Summary

- For the period of 22 to 28 May 2017, there were 59 critical incidents in Nigeria, resulting in 32 deaths. Additionally, 505 arrests were recorded, mostly of illegal Sahelian migrants. Criminality-related incidents accounted for 22.03% of the total incident pool, followed by the human and social category with 20.34%.

- The Biafra autonomy movement has increased its political activity this week. Members of the “Indigenous People of Biafra” issued a sit-at-home order for its members for 30 May, while members of another Biafran group demonstrated in Owerri, Imo State, on 22 May.

- Fear of renewed attacks on pipelines in the Niger Delta peaked over the reporting period following the bombing of a NNPC gas pipeline near Warri in Delta State. The attack was the first recorded in months, sparking concern that the government may not be making enough efforts to solve the issue. This situation prompted the federal government to announce that it will maintain the existing amnesty program for repentant militants in the Niger Delta.

- Nigeria’s second largest political party, the People’s Democratic Party (PDP) continues to lose members. This week, two prominent officials defected to the ruling All-Progressive Congress (APC), including lawmaker Adamu Kamale, leaving the PDP controlling 120 seats, down from 139 on 9 June 2015.

- Boko Haram this week beheaded four refugees who were hunting in Dalori, just outside of their IDP camp. Ten others are still missing. Meanwhile, the military maintained pressure on the terrorist group, killing 13 insurgents in three villages along Lake Chad, in Borno State. In Maiduguri, three female Boko Haram suicide bombers were killed after they failed to reach their intended targets. These incidents were recorded as authorities expanded security in Abuja, anticipating possible Boko Haram attacks. In addition to religious sites, authorities are concerned about the weakness of military bases, in particular airbases, which will benefit from an increase in security capabilities in the coming weeks.

- Nigeria is going through another recession quarter. Nigeria’s GDP lost half a percent in Q1 2017, in its sixth consecutive quarter of decline. Specific to foreign direct investment, Nigeria attracted only $640.61 million in the same period, down 41% from the $1.55 billion of Q4 2016. Likewise, the country’s excess crude account balance dropped 8% sequentially in May 2017.

- The troubled economy is having substantial impact on various sectors, including the energy sector. This week, five power generation turbines and four plants shut down as a result of a collapse in the base infrastructure and supply constraints. Residents and businesses in many parts of Lagos experienced electricity outages most of this week after Eko Electricity Distribution Company (EKEDC) announced a five-day blackout to last until 28 May due to maintenance work.
Significant Events: 22 - 28 May 2017

Nigeria Weekly Report

Abuja: 26 May 2017
Air Force chief warns of possible attacks against airbases, calls for UK assistance.

Osun: 25 May 2017
Osun State raises security posture amid fear of gang violence in Osogbo.

Lagos: 25 May 2017
Authorities find hundreds of illegally imported rifles in Lagos port.

Lagos: 24 May 2017
Six students kidnapped in Epe, Lagos.

Lagos: 23 May 2017
Two killed in communal violence in Lekki, Lagos.

Akwa Ibom: 22 May 2017
Army arrests 17 gang members calling themselves “war mercenaries”, involved in communal conflict.

Borno: 21 May 2017
Boko Haram beheads four hunter refugees, ten others reported missing.

Borno: 13 May 2017
Foiled terror attack on Maiduguri, three suicide bombers killed.

Borno: 22 May 2017
Army kills 13 suspected Boko Haram militants, arrests ten near Lake Chad.

Delta: 20 May 2017
NNPC pipeline attacked in Warri, militants hint on more to come.

Benue: 23 May 2017
Three deaths and widespread destruction in communal clashes in Benue.

Taraba: 7 May 2017

Osun State raises security posture amid fear of gang violence in Osogbo.
Authorities seek to appease public fear over alleged coup plotting against President Buhari

The Nigerian military said this week that there was no coup plot against President Buhari, or any plan to remove the present government. At the same time army leadership expressed their loyalty to the constitution and the President as the Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces. The Director of Defense Information, Maj.-Gen. John Enenche, said the clarification became necessary following the comments credited to the Chief of Army Staff, Lt.-Gen. Tukur Buratai, and the reactions they generated across the country and at the international level. In a public appearance, Maj.-Gen. Enenche said the statement credited to the Army chief about relationships between some politicians and army personnel was routine, to ensure conformity with ethics of the military.

Femi Adesina, the Special Adviser to the President, also stated that Nigerians should ignore media reports on a widely-reported coup plot, saying it should not be stretched beyond what the military authorities had said. To him, what Maj.-Gen. Tukur Buratai had said was a "routine warning that goes to military officers." These comments, however, are not likely to appease concerns about the potential of military meddling in political affairs.

Authorities warn against Biafra's IPOB call for civil disobedience

Biafran militant group the “Indigenous People of Biafra” (IPOB), issued a sit-at-home order for 30 May 2017 to regions where supporters of the group live, including the states of Kano, Kaduna, Jos, Makurdi, Ibadan, Benin, Abuja, Lagos, Lokoja, Gigaawa, Jalingo, Mubi, Yola, and Lafia. The federal security services warned against the call for civil disobedience, meant to honor Biafran heroes who died during the civil war of 1967-70.

Meanwhile, economic activity within Owerri, the capital city of Imo state, was halted on 22 May by members of the splinter group “Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereignty State of Biafra” of the “Biafra Independent Movement” as they demonstrated along the city’s major streets in celebration of the Biafra Independence Day. The demonstrators arrived in buses from 27 regions, carrying Biafra flags and placards bearing pro-Biafra state slogans, and wearing military uniforms. Police presence was limited, as authorities sought to avoid confrontation with the demonstrators.

Nigeria to maintain amnesty program for Niger Delta militants

The Federal Government said it will maintain the existing amnesty program for repentant militants in the Niger Delta region, considering it successful in the pursuit of peace. The confirmation was made after militants bombed a gas pipeline near Warri. Special Adviser to President Muhammadu Buhari on the Niger Delta and Coordinator of the Amnesty Program, General Paul Boro, stated that the Federal Government was concerned about peace in the Niger Delta and expressed optimism that a resolution to the crisis will be achieved.
PDP party continues to shrink in the House of Representatives and in Enugu

The membership of the People's Democratic Party caucus at the House of Representatives dropped to 120 on 23 May 2017, down from 139 members at the inauguration of the current 8th Assembly on 9 June 2015. This took place as another lawmaker left the party this week. Adamu Kamale, the only member of the party from Adamawa State, defected to the ruling All Progressives Congress. Two other members have abandoned the PDP in the last two weeks. Kamale, like others before him, cited the factional crisis at the PDP as the reason for shifting allegiance.

Meanwhile, the head of the Enugu State chapter of the PDP and former Commissioner for Culture and Tourism, Joe Mmamel, also defected this week to the APC. Mmamel said his decision was aiming at attracting visible development to his local government and the state. Mmamel, who was the first chairman of Ezeagu Local Government Area, said communities in the state were in dire need of infrastructure investment, announcing that the PDP was "dead."

Nigeria to close five embassies abroad to cut costs

Nigerian authorities said five foreign missions will shut down as part of measures to cut the costs of its missions worldwide. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Geoffrey Onyeama, reported the decision without identifying the affected embassies. The decision has yet to be confirmed by President Buhari.

Human & Social

Nigerian Aviation Handling Company grounded by unions

The operations of the Nigerian Aviation Handling Company (NAHCO Plc) were temporarily halted this week by its workers and unions in the Nigerian aviation industry, over benefits and welfare issues. Workers staged a rally at the company's headquarters, accusing management of making decisions involving their benefits, without union involvement. Although the company increased salaries, the move was criticized as not being sufficient. A union leader said that the approved increase was insignificant compared to their original demands.

Lagos: Two killed in Eyo clash

Two people were killed and several others injured during the Eyo Festival on Lagos Island, following a clash between rival gangs. The fight erupted between the Iga-Eleti Eyo and Eyo Laba group at Okepopo.

Abuja: Aid funds dry up in northeast Nigeria, hunger rising

Hundreds of thousands of Nigerians could starve to death in the famine-threatened northeast due to lack of aid funds, the United Nations warned again this week. The UN said that almost half a million people in the region could miss out on food aid next month because the World Food Program (WFP) did not provide enough money to feed them. "We need $250 million to prevent famine in the coming months," said WFP’s regional director. About 4.7 million people in northeast Nigeria are in need of food aid, a number
expected to rise to 5.2 million by August, according to the WFP. Yet a shortfall in funding means the agency can only provide aid to 1.3 million, instead of the 1.8 million people it had originally planned to reach.

**Benue: Three deaths and widespread destruction in communal clashes in Benue**

Three people were killed, and at least 20 houses were destroyed during violent clashes between ethnic Tivs and Jukuns in Makurdi, Benue State’s capital on 23 May. The confrontation was the result of a simple bar fight between two young men of the two communities. The fight shifted into a community conflict, reigniting a prolonged land dispute between the two groups. Many residents were forced to flee the area. The state Governor, Samuel Ortom, visited the scene of the incident next day, calling on the fleeing residents to return home.

**SECURITY**

**Borno: Boko Haram beheads four refugees, ten others disappear**

Four refugees from the Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) camp in Dalori, Maiduguri, in Borno State, were beheaded by Boko Haram militants. They were reportedly killed while hunting outside their camp on 20 May. Ten other IDPs who were among the 12-man hunting group are still unaccounted for. The victims were also volunteer members of the local vigilante group “Civilian-JTF”.

**Borno: Boko Haram’s trail of destruction in Borno**

Governor Kashim Shettima of Borno reported this week that Boko Haram destroyed more than 156,000 houses in the state. The figure represents about 30% of the housing in the state. The governor also shared statistics related to other types of buildings destroyed by the insurgent group. They include 5,344 classrooms, 665 municipal buildings, and 201 health facilities.

**Delta: Pipeline sabotage in resumes, more to come**

The Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation (NNPC) reported that a bomb attack destroyed a gas pipeline on 20 May in the Niger Delta. A spokesman for the NNPC said the attack was an act of sabotage. The explosion, the first recorded in months, occurred near Sanomi, in the vicinity of Warri, capital of Delta State.

Attacks on hydrocarbon facilities were particularly frequent during 2016, but experienced a halt in 2017 as a result of ongoing negotiations between the federal government and community representatives, particularly regarding the region’s development and oil revenue sharing.

On 23 May 2017, the Niger Delta Avengers (NDA), a militant group that had been very active in 2016 but went dormant over the past months, posted a message on its Twitter account reading: “La vittoria e nostra” (“victory is ours”). While the Nigerian army said it is investigating the act, we remain concerned that this latest attack is a harbinger of more to come and could be considered a sign of a break in the peace talks. Acts of oil infrastructure sabotage in Nigeria caused oil output to drop to 1.4 million barrels per day in 2016, compared to 2.5 million ten years ago.

**Kaduna: Air Force chief warns of threat of attacks against airbases, calls for UK assistance**

The Chief of the Nigerian Air Force, Marshal Sadique Baba Abubakar, warned this week that Air Force bases in the country were under threat of attack from terrorists, requesting support from the British Military Assistant Team to train Nigeria on how to secure its bases and equipment. Abubakar said: “We have had an attack on one of our airbases in the recent past, and current intelligence reports keep highlighting the possibility of more attacks to come. Consequently, we introduced a new base defense concept, with the development and deployment of an air-minded ground defense force, trained and equipped as special light infantry and capable of operating both inside and outside the base perimeter against contemporary threats while leveraging on intelligence and available modern technology.”

The Air Force, with the support of the UK, is currently training 300 regiment personnel to protect its bases. In December 2013, an airbase was attacked in Maiduguri, Borno State, resulting in the destruction of “air assets.”
Akwa Ibom: Army arrests 17 gang members calling themselves "war mercenaries"
A Nigerian army unit in Uyo, Akwa Ibom State, arrested a gang of 17 armed men who call themselves "war mercenaries." The gang had been terrorizing the Ayadeghe community in Oku Iboku, in the Itu Local Government Area of Akwa Ibom. Witnesses had said since the beginning of 2017, that the Ikot Offiong community (a rival neighboring community which has been in war with the Ayadeghes over land ownership) had been using the gang to launch attacks on them, resulting in several deaths.

Borno: Army kills 13 suspected Boko Haram militants, arrests ten
The Nigerian Army engaged fleeing Boko Haram militants in three villages along Lake Chad, Borno State, killing 13 insurgents and recovering weapons and ammunition. It also arrested ten insurgents, including six women, in Monguno and Nolwodo Malgori areas of Borno.

Abuja: Security in houses Abuja strengthened amid fear of terror attacks
The Nigerian police have been deploying uniformed and plain-clothed officers in churches, mosques and other religious and public sites in the capital Abuja over the past two weeks to prevent attacks by Boko Haram. The Police Public Relations Officer, Usen Omorodion, noted that the Explosive Ordnance Device Department has also been involved in ongoing security operations on the city. This followed tangible threats issued by the Boko Haram having Abuja as a target.

Borno: Foiled terror attack on Maiduguri, three suicide bombers killed
Three female suicide bombers were killed near Maiduguri after they failed to reach their intended targets. The attackers were suspected to have been conveyed on a motorcycle and dropped at a distance to Mamanti village in Molai area, where they were sighted and intercepted by security operatives. After being caught, they detonated the explosives strapped to their bodies, killing themselves only.

Lagos: Authorities find hundreds of illegally imported rifles in Lagos port
Federal authorities seized 440 pump action rifles after they were found by customs agents in Tin Can Island Port, in Lagos, on 23 May. Although authorities arrested one person, they did not provide details on the intended recipients of the weapons. Displaying the guns at the port, officials said the guns originated from Turkey, and were concealed inside a 40-feet container, which was intercepted before declaration as a result of a tip-off.

Criminality

Benue signs into law death sentence to kidnappers and harsh punishment for illegal grazing
Governor Samuel Ortom of Benue State signed into law this week a bill prescribing the death sentence for kidnappers, under a law called the “Prohibition of Abduction, Hostage Taking, Kidnapping, and Secret Cult”. He also signed another law, called the “Open Grazing Prohibition and Ranches Establishment bill”, which prescribes five-year jail term for violators or an option of NGN 1 million or both. Ortom said: “The Open Grazing Prohibition and Ranches Establishment Law, apart from banning open grazing in the state, prescribes three years imprisonment on conviction for cattle or animal rustling or NGN 500,000 per animal or both.”

Apart from prescribing death penalty for kidnapping, the Prohibition of Abduction, Hostage Taking, Kidnapping, Secret Cult also prescribes death sentence for anyone who allows his premises to be used in hiding victims.

Abuja: Military officers implicated in a $200 million fraud
Seven officers, a retired Rear Admiral and five businessmen have been implicated in the alleged embezzlement of NGN 62.8 billion (US$ 200 million) belonging to the Nigerian Navy. This The fraud allegedly occurred between 2013 and 2015 when Vice Admiral Usman Jibrin was the Chief of Naval Staff. A former Naval Chief of Accounts has already refunded NGN 155 million to the Economic and Financial Crimes Commission (EFCC), even as his share of the money is still being traced. Jibrin, who is facing another trial on a $2.1 billion arms deals, is being investigated with his wife, and a number of companies believed to
have been used to launder the funds.

**Kogi: Police arrest 32 suspected criminals, including kidnappers**

The police in Kogi arrested 32 suspected criminals of being involved in kidnapping, robbery, illegal possession of fire arms, vandalism and unlawful possession of substance. Four of the suspects are allegedly behind the kidnapping of two businessmen and a recent spate of robberies in many areas of the state. The arrests led to the seizure of four guns, including two AK-47 rifles, a locally-made pistol and a Bareta Pistol, and live ammunition. Also two cars were recovered. Two of the suspects were arrested while vandalizing power cables belonging to the Abuja Electricity Distribution Company.

**Lagos: Six students kidnapped in Epe, Lagos**

Six students of the Igbonla Model college in Epe, Lagos were abducted on 24 May. The kidnappers gained entrance into the school premises and fired gunshots before taking six students. Several other kidnapping attempts on students were foiled by security authorities.

**Rivers: Cult gang kills three in Ikwerre, army deploys soldiers**

At least three people were killed and several others wounded after a cult gang attacked the town of Ikwerre, in Rivers State on 24 May. The Rivers State Police Command has confirmed the incident. Gang activity in several Rivers State areas has increased, resulting in the deployment of new army troops in Tai Local Government Area to deal with the growing violence. An army spokesman said the troops faced members of Dey Bam Cult group following a tip-off.

**Edo: Mass arrest of illegal migrants in Edo**

The Edo State unit of the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS) arrested 400 people living in the country illegally over the reporting period. The suspects were arrested in a series of sweeping operations across the 18 local government areas. Most of the arrested migrants originated from the neighboring countries of Niger Republic, Mali and Chad. The arrests led to some violence, with three immigration officers sustaining varying degrees of injuries.

**ECONOMY**

Nigeria's GDP shrinks, fifth consecutive quarter of decline

In the first quarter of 2017, Nigeria’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) contracted by -0.52% year on year in real terms, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). An NBS report for the first quarter 2017 released this week reported on the fifth consecutive quarter of contraction since the beginning of 2016. The information appears in direct contradiction with the Presidency’s assurance that there were strong indications that Nigeria was gradually exiting the economic recession.

**Nigeria's crumbling power infrastructure**

This week, five power generation turbines and four plants were shut down in Nigeria. The halt in activity is attributed to a collapse in the base infrastructure and supply constraints. The five turbines and a plant were shut down due to gas constraints; one plant stopped functioning as a result of high frequency issues; another suffered line tripping, while the last one was out on maintenance. On Thursday, 25 May, the Shiroro, Gbarain NIPP, and Egbin ST 6 plants completely stopped operating. The industry’s operational report for 25 May showed that power generation dropped to 3,582.5 megawatts.

Meanwhile, residents and businesses in Lagos, experienced electricity outage most of this week. On 22 May, Eko Electricity Distribution Company (EKEDC), announced a five-day blackout in the city. An EKEDC spokesman said the outage would affect the districts of Ikoyi, Victoria Island and parts of Lagos Island, effective 24 May, and ending 28 May. The company said the outage would enable technical and maintenance work at the Alagbon transmission station. People in affected parts of Lagos have turned to alternative power sources.
FDI and imports into down double digit in Q1 2017
The National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said this week that the total value of capital imported into Nigeria in the first quarter of 2017 was estimated to be $908.27 million, the lowest in ten years. Its Capital Importation Report, released this week, said the economy attracted $640.61 million in Q1 2017, down 41% from the $1.55 billion of Q4 2016. The decline in investment inflow, the report said, was due to the fall in "other investment" and portfolio investments, made up of equity, which fell from $176.44 million to $101.99 million. Loans also declined from $917.01 million to $369.28 million. The oil and gas sector fell to the fourth position as the largest capital importing sector, accounting for $101.08 million (11.13%), in a sign that confirm a reduction in the activity of the oil sector. Four sectors recorded no capital importation in the first quarter of 2017 and they include drilling, hotels, tanning and weaving.

Nigeria’s excess crude account balance drops 8% sequentially in May 2017
The allocations from the Federation Account to the three tiers of government has declined 11.1% sequentially in April 2017 to settle at NGN 415.73 billion, according to the Accountant General of the Federation (AGF), Ahmed Idris. Idris attributed the decrease in revenue to a reduction in crude oil output, caused by sabotage and shutdown of oil installations in the Niger Delta region. He said that the country’s excess crude account balance has dropped to $2.29 billion on 23 May, from $2.49 billion on 25 April.

Fresh worries about government revenues as price of oil drops
The Nigerian authorities are seeing with concern the latest developments in the oil market. At Thursday’s meeting in Vienna, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) and some non-OPEC producers agreed to extend a pledge to cut around 1.8 million barrels per day (bpd) until the end of the first quarter of 2018. The initial agreement would have expired in June this year. Crude oil plunged 5 percent following the announcement, only inching up a touch on Friday. Gaining back some of those losses, Brent crude futures LCOc1 were at $51.83 per barrel at 0708 GMT, up 0.37 cents, or 0.7 percent, from their last close. Despite the Friday gains, the oil market is not moving in favor of oil producing countries, including Nigeria which depends heavily on it for its revenue.

Food and beverage sector affected by economic crisis
The Association of Food, Beverage and Tobacco Employers (AFBTE) said that job losses in the food and beverage industry are the result of declining sales and profit margin caused by the weak economy. The industry group noted that the state of the economy has been unfriendly to the sector, which is one of the most hit sectors by the recession. The AFBTE said there is also a decline in capacity utilization, which has resulted in massive loss of jobs. AFBTE blames the Central Bank’s removal of 41 items from the list of users of foreign exchange as having a direct impact on industry finances, with the continued drop in the value of the naira against the US dollar and the high cost of sourcing for dollars had made it difficult for the manufacturers to import their raw materials.

Niger Delta: Government mediates in escalating labor conflict between ExxonMobil and trade union, averts company shutdown
The federal government is looking to ease the tension over a labor dispute that has been growing between oil firm ExxonMobil and the PENGASSAN union, representing oil and gas workers. The latter has been working to force a shutdown of ExxonMobil operations in the Niger Delta, but federal authorities convinced it to suspend its actions and go back to negotiations. The labor unions have been protesting the lay-off of workers at ExxonMobil and other foreign oil firms, staging several strikes since the start of the year. The latest industrial action was to protest the lay-off of 150 workers in December, of which 82 were PENGASSAN members. After PENGASSAN dropped its call to shutdown ExxonMobil, the matter has been referred to the industrial arbitration panel.

Cross River: Petroleum sector groups shut down petrol stations in Cross River State due to new tax
The National Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Workers (NUPENG) and the Independent Petroleum Marketers Association of Nigeria
(IPMAN) ordered members to shut down filling stations across the state to protest the introduction of NGN 12,800 tankers’ levy. The levy was introduced by the administration of Gdoswill Akpabio. The shutdown caused artificial shortages within Cross River state, with the prices of petroleum products sold by speculators at between NGN 400 and NGN 600 per liter. The state government, through its revenue agencies has imposed a compulsory daily road maintenance levy on trucks plying Calabar route. Commuters in major routes were stranded with the absence of taxis on streets and highways due to the shut down of filling stations.
Politics & Security

Statements related to rumors of a plot against the Buhari administration made by federal officials and top military leaders this week helped alleviate some of the fear expressed by politicians, the media and the general public. However, the absence of the President, who is in the UK for medical care, will remain a critical issue. Without transparency about the President’s state of health, speculations will continue to circulate, negatively impacting the perception on political instability in Nigeria.

Meanwhile, political life will remain dominated by a series of factors affecting political parties ahead of the 2019 elections. We will continue to witness an erosion of the opposition group People’s Democratic Party (PDP), a continued push of nationalist demands form the Biafra movement, and growing pressure from the stakeholders of Niger Delta, whose key constituent, the militants likely to resort to economic sabotage as they see no improvement in the talks with the federal government in improving the region’s socio-economic conditions.

On the security front, and related to Niger Delta, the recent bombing of a pipeline does not bode well for oil activity in the region. Niger Delta militants have made subtle comments that they will likely resume violence, essentially giving the government a small window of opportunity to roll out an economic development plan that works for the local populations.

Elsewhere, several state authorities enacted laws aimed at restricting uncontrolled grazing. However, they failed to provide a solution to herdsmen who must feed their cattle, essentially creating another factor of instability. Going forward, we anticipate the grazing laws recently enacted in states like Benue to lead to more violence, in the absence of alternative grazing solutions.

Human and Social

A set of factors continue to negatively affect the broad social environment in Nigeria. Worsening economic conditions, growing insecurity in most Nigerian states, the potential famine that is threatening the northeastern populations, to the crumbling public health infrastructure, all will contribute to an explosive social climate in the coming weeks.

Economy

Nigeria’s economy will continue to struggle over the coming months. Economic data from this week suggests that recession will go on for a while, affecting both spending and output. The collapsing power infrastructure, the closing of several embassies abroad, the inability of the Nigerian embassy in Washington to pay salaries to its staff, are among the various indicators of the economic difficulty, forcing the government to make new cuts.

This situation will remain over the coming months, and may worsen, considering the current oil prices. Without any improvement in the global oil market, Nigeria should brace for more hardship ahead.

This situation is creating growing tension among companies operating in the region. Foreign companies in particular are subjected to tough labor actions from unions that will not endorse the cost-cutting measures.
### Forecast of Events 2017

#### Nigeria Weekly Report

*Muslim holidays are often determined by local sightings of lunar phases; dates given are approximate.*

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<th>EVENT</th>
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<td>26 Jun 2017</td>
<td>Eid el-Fitri sallah*</td>
<td>End of Ramadan. National holiday - Muslim observance; widespread business and public office closures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1 Sep 2017</td>
<td>Id el-Kabir*</td>
<td>National holiday - Muslim observance; widespread business and public office closures.</td>
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<tr>
<td>26 Dec 2017</td>
<td>Boxing Day</td>
<td>National holiday. Most businesses open</td>
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