TELLURIAN RESEARCH

DRC Daily Monitoring Report

29 October 2026

Covering 28 Oct, 00:00 – 23:59 WAT (DRC time)

Copper **$14,676/t** ▲ +0.3% | Cobalt **$34,620/t** → | Tin **$51,700/t** ▲ +0.8% | Gold **$4,051.60/oz** ▼ -0.6% | Brent **$115.32/bbl** ▲ +1.3% | CDF per USD **2,261.46** →

Market data — end-of-day close · LME cash settlement · LME/Fastmarkets Cobalt · COMEX front-month · ICE Brent front-month · BCC indicative rate · as of 28 Oct 2026. Prices pulled from source at collection, not model-generated.

SITUATION MAP — EVENTS (LAST 24H)

SECURITY · PUBLIC HEALTH · MINING · POLITICS · ECONOMY · GEOPOLITICS



1. **Tshisekedi brands Kabila Rwandan proxy** — Kinshasa
2. **FARDC and Wazalendo resume combat against FRN at Kibati** — Walikale
3. **ADF establishes new positions in Ituri territory** — Mambasa
4. **Ebola outbreak surpasses 10,000 cases, 4,887 deaths** — Ituri *(approx.)*
5. **10th Alternative Mining Indaba highlights revenue obstacles** — Lubumbashi
6. **Government subsidizes maize flour to stabilize prices** — Mbuji-Mayi
7. **Minister of Mines meets operators on sector governance** — Lualaba *(approx.)*
8. **Civil society demands transparency on Perenco audit** — Muanda

THREAT LEVEL: CRITICAL · HIGH · ELEVATED · GUARDED — also the coloured bar beside each item

VERIFICATION: CONFIRMED corroborated by 2+ sources · REPORTED single source

SECURITY & CONFLICT

US sanctions Rwanda defence ministry and Zigama bank over M23 support

HIGH

The US Treasury imposed sanctions on Rwanda's Defence Ministry and Zigama Credit and Savings Society on 28 October, citing material support for M23 and its political wing, the Congo River Alliance (AFC). Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent stated the action enforces Rwanda's commitments under the December 2025 Washington Accords. The Defence Ministry is accused of directing thousands of RDF troops in North and South Kivu, supplying M23 with equipment, logistics, and training; deploying air-defence systems and jamming equipment posing risks to civilian aviation. Zigama allegedly facilitated weapons purchases from China and other countries for RDF, processed dozens of millions in M23/AFC transactions, and transported gold from M23-controlled South Kivu mines to Kigali. M23 is also charged with extrajudicial killings, illegal detention, torture, forced labour, and illegal levies on civilians in mining zones.

CONFIRMED — La Libre Belgique · Actualite.cd · DeskEco +2 sources

FARDC and Wazalendo resume combat against FRN at Kibati, Walikale

ELEVATED

Armed clashes resumed on 28 October between FARDC/Wazalendo forces and FRN rebels at Kibati in Luberike grouping, Walikale territory, North Kivu. Heavy and light weapons fire began around 11:00 local time following an offensive by government forces to dislodge FRN from positions they have held for over two years. The renewed fighting triggered civilian displacement; residents of Habula and surrounding villages fled to the bush. The instability undermines prospects for displaced-person returns and signals continued tension in the Luberike grouping.

REPORTED Actualite.cd

ADF establishes new positions in Ituri's Mambasa territory

ELEVATED

Suspected ADF fighters established new positions in Bakaeku grouping, Babila-Babombi chiefdom, Mambasa territory, Ituri Province, according to the grouping chief on 28 October. The positions were reported in Bambu and Nakama villages, with ADF conducting shuttle movements. The chief urged the population to follow security-service directives and report suspicious activity.

REPORTED 7sur7.cd

PUBLIC HEALTH

Ebola outbreak in DRC surpasses 10,000 cases, 4,887 deaths

ONGOING HIGH

DRC health authorities reported 10,060 confirmed Ebola cases and 4,887 deaths as of 28 October, making it the country's deadliest and the world's second-largest outbreak after the 2014–16 West Africa epidemic. The Bundibugyo virus strain has no approved vaccine or specific treatment. More than 80% of new cases are among people not previously listed as contacts, indicating surveillance gaps and transmission-chain difficulties. Kenya has reported 9 cases with 2 deaths; Nigeria confirmed 1 case (a Swiss woman evacuated to Geneva). The Africa CDC describes it as the fastest-growing Ebola outbreak in history. A Phase 2/3 clinical trial (Tumaini) began in Bunia, Ituri, on Friday, evaluating candidate vaccines including Ervebo (approved for Zaire strain) and two Bundibugyo-specific candidates from Moderna and Oxford/Serum Institute.

CONFIRMED AllAfrica · Africanews · AllAfrica +1 source

POLITICS & GOVERNMENT

Tshisekedi accuses Kabila of being Rwanda proxy after M23 alliance

HIGH

President Tshisekedi publicly branded former President Joseph Kabila a "big coward" and Rwandan proxy in a speech to ruling-coalition lawmakers on 28 October, after Kabila joined M23 this month to lead the FRN (Unified Resistance Front). Tshisekedi alleged Rwanda's President Kagame pushed Kabila "out of the shadows" to take command of the offensive, characterizing the move as a sign the M23 side is "on the ropes" and lacking solutions. Kabila, who ruled 2001–2019 and was sentenced to death in absentia for treason in 2025 for alleged M23 collusion, is set to head the FRN with M23 leaders as deputies. The opposition coalition condemned "any seizure of power by force" but distanced itself from Kabila, seeking dialogue with both Tshisekedi and the international community.

REPORTED CGTN Africa · Citizen Digital

ECONOMY & MACRO

Government subsidizes maize flour in Mbuji-Mayi to stabilize prices

ELEVATED

The DRC government, through the Economic Regulation Fund (FOREC), launched a subsidized maize-flour supply operation in Mbuji-Mayi, Kasaï Oriental, on 28 October in response to price spikes. The price of a standard measure ("méka") had risen from 2,500–3,000 CDF to 5,000 CDF on some markets. FOREC signed a supply agreement with local processors on 8 October to deliver 2,500 tonnes monthly. A first shipment of 7,500 sacks (25 kg each) arrived 22 October; sales began 24 October at a subsidized price of 20,000 CDF per sack. Early reports indicate price stabilization. Provincial authorities were instructed to enforce the fixed price and prevent speculation.

REPORTED DeskEco

⚡ ENERGY

Civil society demands transparency on Perenco environmental audit in Muanda

GUARDED

The Coalition of Civil Society Organizations for Monitoring Reforms and Public Action (CORAP) demanded on 28 October that the DRC government immediately publish results of an environmental audit of Perenco's operations in Muanda. The demand was issued during Congo Climate Week, with CORAP calling for full transparency in natural-resource governance and accountability of all actors involved.

REPORTED Actualite.cd

⛏️ MINING & EXTRACTIVES

10th Alternative Mining Indaba opens in Lubumbashi

ELEVATED

Valéry Madianga (CREFDL coordinator) highlighted obstacles to revenue mobilization despite rising production, citing corruption, excessive tax exemptions, and the Sicomines contract (accounting for 16% of all fiscal exemptions). Claude Kabemba (Southern Africa Resource Watch director) called for rigorous evaluation of DRC's international mining partnerships—including EU sustainable raw materials agreements, the Lobito corridor, Sino-Congolese accords, and the recent Kinshasa–Washington accord—to ensure benefits reach the population and local industries.

REPORTED DeskEco · DeskEco

Minister of Mines meets operators in Lualaba on sector governance

ELEVATED

Minister of Mines Louis Watum Kabamba held a working meeting on 28 October in Lualaba with industrial mining operators, the Environment Minister, Lualaba Governor Fifi Masuka Saini, the inter-ministerial mining-sector reform commission chair, Chamber of Mines representatives, and state services. Discussions focused on three issues: Congolese participation in mining company capital, regulation of artisanal mining, and environmental management of mining activities.

CONFIRMED @MinMinesRDC

🌍 GEOPOLITICS

Tshisekedi attends Russia–Africa summit in Moscow

ELEVATED

President Tshisekedi participated in the opening of the 3rd Russia–Africa Economic and Humanitarian Forum on 28 October in Moscow, which brought together 48 African delegations including ~22 heads of state and 2,000+ participants. Russian President Putin defended a partnership model based on parity, friendship, and support, criticizing Western neo-colonialism. Burundian President Évariste Ndayishimiye, current AU chair, emphasized the need to valorize Africa's natural resources for the continent's benefit.

REPORTED @Presidence_RDC · La Libre Belgique

Rwanda FM denies scapegoating, rejects Kabila proxy allegations

ELEVATED

Rwandan Foreign Minister Olivier Nduhungirehe stated on 28 October at the Russia–Africa summit in Moscow that Rwanda should not be a "scapegoat" for DRC's political and security situation, which he characterized as "mainly a Congolese issue." He rejected Kinshasa's allegations that Kabila is a Rwandan proxy, calling it a political matter to be settled among Congolese. Nduhungirehe also confirmed ongoing discussions on a "return hub" in Rwanda for EU-expelled migrants, with a potential agreement by November.

REPORTED Hindustan Times · Yahoo News

👁️ WATCHLIST

- Monitor US enforcement of sanctions on Rwanda Defence Ministry and Zigama; assess impact on M23 operations and RDF logistics within 72 hours.
- Track FRN military operations and Kabila's command structure; assess whether Tshisekedi's public denunciation triggers escalation or diplomatic response within 48–72 hours.

- Monitor Tumaini vaccine trial progress in Bunia and case trends; assess whether surveillance improvements reduce transmission-chain gaps within next 7 days.
- Monitor opposition coalition mobilization and government response to C64 demands; assess referendum bill trajectory and constitutional debate within 7 days.
- Track commodity-price movements (Brent crude, food) and DRC fiscal impact; assess government revenue forecasting adjustments within next 2 weeks.

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