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#### **11 YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED PUBLICATION**

| L'U. E poursuit son engagement en faveur de la sécurité et de la résilience en Afrique de l'Ouest | Page 2  |
|---|---------|
| Chinese companies invest over US\$8.5 billion in Mozambique's construction sector                 | Page 3  |
| Connecting rural Sub-Saharan Africa: 1000 new solar-powered towers to unlock online access        | Page 3  |
| Cabo Verde is in a position to attract investors from China                                       | Page 5  |
| EIB finances Bamako's drinking water and sanitation system with EUR 50 million loan               | Page 5  |
| China available to support sustainable development in São Tomé and Príncipe                       | Page 6  |
| Senegal: EIB provides EUR 22m to finance Pont de Rosso bridge                                     | Page 6  |
| US\$ 4.3m four-star hotel to be constructed in Kenya  | Page 7  |
| Anadarko gas project is well under way, President of Mozambique says                              | Page 7  |
| Cross border electricity link to transform access to energy in West Africa                        | Page 8  |
| ACP states push back at New Consensus on Development over 'democracy' deficit                     | Page 9  |
| Power Africa announces electricity boost to Southern Africa                                       | Page 11 |
| Trade deal with EU, secretariat funding mechanism top agenda of EAC summit                        | Page 11 |
| Africa's small hydropower potential is 7,3GW and of that potential 83% lies in East Africa.       | Page 13 |
| Business roadshows highlight green opportunities in the Southern Mediterranean                    | Page 13 |
| Quand les jeunes entrepreneurs algériens se tournent vers l'Afrique                               | Page 14 |
| Botswana to construct 100MW solar power plant   | Page 15 |
| Tamale to become hub for air transport in West Africa   | Page 16 |
|   |         |

### SUMMARY

## L'UNION EUROPEENNE POURSUIT SON ENGAGEMENT EN FAVEUR DE LA SECURITE ET DE LA RESILIENCE EN AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST

Une semaine après la présentation de sa nouvelle stratégie pour la résilience, la Commission européenne adopte des nouveaux projets pour un montant total de 88 millions d'euros, destinés au renforcement de la sécurité et de la résilience en Afrique de l'Ouest.

Aujourd'hui, Neven **Mimica**, Commissaire pour la coopération internationale et le développement, a signé quatre nouveaux projets avec la Communauté Economique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) et l'Union Economique et Monétaire Ouest-Africaine (UEMOA). Dans ce contexte, le Commissaire **Mimica** a déclaré: "Ces projets, d'une valeur totale de 88 millions d'euros, renforceront la sécurité, faciliteront le commerce et amélioreront la résilience des populations en Afrique de l'Ouest. Ces nouveaux programmes sont cruciaux dans la conjoncture actuelle. Ils soutiendront les efforts déjà entrepris par nos partenaires pour renforcer la sécurité et soutenir le développement économique de la région. En même temps, ils soutiendront aussi les importants projets d'infrastructures rendus possibles grâce au nouveaux instruments de mixage prêt-dons."

Cette coopération étroite et les actions conjointes d'ores et déjà mises en œuvre caractérisent les relations entre l'UE, la CEDEAO et l'UEMOA. Ces programmes sont destinés à apporter des réponses aux problématiques régionales en matière de sécurité, de développement économique, d'investissements dans les infrastructures – tout en contribuant à la résilience de cette région et de sa population.

Tout d'abord, le projet de soutien au système d'information policière de l'Afrique de l'Ouest "<u>WAPIS</u>" sera renforcé avec un appui complémentaire de 25 millions d'euros. Le but est d'établir un échange plus efficace d'informations entre les organismes chargés de les exploiter ainsi que de soutenir une meilleure coordination entre l'ensemble de ces acteurs. Ceci est essentiel pour lutter contre les réseaux criminels, comme le terrorisme, letrafic de drogue et d'êtres humains, qui affectent actuellement la stabilité de la région.

De plus, toujours dans le domaine de la sécurité "**PESCAO**" un programme de lutte contre la pêche illicite sera soutenu avec un financement européen de 15 millions d'euros. Le projet vise à renforcer les capacités des différents pays et organismes régionaux concernés pour se coordonner plus efficacement. Cette dynamique devrait permettre une gestion plus efficace des réserves halieutiques, dont des ressources considérables sont présentes en Afrique de l'Ouest, mais qui demeurent largement sous-exploitées. Ce programme permettra ainsi à la pêche de contribuer de façon plus significative au développement économique et à la lutte contre l'insécurité alimentaire en Afrique de l'Ouest. Ensuite, l'Union européenne contribuera à la bonne gouvernance économique en Afrique de l'Ouest à travers le projet **AFRITAC** (10 million d'euros). Ce projet a pour objectif de continuer à soutenir l'harmonisation des finances publiques, la coopération régionale en matière de supervision bancaire, et l'amélioration d'une meilleure gestion des cadres de gestion de la dette au niveau national. Enfin, un programme régional d'appui à la gouvernance dans le secteur des transports d'un montant de 38 million d'euros contribuera à l'amélioration de la fluidité des transports, à la réduction des gaz à effet de serre, à la lutte contre le changement climatique, ainsi qu'à accompagner les investissements rendus

#### possibles par le mixage prêts-dons.

#### Contexte:

Ces projets ont été signés à l'occasion de la 4ème réunion du Comité d'Orientation Stratégique du Programme régional Indicatif du 11ème Fonds européen de développement (FED) pour l'Afrique de l'Ouest, organisée par l'Union européenne, la CEDEAO et l'UEMOA. Cette réunion, à laquelle ont pris part les Ordonnateurs Nationaux de la région, a permis de prendre des décisions importantes pour la poursuite de la mise en œuvre du Programme Indicatif Régional du 10ème FED et de la mise en œuvre du Programme Indicatif Régional du 11ème FED. Ce dernier est doté d'une enveloppe de 1,150 milliards d'euros pour la période 2014-2020. (UE 15-06-2017)

# CHINESE COMPANIES INVEST OVER US\$8.5 BILLION IN MOZAMBIQUE'S CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

The construction contracts signed by Chinese companies in Mozambique reached US\$8.71 billion by the end of 2016, the Secretary General of Forum Macau said in Maputo during the "Meeting on Productive Cooperation between China and Portuguese-speaking Countries."

Xu Yingzheng also said that in 2016 China's direct non-financial investment in Mozambique reached US\$23.13 million and China's direct investment reached US\$724 million by the end of 2015.

The head of Forum Macau also said that cooperation between China and Mozambique is a reality in areas such as car assembly, agriculture, television, construction, processing and manufacturing and development of natural resources.

During her speech at the meeting, co-organised by the Mozambican Investment Promotion Centre, Xu recalled that "China is not only a commercial power, but also an investment power, and cooperation in productive capacity is an important initiative for economic cooperation and trade relations with the outside world, as well as an important support for China's potential integration into the industrial chain, the value chain and the global logistics chain."

The Secretary-General of Forum Macau also recalled that "Portuguese-speaking countries are faced with the need to improve their structures, improve the level of industrialisation and optimise their industrial structure," and therefore there is a lot of room for cooperation with China.

The meeting was attended by government officials, diplomats, business people from Mozambique and China, the Deputy Secretary-General of Forum Macau, Echo Chan spoke about the role of Macau as a service platform in linking China with Portuguese-speaking countries and what this means in terms of supporting China's relations with the eight member countries of Forum Macau.

Echo Chan recalled that Macau is a duty free port, geographically close to the interior of China, has two official languages, an affinity with Portuguese-speaking countries, great cultural diversity, is a Unesco World Heritage Site, has close economic, trade and cultural relations with Portuguese-speaking countries, has bilingual human resources, with command of the Portuguese language and is a signatory of several protocols to avoid double taxation.(16-06-2017)

# CONNECTING THE UNCONNECTED IN RURAL SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA: ROLLOUT BEGINS OF 1000 NEW SOLAR-POWERED MOBILE TOWERS TO UNLOCK ONLINE ACCESS FOR MILLIONS

Nearly 4 million people in rural Africa will be connected to telecommunications for the first time thanks to an initiative by Africa Mobile Networks, supported by the EU Bank, to build 1000 new solar-powered mobile phone base stations.

The roll out of mobile phone coverage in remote rural areas of the Democratic Republic of Congo and Cameroon was announced today at <u>European Development Days</u> in Brussels.

The project is being backed by a EUR 24 million long-term investment from the EIB, the EU bank. Support for this project comes from the Impact Financing Envelope, a special window under the ACP Investment Facility (African Caribbean Pacific) managed by the EIB and intended for initiatives where a high financial risk is rewarded by a higher impact for local populations. The Investment Facility, which is a revolving fund, is funded from the resources of the EU Member States.

The project marks a significant step in improving the financial inclusion of people living in vulnerable and remote communities, with a particular focus on women, health and banking services. More than two thirds of the new mobile phone coverage will be located in North and South Kivu, conflict-torn areas of the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, where improved communications will increase security for remote and vulnerable villages there.

Speaking from the European Development Days event in Brussels this week, European Investment Bank Vice-President Pim van Ballekom said,

"Mobile phone usage has radically increased across African cities over the last decade. However, more than two thirds of Africa's poorest and most vulnerable people remain digitally disconnected and excluded from telecom coverage with the economic and social opportunities it provides. This new scheme will expand access to commerce and crucial services that transform daily life in Cameroon and

the Democratic Republic of Congo, including supporting the economic empowerment of women and access to health services online. I am proud that the European Investment Bank is working with Africa Mobile Networks on this challenging and hugely important initiative. It's an example of where the EU Bank can step in and support a private investor to great effect. It's also an example of the EIB changing its DNA: an opportunity to show our commitment to development, and to deliver the EU's external policy goals as the EU Bank, as well as making the Sustainable Development Goals a reality. We can do this by unlocking economic opportunities and improving key services across the continent. Providing these services to people who have been cut off by conflict as well as geography is incredibly important." Bart Ouvry EU Ambassador to the Democratic Republic of Congo said, "Ensuring access to affordable secure broadband and digital infrastructure is a key priority for the European Union both in and beyond its borders - and part of its commitment to fulfil the Sustainable Development Goals. Putting the digital into development marks a vitally important step change and we very much welcome this initiative by the EU's Bank which will have an important impact on some of the most remote villages in Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Just recently the European Commission launched its Digital for Development Agenda – this project is precisely the kind of investment we want to see more of." Michael Darcy, CEO of Africa Mobile Networks said, "This new loan means building is now starting on more than 1000 new mobile base stations. It will accelerate Africa Mobile Networks' mission to connect the unconnected in sub-Saharan Africa and beyond. And it means the impact we can have on people's lives will increase substantially. We are delighted to work with the European Investment Bank to reduce the number of people still without access to basic voice and data service communications. Our pilot projects are demonstrating already that this can make a real difference to people's lives. Take the Democratic Republic of Congo, where 750 of the 1000 towers will be built. Access to mobile data means communities that have been dangerously cut off can now access security information and well as basic services like health and education."

First-time access to telecommunications provided by the new scheme is also expected to strengthen access to financial services, including money transfers and salary payments. It will help farmers to get more accurate prices for agricultural produce and increase information concerning health and education in rural areas. People will be able to access information about job opportunities, and entrepreneurs will be able to start new businesses as they will be able to organise and manage supply chains by telephone.

Over the last five years the European Investment Bank has provided more than EUR 6 billion for telecommunication investment around the world.

#### **Background information:**

The European Investment Bank (EIB) is active in around 130 countries around the world. As a key player in the world of development finance, the EIB provides long-term financing for sound, sustainable investment projects in support of EU policy goals in Europe and beyond. The EIB is the largest multilateral lender and borrower in the world and is owned by the EU's 28 member states.

The EIB invests in four priority areas in support of growth and job creation: innovation and skills; access to finance; climate action and environment; and strategic infrastructure.

The EIB is the world's largest financier of climate-related projects. Last year around 27% of all lending went towards climate action. The Bank is committed to raising the proportion of climate investment to 35% for developing countries by 2020, and placing a greater emphasis on helping regions in the frontline of climate change to adapt.

<u>Africa Mobile Network's</u> mission is to build mobile network base stations serving rural communities in sub-Saharan Africa which have no existing service, providing mobile network operators with a capex-free route to add new subscribers and new, incremental revenues. The vision of AMN is a fully-connected Africa, with no community of any significant size being without basic telecommunications services to deliver social, economic, educational and other benefits to the population.

The European Commission's <u>Digital4Development</u> strategy is intended to mainstream digital technologies into EU development policy and to contribute to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. This sees support for the development of digital technologies and services in the context of the EU development policy across four main priority areas:

- promotion of access to affordable and secure broadband connectivity and to digital infrastructure, including the necessary regulatory reforms;
- promotion of digital literacy and skills;
- fostering of digital entrepreneurship and job creation;

 promotion of use of digital technologies as an enabler for sustainable development. (EIB 08-06-2017)

#### CABO VERDE IS IN A POSITION TO ATTRACT INVESTORS FROM CHINA

Cabo Verde (Cape Verde) is in a good position to attract investments by business people from China and Portuguese-speaking countries, through the meeting of Economic and Trade Cooperation that begins today in Praia, said the president of national investment agency Cabo Verde TradInvest, Ana Bárber.

The event, called the Entrepreneurs' Meeting for Economic and Trade Cooperation between China and the Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), will take place until Sunday at the Cabo Verde International Fair (FIC) in Praia, and is expected to be attended by 400 business people, 160 of them from China and Macau.

Bárber also noted that TradInvest will present some private projects looking for synergies and "concrete partnerships" between Chinese and Cape Verdean companies.

Industrialisation, the maritime economy and fisheries, financing and services, and also Cabo Verde as a China/CPLP business platform, are the four panels selected for the debates.

Bárber also noted that political and social stability, coupled with the geographical location of Cabo Verde at the crossroads of Europe, Africa and America, makes the archipelago attractive as a platform that allows products to be shipped to ECOWAS, to the United States and the European Union under the Special Partnership. (16-06-2017))

# EIB FINANCES BAMAKO'S DRINKING WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEM WITH EUR 50 MILLION LOAN

On the sidelines of the European Development Days, Dr Boubou Cissé, Minister of the Economy and Finance of the Republic of Mali, and Ambroise Fayolle, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB), signed a EUR 50 million agreement to finance development of the drinking water supply and sanitation network of the city of Bamako. This loan will support the Water and Sanitation Programme implemented by the Malian authorities, which is fully in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

This is a priority project for the city of Bamako, which is faced with rampant urbanisation and ever increasing water access needs. It will provide the Malian capital and its surroundings with both an adequate drinking water supply and a high quality sustainable sanitation system, with the aim of meeting the people's urgent drinking water access needs and improving their daily living conditions.

Numerous large-scale works are planned for the network. Under the drinking water component, capacity will be doubled from 144 000 to 288 000 m<sup>3</sup>/day, and 25 000 m<sup>3</sup> of new reservoirs, 30 km of water mains and 545 km of distribution network, comprising 34 000 connections and 600 standpipes, will be built and brought into service by 2021.

Overall, 2.5 million people will eventually benefit from the new sanitation system, and 560 000 of them will have access to drinking water in the very near future.

"'He who brings you water, brings you life' is a Malian saying. On 16 April this year, in the Council of Ministers, the President of the Republic, His Excellency Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, urged the Prime Minister and his government to implement without delay the Presidential Social Emergency programme for the period 2017-2020. Alongside education, energy, health and rural roads, pillar 3 of the programme focuses on access to drinking water, which has become a national priority. The project will therefore support Mali in its efforts to achieve MDG 6 by 2030" said Mali's Minister of the Economy and Finance, Dr Boubou Cissé. "This is a major project that will have a strong impact on improving the daily lives of the people of Bamako and its surroundings" Vice-President Ambroise Fayolle stressed during the signing ceremony. Thanks to this EU financing, the city of Bamako and its surroundings will be provided with a high quality drinking water supply and sanitation service. The new facilities will meet the people's drinking water needs while increasing production capacity, improving sanitary conditions and protecting water resources from pollution. We are delighted to be financing this sustainable development project, which forms part of our priority action in support of Mali."

The EIB also financed Bamako's drinking water master plan. This project is being cofinanced by the AFD, IDB, WADB and AfDB, which has concentrated on financing the Bamako Sanitation Project. As a key partner of Africa under the Cotonou Agreements, the EU bank has current exposure of EUR 21.5 billion to projects financed on the continent, including EUR 7.8 billion in sub-Saharan Africa. (EIB 08-06-2017)

### CHINA AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IN SÃO TOMÉ AND PRÍNCIPE

China is "available to support sustainable development" in São Tomé and Príncipe through cooperation in the areas of "infrastructure, tourism and agriculture," said the new Chinese ambassador, Wang Wei, who on Thursday began his diplomatic mission in the São Tomé capital.

At the end of the accreditation ceremony chaired by the President of the Republic, Wang Wei stressed that "the Chinese government is willing to contribute to the transformation of São Tomé and Príncipe. The representative of Beijing, referring to financial support of US\$146 million that China will grant to the African country, said that "this will certainly be in two parts, one part in technical assistance, the other part in investment."

This Chinese donation was announced a little over a month ago by the São Tomé and Príncipe prime minister after a visit to China, where he signed a general cooperation agreement, which included a pardon of São Tomé and Príncipe's debt estimated at US\$28 million.

Wang Wei, who was already working as Chargé d'Affaires in São Tomé and Príncipe, was previously assigned to the Chinese embassies in Brazil, Angola and Macau, in addition to having served in the Latin American and Caribbean Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Beijing. (16/06/2017)

#### SENEGAL: EIB PROVIDES EUR 22M TO FINANCE PONT DE ROSSO BRIDGE

On the occasion of the European Development Days under the patronage of H.E. Macky Sall, President of the Republic of Senegal, Mr. Amadou BA, Minister for the Economy, Finance and the Senegal Plan, and Mr. Ambroise Fayolle, Vice-President of the European Investment Bank (EIB), signed a finance contract worth EUR 22m in support of the new Pont de Rosso bridge over the Senegal river. Located on a key regional artery, the Pont de Rosso bridge will complete one of the missing links of the trans-African corridor and boost economic activity along the Tangier-Lagos and Algiers-Dakar corridors.

"The EIB is very proud to finance this project, which illustrates the priority we are giving to sustainable development", said Vice-President Ambroise Fayolle during the signing ceremony. "Once completed, the Pont de Rosso bridge will contribute to the development of transport activity along trans-African corridors. It will improve people's living conditions and integration whilst creating new job opportunities for young people."

This large-scale project will have a major economic and social impact. The Pont de Rosso bridge will help cut the cost and duration of transport. It will improve the mobility of people and goods between Mauritania and Senegal whilst contributing to the economic development of both countries by enhancing transport infrastructure, increasing competitiveness and sharing economic growth.

Once the bridge opens, the whole region is expected to experience a spurt in commercial activity, especially as the construction of the bridge will be supplemented by the development of more than 60 km of rural tracks, facilitating access to agricultural areas. This is a leading rice-producing region and the sector's performance represents a major food security challenge. The local population's living conditions will be improved thanks to the implementation of specific initiatives such as the development of education and health facilities (rehabilitation of schools and creation of local health centres), the installation of sewerage networks and drinking water supply systems in the twin towns of Rosso, and the construction and fitting out of social centres for women and young people seeking reintegration opportunities.

The EIB has contributed financing and its technical, environmental and financial expertise to this project alongside the AfDB and the European Union (EU).

The EU bank has been a key partner of Senegal since 1966 and places special emphasis on financing priority sectors such as transport, water, energy and agriculture, as illustrated by the major projects financed in 2016 worth a total of EUR 190m. The EIB's exposure to projects financed under the Cotonou Agreements across the African continent is currently EUR 21.5bn, of which EUR 7.8bn in sub-Saharan Africa. (EIB 07-06-2017)

#### **US\$ 4.3M FOUR-STAR HOTEL TO BE CONSTRUCTED IN KENYA**

US\$ 4.3m four-star hotel is set to be constructed in Nairobi, Kenya by Eritrean investors. Hearan Enterprises-the Eritrean investor which is represented by directors Isaya Desale Berhe and Winta Mengisteab confirmed the news and said that it plans to develop the high-end facility on a 2.2acre parcel of land bought two years ago at Kilimani area in Nairobi.

The planned luxury hotel will be located opposite the Nigerian High Commission and is sandwiched between White Oak and Luxury Image apartments. It is projected to have a three-level underground section is reserved for a car park for 160 vehicles, with the first three floors set aside for an all-day and night restaurant.

Its accommodation rooms on the fourth to 13th floors will incorporate three executive suites, 97 dubbed king, twin (22), club king (32) club twin (9) and 17 junior suites.

A ballroom and business centre as well as offices will also be available and a gymnasium, a 25-metre pool, meeting and events room.

The area has so far attracted foreign investors led by the Chinese who are quickly turning it into a commercial suburb. Several hotels and premium apartment blocks have sprouted in the once purely residential area.

This initiative comes at a time when other investors are developing hotels in Kenya. According to PwC Hotels Outlook 2016-2020 report focusing on Kenya, Tanzania, Mauritius, Nigeria and South Africa revealed that a total of 16 hotels are expected to be built in Kenya in the next five years, adding 2,900 rooms and expanding capacity by 14 percent. (CRO 07-06-2017)

#### ANADARKO GAS PROJECT IS WELL UNDER WAY, PRESIDENT OF MOZAMBIQUE SAYS

Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi has said he hopes that by the end of the year, decisions will be made for the US oil company Anadarko to launch the natural gas exploration project in the Rovuma Basin in the north of the country.

The head of state was speaking at the end of a meeting in Washington with the president of the company, AI Walker, quoted by Mozambican news agency AIM.

The relative delay in Anadarko's investment, according to Nyusi, is because it involves many stakeholders and the interests of all the parties involved need to be safeguarded.

"We, the government, are not at ease when things do not happen. And they have to happen swiftly, but cautiously," to avoid past mistakes, he said.

Walker told reporters that there were a number of unresolved legal issues, but said he was optimistic about resolving them as soon as possible.

Italy's Eni announced earlier this month the start of the development phase of the Coral Sul project for the production of liquid natural gas (LNG) in the Rovuma Basin, northern Mozambique, with work expected to begin in 2022.

Anadarko and Eni are the two major oil companies operating in the Rovuma Basin in northern Mozambique. (16/06/2017)

#### **CROSS BORDER ELECTRICITY LINK TO TRANSFORM ACCESS TO ENERGY IN WEST AFRICA**

Access to reliable and affordable energy in four West Africa countries will be transformed once a new 1303 km electricity interconnector, inaugurated on Sunday, June 4, 2017 on the sideline of the ECOWAS Heads of State Summit in Monrovia, is operational. The first cross-border energy supply between Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea will support economic development, reduce the need to use expensive generators and allow existing and future hydropower projects to benefit the region.

President Ellen Johnson of Liberia led the historic ground breaking of the energy project. Joining her were her counterparts from Cote d'Ivoire (President Alassane Ouattara), Sierra Leone (President Ernest Bai Koroma) and Guinea (President Alpha Conde). Donor partners, contractors and other high-level officials from ECOWAS, CLSG countries and the international community were in attendance.

"We are pleased for this project. As many of you know, as ECOWAS proceeds to transform our economy, power has been identified as one of our main constraints. For Liberia, power is the one thing that has made a difference in the deterioration in the quality of life in all areas, as power supports education, health, industry, security and the comfort of life," President Johnson Sirleaf said in her opening remarks.

The President maintains the CLSG project will bring to the beneficiary countries a big relief and that for those countries emerging, it will enable them to move at a faster pace in achieving their development goals. The Liberian leader described the CLSG project as major impetus for development in Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea. "As we break grounds, all four us as leaders of the CLSG countries, give to TRANSCO CLSG our fullest commitment and support to see that this project moves as quickly as possible in reaching the goals that have been set."

"Once operational the CLSG Interconnector will ensure that communities across Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea can access affordable electricity. Hard work by African and international partners over recent years has ensure essential technical and financial preparations based on international best practice could be completed and the construction phase of the scheme to proceed. CLSG Transco looks forward to continuing this close cooperation over the years to come," confirmed Mohammed M. Sherif, Director General of TRANSCO CLSG.

The regional importance of the CLSG project was highlighted at a ground-breaking ceremony in the Liberian capital Monrovia attended by the heads of state of Cote d'Ivoire, Liberia, Sierra Leone and Guinea and local and international partners involved in the project.

"Access to energy is crucial to enable economic opportunities and ensure access to basic services. The European Investment Bank is pleased to have supported the transformational CLSG Interconnector project for more than ten years and congratulates Transco CLSG at the occasion of the historic groundbreaking ceremony. This scheme will improve the lives of millions of people across West Africa and provides an example of how regional cooperation can strengthen sustainable development that can be followed elsewhere in the world." highlighted Ambroise Fayolle, European Investment Bank Vice President.

In Sierra Leone and Liberia less than 5% of inhabitants have access to electricity and recent conflict in the region severely damaged existing infrastructure and hindered development of new networks. The new interconnector is also expected to significantly reduce use of diesel and heavy fuel oil generators.

The European Investment Bank is providing a EUR 75 million 25-year loan for the EUR 370 million CLSG Interconnector project that is also being financed by the African Development Bank, World Bank and KfW, as well as the four countries involved.

The EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund is also providing grant funding totalling EUR 27 million that will support technical assistance for engineering, feasibility studies and rural electrification. It will also reduce the loan repayment costs thereby allowing transmission tariffs to remain lower.

The European Investment Bank has supported regional energy investment through development and expansion of the West African Power Pool since 2005 and financed rehabilitation of the Mount Coffee hydropower facility in Liberia and Sierra Leone.

Over the last decade the European Investment Bank has provided more than EUR 7.5 billion for energy investment across Africa. (EIB 06-06-2017)

## ACP STATES PUSH BACK AT NEW CONSENSUS ON DEVELOPMENT OVER 'DEMOCRACY' DEFICIT



Day one of the two-day ACP-EU meeting heard disputes over donors' definitions of democracy in aid-dependent states.

Voices from the African, Caribbean and Pacific nation states pushed back on Monday (15 May) at the focus on 'democracy' in the <u>European New Consensus on Development</u>, in a debate which opens old wounds between donor countries and developing nations.

The EU – the world's largest aid donor – is in the processing of adopting the 'New Consensus' policy document, to update its policies in line with the 17 <u>Sustainable Development Goals</u> (SDG)s created by the United Nations.

Many of the SDGs and the New Consensus are uncontroversial, but the commitment to democracy, and what Western donor states understand by that, saw a plethora of voices from Africa and the Caribbean raise objections at a two-day summit of EU and ACP groups in Brussels.

On the opening day of the Meeting of ACP-EU Economic and Social Interest groups, speakers from Haiti, Madagascar, Zimbabwe and the Caribbean hit back at narrow or existing definitions of 'democracy' in the New Consensus document – which is being adopted against the background of the post-Cotonou trading arrangements between the 28-member bloc and the ACP nations from 2020.

In front of an audience of around 80 representatives from the Commission, Parliament, EEAS and ACP states, Jethro T. Greene, head of the Caribbean Farmers' Network (CaFAN), himself a fruit grower from St Vincent and the Grenadines, warned that even in a functioning ACP democracy "those elected do not represent the totality of the people".

"The reality is that we have to get consensus across the parties, not just the governments," Greene told the debate.

"All [our] governments are 'minority governments', in that 50% of the people do not vote, and the 50% that do split their vote between the ruling party and the opposition."

At the heart of the debate is <u>clause 3.49</u>, <u>paragraph 49</u>, of the New Consensus, that states: "The EU and its member states will promote the universal values of democracy, good governance, rule of law and human rights for all – across the full range of partnerships and instruments and across all situations, including through development action."

While that may not sound controversial in Brussels, many ACP nations complain – privately and publicly – that many Western states were far from parliamentary democracies with universal suffrage when they underwent industrialisation in the 19th and early 20th centuries.

And <u>some recent academic studies</u> show that democracy and development are not as neatly linked as some donor bodies would hope.

Another speaker, from the Indian Ocean island of Madagascar, put the problem more plainly. Leontine Mbolanomena, a workers' representative from Madagascar, said her government was "100% dependent on aid, so the government will sign up for anything [while] the citizens pay the price. "Support for civil society organisations is all well and good," she told the audience of specialists, "but NGOs need the capacity to build in civil society to monitor how governments are using the funds." That echoed a point of Greene's, who said he was "not optimistic about achieving the SDGs [by 2030], because we have to get grassroots people involved.

"More declarations and 'Consensus' are easy on paper," he warned, "but at grassroots level a more difficult thing. Civil Society doesn't have all the technical skills to analyse [what governments do.]" At the other extreme, Zimbabwe – something of a pariah state in diplomatic circles, if not for the aid groups trying to operate within its borders – warned EU leaders against "trying to achieve Utopia in a day."

John Mufukere, director of the Employers' Confederation of Zimbabwe, said: "It is good to empower CSO (Civil Society Organisations) to hold governments to account, but the British have a saying 'Don't throw the baby away with the bathwater'."

"Don't insist we can get there, before we can get there," he warned. Zimbabwe has been run continuously by President Robert Mugabe since 1980, who last year announced he would stand again as president in 2018, at the age of 96.

The 17-point UN Sustainable Development Goals – criticised at the meeting as "more abstract and fragmentary" than the better-known Millennial Development Goals they replaced – are supposed to be met by 2030, and include the opening promise of "No poverty".

They are – at least superficially – less doctrinaire about the promotion of democracy, relegating it to the 16th of 17 goals, under the heading "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions."

### Seven critical questions for review of 'European Consensus on Development'

There are many changes impacting the future of European development cooperation: a serious existential crisis in the European Union in the wake of Brexit, a newly agreed 2030 global sustainable development and climate change agenda, and major geopolitical shifts, writes Andrew Sherriff.

The EU was not immune from criticism at the meeting. Ionut Sibian, the rapporteur for the European Economic and Social Committee, railed against what he called "trendsetters [in Official Development Aid] who count financial implication areas for expenses that five or 10 years ago would have been unthinkable for this policy."

Although he did not single them out by name, the UK, Germany and Sweden, among others, have recently started using ODA funds on so-called in-house 'host country spending', that is, housing and feeding refugees, with some also now mooting classifying some security spending under ODA. Sibian did specify that theme, asking rhetorically: "Security and migration control [spending]? Okay – if we channel more money to poverty eradication."

Michael John Ellis, head of unit for Policy and Coherence at DG Devco, struck a conciliatory note, telling the audience it was fair to ask "Okay, there's a declaration, a nice ceremony, we all pat ourselves on the back, but sometimes... 'what happens [next]?"

He added it was fair that "recognising governments don't necessarily represent everyone", but "one good thing" about the SDGs was that they at least "bring everyone together."

Joan Lafranco, speaking for the Trade Union Development Cooperation Network, suggested that while developing ACP states were "formalising their economy", each country was different, and a baseline of "striving for decent work, with social dialogue" was the least states could sign up to.

"But if we rely on the market alone [rather than pushing for democratic practices], the SDGs will never be achieved," he warned.

The ACP-EU two day meeting continues today (16 May), with sessions on industrialisation, and food waste.(EurActiv 17-05-2017)

#### POWER AFRICA ANNOUNCES ELECTRICITY BOOST TO SOUTHERN AFRICA

Power Africa announced during African Utility Week to increase the supply of electricity in Southern Africa



The US aid-funded Southern African Energy Program is a five-year project led by Deloitte and includes McKinsey, Another Option, CrossBoundary, and Worley Parsons.

The announcement came as representatives from Power Africa, a US government-led initiative launched by Barack Obama in 2013, and the US Mission in South Africa participated in African Utility Week and the Gas to Power World Congress in Cape Town, South Africa, last week.

In celebrating the launch of the program, Andrew Herscowitz, coordinator for Power Africa, said, "The Southern African Energy Program is an exciting new way for the United States and Africa to work together to improve economic harmonization. Power Africa is well on its way to advancing its goals of providing 30,000MW and 60 million connections by 2030."

The United States Trade and Development Agency (USTDA) also signed a grant with Pele Green Energy, for US\$1,099,579 to fund a feasibility study to assess the viability of a photovoltaic solar facility in Free State, South Africa. The grant is reserved under funds from the US Africa Clean Energy Finance Initiative.

Teddy Taylor, the US Consul General to Cape Town, said, "We are excited to support the work that Pele Green Energy is doing, and hope this will be the start of a lasting relationship as we work together to achieve energy solutions in South Africa that will create greater prosperity for all."

Power Africa also launched its third and newest handbook in the "Understanding" series, called Understanding Natural Gas and LNG Options, at a reception co-hosted with the law offices of Webber Wentzel.

So far, Power Africa has helped fund 62 projects comprising 6,692MW, of which 1,531MW are operational. Power Africa has added 9.5 million connections, which means tens of millions of people now have access to power. (USAID 22-05-2017)

#### TRADE DEAL WITH EU, SECRETARIAT FUNDING MECHANISM TOP AGENDA OF EAC SUMMIT

The Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between East African Community (EAC) partner states and the European Union, search for a sustainable financing mechanism and assent to bills passed by the regional Assembly are among the agenda items of the upcoming summit, an official has said.

The leaders of the six EAC partner states are due to meet in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, on Saturday for their annual summit that has been postponed three times in the recent past.

While in Kigali, earlier this year, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) passed a resolution urging the Council to find a common stance on partner states' funding deficit by having it on the agenda of next EAC Summit.

Richard Owora, the EAC head of corporate communications and public affairs, told The New Times yesterday that the provisional agenda of the summit also includes matters concerning the EAC Political Federation, the fourth goal of regional integration, after the Customs Union, Common Market and Monetary Union.

According to Owora, the 18th Ordinary Summit of EAC Heads of State will also consider various reports including the "report on the roadmap for the accelerated integration" of South Sudan.

South Sudan deposited the instruments of ratification of the accession Treaty on September 5, 2016, and the summit is set to appoint a judge from South Sudan to the East African Court of Justice. South Sudan has already elected its nine members for the fourth East African Legislative Assembly in June.

The summit will also consider a progress report on admission of Somalia to EAC.

The annual report of the Council of Ministers, a progress report on the implementation framework for the EAC institutional review, and a report on the implementation of previous decisions of the summit, are also lined up for discussion.

The 34th Extraordinary Meeting of the EAC Council of Ministers is taking place in Dar to prepare all the above mentioned agenda items for the Summit, Owora said.

### **Concerns about EPAs**

The recent 35th Ordinary Meeting of the Council of Ministers in Arusha looked at partner states' concerns about the EAC-EU EPA deal. In September last year, trade ministers for Rwanda and Kenya signed the deal in Brussels, Belgium.

Although Rwanda and Kenya have no concerns, the last Council meeting was informed that Uganda's interest was for the partner states to move to sign the agreement as a bloc; and explore available options in the event that some partner states sign the EPA and others do not.

The Council's report, a copy of which The New Times has seen, notes that while Bujumbura's only concern is that "EU unilaterally suspended direct partnership with the Government of Burundi," Tanzania maintains reservations and needs the EAC Secretariat to conduct a detailed analysis on the effects in order to bring about regional perspective to the Community.

Tanzania's 15 specific concerns include effects of EPA on EAC industrial development, effects of EU subsidies and domestic support on EAC farmers accessing EU market, bridging the gap of revenue losses resulting from substantial trade liberalisation, and effect of Brexit as UK is one of the major trading partner of EAC countries.

Tanzania also questions the rationale of Burundi signing EPA while the EU has imposed an embargo on her exports.

Conclusively, Tanzania is of the view that signing a bad EPA deal will set a bad precedence, which will compromise the region's interests in all other subsequent negotiations on free trade agreements (FTAs). South Sudan informed the Council that being a new partner state, it will need time to study the issues related to the EAC-EU EPA negotiations.

Considering the different views, the Council recalled the summit decision stating that the matter regarding EPA will be considered on the summit agenda.

"It was noted that the divergent views are positions of partner states, and as such the views were to be consolidated and subsequently forwarded to the summit."

### **Draft legislations**

The Bills set to be assented to by the Heads of State during the summit are the EAC Customs Management (Amendment) Bill, 2016; the EAC Appropriation Bill, 2016; and the EAC Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2016.

### **Consultations on Political Federation**

It is not clear whether the Summit will conclude on the matter of the Political Federation as consultations could still be underway.

A confederation model is being mulled instead of a political federation as the last stage of EAC integration. A confederation, according to Judy Njeru, senior assistant director for political affairs in Kenya's state department of EAC integration, is a union of political units for common action in relation to other units.

Njeru has previously explained that confederations tend to be established for dealing with critical issues such as defence and security, foreign affairs, a common currency, and immigration and labour movement, and that the idea of a confederation as a transitional phase toward the political federation is desirable, particularly since partner states will retain their sovereignty and only transfer some capacity in identified areas.

Meanwhile, the recent Arusha meeting recalled that a previous session of the Council observed that upon further consultations, all partner states had generated convergence on confederation as the model for the EA Federation.

"The meeting agreed that the Constitutional experts will provide a proposal on the areas to be covered under pooled sovereignty. The Republic of Kenya requested that she be given more time to consult on the proposal for the Confederation," reads the Council's recent report. (New Times 17-05-2017)

# AFRICA'S SMALL HYDROPOWER POTENTIAL IS 7,3GW AND OF THAT POTENTIAL 83% LIES IN EAST AFRICA.

These stats were tabled by the chairperson of the Hydropower Sector Energy Association of Rwanda and CEO of East African Power, Dan Klinck, while speaking at a technical workshop focused on small hydropower opportunities hosted at the African Utility Week, in Cape Town.

According to Klinck, the African small hydropower market has great potential with East Africa leading the market by 209MW of installed capacity and a potential of 6,296MW. Following in the second place is Central Africa with 76MW installed capacity and 328MW potential.

North Africa takes third place with 155MW of installed capacity and 184MW potential. Lastly, in fourth place is southern Africa with 43MW of installed small hydropower and 383MW potential.

### East Africa's small hydropower capacity

Narrowing down the numbers, Klinck cited stats from the World Hydro Report 2016, which shows that Uganda has the highest installed capacity in East Africa of 35MW.

On the same note, Kenya and Ethiopia are listed among the leading neighbouring countries having significant potential of small hydropower estimated at 3,000MW and 1,500MW respectively. <u>Read</u> <u>more...</u>

Rwanda, where Klinck is based, has a total energy generation capacity of 1000MW of which 40% lies in hydropower. This potential presents \$1 billion in hydro investments.

He stated that at present there are 21 operational sites in Rwanda with a total of 84MW that mostly is privately owned. Klinck further revealed that more 40 sites are currently under private sector development, with a capacity of 85MW.

He said all of these developments are aligned towards driving the goal of universal access to electricity in the country. <u>Read more...</u>

#### Small hydropower challenges

Klinck said his company has more than 20MW in development and has deployed a number of projects in Rwanda including the 2700kW Rwaza plant, the 445kW Rubagabaga plant and the 438kW Musarara plant.

Sharing on some of the challenges that they have experienced while developing these small hydro projects, he mentioned the lack of hydrological data.

"A lot of the challenges was the lack of hydrological data, being able to know or seeing what the reality is -versus what was projected. With regards to performance, we are not necessarily optimising the plants in ways that we would have, should we have had better historical data," he said.(New Energy 17-06-2017)

## BUSINESS ROADSHOWS HIGHLIGHT GREEN OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN

A cycle of Business Roadshows organised by the EUROMED Invest project have recently taken place in Warsaw, Riga and Helsinki, bringing together over 100 participants from the host countries and the southern Mediterranean. The events welcomed local entrepreneurs eager to learn more about the untapped business and investment opportunities in the renewables and green technologies sectors in the Mediterranean region.

With low awareness in northern Europe about the opportunities offered by the Mediterranean region, the main objective of the roadshows was to demystify some of the stereotypes, while increasing exchanges between the two regions.

The three events had a similar schedule with an introduction to the business environment in the Mediterranean region and local representatives from Ministries and Chambers of Commerce presenting schemes available to support SME internationalisation in the area. The ANIMA Investment Network presented the green sector in the area, including maps and statistics of latest FDI trends.

A second panel focused on company cases, practical and cultural tips, as well as success stories of businesses from northern Europe doing business in the Mediterranean.

In all three events, the closing session was dedicated to a pitch from Southern Mediterranean companies showcasing their innovative green technologies and projects to European investors. The events were followed by informal B2B session.

The aim of the **EUROMED Invest** project is to boost private business and investment within the Euro-Mediterranean region to contribute to inclusive economic development. The project's activities aim to empower Euro-Med business and investment networks to implement targeted strategies in support of SME development in specific sectors: agri-food, water and alternative energies, tourism, transport and logistics, cultural and creative industries. (EUROMED 16-06-2017)



#### QUAND LES JEUNES ENTREPRENEURS ALGERIENS SE TOURNENT VERS L'AFRIQUE

Dans l'usine de boissons fruitées NCA Rouiba à Alger, en Algérie, en 2013

À la recherche de croissance, les entreprises algériennes, et tout particulièrement celles qui sont dirigées par de jeunes patrons, redoublent d'intérêt pour l'Afrique subsaharienne. Mais leurs ambitions se heurtent encore à une réglementation restrictive.

« La plus grande partie de notre réflexion sur notre stratégie de développement porte sur l'Afrique », explique Sami Agli, 39 ans. Comme de nombreux jeunes entrepreneurs algériens, le directeur général du groupe Agli, actif dans des secteurs aussi divers que l'immobilier et l'agroalimentaire, regarde vers le Sud. Le groupe familial, implanté à Biskra, est en discussion avancée avec des homologues africains pour exporter sa production de biscuiterie vers le Bénin, le Sénégal et la Côte d'Ivoire.

« Il est plus facile pour une société algérienne d'investir en Afrique qu'en Asie ou en Europe », estime celui qui figure à la 78e position du <u>classement Choiseul</u> des 100 leaders économiques africains de moins de 40 ans, paru en octobre 2016.

#### Tisser des liens avec des partenaires africains

Pour concrétiser ses ambitions africaines, le chargé de recrutement à JIL FCE, le forum des patrons algériens de moins de 40 ans, a œuvré activement à <u>l'organisation de la 5e édition du sommet Choiseul</u> à <u>Alger</u>, qui s'est tenu les 14 et 15 mai dernier. À cette occasion, plus de 150 chefs d'entreprise africains de plusieurs secteurs, originaires de 36 pays, ont rencontré et échangé avec quelques 200 entrepreneurs algériens.

Un « moment important » selon Sahbi Othmani, coorganisateur de l'événement. « Ce type de rencontres prestigieuses permet d'une part de faire la promotion de l'Algérie et d'autre part de tisser des liens avec de futurs partenaires africains », explique le directeur général des <u>Nouvelles Conserveries Algériennes</u> (NCA) de Rouiba, un fabricant de boissons fruitées, qui figure à la 6e place du classement 2016 du think-tank libéral.

Le sommet Choiseul est la deuxième rencontre d'envergure continentale organisée dans la capitale algérienne en l'espace de six mois. Pour rappel, des chefs d'entreprise et des dirigeants du continent s'étaient déjà déplacés pour participer au premier <u>forum africain d'investissement et d'affaires</u>, qui s'est déroulé, début décembre, à Alger.

### Aller chercher de la croissance hors des frontières

Avec l'érosion de la manne pétrolière, les autorités algériennes ne ménagent pas leurs efforts pour attirer des investisseurs africains. En marge du sommet Choiseul, Sahbi Othmani encourage ses comparses à s'impliquer dans le rapprochement de l'Algérie avec l'Afrique subsaharienne.

« C'est aussi notre rôle en tant que jeunes entrepreneurs de porter haut l'image de notre pays et d'ouvrir nos portes à nos amis africains. On ne peut pas rester un acteur fort en restant en autarcie. Pour trouver de la croissance, il est nécessaire de sortir de nos frontières », lance le leader national de la production de boissons fruitées, qui revendique 90% des parts du marché carton.

Pour trouver de la croissance, il est nécessaire de sortir de nos frontières

Lui aussi rêve de devenir un champion panafricain. Déjà présent en Tunisie et au Maroc, NCA-Rouiba a signé un accord avec le gouvernement du Bénin en octobre 2014 pour la gestion d'unités de production, situées près du port de Cotonou. Mais depuis près de trois ans, le projet est au point mort. « On attend toujours le feu vert de la Banque d'Algérie », déplore Sahbi Othmani.

Entré en vigueur un mois après l'accord entre NCA-Rouiba et le Bénin, le nouveau règlement de la Banque d'Algérie, qui régit les opérations d'investissement des opérateurs économiques algériens à l'étranger, a conservé un certain nombre de conditions restrictives.

#### « Il ne faut pas perdre patience »

Les jeunes entrepreneurs algériens ne baissent pas les bras. En attendant une réforme de la législation en matière de change, ils réfléchissent à d'autres solutions.

« Il faudrait établir un statut particulier pour les entreprises algériennes à vocation internationale. Ces sociétés vont un jour rapatrier des dividendes de leurs investissements à l'étranger et cela bénéficiera à l'Algérie. Il faut permettre aux acteurs qui jouent le jeu de l'internationalisation dans la transparence d'être efficaces dans leurs implantations à l'étranger », estime ainsi Mohamed Skander, président de JIL FCE et fondateur du cabinet de conseil BH Advisory.

Maintenant qu'on a découvert la Mauritanie, on a envie de tenter l'expérience malienne et nigérienne. Un an après avoir ouvert une filiale à Nouakchott, le chef d'entreprise de 36 ans envisage une expansion dans la région Sahel. « Maintenant qu'on a découvert la Mauritanie, on a envie de tenter l'expérience malienne et nigérienne. »

Sahbi Othmani reste aussi optimiste : « Ces difficultés vont se diluer avec le temps. Il ne faut juste pas que les jeunes entrepreneurs algériens perdent patience. » (JA 19-05-2017)

#### BOTSWANA TO CONSTRUCT 100MW SOLAR POWER PLANT

Botswana's state run power utility is seeking a partner for a 100-MW solar power plant project with energy storage capacity in the country.

The <u>Botswana Power Corporation</u> (BPC) will be accepting expressions of interest (EoIs) by June 14. The power company will be a partner in the joint venture that will develop, install, and operate the solar power plant project.

It will also be the entity buying the power by the future solar farm under a power purchase agreement (PPA).

"The plant will be situated in Botswana, and the new formed Joint Venture will sell its power to BPC through a Power Purchasing Agreement.

Therefore, Expression of Interest is invited from power generation companies/Independent Power Producers (IPPs)/power plant developers/Captive Power Producers for developing a solar power plant in a joint venture with BPC," BPC explained.

BPC states that the objectives of the 100 MW Solar Power plant project are to improve security and reliability of energy supply, increase share of new and renewable sources of energy in the energy supply mix of the country and offset the country's carbon footprint.

The 100-MW solar power project is in line with the country's power strategy. BPC said the plant will improve the security and reliability of energy supply, increase the use of renewable energy, and reduce Botswana's carbon footprint.

According to BPC, Botswana is facing a huge power supply deficit owing to diminished surplus generation capacity in the region and the growing electrical energy requirements in Botswana.

To address the power supply challenges and to meet the future electricity demand, BPC and the Ministry of Minerals, Green Technology and Energy Security has embarked on a comprehensive electrical power system development strategy which includes among others, the development of a 100MW solar power plant two years from appointment of the preferred Independent Power Producer joint venture partner. The supplementary power generation will be from a new solar power plant constructed, commissioned, owned and operated, by the IPP joint venture company.

This initiative is in line with National Energy Policy goal of providing affordable, reliable and adequate supply of energy for sustainable development, as well as improving access to and efficient use of energy resources. (CRO 13-06-2017)

### TAMALE TO BECOME HUB FOR AIR TRANSPORT IN WEST AFRICA

The <u>Savanna Accelerated Development Authority</u> (SADA) is putting policies and structures in place to make Tamale a hub of air transport in West Africa.

SADA CEO Charles Abugre made the announcement during his presentation of the Tamale and Buipe infrastructure plans to some stakeholders in Accra, Ghana.

However, the move forms part of the authority's plan to beautify Tamale into a modern city through improved infrastructure in anticipation of population growth and industrialization. Meanwhile, the plans are a subset of the SADA master plan, a 25-year medium-term development plan that will serve as a blueprint to the development of the savanna zone.

In outlining reasons for making the Northern capital a hub of air transport services in West Africa, Mr Abugre stated that people will get to save more time journeying from Tamale to Europe as compared to any other part of the country.

The geographical location of Tamale had positioned the town to be on the flight path to Europe hence saving more than an hour of travel.

"First of all Tamale is a one and half hour maximum by flight to virtually every West African destination. It is on the flight path to Europe so when you take off in Tamale you actually save more than an hour going up to Europe," said Abugre.

He further stated that, the town had a lot of bare land and open space to operate which could develop the air services and maintenance successfully.

Additionally, Tamale had mostly dry weather conditions which would give room for aircraft maintenance since it could succeed best under the town's atmospheric conditions.

"The area is dried up and does not have the humidity problems of Accra or Kumasi and air craft maintenance requires very dry conditions making the town very ideal for air transport," he added. The air craft maintenance was normally done up higher in the hills or around dessert conditions making Tamale's conditions excellent for aircraft maintenance.

However, SADA was committed to developing Tamale into an airport city hub and is currently facilitating a project to that effect. The project, included aircraft services and aircraft maintenance and would collectively be referred to as the Tamale Airport City and Industrial Hub.

According to Charles Abugre, the plan is part of the city's design for Tamale and the project is called the tamale airport city and industrial hub which includes aircraft maintenance and aircraft services. However, once the services have been included in the hub, light aircraft will be allowed to fly across West Africa adding that as the logistics were inclusive, cargo going to other parts of the world will be easier to take off from Tamale.

"Slowly when you provide the logistics cargo going to other parts of the world will be easier to take off from Tamale than anywhere else," he said.(CRO 08-06-2017)

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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,NABC (by posting selected news) and SwissCham-Africa to their Members.



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