

MEMORANDUM

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Should a reader require a copy of the Memoranda, please address the request to fernando.matos.rosa@sapo or fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be.

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OUR OCEAN 2017 CONFERENCE: MALTA, 5-6 OCTOBER

The European Union will host the fourth edition of Our Ocean conference in Malta, 5 - 6 October 2017. Our Ocean conference aims to inspire joint solutions and ambitious commitments in managing seas and oceans – which cover 75% of our planet.

On behalf of the EU, High Representative / Vice-President **Mogherini** and Commissioner Karmenu **Vella** will be co-hosting the event, in the presence of First Vice-President **Timmermans** and Commissioner **Mimica**.

Over 700 participants are expected to attend, from more than 60 countries, including more than 50 Heads of State or Government and ministers.

Our Ocean 2017 has already attracted over 150 commitments and counting, including from more than 50 companies, ranging from the traditional fisheries sector to the Silicon Valley tech.

The background:

Previous conferences, hosted by the governments of the United States (2014, 2016) and Chile (2015), have seen a wide range of [commitments](#) and billions of euros pledged.

Our Ocean 2017 will address the themes of marine protected areas, sustainable fisheries, marine pollution, and climate change. This year, it will also offer a distinctively European flavour by introducing the themes of blue economy and maritime security. Our Ocean will engage participants from around the globe who will make significant commitments. With a focus on high-level engagement, partnership and action, the EU continues to drive other international efforts, such as delivery on the [Sustainable Development Goals](#) under Agenda 2030. The conference also complements the EU's [international ocean governance initiative](#), which sets out an agenda for the future of the oceans around the world, proposing 50 concrete actions. (EC 05-10-2017)

[Agenda](#)

[Ocean Governance](#)

LES RENCONTRES AFRICA 2017 KICKS OFF IN TUNIS

Les Rencontres Africa - Tunis 2017 opened Thursday in the Tunisian capital on the theme: "Solidarity, Sustainable and Beneficial Cooperation between Africa and France", APA's special correspondent reports from the venue.



Opening the forum, in the presence of his counterparts from Burkina Faso and France, the head of the Tunisian government, Yousef Chahed, stressed the responsibility of African business leaders in the development of the continent, at a time when the world, particularly Africa, needs “much more solidarity to face the challenges.”

Les Rencontres Africa 2017 is in line with Tunisia’s development strategy, which has observer status within the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and wants to integrate with this organization, as well as the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), said Chahed.

French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe said the Rencontres Africa 2017, which has emerged as one of the continent's biggest economic events since the first edition was held in September 2016 in Paris, symbolizes this development vision.

"Let us be useful, humble and pragmatic and create jobs," the French PM told the 3,000 French and African business leaders and officials responsible for defining the institutional framework for business development.

Speaking of Tunisia, Mr. Philippe pointed out that this country faces today challenges of all kinds, including terrorism which Tunisia is admirably resisting.

"Burkina Faso is back," declared Prime Minister Paul Thiéba to thunderous applause. The slogan reflects the government's efforts to make the country's economy more competitive, Thiéba said, before turning to the country's development strategy, which he said is based on the private sector-led growth.

"In just 24 hours, one can start a business in Burkina Faso and the required capital has gone down from 100,000 fCFA to less than 5,000 fCFA; and the Mining Code and the Investment Code have been revised to make them even more attractive," he announced.

Paul Thiéba also spoke about the liberalization of the energy sector, and measures to prevent and fight corruption in the West African country.

The two-day Rencontres Africa 2017 brings together nearly 300 French companies and at least 400 Tunisian companies.

More than 200 high-level stakeholders were mobilized to share their expertise and experiences in the various forums and symposiums being held as part of the event.

The topics include "Sustainable Development and New Energies: The Future of Africa"; "Financing in Africa: What Solutions for Companies?" and "Digital Transformation: Opportunity for the Economy." (APA 05-10-2017)

NIGERIA'S FEDERAL GOVERNMENT REVOKES PLANS TO CANCEL POWER SECTOR PRIVATIZATION

The possibility of cancelling licenses given to private sector investors to run the Nigeria's power sector has been revoked by the federal government of Nigeria.

According to Mr. Babatunde Fashola cancellation of the exercise will send a negative message to prospective investors in the country's power sector. He says that revoking it will make investors leave the country.

Privatization

Mr. Fashola agrees that there are problems and he understands that four years after privatization there is a transition period. Additionally some more work needs to happen before the expected benefits come to fruition.

He stressed the need for institutions at state and federal levels to take actions that should help the investors play their part effectively, implement enunciate policies and extant laws. He stated their role in this regard are sort out in the Electric Power Sector Reform Act 2005. To which the privatization of the power sector took place.

He asserted that the meter provision is not a monopoly of DisCos. According to him its supervision falls within the mandates of the Nigerian Electricity Management Service Agency (NEMSA) and the Nigerian Electricity Regulation Commission (NERC). The government would support the provision of the product to demonstrate access.

The intention of the democratization of meter provision is to reduce conflict between customers and DisCos. Also to reduce losses in the sector and assist the electricity firms which cannot afford to fund meters.

He notes that the negotiated price for large consumers would likely be lower than N80 per kwh or more. Eligible customers may apply to the NERC to privately acquire power, independent of DisCos. Of course this will occur only on a willing buyer, willing seller basis. (CRO 02-10-2017)

SWAZILAND SEEKS NEW MARKETS AS EU SUGAR QUOTA ENDS

Swaziland is searching for new regional markets for its sugar following the end of a quota system that limited production by European Union countries for the past 50 years, an official said on Wednesday.



The EU last month formally scrapped quotas on the production and sale of the commodity by its member states after nearly 50 years.

The quota system meant that total EU production was set at 13.5 million tonnes of sugar, which was divided between 20 member states. Production in excess of the quota is known as "out-of-quota" sugar and strict rules governed its use.

The end of the quotas means that there are no further limits to production or exports, allowing production to adjust to market demand both within and outside the EU.

Swaziland Sugar Association (SSA) chief executive Phil Mnisi said the southern African country began feeling the effects of the reform process in 2016 when the EU reduced its imports by 13.6 percent for the 2016/17 year.

He said the domestic market can only absorb limited volume of sugar, hence the need to look for alternative markets.

"SSA's ability to pursue this strategy was constrained in the past year as there was production reduction which meant that the industry had to focus primarily on meeting its long-term contractual obligations, including the EU," he explained.

The scrapping of the arrangement was discussed and finalised between the European Parliament and member states during the 2013 reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) which followed a major reform and restructuring process that was initiated in 2006.

Swaziland's production declined by 15.7 percent in the past year due to factors such as drought. (APA 04-10-2017)

DP WORLD REVEALS AMBITIOUS PLANS FOR SENEGAL AND MALI



Dakar's Terminal à Conteneurs

Port developer and operator DP World has announced that construction work on its Port de Futur will begin in Senegal by the end of 2018. The project is intended to provide the country with a state-of-the-art integrated port, logistics hub and special economic zone.

It has also announced plans to develop the economy of Mali, the desert state to the east of Senegal. The decisions were taken following meeting between Ahmed Bin Sulayem, the chairman of the Dubai-based company, and President Macky Sall of Senegal and President Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta of Mali.

DP World took over Dakar Port, with Senegal's only deepwater harbour and container terminal, in 2007. However, Dakar Port is located on the end of a peninsula, and so has nowhere to grow.

DP World's intends to build a terminal with an annual capacity of 1 million teu at Bargny, on the south-eastern outskirts of Dakar, as well as a 6.5 square kilometre, \$800m logistics hub and freetrade zone. The zone will also be close to Blaise Diagne airport, which is still under construction, and connected to Dakar by a new rail link.



Nowhere to grow: the Port of Dakar is on the end of a peninsula, and in the centre of Senegal's capital

Altogether, the port schemes will have a capital cost of around \$1.3bn.

Port de Futur is competing with a number of other [west African port projects](#) for access to a hinterland of around 200 million people in 16 countries.

Bin Sulayem [told the press](#) that Port de Futur and its associated developments would be “one of the most advanced and well-organised free zones in Africa and globally, using the latest state-of-the-art equipment and technology”.

He added: “The size of the region and its population reinforces the need for multi-modal transport, logistics and customs capabilities across borders, and as our business moves the world across 40 countries we have the know-how to help in that mission.”

DP World is presently negotiating land allocations for the free-trade zone, and has promised to reveal its masterplan for the redevelopment of the existing port in the coming months.

The chairman also visited Mali in his tour of west and north Africa. His company is hoping to put in place a programme of works to enable Mali to make use of Port de Futur. The plan includes a [transportation and logistics strategy](#) with the same electronic customs processes DP World developed for the port of Jebel Ali in Dubai.

He said: “Mali has a long history of trade in gold and agricultural products and though landlocked, has the opportunity to maximise use of its 1,800km of inland waterways such as the Niger River to connect local farmers and businesses to international markets.

“Our flagship Jebel Ali model in Dubai, connecting port, free-trade zone, customs processes and logistics supported by advanced digital systems and technologies, is a shining example that countries in Africa such as Mali can benefit from. President Keïta welcomed our proposals and we look forward to building on our relationship further.” (GCR 04-10-2017)

KENYA: UN WARNS AGAINST BOYCOTTING REPEAT POLLS

The United Nations on Wednesday warned against political candidates boycotting the October 26 repeat Presidential elections, and has urged President Uhuru Kenyatta and opposition leader Raila Odinga to dialogue with the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC).



The United Nations strongly encouraged President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee party, and NASA flagbearer Raila Odinga and the electorate to participate in the planned election on 26 October, saying that free, transparent and credible elections are the only democratic ways to enable Kenyans choose their leaders.

"The responsibility for successful elections lies not just with the electoral management body, but with the entire range of stakeholders, from political parties, their supporters, civil society and to voters at large," said the Director-General of the United Nations Office in Nairobi, Sahle-Work Zewde.

The UN further welcomed the IEBC initiative to have dialogue with representatives of Jubilee and National Super Alliance (NASA) to discuss the preparations for the fresh presidential election.

"The United Nations urges the parties to recommit themselves to dialogue and to seek consensus-based solutions to their differences as the most appropriate means to pave way to a free, transparent and credible election in conformity with the Constitution and existing electoral laws," said the UN in a statement on Wednesday.

On Tuesday, the IEBC held separate talks with Odinga and deputy President William Ruto for a briefing on the preparations of the elections, in a bid to break a deadlock with the opposition, which is threatening to boycott the polls if their demands are not met.

However, on Wednesday, Odinga maintained that they have zero confidence in the electoral body to deliver free and fair elections, saying that the talks with the agency were not fruitful and had not reached any agreement.

The opposition has presented a raft of proposals such as the removal of IEBC CEO Ezra Chiloba and another ten officials, change of a printer of the ballot papers and change of the technology provider for the elections.

Odinga vowed to continue with the weekly protests slated for Mondays and Fridays until the IEBC yields to its demands.

"Do not be cheated that NASA has some agreement with IEBC and that there is some progress that we are party to. We have no such agreement and our faith in IEBC remains zero, which is why our political action plan must continue," said Odinga.

The opposition is also opposed to ongoing plans by Jubilee to amend the electoral laws ahead of the polls in a bid to address the shortcomings that led to the invalidation of the August presidential vote, watering down the requirement for electronic transmission of the results and instead placing manual transmission as the legally-binding process.

On Tuesday, Ruto said that they were confident that the IEBC has the capacity to hold the repeat polls. Kenyans go to the polls in a cloud of uncertainty after Kenyatta's election victory in the August 8 elections was nullified by the Supreme Court, which termed the polls as full of irregularities. (APA 04-10-2017)

FIRST GLOBAL FUNDING PACT LAUNCHED TO SECURE INDIGENOUS LAND RIGHTS

Indigenous people under threat from companies seeking to develop their land for agriculture, mining and energy projects will be supported with money and practical help through a major global partnership backed by philanthropic and government funding.

The International Land and Forest Tenure Facility is the first initiative to provide grants to advance the rights of indigenous people to help them protect their forest land and resources.

“Creating mechanisms that allow indigenous peoples and local communities to gain tenure over their land or forests is a key way to tackle climate change and inequality,” said Darren Walker, president of the Ford Foundation, a major backer.

Norway pledges \$20 million

The facility won a \$20 million pledge from Norway on Tuesday when it was launched at a land rights conference in Stockholm.

Indigenous people and rural communities have customary claims to two thirds of the world's land but are legally recognized as holding only 10 percent, according to the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), a global network.

This has contributed to an increase in conflicts over land in countries rich in tropical forests and natural resources as agribusinesses, mining and energy companies lay claim to indigenous land and forests.

Forests help slow global warming

Forests absorb planet-warming carbon dioxide and when they are degraded or destroyed, the carbon stored in the trees is released into the atmosphere. Deforestation accounts for 10 to 15 percent of carbon emissions worldwide.

If the facility invests at least \$10 million a year for its first 10 years, experts project an increase in titled, protected and well-managed community and indigenous tropical forests of more than 40 million hectares (100,000 acres), an area roughly the size of Sweden.

Such efforts would also prevent deforestation of one million hectares and the release of 500 million tons of carbon dioxide and help reduce poverty among indigenous people, the RRI said.

“The Tenure Facility provides a powerful solution to save the world’s forests from the ground up,” said Carin Jämtin, director general of the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency, another key funder.

Pilot projects

The facility has already provided grants and guidance for pilot projects in Indonesia, Mali, Peru, Cameroon, Liberia and Panama.

A 2015 peace accord that ended Mali’s civil war failed to address land-based conflicts that contributed to the war, said Boubacar Diarra, the project's coordinator in the West African country.

The facility helped to set up 17 local land commissions to sort through conflicting claims to determine who owns the land, he said.

“These commissions have reduced conflicts by up to a third by working with local villagers and tribal leaders,” Diarra told the Thomson Reuters Foundation. (VoA 03-10-2017)

EGYPT TO SIGN A \$500M LOAN AGREEMENT WITH AFDB

Egypt will sign a \$500 million loan agreement with the African Development Bank (AfDB) before the end of 2017, which is a part of a \$1.5 billion agreement reached in 2015 to support economic development, the Minister of Investment Sahar Nasr said on Wednesday.



During a meeting with AfDB officials, Nasr discussed the bank's proposal to fund the Abu Rawwash water treatment plant in Giza with \$150 million.

For his part, Vice President of the bank, Khaled Sherif said that Egypt is a founding member of the AfDB and the second largest contributor in the bank, which finances 29 projects with a total value of \$2.3 billion.

"Around 44 percent of the projects are in the energy sector, 45 percent are allocated to the state budget, three percent in the irrigation sector, two percent in the agriculture sector and one percent in the social solidarity sector," he noted.

The \$500 million is the third tranche of a three-year \$1.5 billion loan approved by the AfDB in 2015 to finance the Egypt Economic Governance and Energy Support Program.

With the first two tranches already disbursed at \$500 million each, the program aims to support sustainable growth in Egypt through financing the fiscal, governance, energy, business and climate sectors. (APA 04-10-2017)

UN AGENCY ALARMED BY LARGEST INFLUX OF CONGOLESE REFUGEES INTO ZAMBIA IN FIVE YEARS



At Nchelenge Transit Centre in Chiengi, Luapula Province, northern Zambia, Congolese refugees receive one of their three hot meals per day, provided by local authorities and UNHCR

Growing violence in south-eastern areas of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) has driven at least 3,360 refugees into northern Zambia over the past month, the United Nations refugee agency said today, warning that the humanitarian needs of the displaced could intensify on both sides of the border as the rainy season approaches.

"This is the [largest influx](#) of Congolese refugees into Zambia in the past five years," Andrej Mahecic, a spokesperson for the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees ([UNHCR](#)) told reporters in Geneva.

The refugees and asylum-seekers, mainly from the Congolese provinces of Haut-Katanga and Tanganyika, are escaping inter-ethnic clashes, as well as fighting between Congolese security forces and militia groups.

"Those arriving in Zambia report extreme brutality, with civilians being killed, women raped, property looted and houses set alight," Mr. Mahecic said.

Some 60 per cent of those arriving in Zambia are children. Many show signs of malnutrition. Malaria, respiratory problems, dysentery and skin infections are common among the refugees.

The Zambian Government, UNHCR and the Zambian Red Cross are distributing hot and providing psycho-social support for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence. The humanitarian response team is delivering basic items, including tents, plastic sheeting, mosquito nets, blankets, buckets, hygiene kits and soap. Temporary shelters are being erected, boreholes are being drilled for drinking water and temporary latrines are being constructed.

Because of overcrowding, UNHCR has started work on a second transit facility to receive the growing number of new arrivals. A more permanent settlement will also be developed, with a social infrastructure where new arrivals will be able to stay for longer and develop some self-sufficiency.

Since the beginning of 2017, about 5,761 Congolese have crossed the border into Zambia. In total, there are 27,338 Congolese refugees and asylum seekers in that country.

Meanwhile, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) is **scaling up** its displacement assessments and emergency activities in Tanganyika as well as the Kasai province.

Increased ethnic violence throughout these provinces has uprooted more than 1.4 million people over the past few months, bringing the total number of internally displaced nationwide to some 3.4 million.

In Tanganyika province, the UN migration agency has carried out a survey in six of the 12 displacement sites in and around the city of Kalemie to collect information on the profile, needs and intentions of the displaced, including on their return and reintegration requirements.

The survey will be conducted at the remaining sites in the following weeks. According to IOM's database, as of September 2017, an estimated 90,000 individuals reside in these sites in precarious conditions.

"The data collected during this assessment will provide useful information to IOM and its partners on the needs and intentions of internally displaced persons," said IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) expert, Stephanie Daviot. "It will also allow us to better target the assistance to those most vulnerable on the sites."

In Central Kasai province, DTM has identified around 197,000 internally displaced persons and 490,000 returnees in 1,809 villages. (UN

The DTM assessments in Central Kasai will continue over the upcoming weeks and provide an overview of the displacement situation in the entire province by the end of October. (UN 03-10-2017)

RUSSIA TAKES INTEREST IN S/AFRICA'S BLACK WINEMAKERS

A group of Russian businesspeople is in South Africa as part of the host government's efforts to boost businesses of black winemakers in the country, APA learnt on Wednesday.



Fourteen black winemakers based in the Western Cape Province and another based in Eastern Cape Province are with the Russian delegation attending a four-day session organised by the Ministry of Trade and Industry in Cape Town, the office said.

Deputy South African Trade and Industry Minister Bulelani Magwanishe said the Russian Wine Inward Buying Mission is a government initiative aimed at changing the patterns of ownership in the local wine industry.

“This initiative seeks to increase exports of South African wines to the Russian market and simultaneously contribute to our transformation efforts within the wine industry,” Magwanishe said.

The opening session was attended by Andre Kuzmin, who is chief executive of a leading Russian wine buying company, Marine Express.

The mission is a result of a meeting Magwanishe had with Kuzmin on the sidelines of the St Petersburg International Economic Forum in Russia in June.

Their engagement centred on increasing South Africa’s wine exports into the Russian market.

“The specific objective of our engagement was to create market access for black-owned wine companies. I am happy that black and women-owned winemakers are key stakeholders in this mission.

He said more targeted missions like this were being planned so that “radical economic transformation will be achieved and applied more practically.”

According to the minister, the Russian mission will go a long way in maximising linkages between the primary and secondary productive sectors of the economy.

He added: “Wine production, as part of agro-processing, is a priority sector identified in our Industrial Policy Action Plan.

The South African wine industry has grown exponentially, with exports having more than doubled between 2005 and 2016 – creating 300,000 direct and indirect jobs. (APA 04-10-2017)

SIEMENS TO ACCELERATE POWER GENERATION IN MADAGASCAR

Siemens has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Republic of Madagascar to identify measures for the country’s fast track power generation and to work towards increasing capacity by an additional 300MW by 2019



Siemens signs MoU with Madagascar to accelerate country’s power generation

The agreement was signed together with the project partner TSK group, which will be responsible for the operation and sustainability of the electricity sector and to investigate options to improve efficiency.

Under the agreement, Siemens will be responsible for conducting an assessment of the electrical grid based on the new power generation sources, applying financing concepts to ensure the long-term sustainability of these infrastructure initiatives and creating opportunities for local up skilling and job creation during construction and operation.

“The primary goal of this agreement is to increase national power generating capacity and to connect the local population to the power grid,” said Sabine Dall’Omo, CEO of Siemens for Southern and Eastern Africa.

“A reliable and extensive power supply system is the fundamental prerequisite for economic growth,” Dall’Omo added.

Currently, Madagascar has 676MW of installed generation capacity and the access to electricity has been estimated around 20 per cent. “Opportunities exist to increase the installed capacity through

hydropower and explore oil reserves to meet the targets set by government,” said the company in a statement.

Dall’Omo explained, “Improving the country’s energy mix will strengthen the well-established agriculture and mining industry and emerging tourism, textile industries.”

The company further explained that Siemens is planning to install a 44MW aero-derivative gas turbine (SGT-A45) for mobile power generation in Antananarivo. This unit is packaged for rapid deployment and can be installed in less than two weeks. The system is aiming to meet the urgent power needs in the region with less developed infrastructure. (AR 02-10-2017)

HOLLEY NIGERIA SIGNS MOU WITH PHED TO SUPPLY METER

Holley Nigeria, a subsidiary of China’s Holley Metering Ltd, has signed a MoU with the Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED) to deploy prepaid meters to consumers



The meters are expected to add value to Nigeria’s goal to eliminate estimated billing and collection losses

The partnership focuses on bringing Holley’s metering brand and technology to Nigeria to support the distribution companies eliminating losses and giving customers a positive experience.

Ifeanyi Okeke, CEO of Holley Nigeria, said that through this partnership the company is expecting to build a long-term mutual partnership with PHED in providing its metering solution and systems to electricity consumers.

“Holley Group’s main target in Nigeria is to partner with relevant government MDAs and the distribution companies to provide prepayment meters to the vast unmetered Nigeria populace through a workable template and guaranteed vendor financing scheme between distribution companies and their customers,” Okeke stated to ESI.

He further added that in Nigeria, Holley’s STS prepayment meters are in use at Ibadan Electricity Distribution Company (IBEDC) and Port Harcourt Electricity Distribution Company (PHED) since 2015. The meter rollout will assist in revenue collection and the current estimated billing, the source reported. Jean Breton, chief finance officer at PHED, said to the source, “Our target is to provide robust prepayment metering system in the region, eliminate estimated billing and collection losses which have posed a huge challenge to the growth of the country’s power sector, and also develop excellent customer satisfaction that will drive trust across the entire value chain (AR 25-09-2017)

SWAZI GOV’T LAUNCHES \$12.5M INFRASTRUCTURE BOND

The Central Bank of Swaziland (CBS) announced on Wednesday the launch of an eight-year government infrastructure bond to the tune of \$12.5 million.



The purpose of the issuance is to raise capital for infrastructure projects that seek to stimulate economic, business and social development.

CBS governor Majozi Sithole said the coupon rate for this bond whose auction date is October 26, 2017 will be fixed at 10.00 percent.

"The bond will be issued by competitive multiple bid auction and is open to the public including individuals, corporate and institutional investors," Sithole said in a statement posted on the CBS website. Investors have been advised to approach four local commercial banks – First National Bank, Nedbank, Standard Bank and Swazi Bank – to apply.

Swaziland's economy has not been stable during the past seven years and the situation worsened after the country's share of Southern African Customs Union receipts dropped.

This year the country has not increased salaries for civil servants, a move that has been challenged in court by workers' unions. (APA 04-10-2017)

AFRICA TO DEVELOP A MINERAL RESOURCE CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM

The African Minerals Development Centre (AMDC) is pioneering an initiative to set up an African mineral resource classification (AMREC) system on the basis of the UN frameworks Classification for fossil energy and mineral reserves and resources (UNFC)



The initiative is expected to improve the energy and mineral sector in Africa

AMREC is the continental framework that aims to harmonise, adapt and develop the UNFC according to the principles of the Africa mining vision (AMV).

The African-based framework is expected to enhance regional cooperation in sustainable development by providing a classification framework for management of all energy and mineral resources on land, continental shelf and seabed, said AMDC.

As the region's energy and mineral sectors are facing an array of challenges regarding economics, environmental and social aspects along with the commitments of the Paris Accord and aspirations of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the AMREC's initiative aims to serve as an important tool with sustainability as its core concept and foundation.

The geological experts have also endorsed the adoption of the principles of the UNFC as a model for the development of an African mineral classification system, said Kaiser de Souza, chief of geology and mineral information section of AMDC.

"Adopting the UNFC in the African context can be a tool to achieve transparent, equitable and optimal exploitation of mineral resources for broad-based sustainable growth and socio-economic development for the region," Souza stressed.

He further added that the new classification system focuses on adding value to implement the AMV by supporting decision-making for investment and governance along the mining value chain in African countries. In addition, he emphasised that the facilitation of international practices to interpreting geological information across African countries can effectively lead to the emergence of Pan-African commodity exchanges.

The workshop to bring about the establishment of AMREC is going to be held in Egypt from 2-6 October 2017, with plan to bring together professionals from African extractive industries and international experts in resource classification. (AR 22-09-2017)

IMF PLEDGES 9BN FCFA TO FUND CAR'S ECONOMIC PROJECTS

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has on Wednesday expressed its satisfaction with the economic program run by the Central African government, according to Samyr Jahja who headed an IMF mission to Bangui.



Jahja made the statement on Wednesday after the IMF mission ended its 10-day visit to Bangui, pledging 9 billion FCFA funding to the Central African country.

He told reporters on Tuesday evening after meeting with President Faustin Archange Touadera, he was satisfied with CAR's economic growth of 4 percent in 2017.

Jahja stressed, however, that if certain sectors of the economy, such as mines, forests are doing well despite the deplorable security situation, a stronger economic recovery will only take place with the effective restoration of the State's authority.

The IMF's mission which purpose was to conduct a third review of a new Extended Credit Facility Agreement has assessed the country's structural reforms and the level of revenue mobilization. (APA 04-10-2017)

PRESIDENT MUSEVENI WANTS TRUMP TO PRIORITISE ECONOMIC INFRASTRUCTURE FOR DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

The President said one of the challenges Uganda needed to tackle was electricity but the country did not get cooperation from the western countries in the 1960s, 70s, and 80s



President Yoweri Museveni of Uganda in 2012

President Yoweri Museveni has told American investors that he would like President Donald Trump to prioritise economic infrastructure development to help lower the cost of doing business in developing countries.

The President was addressing last Monday the Uganda Investors Roundtable organized and hosted by Norton Rose Fulbright, a leading international law firm in the United States of America and the US Chamber of Commerce in New York at the sidelines of the 72nd, session of the United Nations General Assembly.

“I would tell Trump to prioritise infrastructure. We have been a little bit frustrated by western governments and companies that were not clear about the bottlenecks we had to deal with. One of the bottlenecks is the private sector. If you want to promote the private sector you need to talk about profits. In order for the private sector to make profits they need to lower costs of doing business, low costs of electricity, transport and labor,” he said.

The President said one of the challenges Uganda needed to tackle was electricity but the country did not get cooperation from the western countries in the 1960s, 70s and 80s.

“Western countries would only support social development such as schools and health centers but not economic infrastructure. If you support health and education but do not support the economic infrastructure how will I sustain the social sectors if the economy is not growing,” he said.

The President said it’s never too late for western governments and companies to participate both through soft loans to the government or develop them as EPP projects where the private sector works with the government.

“The aim of investing in infrastructure is to have low costs of production so that the private companies can make profit. Private companies should come and invest in manufacturing, services, hotels and ICT,” he said.

The President was amused when the organisers played his famous ‘You want another rap lyric popularly known as Mpenkoni’ before letting him answer more questions on investment opportunities in Uganda.

“Business is about two people; the buyers and the consumers. If you have got these two people then you have potential for good business. If I produce a good or service you need someone to buy it if you don’t not have enough buyers then you become bankrupt. That is why therefore people in US and Europe need to know about Africa. Africa is a land that is four times the size of the USA. The population of Africa is today 1.3bn and will be 2.5bn by 2050,” he said.

The President emphasized the need for market access for Africa pointing out blocks such as COMESA, EAC and SADC that are available for investors.

“When I come to talk to you I do not come to talk to you about Uganda alone. Uganda is a land of 40mn people but once you invest in Uganda you will sell in East Africa, and even COMESA the bigger market,” he said.

President Museveni said Uganda has got all sorts of investment opportunities including in agro-processing, minerals including in the petroleum and gas sector, electricity sector and rail transport.

The meeting was attended by Uganda's Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. Sam Kutesa, The Minister for Finance Matia Kassaija and Uganda's Peranet Representative to UN Adonia Ayabera. (AR 21-09-2017)

SADC LOOKS TO DIVERSIFICATION TO GROW REGIONAL ECONOMY

Partnering with the private sector will unlock avenues that Southern African governments alone cannot attain by themselves, South African President Jacob Zuma said on Tuesday.



The President was speaking in Pretoria at the second session of the South Africa-Zimbabwe Bi-National Commission (BNC) underway here with his counterpart Robert Mugabe from neighbouring Zimbabwe.

"The diversification of our economies and industrialisation will ultimately put the region on its rightful path as a global economic player," Zuma, who is also the chair of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) regional bloc, said.

Pretoria assumed the SADC chair in August, with its tenure theme being "Partnering with the private sector in developing industry and regional value-chains."

Through this theme, Pretoria is seeking to build momentum and continuity in the collective aspiration towards regional sustainable economic development and industrialisation.

In this regard, SADC has identified key activities which will be the development of a high impact Annual Operation Plan, with targeted interventions and public policy tools to foster the development of regional value-chains in agro-processing, pharmaceuticals and mineral beneficiation.

Another issue the region needs to address is connectivity in information, technology, and communications, Zuma said, adding that this must be addressed for the region to benefit from the Fourth Industrial Revolution, where industries are dominated by high-tech ICT.

In the SADC region – which consists of 15 countries with a population of 300 million people -- only 16.3 percent of the population is using the internet, compared to a penetration of 47 percent globally.

The regional bloc is of the view that improved infrastructure can help to address socio-economic issues, ensure a better quality of life, boost regional economic integration, bridge the inequality gap and aid industrialisation efforts.

"Connectivity will ensure the attainment of the goals for regional economic integration, poverty alleviation and industrialisation," Zuma said.

Mugabe used his BNC address to recall the historical relations that Zimbabwe and South Africa share.

He said while one can "choose [their] friends, [they cannot choose their] neighbours. However, if Zimbabwe had a choice, they would "still have chosen South Africa" as a neighbour.

"When we come here, we know we are coming to our second home. We are one, one revolution, one struggle, one future," Mugabe said.

The senior statesman expressed his satisfaction on the programmes and projects undertaken by the BNC, as they secure a common future.

Mugabe called for improved local business environments to attract investments and concerted efforts to promote cross-border investments.

"New investment opportunities should be opened in airports, railway and road systems. The respective private and public sectors should not miss out on the opportunities we are trying to facilitate," he said.

Zimbabwe is one of South Africa's top five trading partners on the continent, with trade statistics showing annual growth.

In 2016 South Africa's exports to Zimbabwe amounted to approximately US\$2.3 billion.

There are over 120 South African companies doing business in Zimbabwe in various sectors -- including mining, aviation, tourism, banking, property, retail, construction and the fast food sectors. (APA 04-10-2017)

RWANDA: HEPATITIS VACCINE, TESTING TO BE AT PUBLIC HEALTH FACILITIES



A nurse vaccinates a person during World Hepatitis Day celebrations in Kigali

The Ministry of Health will next year integrate affordable hepatitis vaccination and testing into the package of services provided by public health facilities.

The shift will make the services more accessible to the public as, currently, it is limited to the free campaigns that are carried out by the ministry, according to Dr Jean Damascene Makuza, the director of Sexually Transmitted Infections and other Blood Infections at Rwanda Biomedical Centre.

In the new move, each of the three doses for hepatitis vaccine will be given at Rwf2,800, instead of the Rwf8,700 currently. The testing will cost between Rwf1,000 and Rwf2,000.

The services are expected to be rolled out by January next year at health facilities across the country.

According to Makuza, the Hepatitis B and C vaccination campaigns, which have periodically been carried out at different public places, are difficult for the ministry as they require a lot in form of funds and other resources.

This, he said, is one of the factors that motivated the decision to take the services to public health centres at subsidised prices.

This year, a hepatitis drive dubbed, "2017 World Hepatitis Day Campaign," covered all the thirty districts of the country and saw 420,000 people vaccinated and 260,000 screened for Hepatitis B and C.

According to Makuza, fewer people were screened because of limited resources.

Many were vaccinated without having been screened, although Dr Makuza, who was speaking to The New Times on Friday, said this is harmless and allowed by the World Health Organisation in case of limited means.

"It was our plan (to vaccinate some without screening them) because we were not in position to conduct enough tests since they are expensive. Recommendation from WHO says that you can vaccinate someone without first testing them. The vaccine does not harm the person even when they are already infected," he said.

By the end of the campaign, Makuza said, the need to come up with a better plan was necessary since many people remained in need of the services.

"They asked us to continue because you see we had not finished all of them. If you have over 12 million people, more than 5 million of whom are over 15 years and you only vaccinate about 400,000, it is little," he said.

He reckons that the new plan will cover more people. Asked if Mutuelle de Sante will cover the tests and vaccinations, he said they are in negotiations with Rwanda Social Security Board over the matter.

However, Makuza said that this does not mean that periodic campaigns will no longer happen.

"It will depend. May be we can have them every July 28 on the World Hepatitis Day or other events or if we have donors willing to give them (vaccines and tests)," he said.

RBC will conduct a public and private institutions staff vaccination campaign next month during which between 50,000 to 60,000 people are targeted to be screened and vaccinated at a fee of Rwf5,000 per person.(New Times 02-10-2017)

The Memorandum is supported by the ACP-African, Caribbean, Pacific Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce Tenerife, Corporate Council on Africa, CIP-Confederation of Portuguese Enterprises, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce and Development, HTTC - Hungarian Trade & Cultural Centre, NABC- Netherlands-African Business Council, SwissCham-Africa and other organisations.

The Memorandum is also made available by AHEAD-GLOBAL, BCA, Chamber of Tenerife (by posting it at the Africa Info Market), CCA - Canadian Council on Africa, CCA - Corporate Council on Africa (USA), CIP,HTTC,NABC (by posting selected news) and SwissCham-Africa to their Members.



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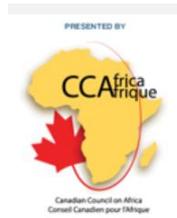


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CCAFRICA NEWSLETTER | NEWSLETTER DE CCAFRIQUE

Voir version française ci-contre

The Canadian Council on Africa (CCAfrica) is pleased to share with you our September 2017 Newsletter.

5 Key highlights: 1. New CCAfrica members, 2. Updates on the CCAfrica platform, 3. Upcoming activities, 4. News from our members, 5. Media spotlight on CCAfrica

1. CCAfrica Members:

Our CCAfrica family is growing! We are pleased to welcome 3 New CCAfrica members this summer: [6temik](#), [Manitoba Trade and Investment](#) (Government of Manitoba) & [Skypower Global](#). We are also delighted to share that Skypower Global has joined at the Founding Member level. [Click here to view some of our other members](#)

ABOUT SKYPOWER GLOBAL

SkyPower is the largest and one of the most successful developers and owners of utility-scale solar energy projects in the world. With roots dating back more than 14 years, SkyPower's global team possesses a vast track record of over 975 years of combined experience in power and large infrastructure projects.

The experienced and accomplished SkyPower team has built, assembled and acquired an extensive pipeline of over 25 GW worldwide - some of which were recently announced in bilateral agreements, and other contract awards, to be built in the Middle East, Africa and South Asia over the next five years.

SkyPower's over 30 utility-scale solar Power Purchase Agreements (PPA) and Contracts in aggregate represent well in excess of approximately US \$80 billion worth of long-term renewable energy sales to leading utilities and governments around the world.

CCAfrica is proud to be celebrating 15 years of promoting Canadian Businesses, know-how, and expertise to the growing African markets. Now is the perfect time to join and become a member. Special promotion on CCAfrica membership. **15% discount when you use discount code: CCAFRICA15.** [Click here to become a member today.](#)

2. CCAfrica Platform:

Our new CCAfrica online platform has over 350 active online members.

Connect with key decision makers in every sector of the economy. We invite you to update your online profile on our platform. By doing so you will be able to access relevant and important information that is of interest to you. [Click here to view our helpful step-by-step guide.](#)

Click here to access and edit your profile:

<https://canadiancouncilonafrika.wildapricot.org/Sys/Profile>

To reset your password click here:

<https://canadiancouncilonafrika.wildapricot.org/Sys/ResetPasswordRequest>

Le Conseil canadien pour l'Afrique (CCAfrica) est heureux de vous faire part de notre bulletin de nouvelles du mois de Septembre 2017.

5 faits saillants: 1. Nouveaux membres de CCAfrica 2. Mise-à-jour sur la plateforme de CCAfrica 3. Activités à venir 4. Nouvelles de nos membres 5. Couverture de CCAfrica dans les médias

1. Membres CCAfrica:

Notre famille CCAfrica s'agrandit! Nous sommes ravis d'accueillir 3 nouveaux membres à CCAfrica cet été: [6temik](#), [Manitoba Trade and Investment](#) (gouvernement du Manitoba) et [Skypower Global](#). Nous sommes également ravis de partager que Skypower Global s'est joint au niveau de membre fondateur. [Cliquez ici pour voir certains de nos autres membres](#)

À PROPOS DE SKYPOWER GLOBAL

SkyPower est le plus grand et l'un des développeurs et propriétaires ayant le plus de succès en projets d'énergie solaire à grande échelle dans le monde entier. Avec plus de 14 ans d'existence, l'équipe mondiale de SkyPower possède une vaste expérience de plus de 975 années d'expérience combinée en matière d'énergie et de grands projets d'infrastructure.

L'équipe expérimentée et accomplie de SkyPower a construit, assemblé et acquis un vaste réseau de plus de 25 GW dans le monde - dont certains ont été annoncés récemment dans des accords bilatéraux et s'est aussi vu octroyer d'autres contrats qui seront construits au Moyen-Orient, en Afrique et en Asie du Sud au cours des cinq prochaines années.

Les contrats d'achat d'énergie solaire à grande échelle (PPA) et les contrats en agrégat de SkyPower dépassent environ 80 milliards de dollars de ventes d'énergie renouvelable à long terme pour les principaux services publics et les gouvernements du monde entier.

CCAfrica est fière de célébrer 15 ans d'existence tout en faisant la promotion des entreprises, du savoir-faire et de l'expertise du Canada dans les marchés africains en croissance. C'est le moment idéal pour se joindre à nous en devenant membre. Promotion spéciale sur l'adhésion à CCAfrica. **15% de rabais lorsque vous utilisez le code promotionnel: CCAFRICA15.** [Cliquez ici pour devenir membre aujourd'hui.](#)

2. Plateforme CCAfrica

Notre nouvelle plateforme en ligne de CCAfrica compte plus de 350 membres actifs en ligne. Connectez-vous avec les principaux décideurs dans tous les secteurs de l'économie. Nous vous invitons à mettre à jour votre profil en ligne sur notre plateforme. Ce faisant, vous pourrez accéder aux informations pertinentes et importantes qui vous intéressent. [Cliquez ici pour voir notre guide étape-par-étape utile.](#)

Cliquez ici pour accéder et modifier votre profil:

<https://canadiancouncilonafrika.wildapricot.org/Sys/Profile>

Pour réinitialiser votre mot de passe, cliquez ici:

<https://canadiancouncilonafrika.wildapricot.org/Sys/ResetPasswordRequest>

3. Activités à venir

DATES À METTRE À VOTRE AGENDA ET INSCRIVEZ-VOUS DÈS

3. Upcoming Activities:

SAVE THE DATES & REGISTER TODAY!

- CCAfrica cross-country Roadshow networking events - This Fall 2017
- [African Expansion Forum - Investment and business opportunities in Africa](#), October 2-3, 2017
- [5th Naturallia Roberval - Canada's leading business alliance forum on natural resources](#), October 16-19, 2017
- [NRBC INC & AFRICA EXPERT FORUM - Invest in African Frontier Markets](#) - October 24-25, 2017
- [CAMESE annual Forum - Mining of the Future Now](#) - November 15-16, 2017
- [Official Canadian Delegation at Mining Indaba](#) - February 3-8, 2018, Cape Town, South Africa - Early-Bird registration available until October 19th. [Click here to register.](#)

4. Members News:

We are proud to share with you news from our members. If you are a member and wish for us to share your news on our CCAfrica website ([click to view all member news](#)) and with our network, email us your news at info@ccafrica.ca.

- [Contract signed! CPCS will provide transaction advisory services for the aero business cluster of Cabo Verde](#)
- [MSTA Canada Closes the Market - the Canadian Association of Mining Equipment & Services for Export \(CAMESE\) re-branding launch event](#)
- [SRG Graphite closes \\$2.1M placement with Coris](#)
- [Mercy Ships Care Mission in Cameroon](#)
- [Algold Receives 30-year mining license for Tijirit in Mauritania](#)
- [Why IAMGOLD could be the next gold major: CEO Steve Letwin interview](#)
- [Brussel Airlines, Bike for Africa - North America Edition](#)
- [Cowater - Building on recent success in Southern Africa](#)

5. Media Spotlight on CCAfrica

- [THE GLOBE AND MAIL - Article](#) - Optimism and ambivalence for investors in sub-Saharan Africa
- [CBC BUSINESS NEWS "On the Money" program with Peter Armstrong - Video](#) - Calling on Canada! Africa: Open for Business
- [TIMES COLONIST - Article](#) - Global Voices - Trade as aid: Why Canada should do business with Africa

AUJOURD'HUI!

- Grande tournée d'événements de réseautage de CCAfrica à travers le Canada - Automne 2017
- [Forum Afrique Expansion - Opportunités d'investissement et d'affaires en Afrique](#), 2-3 octobre 2017
- [5ème Naturallia à Roberval - Le forum d'alliance d'alliances commerciales au Canada dans le secteur des ressources naturelles](#), 16-19 octobre 2017
- [NRBC INC & AFRICA EXPERT FORUM - Invest in African Frontier Markets](#) - 24-25 Octobre, 2017
- [CAMESE annual Forum - Mining of the Future Now](#) - 15-16 Novembre, 2017
- [Délégation officielle du Canada à Mining Indaba](#) - 3-8 février 2017, Cape Town, Afrique du Sud - Enregistrement anticipé disponible jusqu'au 19 octobre. [Cliquez ici pour vous inscrire.](#)

4. Nouvelles des Membres

Nous sommes fiers de partager avec vous les nouvelles de nos membres. Si vous êtes membres et souhaitez nous partager des nouvelles sur notre site Web ([cliquez ici pour voir toutes les nouvelles de nos membres](#)) ainsi qu'avec notre réseau, envoyez-nous vos informations à info@ccafrica.ca

- [Contract signed! CPCS will provide transaction advisory services for the aero business cluster of Cabo Verde](#) (en anglais seulement)
- [MSTA Canada Closes the Market - the Canadian Association of Mining Equipment & Services for Export \(CAMESE\) re-branding launch event](#) (en anglais seulement)
- [SRG Graphite closes \\$2.1M placement with Coris](#) (en anglais seulement)
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- [Brussel Airlines, Bike for Africa - Édition Amérique du Nord](#)
- [Cowater - Bâtir sur le succès récent en Afrique australe](#)

5. Couverture de CCAfrica dans les médias

- [THE GLOBE AND MAIL - Article](#) - Optimism and ambivalence for investors in sub-Saharan Africa (en anglais seulement)
- [CBC BUSINESS NEWS "On the Money" program with Peter Armstrong - Video](#) - Calling on Canada! Africa: Open for Business (en anglais seulement)
- [TIMES COLONIST - Article](#) - Global Voices - Trade as aid: Why Canada should do business with Africa (en anglais seulement)

Fernando Matos Rosa

fernando.matos.rosa@sapo.pt
fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be



