attack by separatists in an area witnessing a bloody war between English-speaking armed groups and government forces. This resulted in the death of 3 people, a policeman, a soldier, and a motorcyclist, and that the attackers seized weapons, while there was no loss in their personnel.<sup>40</sup>

### **Fourth: Central Africa**

<sup>30</sup> عربي بوست، “جثث ملغومة” تقتل 10 مدنيين في مالي.. هذا ما حدث مع أهالي قتيلين ذهبوا لتسلم جثمانيهما، 7 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3bBtzqt>

<sup>31</sup> نيوزيم، مالي.. مقتل 21 جندياً ومدنياً في هجوم إرهابي، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://www.newsyeemen.net/new/86600>

<sup>32</sup> اندبنت عربية، مقتل 5 شرطيين في مالي والجيش يصد هجوماً آخر، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3A8qZ4P>

<sup>33</sup> فرانس 24، مقتل 42 جندياً مالياً في بلدة حدودية في اعتداء تتهم الحكومة بتنظيم “الدولة الإسلامية” بالوقوف وراءه، 11 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3Bdg6iO>

<sup>34</sup> العربية، مالي.. مجموعة إرهابية تعلن قتل 4 عناصر من فاغنر الروسية، 16 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3q6nOF1>

<sup>35</sup> الجزيرة، مقتل 6 أشخاص شرق بوركينا فاسو، 30 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://www.al-jazirah.com/2022/20220830/du5.htm>

<sup>36</sup> الشرق الأوسط، 12 قتيلاً بينهم 3 جنود في هجمات بشمال بوركينا فاسو، 5 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3zEJkF2>

<sup>37</sup> اليوم السابع، بوركينا فاسو: مقتل 15 جندياً من قواتنا خلال معارك ضد متمردين، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3KAYqAB>

<sup>38</sup> الغد، مقتل 7 مدنيين على الأقل في هجوم بشرق بوركينا فاسو، 27 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3CxWeYJ>

<sup>39</sup> اخبار الان، مقتل جندي وتحييد 28 إرهابياً بعمليات في بوركينا فاسو، 30 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3R1WinX>

<sup>40</sup> الميدان، 3 قتلى في معارك بين الجيش الكاميروني ومجموعات مسلحة، 16 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3cHHJXQ>





## a. The Democratic Republic of the Congo

UN peacekeepers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) were attacked at a border post while returning from vacation, killing at least two and wounding 15<sup>41</sup>. During the week of demonstrations against the United Nations Mission in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, four soldiers, and 32 demonstrators were killed, and 170 people were injured during those demonstrations, according to official statistics issued by a special government committee<sup>42</sup>. On August 7, the Democratic Republic of the Congo announced that more than thirty civilians were killed and about 15 others were seriously wounded in attacks by rebels and militias in the east of the country<sup>43</sup>. On August 28, it was revealed that 18 people had died in clashes between two communities in western Congo that erupted over a tax and land dispute<sup>44</sup>.

### Third: Efforts of African countries to combat terrorism

## A. North Africa

### 1. Egypt

In light of Egypt's efforts to combat terrorism, it was announced on August 24, 2022, that a group of terrorists, including two senior leaders of an extremist group, had been killed during a raid in Sinai on the hideouts of extremist groups in the village of Jilbana in North Sinai. The operation succeeded in eliminating Basil Khaled Sheikh Eid, one of the "legitimate" leaders of the organization, during raids in the area of the village of Jalbana in North Sinai, in addition to the killing of Hamza Adel Al-Zamili, the nickname, several days ago during the combing operations in North Sinai<sup>45</sup>.

### 2.. Tunisia

On August 16, the Research and Inspection Division of the National Guard in Sidi Bouzid announced that it had dismantled a terrorist cell operating in many popular neighborhoods in the center of the city, which glorifies terrorism and communicates with some terrorist elements in areas of tension and incites jihad<sup>46</sup>.

## B. East Africa Region

<sup>41</sup> بوابة أفريقيا الإخبارية، مقتل شخصين في إطلاق قوة دولية لحفظ السلام النار بالكونغو، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3bsADFJ>

<sup>42</sup> الخليج، 36 قتيلا خلال احتجاجات ضد بعثة الأمم المتحدة بالكونغو الديمقراطية، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3PVF4I6>

<sup>43</sup> العين الإخبارية، مقتل 30 مدنيا في الكونغو بهجمات لمتطرفين ومليشيات، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://al-ain.com/article/civilians-congo-rebel-militia>

<sup>44</sup> اندبنت عربية، مقتل 18 جراء أعمال عنف غرب الكونغو الديمقراطية، 28 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3KLSNzr>

<sup>45</sup> ار تي بالعربية، مصر.. تصفية مجموعة إرهابية في قرية جلبانة بشمال سيناء، 24 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3Rf8TEt>

<sup>46</sup> تونس الرقمية، سيدي أبو زيد تفكيك خلية إرهابية، 16 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3RCcyvU>





## 1. Somalia

On August 10, the security forces killed an extremist militant from Al-Shabab after assassinating a high-ranking Somali army officer named Colonel Mohamed Bole in Kismayo, the state's capital<sup>47</sup>. On the following day, the Somali army took control of the towns of Matban and Mahas in Hieran County, Hirshabele State<sup>48</sup>.

The US military announced that it had killed four members of the extremist Al-Shabaab movement in an air strike in Hiran District, Hirshabelle State. In coordination with the Somali federal government took place near the city of Beledweyne<sup>49</sup>. On August 14, the Somali commando forces "DENB" succeeded in removing and detonating seven landmines planted by al-Shabab militias linked to al-Qaeda in the outskirts of the Somali city of Kismayo and Bolu Haji District.

## 2. Ethiopia

The Ethiopian Defense Forces announced that it had killed more than 800 Al-Shabab militants, including 24 of the group's leaders, during the recent battles in the areas near the Ethiopian-Somali border. The Ethiopian Air Force struck targets that managed to destroy the logistics, weapons stockpile, and food stores that the terrorist group had planned to use for a long time<sup>50</sup>.

On August 14, 13 militants of the terrorist group Al-Shabaab were killed in a US raid in central Somalia and their bases were destroyed in a US air strike to support the anti-terror operations of the National Army in Hiran province, in the center of the country<sup>51</sup>.

## C. West Africa Region

### 1. Nigeria

At the end of the first week of August, Operation Haden Kay's Air Task Force (ATF) killed dozens of Boko Haram and ISIS terrorists in airstrikes on their hideouts northeast of Bama in Borno. That came in the wake of the attack on a community in Labai Local Government Area, Niger State, three people were kidnapped and two tankers set ablaze<sup>52</sup>.

Between August 11 and 25, the Nigerian Armed Forces killed at least 57 militants in several counter-terrorism operations carried out in the north of the country, in the form of

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<sup>47</sup> الصومال الجديد، القوات الأمنية تقتل مسلحا إثر اغتياله ضابطا بالجيش الصومالي في كسمايو، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3bEv5bD>

<sup>48</sup> الصومال الجديد، استيلاء الجيش الصومالي على مناطق في محافظة هيران، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3JKG8wm>

<sup>49</sup> الصومال الجديد، مقتل 4 من مقاتلي حركة الشباب في غارة جوية أمريكية بإقليم هيران، 13 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3dhchiP>

<sup>50</sup> الصومال الجديد، إثيوبيا تعلن مقتل أكثر من 800 من مقاتلي حركة الشباب بينهم 24 من كبار قادتها، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3P26nPJ>

<sup>51</sup> أخبار اليوم، مقتل 13 من مسلحي حركة «الشباب» في غارة أمريكية وسط الصومال، 15 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3bYlnkj>

<sup>52</sup> الاتحاد، مقتل العشرات من إرهابيي بوكو حرام وداعش في بورنو على يد الجيش النيجيري، 10 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3JHvWoo>



ground and air raids on the pockets of the Islamic State in Africa and Boko Haram in Borno and Yobe states.

And over the weekend, the Nigerian army bombed a camp of the leader of ISIS in West Africa. Dozens of terrorists were also killed in a raid by Nigerian Air Force aircraft in the Sambisa Forest. The operation came on the heels of intelligence gathered by the air component of Operation Haden Kay, which revealed that the terrorists were preparing to launch an attack on August 18.

The Nigerian army launched an aerial bombardment during a meeting of the organization's elements in the town of Korib, in the country center. One of the leaders of the West Africa Province of ISIS, Amino Deni, who was responsible for attacks targeting several countries in the Sahel and Sahara, was killed. The killing of Aminu Deni came a few hours after several terrorists operating around the Damba-Galbi axis in Kaduna State Local Government Area were killed in a coordinated joint air and ground operation<sup>53</sup>.

## 2. Mali

On August 14, the French Bakhran force announced the killing of two militants on the outskirts of Tasiga, about 37 km southeast of Asongo in Mali<sup>54</sup>. On August 20, the Malian army announced the neutralization of 90 individuals it said belonged to terrorist organizations and the confiscation of quantities of weapons and the destruction of their hideouts, within the framework of Maliko and Kletiqi operations, during its operations since last August 4<sup>55</sup>.

## 3. Burkina Faso

The Burkinabe air force launched an attack in the forested area of Nuahu and Conkonmogerie in the center of the country, killing 20 terrorists<sup>56</sup>. Burkina Faso also announced on August 15 that it killed 100 terrorists during various operations in several parts of the country between July 15 and August 15 against elements believed to be jihadists who tried to attack the Kelbo military detachment in the northern region<sup>57</sup>.

<sup>53</sup> سكاي نيوز بالعربية، بضربة خلال اجتماع.. "داعش" يخسر "عقله المدبر" في نيجيريا ، 18 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3CVCLlm>

<sup>54</sup> الأخبار الآن، بارخان تعلن مقتل مسلحين في هجوم شرق أسونغو، 14 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://alakhbar.info/?q=node/42236>

<sup>55</sup> مبتدأ، الجيش المالي: تحييد 90 إرهابياً ومصادرة كميات كبيرة من الأسلحة، 20 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3qafC6u>

<sup>56</sup> الاتحاد، مقتل 20 إرهابياً بغارات في بوركينافاسو، 2 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3PVF4I6>

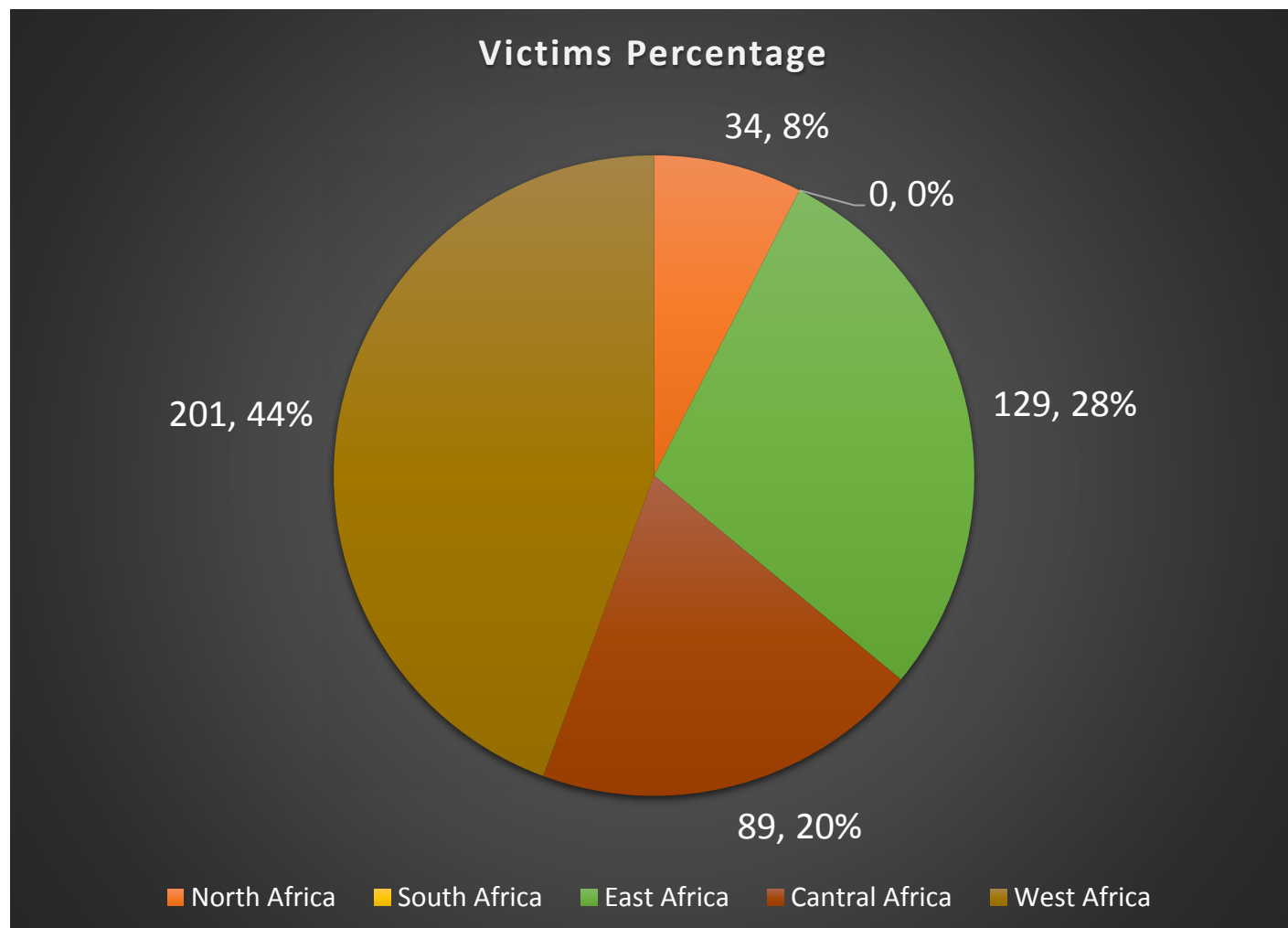
<sup>57</sup> ارتي، بوركينافاسو.. الجيش يعلن تصفية 100 "إرهابي" في عمليات عسكرية، 19 أغسطس 2022، الرابط: <https://bit.ly/3RCmRjd>

## Fourth: Indications and conclusions from monitoring

### a. Relative distribution of victims of terrorist operations in African regions

West Africa region came at the forefront of the deadliest countries, with about 201 victims, then East Africa, with 129 victims, then Central Africa, with 89 victims, and finally, North Africa, with 34 victims.

It is noteworthy that there are a number of regions witnessing widespread violence, but without obtaining accurate statistics, as the East African region suffers from violent acts extending between the Afar, Amhara and Tigray regions of Ethiopia, in addition to the systematic violence in the Upper Nile region in South Sudan. As well as the North African region, the state of political instability in Libya.



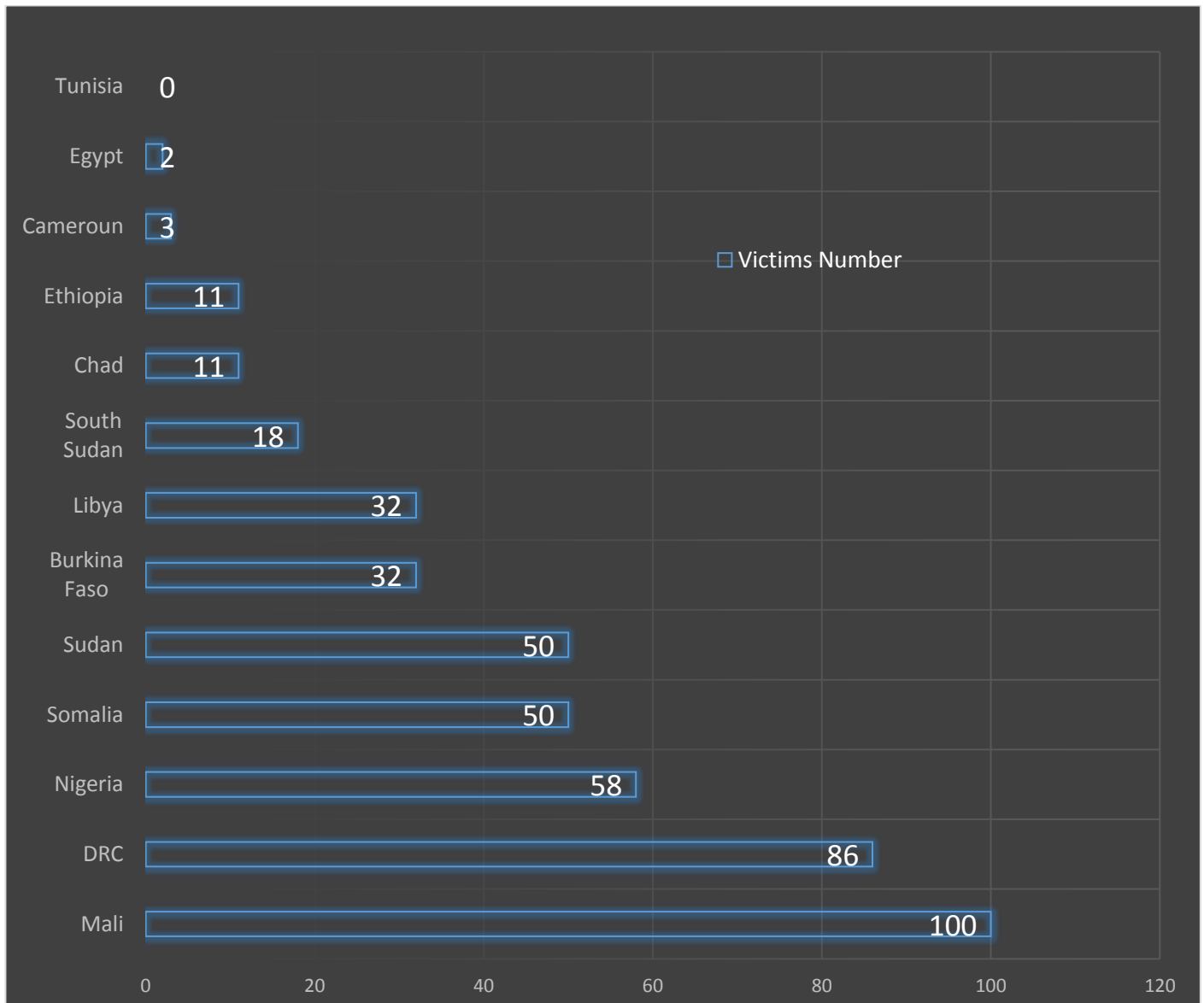
### b. Numerical distribution of victims of terrorism by country

Terrorist operations and violent incidents left more than 450 victims, in addition to unpublished and undisclosed statistics. As for the deadliest countries for this month, Mali





came with 100 deaths due to terrorist operations in West Africa, and the Democratic Republic of Congo came in second rank, with 86 victims, then Nigeria, which lost 58 victims. Fourthly, Somalia and Sudan lost 50 victims in each country. Then Burkina Faso, which claimed 32 victims of terrorism. Then Libya comes with 32 victims. Then South Sudan comes with 18 victims. Then Chad and Ethiopia came with 11 victims for each country. Cameroon comes ninth with 3 victims. Tenth Egypt comes with two victims. Then Tunisia, with a terrorist operation without casualties.

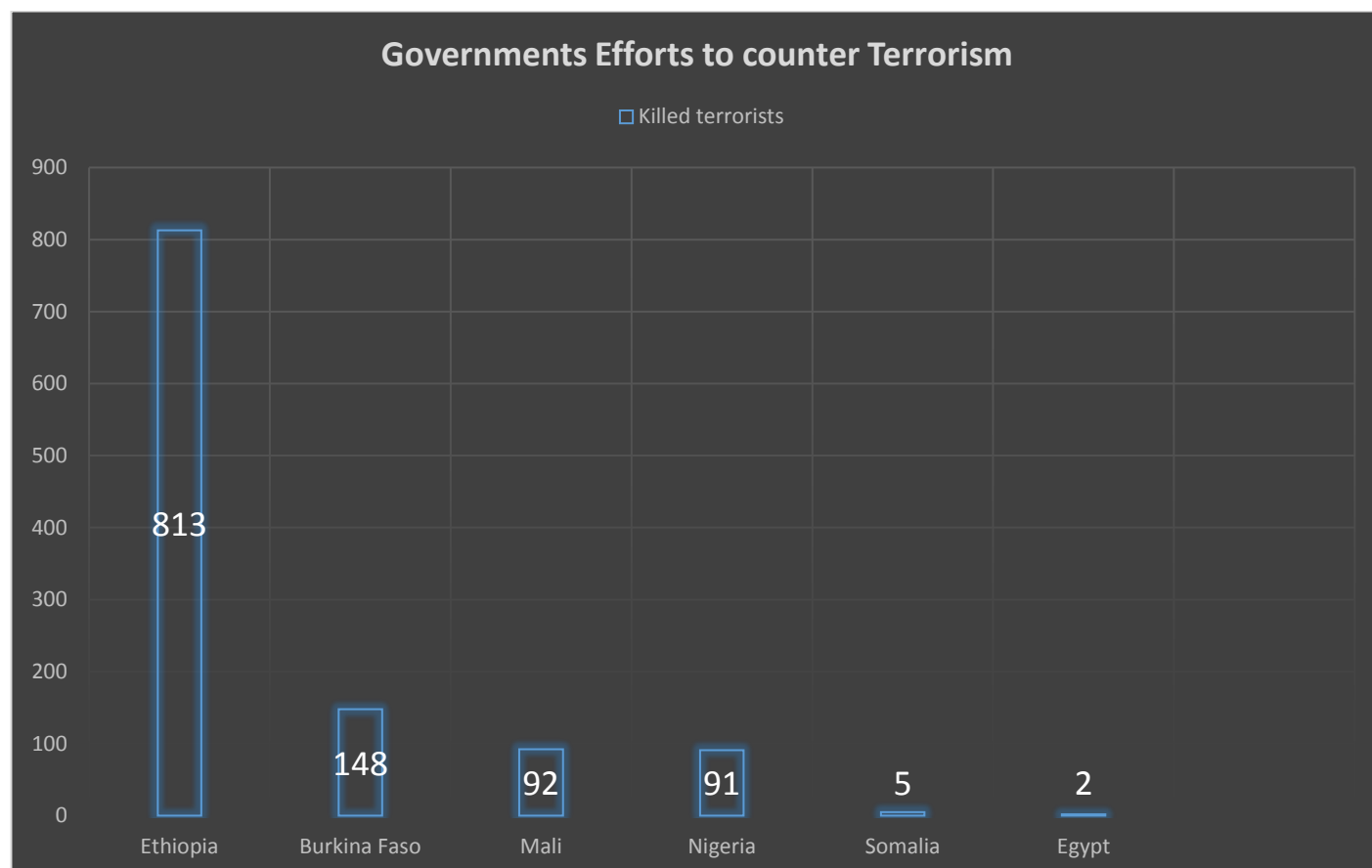


### c. Anti-terrorism efforts by African countries

African countries are still serious in their attempts to stem the tails of terrorism on the African continent, and came at the fore during the month, Ethiopia, which killed more than 813 Al-Shabaab militants in Somalia, including 24 of the their leaders during the recent battles in



the areas near the Ethiopian-Somali border, and then Burkina Faso, which shot down more than 148 terrorists, then Mali, which succeeded in neutralizing about 92 terrorists, ranked second, and thirdly, Nigeria, after it carried out about 5 specific operations that resulted in the killing of about 91 extremists. This is in addition to the Somali government, which launched 6 strikes on terrorist strongholds this month, in which 5 terrorist elements were killed, then Egypt and Tunisia, with two qualitative currencies that eliminated a number of the heads of terrorist groups on its soil, and Egypt brought down two terrorist elements.



#### **Fifth: Efforts of international mechanisms to confront terrorism during August**

In light of the continuing conflicts and violence raging on the African continent, the international human rights protection mechanisms are trying to contain these escalating conflicts in the region; by strengthening their official mechanisms and motivating African countries to reduce the causes of conflicts and provide all kinds of support to those countries. Through Maat's follow-up to peace, development, and human rights of international mechanisms, specifically about combating terrorism and extremist violence, we monitor the most prominent efforts of international mechanisms, especially the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights regarding terrorist operations and violent events in Africa during August.



## A. Ethiopia

On August 29, the International Committee of Human Rights Experts in Ethiopia published a statement expressing its outrage and concern over the renewed hostilities between the Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front, which increases the hardships, faced by civilians in the region and threatens to escalate. The statement also referred to the seriousness of reports of civilian casualties in a stadium, Mekele, the Tigray region, and the alleged targeting of civilians in a renewed attack in Kobo in the Amhara region. For its part, the Committee called on the parties to immediately stop the fighting and return to the dialogue process that each party accepted. It also urged the two sides to take all necessary steps to allow the United Nations and other agencies to distribute humanitarian assistance in Tigray. And human rights, health, and the well-being of civilians are at the priorities of all parties<sup>58</sup>.

## B. Mali

Although many United Nations experts have praised the steps taken to restore constitutional order and return to civilian rule in Mali, the resurgence of extremist violence and the rapid deterioration of the human rights situation in Mali have alarmed many. That prompted Alioune Tine, the UN independent expert on the human rights situation in Mali, to issue an official statement on August 12 after a 10-day visit to Mali. He referred to the danger of renewed and frequent attacks and violence perpetrated by violent extremist groups in the north and center of the country and around the capital, Bamako<sup>59</sup>.

On August 15, the UN announced the resumption of the rotation of UN forces in the peacekeeping mission in Mali (MINUSMA) with a new approval mechanism one month after being suspended by the ruling military council, which accused 49 soldiers of Cote d'Ivoire may enter the country without permission<sup>60</sup>; in the context of continuing its efforts to calm the dangerous situation in Mali.

## Conclusion & Recommendations

The efforts of African governments, organizations and international parties in confronting the phenomena of terrorism in the hotbeds and spaces crowded with armed groups are below the minimum required. Therefore, in this context, Maat for Peace presents the following recommendations to the countries concerned with issues of terrorism and violence, mentioned earlier in the report.

<sup>58</sup> OHCHR, 29. 08.2022. link: <https://tinyurl.com/42bbscrk>

<sup>59</sup> OHCHR, Mali: UN expert gravely concerned by deterioration of security and human rights situation. 12.08.2022. LINK: <https://tinyurl.com/4hf25kuw>

<sup>60</sup> UN news, Mali: Security situation deteriorates, human rights concerns rise, 15.08.2022. link: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2022/08/1124692>



- a) **Maat highlights the provision of the statement of the International Commission of Human Rights Experts on Ethiopia, regarding the gravity of the Ethiopian escalation and the spread of the war to neighboring areas**, it also condemns the targeting of residential places and public hospitals in the Tigray region, and recommends the Ethiopian government to comply with the rules of international law and international humanitarian law, and to avoid breaching the cease-fire, and the armistice agreed upon since last March.
- b) **Maat is deeply worried about the security tensions on the Sudanese-Chadian border** and the spread of a number of extremist armed groups in that area and recommends both parties to quickly intervene to secure the border areas and establish joint security camps before the crisis escalates and the activities of these groups expand.
- c) Maat encourages the efforts of West African countries, in particular Burkina Faso, to **establish military bases to strengthen the fight against terrorism in some provinces and to relocate units with the intention of expanding the fight against terrorism**. Maat calls on all countries of the triangle border region of Mali, Niger and Burkina Faso to strengthen military existence there to combat terrorism.
- d) **Maat appreciates the efforts of the UN Special Adviser on Africa to build capacities for sustainable peace in the continent** and calls on African countries to respond to its call for the need to increase investment in the institutions of African countries to achieve peace and security in Africa.
- e) **Maat calls on the UN peacekeeping forces to intensify the deployment of air surveillance of the centers of armed groups**, focusing on Mali, the bloodiest country in the past month, and to work to strengthen long and medium-range patrols, in order to contribute to neutralizing the largest number of terrorists stationed in the hotbeds of Africa.