MEMORANDUM

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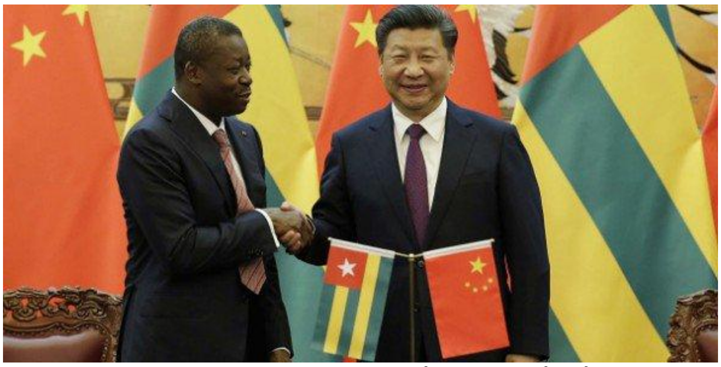
11 YEARS OF UNINTERRUPTED PUBLICATION

The 2017 AGOA Forum in Togo, on page 14

SUMMARY

10 000 ENTREPRISES CHINOISES OPERENT SUR LE CONTINENT, SELON MCKINSEY



Xi Jinping et Faure Gnassingbé le 30 mai à Pékin

Un rapport du cabinet de conseil américain McKinsey publié ce mercredi estime que l'implication économique de la Chine en Afrique est plus importante et plus diversifiée que ne le disent les dernières études sur le sujet.

Le rapport de McKinsey, publié mercredi 28 juin, s'appuie sur des études conduites dans huit pays du continent qui génèrent à près des deux tiers du PIB d'Afrique sub-saharienne. Il estime que plus de 10 000 entreprises chinoises opèrent actuellement sur le continent, soit quatre fois plus que les estimations précédentes.
90% de ces entreprises sont des sociétés privées, apprend-on dans le document. Un tiers d'entre elles opèreraient dans le secteur manufacturier, un quart dans le secteur des services. Le commerce, la construction et l'immobilier compteraient chacun pour un cinquième de ces sociétés. De l'avis de McKinsey, « ces entreprises apportent des capitaux et transfèrent leurs compétences managériales et leur énergie entrepreneuriale vers le continent, aidant ainsi l'Afrique à accélérer son développement économique ».

Les groupes chinois en bonne santé financière

Selon le rapport, les entreprises chinoises généreraient déjà 12% de la production industrielle africaine estimée à 500 milliards de dollars par an. McKinsey souligne la prédominance de la Chine dans les infrastructures. Le pays capterait déjà près de 50% des parts du marché de l'ingénierie, de l'approvisionnement et de la gestion de constructions.
La santé financière des sociétés chinoises est décrite dans le document comme globalement bonne. Près d'un quart des 1 000 sociétés étudiées ont déclaré avoir couvert leurs investissements initiaux après moins d'un an d'activité. Un tiers d'entre elles auraient enregistré des taux de profit supérieurs à 20%. Et 74% d'entre elles se sont déclarées optimistes concernant leur avenir sur le continent.

Montée en puissance des relations sino-africaines

La relation chinafrique est montée en puissance durant la dernière décennie, avec 20% de croissance annuelle des échanges commerciaux. La croissance des investissements directs extérieurs (IDE) a, elle, atteint un taux annuel de 40% sur la même période.
Selon le rapport, les flux financiers chinois vers l'Afrique seraient de 15% supérieurs aux chiffres officiels, si l'on inclut les flux non-traditionnels. La Chine serait aussi la plus grosse source de financement en infrastructures sur le continent.
« L'engagement chinois avec l'Afrique devrait s'accélérer », présage Kartik Jayaram, associé principal et co-auteur du rapport. D'après lui, les entreprises chinoises pourraient cumuler d'ici 2025 des recettes supplémentaires évaluées à plusieurs centaines de milliards de dollars.

Des millions d'emplois en Afrique

Le rapport liste les bénéfices principaux de la présence chinoise sur le continent :
– 89% des employés des entreprises étudiées seraient des locaux. Ces entreprises emploieraient donc plusieurs millions d'Africains. Près de deux tiers d'entre elles proposeraient en outre des formations à leurs employés ;
– ces entreprises participent à la modernisation des marchés africains en y introduisant des nouveaux produits et des nouvelles technologies : 48% d'entre elles auraient lancé un nouveau produit ou un

nouveau service, et 36% d'entre elles auraient inauguré une nouvelle technologie au cours des trois dernières années.

Peu de fournisseurs africains

Toutefois, il reste, selon McKinsey, des points à améliorer :

– en valeur, seuls 47% des approvisionnements des entreprises chinoises proviendraient de sociétés africaines, qui pourraient davantage bénéficier des investissements chinois sur le continent ;

– en termes d'emploi, seuls 44% des postes de cadre seraient occupés par des Africains ;

– les principaux points négatifs pour les firmes chinoises sont la sécurité personnelle et la corruption ;

– du côté des managers africains, on cite la barrière de la langue et de la culture, mais également les violations du droit du travail et du droit de l'environnement par certains groupes chinois. (JA 28-06-27)

GK ANCUABE GRAPHITE MINE STARTS EXTRACTING AND PROCESSING GRAPHITE IN MOZAMBIQUE

GK Ancuabe Graphite Mine, a subsidiary of German company AMG Graphit Kropfmuehl GmbH, invested 12 million euros in the recovery and expansion of the Ancuabe graphite mine and processing plant, which began operating on Wednesday in the presence of the President of Mozambique.

The unit associated with the mine is capable of processing 9,000 tonnes of graphite per year, with the resulting product destined for the German market, according to the company's Deputy Director General Geert Klok.

The mine is located in the district of Ancuabe, in Mozambique's Cabo Delgado province, known for containing large and high quality graphite deposits, and GK Ancuabe Graphite Mine is the first mining company to extract and process graphite in Mozambique.

Present at the ceremony, Germany's ambassador to Mozambique, Detlev Wolter, promised to continue to raise more investments for Mozambique.

AMG Graphit Kropfmuehl GmbH acquired the rights to explore the Ancuabe mine following an international public tender launched in 2012.

The assets of AMG Graphit Kropfmuehl GmbH in Mozambique include the mining concession to which the graphite processing plant in Ancuabe is attached and a prospecting license in Nipacué, where there is a graphite deposit with reserves estimated at 900,000 tonnes. (29-06-2017)

EC'S MIMICA: WE ARE ANALYSING AID FUNDING GAPS LEFT BY THE US

The EU is analysing the aid funding gap left by Donald Trump's decision to ban US federal funding for NGOs providing birth control support or abortions in developing countries, Development Commissioner Neven Mimica told EURACTIV.com in an exclusive interview.

Neven Mimica is Croatia's first European Commissioner since the country's EU accession in 2013. He has served as minister of European integration and as deputy prime minister. He is affiliated to the Social Democratic Party of Croatia.

People sometimes misunderstand the importance of polio eradication as very few cases are reported and the polio-endemic countries are also very few: Afghanistan, Nigeria and Pakistan. But failure to stop polio could result in as many as 200,000 new cases every year, scientists warn. There was a surprising outbreak in Ukraine in 2015, so Europe is not safe. And it would cost many billions to fight back if polio was not finally wiped out. What role is the EU playing in polio eradication? How much does it invest and who are its partners?

As you rightly pointed out, today's travel patterns potentially put us all at risk of public health emergencies. Until every country reaches the full immunisation coverage against polio, new outbreaks can happen. This is particularly the case in countries at risk.
The position of the European Commission is clear: in the 21st century no one should suffer or die from polio or any other diseases which can be prevented with safe, effective and available vaccines.
So far this year, five cases of polio infection have been confirmed; two in Afghanistan and three in Pakistan. A number of countries remain vulnerable.
A few weeks ago, I pledged on behalf of the European Commission €55 million for polio eradication. This amount comes on top of the €200 million we already provided to the Global Polio Eradication Initiative between 2003 and 2015.
This fits in well with our broader efforts to strengthen the overall health systems in our partner countries. We help to improve the availability of qualified health workers, the provision of affordable medicines and adequate financing of the health sector.
To eradicate polio, vaccination campaigns have to be combined with efforts to raise public awareness about the disease and the effectiveness of vaccines. To achieve this, we are working closely with local authorities, media, churches, traditional authorities and communities to address people's concerns and pay particular attention to countries that remain vulnerable, such as Cameroon, Ethiopia, Somalia or South Sudan, to name just a few.
You recently met with Bill Gates, who is indeed very active on polio eradication. How important is the synergy with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF)? What do you concretely do together? I suspect this is more than the usual cooperation when the EU gives funds and an NGO on the ground provides services?
Of course, with the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, as well as with other partners, we aim to coordinate our interventions, in line with the principles set out by the International Health Partnership, which is a global initiative aimed at fostering cooperation among governments, development agencies and civil society organisations on health issues. The fight against deadly diseases cannot afford uncoordinated interventions or duplication.
Polio eradication is one of the top priorities of the Gates Foundation, which is also a major supporter of the Global Polio Eradication Initiative. The Gates Foundation contributes technical and financial resources to accelerate targeted vaccination campaigns, community mobilisation, and routine immunisations, and to encourage partners to improve their polio surveillance and outbreak response.
Our partnership with the Gates Foundation is also important in the framework of the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI), to which the European Union also contributes significantly. Through the board of these multilateral initiatives, we work with the Foundation, as well as with other partners, to find sustainable and efficient issues to the challenge of health systems and immunisation in particular.
I have noticed that the USA as a country was until now a big donour to GAVI, the international organisation based in Switzerland and active across the world. Is there a risk that this organisation, and others, will face a financial gap, and are there any contingency plans?
The Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisation (GAVI) aims to target an additional 200 million children by 2020. Together, we want to save the lives of five million children per year worldwide. The EU has supported GAVI since 2003 by committing around €300 million, including the pledge of €200 million for the 2016-2020 period. This is one of the many examples of the European Union assuming its responsibility as a strong global actor, as we have done for more than 60 years.
We are the key provider of development assistance and humanitarian aid around the world, with €75.5 billion in 2016 alone. Our responsibility in the world and our priorities are what determines our external agenda – not a possible response to what other actors are doing or not doing, be it the United States or others. Whenever our partners choose to reduce their level of ambition, we, of course, regret that. But the European Union will continue to be engaged and assume leadership on global issues.
The Trump Administration doesn't want to support family planning projects or programmes. Some countries, like the Netherlands or Belgium, have said they will increase theirs. Again, are there any contingency plans from the Commission?
Our commitment to gender equality and women's and girls' rights remains very high; this includes also their sexual and reproductive health and rights.
For starters, gender equality is a matter of human rights and human dignity. But at the same time, we know that there can be no real development in any sphere of life without equal opportunities between men and women.
In order to support women's sexual and reproductive health and rights – which includes family planning – we strengthen our partner countries' health systems. For example, we help them to improve health

care facilities and train health personnel or to provide equipment and essential medicines. We also provide technical assistance and policy advice to governments.

Supporting civil society organisations that work on sexual and reproductive health is also key to enable them to provide information, education and counselling to young people. Preventing sexually transmitted diseases such as HIV/AIDS, and supporting local civil society organisations to act in these fields are of course an important part of that.

Strengthening women’s access to family planning is immensely important: worldwide, around 225 million women are in need of modern contraception. And each year, more than 300,000 women die from pregnancy or childbirth-related causes – almost all of them in developing countries. The results we achieved in the past are the best encouragement to keep our ambitions high: since 2004, our EU support has helped for almost 17 million consultations on reproductive health to take place, and over 7.5 million births have been attended by skilled health personnel.

In light of the announcements of the US administration you mention, we are currently analysing the actual needs of women on the ground and the dimension of funding gaps. This will be the basis to generate additional funding from the EU, together with our partners.

I am strongly committed to doing everything in my power to make sure that these needs will be met. May I remind you that in 2001, when the US Administration decided to reinstate the so-called Mexico City Policy, the Commission increased its funding by an additional €32 million and thereby filled the financial gap [the Mexico City policy is a United States government policy that blocks US federal funding for NGOs organisations that provide abortion counselling or advocate to decriminalize abortion].

For the years to come, working for gender equality will remain absolutely critical. Fighting violence against women and girls is also very high on our agenda – it is shocking that today still one in three women over the age of 15 have experienced physical or sexual violence by a partner in their lifetime.

I am personally committed to helping put an end to this. We are for example currently working on an important initiative to eliminate all forms of violence and harmful practices against women and girls together with the United Nations, which we will officially launch later this year.(DEV 28-06-2017)

GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE RATIFIES LOAN TO BUILD ROAD TO TANZANIA

The Mozambican government has ratified a financing agreement signed with the African Development Fund for the first phase of the Mueda-Negomano road construction project in the northern province of Cabo Delgado, a stretch of about 100 kilometres connecting Mozambique to Tanzania, said the Council of Ministers spokeswoman.

Ana Comoana recalled that the financing, the agreement for which was signed last February, includes a loan and a donation, the first in the amount of US$69.7 million and the rest as a donation.

The African Development Bank announced in December 2016 it had approved US$74.9 million in financing for the construction of the road between Mozambique and Tanzania, with the amount divided into a loan of US$71.8 million and a donation of US$3.1 million.

The spokeswoman for the Council of Ministers and Deputy Minister of Culture stressed the importance of the road, which links the neighbouring countries via the National Unity Bridge, which was inaugurated in 2010 by the presidents of Mozambique and Tanzania.

Car traffic on the bridge has been relatively low, mainly due to the poor road conditions between Mueda and Negomano, at the confluence of the Rovuma and Lugenda rivers, according to the Mozambican press. (29-06-017)

ISRAEL'S DEVELOPMENT FINANCE STRATEGIST ON PLANS TO INVEST IN AFRICA

Israel has focused its sights on Africa as a new frontier for its emerging development efforts. Last month, representatives from the Israeli Ministry of Economy and Industry visited the Ivory Coast and Ghana to meet local officials and survey possible avenues for development support.

A small country roughly the size of New Jersey with an estimated 8.3 million inhabitants and $300 billion annual gross domestic product, Israel has humble roots and its own experience with development. As a World Bank recipient until the 1970s, Israel has evolved from a developing country into a nation with a leading high-tech industry. More than 300 international firms, including giants such as Microsoft, IBM, Apple, Cisco and Hewlett-Packard have high-tech research centers in the country.

The country's development program, to date, remains a branch of the Ministry of Economy and Industry, with selected officials laying the foundations of the strategy. They are targeting specific sectors and countries. As a development donor with a limited financial capacity, Israel will be looking to partner with development finance institutions to roll out programs and in-country services.

Devex spoke with Zafrir Asaf, director of financial institutions and emerging markets at the Ministry of Economy and Industry, to learn more about Israel's plans on becoming a development donor in Africa and the challenges involved in this effort. The conversation has been edited for length and clarity.

What role does Israel look to play in the development space?

Our development strategy has a few basic assumptions. One assumption is that we would never be a major donor because we are a small country and we don't have the capabilities of donating hundreds of millions, or billions, of dollars.

Another assumption is that we need to build the understanding on the Israeli side. At the moment, there are very few civil servants who actually deal with it. Nobody is against it, but very few understand what we mean by a development strategy, ways to finance it and what we can actually achieve. So we're building the support from bottom up.

A third element is being very, very focused, or as focused as we can be. In the African context, we say Africa, but we practically mean a few countries of interest, which include South Africa, and the neighboring smaller countries, like Botswana and Namibia. On the eastern side, it would be Kenya, Ethiopia, Uganda, maybe Rwanda. Western side: Nigeria, Ghana and Ivory Coast. The thing is to focus and try to make more development with less resources and find, through development interactions, a common ground, which can be sustainable and ongoing and would also be an enabler for private economic activity.

What are the specific focus areas where Israel can make an impact in Africa's development?

Israel can make an impact on several fronts, which correspond with our strengths.

Interestingly enough, the foundations of the Israeli high-tech industry, or government support for high-tech industry, were established with a World Bank loan back in the [19]70s. It's an interesting fact. The World Bank lent to the Israeli Ministry of Industry to launch and to support the newly born high-tech community, and that led to different programs that created the startup nation. So the development finance ecosystems [can] take much of the credit of Israel's emergence as a high-tech hub.

Now we think we are very well-positioned to lead the way of development partners in the areas of water security and water management, agriculture and food security, IT, financial IT, as well as cybersecurity — which wasn't really a development issue until a year or two ago. Israel is definitely at the forefront of cybersecurity, creating cyber resilience, regulating cyber so we can definitely take the lead on both the technological aspect, as well as the technical and administrative aspects.

Since Israel is not prepared to be a large development donor, how has the ministry selected these sectors in relation to the financial resources available?

As a small donor, we are constantly in dialogue with the development institutions. We offer our technological strength and we take into consideration their major interests. [We] closely look at what we're good at, but at the same time responding to clear and defined needs of a financial institution and a recipient country. This is one of the key factors of our strategy.

It's not enough to look at what we're good at. We need to look at that in the prism or perspective of what is actually needed.

As the country's development finance strategist, what are some of the challenges you face in your role?

There are challenges facing outward and there are internal or domestic challenges.

When it comes to external challenges, one is definitely the fact that we are a small donor, because the system is not tailored to small donors. More often than not, when you approach a development finance institution or a fund and you say you are willing to contribute $1 million or $2 million, it is very hard to find an appropriate mechanism. The system is geared toward much larger donors.

It's understandable given the cost-benefit issues and the procedures required to facilitate a loan. However, if we look into the future, the world is changing and there is a need of the whole ecosystem to look at and identify the virtues of small donors that are not necessarily financial. Some of those riches can be technological, can be innovation, or a country well-known for its great business models or quick adaptation, or culture that has the ability to create partnerships, for example.

Another challenge is introducing innovation. Most development institutions and funds and foundations are required to present clear outcomes, and they are risk averse. They are scared to take risks, and that, in itself, is creating a barrier to innovation. You can always go back to the traditional solutions that have been tried and achieve this or that level of success. It's very human to go with what you know best when you need to deliver.

I think stakeholders need to look at ways to integrate innovation — either in technological innovation, or in business model, or in the way processes are done — to accommodate new partners and maybe achieve better results.

But for this, humanitarian organizations are not the key player. When people are dying, I'm not sure this is the right time to introduce a new solution that has never been tried. I'm not saying that innovation needs to be everywhere, anywhere, at any time. But there is a lot of development work done that can encourage trying something new, whether in preparation and processes, as well as implementation. (DEV 28-06-2017)

ENI GROUP HIRES GE OIL & GAS FOR NATURAL GAS PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE

GE Oil & Gas, a subsidiary of US group General Electric, has entered into a multi-year contract with ENI East Africa, a subsidiary of Italian group ENI, for the supply of natural gas extraction solutions and equipment in northern Mozambique, the GE group said in a statement.

This contract focuses on the Coral Sul FLNG project and represents the first phase of the development plans developed by ENI East Africa to explore the natural gas deposits in the Rovuma Basin Area 4 block.

The agreement reached between the parties covers future projects and includes a separate contract valid for five years for the maintenance of the undersea infrastructure, plus an option of another five years and five three-year extensions.

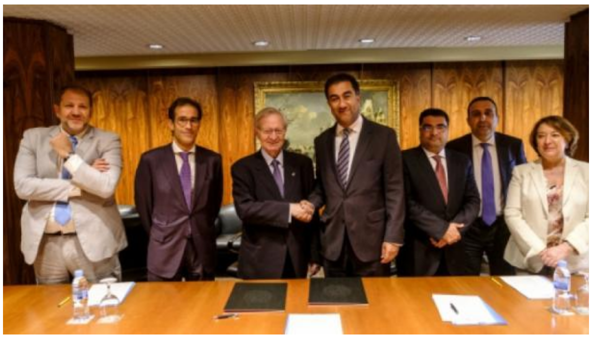
The Coral Sul FLNG project involves a floating platform with an annual processing capacity of 3.4 million tonnes of natural gas, powered by six subsea wells that are expected to produce up to 5.0 trillion cubic feet of gas, with the start of operations scheduled for mid-2022.

The GE group said this is Mozambique's first deepwater natural gas extraction project, "which should provide economic benefits through the creation of jobs and energy production that the region needs."

ENI East Africa is the operator of the Area 4 block, with a 70% stake and its current shareholders are ENI with 71.43% and China National Petroleum Corporation with the remaining 28.57%.

The ENI group recently agreed with the ExxonMobil Group to sell half of its stake in ENI East Africa, and the deal is still pending approval from several regulators in Mozambique and abroad. (29-06-2017)

MEDAWEEK BARCELONA 2017: ASCAME AND UFM JOIN FORCES TO ADVANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



Two thousand businesspeople from the Mediterranean region are expected to take part in the Mediterranean Week of Economic Leaders (MedaWeek), which will be held in Barcelona on 22-24 November 2017, after the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) and the Association of the Mediterranean Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASCAME) signed a partnership agreement to consolidate the UfM's position as strategic institutional partner the event.

ASCAME and the UfM, both headquartered in Barcelona, have undertaken important initiatives and projects in the last few years to contribute to the region's economic development and integration, the promotion of public-private initiatives by the private sector to facilitate the flow of investments, and the increase of the Euro-Mediterranean region's appeal in attracting investment in general.

Ten years following its launch as the annual platform for the Mediterranean economy, MedaWeek will this year address challenges such as the restructuring of traditional industries and the diversification of economic activity, the attraction of major foreign investment and the intensification of cooperation between all the region's countries. (ASCAME 29-06-2017)

ASCAME website

MOZAMBIQUE AND PORTUGAL COOPERATE IN MARITIME TRANSPORT AND PORTS

A memorandum of understanding in the field of maritime transport and ports, focused on investments and strengthening bilateral relations, was signed on Tuesday in the Portuguese city of Matosinhos as part of a visit to Portugal by the Mozambican Minister of Transport and Communications of Mozambique, Carlos Fortes Mesquita.

The document was signed in Matosinhos, in the district of Porto, after a visit to the port of Leixões, Portuguese news agency Lusa reported, adding that Portugal was represented by the Minister of the Sea, Ana Paula Vitorino.

Carlos Fortes Mesquita pointed out that Mozambique "has an extremely strategic geographic position" for transportation and logistics, particularly in countries such as Zimbabwe, Malawi, Zambia, Congo and northeastern South Africa.

The Portuguese minister said that this memorandum could have practical application in areas such as training and sharing of technological solutions, such as the single port window, the single logistics window and the coastal maritime traffic system (VTS).

The meeting in the port of Leixões, which is managed by the APDL – Administração dos Portos do Douro, Leixões e Viana do Castelo, included a visit to the Ship Coordination Centre, port terminals and logistics platform, as well as the Cruise Terminal, which was inaugurated in July 2015. (29-06-2017)

ALGERIA: CREATIVE MEDITERRANEAN SUPPORT FOR JEWELLERY ART CENTRE IN BATNA

The EU-funded Creative Mediterranean programme signed an agreement with the Chamber of Handicraft of Batna in Algeria for the opening of centre of jewellery art in the second half of 2017.

The centre will be converted by the Chamber of Handicraft of Batna, with a financial contribution from Creative Mediterranean for jewellery production material. The premises will offer different working areas.

Training, conference and lectures, exhibition rooms will be available, as well as technical spaces such as drawing and foundry rooms will be offered to the jewellery craftsmen of the region.

The centre will act like a creative hub, offering craftsmen the possibility to share equipment and knowledge, work together to develop new creative products, and benefit from training, in line with Creative Mediterranean methodology.

The **Creative Mediterranean** project (Development of Clusters in Cultural and Creative Industries in the Southern Mediterranean) is implemented in the framework of the Private sector Development in the Southern Mediterranean Programme, and aims to foster entrepreneurial co-operation in the cultural and creative industry notably through the promotion of promising pilot initiatives demonstrating contribution to inclusive growth. (EEAS 29-06-2017)

Creative Mediterranean – website and Facebook page

ITALIANS INVEST IN SHIP REPAIR AND CANNED FISH IN ANGOLA

A group of Italian business people plan to invest in the construction of a shipyard for assembly and repair of fishing vessels in the municipality of Soyo, in Angola's Zaire province, the director of Italian company Ac Enterprises said on Wednesday in the city.

Orazio Omata also told Angolan news agency Angop news that the investment will be made in partnership with the Angolan company Pele Angola.

Omata said that a shipyard is a project of major importance, as it makes it possible to assemble and repair fishing vessels to operate in the region and the re-launch of the fishing sector in the province.

Alongside the shipyard the company plans in August to start building a factory to process fish in the city's industrial hub.

The project, a partnership between Italian and national business owners, will be implemented in an area of 5,000 square metres, and materials for its construction, as well as equipment, will arrive in Soyo later this month from Italy.

Pele Angola's director, Joaquim Alberto, said that the cannery should start supplying the domestic market with fish fillets by February 2018, "after which we will start thinking about exporting the product."(29-06-2017)

WHY MINING CODE REFORM IS LONG OVERDUE IN THE DRC

The government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) recently announced plans to reintroduce the shelved changes to the country's mining code.

The current mining code, introduced in 2002, was based on a draft prepared under the auspices of the World Bank. Its primary objective was to relaunch the industrial mining sector following the Congo wars of 1996 to 2003 by opening it up to foreign investors. While it has been successful in achieving this goal, the benefits to Congolese people are more difficult to discern.

Today the DRC is Africa's largest copper producer and the world's largest cobalt producer. Its mining sector contributes 22% of GDP and 28% of government revenue. Yet the most recent Human Development Report ranks the DRC 176 out of 188 countries, with a life expectancy of 59 years and 77% of the population living below the income poverty line.

The latest round of changes were originally submitted to Parliament in March 2015, but the amendment process was suspended due to collapsed commodity prices and fierce industry opposition.

It is now back on the agenda. As in the past a major debate will ensue between the Congolese government, civil society and the DRC mining industry. The strongest opposition to the proposed changes comes from the large multinational mining corporations, who argue that increasing taxes will hold back the sector's potential.

However, a review of the major tax changes reveals them to align with regional standards. The DRC's high operating costs are offset by the equally high quality of its mineral deposits, and the current tax rate exerted over the sector is low. In addition, reviving the reform process presents an opportunity to address a number of concerns related to transparency and local development.

Debunking industry myths In the past, propositions that provoked the most debate were those that tried to reduce the tax advantages enjoyed by mining companies. The most important proposed tax changes to the DRC's mining code are increasing taxes on profits from 30% to 35%; increasing the government's stake in new mining projects from 5% to 10%, and increasing royalties from 2% to 3.5% for copper and cobalt.

When compared to mining tax regimes in other African countries, the proposed changes do not place the DRC outside of the norm. Most African countries demand a 10% government stake in mining projects. The proposed copper royalty tax is also within the range imposed by many governments in the region, such as Zambia (6%), Ghana (5%) and Tanzania (4%).

Likewise, the DRC's proposed profit tax is within the range of other countries, though it sits at the top end. Both Cameroon and Ghana impose the same 35% profit tax as the DRC is considering.

But the mining industry's response to these comparisons is twofold. They say the DRC provides an extremely challenging operational environment, with exceptionally high transport and power costs. And they say what matters is not individual tax rates, but the overall tax burden (including both formal and informal taxes).

Both points are questionable.

A report published last year by the Natural Resource Governance Institute — which works with governments on natural resource management — shows the DRC's production costs to be extremely favourable compared to regional competitors. In 2013 the average production cost of copper in the DRC was $3,672 per tonne. This same cost was $4,582 in Zambia and $4,931 in SA.

High-quality Congolese mineral deposits appear to offset high operational expenses to generate low production costs (and therefore high profits). Indeed, last year the research firm BMI reported that the DRC will remain a "destination of choice" for mining investors in the coming years due to its low production costs and high quality minerals.

The concern about the overall tax rate as opposed to individual tax changes is entirely legitimate. Yet the few nonindustry studies that exist suggest this overall rate to be extremely low. Research by professors Stefaan Marysse and Claudine Tshimanga — prominent political economists working on the DRC — revealed a tax rate of 21% for one of the country's largest copper mines, well below the World Bank's recommended 46% tax rate for the country.

Similarly, a recent fiscal study conducted by the German Society for International Co-operation found that between 2011 and 2014, total state revenue collected by the mining sector amounted to a mere 6% of total mining-sector revenue for the same period.

What's been left out Yet there's a danger that the heated debates about tax rates and royalties will drown out the urgency of addressing other big issues, many of which have been left out of the draft revision. Global Witness — a nonprofit organisation focused on the links between natural resource exploitation, conflict and poverty — has been calling attention to these omissions. These include the removal of "crucial regulations banning politicians and senior army figures from owning mining rights", an opaque tender process and insufficient beneficial ownership disclosure requirements.

In addition, many mining companies have signed "conventions" with the DRC government that exist outside of the tax and legal structure established by the country's mining code. There's no provision within the current draft to address this loophole.

Lastly, for a number of years Congolese civil society has been pushing hard for improvements to the code on environmental and local development issues. For example, existing policy provides little guidance on critical issues such as forced displacement. Only three of the mining code's 344 articles refer to the relationship between title holders and people living in title holders' concessions.

Time to seize the opportunity The DRC's mining code is 15 years old. Extremely advantageous fiscal incentives were included back in 2002 to attract foreign investors to the country. Yet they have minimised the benefits of increased mining production to the Congolese government and people. The proposed tax changes bring the DRC up to date with today's regional standards and should be supported.

But when the DRC's parliament reopens in September, its members would do well to incorporate civil society concerns on key transparency, environmental and local development issues. Fail to do so, and Congolese people — particularly those directly affected by mining projects — will be locked into another decade or more of inadequate mining legislation. Change is long overdue, and the opportunity must not be missed. (BD 29-06-2017)

BLACK TEA PRODUCTION IN KENYA TO RISE 20% BY 2020

Kenya, the world's biggest exporter of black tea, expects production of the leaves to rise about 20% by the end of the decade, as farmers harvest from new bushes, according to the industry regulator.

Output is projected to jump to 500,000 tonnes in 2020 from a projected 412,000 tonnes in 2017, after a drought damaged plants in most growing areas, said Samuel Ogola, head of the Tea Directorate. Most regions in Kenya received below 75% of their seasonal long-term average between March and May, according to the nation's meteorological department.

"There is a lot of replanting of tea by farmers, which could see us hitting 500-million in no time, most probably by 2020," Ogola said Tuesday in an interview in the capital, Nairobi. Farmers have been replacing old bushes with higher-yielding clones, he said.

Tea is Kenya's second-biggest source of foreign-currency earnings after remittances from citizens living abroad. The East African nation ranks as the world's third-largest producer of the leaves, behind India and China, and hosts the biggest auction of the crop, in the port city of Mombasa. Unlike India and China, it doesn't consume most of its output. Production is expected to decline from 2016 because of the worst drought in three decades, which has curbed farm output.

The nation grew a record 473,000 tonnes in 2016, which earned the country 120-billion shillings ($1.16bn) of export revenue.

To encourage more production, the Kenyan government is facilitating the participation of small processing and packaging companies at international trade shows, Ogola said. Ten such companies have been licensed and three are already processing and shipping to customers overseas.

Last year, 30 small-and-medium-sized enterprises exported 50,000 tonnes of tea, about 10% of overall shipments, according to the Tea Directorate. Most Kenyan exports are handled for multinational companies such as Unilever through the Mombasa auction. The company, known for its Lipton brand, is also one of the nation's biggest growers.

A fifth of the companies trading at the Mombasa auction, mainly multinationals, account for 80% of the business, according to Edward Mudibo, MD of the East African Tea Traders Association. The average price at the weekly sale increased by almost a quarter to $2.85 per kilogram at the latest sale, compared with a year ago.

The nation's Export Promotion Council is "aggressively promoting" tea, alongside agro-processing, flowers, leather and textiles to boost exports. Kenya needs to increase shipments by 14% annually to help halve its trade deficit by 2030, according to CEO Peter Biwott. (Bloomberg 28-06-2017)

KENYA BECOMES FIRST COUNTRY TO DEBUT GENERIC HIV DRUG

A new generic version of a frontline antiretroviral drug launches in Kenya today, the first time that HIV patients will have access to the more affordable version of the treatment.

Dolutegravir, or DTG, will be available to patients through a partnership between the Kenyan Ministry of Health and Geneva-based Unitaid. DTG has been the preferred first-line treatment in the United States and Canada since 2014, a year after it came onto the market.
Although some patients on the continent have accessed the more expensive version, the affordability of the generic DTG will be a "game changer" in the treatment of HIV/AIDS, said Robert Matiru, Unitaid director of operations.
Prior to the current introduction, Kenyan patients paid $50-$60 for a 30-day supply pack. This generic version costs about $4 a pack.
"It's one thing to be able to buy the more expensive version, it's another thing to be able to bring medicines in a version that is affordable to multiple countries and governments, which means it can go further and it'll represent savings for the governments and to the patients," he told Devex.
The generic DTG launch is part of a $34-million Optimal ARV project — backed by Unitaid and the Clinton Health Access Initiative — aimed at accelerating access to affordable antiretroviral treatments across 11 countries, including Cambodia, Malawi and South Africa. Unitaid investments aim to catalyze access to quick, affordable and better health products in tuberculosis, malaria and HIV/AIDS.
This three-year investment will connect countries with the latest treatments and initiate patients on optimized therapy. The program will also give countries the needed time to gain experience, conduct enhanced monitoring and derive lessons in preparation for national scale-up.
Globally, there are more than 36 million people living with HIV, of which roughly half are untreated. WHO estimates that by expanding the use of antiretroviral therapy, almost 600,000 deaths can be averted per year by 2020.
Scaling up HIV treatment in low- and middle-income countries has been a major health success over the past 15 years. However, ensuring that more people living with HIV have access to medicine is crucial to ending the AIDS epidemic by 2030.

Current drug of choice for HIV patients

DTG was approved for use in 2013 in the United States and Canada, and was adopted the following year by the European Commission as a first-line drug. Since 2015, the World Health Organization has also recommended DTG as the alternative first-line treatment. Last year, Botswana became the first African country to purchase DTG.
DTG has been recognized as the optimal treatment in recent years because of its superior efficacy: providing better treatment outcomes to patients taking them, fewer side effects and higher barrier resistance, meaning the HIV virus is less able to develop resistance. If resistance to HIV medicine builds, a patient must be switched to second- or third-line treatments that can cost up to 10 times more.
The generic DTG will be offered through a "catalytic procurement" process that will initially work with public health facilities, prioritizing patients intolerant of the current first-line treatment, Efavirenz. Other considerations will also be made for needle-injecting drug users.
Dr. Martin Sirengo, head of the Kenya's National AIDS and STI Programme, said he expects to see better adherence rates when patients take DTG.
"It's an important drug for us, because it's a molecule with lesser side effects, a faster rate of suppressing the HIV virus, and a better profile in terms of interactions with other drugs, so that gives us many options of treating people who live with HIV," he explained.
Over the next six months, Kenyan health officials will have an opportunity to address large-scale rollout plans, discuss how health care providers can access the medicine, and prepare distribution channels before prescribing significantly higher volumes next year.
Because it is better tolerated and has a higher barrier resistance, DTG offers resource-constrained governments and programs a less risky product to administer, particularly in environments where monitoring doesn't take place as necessary.
"One of the most important things you have to do when you have patients on treatment is to monitor them to see how they are responding, if they have any side effects, or if they need to be switched potentially to another treatment," Matiru said.
Twenty-seven thousand people are expected to benefit from Unitaid-sponsored DTG treatments. Similar programs will roll out in Nigeria and Uganda later this year; medicines have already been delivered.

Precursor to the one-daily regiment

The DTG roll-out is an example of how Unitaid, a catalytic investment fund, serves as a "bridge to scale" partner: They introduce better preventive tools, better diagnostics and better treatments in countries,

then leverage support from scale-up partners, such as the Global Fund and the PEPFAR, to further expand projects.
According to Matiru, these initial DTG programs are priming markets for a single, fixed-dose pill that would include three drugs in one, including DTG.
“We’re looking forward to learning lessons with the pilot, but more importantly, we’re looking forward to the manufacturing companies giving [DTG] to us in fixed-dose combinations so that patients can have the benefit of just taking one tablet per day,” Sirengo said.
Getting to a one-daily regimen is the “holy grail” in antiretroviral treatment, Matiru told Devex. This pill should be available sometime next year. (Dev 28-06-2017)

TRAVEL BAN A BLOW TO SUDAN REFUGEES AWAITING US RESETTLEMENT

Sudanese activist Tayeb Ibrahim, who had worked to expose Sudanese abuses in the volatile South Kordofan province and hopes to see family living in the U.S. state of Iowa, is hugged by his son Mohammed during an interview with The Associated Press in Cairo, Egypt, Wednesday, June 28, 2017. Dozens of Sudanese activists living in Egypt as refugees, many of whom fled fundamentalist Islamic militias and were close to approval for resettlement in the United States, now face legal limbo in Egypt after the Supreme Court partially reinstated President Donald Trump's travel ban.
Dozens of Sudanese activists living in Egypt as refugees, many of whom fled fundamentalist Islamic militias and were close to approval for resettlement in the United States, now face legal limbo after the Supreme Court partially reinstated President Donald Trump's travel ban on six Muslim nations, including Sudan.
Many said they are not safe in Egypt because Sudanese agents operating in the country under tacit Egyptian approval regularly threaten them and their families, sometimes targeting them with violence.
Tayeb Ibrahim, who has worked to expose Sudanese government abuses in areas it controls in the country's volatile South Kordofan province, was partially blinded after being attacked with acid by Sudanese government agents, and narrowly escaped being brought back to Sudan after being kidnapped in Egypt.
"I'm totally depressed. I was approved over a year ago for resettlement, just passed my medical exam last week and was hoping to see family living in Iowa. But instead I'll be stuck here worried about my physical safety," said the 40-year-old Ibrahim, who like many Sudanese refugees has no travel documents and thus cannot leave Egypt.
Sudanese living in Egypt regularly complain of discrimination and harassment, while pro-democracy rights activists and opponents of Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir's regime say they face abuses by both Sudanese and Egyptian security forces.
Rights groups have in the past documented cases where pro-democracy activists have been targeted by Sudanese secret police with violence, including rape. Egypt has denied any involvement in such targeted abuse.
There are officially some 36,000 Sudanese with refugee status in Egypt, most former residents of Sudan's Darfur region who fled government-sponsored Islamic and tribal Janjaweed militias in a

separatist conflict that was front-page news a decade ago but has now been eclipsed by other regional crises in Syria and Iraq.

"It's like having our own little Islamic State group in Sudan, sponsored by the government, who has been persecuting us for years," said Awad, a 33-year-old Sudanese women's rights activist who has lived in Cairo since 2012. During that time, she said she has been the victim of burglaries and an attack by Sudanese men on a motorbike. Like others interviewed, she declined to give her last name out of fears for her safety.

Sudan's Darfur region has seen violent conflict since 2003, when ethnic Africans rebelled against the Arab-dominated Sudanese government in the capital, Khartoum, accusing it of discrimination and neglect. The United Nations estimates 300,000 people have died in the conflict and some 2.7 million have fled their homes.

Al-Bashir, who rose to power in 1989, is on the International Criminal Court's wanted list for committing crimes against humanity, war crimes and genocide in Darfur. The ICC has issued two warrants for al-Bashir's arrest, in March 2009 and July 2010.

Sudan has been under U.S. financial sanctions since the 1990s after it was designated a "state sponsor of terrorism." But a week before leaving office, President Barack Obama eased some sanctions on Sudan citing positive actions by the government, including a reduction in offensive military activity and cooperating with the U.S. to address regional conflict and the threat of terrorism.

Later, the Trump administration singled out Sudan as one of six Muslim majority countries whose citizens were banned from immigrating to the U.S.

Activists awaiting resettlement in the U.S. say it's unfair to punish victims of al-Bashir's government, which has pushed for an ultraconservative interpretation of Islam and actively supported religiously inspired fighters to attack his opponents.

"We're the victims but we are paying the price of perpetrators," said Basham, a 36-year-old former mechanical engineering student who said he left Sudan in 2002 after being tortured for organizing information sessions at his university about abuses in South Kordofan and working as a translator for human rights groups. He said he was selected for resettlement to the U.S. in 2016.

Awad said she has been vetted for three years by U.S. and U.N. officials, and had hoped to be approved for resettlement in Kansas or Minnesota, states with large Sudanese communities.

The U.S. Embassy in Cairo declined to comment on the cases, as did the U.N.'s International Organization for Migration, which manages the vetting process. The U.S. State Department has said it would provide additional details on how the ban would affect migration "after consultation with the Departments of Justice and Homeland Security."

Sudan's government has at times given Cairo a green light to crack down on its opponents, while complaining at other times about mistreatment of its citizens in Egypt, depending on the political winds of the day. Lately it has been engaged in a trade dispute with Egypt over its banning of some Egyptian agricultural products, while Cairo pressures it over links with its nemesis, the Gulf monarchy of Qatar.

Meanwhile, rights groups, including U.S.-based Human Rights Watch, say Washington should reevaluate its moves to lift sanctions on Sudan and insist certain criteria be met first, such as outlawing punishments like stoning, as well as dress code bans and official discrimination against women and girls.

Haram, a 48-year-old former teacher, who said she was arrested, raped and tortured in Sudan for collecting food and clothes for displaced people in Khartoum, has been waiting for four years for resettlement approval for herself and her five children in New York, where she has relatives.

"As a mother I'm so disappointed. I can barely provide for my children because I can only work as a maid, and besides that, there's racism and harassment," said Haram, who like others with refugee status is banned from working in Egypt.

Awad noted the irony of Trump's travel ban: while it seeks to protect America against Islamic extremists, in the case of Sudanese in Egypt, it was punishing the victims, people still threatened by their government here.

"People have to understand, I fear for my life in this country," she said. "It's horrible to be so close to freedom and suddenly told you have to stay for an unknown time." (ABC News 29-06-2017)

NEW EU AID PLAN RISKS HANDING BILLIONS TO PRIVATE COMPANIES AT EXPENSE OF THE POOREST, DESPITE SAFEGUARDS

Proposals to regulate a new multi-billion euro EU fund aimed at driving more private investment in development have just [June 28] been agreed by the European Parliament, Member States and the European Commission. But campaigners say although the proposed safeguards in the External Investment Plan are a step in the right direction, there is a risk that billions of euros of tax payers' money will benefit big multinational corporations at the expense of the people in poverty that it is meant to support.

Positive aspects of the proposals include references to decent jobs, gender equality, human rights, climate change, development effectiveness principles and better provisions to enhance transparency and accountability. But European companies may end up gaining undue influence and subsidies from the plan while developing countries are not given a say.

The EC claims the wealth generated by investment will trickle down to poorer people in developing countries, but there are fears of a renewed and controversial push to channel aid to private investors, running the risk of diverting scarce public resources.

María José Romero, Policy and Advocacy Manager at Eurodad, the European Network on Debt and Development, said,

"We worked closely with the Parliament to influence the new regulations, and we appreciate that some of our concerns have been taken on board.

"Unfortunately the drive by the EU to establish this without any effective say over the use of funds by those countries or the poor people who will be affected by the fund is enormously worrying. This fund risks becoming a mechanism more focused on subsidising European multinationals than helping developing countries."

"We are also concerned that the fund continues to focus on using aid to leverage private finance, despite the lack of evidence that works effectively. And there's no clear mechanism to ensure that selected projects will deliver sustainable development outcomes," said Romero.

Oxfam's EU development policy adviser Hilary Jeune said:

"The Parliament has fought hard to ensure the External Investment Plan supports sustainable development. However, the new EU plan's focus on migration could risk diverting aid away from poverty eradication. Development cooperation must focus on the actual needs of people, not on stopping them from moving.

"When development money is used to subsidise private investors, European companies are actually more likely to profit than are the domestic businesses who contribute most to poverty alleviation."

A coalition of civil society groups welcome the Parliament's insistence that projects funded by the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) must not contribute to tax avoidance. However, to succeed, new regulations should require companies that receive EFSD money to publish information about who their real owners are and to release their public country-by-country reporting.

Notes to editors:

- The plans for channelling aid money for Africa and the European neighbourhood region through the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) - the financial part of the European External Investment Plan - are expected to be confirmed in a Parliament vote next week.
- The EFSD will “blend” public and private finance to offset the risk to firms investing in developing countries. According to the European Commission, it will mobilise up to €44bn - and possibly double that if Member States agree to contribute.
- Other concerns highlighted by civil society include the lack of agreement on a centralised grievance mechanism for people and communities negatively affected by projects.

(Eurodad 28-06-2017)

INADEQUATE TECHNOLOGY HAMPERS RENEWABLE ENERGY IN ZIMBABWE

Minister says inadequate technology is hampering renewable energy in Zimbabwe.
Zimbabwe has the capacity to produce 1,600MW of electricity from renewable energy resources by 2030. This is according to the energy minister Samuel Undenge. He said that the country however, lacks the technology to exploit its resources.
The Minister said Zimbabwe is rich in numerous renewable energy resources and if well harnessed can supply 10,000GWh of energy every year.
Speaking at a recently held workshop on renewable energy, the minister said that he highly recognizes renewable energy.
He emphasized that Zimbabwe needs to embrace renewable energy technologies as key resources for addressing universal energy access as well as an important energy supply option whereby more than half of its population does not have access to electricity.
“On average, 60% of Zimbabwean population is still not connected to the national electricity grid,” he said.
The energy secretary Patson Mbiriri on the other hand said Zimbabwe’s current hydro electricity and thermal supply is not sufficient to meet the whole country’s electricity demand.
According to him, renewable energy sources including, biomass, solar, wind and biogas are capable of mitigating the country’s energy insufficiency and offer a solution to the challenges brought about by the use of fossil fuels.
Last year, Zimbabwe presented a per capita greenhouse gas energy emission reduction target of 33% by 2030. This is a part of its pledge to reduce its carbon footprint.
The climate experts however advised the country to adopt renewable energy technologies so as to realize this goal.
The former minister of energy and power development, Victor Kandoro as at 2016, said that the ministry of energy and power development was developing a renewable energy policy which seeks to accelerate the adoption of renewable energy technologies in both rural and urban areas.
Any barriers to the adoption of the technologies would be addressed in the policy framework.(CRO 28-06-2017)

ENI LAUNCHES CORAL SOUTH PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE

The President of the Republic of Mozambique Filipe Nyusi, the Minister of Mineral Resources Leticia Klemens, and Eni CEO Claudio Descalzi, participated today in the launch of the Coral South LNG project implementation phase.
Managers from the partner companies were also in attendance, including CNPC’s Wang Yilin, Galp’s Carlos Gomes da Silva, Kogas’ Seunghoon Lee and ENH’s Omar Mitha.
During the ceremony all the drilling, construction and installation contracts for the production facilities were signed, as well as agreements with the Mozambican government for the regulatory framework and financing of the project.

Coral South is the first project in the development of the considerable gas resources discovered by Eni in Area 4 of the Rovuma Basin.
This achievement comes just three years since the drilling of the final exploration well in a country that is a newcomer to the global gas market.
Despite the challenging price environment in the last few years, the launch of this project is testament to the quality of the assets in place and to Eni's technological leadership in the development of deep-water gas fields.
The Floating Liquefied Natural Gas (FLNG) unit, a symbol of engineering expertise, will have a capacity of around 3.4 MTPA (million tons per year) and will be the first FLNG in Africa and only the third globally.
The FLNG facilities construction will be financed through Project Finance covering around 60% of its entire cost. This is the first Project Finance ever arranged in the world for a liquefaction floater. The financing agreement has been subscribed by 15 major international banks and guaranteed by 5 Export Credit Agencies.
Eni CEO Claudio Descalzi commented: "As the world transitions to a low-carbon energy mix, Eni believes that the use of gas is critical to achieving a more sustainable future. Our ambition to become a global integrated gas and LNG player is based on working alongside key partners such as Mozambique. The Coral South Project will deliver a reliable source of energy while contributing to Mozambique's economic development. This partnership approach with our hosting countries is the foundation on which our joint sustainable growth strategy is built."
The Coral field, discovered in May 2012, is located within Area 4 and contains approximately 450 billion cubic meters (16 TCF) of gas in place. In October 2016, Eni and its Area 4 partners signed an agreement with BP for the sale of the entire volumes of LNG produced by the Coral South project for a period of over twenty years.
Eni is the operator of Area 4, through its participation in Eni East Africa (EEA), which holds a 70% participating interest in the concession while Portugal's Galp Energia, South Korea's Kogas and Mozambique's Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH), each hold 10% stake.
Eni holds 71.4% shares of Eni East Africa with China's CNPC holding 28.6%. In March 2017 Eni signed an agreement to sell 50% of its shares in EEA to ExxonMobil, which will be completed subject to satisfaction of a number of conditions precedent, including clearance from Mozambican and other regulatory authorities.
In the province of Cabo Delgado and in Maputo Eni has engaged in a vast program of activities to the benefit of the population, including access to energy, access to water, health and sanitation, and education and training activities.
The Coral South LNG project, for its size, quality of resources and geographical position, will transform Mozambique's economy and is a further significant achievement for Eni operatorship capabilities.(CRO 26-06-2017)

EKO ATLANTIC HOTELS TO OPEN IN NEW NIGERIAN CITY

A new swathe of reclaimed land from the Atlantic Ocean and close to Victoria Island in Lagos, Nigeria, will be home to a series of new hotels that will form part of the Eko Atlantic development.
Billed as the "new economic capital of Africa", Eko Atlantic will contribute 10 million square meters of new residential, commercial, retail and recreational space to the Nigerian capital. The new-build city will rival similar cities such as Dubai and Abu-Dhabi, and will be one of the most vibrant and desirable locations in East Africa.
Structurally sound and sustainably engineered, a bounding wall, known as the Great Wall of Lagos, will separate the new city from the sea beyond, and a 24/7 power supply will facilitate all of the residents' needs around the clock.
As part of the new development, accommodation for over 400,000 residents will be provided as part of the residential side of the project. Offering additional housing for dwellers in Nigeria's capital city, which is currently suffering from a housing shortage, a mix of short and long term apartments, houses and condos will be available across a broad pricing spectrum, making potential residents a priority for the new island.

The Marina District will not only provide business opportunities and commercial spaces, but also residences and hotels. A number of new hotels are planned within the scheme, including a 500-key new-build 4 star hotel and resort that will feature a wellness centre and business and conference facilities. Residences and hotels will be situated on the Azuri Peninsula overlooking the marina and benefiting from idyllic views across the waterfront and cultivating a world of “effortlessly luxurious living”. The first of these hotels and residences are set to open this year.

Eko Atlantic Hotels

Eko Atlantic is a dynamic new city that will rise from the Atlantic Ocean, adjacent to Victoria Island in Lagos, Nigeria the biggest and fastest growing city in West Africa. It will be built on land that is being reclaimed from the sea, and is now for sale. Eko Atlantic will become home to at least 250,000 residents, with commuter volume expected to exceed 150,000 people daily. (HOSPITALITY NET 27-06-2017)

The Memorandum is supported by the ACP-African, Caribbean, Pacific Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce Tenerife, AHEAD-GLOBAL, Corporate Council on Africa, ELO - Portuguese Association for Economic Development and Cooperation, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce and Development, HTTC - Hungarian Trade & Cultural Centre, NABC- Netherlands Africa Business Council, SwissCham-Africa and other organisations.

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

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IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- There will be **no on-site registration** in Lomé. Due to security reasons, if you are not registered, you will not be allowed access to the venue.
- African attendees have the **option to pay registration fees at Ecobank**.
    - If you are paying via Ecobank, select the "Pay Later" option on the registration page. Please follow the instructions we will then send following your registration via email. Please note, **your registration is not confirmed until CCA confirms your payment.**
- **Capacity is limited** and registration will close once we reach the limit.

All Participants should register through the button below by Friday, July 28, 2017.

REGISTER

Please contact Mr. Remy Moevi, Vice President, Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Togo, at r.moevi@ccit.tg, with any questions regarding exhibition opportunities.

For more information, please contact Patricia Sheikh at psheikh@corporatecouncilonafrica.com or Biova Kabine at bkabine@corporatecouncilonafrica.com

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