



## MEMORANDUM

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## NO E-WORD ON AU CRISIS-TALKS AGENDA

The African Union (AU) is having a high-level retreat in Tanzania this week to discuss peace, security and other priority issues behind closed doors.

AU Commission chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma is hosting the talks with AU special envoys, mediators, foreign diplomats and civil society leaders.

One word is glaringly absent from the agenda seen by Business Day: Ebola.

African governments and most pan-African institutions are making only marginal contributions to the fight against the biggest threat to the continent for years. Solidarity with the people of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone consists mainly of pledges and plans rather than action and cash.

There are exceptions and some countries' generosity could be hidden by weak public relations. But what can be gleaned from published data and requests for information is unimpressive.

By October 17 the death toll had reached 4,555. The infection rate is climbing while the urgent need for medical personnel, field hospitals, laboratories and protective equipment hugely outstrips the accessible supply.

At Midrand on Monday the E-word was not even on the order paper at the Pan-African Parliament. But Liberian and Sierra Leonean members were having none of that, a governance expert present said.

"They said how they feel that they have been totally abandoned by the rest of Africa, practically shut out from Africa and the rest of the world. There is a feeling of despondency," Jeggan Grey-Johnson, a Gambian working with Afrimap told Business Day.

Criticism of a weak and tardy response by the "international community" to the worst recorded outbreak of Ebola has come thick and fast in the past week. Despite agreement that this is not the time for the blame game, that is what major global powers have been doing. Western donors, for example, say Russia and China are punching far below their weight.

Much of the anger has been directed at the United Nations system and specifically at the World Health Organisation (WHO). But African states, the neighbours closest to three burning houses, have escaped the opprobrium.

SA has reacted to Ebola better than most, with the Department of Health saying it has budgeted R32m to date. It has had a mobile testing lab up and running in Freetown since August with rotating volunteers as staff. But "could do better" is on its report card.

On October 10 Health Minister Aaron Motsoaledi, pushing a R240m appeal in Kempton Park, showed off state-of-the-art ambulances, worth about R4m, donated by Netcare and earmarked to transport Ebola patients.

But Netcare's CE Dr Richard Friedland said on Monday: "The ambulances have not yet left SA and we await further communication in this regard from the department." A lack of air transport appears to be the main issue, but the South African National Defence Force (SANDF) has not been approached.

"The SANDF has not been tasked or requested for any participation," spokesman Brig-Gen Xolani Mabanga said on Monday.

Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo, which face a separate Ebola outbreak, have deployed medical teams in Liberia. But they are there on contract with the WHO so the costs do not count as a financial contribution by their governments.

The full list of who is spending or promising, and how much, is compiled by the UN. On Monday it featured no African countries. But it logged \$45m in funding from the African Development Bank (AfDB), the biggest contributor.

The AfDB said on Monday it had committed \$220m, channelled through the WHO, the governments of the three affected countries, and of neighbouring Côte d'Ivoire to ensure it remains Ebola-free. The bank said it would soon announce details of more projects to combat the disease.

Contributions to global appeals are notoriously complex and some agencies, including the World Food Programme (WFP), do not record pledges because they are not always honoured.

By contrast with the AfDB, the AU has made an "uncommitted pledge" of \$700,000 despite perceptions that it would be the natural co-ordinator of contributions by its 53 member states, many of which are hard-up.

"I'm not surprised. The AU does not see Ebola as its problem and therefore it's not a priority," Mr Grey-Johnson said. (Reuters 21-10-2014)

## MOZAMBIQUE RECEIVES US\$1.3129 BILLION IN INVESTMENTS IN THIRD QUARTER

The Mozambican Centre for Investment Promotion (CPI) authorised 137 projects in the third quarter of the year, amounting to investment of US\$1.3129 billion, with national investors outpacing foreign investors, according to CPI figures in Maputo.

With total investment of US\$575.2 million, Mozambican investors overtook foreign investors, which invested a total of US\$533.2 million in the period.

Leading the list of international investors was South Africa, with US\$317.5 million, representing 53.5 percent of total foreign direct investment, followed by Mauritius (US\$76.8 million), Portugal (US\$46.4 million), Macau (US\$27 million) and China (US\$20.6 million).

Along with these countries, the United Arab Emirates (US\$13.5 million), Tanzania (US\$5.6 million), Malawi (US\$5 million), France (US\$4.2 million) and South Korea (US\$2.99 million) make up the list of the 10 biggest investors, of a total of 23, which include Brazil and Angola, both with investments of US\$100,000.

By sector, Agriculture and Agro-industry attracted the most investment, with US\$483.3 million, followed by Tourism and Hospitality (US\$408.6 million), services (US\$316.9 million), Construction and Public Works (US\$51.2 million), Transport and Communications (US\$25.5 million), Industry (US\$24.1 million) and Aquaculture and Fisheries (US\$3 million).

The Tourism and Hospitality sector received the largest volume of investment originating in Mozambique, around US\$326.3 million, while the Agriculture and Agro-industry sector received the most foreign investment, of US\$319 million in total.

By geographical area, Cabo Delgado province (north), where there are large development projects in oil and gas exploration, received the largest volume of investment (US\$938.1 million), followed by Maputo City (US\$265.6 million), Tete (US\$43.6 million), Gaza (US\$19.7 million), Maputo province (US\$14.7 million), Sofala (US\$13 million), Nampula (US\$7.8 million), Zambezia (US\$5 million), Inhambane (US\$3.7 million) and Manica (US\$1.3 million), with no record of investments focused on Niassa province.

In the first nine months of the year, the CPI recorded total investments in the order of US\$2.524 billion, with South Africa leading the list of investing countries (US\$364.5 million dollars), followed by Portugal (US\$295.2 million) and Mauritius (US\$159 million). (21-10-2014)

## IMF EXPECTS 'ROBUST GROWTH' IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA

Economic growth in sub-Saharan Africa will be robust, although energy supply constraints, strikes, and weak global and domestic demand will limit SA's growth.

This is according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) African department director Antoinette Sayeh during the release of the October 2014 regional economic outlook report for sub-Saharan Africa on Monday.

The IMF forecast that the region's economy would grow by 5.1% this year and 5.8% next year, while SA was seen growing at 1.4% this year and 2.3% next year.

Ms Sayeh said the region's growth would be supported by "continued public investment in infrastructure, buoyant services sectors and strong agricultural production".

The IMF urged countries to support policies that emphasised "growth-enhancing measures" given the effect a more pronounced slowdown in emerging markets and a "disorderly" normalisation of monetary policy in the US could have on the region's economies.

"In particular, the focus should be on boosting fiscal revenue mobilisation, channelling spending towards infrastructure investment and other development needs, safeguarding social safety nets to encourage more inclusive growth and improving the business climate," Ms Sayeh said.

The report advised that monetary policies should continue to focus on reducing inflation, including by reining in countries with rapid growth and persistent high inflation.

SA is among countries that are tightening monetary policy and began an interest-rate hiking cycle with a 50 basis point increase in rates in January. Another rate increase of 25 basis points was implemented in July. The moderate rate increases are to take into account weak economic growth.

Ms Sayeh also said fiscal consolidation, which SA, among other countries, was embarking on, should continue.

"In the few countries where budgets have become overextended and financing constraints have emerged, fiscal consolidation is necessary, but will need to avoid overly adverse consequences for the poor and vulnerable groups," she said.

The IMF acknowledged that economic growth would take a knock in countries worst affected by the Ebola outbreak. Ms Sayeh said the virus, expected to have killed more than 4,000 people mainly in West Africa, was "exacting a heavy economic toll, with economic spillovers starting to materialise in some neighbouring countries".

The report highlighted Ebola and high debt ratios as challenges to countries in the region.

"In a few countries, continued high growth and favourable global financial market conditions have not been sufficient to avert debt build up and financing difficulties," Ms Sayeh said. (BD 20-10-2014)

## **PROJECTS BEGIN IN MOZAMBIQUE AND ANGOLA WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM CHINA**

The China-Portuguese Speaking Countries Fund for Cooperation and Development has approved two projects in Angola and Mozambique valued at US\$10 million each, said the Secretary-General of the Permanent Secretariat of the Forum for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguese-Speaking Countries Portuguese (Macau).

Chang Hexi, who spoke to Macau Television (TDM) on the sidelines of a Colloquium on Public Administration for Portuguese-Speaking Countries, at the University of Macau, said the project in Angola is connected to public lighting by solar energy and the agricultural sector in Mozambique.

In August a representative of the China Development Bank (CDB) said that the China-Portuguese-speaking Countries Fund for Cooperation and Development received applications for financial support for 50 projects from Brazil, Guinea-Bissau, Timor-Leste (East Timor), Mozambique and Angola and that ten were currently under analysis.

The fund, which was created in 2010 on the day of the ministerial meeting of Forum Macau, has a budget of US\$1 billion to support projects of the Portuguese-speaking countries connected to China.

The Fund aims to promote business investment, especially supporting Chinese companies, including Macau, in cooperation with companies from the Portuguese-speaking countries.

The investment decision is the responsibility of the Investment Committee, made up of representatives of the professional management team of the China-Africa Development Fund, based in Beijing.

The Fund involves the Development Bank of China as a sponsor, the Fund for Industrial and Commercial Development of Macau as a limited partner and sponsor, CDB Capital Co. as a limited partner and the Fund Management Company, as general partner and manager, with ongoing support from Forum Macau. (21-10-2014)

## **ANGOLA BUYS SHIP FOR SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH FROM THE NETHERLANDS**

The Angolan Ministry of Fisheries plans to buy a scientific research ship for US\$75.9 million from a Dutch shipyard.

An order from the President of Angola, which authorises the commission from Dutch shipyard Damen Shipyards GorichemDe said that it was necessary "to study, identify, conserve, make sustainable use of and monitor biological resources and the marine ecosystem," through scientific research into Angola's fisheries sector.

The government of Angola launched a tender for the 65-metre ship.

Several Spanish shipyards put forward proposals to build the ship but in the end the government selected the Dutch shipyards that have previously provided ships to Angola. (21-10-2014)

## **SOUTH AFRICA TO TAKE BLACK SPOT ROW WITH EU TO WTO**

SA has lost patience with the European Union's (EU's) stance on the alleged effects of South African citrus fruit with black spot on EU orchards and is taking the issue to the World Trade Organisation (WTO). SA will also challenge the EU's continued threat to ban SA's citrus fruit exports.

Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies said on Thursday SA was left with no choice but to take on the EU at the WTO, a move that will make history as SA becomes the first African country to take the EU through the WTO's dispute resolution process.

SA's citrus industry annually sells about 600,000 tonnes of fruit, including oranges, lemons, limes and tangerines, to Europe. The first sign of the stricter measures came at the start of this year when black spot was picked up in a consignment of oranges.

If the EU closed its market to citrus from SA, the local economy could lose R26bn, and more than 60,000 jobs.

SA had raised the issue of the EU regulations at the sanitary and phytosanitary committee of the WTO, Mr Davies said. There was no scientific consensus to support the EU's claim that citrus black spot found on peels could infect European orchards.

The EU stance was "fundamentally driven by protectionist, rather than plant health, concerns". It was aimed at restricting highly competitive citrus imports from SA to the benefit of citrus producers in the EU, he said.

Proposals from SA to divide the EU into different zones with stricter regulations for imports into citrus-growing areas in southern Europe had been ignored.

SA has already engaged the EU on the issue through a panel under the International Plant Protection Convention in Rome.

Its approach to the WTO to act as an independent arbitrator is a step forward, but no quick fix for the industry as the process can take from 12 to 18 months, if there is no appeal.

The European Commission's food safety authority, Efsa, introduced a temporary ban on citrus fruit from SA at the end of last year. The ban was lifted in May, but stricter plant safety rules have since been implemented. The symbolic temporary ban came at the end of the season. The industry has already stopped exporting to the EU for fear of attracting a permanent ban.

Deon Joubert, special envoy for market access and EU matters at the Citrus Growers Association, said it was regrettable that SA had reached this point in its interaction with the EU. However, the measures had left the industry in a dire position. "We welcome the chance to finally get clarity on the matter regarding market access. We hope that the dispute can be settled in an amicable and civilised manner," he said.

Gustav Brink, associate director at XA International Trade Advisors, said under the dispute settlement process, SA would have to identify each EU transgression of WTO agreements in "granular detail". SA would then have to ask for consultations on those with the European Commission. This could take up to 60 days.

"If SA feels at any time during the process that the EU is not consulting in good faith, or they do not see the consulting process going anywhere, they can request the establishment of an independent panel of experts. Given the level of co-operation so far, it seems inevitable that it would go to an independent panel for a final decision," he said.

The establishment of this panel could take several months, since the WTO has a shortage of experts. The panel's decision can be appealed against, which can take six to nine months more. The EU could also decide to ignore the decision of the panel or the appeal body of the WTO, if the matter is decided in favour of SA.

SA will have to request arbitration and the outcome of that could be the payment of damages suffered because of the measures to block South African citrus from entering the EU.

In 90% of WTO dispute cases the resulting measures were properly implemented by countries. (BD 17-10-2014)

## **NOVO BANCO OF PORTUGAL HAS 9.9 PCT OF BESA**

Portugal's Novo Banco will keep a stake of 9.9 percent of Banco Espírito Santo Angola (BESA), by converting its 55 million-euro loan to the Angolan bank, according to a decision taken Monday by Angola's central bank.

The central bank also determined BESA would carry out a capital increase of 2.8 billion euros, involving the partial conversion of the same loan, according to information from the National Bank of Angola (BNA).

The decision was made Tuesday at a meeting of the board of the central bank in an extraordinary session convened to analyse BESA's financial situation, resulting from reorganisation measures adopted on 4 August and the volume of bad loans.

The Bank of Portugal confirmed in August that the credit of 3.3 billion that BES – which until now controlled 55.17 percent of the share capital of the bank in Angola – had granted BESA had been transferred to Novo Banco.

The BNA explained the measures adopted with the “need to safeguard the economy and the financial system, protection of the interests of depositors and creditors of BESA,” and the “re-establishment of minimum conditions of operation” at the bank. (21-10-2010)

## REHABILITATION OF SOILS FROM INDUSTRIAL POLLUTION: HORIZON 2020 ADDRESSES A MEDITERRANEAN URGENCY

The Mediterranean Environment Programme, funded under the EU Horizon 2020 initiative, organised a sub-regional training course in Algiers (24-25 September, 2014) dedicated to the rehabilitation of soils from industrial pollution with emphasis on highly toxic pollutants.

More than 40 professionals from Algeria, Egypt, Morocco and Tunisia were trained on the various strategies and processes used to purify and revitalise soils that have been contaminated by polluting anthropogenic activities. Participants were from Ministries of Environment, Industry, Health, and other sub-national bodies responsible for industrial pollution issues. A few industries and NGOs had the opportunity to benefit from the training as well.

This EU funded sub-regional training was organised in support of the objectives of the Horizon 2020 Initiative to depollute the Mediterranean by 2020 by the University of Athens and the Austrian Environment Agency with the support of Mediterranean Action Plan of UNEP.

A variety of soil treatment and decontamination strategies, processes and techniques were presented through applied examples and case studies including the application of fluids, biological agents (employing bacteria or plants), heat, vacuum, pressurized gases and mechanical agitation frequently combined with chemical oxidation of organic contaminants.

The **Horizon 2020 initiative** aims to improve the quality of life of more than 420 million citizens living in the 25 countries bordering the Mediterranean Sea. It is an umbrella programme drawing together all the policies, strategies and action plans for enhancing environmental protection. (EU Neighbourhood)

## DETAILS OF GOVT-BOKO HARAM CEASEFIRE 'TO BE WORKED OUT TUESDAY'

Representatives of the Nigerian and Chadian governments as well as Boko Haram are due to meet in N'Djamena, Chad, Tuesday to work out the details of the ceasefire agreement that was reached by the Nigerian government and the terror group on Friday, the local media reported Sunday. The ceasefire, which was brokered by President Idriss Deby of Chad, was announced by Nigeria's Chief of Defence Staff Alex Barde in the capital city of Abuja.

Though Barde immediately directed the service chiefs to begin the implementation of the ceasefire deal, Boko Haram has continued to carry out attacks.

On Friday night and Saturday morning, the terrorist group attacked two communities in Borno State, O Friday night, about 20 Boko Haram fighters in two pick-up vans stormed Maikadiri in Abadam Local

Government Area of the state, firing indiscriminately into residential buildings.

Among those killed in the attack was the father of the former Speaker of Borno State House of Assembly, Goni Ali-Modu.

Also, Shaffa in Hawul Local Government Area of the state was attacked by hordes of Boko Haram fighters on Saturday morning, killing eight people.

Despite the attacks, the Chad meeting slated for Tuesday will hold to work out details of the ceasefire and the release of the 218 school girls who were abducted 14 April 2014

"I can tell you authoritatively that nobody has the details or the terms of the agreement yet. It is at the meeting that will hold on Tuesday in Ndjamena that all the details are expected to be thrashed out," the unnamed official was quoted as saying.

"The government expects them to come up straight on how and when they will release the Chibok girls at that meeting. It is only when that that meeting is successful that we can say that indeed there is a ceasefire. For now, the government is awaiting the outcome of that meeting," he added.

PANA reports that the continuing attacks by the terrorists may lend credence to the skepticism expressed by those believed to be close to the Boko Haram leadership over the ceasefire.

Nigerian journalist Ahmad Salkida, believed to be close to the leadership of the terror group, had said the leadership of Boko Haram is 'miffed' that Nigerians would believe the deal.

'What is most worrying here is (that) government at the highest level and intelligence formations in Nigeria have embraced this 'good news'. This shows lack of understanding of the reality that this is an ideology that can only be neutralized after long hard work that is yet to start,' Salkida told Nigeria's online Premium Times newspaper.

For his part, activist Shehu Sani, who has acted as negotiator with the sect in the past, also told the paper that his contacts had told him that Boko Haram members have denied knowing any Mr. Ahmadu as their representative, in reference to Danladi Ahmadu, who was identified as the representative of Boko Haram at the talks that led to the ceasefire.

However, analysts said the biggest test of the genuineness or otherwise of the ceasefire deal will come this week, when the abducted school girls are expected to be released. (Pana 19/10/2014)

## **CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION IN THE MEDITERRANEAN: €209 MILLION FOR THE NEW 2014-2020 PROGRAMME**

Over €209 million have been assigned by the European Union to the ENI Cross Border Cooperation Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme (CBCMed) for the period 2014-2020.

According to the Programming document, a fifth of the financial allocation for Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI) total budget - €1 billion - is dedicated to the Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme. This makes the Programme the largest one from a financial point of view out of 16 other programmes to be implemented with Partner Countries to the East and South of EU's external borders.

Adopted on 8 October 2014, the Programming document was developed by the European External Action Service in cooperation with the European Commission. It provides the strategic framework for EU support for cross-border cooperation on the external borders of the European Union, under the European Neighbourhood Instrument, for the period 2014-2020. In addition, the Programming document

defines the types of programme and lists the individual CBC programmes which will be financed by the EU, including their geographic eligibility and financial allocation.

The **ENPI CBC Mediterranean Sea Basin Programme 2007/2013** is a multilateral cross-border cooperation programme funded by the European Union under the European Neighbourhood and Partnership Instrument. It aims at reinforcing cooperation between the EU and partner countries' regions located along the shores of the Mediterranean Sea. (EU Neighbourhood 20-10-2014)

## ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT TRAVELS ABROAD FOR MEDICAL CHECK-UP

Zambian President Michael Sata has left for a medical check-up abroad at an undisclosed destination, his office said on Monday.

The statement said Mr Sata left last night accompanied by his wife and members of his family but gave no further details.

Concern about 77-year-old Mr Sata's health has been mounting since June, when he disappeared from the public eye for a period without explanation and was then reported to be getting medical treatment in Israel.

Mr Sata missed his scheduled speech at the United Nations General Assembly in September amid reports that he had fallen ill in New York. But a few days before that he had attended the opening of his country's parliament where he joked: "I am not dead." (Reuters 20-10-2014)

## NIGERIA EXPECTED TO BE DECLARED EBOLA-FREE

Nigeria is expected to be declared Ebola-free on Monday, three months after fears that the virus could spread like wildfire through Africa's most populous nation.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) is preparing to announce that Nigeria has not had a confirmed case of Ebola for 42 days — or two incubation periods of 21 days — just as it did for Senegal on Friday.

The achievement is being welcomed, with no end in sight to the disease that has claimed more than 4,500 lives this year, most of them in West Africa, and mounting fears about cases around the world.

Close attention is being paid to how Nigeria, with an underfunded and ill-equipped health system, managed to contain the virus, as specialists look for a more effective response to control its spread. But there were warnings against any premature celebration, with complacency still a risk, and luck considered to have played a part in containing it.

Eight people died out of 20 confirmed Ebola cases in Nigeria, with all infections traced back to a single source — Liberian finance ministry official Patrick Sawyer, who arrived in Lagos on July 20.

Many feared the worst when Sawyer died on July 25 in a private hospital in Nigeria's biggest city, which is home to more than 20-million people, with poor sanitation and inadequate health facilities. Doctors were on strike at the time over pay and conditions in the public health sector, where many state hospitals lack running water, let alone soap and other basic equipment.

Yet the doomsday scenario of rapid spread among a 170-million-strong population, devastating Africa's leading economy and oil producer, did not materialise. "Nigeria acted quickly and early and on a large scale," John Vertefeuille, from the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, said.

"They acted aggressively, especially in terms of contact-tracing." Vital to the response was an existing plan for a mass outbreak of polio, which was adapted to Ebola, as well as a rapid appeal for foreign help. The Ebola Emergency Operations Centre (EEOC) prioritised contact-tracing and twice-daily monitoring of those at risk, with experts aware that every Ebola case is in contact with about 50 people.

In all, nearly 900 people were monitored in Lagos and the oil city of Port Harcourt; where one contact of Sawyer travelled after evading surveillance, going on to infect another doctor.

Some 1,800 people were trained to trace and monitor those at risk, as well as decontaminate infected places and care for the sick, said the head of the EEOC, Faisal Shuaib. (AFP 20-10-2014)



## EU LOOKS FOR VOLUNTEERS TO FIGHT EBOLA IN WEST AFRICA

EU officials said Wednesday (15 October) that the main challenge is to mobilise more medical staff, including volunteers, and send them to Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea, the countries mostly hit by the Ebola epidemic.

Experts representing various Commission directorates spoke to the press ahead of a meeting of EU health ministers to be held today, as well as a Foreign Affairs Council on 20 October, and an EU summit on 23-24 October, at which the issue of Ebola is also on the agenda.

The message is that more people should be put on the ground.

### Scaling up the response

An expert admitted that there was a gap between available resources, specifically beds, and what is needed, the ratio being 1 to 3. There are around 1,100 beds available in Liberia, but more than 3,000 are required, he said.

“First and foremost, the challenge is to mobilise more medical staff. We have to mobilise foreign medical teams, call on member states, mobilise volunteers, send them on the field,” an expert said.

Reportedly, working groups on Ebola are being held daily, bringing together both Commission services and member states. Also, once a week, the UN and NGOs have been involved in the coordination.

Overall assistance so far has been of more than €450 million, with 180 euros coming from the EU and €300 from some member states, the UK, France and Germany being cited. However, it was said that this financial effort was not sufficient.

Work on the ground has been done mostly through *Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF)*, the French-founded humanitarian-aid non-governmental organization, but also through WHO, the International Red Cross and other agencies. The efforts of MSF received special appraisal by the Commission representatives.

### USA and UK on the lead

Commission officials said that a good example was given by the USA and the UK, who have been able to effectively mobilise troops to tackle the crisis in Western Africa. More concretely, they said that the USA has been able to mobilise 3,000 troops for Liberia, and that the UK has been mobilised several hundred for Sierra Leone. This may be an example to be followed by other countries, journalists were told.

Reportedly, some 600 US troops have already arrived in Liberia, equipped to build medical centres and give training to local medical workers. In the UK, a naval vessel with a 100-bed medical complex is preparing to head for Sierra Leone.

### Bottleneck

But the experts admitted that the present limited capacity for repatriation of Western staff could become an obstacle for further deployments.

“We don’t have an airplane waiting somewhere to fly out. But we have the guarantee that we can find a plane. The problem would be if we have too many cases at the same time. Above two cases, it would be difficult to respond”, the official said.

Apparently, EU experts are warning that if more people are sent on the ground, this limited capacity could become a bigger problem.

## **Health workers in Kailahun. Sierra Leone, April 2013.**

“We are afraid that the crisis, the outbreak will still spread further, so we may have cases in the future when we would need to evacuate more patients”, an official said.

Experts said they would ask EU member states to provide military planes with adapted technology, which may be specialised planes or aircraft with a “bubble” in it for transporting persons with symptoms of Ebola. Reportedly, some member countries had already announced that they will make contributions.

### **‘Not a pandemic’**

Asked if Ebola could be considered a pandemic, a EU official answered negatively. “As bad it is, the epidemic is still localised. It’s in three countries in Western Africa,” he said.

But he added that the longer this epidemic persists in Western Africa, the more likely is that there would be “imported cases”, anywhere in the world.

“Would it spread in Europe in the same way as in Africa – certainly no, the conditions are different”, an expert said.

### **Human trials of vaccine**

Journalists asked questions about ongoing work to develop vaccines against Ebola and whether the EU was providing financial support for the research. It is generally known that the global healthcare company GlaxoSmithKline is quite advanced working on a vaccine, and that human trials have already started.

The funding for developing vaccines is not an issue, the experts said. They explained that funding had been raised for developing vaccines from other sources, not the EU. But a vaccine can be authorised if it’s proven that it’s safe and effective, they insisted.

### **Exit screening, false alarms**

Experts explained that one of the most effective instruments for preventing the spread of Ebola outside Western Africa was the “exit screening” of outgoing airline passengers. They said the system screening all exiting passengers to make sure they are not infected was already effective in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea.

However, exit screening cannot be considered an absolute guarantee that the disease will not be exported. The incubation period for Ebola is 21 days and it’s possible that one travels, and the symptoms appear later. The disease is transmissible only when the symptoms are manifest. This is why it is also important to provide to passengers information about to do if symptoms appear, they explained.

The Commission has produced information for incoming and outgoing passengers, translated in all the EU member countries languages, and the member countries are encouraged to spread it, the experts said.

If a person returning from West Africa discovers that they have symptoms of Ebola, according to those instructions, he or she should not rush to a hospital, but contact the medical authorities in advance so that they would be prepared to receive him, the instructions say.

False alarms should be avoided to the extent possible not to overburden the system, experts said. But they admitted that with the coming flu season, the number of false alarms is likely to grow.

Asked about the thermic cameras with which many airports are fitted, the experts said that those detected fever, but just like Ebola, a lot of other diseases have fever as a symptom.

People normally "should know" they may have contracted the deadly haemorrhagic fever, if they have been in the respective countries of West Africa, and if they have been in contact with people affected by the disease, experts said. (EurActiv 17-10-2014)

## SENEGAL PROMOTES \$23BN DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

The West African country of Senegal wants to drum up interest in a \$23bn development plan, hoping that a mini-Sandton and a medical city are among the major projects that will attract South African investors.

Agriculture, new housing and mining are other sectors where SA's expertise is in demand from the government of mainland Africa's most westerly state. Offshore oil discoveries that were announced last week could be large enough to pull in major companies.

"Political stability and our quality education are two of the reasons why we believe investors will be attracted," said Babacar Gning of the Senegalese presidency after a presentation at Standard Bank in Rosebank, Johannesburg.

Jutting out into the Atlantic, Senegal was the administrative headquarters of France's West African colonies. For centuries it was also a key link in the shameful value chain of the slave trade to the Americas. But the port at Dakar, the capital, and the groundnuts that flourished in its mostly arid climate, proved to be inadequate economic mainstays after independence in 1960.

Recruitment into famous French military regiments – whose valour in European battlefields is being recognised in this centenary year of the start of the First World War — is history. Today's foreign adventures for many poor Senegalese are more likely to involve perilous, often fatal, ocean trips in large fishing canoes, navigating to western Europe as illegal and unwelcome migrants.

President Macky Sall's government hopes its "Senegal Emerging Plan" (the official English translation) will give its citizens lots of reasons to stay at home by creating 600,000 new jobs and boosting gross domestic product (GDP) 50% over the next decade.

If the bulk of foreign investment is liable to come from developed economies and China, a fat slice of the pie could have "Reserved for SA" written on it.

"We in SA have received an invitation, hand-delivered, to come to Senegal," said Dominic Bruynseels, Standard Bank's CE for its West Africa operations. The Bank is helping Senegal to market its development plan in SA.

Only 15 years ago, Senegal's prospects of displacing Côte d'Ivoire as the regional business powerhouse after Nigeria would have been dim indeed. But the disastrous Ivorian civil war, which polarised ethnic groups and virtually knocked out a decade of investment, changed everything. In any case, the global funds now looking for a home in Africa are so large that West Africa has several destinations to offer, including Ghana.

But Senegal is vaunting its unique stability — it is the last West African country never to have suffered a military coup d'état — and the fact that modern economies need more brains than brawn.

Many urban Senegalese have impressive language skills and the country has crafted a foreign policy which means it has close ties to the US and the Gulf, as well as Europe and Africa.

Two ambitious agricultural initiatives are key elements of the development plan and ones in which Senegal sees potential for SA's renowned agribusinesses.

First, the creation of "cereal corridors" to double production of rice, millet and maize by 2024, radically was reducing the bill for importing the staples and creating 70,000 rural jobs. Second, to boost the fruit and vegetable export sector. Both initiatives will involve the creation of "mega-farms", breaking ancient models of farming in the country of 14-million people, most of whom are moderate Muslims.

The plan's portfolio of 27 "flagship projects" covers just about every economic sector imaginable and if even half of them are only half achieved by the 2035 target date, a dramatic social transformation will have been wrought.

Whether the consequences for ordinary Senegalese, and therefore their buy-in, have been weighed and accurately anticipated is the first of many questions. Another is the nuisance value of a long, low-level rebellion in the fertile Casamance region. And finally, Senegal's elite has a reputation for talking a good game – in several languages – but failing to follow up with decisive action. There is no mystery about why the country languishes in 39th position in Africa in the World Bank's Ease of Doing Business index. The Senegal Emerging Plan will open opportunities for investors in mining services, tourism and the construction of tens of thousands of housing units. SA investors are being targeted for those sectors and for development of a local Sandton in or around Dakar, whose relatively well-planned expansion during the past 15 years is breathtaking.

Planners such as Mr Gning, the deputy head of the presidency's unit which is supervising the master plan, also see Dakar as a good location for a sophisticated "medical city".

"About 20,000-30,000 people every year leave the subregion for medical treatment abroad, in Tunisia, Morocco and Europe," he told Business Day.

"We want to persuade at least half of those to come to Senegal instead," he said.

The declaration of Senegal this month as "Ebola-free", by the World Health Organisation, was evidence of the caliber of the country's specialist medical personnel, he said.

The clean bill of health, at least regarding Ebola, should allow next month's summit of French-speaking states to go ahead in Dakar. The city is regularly chosen to host international summits. (20-10-2014)

## **SOUTH AFRICA MINE IN GUINEA ACTS ON EBOLA RISK**

Anglogold Ashanti is confident it is taking sufficient precautions against the spread of the deadly Ebola virus to its mine in Guinea, following reports that a nearby village has reported its first infection in some time.

The village, in the remote Siguiri district, is about 30km from the Johannesburg-based company's mine. No employees had been infected and operations were continuing as normal, spokesman Chris Nthite said.

The death toll in Guinea has risen to 887 since the outbreak started in December, according to Guinea's health ministry. More than 4,500 people have died in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, slowing the growth rate of the three West African nations.

Since the outbreak started, five people had been infected in the village in Siguiri, Mr Nthite said. "These cases were detected by authorities and successfully contained through a quarantine programme that has helped keep the area free of the illness for two months." AngloGold Ashanti had been unable to get direct confirmation of the new cases from the health authorities, as reported by Bloomberg news agency.

In addition to an intensive education campaign, the mine — which employed 3,674 people last year, about half of them contract workers — conducts daily screenings at its entrances and on all employees, including a daily questionnaire to check the health status of staff and their family members.

"We will continue with our precautionary measures, which have served us well up to this point," Mr Nthite said. "If there's a need to do more, we will. It would be premature to speculate about what it would take to close the mine or extract personnel."

National Institute for Communicable Diseases deputy director Lucille Blumberg says expatriate miners "are simply not at risk of contracting Ebola" in the normal course of events. "The people who get infected are those who care for Ebola patients in the home through handling blood, vomitus or faeces; or people preparing bodies for burial; or health workers," she said. "So mine (workers) shouldn't have that exposure. The virus doesn't jump through the air."

In addition to mines' normal precautionary measures, she urged them to step up their preventative measures against malaria to avoid the panic that arises around anyone in affected areas who contracts a fever and is misrepresented as having contracted Ebola.

Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf said the world had finally "woken up" to the threat of Ebola. US President Barack Obama is preparing a request for money on top of the \$1bn the US has pledged to fight the disease. (Bloomberg 20-10-2014)

## VODACOM 'MAKES SENSE' FOR VODAFONE

With speculation that the government's 13.9% stake in Vodacom could be up for sale, an analyst says it would make sense for its UK parent Vodafone to buy the shares. Vodafone already owns 65% of Vodacom.

Vodafone said it did not comment on speculation.

"Emerging markets make up a third of the Vodafone business ... its South African business is one of its largest emerging market assets and its most successful," London-based, RBC Europe analyst San Dhillon said.

"Despite them (Vodafone) recently focusing on acquiring European fixed-line assets, it would make sense to acquire the stake at the right price."

Head of research at Afena Capital, Khulekani Dlamini, said the shares were likely to be offered to institutional investors in a book-building process. An announcement that shares may be up for sale might not be the best way to protect share value, he warned.

"As we sit here — the market is quite aware that this asset is likely to be purchasable at a discount and this will put pressure on the price in the short term, while the market waits for whatever deal terms there may be," he said.

The government's 39% stake in Telkom has also been reported to be up for sale to raise funds for Eskom's expansion. Mr Dlamini said speculation that the government may sell part or all of its shares in Telkom was not aligned with its strategic intent.

"In a future world, it is possible that an MTN could be interested in it and that would be a much better time to be selling." (BD 20-10-2010)



**EBCAM NEWS**

NORWEGIAN-AFRICAN BUSINESS SUMMIT 2014		THURSDAY OCTOBER 30 <sup>th</sup> 2014 RADISSON BLU SCANDINAVIA HOTEL, OSLO		MAPPING THE AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE LANDSCAPE	
					
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**NABA WELCOMES YOU TO THE NORWEGIAN-AFRICAN  
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Best Regards,  
**Mr. Eivind Fjeldstad**  
Managing Director  
**Norwegian-African Business Association (NABA)**



**[Share your ideas and suggestions for future trade missions with us](#)**

The past year we have organized a great variety of trade missions. We have visited Equatorial Guinea, Madagascar and Djibouti, which were relatively new destinations with interesting business opportunities. Furthermore, we have organized a trade mission to Congo Brazzaville and we cooperated with our German partner Afrika-Verein on a trade mission to both Congo's. Last but not least, there are two more missions ahead of us: [Mauritania \(26-30 October\)](#) and [Cameroon \(7-12 December\)](#).

Even though we have not yet reached the month december, we are already looking forward to 2015. In order to meet your interests, we would like to invite you to share your ideas for future destinations with us. Our trade missions always try to meet the participants' specific needs and wishes as much as possible. Therefore it is of utmost importance that we have full knowledge of your specific expectations and wishes with regards to destinations but also with regard to format and content, sectors and stakeholders.

Please share your ideas and suggestions for at least 3 countries as trade missions destinations via email to [marina.diboma@nabc.nl](mailto:marina.diboma@nabc.nl) and [quirine.degraaf@nabc.nl](mailto:quirine.degraaf@nabc.nl).

We are looking forward to hearing from you.



## Reminder - Trade Mission Cameroon 7-12 dec

This trade mission will take place in Cameroon's three most important cities: **Yaounde, Douala and Kribi**, and is organized in close cooperation with the Embassy of the Republic of Cameroon in The Hague. The mission gives you access to government authorities and unparalleled networking opportunities with the business community of Cameroon. At the same time, a visit to PROMOTE 2014, one of the largest regional trade fairs, will be part of the programme.

Please see [our website](#) for more information and the preliminary programme.

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