

Constitutional Term Limits for African Leaders

No Constitutional Two-Term Limit	Countries with Two-Term Limit in Constitution			
	Limit Not Yet Met by Any President (Year Limit to Be Reached)	Two-Term Limit Reached		
		Attempted Modification or Elimination of Limit		Left Office (First Leader to Adhere to Limit)
		Limit Modified or Eliminated	Limit Retained	
Eritrea	Mauritania (2019)	Togo (Eyadéma, 2002)	Zambia (Chiluba, 2001)	Tanzania (Mwinyi, 1995)
Ethiopia ¹	Côte d'Ivoire (2020)	Gabon (Bongo, 2003)	Malawi (Muluzi, 2003)	Ghana (Rawlings, 2001)
Gambia	Guinea (2020)	Uganda (Museveni, 2005, 2018) ⁶	Nigeria (Obasanjo, 2006)	São Tomé and Príncipe (Trovoada, 2001)
Lesotho ¹	Sudan (2020)	Chad (Deby, 2005)	Niger (Tandja, 2009)	Cape Verde ⁹ (Monteiro, 2001)
Morocco ²	Egypt (2022)	Cameroon (Biya, 2008)	Senegal (Wade, 2012)	Mali (Konaré, 2002)
Somalia	Madagascar (2024)	Djibouti (Guelleh, 2010)	Burkina Faso (Compaoré, 2014)	Mauritius ⁹ (Uteem, 2002)
South Sudan ³	Tunisia (2024)	Rwanda (Kagame, 2015)		Kenya (Moi, 2002)
Swaziland ²	Guinea-Bissau (2024)	Burundi (Nkurunziza, 2015) ⁷		Mozambique (Chissano, 2005)
	Seychelles (2025)	Republic of Congo (Nguesso, 2015)		Benin (Kérékou, 2006)
	Libya (2026) ⁴	DRC (Kabila, 2016) ⁸		Comoros (Assoumani, 2006)
	Central African Republic (2026)			Sierra Leone (Kabbah, 2007)
	Zimbabwe (2027)			Botswana (Mogae, 2008)
	Angola (2028)			South Africa (Mbeki, 2008)
	Algeria (2029) ⁵			Namibia (Pohamba, 2015)
	Equatorial Guinea (2030)			Liberia (Sirleaf, 2018)

¹ Executive authority largely rests with the office of the prime minister, which does not face restrictions on tenure.

² Executive authority rests with a monarch.

³ South Sudan: Salva Kiir's term as elected president ended in 2015, though he has subsequently remained in office without a renewed mandate.

⁴ Libya: The draft 2016 Constitution imposes two-term limits.

⁵ Algeria: A limit of two five-year terms was reinstated in 2016, theoretically allowing Abdelaziz Bouteflika to run for two more terms starting in 2019.

⁶ Uganda: Presidential term limits were lifted in 2005, and the age limit was removed in 2018.

⁷ Burundi: While legitimacy remains contested, Pierre Nkurunziza has held onto power past term limit expiration in 2015.

⁸ DRC: Joseph Kabila served out his second term in 2016 but has resisted leaving office.

⁹ The elected president is term limited, though power is shared with a prime minister, who is not.