

## AFRICA RISK CONSULTING

### Madagascar Monthly Briefing June 2026

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#### Madagascar Summary 17 June 2026

**Justice minister, Fanirisoa Ernaivo, threatens legal action against four judges of the Haute Cour Constitutionnelle (high constitutional court), alleging they committed acts of subversion. Transitional president Michaël Randrianirina (2025-present) travels to Nigeria to discuss an agreement to import fuel from the country, reducing its exclusive reliance on Oman's OQ Trading. Madagascar continues strengthening its economic and military cooperation with Russia.**

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#### Legal action threatened against four HCC members

**Antoine Rajerison Randriamampianina**, the elected deputy for **Arivonimamo (Itasy Region)**, on 13 May lodged a [complaint](#) with the **Haute Cour Constitutionnelle (HCC)** (high constitutional court), asking it to declare the current military-led government guilty of high treason and transfer transitional president Colonel **Michaël Randrianirina's** (2025-present) powers to another military authority. Having examined the petition, the HCC declared it inadmissible in a decision published on 28 May, [stating](#):

*"The present referral, made individually by the aforementioned member of parliament, does not correspond to any of the mechanisms enshrined in the Constitution relating to the suspension of the Head of State's functions."*

However, on the sidelines of the official launch ceremony for independence celebrations on 1 June, justice minister **Fanirisoa Ernaivo** openly declared her intention to sign a warrant for the arrest of four HCC members who ruled on the case, accusing them of 'abuse of power' and 'destabilisation' for approving and examining the motion, which she believes should have been supported by two-thirds of parliamentarians rather than a single individual. The magistrates [targeted](#) by the proceedings for breaching the secrecy of deliberations are **Rojoaniaina Ranaivoson**, the wife of the former secretary general of the presidency under former president **Andry Rajoelina** (2019-2025), **Antonia Rakotoniaina Raverohanitrabolatiany**, **William Noelson** and **Nandrasana Georges Merlin Rasolo**.

The HCC specifies that its members remain subject to prosecution for any crime or offence committed outside the scope of their duties, but in this case, the members of the HCC cannot be prosecuted because they expressed opinions during a deliberation that is supposed to remain confidential. On 2 June, the HCC broke its silence to defend the independence of its members. The HCC [pointed](#) out that internal discussions preceding the adoption of a decision, judgement or opinion are covered by the secrecy of deliberations. In particular, it relies on Article 108 of the Constitution, which guarantees the independence of judges in the exercise of their judicial functions. HCC secretary general, **Firiana Ranesa Rakotonjanahary**, [emphasised](#) that senior councillors remain free to express an opinion for or against the admissibility of a case:

*"The opinions expressed during these deliberations cannot constitute grounds for prosecution. No person, authority or entity should be aware of the course of the debate or the position and arguments of each member. This is the rule of secrecy of deliberations."*

The HCC has always played a significant role in Madagascar's political crises and is often viewed as a political organ. During the Gen Z demonstrations in September 2025, **Siteny Randrianasoloniaiko** – who was then **Assemblée Nationale** (national assembly) vice president - referred the matter to the

HCC in a letter dated 12 October 2025. In this letter, he requested that the HCC “*rule on a resolution to resolve the current institutional and political crisis*”. The HCC then exercised its 'power to regulate institutions' and noted the vacancy of the office of Rajoelina, as well as the establishment of military authority under Randrianirina, applying a form of case law to the crisis, and offering a political solution to the crisis.

### Madagascar is considering importing fuel from Nigeria

On his return on 9 June, following a series of visits to **Gabon** and **Nigeria** from 5 to 8 June, Randrianirina [announced](#) that an agreement on fuel supplies is set to be signed shortly between Madagascar and Nigeria. Explaining how important his trip to Nigeria was during a brief interview with the press at **Ivato International Airport**, Randrianirina said that the discussions mainly focused on a partnership for fuel supply. He announced that a contract will be signed very soon, as the negotiations have already been finalised. During his visit to **Abuja** (Nigeria), Randrianirina also met his counterpart, President **Bola Ahmed Tinubu** (2023 – present), on 8 June.

Nigeria, Africa’s largest oil producer, could now become a new fuel supplier for the island, which currently sources its supplies from **OQ Trading**. This trading arm of the **Sultanate of Oman** has been the country’s sole supplier since 2022 and has renewed its contract for the 2025–2026 period.

Madagascar’s oil sector is entirely dependent on imports. Estimates from the **Office Malgache des Hydrocarbures** (Malagasy hydrocarbons office) [indicate](#) that annual imports amount to approximately 1.2 billion litres while data from the **World Bank** and the Malagasy customs authorities show that fuel accounts for over 25% of Madagascar’s imports, costing the state between \$900m and \$1 billion. At present, the issue of cost has not yet been clarified within the framework of the partnership with Nigeria. However, transport costs are expected to fall considerably.

In the face of numerous supply disruptions linked to the conflict in the **Middle East**, the new government has demonstrated its commitment to sourcing hydrocarbons from a wider range of countries, as set out in the **Implementation Plan for the General Policy of Refoundation (PMO-PER)**. Alongside the potential agreement with Nigeria, the transitional authorities have mentioned other potential supplier countries, including **Russia** and **Qatar** - during a meeting with members of the diaspora in **Paris (France)** in February 2026, national assembly president, **Siteny Randrianasoloniaiko**, raised the possibility of importing fuel from these two countries but no follow-up announcement has been issued.

### Government strengthening its economic and military cooperation with Russia

Prime minister **Mamitiana Rajaonarison** met with secretary of the Russian security council, **Sergei Shoigu**, in **Moscow** on 27 May to [discuss](#) the prospect of military cooperation, including training programmes for military personnel. The prime minister’s office also noted the two signed a partnership agreement with a view to establish a common economic zone between Russia and Madagascar.

Rajaonarison further announced plans to improve the business climate in Madagascar to attract more investors, particularly from Russia. Regarding oil supply issues linked to the conflict in the Middle East, Rajaonarison stated that discussions are already underway with the Russian authorities concerning the expansion of oil storage capacity in Madagascar. On the issue of democracy, the prime minister [affirmed](#) that “*we will establish a democracy for the Malagasy people, not a democracy copied from others.*” The two further discussed cooperation through scientific collaboration between universities and in the agricultural sector, with Rajaonarison also referencing the humanitarian aid Russia provided about **Cyclone Gezani** struck in February.

Rajaonarison led a delegation to Russia to take part in the **International Security Forum** on 26 May. Since Randrianirina came to power in October 2025, the Refoundation government has been forging increasingly close ties with Russia. In February, Randrianirina travelled to Moscow to meet his

Russian counterpart, **Vladimir Putin** (2000-2008; 2012-present) (see *ARC Briefing Madagascar Feb 2026*).

## Planner

26 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** Official celebration of the 66<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Madagascar's independence at the Mahamasina Stadium

## Chronology

16 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *L'Express*. Government issues two new decrees that significantly increase state control over strategic mining projects, giving the government authority to select projects, negotiate mining agreements, require local processing and environmental commitments, and take at least a 10% stake in certain strategic minerals such as gold and uranium;

15 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *L'Express*. At a **Russian** embassy reception, officials celebrate a resurgence in bilateral relations between Madagascar and Russia, noting significant diplomatic momentum following high-level visits earlier this year;

12 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *2424.mg*. Official opening of the 12th edition of the **International Tourism Fair Madagascar (ITM)**, the largest tourism fair in the **Indian Ocean**, at the Ivato International Conference Centre, with over 500 exhibitors taking part;

12 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *L'Express de Madagascar*. Malagasy government has scrapped the motor vehicle tax included in the **Finance Act** for 2026, a move that sparked protests and fierce public debate;

11 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Embassy of China*. The **Chinese** embassy in Antananarivo has expressed its support for the firm measures that the Malagasy government has taken in its fight against illegal gold mining;

10 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Real TV Madagasikara*. **Pôles Anti-Corruption (PAC)** (anti-corruption unit) reports over MGA 28 billion (\$6.72m) of public funds were embezzled in 2025 and forms the basis of the 838 cases the PAC handled;

9 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. **Russia** donates equipment for road works and agricultural activities for the Malagasy army;

9 Jun 2026 **Ivato (Madagascar)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. Upon his return from visits to **Gabon** and **Nigeria**, transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina** announces a draft agreement with Nigeria for the supply of fuel;

8 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Anadolu Agency*. The **World Bank** has announced additional funding of \$90m to support Madagascar's flagship nutrition programme;

8 Jun 2026 **Morafeno (Madagascar)** *Mines.mg*. Malagasy authorities have shut down an illegal gold mining operation run by a **Chinese** company in Morafeno (**Haute Matsiatra Region**) during an inspection carried out by regional officials, including the mines and environment ministries, gendarmerie and national police;

7 Jun 2026 **Abuja (Nigeria)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. Transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina** - accompanied by senior advisor Colonel **Rampanarivo Thierry** - arrives in Nigeria for an official visit and a meeting with President **Bola Tinubu**;

5 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Vérité Hebdo*. The **European Union (EU)** formalises a financial commitment of \$13m dedicated to a new programme supporting sound economic governance with a view to consolidating public finances and strengthening institutional transparency;

5 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Ministry of Economy and Finance*. Economy and finance minister, **Ramiarison Herinjatovo**, and the acting secretary general of **United Nations Conference**

**on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)** sign a declaration of confidence in the context of the **United Nations Framework Programme for Sustainable Development 2024–2025**;

5 Jun 2026 **Libreville (Gabon)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. Transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina** meets Gabon's President **Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema** as part of an official visit to Gabon;

5 Jun 2026 **Toliara (Madagascar)** *L'Express de Madagascar*. The first aerial surveys of areas potentially rich in mineral resource have begun, using specialised aircraft of the **Nigerian** company **Bravura** in the **Atsimo Andrefana Region**;

4 Jun 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Ministry of Economy and Finance*. Official opening of the first edition of **GEM CONNECT 2026**, bringing together private sector stakeholders, technical and financial partners, and representatives of public institutions with a view to strengthening an environment conducive to investment, employment and economic growth in Madagascar;

4 Jun 2026 **Mahazoarivo (Madagascar)** *Embassy of China*. Prime minister **Mamitiana Rajaonarison** states that **China** is an important partner for Madagascar during a meeting with the ambassador of China, **Ji Ping**, at the prime minister's office;

3 Jun 2026 **Jakarta (Indonesia)** *Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Foreign affairs minister, **Alice N'Diaye**, and her Indonesian counterpart, **Sugiono**, sign two agreements concerning the establishment of a joint cooperation commission and visa exemptions for holders of diplomatic and service passports;

3 Jun 2026 **Iavoloha (Madagascar)** *TVM*. Religious leaders within the **FFKM (Ecumenical Council of Christian Churches in Madagascar)** will lead the national consultation process, following a decision taken at the conclusion of a meeting with the authorities of the Refoundation regime;

1 June 2026 **Antananarivo (Madagascar)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. Transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina** receives **Haim Berkovits** and **Itshak Mamo**, two business leaders and honorary consuls of **Israel**, at the State Palace in **Iavoloha**;

31 May 2026 **Iavoloha (Madagascar)** *TVM*. During a special programme broadcast, transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina** states that all mining projects must meet four essential criteria: they must represent a worthwhile investment for the country; create jobs for young people; be environmentally friendly; and integrate seamlessly with local communities;

28 May 2026 **Ambohidahy (Madagascar)** *TV Plus Madagascar*. **Haute Cour Constitutionnelle** (high constitutional court) dismisses the application made by parliament member **Antoine Rajerison** seeking "a ruling on the failure of the military authority, represented by Colonel **Michaël Randrianirina**, to fulfil the duties of Head of State";

19 May 2026 **Ilafy (Madagascar)** *Real Tv Madagasikara*. Several political figures, including transitional president **Michaël Randrianirina**, are attending a service marking the official start of the conference organised by the religious leaders of the **Fiombonan'ny Fiangonana Kristiana eto Madagasikara (FKKM)** (Ecumenical Council of Christian Churches of Madagascar);

19 May 2026 **Iavoloha (Madagascar)** *Presidency of Madagascar*. The Council of Ministers approves the appointment of three new ambassadors to **Russia**, **Germany** and the **United Nations in New York (United States)**;

19 May 2026 **Rabat (Morocco)** *Ministry of Foreign Affairs*. Foreign affairs minister, **Alice N'Diaye**, reaffirms Madagascar's commitment to continuing and intensifying South-South cooperation alongside **Morocco** during a working visit to Rabat.

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