AFRICA CENTER 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
		Limit Modified or Eliminated	Limit Retained	Adhere to Limit)
Eritrea	Côte d'Ivoire (2020) <sup>4</sup>	Togo (Eyadéma, 2002, 2019) <sup>8</sup>	Zambia (Chiluba, 2001)	Tanzania (Mwinyi, 1995)
Ethiopia <sup>1</sup>	Guinea (2020) <sup>5</sup>	Gabon (Bongo, 2003)	Malawi (Muluzi, 2003)	Ghana (Rawlings, 2001)
The Gambia <sup>2</sup>	Sudan (2023) <sup>6</sup>	Uganda (Museveni, 2005, 2017) <sup>9</sup>	Nigeria (Obasanjo, 2006)	São Tomé and Príncipe <sup>19</sup> (Trovoada, 2001)
Lesotho <sup>1</sup>	Madagascar (2023)	Chad (Deby, 2005, 2018) <sup>10</sup>	Niger (Tandja, 2009)	Cabo Verde <sup>19</sup> (Monteiro, 2001)
Libya <sup>2</sup>	Central African Republic (2025)	Cameroon (Biya, 2008)	Senegal (Wade, 2012)	Mali (Konaré, 2002)
Morocco <sup>3</sup>	Angola (2027)	Algeria (Bouteflika, 2008, 2016) <sup>11</sup>	Burkina Faso (Compaoré, 2014)	Mauritius <sup>19</sup> (Uteem, 2002)
Somalia	Zimbabwe (2028) <sup>7</sup>	Djibouti (Guelleh, 2010)	Benin (Talon, 2017)	Kenya (Moi, 2002)
Eswatini <sup>3</sup>	Guinea-Bissau (2029)	Burundi (Nkurunziza, 2015, 2018) <sup>12</sup>		Mozambique (Chissano, 2005)
	Tunisia (2029)	Rwanda (Kagame, 2015) <sup>13</sup>		Sierra Leone (Kabbah, 2007)
	Equatorial Guinea (2030)	Republic of the Congo (Nguesso, 2015) <sup>14</sup>		Botswana (Mogae, 2008)
	Seychelles (2030)	South Sudan (Kiir, 2015, 2018) <sup>15</sup>		South Africa (Mbeki, 2008)
		DRC (Kabila, 2016) <sup>16</sup>		Namibia (Pohamba, 2015)
		Comoros (Azali, 2018) <sup>17</sup>		Liberia (Sirleaf, 2018)
		Egypt (Sisi, 2019) <sup>18</sup>		Mauritania (Abdel Aziz, 2019)

September 2020

## **Notes**

- 1. Ethiopia and Lesotho: Executive authority largely rests with the office of the prime minister, which does not face restrictions on tenure.
- 2. The Gambia and Libya: A two-term limit has been included in the draft constitution.
- 3. Morocco and Eswatini: Executive authority rests with a monarch.
- 4. Côte d'Ivoire: The adoption of a new constitution in 2016 enabled Alassane Ouattara to run for a third term in 2020 and theoretically a fourth term in 2025.
- 5. Guinea: A new constitution passed in a controversial 2020 referendum allowed Condé to run for a third term in 2020 and theoretically a fourth term in 2026.
- 6. Sudan: The transitional government has a three-year mandate, which expires in 2023.

- 7. Zimbabwe: The military ouster of Robert Mugabe in 2017 has allowed for the continuation of nearly four decades of ZANU-PF-led government.
- 8. Togo: A two-term limit was reinstated in 2019, allowing Faure Gnassingbé to run for a fourth term in 2020 and theoretically a fifth term in 2025.
- 9. Uganda: Presidential term limits were lifted in 2005, and the age limit was removed in 2017.
- 10. Chad: A new constitution reinstated a two-term limit and changed terms from 5 to 6 years in 2018, theoretically allowing Idriss Déby to run for a sixth term in 2021 and a seventh term in 2027.
- 11. Algeria: A limit of two 5-year terms was reinstated in 2016, theoretically allowing Abdelaziz Bouteflika to run for a fifth term in 2019 (though he was subsequently forced to resign).
- 12. Burundi: Following a controversial third term ruling in 2015, a new constitution extended presidential terms from 5 to 7 years in 2018.
- 13. Rwanda: A controversial 2015 referendum allowed Paul Kagame a third 7-year term after which he may run for two 5-year terms, potentially remaining in power to 2034.
- 14. Republic of the Congo: A new constitution in 2015 removed the age limit, reduced term length from 7 years to 5, and extended term limit to three terms.
- 15. South Sudan: Salva Kiir's term as elected president ended in 2015, but constitutional amendments in 2018 and a new unity government formed in 2020 extends his mandate until 2023.
- 16. DRC: Joseph Kabila's term as elected president ended in 2016, though he remained in office until the disputed elections in 2018, by which he retains considerable power.
- 17. Comoros: A new constitution, approved in a controversial 2018 referendum allows the president to run for two consecutive 5-year terms, abolishing the one-term rotational system of power sharing among the islands.
- 18. Egypt: A controversial constitutional amendment in 2019 extended Sisi's second 4-year term by 2 years, and allows him to run for an additional 6-year (third) term that would end in 2030.
- 19. São Tomé and Príncipe, Cabo Verde, and Mauritius: The elected president is term limited, though power is shared with a prime minister, who is not.