

MEMORANDUM

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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.

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L'UNION EUROPEENNE ADOPTE UN NOUVEAU PAQUET DE 381 MILLIONS D'EUROS POUR LUTTER CONTRE LES CAUSES PROFONDES DE L'INSTABILITE ET DE LA MIGRATION IRRÉGULIERE DANS LA REGION DU SAHEL ET DU BASSIN DU LAC TCHAD

Ces actions sont adoptées au titre du Fonds Fiduciaire d'Urgence pour l'Afrique dont l'objectif est de remédier aux causes profondes de l'instabilité et de la migration irrégulière et des déplacements forcés en Afrique.

Le Commissaire européen en charge de la coopération internationale et du développement, M. Neven **Mimica**, a dit: *"Ce nouveau paquet de 381 millions d'euros illustre une nouvelle fois la réponse globale que l'Union européenne apporte aux causes profondes de l'instabilité et de la migration irrégulière. Deux axes prioritaires caractérisent ce paquet: premièrement un accent sur des mesures visant à offrir des perspectives durables aux migrants et à leurs familles dans leurs pays d'origine, deuxièmement un accent sur le renforcement de cadres de migration régulière et sécurisée, qui garantissent le respect des droits humains et la dignité de la personne."*

Des dialogues approfondis avec les acteurs locaux, nationaux et régionaux ont eu lieu pour permettre l'adoption de ces nouvelles actions, qui reposent sur une compréhension claire de la situation des pays et des contextes locaux.

Parmi les mesures approuvées aujourd'hui figurent par exemple:

- La mise en place d'un système d'information de l'état civil universel et sécurisé au Mali. Le but est d'apporter un appui au gouvernement malien pour la consolidation du système de l'état civil, relié à une base de données biométriques et interconnecté avec les communes et postes consulaires. La mise en place d'un système d'information de l'état civil moderne permettra aux citoyens de mieux bénéficier de leurs droits individuels notamment d'éducation et de santé.
- Un programme de Redressement Economique et Social Inclusif du lac Tchad (RESILAC) mis en œuvre dans les territoires du bassin du lac Tchad les plus impactés par la crise actuelle dans cette région et le changement climatique, vise à appuyer l'économie locale par la création d'emplois pour des jeunes ruraux et la diversification des systèmes de production familiale, renforcer la cohésion sociale par un soutien psychosocial aux communautés affectées par les violences de Boko Haram et fournir un appui institutionnel aux collectivités locales et aux organisations de la société civile. Le programme va bénéficier directement 90 000 personnes (déplacés internes, migrants de retour et communautés hôtes).
- Neuf des 28 actions adoptées aujourd'hui font partie d'une initiative migration avec l'Organisation Internationale pour la Migration (IOM en anglais). Cette initiative vise à renforcer la gestion et la gouvernance de la migration, ainsi qu'à faciliter les retours et la réintégration des migrants et la protection des sujets les plus vulnérables.

Ces actions permettront la protection de 60 000 migrants dans le besoin, l'organisation de 24 000 retours de migrants en transit et autant d'actions pour leur réintégration durable dans leurs pays d'origine. Ces actions prévoient également l'information et la sensibilisation aux dangers et aux alternatives à la migration irrégulière de 2 000 communautés d'origine et 200 000 migrants sur les routes migratoires.

Un système de collecte et d'analyse des données dans chaque pays ciblé et au niveau régional permettra une meilleure compréhension des flux migratoires.

- Les dix-neuf autres actions adoptées répondent aux autres priorités du fonds fiduciaire, notamment l'amélioration de la résilience des populations les plus vulnérables, le soutien à l'emploi des jeunes, au secteur privé, à l'entrepreneuriat, l'amélioration de l'offre de formation, l'appui au fonctionnement de l'état civil et la lutte contre la radicalisation.

Background

Depuis janvier 2016, 36 actions ciblant les causes d'instabilité et la migration irrégulière ont été engagées pour la région du Sahel et Lac Tchad pour un montant total de plus de 526 millions d'euros (100 millions d'euros ont été engagés à la suite du Comité opérationnel de [janvier 2016](#), 280 millions d'euros en [avril 2016](#) et 146 millions d'euros en [juin 2016](#)). Avec les 28 actions adoptées aujourd'hui, ce chiffre est désormais porté à plus de 900 millions d'euros. (EU 14-12-2016)

[Fiche d'information sur les 28 nouvelles actions adoptées](#)

Site du Fonds fiduciaire d'urgence pour l'Afrique dans la région du Sahel et du bassin du lac Tchad: https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/regions/africa/eu-emergency-trust-fund/sahel-region-and-lake-chad-area_en

MOZAMBIQUE: PM PREDICTS 5.5 PERCENT ECONOMIC GROWTH IN 2017

The Prime Minister of Mozambique, Carlos Agostinho do Rosario has predicted annual economic growth of 5.5 per cent in 2017 pushed by the extractive industry, APA can report on Wednesday.

Presenting the Mozambican government's Economic and Social Plan for 2017 to parliament on Wednesday, Do Rosario said the extractive industry's forecast growth rate of 24 per cent when compared with an estimated 13.2 per cent this year, the 5.5 percent growth rate is achievable.

The target growth rate for 2016 was seven per cent and although the final figures are not yet available, the current forecast is that growth this year has slumped to 3.9 per cent, with more than 11 million tonnes projected for 2017.

The Prime Minister said the vast reserves of gas in the Rovuma Basin, in the far north, will not come on stream for several more years, but the plan projects an increase of 4.4 per cent in the gas extracted in the Pande and Temane fields in the southern province of Inhambane, operated by the South African petro-chemical giant, Sasol.

According to the premier, agricultural and livestock production is expected to rise by 5.9 per cent, but the target for grain production is a rise of 14 per cent. (APA 07-12-2016)

BANK OF MOZAMBIQUE NOMINATES COMMITTEE FOR MOZA BANK

The Bank of Mozambique will appoint a committee to lead the process of capitalisation or sale of troubled bank Moza as soon as the report that was commissioned from KPMG is delivered, the central bank said in a statement issued on Tuesday in Maputo.

The committee will be responsible for analysing the diagnostic report and independent review of the financial statements of Moza, as at 30 September, 2016, prepared by KPMG in collaboration with the Financial Department of the bank, which will then be sent to shareholders.

This analysis is intended to help shareholders to decide on a possible procedure for the capitalisation or sale of Moza, during a general meeting which will be accompanied by the evaluation committee for later implementation of the decision.

The committee will consist of a chairman, who is the current chairman of the interim board of Moza, João Figueiredo, and two members, including a director of the Bank of Mozambique and a representative of the International Finance Corporation, of the World Bank group.

Moza, formerly known as Moza Banco, was intervened upon at the beginning of October by the Bank of Mozambique to secure the interests of depositors, as the bank's solvency ratio was below zero.

The central bank also said it had decided to suspend the members of the board of directors and the executive committee of the bank and appointed a provisional board, led by João Figueiredo, whose term will last until the situation is normalised.

Moza, which started operations in 2008, is 51% controlled by Moçambique Capitais and the remaining 49% is held by Novo Banco, the bank that kept the healthy assets of the bankrupt Banco Espírito Santo (BES). (07-12-2016)

COMMISSION REPORTS ON FIRST DELIVERABLES UNDER THE PARTNERSHIP FRAMEWORK ON MIGRATION WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

Commission reports on first deliverables under the Partnership Framework on migration with third countries

Concrete progress has been made under the Partnership Framework with third countries on migration, as presented in the second progress report today by the European Commission. The partnerships between the European Union and its Member States' and with the five priority countries, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria and Senegal have been deepened and further developed.

"The Partnership Framework is showing positive results and important building blocks for new cooperation on migration management have been agreed. Since the first report in October, further steps have been taken, and we will continue the joint EU and Member States engagement to build on the current momentum," said High Representative / Vice-President Federica **Mogherini**. The European Council is expected to assess the progress made under the Partnership Framework on 15 December. Over the last months, 20 high level visits by the HR/VP, a number of EU Commissioners and Member States' ministers took place, backed by several missions at technical level. Financial assistance to support the objectives of the [Valletta Action Plan](#) has been stepped up, with an additional €500 million added to the EU Trust Fund for Africa. This brings its worth to almost €2.5 billion. To date, 64 programmes, worth approximately EUR 1 billion have already been approved under the EU Trust Fund for Africa. To increase the impact of other instruments, EUR 726.7 million will be added to the EU budget in 2017 to further support the development actions in the external dimension of migration.

Results in the priority countries are taking shape, including first decreases in migratory flows. In Niger, the number of people crossing the desert has dropped from 70,000 in May to 1,500 in November. In addition, 102 smugglers have been sent to justice and 95 vehicles have been seized. 4430 irregular migrants have been repatriated with the assistance of IOM and around 2700 irregular migrants from the priority countries have been returned from the EU to their respective countries of origin. European Migration Liaison Officers will be deployed to all five priority countries in early 2017. In parallel, 1165 mobility actions under the [Erasmus+](#) framework have been financed with the priority countries to strengthen legal and regular migration channels.

In the next months, the full potential of the Partnership Framework will be further exploited. Building on the first results, the EU will continue to address migration in all its aspects during the implementation of the Partnership Framework to ensure a sustainable process, in line with the commitments made under the Valletta Action Plan of November 2015.

Background

Migration is an important component of the European Union's external action, as set out in the EU Global Strategy for Foreign and Security Policy. Developing more effective migration policies for Europe and its partners is a priority. Steps in this regard were taken through the Valletta Summit on Migration with African countries in November 2015. In June 2016, the HRVP and the Commission proposed a new Partnership Framework with third countries under the European Agenda on Migration, which was endorsed by the European Council the same month. The Partnership Framework aims at stepping up cooperation with countries of origin, transit and destination. The Council called for the swift implementation of the framework, starting with a limited number of priority countries. (EC 14-12-2016)

[Second progress report: First Deliverables on the Partnership Framework with third countries under the European Agenda on Migration](#)

[Annex 1 – High level visits between EU and Member States and priority countries](#)

[Annex 2 - Action and progress in priority countries](#)

[Communication on a new Partnership Framework, 7 June 2016](#)

[Factsheet: Migration Partnership Framework](#)

[Factsheet: EU Emergency Trust Fund for Africa](#)

[Factsheet Ethiopia](#)

[Factsheet Mali](#)

[Factsheet Niger](#)

[Factsheet Nigeria](#)

[Factsheet Senegal](#)

LIBERIA EXPERIENCING ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES

Liberia's Minister of Finance and Development Planning (MFPD), Boima Kamara, has reiterated that Liberia is experiencing serious economic difficulties.

Kamara, who made the disclosure on Tuesday at a one-day Government of Liberia and the United Nations Development Assurances Framework (UNDAF) Mid-Term Review Retreat Concept Note and Agenda held in Monrovia, noted the Liberian economy has been experiencing difficulties for three successive years now since 2014.

According to him, for the past three years the Liberian economy has grown at an average of zero percent as a result of the impact of the Ebola epidemic on the economy and the reduction of the prices of iron ore and rubber-the country's major export earners- on the world market.

He stressed that the economic downturn has severely hindered government in mobilizing the needed resources to finance the Agenda for Transformation and brought significant pressure on the budget.

He indicated that the government has been constrained to revise the national budget downward in the last two fiscal years resulting in a sweeping fiscal space.

Kamara called on the participants at the retreat to come out with suggestions that will help transform the nation's economy and foster development. (APA 07-12-2016)

CABINDA PROVINCE, ANGOLA, STARTS EXPORTING PHOSPHATES IN 2019

The exploration of phosphates in Cacata in the central province of Cabinda, will begin in 2019, said the minister of Geology and Mining, Francisco Queiroz, in statements made on Monday in the provincial capital.

The minister travelled to the province to assess the implementation status of the project for exploration of phosphates and other mineral resources such as gold, according to Angolan state news agency Angop.

Queiroz visited the works of the deep water port of Caio-Litoral, and stressed that this is an important facility for the success of the phosphate project, as it is essential for exporting the product.

During a meeting with the provincial governor, Aldina Catembo and mining industry entrepreneurs in the province, the minister gave assurances of the support of the ministry responsible so that the projects underway in the province can begin as soon as possible. (07-12-2016)

GALILEO GOES LIVE!

On 15 December 2016, Europe's satellite navigation system Galileo will start offering its initial services to public authorities, businesses and citizens.

Commission Vice-President Maroš **Šefčovič**, responsible for the Energy Union, said: *"Geo-localisation is at the heart of the ongoing digital revolution with new services that transform our daily lives. Galileo will increase geo-location precision ten-fold and enable the next generation of location-based technologies; such as autonomous cars, connected devices, or smart city services. Today I call on European entrepreneurs and say: imagine what you can do with Galileo – don't wait, innovate!"*

Commissioner Elżbieta **Bieńkowska**, responsible for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs, said: *"Galileo offering initial services is a major achievement for Europe and a first delivery of our*

recent Space Strategy. This is the result of a concerted effort to design and build the most accurate satellite navigation system in the world. It demonstrates the technological excellence of Europe, its know-how and its commitment to delivering space-based services and applications. No single European country could have done it alone."

With the Declaration of Initial Services, which will be officially launched by the European Commission in Brussels on Thursday 15 December, Galileo will start to deliver, in conjunction with GPS, the following services free of charge:

- **Support to emergency operations:** Today it can take hours to detect a person lost at sea or in the mountains. With the Search and Rescue Service (SAR), people placing a distress call from a Galileo-enabled beacon can now be found and rescued more quickly, since the detection time will be reduced to only 10 minutes. This service should be later improved by notifying the sender of the emergency call that he/she has been located and help is underway.
- **More accurate navigation for citizens:** The Galileo Open Service will offer a free mass-market service for positioning, navigation and timing that can be used by Galileo-enabled chipsets in smartphones or in car navigation systems. A number of such smartphones have been on the market since autumn 2016 and they can now use the signals to provide more accurate positions. By 2018, Galileo will also be found in every new model of vehicle sold in Europe, providing enhanced navigation services to a range of devices as well as enabling the eCall emergency response system. People using navigation devices in cities, where satellite signals can often be blocked by tall buildings, will particularly benefit from the increase in positioning accuracy provided by Galileo.
- **Better time synchronisation for critical infrastructures:** Galileo will, through its high precision clocks, enable more resilient time synchronisation of banking and financial transactions, telecommunications and energy distribution networks such as smart-grids. This will help them operate more efficiently.
- **Secure services for public authorities:** Galileo will also support public authorities such as civil protection services, humanitarian aid services, customs officers and the police through the Public Regulated Service. It will offer a particularly robust and fully encrypted service for government users during national emergencies or crisis situations, such as terrorist attacks, to ensure continuity of services.

The Declaration of Galileo Initial Services means that the Galileo satellites and ground infrastructure are now operationally ready. These signals will be highly accurate but not available all the time. That's why during the initial phase, the first Galileo signals will be used in combination with other satellite navigation systems, like GPS.

In the coming years, new satellites will be launched to enlarge the Galileo constellation, which will gradually improve Galileo availability worldwide. The constellation is expected to be completed by 2020 when Galileo will reach full operational capacity.

Background

Galileo is Europe's Global Satellite Navigation System. It provides a range of state-of-the-art positioning, navigation and timing services to users worldwide. Galileo is fully interoperable with GPS, but will offer more accurate and reliable positioning for end users.

At the moment, the Galileo constellation consists of 18 satellites, all of which are already in orbit. The full constellation foresees a total of 30 satellites and is expected to be completed by 2020.

So far, the first Galileo smartphone by Spanish company BQ is already available on the market and other manufacturers are expected to follow suit. It will allow also application developers to test their ideas on the basis of real signal.

Galileo Initial Services are managed by the European GNSS Agency (GSA). The overall Galileo programme is run by the European Commission, which has handed over the responsibility for the deployment of the system and technical support to operational tasks to the European Space Agency (ESA). (EC 14-12-2016)

[Space Strategy for Europe](#)

[Audiovisual material](#)

[European GNSS Service Centre \(GSC\)](#)

[Expected performance, accuracy and availability of Galileo Initial Services](#)

[Galileo for citizens](#)

US GOV'T GIVES MOZAMBIQUE \$40M TO SUPPORT DROUGHT MITIGATION ACTIONS

The United States government has provided Mozambique with \$40 million to support drought mitigation actions in the country where over one million people are facing food shortages due to a long dry spell, APA can report on Wednesday.

The announcement was made on Tuesday by the United States Ambassador to Mozambique, Dean Pitman, during his visit to the province of Maputo.

The US diplomat expressed the hope that the support can minimize the suffering of the Mozambican people.

Southern Mozambique has been hit by extreme weather conditions resulting in catastrophic flooding in 2000; the worst in 50 years which claimed 800 lives in and left 540,000 others displaced and cost the country as much as 10 percent of its annual GDP.

The Mozambican government was compelled to appeal for almost a billion US dollars in post-flood reconstruction. (APA 17-12-2016)

LOCOMOTIVES START ARRIVING IN ANGOLA TO STRENGTHEN THE RAIL NETWORK



The first batch of 15 locomotives that will strengthen the capacity of Caminhos-de-Ferro de Angola arrived in the country at the end of November, the minister of Transport, Augusto da Silva Tomás announced on Tuesday in Luanda, .

The minister said the locomotives were unloaded at the ports of Luanda, Lobito and Namibe in order to go into service for rail companies Caminhos-de-Ferro de Luanda (CFL), Caminhos-de-Ferro de Benguela (CFB) and Caminhos-de-Ferro de Moçâmedes (CFM).

The government of Angola has ordered 100 GE C30-ACi locomotives from US group General Electric, in deal worth US\$453.6 million.

At the end of a meeting with the provincial governor of Luanda, Higinio Carneiro, to look at the future of the road and rail transport sector in the capital, the minister stressed efforts were underway to modernise and expand freight capacity, “as it is a strategic activity to promote the production of goods and services in agriculture, fisheries, animal husbandry, the mining industry and manufacturing and, above all, in terms of trade.”

Augusto da Silva Tomás, quoted by news agency Angop, also announced that other means of public transport, including passenger, cargo and mixed are being built in China, respecting “the social and cultural specifics of Angolans and the state of main, secondary and tertiary roads.”

The minister specified these were vehicles for urban, inter-municipal and inter-provincial transport, that have reinforced axle shafts, motors and other appropriate accessories such as special filters, based on the current state of the roads.

With regard to the capital, Tomás said there were a number of rail projects already approved by the government, intended to address the high concentration of population in various neighbourhoods and urban districts. (07-12-2016)

GALILEO INITIAL SERVICES - FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is Galileo?

Galileo is the European Union's Global Satellite Navigation System (GNSS). Also referred to as "the European GPS", Galileo provides more accurate positioning and timing information for users equipped with Galileo enabled devices such as an in-car navigation systems and mobile phones.

Galileo will help to make road and rail transport systems safer, improve our response to emergency situations, provide better time synchronisation for critical infrastructures and offer fully encrypted services for public authorities.

Galileo is autonomous but also interoperable with existing satellite navigation systems like GPS.

Will Galileo be fully operational from the beginning?

With sufficient satellites now in orbit, ground infrastructure operational and following extensive testing, Galileo is now ready to go live. This means that anyone with a Galileo enabled device will be able to use its signals for positioning, navigation and timing.

Galileo Initial Services will be based on highly accurate signals, though these will at first not be available all the time. That's why during the initial phase, the first Galileo signals will be used in combination with other satellite navigation systems such as GPS.

In the coming years, new satellites will be launched to enlarge the Galileo constellation, which will gradually improve Galileo availability worldwide. The constellation is expected to be completed by 2020 when Galileo will reach full operational capacity.

The exact accuracy of the Galileo Initial Services as well as its expected performance, and availability have been published on the website of the [European GNSS Service Centre](#).

Are Galileo enabled devices already available on the market?

Yes, users can already benefit from Galileo. In September 2016, the Spanish mobile phone manufacturer BQ brought the first European-designed [Galileo smartphone to market](#).

In addition, by 2018, Galileo will also be found in every new type-approved vehicle sold in Europe, enabling the eCall emergency response system.

And this market is expected to grow further. Already today, 17 leading chipset companies - representing more than the 95% of global supply, already produce Galileo compatible products, up from only 3 manufacturers in 2010. These include chipset manufacturers like Broadcom, Mediatek, STM, Intel, Qualcomm and uBlox. For example, the Qualcomm Snapdragon series is [already building Galileo into their devices](#), meaning that the majority of new smartphones on the market will be Galileo-ready. STM, a leading European chipset manufacturer in the automotive sector, has announced Galileo-ready "Teseo" chips for vehicle telematics and navigation systems. The option of making Galileo available on such devices depends however on the manufacturers activating this option in their products.

A growing list of Galileo compatible devices and chipsets that are available today can be found at [www.useGalileo.eu](#).

Users can also contact the [European GNSS Service Centre \(GSC\)](#) for all things related to developing Galileo-capable products and services.

What are Galileo Initial Services?

The launch of Galileo Initial Services means that the following services will now become available for public authorities, businesses and citizens. These will be free of charge and will remain so, even once the system becomes fully operational.

- **Support to emergency operations:** With the Search and Rescue service, Galileo will improve Europe's ability to respond to emergency situations by improving the capacity to locate distress calls around the world. For example, today it can take hours to detect a person lost at sea or in

the mountains. With the Search and Rescue Service (SAR), people placing a distress call from a Galileo-enabled beacon can now be found and rescued more quickly, since the detection time will be reduced to only 10 minutes. The Search and Rescue Service is Europe's contribution to an international emergency locating system called "Cospas-Sarsat".

- **More accurate navigation for citizens:** The Galileo Open Service will offer a free mass-market service for positioning, navigation and timing that can be used by Galileo-enabled chipsets in smartphones or in car navigation systems. In particular, Galileo's accuracy will particularly benefit people using navigation devices in cities, where satellite signals can often be blocked by tall buildings.
- **Better time synchronisation for critical infrastructures:** Galileo will, through its high precision clocks, enable more resilient time synchronisation of banking and financial transactions, telecommunications and energy distribution networks such as smart-grids. This will help them operate more efficiently.
- **Secure services for public authorities:** Galileo will also support public authorities such as civil protection services, humanitarian aid services, customs officers and the police through the Public Regulated Service. It will offer a particularly robust and fully encrypted service for government users during national emergencies or crisis situations, such as terrorist attacks to ensure continuity of services.

Who manages Galileo Initial Services?

Galileo Initial Services are managed by the [European Global Navigation Satellite Systems Agency \(GSA\)](#). The GSA oversees how the Galileo infrastructure is used and ensures that Galileo services are delivered as planned and without interruptions.

The European GNSS Service Centre (GSC) also provides advice for all Galileo users. The GSC Helpdesk can be reached at <http://www.gsc-europa.eu>.

The overall Galileo programme is run by the European Commission. The Commission has however entrusted the responsibility for the deployment of the Galileo system and the technical operations to the European Space Agency (ESA).

Is Galileo a purely civilian programme?

Yes. All EU space programmes including Galileo are purely civilian programmes entirely under civilian control. Some of the services and data can be used for emergency services, police, crisis management, border management or peace-keeping operations. The use of the services is to be decided by individual Member States, including any potential military use.

When will Galileo become fully operational?

Currently, the Galileo constellation consists of 18 satellites in orbit, which means that its deployment is on track, on budget and on time. With 12 satellites launched in just the last two years, the full deployment has now picked up unprecedented pace. The full operational capacity foresees 30 satellites in orbit, from which 24 are needed to establish worldwide coverage of the Galileo signal.

Galileo is expected to reach full operational capacity by 2020. This will be made possible by launching new satellites into orbit, which will further improve the availability of the Galileo signal.

How does Galileo differ from GPS?

In addition to improving navigation services for its users, Galileo will also contribute to Europe's strategic autonomy when it comes to global positioning services. There are currently several global navigation systems being built or improved, such as Glonass in Russia, Beidou in China and the next generation of GPS in the US. Galileo will be interoperable with GPS and compatible with others.

As opposed to these systems, Galileo will be under European civilian control and the system will be entirely owned by the EU. It will be able to support EU and national authorities in various areas, from emergency services, police, crisis management, border management or peace-keeping operations.

In addition, Galileo will also strengthen the competitiveness of our industry. Many strategic sectors, such as aviation, transport, agriculture, environmental protection and many others depend on the capacity to determine precise locations. The information provided by Galileo could also inspire new technological developments with several potential spill-over effects in other sectors of the economy.

How will the Commission encourage Galileo signal uptake when there is such reliance on GPS?

As Galileo moves into its operational phase, it will begin to deliver tangible results.

With additional satellites as well as due to its enhanced features, Galileo will significantly improve the precision of navigation as compared to the current GPS system. More satellites in orbit means more satellites are visible above the horizon so that more signals can be compared, giving a more precise location. Also Galileo receivers can distinguish between direct signals and reflections. This will particularly improve accuracy in cities, where a large part of the sky is obscured by buildings, which can compromise accurate positioning. In addition, Galileo will provide unprecedented timing accuracy, which is vital for the synchronisation of critical infrastructure such as telecommunication networks and electricity grids as well as for providing exact timing of financial transactions.

Thanks to Galileo, more accurate [Search & Rescue service](#) will become available to the international COSPAS SARSAT operations. These services depend on satellites detecting a signal from a distress beacon. The current satellites may take three or more hours before passing close enough to a beacon to detect it, and can only locate it to within 10 kilometres. The Galileo service picks up the signal within 10 minutes and narrows the range down to 5km, meaning that the area to be searched is just one quarter the size of the current area. This will help save lives at sea or in the mountains.

The Commission will also look at possible actions to introduce Galileo in mobile phones. This will build on the experience from a current project, which is already testing how Galileo signals can be used in emergencies by automatically providing the accurate location of the caller to public services.

Other sectoral measures will be taken to introduce Galileo into specific markets or areas for example in autonomous and connected cars, railways, aviation as well as in protecting critical infrastructures using time synchronisation.

In addition, a study will be launched to look into possible standardisation measures and putting in place a voluntary labelling and certification scheme for Galileo (and EGNOS). (EC 14-12-2016)

WORLD BANK DISBURSES \$122M TO FIGHT TB IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

Mozambique's national Director of Public Health Francisco Mbofana says the World Bank has provided \$122 million funding for four Southern African countries, which in addition to Mozambique include, Zambia, Lesotho and Malawi, to eradicate tuberculosis, APA can report on Wednesday.

The official said the initiative, officially launched on Wednesday, aims to halt the spread of tuberculosis in these countries.

The official told APA in an exclusive interview that the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria and a Regional Coordinating Mechanism (RCM) representing a group of 10 Southern African countries, have signed a landmark grant to pioneer innovative models to reduce high rates of TB in the mining sector.

The grant will support potentially-transformative interventions in Botswana, Lesotho, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia as well as Zimbabwe and the World Bank Group serves as the Secretariat for the RCM while the Wits Health Consortium of South Africa acts as the principal recipient of the grant.

“Gold miners in southern Africa have some of the highest rates of TB infection in the world, we are committed to investing vigorously to reduce the rate as much as possible,” said Mboana in an interview on Wednesday.

Tuberculosis is a significant problem within the Southern African mining industry.

In South Africa alone, TB rates within the gold mining workforce are estimated at 2,500-3,000 cases per 100,000 individuals.

This incidence is 10 times higher than the WHO threshold for a health emergency, and is also 2.5 to 3 times the incidence rate in the general population. (APA 07-12-2016)

IVORIAN LEADER INAUGURATES ROAD LEADING TO MALI

President Alassane Ouattara of Cote d'Ivoire, on Thursday opened the road linking the towns of Boundiali and Tengrela in the far north of the country to the Malian border. The asphaltting work on the 135-km stretch lasted 24 months.

Far from intending to raise controversy, President Ouattara claimed the inauguration of the road addressed an injustice.

It will impact on business activities in the region.

The project was funded to the tune of CFA34.15 billion by the Ivorian government, the West African Development Bank (BOAD) and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB).

In his speech, President Ouattara also announced several other road works in the region to the tune of CFA100 billion.

To this end, he said that the asphaltting of the Boundiali-Kani road would start in a matter of weeks.

Last Saturday, the Ivorian leader was in Agnibilekrou in the east of the country to inaugurate the Pont Comoe-Agnibilekrou road. (APA 08-12-2016)

ZIMBABWE CHROME MINERS RELINQUISH SOME LICENCES TO GOVERNMENT



Mining companies, including Sinosteel's Zimasco, have ceded licences for chrome mining to Zimbabwe's state-owned Apple Bridge Investments, which buys chrome ore for export, Mines Minister Walter Chidhakwa said.

The mining licences, known as claims, have been allocated to small-scale miners who dig the mineral on Zimbabwe's Great Dyke mountain range. Apple Bridge, formed by the government in August with a \$100m loan, buys exclusively from those producers.

Small-scale miners in Zimbabwe, known as tributors, traditionally sell chrome ore to Zimasco and Zimbabwe Alloys, the two biggest chrome miners in the country, which in turn smelt the mineral into ferro-chrome for export. A fall in prices led both Zimbabwe Alloys and Zimasco to cut smelting operations, leaving many tributors unpaid. Apple Bridge was formed by the government to salvage the chrome-mining operations.

"In the past two weeks, the selling price of chrome on the world market has improved tremendously and Apple Bridge has been doing well," Chidhakwa told lawmakers on Wednesday, adding that the government's relationship with foreign chrome miners is "working smoothly".
Zimbabwe has the world's second-largest deposits of chrome after its neighbour, SA. (Bloomberg 08-12-2016)

CHINA GIVES ASSURANCES IT IS FULLY AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT ANGOLA'S ECONOMY



China's president Xi Jinping assured his Angolan counterpart that China would continue to support the Angolan economy's development programme, Angolan news agency Angop reported.

In a letter delivered by the Chinese ambassador to Angola, Cui Aimin, to president José Eduardo dos Santos during a meeting held in Luanda, the Chinese President restated China's "continuous and steady support" for Angola's development.

The Chinese diplomat revealed that the letter delivered to President Eduardo dos Santos is a response to a letter sent by the Angolan Head of State to President Xi referring noting the importance of strengthening bilateral relations for Angola's economic development.

"The economic difficulties currently affecting Angola, will not influence the relations between the two countries and we will continue to have full confidence in the Angolan government," said Cui Aimin.

"We continue to have great confidence in relations with Angola, with which we are in a higher phase relationship following the China-Angola investment forum, which has improved contacts and communication between the two peoples and governments," the diplomat said.

Angola and China have a strategic partnership agreement in the sectors of trade, industry, agriculture, transport, communications, health, education and information technology.

Since 2004 China has financed projects in Angola estimated at US\$15 billion. (14-12-2016)

NIGERIAN LEADER PRESENTS OVER \$23BN 2017 BUDGET TO LAWMAKERS

President Muhammadu Buhari on Wednesday presented a budget proposal of N7.298 trillion (about \$23.92bn) for 2017 to the joint session of the country's National Assembly.

Speaking at the session in Abuja, Buhari said that the 2017 represented an increase of 20.4% over the 2016 estimates of N6.06 trillion.

He noted that 30.7% of the budgetary expenditure will be capital in line with the determination of the government to reflate and pull the economy out of recession as quickly as possible.

Buhari explained that the fiscal plan will result in a deficit of N2.36 trillion for 2017 which is about 2.18% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

According to him, the deficit will be financed mainly by borrowing, which is projected to be about N2.32 trillion.

Our intention is to source N1.067 trillion or about 46% of this borrowing from external sources while, N1.254 trillion will be borrowed from the domestic market, he said.

On budget assumptions, Buhari noted that the 2017 Budget is based on a benchmark crude oil price of US\$42.5 per barrel; an oil production estimate of 2.2 million barrels per day; and an average exchange rate of N305 to the US dollar.

Based on these assumptions, aggregate revenue available to fund the federal budget is N4.94 trillion. This is 28% higher than 2016 full year projections. Oil is projected to contribute N1.985 trillion of this amount, he said.

He added that the non-oil revenues, largely comprising Companies Income Tax, Value Added Tax, Customs and Excise duties, and Federation Account levies are estimated to contribute N1.373 trillion.

We have set a more realistic projection of N807.57 billion for Independent Revenues, while we have projected receipts of N565.1 billion from various Recoveries. Other revenue sources, including mining, amount to N210.9 billion, he added.

He assured that the effort to diversify the economy and create jobs will continue with emphasis on agriculture, manufacturing, solid minerals and services, while Mid- and Down-stream oil and gas sectors, are also key priority areas.

While promising to prioritise investments in human capital development especially in education and health, as well as wider social inclusion through job creation, public works and social investments, he assured that the government would continue its goal of improving governance by enhancing public service delivery as well as securing life and property. (APA 14-12-2016)

NEW ZEALAND CHANGES RACIALLY OFFENSIVE PLACE NAMES

New Zealand is to erase the racially offensive word "nigger" from its landscape, the government said on Thursday.

The names of three areas in the Southern Alps of the South Island have been changed to words taken from the indigenous Maori language. Nigger Stream will now be known as Pukio Stream, Niggerhead becomes Tawhai Hill and Nigger Hill is renamed Kanuka Hills.

Land Information Minister Louise Upston said the use of "nigger" reflected a time "when attitudes towards this word were markedly different to what they are now". "It is a word that is clearly offensive to most people today," she added.

"This isn't about rewriting history. It is and will remain a matter of public record that these three places used to carry different names.

"However, in a society like ours that is multicultural and where most New Zealanders do not go out of their way to be offensive or exclude others, I do not believe this word has a place in our official names."

But there has been no move to change other South Island names including Darkies Creek, Darkies Terrace Track and Darkies Terrace, which were named after African-American prospector Arthur "Darkie" Addison in the 1860s.

The origin of the "nigger" place names has not been recorded but Land Information said it may be linked to the native grass *Carex Secta*, which grows in the area and was colloquially referred to as "niggerhead". (AFP 08-12-2016)

BANKS FROM ANGOLA AND MOZAMBIQUE INCLUDED IN THE LIST OF THE LARGEST IN AFRICA

Banks from Angola and Mozambique are included in the list of the top 100 banks in Africa, according to the latest issue of African Business magazine.

The list of the largest African banks is led by Stanbank (Standard Bank Group) and First Rand both from South Africa and the list includes eight banks from Angola and three from Mozambique.

With regard to Angola Banco de Poupanças e Crédito is in 25th place, followed by Banco Angolano de Investimentos (27th), Banco de Fomento de Angola-BFA (34th), Banco BIC (39th), Banco Millennium Atlântico (51st), Banco de Desenvolvimento de Angola (62nd), Banco Caixa Geral de Angola SA (69th), and Banco de Negócios Internacional (92nd).

Millennium Bim (Banco Internacional de Moçambique) is in 56th place in the list of 100 largest banks in Africa, Banco Comercial e de Investimentos – BIC in 93rd place and Standard Bank Moçambique in 98th

In the list of top 25 banks in Southern Africa Banco de Poupanças e Crédito de Angola is in 6th place followed by Banco Angolano de Investimentos (7th), Banco de Fomento de Angola (BFA) in 10th place, BIC in 11th and Banco Millennium Atlântico in 12th place. Banco de Desenvolvimento de Angola, Banco Caixa Geral and Banco de Negócios Internacional were in 17th, 18th and 22nd place, respectively.

With regard to Mozambique, Millennium Bim (Banco Internacional de Moçambique) is in 14th position followed by Banco Comercial e de Investimentos (BIC) and Standard Bank Moçambique respectively in 23rd and 24th place.

African Business magazine said that the list of the biggest banks in Africa was based on the capital of banks measured according to the Core T1 Ratio. (14-11-2016)

ATLANTIC BANK LAUNCHES MONEY TRANSFER SERVICE VIA ATM

Atlantic International Business Group (ABI) and its Cote d'Ivoire subsidiary Atlantic Bank launched in Abidjan on Tuesday the first money transfer service via automated teller machine (ATM) within the West African Economic and Monetary Union (UEMOA) zone, APA can report.

According to the Atlantic Business International boss "this mechanism is a major innovation and competitive advantage, acquired by the group for several months."

The Managing Director of the Atlantic Bank of Cote d'Ivoire (BACI), Habib Koné argued that "the proximity policy of the group in the financial inclusion service, gives leadership to ABI through its Bank Atlantic network."

The service allows any holder of a Bank Atlantic debit card to transfer money from an ATM by debiting his account to a beneficiary and an unbanked.

The recipient has the possibility to receive money without a bank account from an ATM within the UEMOA zone.

The Atlantic Bank Business International Group (ABI) is a member of the Popular Central Group of Morocco.

It is present in eight countries of the West African sub-region through commercial banks including the Atlantic Bank of Cote d'Ivoire (BACI). (APA 14-12-2016)

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