**Niger's new leader is an army general: state TV**

General Abdourahamane Tchiani is the new leader of Niger following a military takeover, state television reported on Friday, reports Agence France-Presse from Niamey.

The chief of the Presidential Guard has been named 'president of the National Council for the Safeguard of the Homeland,' a statement said, with elected President Mohamed Bazoum detained by army putschists since Wedensday morning.