

MEMORANDUM

N° 123/2017 | 19/07/2017

More than 1,811 Daily Memoranda issued from 2006 to end of 2016, with 21,732 pages of Business Clips issued covering all African, European Institutions and African Union, as well as the Breton Woods Institutions. The subscription is free of charge, and sponsored by various Development Organisations and Corporations.

The Memorandum is issued daily, with the sole purpose to provide updated basic business and economic information on Africa, to more than 4,000 European Companies, as well as their business parties in Africa.

Should a reader require a copy of the Memoranda, please address the request to fernando.matos.rosa@sapo or fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be.

Daily news of Africa, without comments, as they are published

SUMMARY

Aatack adverts raise the temperature in run-up to Kenya's elections	Page 2
Guangdong business mission visits Luanda, Angola, to study partnerships and business	Page 2
Energy revenue 'will aid restructuring of Mozambique debt'	Page 3
Chinese company builds waste recycling plant in Luanda, Angola	Page 4
Mobile money services proving ever popular and growing in much of Africa	Page 4
Angola invests us\$266 million in power system of laúca hydroelectric plant	Page 4
Angola wants to become a major world coffee producer	Page 5
Mozambique's economy grows 2.9% in the first quarter	Page 5
Mediterranean migration route: European Parliament looks for long-term solutions	Page 6
Sweden grants \$8.5M for maternal health care in Somalia	Page 6
Cabo Verde moves to create the Special Maritime Economic Zone in Portuguese-speaking countries	Page 7
Mediterranean New Chance: seeking to improve youth employability in the Mediterranean	Page 7
Alcohol cause of mental disorder among Maputo youth	Page 9
DR Congo's Inga 3 dam to double in size to 12GW	Page 9
IGAD adopts regional biodiversity protocol, strategies	Page 10
The Kenyan payment firm has continued southern Africa expansion with the acquisition of pay thru	Page 11
Tanzania to continue with hydroelectric project at Selous Game Reserve	Page 12
Dangote Cement to invest US\$4bn to increase productivity in Africa	Page 12

ATTACK ADVERTS RAISE THE TEMPERATURE IN RUN-UP TO KENYA'S ELECTIONS

A strikingly toxic campaign advert was unleashed online in Kenya just weeks before national elections — a potentially explosive move in a country where politics and ethnicity are closely aligned.

The 90-second video, shot in moody monochrome, presented a dystopia in which Raila Odinga, the leading opposition candidate, wins the August vote and plunges the nation into a violent and inept dictatorship.

Under this scenario, tribes would be set against one another while terrorists run riot. "Stop Raila, save Kenya. The future of Kenya is in your hands," the video said.

East Africa's largest economy holds its general election on August 8, a decade after disputed poll results fuelled violence that left more than 1,100 dead and hundreds of thousands displaced.

It is unclear who is behind last week's slick video or "The Real Raila", the shadowy pro-government outfit that disseminated it. But some on Kenya's vibrant social media networks were quick to blame Cambridge Analytica (CA), a company credited with using its data mining and psychological profiling techniques to help swing recent votes in the US and the UK.

In May, local media reported that President Uhuru Kenyatta's Jubilee campaign had hired CA. A spokesperson, Nick Fievet, declined to comment on CA's possible work in Kenya but said it had "no connection" with the attack video.

With 7.1-million Facebook users and an estimated two-thirds of Kenya's 45-million people able to access the internet, there is a critical mass of people leaving an increasingly detailed trail of information about their fears and preferences — a rich resource for those seeking to influence voting choices.

"Here it can lead to war," said John Githongo, a veteran anticorruption campaigner. "The wrong video, the wrong information, it can go out of control."

Githongo believes both government and opposition seek to use the new techniques, only the ruling party is more effective. "Jubilee has been way ahead from the very beginning."

CA worked on Kenyatta's last campaign in 2013 — devised by public relations company BTP Advisers — to paint Kenyatta and his running mate William Ruto as victims of a Western imperialist plot to try them at the International Criminal Court for politically motivated tribal violence.

"We made the election a choice about whether Kenyans would decide their own future or have it dictated to them by others," London-based BTP said in a statement. BTP is reportedly working with Kenyatta and Ruto again this year.

According to its website, CA "designed and implemented the largest political research project ever conducted in East Africa" ahead of the 2013 vote to hone a campaign based on voters' desires for jobs and fears of "tribal violence". It also "segmented the Kenyan population into key target audiences".

Now there are fears data will be swept up and used to create psychological profiles of voters so that specific messages can be tailored to specific voters.

Frederike Kalthener, a policy officer at data advocacy group Privacy International, is worried by the "lack of any kind of data protection framework" in Kenya.

"There are concerns about the integrity of data in Kenya. Who would have access to it? Who is storing it? Do people even know what is being collected about them? None of these questions are being answered," she said.

Others are concerned about what happens when you seek to segment a society for electoral purposes where already politicians' primary appeals are to their ethnic constituents.

"There are very strong communities in Kenya and that's exactly the kind of situation present where you can start to drive different conversations about the election in different subcommunities," said Paul-Olivier Dehaye, a Swiss mathematician and data activist who has studied CA's techniques.

"We've seen it with Brexit and the US election, and the same can be done in Kenya, or elsewhere that there's a lot of fragmentation already."

"Fake news", a term that dominates political discourse in the US, has already made itself felt in Kenya's election. Jeffrey Smith, executive director of the US-based Vanguard Africa, an organisation promoting free and fair elections, has been under attack since he invited Odinga to the US in March to meet policy makers.

Soon afterwards fake letters — complete with Vanguard's company header and Smith's forged signature — began to circulate on Kenyan social media purporting to reveal efforts to rig Kenya's election for Odinga. Smith then started suffering at the hands of trolls.

"At least once a week I'll wake up and have hundreds of Twitter notifications from accounts that are clearly bots and trolls tweeting in a coordinated manner, posting the same bogus and entirely false information over and over again," Smith said.

Data scientist Timothy Oriedo, founder of consulting company Vault Global, acknowledges the growing importance of the online battleground but says old-style tactics still play a key role.

"The old techniques of voter suppression, the normal things, will continue: ballot stuffing, gerrymandering," he added. (AFP 17-07-2017)

GUANGDONG BUSINESS MISSION VISITS LUANDA, ANGOLA, TO STUDY PARTNERSHIPS AND BUSINESS

A delegation from the Chinese province of Guangdong is in Luanda to strengthen cooperation with the province of Luanda in the automotive, electrical energy and agriculture sectors.

The Chinese mission, which includes members of the provincial government and business people, said Guangdong was willing to launch development projects based on public-private partnerships.

The delegation visited the Special Economic Zone of Viana, attended a presentation of the project of the new international airport of Luanda and travelled to Quiminha, in the municipality of Icolo and Bengo, where an agricultural development area is located.

The governor of Luanda province, Higino Carneiro, received the delegation from Guangdong and expressed readiness to study increased cooperation between the two provinces.

The head of the Chinese mission said a group of companies and business people from Guangdong are expected to travel to Angola to extend bilateral economic relations.

During the stay in Luanda, the Guangdong mission will also meet with representatives of the Angola-China Chamber of Commerce and the Luanda Chamber of Commerce. (19-07-2017)

ENERGY REVENUE 'WILL AID RESTRUCTURING OF MOZAMBIQUE DEBT'

IMF delegation arrives in Mozambique to follow up on a damning external audit into loans that were not cleared through parliament

The outlook for a restructuring of \$2bn of controversial borrowing by Mozambique state companies will be better in 2018 as the country receives more earnings from its energy resources, says a senior Mozambican diplomat.

An IMF delegation has arrived in Mozambique to follow up on a damning external audit into loans that were not cleared through parliament.

The discovery of the loans prompted the IMF and western donors to end budgetary support for Mozambique, leading to a collapse of its currency and defaults on its debt.

Creditors including Russian bank VTB and Credit Suisse, which arranged the controversial \$2bn loans, are waiting for restructuring to start.

"It is important we restructure Mozambique's debt to VTB. I think that next year, things will be different," said Mario Saraiva Ngwenya, Mozambique's ambassador to Russia.

"We have started to get some money from some oil and gas contracts," he said.

Mozambique has large natural gas reserves in which international energy firms have bought stakes. Earlier in 2017, Italy's Eni signed an \$8bn deal to develop a gas field off the coast of Mozambique.

VTB said on Thursday it was open to dialogue with Mozambican officials with the aim of reaching a settlement that met conditions imposed by the IMF for debt sustainability.

"We have proposed several different restructuring options to the government of Mozambique. Currently, the involved parties are waiting for the IMF debt sustainability assessment; this will allow for the restructuring talks to fully begin," VTB said.

Ngwenya said there had been preliminary talks between officials from Mozambique's finance ministry and VTB Capital, the investment-banking arm of VTB. (Reuters 14-07-2017)

CHINESE COMPANY BUILDS WASTE RECYCLING PLANT IN LUANDA, ANGOLA

The China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC) has been contracted by the Angolan government to build a solid waste recycling plant in Luanda for an investment of US\$195 million, according to official information.

The factory, when it goes into operation, will also generate power.

Under the strategic plan for waste management, the Angolan Environment Ministry and CHEC signed a memorandum for construction of landfill sites.

According to a report from Portuguese news agency Lusa, the government said the investment was required to build the Kilamba city landfill site – on the outskirts of Luanda – and “simultaneously respond to the problem of the capacity to treat waste produced in the city of Luanda every day.”

By 2020 the Angolan government plans to build landfill sites in all 18 provincial capitals, seven of which are in the execution phase. (19-07-2017)

MOBILE MONEY SERVICES PROVING EVER POPULAR AND GROWING IN MUCH OF AFRICA

Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for more than half of all mobile money services worldwide, with 140 active products across the region, according to a report on Wednesday by mobile phone operators organisation GSMA.

The adoption of mobile money in sub-Saharan Africa has grown significantly over the past 10 years as it gives millions of people e-access to financial services for the first time.

GSMA director-general Mats Granryd said mobile operators in the region were using mobile money to create new financial ecosystems that could deliver a range of innovative new services across multiple industry sectors, including utilities and agriculture.

Mobile money platforms have evolved beyond money transfer to bill payments and international remittances, among other things. The volume of these new payments services almost quadrupled between 2014 and 2016 and now accounts for about 17% of all mobile money transactions, driven by a significant rise in the number of mobile-based bill payments. According to GSMA, there were 277-million registered mobile money accounts across sub-Saharan Africa at the end of 2016, plus 1.5-million registered agents.

In SA, mobile money products have not been successful because of the country's sophisticated banking systems.

However, innovative financial technology platforms have been introduced aimed at improving the banking experience. In some African countries, more than 95% of payments are still in cash, against the global best practice of 30%-40%, BankservAfrica and McKinsey said recently. (BD 13-07-2017)

ANGOLA INVESTS US\$266 MILLION IN POWER SYSTEM OF LAÚCA HYDROELECTRIC PLANT

The Angolan government plans to invest about US\$266 million in the energy transport system projected related to the Laúca hydroelectric plant, which is under construction on the River Kwanza, in the province of Malanje.

The funding of US\$285.8 million will be provided by Standard Bank Chartered according to information published in state bulletin, Diário da República.

Under construction since 2012, the Laúca dam between Cacuso (Malanje) and is designed to produce 2,070 megawatts of electricity.

In March of this year the dam's reservoir began to be filled in order to provide water to generate power.

This project, which cost the Angolan state US\$4.5 billion, will allow the interconnection of energy systems in the north, centre and south of the country, which could benefit more than 8 million people.

(14-01-2017)

ANGOLA WANTS TO BECOME A MAJOR WORLD COFFEE PRODUCER

Angola expects to produce 50,000 tons of coffee by 2022, six times more than the production of 8,000 tonnes recorded in the period from September 2016 to June 2017, the Angolan ambassador to Brazil, Nelson Cosme said on Wednesday in Medellin, Colombia.

Cosme, speaking on behalf of Angolan Agriculture Minister Marcos Nhunga, led the Angolan delegation to the World Forum of Coffee Producers that took place from 10 to 12 July in Colombia's second city.

The ambassador highlighted the Angolan government's actions to make the country a major world producer again and noted the support that is being provided by the Common Fund for Commodities of the World Coffee Organization, which provided US\$8 million for a project to renovate and plant robusta coffee in several regions of Angola.

Before independence in 1975, coffee production in Angola reached about 230,000 tonnes per year, making it the fourth largest coffee producer in the world.

In the aftermath of the civil war that followed independence and only ended in 2002, coffee production dropped to almost nothing, with production of 2,400 tonnes in 2016/2017, according to statistics from the World Coffee Organization. (14-07-2017)

MOZAMBIQUE'S ECONOMY GROWS 2.9% IN THE FIRST QUARTER

Mozambique grew 2.9% in the first quarter compared to the same quarter last year, according to the Mozambican National Statistics Institute (INE).

Compared to the last quarter of 2016 the economy grew 1.8%, INE said.

The Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) predicted in February that Mozambique's economy would grow by 4.2% in 2017, after recording the lowest growth in the last fifteen years (3.3%) in 2016.

The Capital Economics consultancy predicts that Mozambique will grow 4.5% this year, 5% in 2018 and 5.5% in 2019.

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts Mozambican economic expansion of 4.5% in 2017, accelerating to 5.5% the year after.

In May, the President of Mozambique, Filipe Nyusi, said he expects Mozambique's economy to grow by 5.5% in 2017. (19-09-2017)

MEDITERRANEAN MIGRATION ROUTE: EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT LOOKS FOR LONG-TERM SOLUTIONS

EUROPE Dead and missing at sea

Number of Dead and Missing by Route

(Jan -Jun, 2016 and 2017)



The European Parliament's Civil Liberties Committee on 12 July held a hearing on search-and-rescue operations, relations between different actors including EU military vessels, Frontex staff and NGOs, the need to fight people smugglers, as well as cooperation with the Libyan authorities.

Most MEPs in the debate defended the work of NGOs from criticism that their presence and rescue interventions are encouraging perilous journeys, and even supporting human traffickers. Nevertheless, some MEPs agreed that a code of conduct was needed to create order in operations at sea.

Many voiced doubts about the cooperation with Libya, pointing to the political instability in the country, the unreliability of its authorities and the heightened risk of abuse and violence faced by migrants who are returned to its shores.

Finally, most MEPs considered that a longer-term solution is needed, with a well-functioning asylum system, based on fair burden-sharing by all member states, combined with legal ways for migrating to the EU as well as a strategy to address the root causes of migration in the countries of origin.

According to [UNHCR data](#), 2,253 persons have died or gone missing trying to cross the Mediterranean Sea between 1 January and 30 June this year, almost all of them (2,171) in the Central Mediterranean route to Italy. (13-07-2017)

SWEDEN GRANTS \$8.5M FOR MATERNAL HEALTH CARE IN SOMALIA

Sweden disclosed on Wednesday it has granted the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) \$8.5 million to scale-up high impact reproductive, maternal, new-born and adolescent health interventions in Somalia.

Millions of women in Somalia remain at great risk during pregnancy and childbirth. Every year, one in 22 women dies prematurely due to pregnancy or child birth-related complications.

Most of these complications and illnesses are easily preventable and treatable. Strong political will and long-term financial commitment is urgently needed to address the high maternal deaths.

The Swedish funding to the health sector is part of a long-term commitment to address the severe health needs of women and girls, and help re-build the health system in Somalia.



“Far too many women’s lives are lost unnecessarily and prematurely during pregnancy and childbirth. It is critical that we now come together to strengthen our political and financial commitment for women’s health and wellbeing,” said Mikael Lindvall, Swedish Ambassador to Somalia.

“Sweden remains committed to improve access to equitable and quality health services for women and children. This is one of the key priority areas for Sweden’s development cooperation with Somalia,” the envoy added in a statement issued in Nairobi.

Sweden is the second largest donor in the health sector, and has supported maternal and child healthcare in Somalia since 2006. (APA 19-07-2017)

CABO VERDE MOVES TO CREATE THE FIRST SPECIAL MARITIME ECONOMIC ZONE IN THE PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING COUNTRIES

The project of the future Special Economic Zone (EEZ) of São Vicente, Cabo Verde (Cape Verde), is a priority for the government and the country is preparing to receive the first facility of this kind, focused on the maritime sector and created with the support of China in the Portuguese-speaking countries.

On a recent visit to the island, accompanied by the ambassador of China, the Cape Verdean Prime Minister, Ulisses Correia e Silva, said the integrated project provides for maritime transport, port operations, fishing, specialized logistics support services as well as tourism, science and specialised education in the sea sector.

“I have no doubt that we have found the solution and from here we can make all the difference in the medium and long term, in order to get the economy to work and grow, generating jobs and income, creating investment opportunities for entrepreneurs and achieving people’s happiness,” said Correia e Silva.

He said the feasibility study for the project was being prepared, based on the government’s initial concept and with a view to accelerating the implementation of the project.

“The government and our partners, particularly China, are willing to do that. We need to bring the other side – Mindelo society – on board,” he said.

The Cape Verdean government has predicted that the project will be operational by the end of the current term, in just over three years.

From China, support for the project was guaranteed by Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi at a meeting in Praia with his Cape Verdean counterpart Luís Filipe Tavares.

Wang Yi noted the importance of Cabo Verde's geographical position at the time, adding that the Cape Verdean government "expressed a willingness to participate in the Chinese government's, 'Belt and Road' initiative."

In an interview with Macao magazine, published in the next issue, Ulisses Correia e Silva said that China is a "privileged partner" in the project, for its role in supporting its creation, but also given the possibility of the EEZ being able to provide services to Chinese companies and to the wider market.

The advantages of the project include the "archipelago's strategic" location between Europe and West Africa, as well as China's experience in the creation of EEZs, the Cape Verdean prime minister said in an interview on the sidelines of the recent meeting of Portuguese-speaking entrepreneurs, in the Cape Verdean capital, Praia. (17-07-2017)

MEDITERRANEAN NEW CHANCE: SEEKING TO IMPROVE YOUTH EMPLOYABILITY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN



The Mediterranean New Chance (MedNC) project – a project labelled by the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean (UfM) – has held its Steering Committee in Barcelona to share its results and discuss the next steps in promoting the employability of young jobless people who have dropped out of school.

Labelled by the UfM in 2014 in the framework of its Mediterranean Initiative for Jobs (Med4Jobs), the MedNC project aims to boost the employability of unemployed graduates and young people who have dropped out of school before obtaining a degree.

The project supports a regional network of accredited training and professional integration centres to promote a shared and innovative teaching model, with the collaboration of the public authorities, the private sector and the civil society.

It not only addresses the challenges of youth unemployment and early school leaving, but also builds on the huge potential offered by youth as driving force for development, therefore impacting the regional stability and integration in the Mediterranean.

The meeting brought together representatives of national coordinators and local partner centres in Algeria, Tunisia, Morocco and Spain which reported on progress made, the difficulties met and the best practices achieved.

After a successful period of three years of implementation, discussions also focused on key aspects for the continuation of the project, including regional coordination and the integration of new partners. (EEAS 14-07-2017)

[Mediterranean New Chance project](#)

ALCOHOL CAUSE OF MENTAL DISORDER AMONG MAPUTO YOUTH

Mozambique's Office of Prevention and Combat Against Drugs (GPCD) has said the consumption of alcoholic beverages in the city of Maputo last year left a total of 2,014 young people between the ages of 16 and 25 with mental disorders, APA learnt on Sunday,



GPCD director Sara Jafete is quoted by state-controlled weekly Sunday paper Domingo as saying that the group affected includes students, mainly from secondary school.

"Students mix alcohol with soft drinks and it becomes difficult for teachers to notice that their students are consuming alcohol and these are the cases we have seen in hospital units in Maputo," said Jafete.

The office has held lectures and campaigns in several schools in Maputo to combat the trend, and Jafete appealed to parents and guardians not to give their children large sums of money.

"Love for our children is not measured in money, especially large amounts. Most of the time teenagers do not know how to manage money, and end up slipping into the world of drugs," she warned.

According to Domingo, since the beginning of the year, 94 people have been detained for involvement in the sale and consumption of drugs, with Maputo city police commander Bernardino Rafael declaring that several drug rings have been broken up. (APA 17-07-2017)

DR CONGO'S INGA 3 DAM TO DOUBLE IN SIZE TO 12GW

The Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) has decided to more than double the size of the Inga 3 basse-chute hydroelectric project to make it more attractive to investors and lower its cost per megawatt. Under new plans the plant will now produce between 10 and 12GW of electricity rather than the 4.8GW originally planned, said Bruno Kapandji, the director of the Agency for the Development and Promotion of the Grand Inga (ADPI), yesterday.

Completion of the scheme has also been put back to 2024 at the earliest, from 2020-21 as formerly planned, the ADPI [said](#).

Work on the \$14bn project is being pursued by two consortiums: Spain's Pro Inga, led by ACS and Eurofinsa, both based in Madrid, and Chine d'Inga, led by China's two largest hydropower companies, Three Gorges Corporation and Sinohydro.



The Inga Falls on the lower Congo: the best hydroelectric site on Earth

They did not believe the 4.8GW plan would be economically feasible, Elisabeth Caesens, an Open Society Fellow researching hydro power in Congo, [told](#) the Reuters news agency. “So the Pro Inga team came up with a radically different design,” she said.

Last month the ADPI asked the bidders to [form a single team](#) and submit a revised bid. This will now be done in September, according to Kapandji, who did not give a price for the revised scheme.

Grand Inga already has customers for its electricity: the South African government has signed a power purchase agreement and mining companies in the DRC are chronically short of power. However, the process of funding it was struck a blow by the decision of the World Bank to withdraw its support for the scheme in July last year.

International Rivers, an advocacy group that opposes the Grand Inga project on the grounds that it will benefit international mining companies rather than the population of the DRC, suggested that the bank had withdrawn support because the DRC was rushing the development in order to honour its PPA with South Africa.

If the World Bank will not finance a project it typically cannot raise funds on international capital markets.

The DRC, a country with vast mineral wealth, has been impoverished by 50 years of conflict, corruption and political instability. The main issue now is the continuing refusal of President Joseph Kabila to stand down after his term of office expired in December last year.

Inga 3 is the first of a series of hydro schemes that are expected to be built on the Inga Falls. The best-case scenario envisages eight or more power stations built over the course of 50 years for a total investment of about \$100bn.

The total installed capacity of the falls will be between 40 and 50GW, making it the largest power producer on Earth and a key to Africa's industrial development.

IGAD ADOPTS REGIONAL BIODIVERSITY PROTOCOL, STRATEGIES

The Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on Saturday adopted a regional biodiversity protocol and related strategies at the conclusion of a two-day meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



Executive Secretary of IGAD Mahboub Maalim said the protocol would help to mobilize resources and create much more cooperation on the issue of ecosystem development in the region.

IGAD ministers of environment approved the protocol on biodiversity management, which the Maalim described as a milestone achievement.

According to Maalim, regional economic integration in the Horn of Africa could be realized through prudent management of natural resources and trans-boundary ecosystems.

Recently, Ethiopia and Kenya launched a cross-border program which is the first of its kind.

“We are building on that high-level political support to help all linked in cross-border trans-boundary cooperation among member states” he added.

IGAD region is characterized by severe droughts and recurrent famine, which reflects the high level of land degradation and water shortage.

This poses a great threat to sustainability of ecosystems and sustained livelihoods for the people in the region.

Ethiopia’s Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister, Dr. Gemedo Dalle said the availability and endorsement of such a regional protocol is not enough to protect the biodiversity resources in the region.

“It is rather the level of our commitment to properly implement the protocol that would contribute to the sustainable management of the biodiversity resources in the region”, he suggested. (APA 16-7-2017)

THE KENYAN PAYMENT SOLUTIONS FIRM HAS CONTINUED SOUTHERN AFRICA EXPANSION WITH THE ACQUISITION OF PAY THRU SOUTH AFRICA



The acquisition strengthens Direct Pay Online's position as the leading e-commerce group in Africa.

Direct Pay Online was established in Kenya in 2006 and has since expanded to Uganda, Rwanda, Zanzibar, Tanzania, Ethiopia, Zambia, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, and Botswana. The Group

processes merchant payments, mobile money, and e-wallets, and holds PCI DSS Level 1 Certification, the highest security certification in the global payment cards industry.

Commenting on the investment, Offer Gat, the DPO group chairman said: "Investing in market leading businesses in the online payments space is a core pillar of our growth strategy. Our vision is to provide one payment solution across Africa and this acquisition brings us one step closer to that goal."

PayThru was established in South Africa in 2010 and is a subsidiary of Pay Thru UK. The company's knowledge and expertise serving the South African market over the past six years has led them to sign a number of high-quality online businesses with transaction volumes growing steadily month on month. DPO's acquisition of PayThru means that these clients, including online retailers TakeALot.com, Superbalist.com and online food delivery service Mr. Delivery, (Communications Africa 04-07-2017)

TANZANIA TO CONTINUE WITH HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT AT SELOUS GAME RESERVE

There has been a heated debate around the development of the Stiegler's Gorge hydroelectric project at the Selous [Game Reserve](#) since the government announced its intentions to continue developing it. Ecologists are opposed to the project on grounds that its implementation could damage the World Heritage site.

However, last week during the meeting of the World Heritage Committee in Poland, the government delegation gave the country's firm position to execute the project. Major General Gaudence Milanzi, the permanent secretary in the natural resources and tourism ministry, led the government team.

The delegation made consultations with senior officials of the World Heritage Centre and its advisory bodies on the issue and submitted a letter officially to the centre expressing the country's position.

The media cited a statement from the ministry which stated that Milanzi argued before the committee that plans to build the dam have been on the government agenda from the 1960's.

The Selous Game Reserve covers about 50,000km² with the proposed project expected to just only 3% of the area.

Major General Milanzi maintained that the Selous Game Reserve was included in the World Heritage List with the project on the table.

Notably, when the reserve was being inscribed in 1982, the International Union for Conservation of Nature considered that the Stiegler's Gorge project was of no important environmental concern, considering the vast size of the property, Major General Milanzi had argued.

Milanzi also pointed out that Tanzania has recently made a firm decision to industrialize the economy, thus significantly increasing the energy demand in the country.

It has also been imperative to reconsider Stigler's Gorge as the momentous power source, bearing in mind the current power generation options.

Milanzi acknowledged that at full capacity, the project would boost the total power production for the country by an average of about 145%. (CRO 13-07-2017)

DANGOTE CEMENT TO INVEST US\$4BN TO INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY IN AFRICA

Dangote Cement [Plc](#) which is a fully integrated cement company in Nigeria is planning to invest a whopping US\$ 4bn in its company so as to increase its production capacity in Africa.

The company plans to do the investment in the next two to three years.

Group Executive Director at Dangote Industries Limited, Mr. Edwin Devakumar confirmed the reports and said they are seeking to expand across Africa so as to hit an annual production of about 80-million tonnes within the next three years.

"Our focus in the next three years is that we should be going toward 80-million metric tonnes of cement production," he said.

Mr. Devakumar also pointed out that the expansion would be funded through loans from Chinese and Indian banks as well as cash flows. Further to that, the company plans to construct a 1.5-million metric tonne cement plant in Congo in six weeks time.

They are currently in the process of signing an agreement for three more plants in some West African countries.

Dangote is Africa's biggest cement producer having an annual production capacity of 45-million tonnes. In 2015, Dangote signed approximately US\$ 4.5bn worth of contracts with China's Sinoma Engineering to build cement plants across Africa. At the time Dangote projected to reach 100-million tonnes production capacity by 2020.

Dangote, whose interests includes flour milling, agriculture, real estate and truck assembly, faces intense competition, particularly from main rival Lafarge Africa, which combined its South Africa operation with its publicly traded Nigerian business to accelerate growth in Africa.

The company majorly owned by Africa's richest man, Aliko Dangote, operates in more than 14 African countries and has about a 45% market share in sub-Saharan Africa. (CRO 13-07-2017)

The Memorandum is supported by the ACP-African, Caribbean, Pacific Secretariat, Chamber of Commerce Tenerife, Corporate Council on Africa, CIP-Confederation of Portuguese Enterprises, Hellenic-African Chamber of Commerce and Development, HTTC - Hungarian Trade & Cultural Centre, NABC- Netherlands-African 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), CIP, HTTC, NABC (by posting selected news) and SwissCham-Africa to their Members.



www.acp.int



www.camaratenerife.com



www.ccafrica.ca



www.corporatecouncilonafrika.com



www.cip.pt



www.helafrican-chamber.gr



www.htcc.org.hu



www.nabc.nl



www.swisscham-africa.ch

fernando.matos.rosa@sapo.pt
fernando.matos.rosa@skynet.be