

# MEMORANDUM

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## **12 YEARS OF PUBLICATION**

### SUMMARY

European Development Days 2018 – empowering women to shape sustainable development	Page 2
Natural gas extracted in northern Mozambique sent to customers in 2022	Page 3
South Africa's producers are less optimistic now than they were in April	Page 3
Triton Minerals approves graphite mining project in Mozambique	Page 4
Swazi-Taiwanese relations will go on as usual, despite pressure from Chinese	Page 4
President of Angola rejects operations of Air Connection Express in the country	Page 4
Zimbabwe amends its mining bill to appease foreign mining companies	Page 5
Angola's debt service exceeds tax revenue in 2018	Page 5
Renewable power in Namibia risks becoming too much for its power grid	Page 5
IMF approves Guinea-Bissau assessment and extends aid for another year	Page 6
Ethiopia to double road network to 200,000km by 2020	Page 6
Adoption of China's currency gains popularity in southern Africa	Page 8
Government of Angola negotiates the termination of the concession contract awarded to Caioporto	Page 8
Angola's President ends visit to France with support of more than 1 billion euros	Page 9
Fed up with corruption, Kenyan president orders mass lie-detector tests	Page 9
Half of the Mozambican construction contractors are in pre-bankruptcy	Page 10
Uganda plans 'Idi Amin museum' to attract tourists	Page 11
A portion of 19% of Binter Cabo Verde will be sold to individuals	Page 12

## EUROPEAN DEVELOPMENT DAYS 2018 – EMPOWERING WOMEN AND GIRLS TO SHAPE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The 12th European Development Days (EDDs) will open tomorrow, bringing together Europe's and the world's development community, under the theme "Women and Girls at the Forefront of Sustainable Development: protect, empower, invest".

Commission President Jean-Claude **Juncker**, who will open the EDDs tomorrow, said: *"There can be no sustainable development if half of the world's population is left behind. We need equal participation and leadership of women and girls in all spheres of life – both in Europe and in the world. This is what we will focus on during these European Development Days."*

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven **Mimica** emphasised: *"The EDDs gather the development community from all corners of the globe to learn from each other and to inspire new partnerships. Only if we act together, will we manage to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and empower them to truly be at the forefront of sustainable development"*.

From the European Commission, the President Jean-Claude **Juncker**, together with High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini**, First-Vice President of the European Commission Frans **Timmermans**, as well as Commissioners Cecilia **Malmström**, Neven **Mimica**, Christos **Stylianides**, Phil **Hogan** and Mariya **Gabriel**, will participate at the event.

The European Development Days will furthermore be joined by many high-level speakers and participants including: Her Majesty **Mathilde**, Queen of the Belgians; Her Majesty Queen **Letizia** of Spain; Her Royal Highness **Mary**, the Crown Princess of Denmark; President of Malta Marie-Louise **Coleiro Preca**; Prime Minister of Norway Erna **Solberg**; President of the European Parliament Antonio **Tajani**; President of Rwanda Paul **Kagame**; President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian **Kaboré**; President of Niger Mahamadou **Issoufou**; President of Liberia George **Weah**; Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Amina J. **Mohammed**, and many more.

Sixteen **Young Leaders** from around the world will join high-level panels to exchange ideas and experiences with policy-makers and world leaders. Participation and voices of young people will be additionally promoted this year by a large Youth Lounge that would facilitate youth organisations and activists' gatherings and discussions on gender equality and other development issues.

The **Lorenzo Natali Media Prize 2018** will be awarded to journalists for their outstanding reporting on sustainable development, with a special focus on the elimination of violence against women and girls. Today, in the margins of the European Development Days, Commissioner **Mimica** will sign new support for Burkina Faso, together with President Kaboré. More information will be made available at 18:00 [here](#). On Wednesday, he will sign a new package of assistance for Liberia, together with Liberian President George Weah.

A full [cultural programme](#) featuring international artists, musicians and film-makers will complement the event, while the [Global Village](#), a fair composed of 92 stands, will bring together international stakeholders to share projects or reports related to the EDDs' main themes and thread.

### Background

European Development Days were launched in 2006 as a way to gather the international development community and discuss the way forward to eradicate poverty.

Organised by the European Commission, the EDDs have become a kind of "Davos for development", a strong reference point for the international development community to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire innovative solutions and new partnerships to face the world's most pressing challenges. Since 2006, 100 world leaders, 7 Nobel Prize laureates, 4500 organisations, and 42 000 participants from 154 countries have attended the EDDs.

At the EDDs, journalists will have the opportunity to speak to many participants, including political leaders, policy-makers, business leaders, key personalities of the women's rights movement, entrepreneurs, young people, as well as non-governmental organisations and academia. Specific media facilities and opportunities are offered to the international press such as TV and radio studios, press conference room, Facebook live corner (more information [here](#)).

The opening and closing sessions of the event, as well as several other highlights, will be broadcasted on the [European Development Days' website](#), as well as on [EbS](#).(EC 04-06-2018)

## **NATURAL GAS EXTRACTED IN NORTHERN MOZAMBIQUE SENT TO CUSTOMERS IN 2022**

The first shipments of natural gas to be extracted in the Coral Sul project, a set of six wells with depths ranging between 1,500 and 2,300 metres that is part of the Area 4 block of the Rovuma basin, operated by Italian group ENI, is expected to be sent to customers in 2022, said the chairman of Mozambican state oil and gas company Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos (ENH).

Omar Mithá recalled that the final investment decision had been made in 2017, with the completion of the floating natural gas extraction and liquefaction platform being built in three countries, South Korea, England and Singapore, costing US\$4.7 billion.

The ENH chairman also told Mozambican newspaper O País that it is now possible to anticipate future revenues generated by the project, whose natural gas already has credible buyers, including state-owned companies from developed countries that have signed medium- and long-term contracts.

Mithá said that one of the ways available to ENH to finance its participation in Rovuma projects is the early sale of the gas, “for which we would have to convince the other shareholders that we wanted to receive in kind, and then put that gas on the market in advance,” but recently it hired financial consultants Lazard Frères, Lion’s Head Global and Société Générale to try to raise US\$2 billion on the international market.

In a recent interview with financial news agency Bloomberg, Mithá described going to the markets as “extremely urgent,” and the investor promotion programme includes travel to Asia, the Middle East, and South Africa.

Lazard, which is already a legal advisor to the Mozambican government on the renegotiation of “hidden debts,” will also provide legal assistance in the financing of ENH’s stake in Area 1 of the Rovuma basin. The project’s operator is US oil group Anadarko Petroleum, and Société Générale will focus on funding while Lion’s Head will be the consultant responsible for advising ENH on its stake in the Area 4 project. (04-06-2018)

## **SOUTH AFRICA’S PRODUCERS ARE LESS OPTIMISTIC NOW THAN THEY WERE IN APRIL**

South African factory managers turned pessimistic again in May after briefly embracing optimism in April. On Friday, Stellenbosch University’s Bureau of Economic Research (BER) reported that its monthly manufacturing purchasing managers index (PMI) fell to 49.8 points in May from 50.9 points in April. The PMI has oscillated around the neutral 50-point level since January.

It breached the 50-point level in February for the first time in nine months then fell back under in March, only to lift above the mark in April and then fall under 50 again in May.

Of the nine components of the PMI, the sharpest decline of five points was registered for new sales orders, which fell to 51.5 from 56.5 points.

BER described April’s new sales orders score as unusually high. It jumped 11 points from 44.5 points in March to 56.5 points April.

Suppliers’ performance showed the best improvement of four points, taking it to 51.8 points in May.

The monthly survey tends to foreshadow by two months the more comprehensive manufacturing sales and output data Statistics SA publishes.

Statistics SA’s most recent manufacturing report was for March, showing a 1.3% annual decline in South African factory output.

The March figure indicated manufacturing would contribute a 1.7% decline to SA’s first quarter gross domestic product (GDP), which Statistics SA is scheduled to release on June 5. (BD 01-06-2018)

## **TRITON MINERALS APPROVES GRAPHITE MINING PROJECT IN MOZAMBIQUE**

The board of directors of Triton Minerals has approved a project to explore graphite deposits in Ancuabe, Cabo Delgado province, northern Mozambique, which will require an investment of US\$99.4 million, the Australian company said in a statement issued in Perth on Friday.

The statement added that the company has begun preparation work, including earthworks for construction of a dam, as well as repairing roads that were affected by the rainy season to allow the transportation of equipment, and construction of the field itself.

Triton Minerals managing director Peter Canterbury said the development of the Ancuabe project will provide substantial benefits to the Mozambican government, to the residents in the area of the mine as well as to shareholders, and said initial production of graphite concentrate was expected in the second half of 2019.

The Ancuabe project contains estimated graphite deposits of 3.04 million tons and the definitive economic feasibility study concluded that the concession could produce 60,000 tons of graphite concentrate per year over a 27-year period. (04-06-2018)

## **SWAZI-TAIWANESE RELATIONS WILL GO ON AS USUAL, DESPITE PRESSURE FROM CHINESE**

eSwatini, [formerly known as Swaziland](#), will maintain diplomatic relations with Taiwan, a government spokesperson said on Friday, despite Chinese pressure on the Southern African nation to sever ties with Taiwan.

Eswatini has had close relations with Taiwan for several decades and is its last remaining African ally after a concerted push by Beijing to isolate the self-ruled island off the east coast of China.

The Chinese government's top diplomat urged eSwatini in May to follow the West African state of Burkina Faso in ending ties with Taiwan, which Beijing says is a Chinese province.

"There is no change of heart or position on our ties with Taiwan. Whoever spreads rumours that we will ditch Taiwan can be referred to as a fake news peddler," said Percy Simelane, an eSwatini spokesperson.

King Mswati III changed his country's name to eSwatini, meaning "land of the Swazis", in April during celebrations to mark 50 years of independence.

China's foreign ministry said on Friday that it hoped eSwatini would break off relations with Taiwan before early September, when Beijing will host a summit of African leaders.

Taiwan has accused China of promising generous aid packages to lure away its allies — charges that China has denied. (Reuters 01-06-2018)

## **PRESIDENT OF ANGOLA REJECTS OPERATIONS OF AIR CONNECTION EXPRESS IN THE COUNTRY**

The Angolan President dismissed the launch of Air Connection Express -Transporte Aéreo, a public-private consortium that would provide domestic air transport in the country, speaking to European television channel Euronews.

João Lourenço said that the consortium, which would join state-owned TAAG and the national airport and air navigation company ENANA and private companies Bestfly, Air Jet, Air 26, Guicango, Diximim, Sjl and Mavewa, said it was a "fictitious company."

"The airline will not go beyond the planning stage, and if it does become a reality, I I hope some of the passengers will call and tell me – look, you told Euronews that Air Connection Express – Transporte Aéreo would not be set up, but I flew today in one of the company's planes," said the Angolan President.

The public-private consortium was announced at the beginning of May and a US\$198 million contract for the purchase of six Q400s was signed in Luanda with the representative for Africa and the Middle East, Jean Paul Boutibou, of Canadian manufacturer Bombardier. (04-06-2018)

### **ZIMBABWE AMENDS ITS MINING BILL TO APPEASE FOREIGN MINING COMPANIES**

Zimbabwe's parliament has passed amendments to its mining bill after removing clauses that required foreign mining companies to list locally, according to an official record of parliament's debates seen on Friday.

Last month, mines minister Winston Chitando promised to remove the requirements, which he said caused panic among foreign mining firms and were contrary to the government's push to open Zimbabwe to foreign investors. The country has seen increased interest from foreign investors since the downfall of Robert Mugabe in a de facto military coup in November.

The amendments to the mining bill, which were passed on Thursday, also allow the mines minister, after consulting with the president, to designate any mineral as strategic if "it would be in the interests of the development of the mining industry". Designating a mineral as strategic grants the government greater control over its mining.

Mining accounts for more than half Zimbabwe's export earnings, but investors have stayed away from the country, partly because of opaque black economic empowerment (BEE) rules.

The mining bill will also, for the first time, officially recognise small-scale miners, who produce more than 40% of Zimbabwe's gold output, meaning their operations will no longer be considered illegal. (Reuters 01-06-2018)

### **ANGOLA'S DEBT SERVICE EXCEEDS TAX REVENUE IN 2018**

Angola's debt service is expected to exceed tax revenue this year by 16.3%, after totalling 89.7% in 2017, according to projections from the Standard Bank's economic analysis unit, which called for loan maturities to be extended.

Analysts at the bank, in a report on African markets cited by Portuguese news agency Lusa, said that the pressure on debt service, "reflects an increase in total public debt against Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 68.6% in 2017 to 70.8% in 2018." As a percentage of GDP, 34% is debt contracted internally and 34.6% is external debt.

However, Standard Bank's economic analysis unit acknowledged that the Angolan government is aware of these difficulties and is trying to extend debt repayment terms by renegotiating bilateral agreements.

"The government is raising the maturity profile of domestic debt, which will ease the pressure to serve short-term debt," they said, noting that "high demand for public debt securities [worth US\$3 billion] shows that international investors are confident of President João Lourenço's reform agenda." (04-06-2018)

### **RENEWABLE POWER IN NAMIBIA RISKS BECOMING TOO MUCH FOR ITS POWER GRID**

Namibia may soon have to temper its love for renewable power — at least until the grid can catch up.

In just a few years, the nation of only about 2.5-million people has installed almost 55MW of generation from renewables and has projects under construction for another 121MW, according to NamPower, the state-owned utility.

The total installed capacity combined with committed renewable generation "is reaching the threshold the grid can accommodate," the utility said in an e-mailed reply to questions.

The comments illustrate the limits of how quickly wind and solar farms can penetrate nations before bigger investment is required in the power distribution network. Unlike traditional power plants that can run round the clock, renewables feed electricity to the grid only when the sun shines or the wind blows. Technically, Namibia can handle about 275MW of renewables, which is about half of the midday load, the utility said, citing 2017 studies. The country relies on imports for about 60% of its electricity, mainly from Eskom, according to a 2017 annual report.

Africa presents huge opportunities for developers of renewable-energy plants, since wind and solar are quicker and sometimes cheaper to build than coal and natural gas plants. While renewable sources such as wind and solar can leapfrog traditional generation, they do not provide consistent 24-hour baseload electricity.

Namibia's biggest domestic source of power is the Ruacana hydropower plant near the border with Angola. It depends on the seasonal run of the Kunene River.

NamPower is dependent on Eskom to perform "load following", when a power plant adjusts its output as demand for electricity fluctuates throughout the day, the company said. Eskom did not immediately reply to an e-mail seeking comment.

Reaching a bottleneck has not deterred Namibia from adopting more renewables in the future as it aims to reduce power imports. The national integrated resource plan includes an allocation for biomass power plants with capacity of as much as 200MW.

Concentrated solar power is also called for in the plan. That technology concentrates the sun's energy on heating a liquid that drives power turbines. Because the liquid can retain heat for a time after the sun goes down, those systems also can be used to store energy and deliver power to the grid at predictable times. (Bloomberg 31-05-2018)

## **IMF APPROVES GUINEA-BISSAU ASSESSMENT AND EXTENDS AID FOR ANOTHER YEAR**

Guinea-Bissau's economic activity remained robust and gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to have grown by 5.9% in 2017, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said, adding that it had approved the intervention period under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) for another year, until July 2019.

In a statement released on Friday in Washington announcing the completion of the fifth evaluation of the Guinea-Bissau support programme, the IMF board said it had released US\$4.3 million in funding, increasing its support to the country to US\$24.2 million.

Approval of the extension of the Extended Credit Facility, "will ensure macroeconomic stability during the next election period, support reforms focused on increasing tax revenue and address critical infrastructure issues and help finance balance of payments needs."

In 2017, the country recorded economic growth of 5.9%, with an inflation rate of 1.1%, an external deficit of 0.5% of GDP and a budget deficit of 1.5% of GDP, "with a predicted growth rate of 5.3% this year, although it is subject to risks stemming from a fragile political situation and adverse trade conditions." (04-06-2018)

## **ETHIOPIA TO DOUBLE ROAD NETWORK TO 200,000KM BY 2020**

Rapidly industrialising Ethiopia, Africa's second most populous country, has set an ambitious target to double the length of its road network by 2020 from its extent in 2015.

The government's Roads Authority revealed the target on Monday, 28 May, while reporting progress on the second five-year Growth and Transformation Plan (GTP-II), which runs from 2015 to 2020.



A car transporter in the Oromia region of Ethiopia

In 2015, at the end of GTP-I, the road network had reached 100,000km.

It now stands at 121,171km, according to the roads ministry, including gravel roads.

That represents a large expansion from 1990, when there were just 19,000km of roads. About 90% of them are asphalt.

Road-building now consumes about a quarter of the federal government's annual infrastructure spending.

Samson Wondimu, a director at the ministry, said in a [television interview last week](#) that the road building programme had spent about \$11bn over the past 20 years, and that the annual budget for the roads sector had grown 20% to reach \$1.7bn.

The present programme includes [flagship projects](#) such as the 200km Hawassa expressway in the central-southern area of the country, which got under way after a four-year long search for funds.

The authority is planning similar modern roads around Addis Ababa, and projects are attracting international bidders; Hawassa was won by China Railway Seventh Group in an open tender against a Spanish-Indian joint venture and another Chinese firm.

Wondimu added that regional states were devising plans to assure fair road access, and Ethiopian construction firms were building capacity to take part in the schemes.

Other African countries are watching Ethiopia's progress in developing its transport and power infrastructure to support the government's industrialisation drive.

Despite being landlocked, and with few natural resources, it has increased its GDP tenfold in the past 15 years.

Notable efforts include the 750-km electrified railway from Addis Ababa to the port city of neighbouring Djibouti, which began operating in [January last year](#), and the 6GW Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD), [nearing completion](#) on the Nile.

With a population of 102 million, Ethiopia is second only to Nigeria (186 million) on the African continent in terms of population size.(GCR 30-05-2018)

## **ADOPTION OF CHINA'S CURRENCY GAINS POPULARITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA**

The growing adoption of China's currency by central banks was advocated at a forum on foreign reserve management in Southern Africa held in Harare, Zimbabwe, with the participation of 14 countries in the region, including Angola and Mozambique.

A spokeswoman for the Macroeconomic and Financial Management Institute of Eastern and Southern Africa (MEFMI) Gladys Siwela-Jadagu said that the Harare Forum took place at a time when central bank reserves in the region are "roughly" at minimum levels and that public debt denominated in foreign currencies continues to increase, as well as interest payments, as countries are using commercial loans to finance infrastructure construction.

Most of the reserves of the majority of countries in the region are invested in dollars, and their makeup has yet to accompany changes in the world economy, in particular, the rise of China and India, which have gained particular importance as African trading partners in recent years.

"Most countries in the Eastern/Southern region have loans or grants from China and it would make economic sense to pay them in yuan. This is why it is critical for policy-makers to strategise about the continent's progress towards adopting the Chinese yuan, which has become what we can call a common currency in trade with Africa," said Siwela-Jadagu cited by the Xinhua news agency.

"As China is the largest trading partner for more than 130 countries, the main challenge for African countries is how to benefit from the new pattern of international trade," she said.

The forum was attended by representatives of central banks and governments in the region, as well as officials from the African Development Bank.

In March, Nigeria signed a US\$2.4 billion currency exchange agreement with China in the wake of a similar move by another of the major African economies, South Africa, which in 2016 launched an initial exchange platform between the yuan and the rand, to facilitate exchanges between the two currencies.

Earlier, Ghana, Nigeria, Mauritius and Zimbabwe had accepted the yuan for payments and reserves, and the Nigerian central bank already has more than 10% of its foreign reserves in Chinese currency.

China and Angola signed an official agreement in August 2015 to allow for reciprocal use of the currencies of both countries, which was then interpreted by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) as a result of the Angolan "hope" that greater use of the yuan will reduce the need for dollars, which are scarce in the country.

The Macau Special Administrative Region has been taking steps to play a role in the African roll-out of the yuan, with the support of the central government of China, to become a bank platform for clearing the currency between China and the Portuguese-speaking countries. (04-06-2018)

## **GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA NEGOTIATES THE TERMINATION OF THE CONCESSION CONTRACT AWARDED TO CAIOPORTO**

The Angolan government plans to negotiate the termination of the concession contract for the construction of the Caio port in Cabinda, granted to Caioporto, and a commission for that purpose was created by presidential dispatch no. 66/18, of 30 May, according to the international press.

The creation of this negotiating commission, to be coordinated by the Ministry of Transport, is a summary of the presidential dispatch involving Caioporto, whose main shareholder is Swiss-Angolan businessman Jean-Claude Bastos de Morais, investigated by the Angolan authorities about management of assets of the Angolan Sovereign Fund.

The Swiss-Angolan businessman, president and founder of Quantum Global, who managed more than US\$3 billion of the US\$5 billion in assets of the Angola Sovereign Fund, was charged last week and prevented from leaving Angola after questioning at the National Directorate of Investigation and Criminal Action of the Attorney General's Office (PGR), according to the local press.



The construction of the port, valued at US\$831.9 million, was included in the China Credit Line, with the Angolan State bearing 85% of the cost of the contract and the concessionaire the remaining 15% or US\$124.8 million.

Construction of the port, in Caio Litoral, will be carried out in three phases, the first of which is the construction of port infrastructure and a cargo service area of 100 hectares and a 775-metre pier. The China Road and Bridge Corporation (CBRC) has been hired to carry out the contract. (01-06-2018)

## **ANGOLA'S PRESIDENT ENDS VISIT TO FRANCE WITH SUPPORT OF MORE THAN 1 BILLION EUROS**

The official visit of the Angolan President to France has raised more than 1 billion euros from several partners, including the French Development Agency, which granted a loan of 100 million euros to support commercial agricultural activity in Angola, Angolan news agency Angop reported.

Included in that amount is an agreement signed with the Crédit Agricole bank to open a credit line of up to 500 million euros to finance various projects, along with another agreement to provide technical support to prepare the proposed projects.

Angolan Foreign Minister Manuel Augusto, reviewing the presidential visit, recalled the agreement signed by state oil company Sonangol with French Group Total for business in the areas of exploration and distribution of oil products as well as another one to offer 50 scholarships to young Angolans for oil studies.

"The financial package that resulted from this visit exceeds 1 billion euros, and the results exceeded our expectations," said the minister, after leaving a meeting the President of the Republic had in Toulouse with the Angolan community there.

In addition to being received at the Elysee Palace in Paris, by his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron, on Monday, Lourenço visited the manufacturing facilities of Airbus and ATR Aircraft, both in Toulouse, and took part in an economic forum that included 80 French business people.

Lourenço chose France for his first official visit to Europe, which began on Monday and ended on Thursday, followed by Belgium on 4 and 5 June. (31-05-2018)

## **FED UP WITH CORRUPTION, KENYAN PRESIDENT ORDERS MASS LIE-DETECTOR TESTS**



Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta

All government procurement officials in Kenya will have to undergo lie-detector tests in the next month, and will be suspended if they fail, the country's president has said.

Uhuru Kenyatta made the unprecedented declaration on Friday, 1 June after 54 people, including the public service ministry's principal secretary, were charged last week with stealing \$100m from the National Youth Service (NYS), an agency that trains young people to work on projects ranging from construction to traffic control.

It is just the latest corruption scandal in the country, however, where alleged graft has disrupted major construction projects including a new terminal at [Jomo Kenyatta International Airport](#), and a [new office complex](#) for the National Social Security Fund.

Earlier this year Israeli police arrested seven executives of Israeli infrastructure company Shikun & Binui on suspicion of [bribing Kenyan officials](#) for work.

The NYS scandal appears to have snapped the patience of the recently re-elected president, who has promised a "Big Four" development programme prioritising manufacturing, healthcare, affordable housing, and food security, which would be undermined by theft and bribery.

"All heads of procurement and accounts in government ministries, departments, agencies and parastatals will undergo fresh vetting including polygraph testing, to determine their integrity and suitability," Kenyatta tweeted Friday.

In a statement [he added](#): "Those who shall fail the vetting (through lie-detector tests) will stand suspended. I expect this exercise to be concluded before the start of the new financial year (2018/2019)." The next financial year begins on 1 July.

The NYS case triggered protests in the capital Nairobi, where 200 people marched to protest against what they said were "high levels of corruption", [Reuters reports](#).

Dozens of the NYS suspects remain at large, while 24 were arrested and pleaded not guilty in court on Tuesday.

Reuters notes that while Kenyatta pledged to stamp out graft when first elected in 2013, critics say he has been slow to pursue top officials. No high-profile convictions have occurred since he took office.

The president used an independence day speech on Friday in Meru County to lambast "predators" – public officials who, through "selfishness, greed and misuse of authorities", deny Kenyans public services and development. He likened the scourge of corruption to colonialism.

"Like colonialism was defeated, so will we defeat corruption," he said. (CGR 04-06-2018)

## **HALF OF THE MOZAMBIKAN CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTORS ARE IN PRE-BANKRUPTCY**

The economic and financial crisis in Mozambique has led almost half of the 3,000 civil construction contractors to be in a situation of pre-bankruptcy, and companies have been forced to lay off workers because of lack of work, the president of the Mozambican Federation of Contractors said on Wednesday in Maputo.

Manuel Pereira told Radio Moçambique that the government has no open public tenders for construction works, that without works there is no money, which is why 1500 companies are almost bankrupt and almost all the workers have been laid off.

During a preparatory session for a meeting to be held next week that the contractors have scheduled with the President of the Republic, Filipe Nyusi, the president of the Mozambican Federation of Contractors said that the government has to help companies in the sector, "given that it was the government that granted the licenses."

“The government granted the licenses, so it has the right and duty to provide work to construction contractors,” said Pereira.

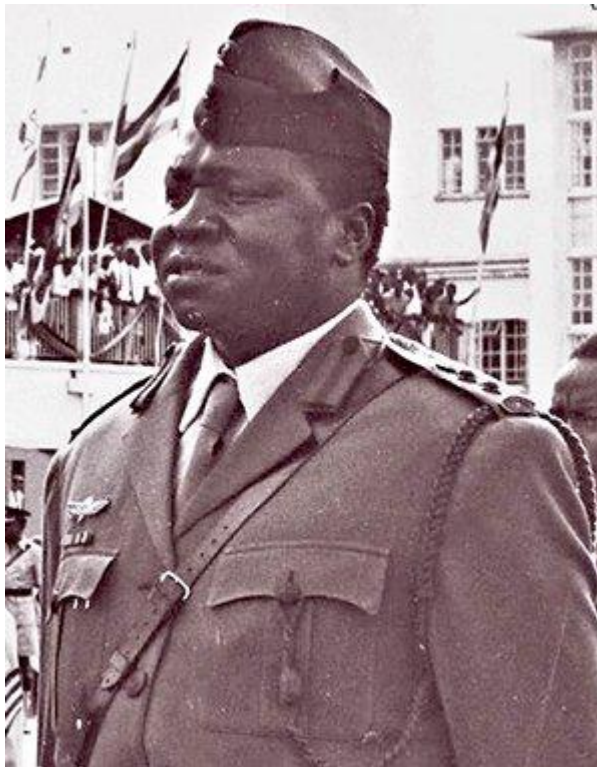
Mozambique has been plunged into an economic crisis caused by falling commodity prices and weak demand for the country’s traditional export products, coupled with the discovery of hidden debts taken on by state-owned companies with the state’s endorsement. (31-05-2018)

## UGANDA PLANS ‘IDI AMIN MUSEUM’ TO ATTRACT TOURISTS

Uganda plans to attract tourists with a museum dedicated to the brutal dictator Idi Amin and other violent episodes in the country’s history, including from the colonial era.

Uganda Tourism Board Chief Executive Stephen Asimwe told the BBC that the museum would not be insensitive or voyeuristic.

“We want to put the record straight,” he said, adding: “History gets richer, it’s like red wine - it gets more interesting as the years go by.”



Idi Amin seized power in 1971, less than 10 years after Uganda’s independence

“I lived through the Idi Amin era as a young boy, my fellow students lost their parents to the regime,” he said.

“However you cannot run away from history. These are facts.”

Amin joined the British Army in his 20s, seizing power in 1971, less than 10 years after Uganda’s independence.

Some 400,000 people are believed to have been killed under his brutal, eight-year rule, and he expelled the country’s entire Asian population in 1972.

Atrocities committed by the Lord’s Resistance Army will also be documented, the tourism chief said.

Construction has not yet begun, but not everyone in Ugandan tourism is happy with the idea.

John Sempebwa, the deputy executive director of the tourism board, [told VOA](#) he disagrees with his colleagues who suggest Ugandans are ready to revisit the more painful details of their past.

“Which Ugandan is going to put up a museum and say you guys come here?” he said, adding, “It’s not ready because society is divided. There are people who are still around who don’t have good memories of Amin. Now, not only won’t they come, they might burn this place down.” (CGR 04-06-2018)

## A PORTION OF 19% OF BINTER CABO VERDE WILL BE SOLD TO INDIVIDUALS

A portion of 19% of Binter Cabo Verde’s capital stock will be put up for sale “to whoever wants to buy it,” said the country’s Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Olavo Correia, cited by local news agency Inforpress.

“Even if a private national does not appear to acquire that portion and ensure that 49% of the capital stock of the company that holds the monopoly on inter-island connections is national, the government will not buy it,” said the minister, who said there was no “Need for the state to have an active presence in the company.”

Correia said that the state had agreed to take a 30% stake in Binter Cabo Verde and added, “we do not want to be shareholders of the company so it can have public managers alongside private ones, we want the company to provide a good service to Cape Verdeans.”

Binter Cabo Verde has been operating domestic air connections since November 2016 and took on the monopoly of these connections in Cabo Verde in August 2017. (31-05-2018)

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