MEMORANDUM

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SUMMARY

EU ANNOUNCES €78 MILLION FOR SOUTH SUDAN CRISIS

The European Commission will provide €78 million in emergency aid to help those affected by the South Sudan crisis both within the country and in the region. Over 1 million refugees from South Sudan have fled to neighbouring countries, with the number expected to grow.

The funding was announced today by Commissioner Christos **Stylianides** who is currently in Uganda, one of the largest refugee and asylum-seekers hosting country in the world. He is visiting the Bidibidi refugee settlements built recently to host the rapidly increasing numbers of refugees from neighbouring South Sudan.

"The EU stands by the people of South Sudan who had to escape conflict and violence. I would like to pay tribute to Uganda for its hospitality in welcoming refugees and offering them an opportunity to rebuild their lives in dignity, which is an example for the region and beyond. Our new funding will help our humanitarian partner organisations get lifesaving aid to those who need it most. Sadly, attacks on relief organisations are a regular occurrence in South Sudan. What's crucial therefore is that humanitarian organisations have unhindered and safe access to do their lifesaving job." said Commissioner for Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Management Christos **Stylianides**.

€40 million will be allocated to humanitarian organisations in South Sudan itself, with €30 million to help displaced South Sudanese in Uganda, and a further €8 million in neighbouring Sudan. The funding will contribute to life-saving activities in South Sudan, and to meet urgent needs of the displaced population in the neighbouring countries in terms of shelter, nutrition, healthcare, sanitation and protection, especially of children. Of the funds allocated to Uganda, €10 million will come from the EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa.

The EU is among the biggest donors for the South Sudanese crisis and has provided close to half a billion Euros since fighting erupted in December 2013.

Background

Despite a peace agreement signed in August 2015, fighting has spread around the country and intensified in 2016, especially since July. The situation in South Sudan has reached catastrophic levels. Overall, nearly 3 million people have fled violence and have been displaced inside and outside the country. The country is facing the worst food security crisis since its independence and there are virtually no health services but for those provided by humanitarian organisations. There are alarming reports of ethnically motivated killings, wide spread gender-based violence and hate speech. Relief organisations provide neutral and impartial life-saving assistance but are put under pressure by the parties to the conflict. As a result, humanitarian aid is not reaching all populations in need.

The conflict has severe implications for the region. The massive flow of refugees to Uganda is triggered by the new dynamics of the conflict, which has spread to areas close to Uganda. By October, the total number of new arrivals from South Sudan was more than 230,000 since July, the vast majority of whom women and children.

Uganda now hosts nearly 800 000 refugees. This makes it one of the largest refugee and asylumseekers hosting country in the world. Other refugees in Uganda are mainly from Democratic Republic of Congo and Burundi. (EC 11-11-2016)

ANGOLAN BANKING SECTOR HAS DIFFICULTIES WITH ITS FOREIGN RELATIONSHIPS

The Angolan banking system for the last two years has seen a reduction of its direct Correspondent Banking Relations (CBR), which reduces its ability to handle payments for imports and remittances, the governor of the National Bank of Angola (BNA) said in Luanda.

Valter Filipe, who was speaking at the opening of a round table meeting on "Correspondent Banking Relations," attributed this to the increased demands of correspondent banks for compliance with the standards adopted by international regulators on supervision, risks of money laundering and terrorist financing and the costs incurred in customer due diligence procedures.

"The closure of bank correspondence, along with the reduction in oil prices, affect the ability of banks to make payments to import food, medicines, raw materials, remittances to students and medical assistance abroad, family support, diplomatic sector payments, as well as clients with international contracts concluded in dollars," added the governor cited by state newspaper Jornal de Angola.

The governor used the occasion to publicise the ongoing initiatives to make the financial system more robust and reduce the impact of the closure of CBR, resume the old relationships and establish new correspondent relationships, a process involving domestic and foreign entities such as the Ministry of Finance, the Financial Intelligence Unit, commercial banks, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

The head of mission of the International Monetary Fund who is in Angola to hold consultations under Article IV – to evaluate economic performance – said at the conclusion that the absence of correspondent banking relationships is a major challenge that must be faced, and it was necessary to improve the supervisory and regulatory system, particularly in the area of money laundering. (11-10-2016)

JAPAN HELPS SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE BY DONATING RICE

Japan has granted food aid consisting of 3,000 tons of rice to Sao Tome and Principe, with a market value of 240 million yen (US\$1.87 million), the Sao Tome Minister for Foreign Affairs said on Thursday in Sao Tome.

The announcement was made after the signing of the new food aid agreement for 2016 and the document was signed by Minister Urbino Botelho on behalf of Sao Tome and Japan's ambassador Masaaki Sato, on behalf of the Japanese government.

Stressing that "this food aid will contribute to food security in Sao Tome and Principe," Botelho also highlighted the importance of the donation "in strengthening democracy and the economic and social development of the archipelago."

The agreement between the governments of Sao Tome and Principe and Japan states that the funds from the sale would be used for social work, including the construction of rural roads, schools, health centres and water supply in order to improve the living conditions of the population.

Sao Tome and Principe over the last 20 years has benefited from food aid worth over US\$22 million from Japan, which also cooperates with Sao Tome in other areas, including fishing, school and health facilities. (11-11-2016)

UNREST BLAMED AS ETHIOPIAN TOURISM REVENUE TUMBLES BY OVER \$7M

Ethiopia has lost over \$7 million in tourism revenue during the first quarter of the current budget year, which a senior official of the ministry responsible for the industry blamed on a long season of political unrest.

In a statement on Saturday, Public and International Relations Director in the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, Gezahegne Abate blamed the drop in revenue on the recent violent unrests in Oromia and Amhara states where a number of government offices and factories are still either closed or partly working.

The revenue obtained in the quarter was reportedly over \$872 million, a figure below the target set for the period, Public and International Relations Director in the ministry, Gezahegne Abate was quoted explaining in the statement.

The revelation comes days after the government announced that tourists can visit any attractions across the country despite a six-month state of emergency in place since October 8, 2016 following a wave of violence in the two largest ethnic regions accounting for 60 percent of the Ethiopian population.

Last week, a security command unit established to oversee the implementation of the state of emergency lifted the directive which restricted diplomats from traveling beyond a-40 kilometer radius out

of Addis Ababa without prior notification.

Abate said the ministry is working in collaboration with the Ethiopian Tourism Organization, the Hotel Owners' Association, tour operators and Ethiopian embassies based abroad to deal with the downturn in the industry's revenue.

He said the ministry was using different sites to reach out to prospective tourists in a bid to reassure them about the current situation in Ethiopia and encourage them not to cancel bookings to the country.

The ministry has since revised its initial annual targeted revenue from \$3.4 billion to \$3 billion.(APA 13-11-2016)

THE EUROPEAN UNION'S COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (2013-2016)

The European Union's comprehensive approach in the Central African Republic (2013-2016) The European Union has been a partner of the <u>Central African Republic</u> for over 30 years and remains until today one of the country's main development partners. Since 2013, the European Union has contributed more than €500 million to assist the Central African Republic in responding to the cycle of insecurity, violence and political instability it was challenged with. In that respect, the European Union has mobilised all its available instruments in a comprehensive and integrated manner, including its first multi-donor <u>Trust Fund "Bêkou"</u> and traditional development aid, three military Common Security and Defence Policy missions and operations, civilian crisis response and humanitarian aid. This was complemented with sustained political and diplomatic engagement with the Central African Republic authorities and international partners on all levels. Indeed, the European Union has been instrumental in contributing towards the stabilisation efforts in the Central African Republic.

Having successfully completed the political transition period after one of the worst conflicts in its history, the Central African Republic is today confronted with immense needs in all sectors in order to ensure reconciliation, reconstruction and a lasting peace. Together with the World Bank and the United Nations the European Union has led a joint needs assessment in Central African Republic. In agreement with the <u>Central African Republic authorities</u> this will form the basis for the international community to engage with political support and pledge additional resources to the country's efforts at the upcoming Brussels Conference on Central African Republic, on 17 November 2016.

EU humanitarian assistance

The European Commission, together with its Member States, is the largest provider of humanitarian and relief assistance to the Central African Republic, with support of over \in 259 million since 2014 to help those in need throughout the country. Humanitarian assistance from the European Commission to the Central African Republic for 2016 amounts to \in 21 million. This aid will benefit more than 553,000 people in need through different programmes covering the most urgent needs, such as enable free access to primary health care services, protection of civilians, water supply or food assistance.

Since the escalation of violence in December 2013, the Commission has committed €108.5 million in humanitarian aid (in addition to €28 million which have been allocated to cover the essential needs of Central African Republic refugees in neighbouring countries). The humanitarian assistance addresses the basic needs of refugees such as shelter, food, health, protection, water, sanitation and hygiene.

Development support and the Bêkou Trust Fund

Following the 2013 conflict in the Central African Republic, EU development funds channelled towards the Central African Republic amount to more than €200 million.

This comprises actions contributing towards food security and civil society organisations (\in 39 million); the restoration of basic social services in the area of education and health (\in 27 million); support for the 2015 electoral process (\in 20 million); as well as support for the preservation and consolidation of the state-state-building contract (\in 33 million + \in 40 million). Through these actions, the EU has supported

over 300 schools, improved healthcare access for the most vulnerable and reinforced state capacities. Moreover, the successful holding of free, fair and credible elections was made possible thanks to EU funding.

Currently, funding is being prepared for a new National Indicative Programme (NIP) for the <u>11th</u> <u>European Development Fund</u> (EDF) and which will outline the EU's development support towards the Central African Republic until 2020.

The <u>Bêkou Trust Fund</u>, the first trust fund created by the EU, was established to enable the European Union to provide support in complex crisis situations and impacted the lives of 1 million people in its first year of activities. Its total current amount is \in 136 million, with \in 106 million from the EU, \in 5 million from France, \in 15 million from Germany, \in 3 million from the Netherlands, \in 1 million from Italy, and CHF 1 million from Switzerland. During the transition phase the main focus of Bêkou was <u>Linking Relief</u>, <u>Rehabilitation and Development</u> (LRRD) actions in support to community resilience and local capacity building. Currently, the expansion of the fields of action of Bêkou is being discussed, in line with the strategy of the joint needs assessment.

Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP)

In response to the request of the authorities of the Central African Republic to the EU to provide operational training for the Central African Republic's armed forces, the Council launched the military <u>EU</u> <u>Training Mission RCA</u> (EUTM RCA) on 16 July 2016, with its first mandate will expire on 19 September 2018

EUTM RCA (strength 170 personnel) will support the FACA based on a three pillar approach: i) strategic advice on management of FACA resources and the implementation of defence sector reform, within the framework of the wider SSR process; ii) education for selected and vetted officers as well as non-commissioned officers; iii) operational training of two to three battalions until the end of its initial mandate using the train-the-trainer-process as much as possible.

EUTM RCA will perform its tasks in close coordination with the UN mission MINUSCA. Currently, a technical arrangement with MINUSCA on mutual support is being finalised. Georgia will contribute to EUTM RCA by providing a force protection element. Pending political approval, Serbia envisages participating in a medical role. The common funded budget allocated to EUTM RCA for 2016 is € 12.4 million.

EU crisis Response under the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace

Since 2013, € 34 million have been mobilised under <u>the Instrument contributing to Stability and Peace</u> (IcSP) to strengthen the fragile state during the transition period and to contribute to the peaceful coexistence of central African communities in Bangui and in the provinces.

Specifically, state presence has been strengthened through direct support to the transitional government to lead a process of political dialogue and through the re-establishment and reinforcement of police and gendarmerie capacity. Regarding support to the DDR process, the IcSP is currently contributing to integration of mixed communities, including returning ex-combatants, through revenue creation and socio-cultural activities in Bangui, Boda, Bambari, Kaga-Bandoro, and Ndele (at a total of € 14.8 million). Moreover, ongoing IcSP support to political dialogue at the national level includes support to the newly elected government with regard to consultations of, and negotiations with armed groups, an important element contributing to the ability of the new government to lead on the future DDR process. IcSP support to the Ministry of Defence contributes to strengthening the ministry's capacity for providing civilian oversight over the military and is aiming to complement EUTM's efforts in support of a well-planned and implemented security sector reform. (EU 11-11-2016)

SENEGAL: CASAMANCE OPENS UP TO MORE TOURISM ACTIVITIES

Local authorities in Senegal's southern region of Casamance are teaming up with stakeholders to open up the area to more tourism activities.

A three-day forum dubbed the 72-hour meeting began in Diembereng on Saturday aimed at attracting and harnessing progressive ideas to revive the region's tourism profile amidst the troubling aftermath of a separatist insurgence that had rocked the area for decades.

Itineraries around the event include traditional drumming, dancing, wrestling jamborees and a tour of important tourist sites in both Diembereng and Cap Skirring.

The initiative is the brainchild of the Diembereng Mayor Tombong Gueye, who in his opening speech lamented the declining number of tourists visiting the Casamance region which had been ravaged by a low-intensity conflict since 1982.

Mayor Gueye who elaborated on the need for good tourist attractions such as smart hotels and clean sandy beaches vowed to do everything in his power as the mayor of the area to revive the industry in Diembereng, Cap Skirring and Kabrouse, the three flagship tourism draws that have been the subjects of travelogues and other travel magazines around the world.

He described those sites as potential tourist destinations where aesthetic beauty are complemented by a rich cocktail of cultures and traditions against the backdrop of the gradual return to normalcy in the area.

France's Ambassador to Senegal, Christophe Bigot, hailed what he described "a well thought out initiative" by the Mayor of Diembereng.

Ambassador Bigot promised that his country will encourage French citizens active in the tourism industry to invest in the Casamance region.

He was speaking days after France announced it was lifting a protracted travel ban for its nationals from visiting the once volatile region.

Other Western nations had followed France's lead to warn their nationals against traveling to the region for fear of possible abductions or murders by marauding gunmen.

The region witnessed a gradual decline in tourist arrivals over the years.(APA 13-11-2016)

CEO OF NIGERIAN BOURSE PUTS GLOBAL EXCHANGE TRADED FUNDS AT \$3 TRILLION

The CEO of the Nigerian Stock Exchange (NSE), Mr. Oscar Onyema, has said that the Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) have become a huge success story with global ETF Assets Under Management (AUM) have grown from US\$1.4 trillion in December 2010 to about \$3trillion as at April, 2016.

Speaking at the opening of the NSE's annual Exchange Traded Funds (ETFs) Workshop on Monday in Lagos, Onyema said that Experts had predicted the continued growth of the ETF industry estimating that global AUM will reach at least US\$7 trillion by 2021.

He recalled that the history of ETFs dates back to 1990, when the Toronto Index Participation Fund (TIP 35) was launched in Canada and that since then, ETFs have gained widespread acceptance in most developed markets with demand from global retail and institutional investors leading to a variety of offerings by ETF sponsors.

He disclosed that ETFs were introduced in December 2011 in the Nigerian bourse with cross listing of Newgold ETF with AUM of N287.5m to provide investors with new opportunities to diversify their portfolios and access the market.

As at today, we've recorded about 1,900% growth in our ETF market with total AUM of about N4.24bn as at September 2016 on eight ETFs currently listed and traded on the Exchange, Newgold ETF, Vetiva Griffin 30 ETF, StanbicIBTC ETF 30, Lotus Halal Equity ETF, Vetiva Sector Series ETFs- Banking, Consumer Goods and Industrial, and Vetiva S&P Nigerian Sovereign Bond ETF (6 equity backed, 1 commodity ETF and 1 bond ETF), he said.

According to him, investors now have the ability to quantify and evaluate the trade-offs in our markets, and are able to select the instrument that allows for the most efficient implementation of their desired strategy.

.Onyema noted that there are currently about 506 investors holding ETFs and that he is hopeful that the growth of ETFs in Nigeria have only just begun with support of market intermediaries, stakeholders and the regulator.

He explained that the existence of ETFs in the Nigerian market is beneficial to retail and institutional investors, as ETFs offer a direct and inexpensive way to attain diversified exposure to an index, commodity, sector, or region.

Asides diversification and tradability, ETFs also offer additional benefits of low expense ratio as compared to mutual funds, increased liquidity and can be used to execute different investment strategies, he said(APA 07-11-2016)

ANGOLAN BANKING SECTOR HAS TOTAL OF US\$2.133 BILLION IN BAD LOANS AT THE END OF 2015

Overdue loans in commercial banking in Angola amounted to 355.6 billion kwanzas (US\$2.133 billion) at the end of 2015, according to the 11th edition of the "Banking under Analysis" report, presented Monday in Luanda by the Deloitte consultancy.

The study, in which Deloitte analyses the results of the reports and accounts publicly submitted by banks operating in Angola, reveals that provisions for loans at banks increased 107% in 2015, a year in which, the value of the aggregate assets of the institutions reached 7.512 billion kwanzas (US\$45 billion).

The head of Deloitte for the Financial Services sector in Angola, José Barata, admitted during the presentation of these results, a "deterioration of the loan portfolio" of the Angolan banking sector, which had to do double provisions in relation to 2014.

"This reflects a need to record negative results to respond to losses in the portfolio," noted Barata, admitting that bad debt "remains high" within the Angolan banking sector.

The total net income of the institutions in question – excluding information from Banco Económico, formerly Banco Espírito Santo Angola – grew by 19% to 116.5 billion kwanzas (632 million euros) in 2015.

State bank Banco de Poupança e Crédito (BPC), which is undergoing restructuring, heads up the list of assets with 1.399 trillion kwanzas (US\$8 billion), followed by Banco de Fomento Angola (BFA), Banco Angolano de Investimentos (BAI), Banco BIC and Banco Privado Atlântico (BPA).

The 11th edition of the Banking under Analysis report reveals that the proportion of deposits in Angolan currency maintains it growth at the expense of foreign currency, rising to represent 69% of the total and that at the end of the year Angolan banks relied on client deposits totalling 6 billion kwanza (US\$36.7 billion), an increase of 12% compared to 2014. (08-11-2016)

SWEDEN SEEKS INCREASE IN TRADE VOLUME WITH NIGERIA



Unit Manager, Magreb and West Africa, Ludvig Hermansson (left); Head, Trade Promotion, Africa Department, Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Brengt Carlsson; Minister for EU Affairs and Trade, Ann Linde; Swedish Ambassador to Nigeria Inger Ultvedt, and Managing Director, Ericsson Nigeria, Johan Jemedahl, at the Swedish –Nigeria Smart Cities and ICT conference held in Lagos.

Sweden is seeking opportunities that will increase the trade relations and volumes between it and Nigeria.

Swedish Minister for European Union (EU) Affairs and Trade, Mrs. Ann Linde, who led the Swedish delegation to Nigeria, disclosed this in Lagos on Wednesday, during an interaction with journalists. Linde said the coming of the Swedish Delegation to Nigeria, was mainly to promote trade between the two countries, stressing that Sweden recognised Nigeria as an investment destination and a big trade country.

"The aim of the delegation is to highlight business opportunities in Nigeria for Swedish companies. The focus of the delegation is developing sustainable and smart societies using Swedish innovations in ICT, transport, energy, health and finance," she stated.

According to her, Sweden is the highest ranked country in terms of connectivity, digital economy and egovernance and has a strong tradition in innovation in different sectors of the economy. She said Sweden is conceived as one of the most advanced post-industrialised economies and Swedish companies are perceived as innovative, reliable and good partners.

Speaking about Nigeria, Linde said the country is the largest and fastest growing middle class globally, stressing that there is ongoing effort by the current government to diversify its economy. "During this visit the Swedish experience and how its innovations and ICT technology can enhance productivity in many sectors will be shared."

She hinted that the Swedish intent to strengthen commercial ties goes beyond single business opportunities and industry sectors, but extends to strategic collaborations with not only private businesses but also public sector and academia.

While a document made available to journalists indicated that the trade between the two countries is over 5.94 billion SEK, which makes Nigeria Sweden's second largest export market in sub-Sahara Africa, Swedish Ambassador to Nigeria, Mrs. Inger Ultvedt, lamented that there was still deficit between the two countries.

Ultvedt put trade export between the two countries at 6.3 billion SEK (N222.7 billion), while import as at 2015 stood at 2.1 billion SEK (N74.237 billion).

According to her, there was a need for the two countries to improve their bilateral trade relations so as to be able to engender more cordial relationship.

The Ambassador reiterated that ICT, energy, infrastructure and transport are key areas for the Swedish-Nigerian and European Union, EU cooperation. She stressed that the growing and dynamic nature of the ICT sector in Nigeria offers a promising avenue to expand the two countries commercial ties, with continuously increasing number of mobile and Internet users, which in turn will require further investments in expanded networks and across other sectors.

"Sweden, ranking as the most digitalised economy in the world, with Stockholm as a leading incubator for ICT start-ups, has a lot to offer in terms of expertise and knowledge," she stated.

According to her, Sweden has a number of strong, world-leading companies in the area of ICT, agriculture, finance, energy, healthcare, infrastructure and transport, many of which already are present in Nigeria, including Ericsson, ABB, Altas Copco, Tetra Pak, Gulf Agency Company, Flexenclosure, Oriflame and Sandvik.

Speaking from Ericsson's angle, the Managing Director for Nigeria, Johan Jemdahl, disclosed that the firm has been in Nigeria for almost 60 years, saying that the country is the most important market for Ericsson in Africa.

He said Nigeria needs to attract more businesses and that mobile broadband was key in get that done, including mobility.

Jemdahl however, listed insecurity, foreign exchange fluctuations and getting approval and licenses for some major works as some of the challenges currently confronting doing business in Nigeria. The Ericsson Nigeria MD, called for the building of smart cities in Nigeria, to ensure that Nigeria becomes a digitalised economy in the world with the help of Swedish companies expertise and knowledge.

"When it comes to developing smart cities, you need to have the broadband, network inter-connectivity, cooperating with public institutions and mobile operators, among others," he said.(The Guardian 28-10-2016)

GHANA: TULLOW'S GAS SUPPLY REDUCTION MAY AFFECT POWER STABILITY

Ghanaian electricity consumers on Thursday received the news of reduction in gas supply from Tullow Oil with mixed feelings, APA learns here.

They are therefore of the view that the situation can lead to unstable power supply due to past experiences, where the country was plunged into load shedding.

According to a statement from the Ghana Gas Company, Tullow is in the process of undertaking critical upstream remediation works.

As a result of the works, the various power generators would have to make do with the available gas to power their plants to sustain the economy of Ghana, which has been affected by power crisis since 2012.

James Assan, a poultry farmer, said he received the news with fear of going back to the old days that they had to operate without power, compelling some of them to purchase generating sets.

The memory of load shedding is still fresh on the minds of Ghanaians after enduring power rationing for almost four years.(APA 03-11-2016)

NAMIBIAN ECONOMY TO GROW BY 2.5 PERCENT IN 2016 – CENTRAL BANK

The Bank of Namibia in its November 2016 Economic Outlook Update released on Thursday expect the domestic economic growth to slow down, before improving in 2017.

This early update is necessitated by significant changes in the mining and government sectors: a downward revision in the mining sector due to revised projections from uranium mines and increased measures to fast track the pace of fiscal consolidation in the government sector.

Emma Haiyambo, the Director: Strategic Communication and Financial Sector Development said the domestic economy is projected to slow down in 2016, before next year.

"Namibia's real GDP growth is projected to slow down to 2.5 percent in 2016, before accelerating to 4.0 percent in 2017. The projected growth rates represent a slowdown from the national accounts estimate of 5.3 percent for 2015.

"This contraction is mainly attributed to a projected decline in construction, diamond mining sub-sector, electricity and water sector and the planned reduction in government expenditure.

"Meanwhile, good growth prospects are expected from metal ores mining (copper and gold), uranium mining, as well as, wholesale and retail sector; and thus these sectors are expected to sustain growth at 2.5 percent in 2016.

"Over the medium-term, growth will mainly be supported by anticipated recovery in both agriculture and diamond mining as well as improved growth in uranium mining, manufacturing, and transport and communication sectors," she said.

Haiyambo noted that risks to the domestic growth outlook remains and centred on both global and regional spill-overs and the prevailing drought.

"Weak global demand, emanating from slower growth in advanced economies and major emerging market economies, coupled with slow recovery of international commodity prices, may slow production at some of the local mines, especially uranium mines.

"At the regional level, drought poses an immediate threat to production in primary industries and to food inflation. Namibia is faced with water shortages, which may further restrain growth in sectors such as construction, beverages, meat processing and agriculture," said the bank official.(APA 03-11-2016)

LA RECETTE TURQUE POUR CONQUERIR L'AFRIQUE : EMBAUCHER ET FORMER LES LOCAUX



Le président turc était présent mercredi 2 novembre 2016 au forum d'affaires Afrique-Turquie qui se tenait à Istanbul, en Turquie.

Le discours du Président Erdogan était à peine conclu ce mardi, que les discussions reprenaient sous la grande tente attenante au forum d'affaires Turquie-Afrique se tenant cette semaine à Istanbul. Exemple, à l'heure du déjeuner, avec le Turc Ercan Arkin et le Burkinabè Timothée Ouoba.

L'un est responsable Afrique francophone depuis cinq mois de l'entreprise turque Tanis, qui fabrique des moulins à farine qui peuvent traiter jusqu'à 8 tonnes par jour. Sa compagnie est présente en Éthiopie, Angola, Somalie et vise le Sénégal, le Soudan ... « On fabrique notre matériel ici, à Gaziantep, on transporte nos produits, on forme les clients, on prépare le projet selon la qualité de la farine, le coût peut varier suivant le type de produits », dit-il.

L'autre est chef de service innovation au sein de la Maison de l'entreprise du Burkina Faso, une institution qui accompagne les entreprises burkinabè dans leurs formalités et dans la formation de leurs personnels.

Le plan d'un moulin à farine déjà déplié sur la table, le Burkinabè révèle à son interlocuteur qu'il est luimême à la recherche de minoteries : « Avez-vous des modèles pour décortiquer le riz, pour traiter le maïs ? » « Oui, mais c'est très dur, car une graine de maïs est quatre fois plus grande qu'un grain de riz, cela ne passera pas ».

Qu'importe, la discussion se poursuit sur les conditions de financement. « On préfère le pré-paiement », indique le Turc. En se serrant la main, ils se sont promis de rester en contact à leur retour à domicile.

Ces relations turco-africaines sont en plein essor, disent Ben Cheikh Haidara, directeur général de l'opérateur Airtel Burkina Faso et Kephta Compaoré, directeur général de Syscom, également rencontrés dans les allées du sommet.

"On attend les Turcs sur leurs capacités d'investissements et d'expertise dans les domaines de l'énergie, de la construction et des infrastructures et on va voir comment on peut créer des coentreprises en leur apportant notre connaissance de l'environnement local et des milieux d'affaires. Ils doivent venir avec des projets structurants", disent-ils.

Les PME, la clé de la stratégie turque

Ni trop grandes ni trop petites, les PME turques sont pour l'ambassadeur Ahmet Riza Demirer, directeur Afrique au ministère des Affaires étrangères turc, la clé de la stratégie turque en Afrique. Ce qui la différencie des partenaires traditionnels comme la France ou la Chine. « Nous sommes les derniers à

venir en Afrique, cela a des avantages mais aussi des inconvénients. Ce que l'on essaye de faire, c'est de partager notre savoir-faire dans les petites et moyennes entreprises. S'il y a eu un développement en Turquie, c'est grâce à ces moyens investisseurs qui ont été habitués à travailler en milieu difficile. Contrairement aux Chinois, les Turcs visent aussi à embaucher et à former de la main d'œuvre locale. » Cela a constitué pour nous un tournant.

Plus tard à la tribune, c'était au tour d'entreprises qui ont déjà investi en Turquie de témoigner. Hakan Kozan est directeur général du groupe d'électroménager Arçelik pour l'Afrique du Sud. Il détient notamment des marques allemandes telles que Grundig ou Beko, et est présent en Afrique depuis 20 ans. Il a acquis le Sud-africain Dify en 2011 en y investissant 320 millions d'euros. « Cela a constitué pour nous un tournant, Defy est devenue notre porte d'entrée sur tout le continent, on a multiplié par six notre présence à l'est et au sud du continent. On est présents dans 39 pays, il nous reste 15 pays à conquérir, nous avons investi 75 millions de dollars supplémentaires en ressources humaines et en équipements. » En 2008, Defy n'exportait que vers 8 pays. Il y en a 34 aujourd'hui ainsi que l'Australie et le Bengladesh.

On a vite été convaincus par l'environnement des affaires en Éthiopie.

Yusuf Aydeniz, est le président de Ayka Textile. Pour lui, c'est en 2005 qu'a commencé l'aventure africaine, en Éthiopie, par l'ouverture d'usines de textile qui disposent de 40 tonnes par jour de capacités de production. « On a préparé un rapport de faisabilité, on a vite été convaincus par l'environnement des affaires du pays et par la disponibilité de sa main d'oeuvre. Nous employons à 100% des femmes à qui on a fourni des formations, soit un total de 50 000 personnes. Notre société établie en Éthiopie a réalisé de grands travaux qui ont attiré d'autres investisseurs étrangers. »(JA 04-11-2016)

US HAILS NEW ECONOMIC MEASURES IN EGYPT



The United States has hailed Egypt's new measures as part of its overall reform program to improve its troubled economy.

John Kirby, Assistant Secretary and Department Spokesperson, Bureau of Public Affairs said in a statement on Friday that the decision to liberalize the foreign exchange system and adopt a flexible exchange rate regime is a positive development.

Kirby said it is meant to improve the functioning of Egypt's foreign exchange markets and to advance the country's economic recovery.

The US official noted that the United States supports the Egyptian government's commitment to taking the difficult but necessary economic reform measures to lay the foundations for a more prosperous future for its people.

Last Tuesday, Egypt's Supreme Investment Council approved a raft of measures to boost investment that included an extended suspension of capital gains tax on shares and tax exemptions for producers in strategic sectors of the economy.

The measures also included wide-ranging tax exemptions for farmers and manufacturers who produce strategic crops or goods that Egypt imports or exports.

Also outlined were new ways to settle tax disputes and reduce bureaucratic barriers to investment, notably by introducing temporary manufacturing licenses while factories complete paperwork, and forcing government agencies to grant licenses or settle disputes faster.

The Supreme Investment Council will review state investment policies, remove all obstacles to investors, and improve the investment climate.(APA 04-11-2016)

BOTSWANA RETAINS WHEAT LEVY TO PROTECT LOCAL MILLERS

Botswana's Assistant Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry, Biggie Butale said Friday a 15 percent levy on wheat imports has not been removed completely but has been gradually reduced over the past two years.

Butale told parliament that a decision was made in 2014 to gradually reduce the wheat levy by 1.5 percentage points over a period of 10 years.

This followed national consultations that included both bakeries and millers on issues raised by the banking industry regarding the uncompetitive pricing of local products and quality of flour.

He pointed out that the milling industry was still protected by the wheat levy, which is currently pegged at 12 percent.

Butale said the levy was meant to bring prices of imported products to par with domestic prices while the domestic milling industry builds capacity to increase its competitiveness.

He stated that the levy was not meant to be a permanent measure, but only an interim step to support the local industry.

There have been concerns that the government was not doing enough to protect the millers in Botswana against the influx of foreign importers who seek to unfairly remove them from the market by selling goods at below market price. (APA 04-11-2016)



CONSTRUCTION BEGINS ON AFRICA'S LARGEST DEEP SEA PORT IN NIGERIA

Construction of Africa's largest deep sea port situated in the Badagry area of Lagos has officially started. The project is a joint venture between the Integrated Logistics Services (INTELS) and the <u>Nigerian Port</u> <u>Authority</u> (NPA).

The INTELS management said that the project is very much on schedule and once completed it will be Africa's largest deep sea port.

The management also added that its plan is to invest in concessioned terminals in line with what is stated in the concession agreement between NPA and the Ministry of transport in line with the federal government strategy on infrastructure development. The Badagry deep sea port project will cost US\$ 2.6B and is expected to be a huge milestone that will go a long way to bring global growth to the Nigerian's waters, the country's economy and also complement the materialization of Lagos as the 5th largest economy in the continent.

The project will also generate about 500,000 direct and indirect employment opportunities.

The <u>Minister of Transportation</u>, Rotimi Amaechi whilst briefing the joint senate and the House of Representatives committee on Land Transport in Abuja, announced that the Federal government had signed a memorandum of understanding with a China Railway Corporation.

He said that the memorandum will not only cover the Warri –Ajaokuta-Obura –Abuja central rail project but will also cover the construction and expansion of Warri port and harbor.

It will also cover the construction of deep sea port and construction of an Industrial park at Port Harcourt and Bony Island.

The Minister went on to reveal that the Government had also signed the contract for the construction of a rail line from Port Calabar to Port Harcourt with extension from Port Harcourt to Onne deep sea port.

The INTELS management says it is very excited to be part of such a big project and is looking forward to building more project given its 30 years of expertise in the sector. (CRonline 04-11-2016)

BOTSWANA HIT BY SCARE OF FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE AMONG LIVESTOCK

Botswana's Ministry of Agriculture has imposed restrictions of movement for cloven-hoofed animals and their derived products on Friday following the recent sighting of buffalo in the Tutume area in southern Botswana leading to fears of the outbreak of Foot and Mouth Diseases (FMD) in the area.

Recently, two buffaloes that were found in the Tutume area were killed by members of the Department of Wildlife and National Parks in an exercise that has ignited fears of a possible FMD contamination in the area.

The restrictions prohibit the movement of live cloven-hoofed animals into and out of Zones 6A and 3C.

The movement within the two zones is also not allowed except for direct slaughter. "Movement of cloven hoofed derived fresh products including boewors, minced-meat, saw-dust (bone and muscle tissues) are not allowed out of veterinary disease control zone 6A and 3C," reads a press release from the ministry.

The press release further states that movement of processed-ready to eat products such as milk, dry salted biltong, cheese, butter, yoghurt and others are allowed into and out of the veterinary disease control zone 6A and 3C.(APA 04-11-2016)

ANGOLA INCREASES TAX ON MEAT IMPORTS

The government of Angola plans to increase import duty on meat to encourage increased domestic production, and has estimated that foreign currency savings will reach US\$200 million per year, state newspaper Jornal de Angola reported.

The paper added that Angola spends about US\$1 billion on meat imports and quotes the president of the Industrial Association of Angola (AIA), José Severino, as saying that meat importers can use the money they spend on imports to encourage domestic production.

However, Angola has reduced the value of imports in the first quarter by 34.7%, a period when exports fell by just 1.3%, according to statements from the Minister of Trade, while addressing the opening ceremony of the second edition of "Internationalisation is Growth Forum."

Fiel Constantino, citing figures from the National Statistics Institute, said that the main markets for the export of Angolan products were China (49%), India (7.5%), United States of America (5.7%), Portugal (4.4%) and South Africa (4.3%).

With regard to imports, China with 15.4%, was the main supplier, followed by Portugal with 14.4%, the United States with 9.4%, Brazil with 5% and South Africa and Singapore with 4.2% each. The forum was organised by the Community of Exporting and Internationalised Companies of Angola, which has 33 member companies and whose agenda is focused on fostering capitalisation and innovation processes in Angolan companies. (07-11-2016)

NIGERIA: APEX BANK OFFERS OVER \$600M WINDOW TO MANUFACTURING SECTOR

Following complaints of lack of foreign exchange to import raw materials and spare parts by local manufacturers and their threat to relocate their industries outside the country, the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) says that the industrial sector can now access \$660 million in the inter-bank market to source for raw materials and spare parts for their industries.

The acting Director, Corporate Communications of the CBN, Mr. Isaac Okorafor, said in a statement on Monday in Abuja that the new window was in line with the promise of the CBN to ease foreign exchange pressure on manufacturing and agricultural businesses through forward sales under the new flexible Forex regime.

According to the statement, the sum sourced by the manufacturers is to facilitate the procurement of raw materials for agricultural, pharmaceutical, automobile, aviation, plant and machinery, power, telecommunications, and printing, among others.

It added that the CBN is committed to ensuring that manufacturers of goods for which Nigeria does not enjoy comparative advantage are able to get letters of credit to import the required materials for their businesses.

The statement urged manufacturers to take advantage of the policy, which would enable Nigeria to reclaim its status as a major producer of goods through backward integration initiatives.(APA 08-11-2016)

The Memorandum is supported by the ACP-African, Caribbean, Pacific Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce Tenerife, AHEAD-GLOBAL, Business Council for Africa, Corporate Council on Africa, ELO - Portuguese Association for Economic Development and Cooperation, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce and Development, HTTC - Hungarian Trade & Cultural Centre, NABA - Norwegian-African Business Association, NABC- Netherlands Africa 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), ELO,HTTC, NABA,NABC (by posting selected news) and SwissCham-Africa to their Members.



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Norwegian Business Delegation visits Mozambique

The Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Børge Brende, visited Mozambique on October 30th-31st accompanied on his two-day visit by 30 Norwegian business people representing the sectors of energy, finance and agriculture.



Mr. Børge Brende, Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs. Photo: Norwegian Embassy in Mozambique The business delegation also took part in a forum dedicated to the theme of 'Partners for Employment: how the public and private sectors can contribute to job creation' with Mozambican companies from the private sector.

Norway will provide 49 million crowns (about six million US dollars) as its contribution to the rehabilitation and expansion of the Maputo thermal power station.

This historic visit included formal meetings with the Mozambican President and several ministers, a business seminar where Mr. Brende held the opening address, the signing of a strategic partnership between Brynildgruppen and the Embassy, the signing of an agreement between CTA and NABA, the signing of agreements relating to a new Solar Energy plant with Norwegian participation and a meeting with "Mama" Graça Machel and civil society representatives.

Scatec Solar and the Norwegian Development Fund (Norfund) signed in Maputo a contract guaranteeing the sale of solar power to the publicly owned Mozambican electricity company, EDM, for a 25-year period. The project will be the first large-scale solar energy production plant in Mozambique, and will be located in the city of Mocuba in the central province of Zambézia. With an installed capacity of 40 megawatts it is expected to supply 77,000 megawatt-hours per year to about 175,000 homes.

A shareholders agreement was also signed between KLP Norfund Investments AS (22.5 percent), Scatec Solar (52.5 percent) and Electricidade de Moçambique (25 percent), involving an estimated cost of USD 84 million.

Brynild Gruppen took part in the Norwegian delegation trip to Maputo earlier this week headed by the Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Børge Brende and signed a strategic partnership agreement with the Norwegian Embassy in Mozambique in order to develop the cashew nut sector in Mozambique in cooperation with the local government.

The Confederation of Mozambican Business Associations (CTA), and its Norwegian counterpart, the Norwegian African Business Association (NABA) signed a memorandum of understanding establishing a basis for business cooperation.

Under the agreement, signed by CTA chairperson Rogerio Manuel and the deputy managing director of NABA, Daniella Woldemichael, the two organisations will regularly exchange experiences in various sectors of business interest.



From the left Ms Leticia Klemens, Mozambican Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy, Mr. Rogerio Manuel, Ms. Daniella Woldemichael, Dep. Managing Director, NABA and Norwegian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Børge Brende. Photo: Norwegian Embassy in Mozambique

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