

MEMORANDUM

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BOTSWANA DIAMOND INDUSTRY FALLS ON HARD TIMES

The honeymoon is over in Botswana, where the diamond industry that led the world has fallen on hard times.

The discovery of the gems nearly half a century ago transformed the southern African nation from a dusty farming backwater into one of the continent's wealthiest societies.

Thousands of miles of dirt roads were paved, and schools and clinics were built in every town. The capital, Gaborone, once a rural village, is now dotted with office blocks and malls occupied by South African chains like Shoprite.

The country's finances were in such good shape that Botswana earned the highest credit rating in Africa. Now the diamond mining industry is floundering as jewellery sales stagnate amid a slowdown in China. An index of rough diamond prices hit a five-year low last month. With most diamonds near the surface having been extracted from Botswana's mines, the gems are also becoming increasingly inaccessible. Last year Botswana was overtaken by Russia as the world's top producer. To come: possible shaft closures, job losses and, according to top producer De Beers, stagnating demand. The government says it must dip into its reserve fund to maintain spending and protect jobs.

"They have just had so much easy money for such a long time," WWW International Diamond Consultants Ltd founder, and former sales director at De Beers, Charles Wyndham said by phone on Wednesday from Robertsbridge, southeast of London. "They are perhaps a victim of having all their eggs in one basket."

The Finance Ministry has cut its 2015 economic growth forecast by almost half to 2.6% and is predicting the nation's first budget deficit in four years. Besides the commodity slump, Botswana is also grappling with power and water shortages. The worst drought in 34 years has caused dams that supply Gaborone to run dry, resulting in water rationing several days a week, while the main power plant is running at just over half of its installed capacity.

"This slowdown has been painful and some of the mines here really got a hit," Balisi Bonyongo, managing director of Debswana Diamond Co., a joint mining venture between Botswana's government and Anglo American Plc unit De Beers, said in a speech in Gaborone. "Our mines are becoming bigger and deeper and costs are rising. Our greatest challenge is to remain competitive."

On October 12, President Ian Khama announced plans to tap the nation's foreign reserves of 88.1-billion pula (\$8.3bn) to fast-track the provision of services to 37,000 plots of land and build new houses, classrooms and roads. Several other commodity producers, including Norway and Russia, have adopted a similar strategy to stimulate growth.

'Bold decisions'

"If we cut projects, our economy is going to stagnate," Mr. Khama said in a televised speech on October 13. "We have built up sufficient reserves and the time has come to use these reserves. We have to be bold and take bold decisions. We will be prudent in using our funds."

Botswana's first diamonds were discovered in 1967, the year after it obtained independence from the UK. Gross domestic product has ballooned to \$15.1bn from \$1.2bn over the past two decades as the industry expanded. Per-capita income of \$7,183 in the nation of 2.2-million people is Africa's fifth-highest, according to data from the International Monetary Fund.

Unlike several of its African peers that have squandered their mineral wealth, Botswana has poured money into education, AIDS drugs and infrastructure. The country, which has been ruled by Mr. Khama's Botswana Democratic Party since independence, was ranked the continent's third-best governed by a foundation started by Mo Ibrahim, the founder of telecommunications company Celtel International BV. Its A2 credit rating from Moody's Investors Service puts it on a par with Poland and ahead of Hungary and Turkey.

Diversifying economy

Besides diamonds, Botswana also produces nickel, copper, coal and iron ore. A government programme to reduce the nation's reliance on mining has registered more than 1,000 new businesses that have created about 28,000 jobs since its inception in 2010, according to Mr. Khama. Mining accounted for 23% of the economy last year, down from 34% in 2000, and generated 39% of tax revenue, official data show.

"While success has been had in diversifying GDP and government revenues, we have not really done that well in exports," advisory service Econsult managing director, and a former deputy central bank

governor, Keith Jefferis, said by phone from Gaborone. "That's the biggest structural weakness. Diamonds have reached a plateau."

Botswana produced \$3.6bn worth of diamonds last year and Russia \$3.7bn, according to data from the Kimberley Process, which records and certifies rough diamond shipments. De Beers' flagship mines in Botswana, Jwaneng and Orapa, remain two of the world's most profitable and are best positioned to benefit when prices recover, according to Macquarie Group Ltd.

"We have to redouble our efforts to ensure that the economy continues to be vibrant when diamonds run out," Lekwalo Mosienyane, president of Business Botswana, the main lobby group, said by e-mail. "We need to tap into other sectors and reduce our high dependency on diamonds." (Bloomberg 05-11-2015)

LIBERIA SECURES \$257M FROM MILLENNIUM CHALLENGE CORPORATION

Liberia and the Millennium Challenge Corporation have signed a \$257 million compact to fund critical social sectors.

According to a dispatch from Washington D.C on Tuesday under the Compact, the MCC will fund the rehabilitation of the Mount Coffee Hydroelectric Plant, the development of a training center for electricians, an independent energy sector regulator and a nationwide road maintenance framework.

Speaking during the signing ceremony Monday, Vice President Joseph Boakai said the compact was a major demonstration of the United States' commitment towards Liberia's reconstruction.

He said this will go a long way considering that road and electricity are critical to improving the lives of the Liberian people.

Vice President Boakai lauded the people and government of the United States for being true partners and friends of Liberia.

Earlier, MCC Chief Executive Officer Dana J. Hyde said the compact is a manifestation of the US support to Liberia for the attainment of sustainable development and economic prosperity.

Madam Hyde pointed out that the United States supports Liberia' recovery process and the building of what she called a new partnership focused on the future. (APA 03-11-2015)

ANGOLA EXPANDS FUNDING SOURCES BY ISSUING BONDS BACKED BY CHINESE BANK ICBC

Angola has successfully completed an issue of Eurobonds, an operation supported by a group of international banks which includes the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China, expanding its sources of funding in troubled times.

The Ministry of Finance last week announced the completion of an issue of Eurobonds in the amount of US\$1.5 billion, getting closer, according to a survey by Eaglestone Securities, to the target of an additional US\$10 billion in credit, set by the government to address the financing needs brought about by the drop in oil prices.

"As mentioned by the Angolan authorities, this issue will enable the country to become less dependent on traditional sources of credit," said Eaglestone in a statement after the results announcement.

The consultancy said demand for the issue was "very significant", which could "lead the Angolan authorities to consider issuing more Eurobonds in the future."

The placement of the issue, as with other African oil producing countries, demonstrates that even with the financial difficulties experienced by these countries, investor interest "remains intact."

The bond issue had been under consideration since 2011 and, according to the international financial agencies, was planned for the last few months, but was eventually postponed, pending improved market conditions.

This was the second time Angola successfully approached international debt markets after in 2012 it issued debt instruments similar to Eurobonds in the amount of US\$1 billion.

The cash raised from the new operation, as well as bilateral loans and available credit lines, is intended for infrastructure projects considered priorities for the 2016-17 period in the areas of education, health, water and roads.

Of about US\$9.5 billion raised in recent months, the largest share – US\$6 billion – comes from China, followed by the World Bank, BBVA, Société Générale, Goldman Sachs and Gemcorp.

Eaglestone Securities said the additional credit now obtained is expected to raise Angolan public debt levels by almost 15 percentage points to 57 percent of GDP in 2015.

The goals set by the Angolan Ministry of Finance for the Eurobond issue were to diversify sources of external funding, establish long-term sources of funding with international investors, improve the assessment of credit rating agencies, consolidating a history of investor yields and possibly increase the amount of foreign currency reserves.

The operation had the legal and technical support of Goldman Sachs, JP Morgan, the World Bank and IMF and the President of Angola mandated as representatives of the Angolan State, Deutsche Bank and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC), in addition to investment bank Goldman Sachs.

Eurobonds are debt securities denominated in a currency other than that of the issuing country, usually focused on investors in more than one country and traded in various financial markets. (09-11-2015)

THE EUROPEAN UNION'S COOPERATION WITH AFRICA ON MIGRATION

How does the EU cooperate with Africa on migration?

On the basis of its [Global Approach to Migration and Mobility](#) (GAMM) – the overarching framework of the EU external migration and asylum policy – the EU is engaged in a broad dialogue with countries on the African continent on migration and mobility at bilateral, regional and continental levels:

1. **Continental level**, with the African Union (AU). A key [political declaration](#) on migration and mobility was endorsed by the Heads of State and Government at the EU-Africa Summit in April 2014. It reiterated the parties' shared commitment to, amongst others, fight irregular migration and to address all its relevant aspects, including prevention, strengthened migration and border management, return and readmission, as well as addressing the root causes of irregular migration. The above mentioned declaration is underpinned by an [Action Plan](#) (2014-17), and the necessary financial resources.
2. **Regional level**, with policy dialogues with countries along the western migratory route ([Rabat Process](#)) and the eastern migratory route ([Khartoum Process](#)). These dialogues are underpinned by concrete action plans and financial resources. The EU has also launched the new Regional Development and Protection Programmes (RDPPs) in North Africa and the Horn of Africa.
3. **Bilateral level**, with a wide range of programme and project support, that aim to contribute to institutional and legislative reforms and capacity building in partner countries, as well as specific political agreements concluded with Morocco, Tunisia, Cape Verde and Nigeria, and another to be signed in the margins of the Valletta Summit with Ethiopia. These political agreements are supported by concrete EU funded actions.

In addition, cooperation with African countries takes place within the [Africa Caribbean and Pacific \(ACP\) Partnership Agreement](#) signed in Cotonou in June 2000. In June 2012 the ACP-EU Council endorsed three sets of [recommendations on \(a\) visas, \(b\) remittances and \(c\) readmission](#). The ACP-EU Council of Ministers in May 2015 endorsed also [recommendations on stepping up the fight against trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants](#).

1. Continental level

What is the EU-Africa Migration and Mobility Dialogue?

The [Africa-EU Migration, Mobility and Employment \(MME\) Partnership](#) was launched during the Africa-EU Summit in December 2007, where the [Joint EU-Africa Strategy](#) and the [First Action Plan](#) (2008-2010) were adopted. The EU-Africa Summit in 2014 gave new impetus to the cooperation on migration: In addition to the declaration on migration and mobility, an [action plan 2014-2017](#) was also adopted, focusing on the following priorities:

- Fighting trafficking in human beings
- Remittances
- Diaspora
- Mobility and labour migration (including intra-African mobility)
- International protection (including internally displaced persons)
- Irregular migration

2. Regional level

What is the Rabat Process?

The Rabat Process, launched at the first Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development in July 2006, brings together governments of 55 European and African countries from North, West and Central Africa, together with the European Commission and the [Economic Community of West African States](#) (ECOWAS). The objective is to enhance dialogue and cooperation on migration (legal migration and mobility; prevention of irregular migration and measures to counteract it; migration and development; international protection), as well as to identify common priorities in order to develop operational and practical cooperation.

The Rabat Process is led by a Steering Committee comprised of five EU Member States (Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal and Spain), five partner countries (Burkina Faso, Equatorial Guinea, Mali, Morocco, and Senegal) as well as the European Commission and ECOWAS.

The Rabat Process has established a solid and fruitful dialogue between the EU and the partner countries, and has fostered enhanced cooperation through the implementation of bilateral, sub-regional, regional and multilateral initiatives. The Seahorse Atlantic Network is an example of a concrete cooperation at regional level between Spain, Portugal, Senegal, Mauritania, Cape Verde, Morocco, Gambia and Guinea Bissau. It enables the information exchange between authorities in order to prevent irregular migration and cross-border crime. Another example of concrete action comes from the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), from which the EU is funding a €26 million project to support the free movement of persons and migration in West Africa. The project is being implemented in joint management with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) with the overall objective of supporting the effective implementation of the ECOWAS Free Movement of Persons Protocols and ECOWAS Common Approach on Migration.

The [fourth Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development](#) took place in November 2014. It adopted the [Rome Declaration and Programme for 2015-17](#), which identified two thematic priority areas for future action: 1) strengthening the link between migration and development, and 2) the prevention and fight against irregular migration and related crimes. It also introduced international protection as one of the four pillars for cooperation aligning them with the Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM).

What is the Khartoum Process?

The Khartoum Process (EU Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative) formally launched a year ago, at a ministerial conference in November 2014 in Rome, is a regional dialogue on migration between EU Member States and 9 African countries from the Horn of Africa and transit countries (Djibouti, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, Egypt and Tunisia), as well as the European Commission, the African Union Commission and the European External Action Service. The objective is to establish a long-standing dialogue on migration and mobility aimed at enhancing the current cooperation, including through the identification and implementation of concrete projects. As stated in the [Ministerial Declaration of 28 November 2014](#), the dialogue will initially focus on addressing trafficking in human beings as well as smuggling of migrants.

The Khartoum Process is led by a Steering Committee comprised of five EU Member States (Italy, France, Germany, UK, Malta), five partner countries (Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan) as well as the European Commission, the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the African Union Commission on the African side. A first identification of needs and priorities took place at the first Steering Committee meeting in Sharm el Sheikh in April 2015.

The Khartoum Process will be directly supported with € 17.5 million under the Pan-African Programme for the "Support to Africa-EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue" programme. Additional initiatives are planned to implement actions in line with the Ministerial declaration of November 2014, including a project on Addressing Mixed Migration Flows in East Africa (€5 million under the Development Cooperation Instrument- Global Public Goods and Challenges thematic programme (DCI-GPGC), to be implemented by Expertise France) and a project on support to EU law enforcement cooperation along the Horn of Africa Migration Route (€0.75 million under the Internal Security Fund for police cooperation). Under the forthcoming Regional Indicative Programme for East Africa, South Africa and Indian Ocean region of the 11th European Development Fund, a cross-regional envelope of €25 million has also been earmarked for migration in this region, with a particular focus on the Khartoum process, including the need to address international protection needs.

All members of the Khartoum Process will be meeting again at the end of November in London, notably with a view to discuss implementation of the Valletta Action Plan in the Horn of Africa. Participants are expected to endorse concrete projects to combat trafficking in human beings and smuggling of migrants in the region.

What is the Sahel Regional Action Plan?

On 20 April 2015, the Council adopted the [Sahel Regional Action Plan 2015-2020](#) which provides the overall framework for the implementation of the EU Strategy for Security and Development in the Sahel, as adopted and revised in its Conclusions on 21 March 2011 and 17 March 2014, respectively. This action plan was endorsed by all five Sahel countries in their meeting with High Representative/Vice-President (HRVP) Mogherini on 17 June 2015.

The Action Plan provides a solid basis for reinforcing the EU's focus around four domains that are highly relevant to the stabilisation of the region, namely prevention and countering radicalisation; creation of appropriate conditions for youth; migration, mobility and border management; the fight against illicit trafficking; and transnational organised crime.

What is the EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan?

On 26 October 2015, the [Council adopted the EU Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan](#) which seeks to implement the existing EU Strategic Framework for the Horn of Africa from 2011, taking into account new challenges which have become more pronounced and critical over the last few years, i.e. the broader geopolitical framework, the flows of mixed migration and violent radicalisation. Under the Action Plan, EU interventions aim to resolve and prevent conflict, foster lasting security, stability, development and good governance based on the democratic principles of inclusion, rule of law and respect for human rights.

Migration and Mobility

People move to escape poverty and conflict, to seek protection from persecution or serious harm, or to build a better life. For individuals, migration can be one of the most powerful and immediate strategies for poverty reduction. In the absence of employment opportunities, many young people seek better opportunities by migrating. The Sahel and Horn of Africa Regional Action Plan will focus on this link between migration and development. In addition, the EU will focus on preventing and fighting against irregular migration, smuggling and trafficking in human beings; promoting international protection and organising mobility and legal migration.

The situation in Niger, as a major transit country, will require strengthened efforts, notably to reinforce and accompany the actions already launched by the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) mission [EUCAP Sahel Niger](#).

Youth

Economic growth is necessary to create employment and to significantly reduce widespread poverty and income inequalities that continue to prevail across the Sahel. More effort is needed to create job opportunities throughout all sectors, in particular for youth.

The EU will provide assistance relevant for youth, including education and training as well as job creation, and ensure equal opportunities for boys and girls. An example of such assistance is the empowerment of mainstream youth through identification of indicators to monitor and to promote education and youth employment so as to offer alternatives to illegal activities/extremist actions. Further analysis on how to support youth as agents for positive change will also be provided. The EU will build youth resilience, e.g. by further promoting economic and employment opportunities (through support to SMEs and key value chains, the recruitment of local labour, etc.) and the reduction of inequalities in EU and Member States programmes, wherever possible.

A special reflection could also be launched on the demography challenge in order to know how to better address it. Demography should become progressively and more systematically part of the political dialogue with beneficiary countries. More broadly, EU and Member States' instruments will be mobilised to improve social cohesion and inclusive economic growth, including regional integration, in particular through the implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreement Development Programme (EPADP).

EU support to refugees in the regions closest to the conflicts – the case of the Regional Development and Protection Programmes (RDPPs)

The aim of the Regional Development Protection Programmes (RDPPs) is to assist third countries hosting large numbers of refugees to address protection and developmental needs of the refugees and asylum seekers, the needs of the refugee hosting communities, and support the capacity building needs of the authorities in the field of refugee protection. They will also ensure a more coordinated approach between the protection and development oriented actions.

The RDPP North Africa consortium is led by Italy whereas the RDPP Horn of Africa consortium is led by the Netherlands. The RDPPs will be supported by different EU funds and by national contributions.

The RDPPs can include actions such as: support to legislative and policy framework, building up an administrative structure, training for professionals dealing with refugee issues, support to refugee status determination, improvement of reception conditions, support to vulnerable groups of migrants and refugees, awareness raising on the perils of irregular migration, providing possibilities for local integration and self-reliance, supporting refugees and refugee hosting communities with improved livelihood and education opportunities, providing employment generation schemes and vocational training, and fostering trust and social cohesion between the refugees and refugee hosting communities. The RDPPs in North Africa and the Horn of Africa build on the lessons learned from the previous Regional Protection Programmes and the RDPP for the Middle East implemented by a consortium led by Denmark.

Border management, illicit trafficking, and transnational organised crime

The EU currently supports a number of activities to fight illicit trafficking (partnership with UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS)) in border zones, but also in the area of security and development.

Actions on border management, migrant smuggling, trafficking in human beings and other forms of trafficking, and transnational organised crime, in particular focusing on enhanced inter-agency and cross-border cooperation and information sharing will be pursued. The European Agenda on Migration and the Agenda on Security also outlined the fight against migrant smuggling as one of the Commission priorities. Concrete measures have been set out in the EU Action Plan against migrant smuggling adopted in May, which puts forward strong proposals for countering and preventing the operations of migrant smugglers.

The EU will consider the implementation of integrated border management projects, in the Sahel region as well as around Lake Chad, including actions in the fields of both development and security. The EU is also encouraging Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) civilian missions already deployed in the Sahel region, such as the missions [EUCAP Sahel Mali](#) and [EUCAP Sahel Niger](#) within their operational design and strength, to support local efforts aimed at developing local border management capacities and to contribute actively to the international coordination on the ground.

Cooperation on return and readmission with countries of origin and transit

The EU is committed to engage with all operational actors to deal with the current complex challenges of migration and human mobility, including those induced by mixed movements involving migrants, asylum seekers and refugees. The effective return and readmission of those who are not in need of protection

represents a key priority to maintaining credibility and proper functioning of our asylum and migration systems, in full respect of the fundamental rights of migrants and the principle of *non-refoulement*. Against this background, the Commission has proposed on 9 September an ambitious EU [Action Plan on return](#), which notably sets out a strategy for scaling up cooperation with third countries on return and readmission agreements.

While encouraging and supporting voluntary returns to home countries remains the preferred option wherever possible, the EU is mobilising all relevant policies including foreign policy, development assistance and trade to incentivise our partners to cooperate on readmission, on the basis of a more for more principle. To this end, the EU's cooperation with third countries will also focus on strengthening the capacity to respond in a timely manner to readmission requests and on facilitating and speeding up the identification of own nationals.

In parallel, the EU will invest in supporting the sustainable reintegration of returnees and enhance the capacity of their home countries to readmit and reintegrate them.

3. Bilateral cooperation

What about bilateral cooperation?

Bilateral dialogues on migration and mobility between the EU and third countries can take different forms. The **Mobility Partnerships (MP)** as well as the **Common Agendas on Migration and Mobility (CAMM)** provide important frameworks for policy dialogue and operational cooperation on asylum and migration issues. They both offer a political framework for comprehensive, enhanced and tailor-made dialogue and cooperation with partner countries but have two particular differences: (1) the proposal to negotiate a MP should be presented once a certain level of progress has been achieved in the migration and mobility dialogues. Establishing a MP would include the negotiation of visa facilitation and readmission agreements, whereas a CAMM would not, and (2) a MP is mainly used vis-à-vis neighbourhood countries, whereas a CAMM should mainly be used for other third countries. So far, four such agreements have been signed with partner countries on the African continent: **Cape Verde, Morocco and Tunisia** (Mobility Partnerships) and **Nigeria** (Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility). A Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility will also be signed with **Ethiopia** in Valletta in the margins of the Migration Summit. Financial resources have been allocated to support the implementation of these agreements.

The EU is committed to start dialogues with other countries in the region in accordance with the political mandate given by the European Council. Libya remains a priority country for such a dialogue as soon as circumstances allow.

Which types of activities are covered under a Mobility Partnership?

Typical actions/activities covered in a Mobility Partnership are:

Legal migration and mobility

- promotion of a better framework for legal migration and mobility, including through circular and temporary migration schemes as well as better information and protection of migrants, including pre-departure training;
- informing potential migrants on opportunities for legal migration and on requirements for legal stay, as well as on the dangers of undocumented migration and illegal work;
- institutional and administrative capacity-building of partner countries' authorities, through improvement of the regulatory framework, technical assistance, training, exchange of experts and best practices, etc.

Fight against irregular migration and trafficking in human beings; border management

- improving the fight against migrant smuggling and trafficking in human beings, notably through capacity-building (enhanced financial and technical assistance to support the development of national and regional strategies against migrant smuggling), joint operational measures (including risk analysis and the exchange of information and best practices) and establishing operational

interoperability between the relevant border agencies of EU, Member States and the partner countries;

- development of effective mechanisms and concrete initiatives for preventing and combating irregular migration and trafficking in human beings, including through actions raising public awareness;
- improving border surveillance, border management capacities and cross-border cooperation

Migration and development

- support for voluntary return and sustainable reintegration of returning migrants, including through circular migration schemes, informing migrants abroad of the labour market situation in their home countries and their return possibilities, training of returning migrant workers and promotion of transfer of social security benefits, and stimulating entrepreneurship;
- promotion of legal and concrete measures reducing the cost of remittances, and encouraging their productive investment;
- promoting the role of (and cooperation with) diasporas.

Asylum and international protection

- support to the development of a legal and institutional framework on asylum in line with international standards;
- capacity-building of partner countries' authorities to develop and implement an asylum policy and provide international protection as well as to improve the reception facilities, such as the reception of asylum seekers and submission of asylum requests through the development of specific simplified procedures, in particular for those with special needs;
- promoting the cooperation between the national authorities competent for asylum procedures in third countries and their peers in the EU Member States.

What about cooperation with Libya?

The ongoing Libyan conflict has created a lawlessness environment that offers smugglers the possibility to operate with impunity. Stabilising Libya constitutes a crucial step in preventing further loss of life off the Libyan shores. The EU strongly supports the work of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya and the UN led dialogue process. The EU strongly encourages the Libyan parties to agree to a Government of National Accord. The EU is ready to offer support to that future government, should it request it, in a whole array of areas including on migration issues so as to help bring an end to the human suffering of migrants. In the meantime, the EU continues to address the humanitarian consequences of the crisis and its impact on migrants and other vulnerable groups.

There has been a significant investment in migration projects in Libya in recent years (€42.7 million committed between 2011 and 2014). Each EU funded programme entails different areas of interventions. Support to migration management focuses on three sub-sectors: human rights based migration management; countering irregular migration; and assistance to migrants in need of international protection.

After the deterioration of the security situation last year and in order to respond to the needs of people fleeing fighting areas in Libya, EU migration support has been refocused to guarantee emergency care and support for stranded migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and displaced people in Libya and in the neighbouring countries. Due to the very volatile political context, the institutional support programmes are on hold with the exception of training activities on Rescue at Sea operations targeting the Libyan Coastal Gard (SeaHorse Programme, €4.5 million).

The EU funded programme START (€9.9 million), implemented by [IOM](#) (International Organization for Migration), has supported the evacuation and repatriation of 1200 stranded migrants out of Libya (around 4,000 additional cases have been identified by IOM) and 417 migrants who were rescued at sea in Tunisian waters, and it has provided 7429 internally displaced families and 10,506 migrants across Libya with direct assistance (provision of non-food items, hygiene kits and health services). Most of these activities are now continued under the SaharaMed project, implemented by the Italian Ministry of Interior in collaboration with IOM (€8,3 million). Two new programmes have been signed and will be implemented by the International Federation of Red Cross in coordination with the Libyan Red Crescent.

These are expected to start delivering assistance to migrants (€6.25 million) and to Internally Displaced People and groups at risk (€2.9 million) in the near future.

Background information

EU external migration policy

The Global Approach to Migration and Mobility (GAMM) is, since 2005, the overarching framework of the EU's external migration and asylum policy. The framework defines how the EU conducts its policy dialogues and operational cooperation with third countries, based on clearly defined priorities which reflect the strategic objectives of the EU, and embedded in the EU's overall foreign policy framework, including development cooperation. Important also to underline that the GAMM aims to develop mutually beneficial partnerships in line with both the interests of the EU and of partner countries (which is needed to ensure effective management of migration flows).

The GAMM is focused on four thematic priorities: (1) better organising legal migration and fostering well-managed mobility; (2) preventing and combating irregular migration and eradicating trafficking of human beings; (3) maximising the development impact of migration and mobility; (4) promoting international protection and enhancing the external dimension of asylum. The protection of human rights is a cross-cutting priority.

The GAMM is implemented through several political instruments (regional and bilateral policy dialogues and action plans), legal instruments (visa facilitation and readmission agreements), operational support and capacity-building (including via EU agencies, e.g. [FRONTEX](#), [EASO](#) and [ETF](#), and technical assistance facilities such as [MIEUX](#) and [TAIEX](#)) as well as the wide range of programme and project support that is made available to third country administrations and other stakeholders, such as civil society, migrant associations and international organisations.

The GAMM implementation is a common and shared responsibility of the Commission, EEAS (including EU Delegations) and Member States, in accordance with their respective competences as set out in the Treaties.

EU support on migration and development

The overall objective of development cooperation related to migration is to maximise the positive impact of migration on the development of partner countries. Development cooperation can help partner countries improve their migration governance and in this way tap into the development potential of migration. Also, by addressing political, economic and social instability, development cooperation in a number of sectors contribute to address the root causes of irregular migration and forced displacement, helping to ensure that migration takes place in an orderly, safe and regular manner and is a choice rather than a necessity.

The Commission is a leading donor when it comes to migration and development: over €1 billion has been spent on more than 400 migration related projects between 2004 and 2014.

For 2014-20, migration features prominently under the Commission's funding instruments. €344 million are dedicated to migration under the Global Public Goods & Challenges programme. Migration also features prominently in geographical programmes (Pan-African Partnership instrument, regional envelope for Southern Neighbourhood, West Africa and Central Africa cross-regional envelope for Eastern & Southern Africa), as well as in some national programmes in Morocco, Nigeria, Ethiopia, and Niger.

In his [State of the Union speech](#) in September, the President of the European Commission Jean-Claude Juncker announced the Commission's proposal to establish an "[Emergency Trust Fund for stability and addressing root causes of irregular migration and displaced persons in Africa](#)" with an allocation of €1.8 billion from several EU financial instruments, to be topped up by EU Member States and other donors. The EU Trust Fund will complement the existing EU and its Member States' development aid to Africa amounting to over €20 billion every year and which aims to support inclusive and sustainable economic growth.

The European Neighbourhood Policy under revision

In March 2015, an [extensive consultation process on the European Neighbourhood Policy \(ENP\)](#) was launched. The European Commission and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy will adopt a Communication shortly on the future direction of the ENP. As set out in the [Joint](#)

[Consultation Paper on the ENP Review](#), migration and mobility is a priority of co-operation for the EU and its partners. The Review will outline proposals on how to further enhance mobility, especially for education, scientific, cultural, training and professional purpose; how to support work with refugees and IDP, and how to tackle common challenges, such as people smuggling and irregular migration.

Examples of EU-funded projects

- **Migration EU Expertise (MIEUX): providing short-term expertise to partner countries to enhance migration governance:** €8 million in the framework of Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI)-Global Public Goods and Challenges (GPGC) programme contributing to the improvement of migration governance at national and regional levels by strengthening the capacities of public authorities to better manage migration and mobility in all its dimensions through the provision of rapid, short-term and small-scale peer-to-peer expertise assistance.
- **Global action to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants:** €10 million within the DCI-GPGC programme contributing to prevent and address trafficking in human beings and the smuggling of migrants by assisting countries in developing and implementing counter-trafficking and smuggling responses and capacities.
- **Support to Africa – EU Migration and Mobility Dialogue:** €17.5 million in the framework of the DCI-Pan-African Programme to improve the governance of migration and mobility within Africa and between Africa and the EU, and enhance the role of African diaspora as development actors.
- **Supporting the third phase of the Rabat process: the Dakar Strategy:** €2 million in the framework of the DCI-Migration and Asylum programme to support the implementation of concrete actions agreed under the process
- **Regional Protection Programme Horn of Africa: Strengthening protection and assistance to refugees and asylum seekers, mainly displaced Somalis:** €5 million under the DCI-Migration and Asylum programme to protect and assist Somali refugees in the Horn of Africa, notably in Kenya and Djibouti, in the context of increased displacement in the region. (EC 09-11-2015)
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TRADE BETWEEN CHINA AND PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES SHRINKS 25.45 PCT FROM JANUARY TO SEPTEMBER

Trade between China and Portuguese-speaking countries in the year to September continued on a downward trend, with a contraction of 25.45 percent to US\$76.477 billion, according to official figures published in Macau.

From January to September 2014 the value of trade between China and the eight Portuguese-speaking countries amounted to US\$102.587 billion.

Trade recorded in the period under review resulted from Chinese exports of US\$28.667 billion (-13.76 percent) and Chinese imports worth US\$47.809 billion (-31.06 percent).

With Brazil, China's main trading partner globally, exchanges totalled US\$55.608 billion (-18.51 percent) and China exported goods worth US\$21.968 billion (-14.51 percent) and imported goods worth US\$33.639 billion (-20.92 percent).

Angola comes second in terms of importance with trade worth US\$15.564 billion (-44.93percent), with Chinese exports worth US\$2.938 billion (-24.34 percent) and imports of UA\$12.626 billion (-48.21 percent).

Portugal comes a distant third with total two-way trade of US\$3.382 billion (-6.39 percent) as a result of Chinese exports worth US\$1.195 billion (-5.89 percent) and Portuguese exports worth US\$1.187 billion (-7.3 percent).

Mozambique appears as usual in fourth place with trade worth US\$1.789 billion (-23.18 percent), a result of Chinese exports worth US\$1.45 billion (+17.84 percent) and Mozambican exports of US\$338 million (-69.16 percent).

China's trade with other Portuguese-speaking countries – Cabo Verde (Cape Verde), Guinea-Bissau, Timor-Leste (East Timor) and São Tomé and Príncipe – in the first nine months totalled US\$133 million.

In September, the value of China's trade with Portuguese-speaking countries fell 5.62 percent to US\$8.637 billion, with Chinese exports amounting to US\$2.820 billion (-7.63 percent) and Chinese imports totalling US\$5.817 billion (-4.61 percent). (09-11-2015)

MOZAMBIQUE INFLATION ACCELERATE TO 4.74 PERCENT IN OCTOBER

Mozambique's National Statistics Institute (INE) says the country's consumer inflation raced to 4.74 percent in October up from 2.73 percent in September, pushed by increases in the cost of education and prices of food and non-alcoholic beverages, APA can report.

INE said Monday that inflation in Mozambique was measured by the consumer price indices of the three largest cities Maputo, Nampula and Beira, averaging 2.1 percent becoming the largest monthly inflation rate since December 2010, and it pushed the inflation rate since January to 3.63 percent.

This year inflation rose by 1.84 percent in January and 1.56 percent in February and in March prices scarcely moved, with inflation of 0.06 percent.

This was followed by three months of deflation, as prices fell by 0.98 percent in April, 1.05 percent in May and 0.46 percent in June.

The jump to 2.1 percent inflation in October is largely due to the decision of the Mozambican Bakers' Association to raise the price of bread by between 25 and 50 percent. (APA 09-11-2015)

EUROPEAN COMMISSION TO STRENGTHEN COOPERATION ON MIGRATION AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WITH AFRICAN PARTNERS AT VALLETTA SUMMIT

On 11-12 November, President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude **Juncker**, EU High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice-President of the Commission, Federica **Mogherini**, and Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven **Mimica**, will be representing the EU, together with President Tusk at the [Valletta Summit on Migration](#) in Malta. This Summit will bring together European and African Heads of State and Government in an effort to strengthen cooperation in the area of migration and address the current challenges and opportunities. A large number of international and regional organisations, such as the African Union Commission, the Economic Community Of West African States (ECOWAS) Commission, the UN, the UN's Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the International Organisation for Migration (IOM), have also been invited to participate. On Thursday 12 November, President **Juncker** is also expected to sign the [EU's Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#), one of the tools set up to urgently respond to the current refugee crisis. This Trust Fund will receive €1.8 billion of funding from the European Commission, complemented with funding from a number of EU Member States and other donors. (09-11-2015)

ENI DUE TO DECIDE THIS YEAR ON INVESTMENT IN NATURAL GAS IN MOZAMBIQUE

Italian group ENI is expected to make a final investment decision by December for the project to explore the natural gas reserves discovered in northern Mozambique, said the CEO of the group.

Claudio Descalzi added, speaking to Jeune Afrique magazine, that a decision on a onshore project with US group Anadarko Petroleum would be taken only in 2017, since it is a more complex process, and advance agreements with international natural gas buyers are needed.

“We continue to develop our Coral project, located in one of our offshore blocks, aimed at natural gas processing on a floating platform and must make an investment decision in December 2015, for starting in 2020,” said the CEO the oil group.

The amount of natural gas discovered by two consortia led by ENI and Anadarko Petroleum puts Mozambique among the five countries with the largest reserves, which official estimates indicate total about 200 trillion cubic feet.

ENI maintains its intention to transform the gas on two floating platforms, while Anadarko plans to build a liquefied natural gas plant on land, in partnership with the Italian oil company.

Anadarko Petroleum holds 26.5 percent of the consortium of Area 1, participated also by Mitsui, of Japan, Indian companies ONGC Videsh, BPRL and Oil India and the Mozambican government's Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH).

Area 4 is in turn led by ENI, with 50 percent, also with the participation of the China National Petroleum Corporation, 20 percent and Portugal's Galp Energia, South Korea's Kogas and ENH with 10 percent each. (09-11-2015)

ETHIOPIA: AIRBUS A350 TO CONDUCT DEMO FLIGHT IN ADDIS WEDNESDAY

The new jetliner made by the European consortium Airbus A350-900 aircraft will conduct a demonstration flight on Wednesday in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Ethiopian Airlines ordered 14 Airbus A350-900 aircraft – also known as extra wide body (XWB) – to be delivered between 2016-2019, reports said on Monday.

Officials of Ethiopian Airlines told reporters that the state-of-the-art jetliner will take off from the Addis Ababa Bole International Airport and conduct a one hour demonstration flight, having on board executives of the airline, board members of the airline, officials of the Ministry of Transport, the Ethiopian Civil Aviation Authority and the Ethiopian Airports Enterprise.

The aircraft will be flown by test pilots of Airbus. An Airbus marketing and technical team led by Francois Cognard, vice president of sales for Middle East and North Africa, is also expected to make a briefing.

A350-900 is Airbus' new product that made its maiden flight in June 2013. Powered by the Rolls Royce Trent Engines, the Airbus A350-900 is known for its spacious cabin.

The new jetliner will be a rival of the Boeing B787 Dreamliner aircraft. The A350 family has 800, 900 and 1000 versions with 250-350 seats. Ethiopian's A350-900 will have 346 seats.

The A350XWB aircraft was certified by the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Qatar Airways is the launch customer of the new jetliner. Ethiopian Airlines is the first carrier from Sub Saharan Africa to acquire the A350 aircraft.

The management of Ethiopian Airlines placed firm orders for the purchase of 12 Airbus A350-900 aircraft in 2009. The order was confirmed at the 2009 Dubai Air show. The total listed price of the 12 A350s is \$2.9 billion.

Ethiopian has leased two more A350s that will arrive in Addis Ababa in May and June next year. Ethiopian, which is a reliable customer of Boeing for over six decades, ordered Airbus aircraft for the first time.

The national flag carrier operates an all-Boeing long-haul fleet. The airline operates 73 aircraft including 13 Boeing B787-8 Dreamliner aircraft. The airline recently bought additional six Dreamliners.(APA 09-11- 2015)

THE EIB INVESTS USD 126 MILLION TO IMPROVE DRINKING WATER AVAILABILITY AND STRENGTHEN THE ELECTRICITY BACKBONE NETWORK IN JORDAN

The European Investment Bank (EIB) signed today two loan agreements worth USD 126 million for financing two projects in the water and energy sectors in Jordan to support sustainable economic and social development in the country.

At a ceremony hosted by the Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation in Amman, the two agreements were signed by H.E. Imad Najib Fakhoury, Minister of Planning and International Cooperation, H.E. Hazim Al-Nasser, Minister of Water and Irrigation, H.E. Tawfig Habashneh, Chairman of the Board of the Yarmouk Water Company, H.E. Engineer Abdel Fattah Daradkeh, Managing Director of the National Electric Power Company (NEPCO), Mr. Andrea Fontana, Head of the EU Delegation to Jordan and Mr. Dario Scannapieco, Vice-President of the EIB.

The first project, Wadi Al-Arab Water System II, will support a high priority water supply infrastructure investment. The project will improve drinking water availability for the growing population in the Northern Governorates, which has been significantly increased by the large number of Syrian refugees in the area. The project is in line with Jordan's National Water Strategy and the EIB's External Lending Mandate. The project is co-financed by the EIB (lead financial institution), Agence Française de Développement and the EU Neighbourhood Investment Facility (NIF). The EIB's loan of USD 54 million (JOD 38 million) for the project will help to treat and convey 30 million m³/year of fresh water from the King Abdullah Canal (KAC) in the Northern Jordan valley to the Zabda Reservoir which serves the Northern Governorate of Irbid, the second largest of Jordan's 12 Governorates in terms of population and located 80 km north of Amman. The loan will be used to build (i) a raw water intake from the KAC, (ii) a new water treatment plant, (iii) pumping stations, and (iv) a 25.6 km transmission pipeline to convey the treated water from the water treatment plant to the Zabda Reservoir. The project is scheduled to be implemented over the period 2015-2018.

In addition, the EIB is providing a loan of USD 72 million (JOD 51 million) to NEPCO. The EIB's loan will finance the NEPCO Green Corridor project, which is an essential part of Jordan's renewable energy development programme. The project will strengthen the country's high-voltage electricity transmission backbone, enabling new facilities generating large amounts of renewable energy to be connected to the network, and electricity to be transmitted from the central/southern desert areas to Amman, where generation is fossil-fuel based. The project will thus contribute to reducing carbon dioxide emissions. The project is in line with the EIB's External Lending Mandate and the EU's Single Support Framework Programme for Jordan, under which Jordan and the EU identified the increase in energy-generating capacity using renewable energy resources as a priority for EU action in Jordan. The project is co-financed by the EIB (lead lender), Agence Française de Développement and the EU Neighbourhood Investment Facility. The EIB's loan for the project will be used to (i) construct a new electricity substation in New Ma'an located north of the city of Ma'an, (ii) build new transmission lines, and (iii) modify existing substations to accommodate these new lines. The project is scheduled to be implemented over the period 2015-2018.

"Reinforcing economic and social infrastructure is the basis for achieving economic development and boosting prosperity, and I am very pleased that the EIB can support Jordan's efforts to achieve this goal," said EIB Vice-President Mr. Dario Scannapieco, "So far, Jordan has achieved impressive results in improving the quality of infrastructure in the energy and water sectors and these gains need be sustained."

At the signing ceremony, the EIB Vice-President stated, "Our aim is to help Jordan improve its socio-economic infrastructure. By securing the supply of energy, the NEPCO Green Corridor project will contribute to economic development and poverty reduction through continuous access to essential power supplies in Jordan. The project is highly complementary to ongoing investments in renewable energy, as the ability to bring renewable energy to market depends on adequate transmission infrastructure. The EIB and the EU Delegation are therefore supporting Jordan's national objective to reach a 10% renewable energy share in the country's energy mix by 2020. The Wadi Al-Arab Water System II project will secure reliable and improved access to drinking water which is also beneficial for health, the commercial sector and thus for economic development and social stability in Jordan. The EIB is therefore supporting the Government's efforts to bridge the drinking water availability gap in a water-stressed country." (EIB 08-11-2015)

ANGOLA'S PUBLIC DEBT INCREASES TO 57 PCT OF GDP IN 2015

The public debt of Angola is expected to reach 57.4 percent of GDP at the end of 2015, of which 14.7 percentage points are the responsibility of national oil company Sociedade Nacional de Combustíveis de Angola (Sonangol), according to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) document.

The information is included in the IMF's regular analysis of the Angolan economy and public accounts, completed on 28 October and published on 3 November, which for this year estimates inflation of 14 percent, far beyond the range of 7 to 9 percent predicted by the government.

The IMF report, which is also the result of meetings with Angolan government officials, recognises the strong impact of the oil crisis on the public accounts, identifying that public debt is expected by the end of the year to reach 57.4 percent of GDP, or US\$58.5 billion.

It is a "significant increase" after 42.2 percent of GDP in 2014, the document said, adding that of this total, 14.7 percentage points correspond to debt contracted by state oil company Sonangol or US\$15 billion, or double compared to Sonangol's figures for 2010 in the IMF accounts.

The IMF estimates that in 2015 the budget deficit should be around 3.5 percent of GDP, compared with a state budget prepared by the Government project, in its March review, twice (7 percent) of this amount. The IMF considers the Angolan economy to have a "stable" outlook despite continued low oil prices and a global climate of uncertainty being "considerable risks" to Angola. (09-11-2015)

NETHERLANDS COMMITS TO HELP FIGHT GENDER VIOLENCE IN RWANDA

The new Dutch ambassador to Rwanda, Frederique de Man, has expressed her government's commitment to a longstanding partnership with Rwanda in providing quality medical/legal care to victims of gender-based-violence (GBV) and child abuse through the Isange One Stop Centre.

Established in 2009 at Kacyiru Police Hospital as a pilot project, Isange One Stop Centre has grown into an internationally recognised Center-of-Excellence with free medical-legal and psychological aid to victims of GBV.

Ambassador Frederique de Man made the commitment during her courtesy visit to the Inspector General of Rwanda National Police (IGP) Emmanuel K. Gasana on November 9 at the RNP headquarters in Kacyiru.

The envoy said that Isange One Stop Centre has been a "steadfast international model" in addressing GBV challenges and advancing the rights of women and children, which has cemented the commitment of Netherlands to support the progress of the centre.

"The Government of Netherlands is happy to be associated with Isange One Stop Centre – because all over the world, this initiative by Rwanda has been presented as a successful model in addressing and overcoming GBV challenges and advancing the rights of women and children," she said.

"That is why we decided to continue partnering with Rwanda in this area and we are looking towards a brighter future where this model can be adopted by other countries. My first courtesy visit to the IGP comes at a time when we have enjoyed successful collaborations with the Rwanda police and we are seeking for more fields for further partnerships."

She added that the Rwanda National Police (RNP) and the Netherlands have conducted several training partnerships whereby, selected teams of police officers travel to Amsterdam for police related trainings to enhance their skills and knowledge to perfect their duties.

Ambassador Frederique de Man also complimented Rwanda for hosting the recently concluded 84th Interpol Annual General Meeting, noting that: "It was a successfully organized event that showed Rwanda's ability to provide a platform for countries to discuss and find solutions to current threats to global security."

Over 1000 officials from about 70 countries have so far visited Isange One Stop Centre to learn its best practices. The centre has now since been scaled-up to 17 other district hospitals. (APA 09-11-2015)

SOUTH AFRICA MUST ACT NOW FOR 2035 HUMAN BOOM

When the International Monetary Fund (IMF) launched its latest regional economic outlook for sub-Saharan Africa in Johannesburg recently, Africa director Antoinette Sayeh gave a public briefing that included a long-term forecast of enormous importance: "By 2035, the number of sub-Saharan Africans reaching working age (15-64) will exceed that of the rest of the world combined."

Africa's big demographic transition was a main topic in the fund's last regional outlook in April, and Dr Sayeh referred to its crucial implications for improving Africa's competitiveness and extreme inequalities, key themes of the new report.

She also explained that the IMF had been doing more long-term analysis in the past couple of years and in this case, the historical experiences in East Asia and Latin America, where demographic transitions contributed to periods of sustained economic growth and development, may have lessons for Africa.

The IMF presented Africa's demographic transition in a positive scenario for 2035, as infant mortality and fertility rates decline elsewhere and Africa's contributions to an expanding global labour market "lift sub-Saharan Africa's gross domestic product per capita by up to 50% by 2050 if governments invest in education, reduce labour market rigidities, expand trade and thereby generate the domestic savings necessary to spur investment and growth".

East Asia and Latin America started their demographic transitions in the 1960s, just as the world population reached 3-billion, whereas Africa's projected population increase from 800-million, currently, to 2-billion by 2050 will add to an already overcrowded global population of 9.6-billion.

Rather than becoming a global asset, a more likely scenario is Africa's transition becoming a global liability and local catastrophe.

And, as we will be reminded during the coming UN Climate Change Conference in Paris, sub-Saharan Africans — although among the world's people least responsible for causing climate change — will be among the most seriously affected and least able to adapt to global warming and weather shocks, which could cause severe secondary effects of famine, forced migration, hard-to-control epidemics and failing states.

However ominous, none of this is inevitable, according to Dr Sayeh, who before joining the IMF served as Liberia's postconflict finance minister after 17 years at the World Bank and knows well the perils and possibilities of African progress.

And she reiterated what has become a running theme of the IMF's semi-annual economic outlook for sub-Saharan Africa: the strategic imperative for much greater public and private investment in the human capital to solve problems that Africans did not cause and cannot solve alone, but for which they must acquire their own means for successful adaptation.

Her message is similar, if in a much lower key, to the issue of fair access to education that students at Wits and other universities so effectively raised in demonstrations that have forced us all to confront our collective wellbeing.

Although #FeesMustFall was local in origins and objectives, it has gone viral nationally and is catching on globally.

Educational rights and responsibilities are as necessary a foundation for economic and social fulfilment of all citizens as are full and equal voting rights to political equality and the empowerment of all citizens. Neither is sufficient but both confer dignity and inspire hope at home and abroad and remain the nation's deepest reservoir of soft-power influence in Africa and globally.

As we debate the ways and means to ensure fair educational opportunities for all South Africans, it may help us to make the hard financial and other decisions if we keep in mind the unprecedented challenges all Africans will face by midcentury, when today's students will be tomorrow's leaders. (BD 05-11-2015)

SENEGAL PM URGES AFRICA TO EXPLOIT INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Senegalese Prime Minister, Abdallah Mahammed Boun Dionne on Tuesday urged Africans to seize the opportunities offered by intellectual property to boost the continent's growth.

"To face up to the development challenges, Africa must grab the opportunity to harness intellectual property and promote innovation with a view to establishing rapid, sustainable and inclusive growth while reducing poverty and improving productivity for more competitiveness in the economies," the Senegalese PM declared.

Dion was delivering a statement from Senegalese President Macky Sall at the opening of the ministerial conference of the International Organization of Intellectual Property (WIPO) on intellectual property for an emerging Africa due to end on 5 November.

"Creativity and innovation are the pedestals of economic and social development for innovative states and these two factors feed mostly from the dissemination of new knowledge" Mahammed Dionne added.

He said although the patent will be granted to the inventor by the state, it is also a crucial means of disseminating new knowledge.

In the area of literary and artistic property, he said the achievements of the rights to intellectual property allow researchers, creators and teachers to benefit from exceptions and limitations."(APA 03-11-2015)

APIEX AGENCY IS THE GATEWAY FOR INVESTORS IN ANGOLA

The Angolan Agency for Investment Promotion and Export (Apiex) is structured to be the gateway for entrepreneurs who want to invest in the country, said Friday in Luanda the Minister of Trade, Rosa Pacavira.

The minister, who was speaking at the headquarters of the opening ceremony of Apiex, said the new institution has a website (<http://www.anip.co.ao/>), through which business owners can put together the draft of their investment in Angola and solve any problems that may arise from wherever they are located.

Pacavira said so far the agency had already registered about 2,500 domestic and foreign investors, a fairly significant number, although she noted that Angolan trade is dominated by foreigners.

Cited by Angolan news agency Angop, the minister said currently there are seven Angolan companies that export their products, which means that these companies are already able to compete in foreign markets. (09-11-2015)

BURUNDIAN CRISIS POSES 'DEVASTATING' RISK FOR REGION, SAYS AU

The African Union (AU) has warned of its "deep concern" for troubled Burundi and the wider region if rivals do not resolve political differences peacefully.

AU Commission chief Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma said she was worried at "the continuation of acts of violence and the increase of statements that are likely to further aggravate the current situation."

If the crisis is not solved, it would "create conditions for more instability, with devastating consequences for Burundi and the whole region," she said in a statement late on Wednesday.

The central African nation has seen months of violence triggered by President Pierre Nkurunziza's successful bid to win a third term in office, with the government calling the gangs of gunmen "criminals".

The UN has warned that Burundi risks sliding back into civil war after a dramatic rise in killings, arrests and detentions, with more than 200,000 refugees fleeing to neighbouring countries.

Some 200 people have been killed in Burundi since violence broke out in April, the UN says.

Ms Dlamini-Zuma called on leaders on all sides to "demonstrate the sense of responsibility that the situation demands, and to place the interests of the Burundian people above any other consideration." She repeated AU threats made last month of "targeted sanctions" against Burundian leaders, and said the AU continued to back mediation efforts led by Uganda.

Opponents said Mr. Nkurunziza's re-election breached the terms of the peace deal that paved the way to ending civil war. (AFP 05-11-2015)

KENYA AIRWAYS RESUMES CAR FLIGHTS

Kenya Airways Tuesday announced the resumption of its flights to the crisis-ridden Central African Republic which were grounded in March 2013.

The airline will hold two weekly flights namely on Tuesday and Sunday in the CAR capital Bangui.

According to Herbert Sambo, who was mandated by the airline to re-launch its activities in CAR, the recommencement of flights is a testimony of the good relations between the governments of Kenya and the Central African Republic. It also shows that the CAR as a destination is now safe he declared.

Kenya Airways had been present in the Central African Republic since 2008 but its flights there were suspended after the putsch by the Seleka rebel coalition in 2013. (APA 03-11-2015)

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Angola - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=43375.0>

Angola - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=43374.0>

Botswana - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15499.htm>

Ethiopia - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=43372.0>

Ghana - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15496.htm>

Liberia - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15493.htm>

Liberia - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15498.htm>

Liberia - <http://www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.aspx?sk=43380.0>

Morocco - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15495.htm>

Mozambique - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15488.htm>

Rwanda - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15494.htm>

Seychelles - <http://www.imf.org/external/np/sec/pr/2015/pr15484.htm>

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