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News Worth Knowing

Editor's note

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on Monday [announced a new government](#), eight months after opposition leader Félix Tshisekedi was declared the winner of a landmark presidential election.

Three quarters of cabinet members are first-timers - but what should be the culmination of the mineral-rich country's first democratic power transfer is really the rubber stamping of an [apparent backroom deal](#) between Tshisekedi and his predecessor Joseph Kabila.

The 'coalition' government follows months of negotiations between their respective parties, and sees the latter's Common Front for Congo (FCC) take control of almost two thirds of cabinet posts. This includes the office of the prime minister, and the mining ministry.

It's a big win for Kabila, who has seamlessly gone from pariah and obstacle to progress, to valued partner in a democratic government. International criticism of his rule - defined by a legacy of cronyism and mismanagement - has given way to indifference. Having [hinted at plans](#) to contest the presidency again in 2023, the stage is set for business as usual.

Bad news for Africa's fourth most populous nation, which is estimated to be sitting on \$24tr of largely untapped mineral wealth, but remains one of the world's least developed countries.

None of this should come as a surprise - the outcome has been obvious for months - but it should be met with disappointment.

Today's picks

From the continent

Kenya on Monday exported its first crude oil shipment - 250,000 barrels - since discovering reserves estimated at 560m barrels in its northern Turkana region in 2012. Commercial development has been bogged down by regulatory uncertainty and disagreement over revenue sharing. **More:** [Reuters](#)

The Africa Finance Corporation has approved a \$230m loan for Nigerian telecoms firm 9mobile to help meet debt obligations and support a planned growth strategy. 9mobile, the country's fourth largest mobile operator, runs assets formerly owned by Etisalat, which exited the market in 2017 after defaulting on its debt. **More:** [Reuters](#)

The Daily Stat

\$251m

The amount G7 leaders have pledged to an African Development Bank initiative aimed at supporting women entrepreneurs in Africa. **More:** [Africanews](#)

The Global Perspective

Angola has launched a month-long road show for mining concessions including exploration rights for diamonds, iron ore and phosphates in five provinces - part of efforts to boost international investment. Roadshows will be held in Luanda, Beijing, London, and Dubai. **More:** [Africa Oil&Power](#)

The European Commission has pledged \$55.9m in humanitarian aid to drought hit countries in the Horn of Africa, where 13m people are estimated to be in need of emergency food assistance. This comes amid rising hunger, much of it linked to climate change, across the continent. **More:** [The East African](#)

