TELLURIAN RESEARCH

DRC Intelligence Weekly

3 – 9 Nov 2026

Democratic Republic of the Congo · Open-source intelligence · Information cutoff: 9 November 2026

Contents

01 Executive Summary and Situation Map

1.1 Situation Map — Week's Events

02 Analysis

2.1 Security: The FRN Advances Along the RN3 as the ADF Attacks Cantine-Aloya

2.2 Peace Process and Diplomacy: The UN Engages Kabila as Washington Presses Kigali and Advances Investment Plans with Kinshasa

2.3 Public Health: Violence Disrupts the Ebola Response as Africa CDC Calls for a Corridor of Peace

2.4 Politics: Kinshasa Hardens Against Kabila as the Referendum Law Awaits Promulgation

2.5 Economy and Mining: Kamoa-Kakula Posts Record Revenue as the Cobalt Indicator Weakens

2.6 Humanitarian: Fighting on the RN3 Adds to Displacement as Hunger Is Projected to Rise

03 Perception Analysis: How DRC Is Being Covered — and What Is Being Missed

3.1 The Language and Geography of Coverage

3.2 International Wires and Western Media: Reuters, AP, the New York Times and the French and Belgian Press

3.3 Congolese Domestic Media: Actualite.cd, Cable.cd, Radio Okapi and ACP

3.4 Rwandan and East African Media: The New Times, Kigali Daily News, ChimpReports and The Star

3.5 Chinese, Russian and Gulf Media: Xinhua, CGTN, TASS and Al Jazeera

3.6 Official Channels and Pan-African Media: MONUSCO, WHO, Africa CDC, the IMF and Africanews

3.7 What the Coverage Landscape Tells Stakeholders

04 Conclusions: Synthesis, Forward Look and Stakeholder Implications

4.1 Key Conclusions

4.2 A Spreading War and a Disrupted Response

4.3 Upcoming Milestones, November 2026 – January 2027

4.4 Forward Indicators to Watch: November 2026

01

Executive Summary

Priority developments, the week in sequence and the situation map

1.1 Situation Map — Week’s Events

Copper $13,955/t ▼ -3.42%	**Tin** $46,325/t ▼ -5.06%	**Gold** $4,074.90/oz ▲ +4.51%
Brent $98.32/bbl ▼ approx. 13%	**Cobalt** $33,525/t	

Market observations: 6 November 2026. Copper and tin: LME cash settlements reported by Westmetall; changes versus 30 October. Gold: COMEX December 2026 settlements reported by AP; change versus 30 October. Brent: January 2027 contract, with a reported weekly decline of approximately 13%. Cobalt: Trading Economics OTC/CFD-based indicator; no verified weekly comparison shown.

Executive Summary

WEEK AT A GLANCE

The east saw fighting on two fronts this week. In Kalehe, FRN advances were reported **along the RN3** at Cifunzi, Bitale and Kalonge, then Bulambika's capture as government forces withdrew; further north, ADF militants killed **at least 33 civilians** at Cantine-Aloya. The violence reached an **Ebola** outbreak of **10,803 confirmed cases**: patients fled care after the Cantine-Aloya attack, and security forces stopped an attempted arson at MSF's treatment centre in Byautu. Diplomatically, UN envoy **James Swan met Joseph Kabila** in Goma, and Washington moved to **end AGOA preferences for Rwanda and South Africa** while advancing **investment plans with Kinshasa**. The referendum law was reported transmitted for **promulgation**, and Kamoa-Kakula posted **record quarterly revenue** as the cobalt indicator weakened. The week's pattern is a widening gap: **diplomacy and investment are advancing, while security on the ground, and the Ebola response that depends on it, is deteriorating.**

ON THE GROUND Front still moving
- FRN advances reported on the RN3
- Bulambika capture reported
- ADF attack kills at least 33

ON PAPER Steps taken
- UN envoy meets Kabila (3 Nov)
- US–DRC joint statement (6 Nov)
- IMF staff-level agreement

IN KINSHASA Lines harden
- Referendum law sent for promulgation
- Warnings over contacts with Kabila
- 2027 budget in committee

1 The FRN advances on the RN3; the ADF attacks Cantine-Aloya

SECURITY

FRN advances were reported at **Cifunzi, Bitale and Kalonge** on 6–7 November, and the capture of **Bulambika and Bunyakiri** on 8 November as government forces withdrew towards Irangi; the army had denied on 7 November that Bunyakiri had fallen. On 6 November a military court in Walikale **sentenced 66 soldiers to death** for cowardice. ADF militants attacked **Cantine-Aloya** on the night of 5–6 November, killing **at least 33 civilians**.

The FRN is moving along the main highland supply route, and the ADF operates outside the Doha and Washington processes discussed here.

2 The UN engages Kabila as Washington presses Kigali and advances investment plans

DIPLOMACY

UN envoy **James Swan** met **Joseph Kabila** and FRN leaders in rebel-held **Goma on 3 November**, within a Doha process whose ceasefire commitments have not produced a sustained cessation of hostilities. MONUSCO's mandate expires on **20 December**: Kinshasa is lobbying for renewal and the FRN opposes it. On 2 November, just before this period, President Trump notified Congress of his intent to **end AGOA preferences for Rwanda and South Africa**, and a **6 November joint statement** reported a US–DRC steering committee meeting in Paris covering minerals processing, Grand Inga and the Lobito Corridor.

The test is whether the Doha process can secure implementation of existing commitments amid the FRN's emergence as the successor coalition and its objections to proposed constitutional changes.

Executive Summary (continued)

3 Violence disrupts the Ebola response

PUBLIC HEALTH

National situation reports recorded **10,803 confirmed cases and 5,267 deaths** in the DRC as of 5 November. The ADF attack at Cantine-Aloya forced confirmed and suspected **Ebola patients to flee care**; Africa CDC's 8 November statement said hundreds had fled and called for a **corridor of peace** in North Kivu. Security forces prevented an **attempted arson attack on an MSF treatment centre** in Byautu on 6 November. WHO recommended adding **two candidate vaccines** to the Tumaini trial, subject to national approvals.

The test comes by late November: anyone infected when patients fled on 5–6 November would fall ill by about 27 November, so new cases in the Beni area before then could signal spread from the attack.

4 Kinshasa hardens against Kabila as the referendum law awaits promulgation

POLITICS

Kinshasa hardened its line against Kabila this week. At the **6 November** Council of Ministers, the Interior Minister warned that parties with armed links **could face dissolution**, and the government threatened to **prosecute politicians who meet Kabila** in Goma; on 8 November the C64 opposition was reported to be seeking a national dialogue involving both Tshisekedi and Kabila. The backdrop is the referendum law, adopted by the Senate on **31 October**, before this period, and reported **transmitted for promulgation**.

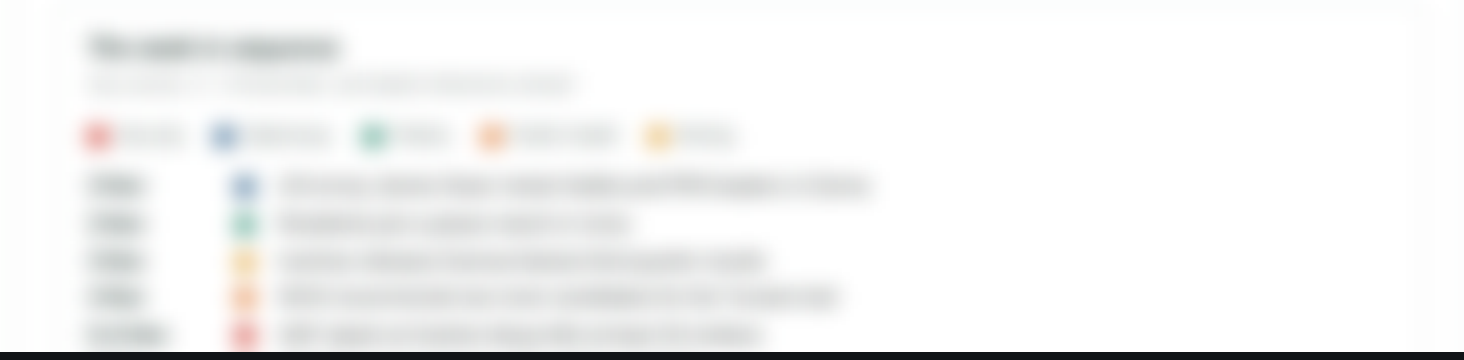
Promulgation and publication, and the treatment of the opposition, are the next tests.

5 Kamoa-Kakula posts record revenue as the cobalt indicator weakens

MINING

Kamoa-Kakula reported **record quarterly revenue of $1.034 billion** and 76,401 tonnes of copper in saleable products in the third quarter, while Ivanhoe lowered its **2027 guidance**. Trading Economics' cobalt indicator stood at **$33,525 a tonne** on 6 November, down about 31% over a year, and copper fell **3.42%** from 30 October. IMF staff reached a **staff-level agreement**, subject to Board approval; the DRC is off the FATF grey list but **still on the EU's high-risk list**.

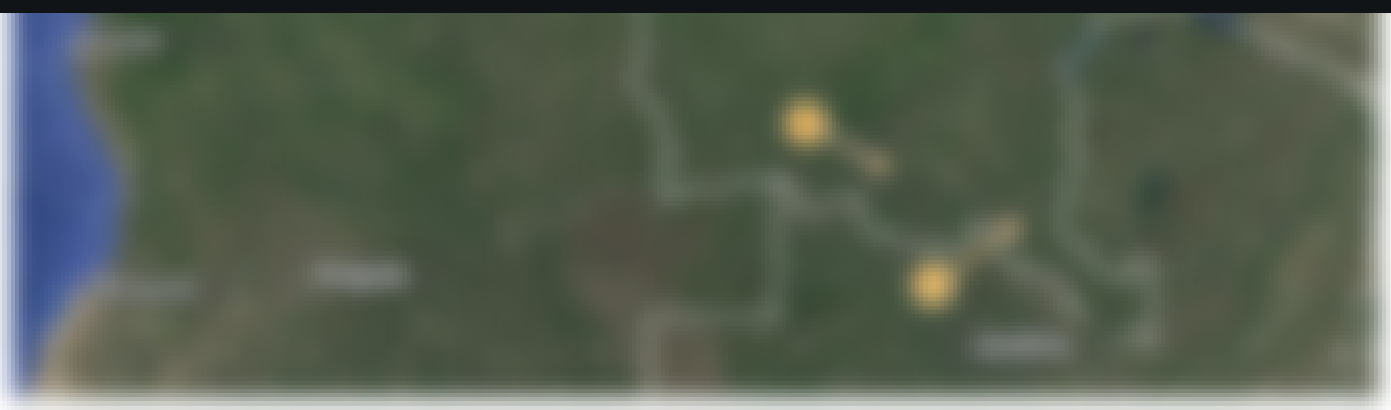
US investment plans support Kinshasa's economic strategy, but the announced pipeline is not committed financing.



Subscribe for the full report



Subscribe for the full report





02

Analysis

Subscribe for the full report

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] **[illegible]** [illegible] **[illegible]** [illegible] **

[illegible]



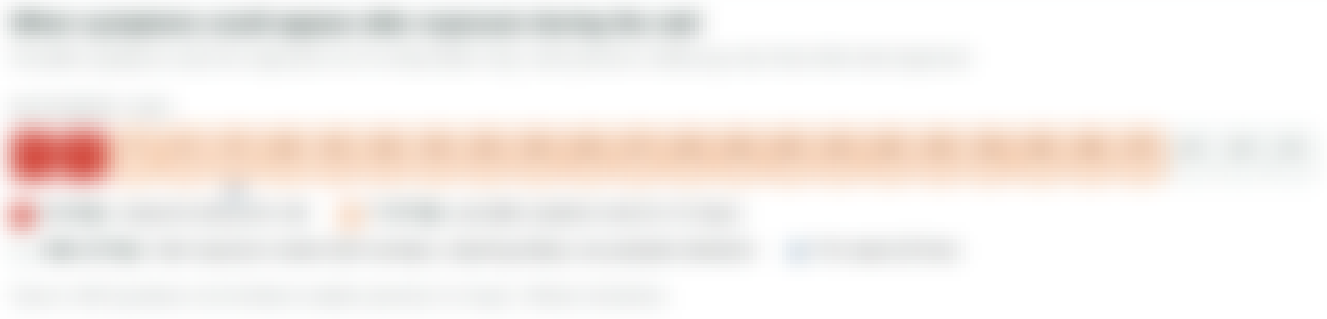
Subscribe for the full report

[illegible]

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report





Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report



03

Perception

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report



04

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report

Subscribe for the full report