

MEMORANDUM

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12 YEARS OF PUBLICATION

SUMMARY

Kenya ranked high for renewable energy	Page 2
The government of Angola uses credit line from Spain to recover hydroelectric dam	Page 2
ACP-EU and the next EU budget: Six crucial weeks to understand which way the wind is blowing	Page 3
Angola's Sonangol Group to lose some of its subsidiary companies	Page 6
Shell and Equatorial Guinea to Explore New Projects	Page 6
Angola asks to join Commonwealth	Page 7
Kenya's Information industry wants the removal of taxes from ICT	Page 7
Air Namibia returns to West African skies	Page 7
Kenya: European Union signs one million euro grant to support the Makueni Fruit Processing Plant	Page 8
Nigeria records 8,800 flight delays in three months	Page 9
Emmanuel Macron va-t-il achever la Françafrique ?	Page 9
Nigeria loses 11 percent forests annually	Page 11
South Africa's rail operator to occupy its rail services hub	Page 12
Senegal to convene national dialogue on oil and gas	Page 13
Kenya tops Africa and ninth globally in geothermal rankings	Page 13
Eswatini King Mswati III visits Taiwan	Page 14
EU's external action: 'cross-border cooperation' component to undergo major changes	Page 15
Camair-Co to resume Nigeria flights	Page 15

KENYA RANKED HIGH FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY

Kenya is among the top 10 countries with the largest geothermal power capacity worldwide, a report released on Monday shows.

According to Renewables 2018 Global Status Report (GSR), Kenya tops in Africa and is ninth globally with a capacity of about 700 megawatts.

Kenya beats technological heavyweights such as Japan that has been ranked at position 10 with a geothermal generating capacity of 500 megawatts.

United States has the largest geothermal generating capacity globally with 2,500 megawatts followed by Philippines (1,900 MW), Indonesia (1,800 MW), Turkey (1,100 MW), New Zealand (1,000 MW), Mexico (900 MW), Italy (800 MW) and Iceland (750 MW). The rest of the world shares 950 MW.

RENEWABLE ENERGY

Renewable energy accounts for over 70 per cent of Kenya's installed capacity compared to the world average of 24 per cent, according to the Ministry of Energy.

Renewable energy power plants under development in Kenya include the 300 MW Lake Turkana Wind Power Plant, which is the single largest wind power plant in Africa, 70 MW Olkaria 1 and the 140 MW Olkaria V.

Use of renewable energy is among the measures to combat adverse impacts of climate change by reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

"Kenya's Olivado plant, which produces oil from avocados, is installing a biogas system that will reduce its waste streams and make the plant self-sufficient in energy, producing 1.5 Gigawatt hours (GWh)," says the report by Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st century (REN21).

GLOBAL TRANSITION

REN21 – supported by United Nations Environment Programme (Unep) – is a global renewable energy policy network that aims to facilitate knowledge exchange, policy development and joint action towards a rapid global transition to renewable energy.

The report also indicates that about 9 million households in Kenya have access to off-grid renewable energy.

"In Kenya and Uganda, the number of off-grid systems deployed in 2016 outpaced the grid connections achieved by rural electrification agencies and national utility companies," it says. (Daily Nation 06-06-2018)

THE GOVERNMENT OF ANGOLA USES CREDIT LINE FROM SPAIN TO RECOVER HYDROELECTRIC DAM

The Angolan government will spend US\$120 million on the renovation of three turbines and the rehabilitation of the Matala hydroelectric power substation, located in the province of Huíla, 180 kilometres west of the capital city of Lubango, said the Minister of Energy and Water, João Baptista Borges.

Following a meeting with Governor Joao Marcelino Typpinge, during an eight-hour visit to the province to assess the how his sector operates, the minister also said that the recovery of the facility involves two phases, the first of which was carried out by a Canadian company and consisted of the physical repair of the dam, which was built in 1958 and had many cracks.

The second phase focuses on the recovery of the powerhouse, a restricted access space to house the electromechanical power production equipment at a hydroelectric dam or power station, as well as the substation that will connect Lubango to the city of Moçâmedes, capital of Namibe province.

“This second phase will be financed using the credit line opened by Spain, the works will be awarded to a Spanish company and when they are completed, which is expected to happen later this year, will allow for production of 40 megawatts of electricity,” the minister said, quoted by Angolan news agency Angop.

The Matala Hydroelectric Power Plant is producing just 20 megawatts of electricity, through three generator sets with a potential output of 13.6 megawatts each, which is distributed to the municipality of Matala and the cities of Lubango and Moçâmedes. (07-06-2018)

ACP-EU NEGOTIATIONS AND THE NEXT EU BUDGET: SIX CRUCIAL WEEKS TO UNDERSTAND WHICH WAY THE WIND IS BLOWING



Today, development ministers from all over Europe will gather in Brussels to discuss the future of relations between the EU and the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) group of states and, on a separate agenda, the future EU budget proposals.

While the discussions on the future of [ACP-EU relations and the next EU budget seem to run on separate tracks](#), they are in fact different pieces of the same puzzle.

The mutual implications of both will be hugely significant. Not to mention the role of the EU Global Strategy, Brexit negotiations and implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The upcoming six weeks will be critical for the future of ACP-EU relations after 2020 and for the 2021–2027 EU budget negotiations. As these parallel shows are about to start, we help you make sense of the programme and explain what is at stake.

The first key appointment is today’s [Development/Foreign Affairs Council meeting \(FAC-DEV\)](#).

This particular Council meeting is expected to produce the first reflections on the European Commission’s proposal for the EU budget and the external financial instruments, along with the inclusion of the European Development Fund (EDF) into the budget – the so-called ‘budgetisation’ of the EDF.

It might be too soon to see fully formed government positions on the EU budget, as European capitals are still digesting the Commission’s proposal.

The EU’s mandate for post-Cotonou negotiations is on the agenda of the very same council meeting. The mandate should be formally adopted by the Foreign Affairs Council on 28 May.

The African Union and/or the ACP: Time to make a choice

On a different but related track, on 23 May there will be the European Commission and African Union Commission 'College to College meeting' of political leaders and senior bureaucrats.

The EU has repeatedly pointed out that Africa is a priority during the November 2017 AU-EU Summit in Cote d'Ivoire, but also in its first proposals for the next EU budget.

During an [Executive Council meeting in Kigali](#) last March, the African Union itself hinted that it wants to take a strong role in the negotiations of any future agreement in the post-Cotonou context with the European Union. Just how strong a role will, paradoxically, most likely be determined in the ACP Council of Ministers meeting in Togo, taking place from 28 to 30 May, although it could take until after the [African Union Heads of State Summit](#), which takes place from 25 June to 2 July.

The ACP institutions want to ensure that there is a strong collective approach to the negotiations. But it won't be an easy task. This meeting will have to reconcile the whole of ACP and (various) African positions and, more importantly, define who has the negotiating mandate to represent whom.

This meeting will be immediately followed by the [Joint EU-ACP Council of Ministers meeting](#) on 31 May and 1 June. It will be the last time both sides meet – at the political level – before the formal opening of the negotiations on the future of the relationship, scheduled for August 2018.

Budgetising the European Development Fund

On 14 June, the European Commission will give more details on the external action area of the next multiannual financial framework.

This should include a breakdown on how it plans to allocate the €89.5 billion Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument it proposed.

It is now much clearer that the EU neighbourhood (east and south) and Africa are the regions where the EU will put the bulk of its financial resources.

The largest geographic allocation will likely be in sub-Saharan Africa, and possibly even at a level higher than that of the [11th European Development Fund](#).

Yet there are many more countries in sub-Saharan Africa with arguably greater needs than the neighbourhood. There is no longer any specific reference to an ACP envelope within this single Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument, which means that it effectively integrates the EDF across the instrument, rather than as a stand alone pillar or part.

This is all part of the Commission's desire for a stronger move to make the EU budget more coherent, flexible and more rational, as recommended by external evaluations.

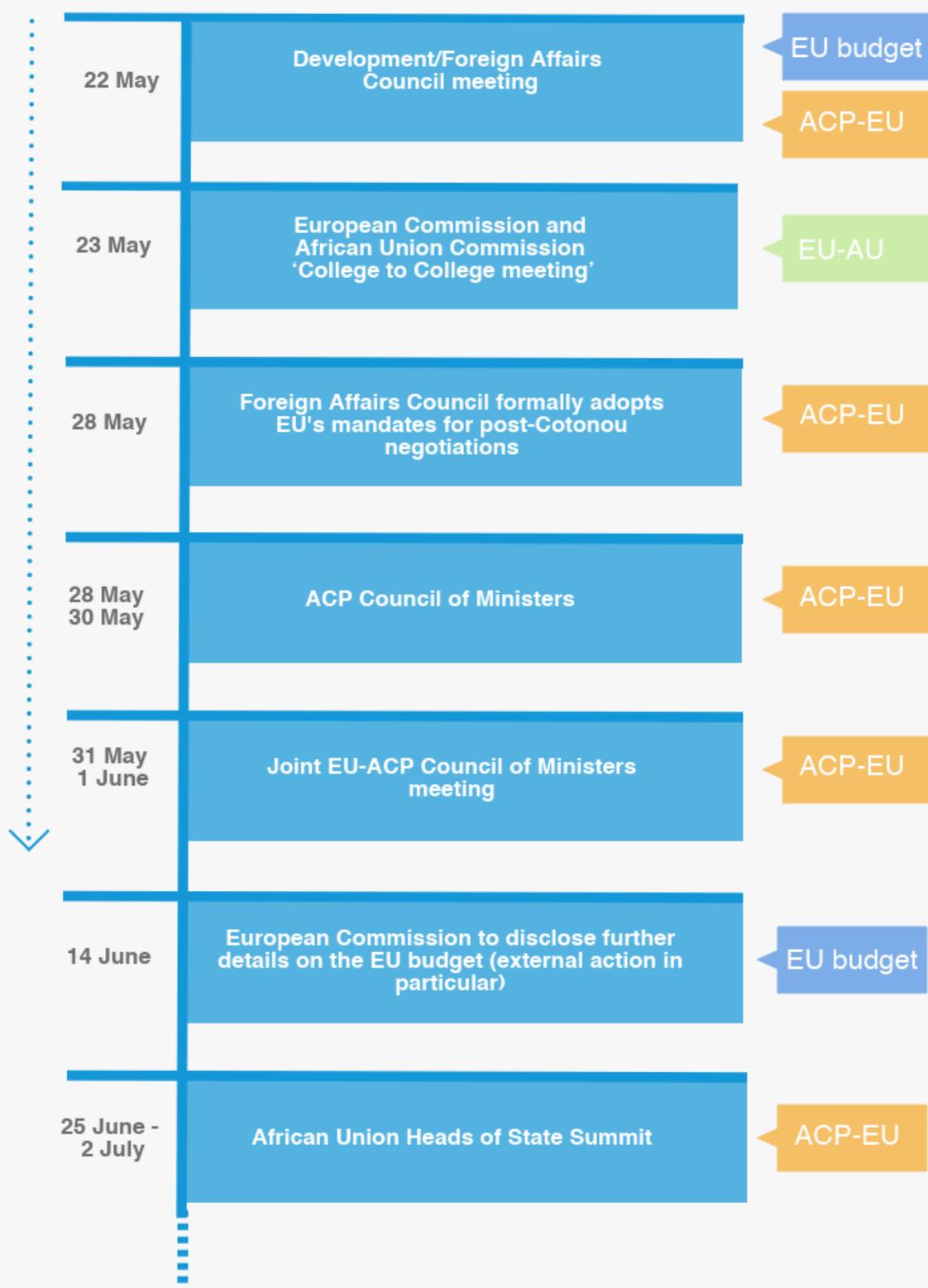
It is not the first time that the European Commission proposes the EDF budgetisation, and the question is whether, this time around, it is more likely to become a reality at the end of the negotiations.

Some still think it would be better for development if the EDF is safely kept outside of the EU budget.

At this stage, it is difficult to predict where the negotiations will end up, but the Commission believes it has a strong hand thanks to the calls for flexibility, rationality and simplicity that come from member states and the Parliament themselves.

Yet, the EU budget negotiations are likely to be very hard fought and various constituencies in the development, neighbourhood, human rights and peace communities are likely to lobby hard to keep 'their' instruments separate. (ECDPM 22-05-2018)

Important meetings concerning ACP-EU relations and the EU budget in the next six weeks (May-June 2018)



ANGOLA'S SONANGOL GROUP TO LOSE SOME OF ITS SUBSIDIARY COMPANIES

Some Angolan public companies operating in the oil and gas sector will be included in the country's ongoing privatisation process, the Angolan president said in an interview with French newspaper L'Opinion.

"It will involve some subsidiaries of Sonangol (Sociedade Nacional de Combustíveis de Angola)," said João Lourenço, without specifying which companies in the national oil sector will be affected, according to Angolan newspaper Novo Jornal.

The Head of State also gave assurances in the interview that the companies that will pass from the State to private entities will be sold through a transparent process that will not favour any entity.

Last February Lourenço created the Commission for Preparation of the Implementation of the Privatisation Process in Reference Companies, which was charged with presenting the programme to be executed by the government in this area, to increase efficiency and reduce the costs of the state sector.

Last April Jornal de Angola reported that the list of Angolan public companies to be privatised should be announced shortly, as the deadline given to a commission coordinated by the Minister of State for Economic and Social Development, Manuel Nunes Júnior has ended.

The privatisation of public enterprises that, in practice, are a "dead weight for the State," was one of the priorities of governance outlined by the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, with the Head of State reiterated that the companies the State planned to dispose of should be studied "on a case-by-case basis." (07-06-2018)

SHELL AND EQUATORIAL GUINEA TO EXPLORE NEW PROJECTS

On April 26, the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea signed a non-binding memorandum of understanding with Shell Gas & Power Developments B.V. to evaluate business opportunities in the oil and gas industry in Equatorial Guinea. The MoU builds on Shell's presence in Equatorial Guinea as an off-taker of LNG from EG LNG via its acquisition of BG Group.

The MoU, signed by the Minister of Mines and Hydrocarbons H.E. Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima, outlines how Shell and the state will work together. It commits the parties to creating a framework to further improve their cooperation. Shell brings considerable experience in the gas value chain, from exploration to marketing the MoU will facilitate discussions on further agreements between the government and Shell.

"Gas is the future for Africa's economies," said H.E. Gabriel Mbaga Obiang Lima. "Equatorial Guinea has shown what this fuel can do, and with a partner like Shell, we are confident that our new ventures in the exploration and production of our natural resources will generate a prosperous future for our nation and for our region. We're excited to continue working with Shell on finding new opportunities in the hydrocarbons sector."

The Ministry of Mines and Hydrocarbons has recently signed agreements with Ghana, Togo and Burkina Faso to supply LNG. Its effort to expand its gas horizons is underpinned by large historical and current investments in upstream natural gas and processing projects. Shell entered Equatorial Guinea in 2016 through its acquisition of BG Group. Through the acquisition it took over a long-term gas off-take agreement with Equatorial Guinea LNG. The company currently has no upstream acreage in Equatorial Guinea, but through this MoU and future agreements, could enter new areas of the energy value chain.(AO 06-06-2018)

ANGOLA ASKS TO JOIN COMMONWEALTH

Angola will apply for membership to the Commonwealth, the community of English-speaking countries, UK Foreign Minister Boris Johnson said on his Twitter account.

“It is magnificent that Angola intends to join the Commonwealth family. We welcome President Lourenço’s commitment to reform, to fighting corruption and to upholding human rights. We look forward to seeing you soon in the UK,” Johnson wrote.

In an interview with Euronews on 1 June, President João Lourenço said: “Do not be surprised if we are thinking of asking now to join Francophonie and in a few days we are also asking to join the Commonwealth, given that, “Angola is surrounded not by Portuguese speaking countries, but by Francophone and Anglophone countries.”

Lourenço recalled the case of Mozambique, a member country of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, “which is wedged between Anglophone countries, Malawi, Tanzania, South Africa itself, and which ended up joining the Commonwealth.”

Portuguese-speaking Mozambique and Rwanda, a former Belgian colony, are now the only two Commonwealth member countries that were not former colonies of the United Kingdom. (07-06-2018)

KENYA'S INFORMATION INDUSTRY WANTS THE REMOVAL OF TAXES FROM ICT

Taxes on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) are not letting the information industry to grow according to players in Information Industry.

16 percent value-added tax on imported ICT equipment has curtailed the growth of Information industry in Kenya.

Techno Brain Managing Director, Manoj Shanker says the 16 percent value-added tax on imported ICT equipment will not help Kenya to become the IT hub in Africa.

Many IT companies moved from Kenya to other countries including Rwanda and Ethiopia due to lower tax rates. This is a huge concern as Kenya needs to build a strong IT sector for its economy to keep on growing at the present rate.

The 2018 economic survey reported that the investment in the telecommunication industry of Kenya dropped by 26 percent to 38 billion shillings in 2017.

The sector grew by 11 percent this year and is projected to keep on growing according to the current trends in the industry.

At the unveiling of Microsoft research and testing center, The Deputy President William Ruto said the government is looking at offering tax holidays to help the ICT sector grow.

The government is introducing a new fiber optic system to help increase the speed of broadband data transfers, added the Deputy President.(DevDisc 07-06-2018)

AIR NAMIBIA RETURNS TO WEST AFRICAN SKIES

Air Namib has announced it will launch the Windhoek-Lagos-Accra, with the return routing from Accra-Lagos-Windhoek, on June 29, 2018.

The airline said the new route fits in with growing the business and increasing our footprint on the African continent. The new Air Namibia route to Ghana and Nigeria will reduce travelling time to West Africa by 60 percent, according to national flag carrier’s acting managing director Mandi Samson.

Samson said on Wednesday that the airline anticipates closing a gap in the market by competitively connecting Southern Africa to West Africa within less than six hours.

“This much-needed service gives our passengers a better alternative travel option, reducing travel times between Namibia and West Africa by more than 60 percent. We are happy to introduce our award-

winning service in this market, and we are already receiving positive feedback on the launch of this new route," Samson added.

"The operation fits within our existing capacity in terms of aircraft and crew, improving the utilization rates of these resources while increasing revenue generating opportunities. Especially as it means we are entering Africa's largest regional air travel market."

Air Namibia will service this new route with the Airbus A319-100, offering a seat configuration of 16 Business Class and 96 Economy Class seats and offers two tonnes of cargo space. The service will operate four times a week on Sunday, Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Apart from providing direct connection from Namibia to West Africa, the operation will further transport passengers and cargo on the Lagos-Accra-Lagos route, using the fifth freedom traffic rights granted by the Ghanaian and Nigerian governments, as contained in the existing bilateral air service agreements.

"The operating schedule and flight timings allow smooth and convenient connections inbound and outbound to our regional flights, connecting West Africa via Windhoek to Johannesburg, Cape Town, Luanda, Harare, Lusaka, Vic Falls, Gaborone Walvis Bay and Durban," Samson went on.

Air Namibia has also appointed APG Network as sales representatives in Nigeria and Ghana to provide full sales and marketing services, as well as call centre and customer care services on its behalf.

Air Namibia is making a comeback to the West Africa sky after abandoning the flight route to Accra in 2013. The airline launched the route in 2009, but has to terminate it citing low traffic that was not enough to sustain the route. (APA 07-06-2018)

KENYA: EUROPEAN UNION SIGNS ONE MILLION EURO GRANT TO SUPPORT THE MAKUENI FRUIT PROCESSING PLANT

Fifteen counties (Baringo, Kisii, Kisumu, Kwale, Laikipia, Makueni, Marsabit, Migori, Nyandarua, Samburu, Taita Taveta, Tana River, Uasin Gishu, Wajir and West Pokot) were invited to develop proposals of their choice and receive a grant of up to 1 Million Euros

The European Union confirmed its support towards strengthening and realisation of devolution in Kenya through the signing of a *1 million-Euro (Ksh 120,000,000 million)* grant towards the Mango and fruit processing plant for Makueni County, the first county to benefit from an investment grant under the Instrument for Devolution Advice and Support (IDEAS) program.

"The signature of the grant agreement with Makueni County marks an important milestone under the IDEAS programme, the European Union's flagship programme to support devolution in Kenya. The Makueni Mango processing project will boost income of mango farmers, increase employment, and generate revenues for Makueni County." noted Stefano A. Dejak, Ambassador of the European Union to Kenya

The Makueni Mango processing project will boost income of mango farmers, increase employment, and generate revenues for Makueni County

The specific objective for IDEAS is to support capacities in the responsible transfer and use of resources for the achievement of local economic development at county level. There has been an interactive process of learning-by- doing at both levels of government – at the Ministry of Devolution and Planning (MoDP) and the county levels. Fifteen counties were invited to develop proposals of their choice and receive a grant of up to 1 Million Euros. The Counties were selected jointly by the Council of Governors and MoDP.

The Cabinet Secretary for Devolution, Eugene Wamalwa said: *"I congratulate Makueni County for being the first county among the 15 counties to comply with the conditions for the IDEAS grants. The Ministry of Devolution has provided a technical assistance team to support in the development of Makueni's Local Economic Development proposals. This team will continue working with all 15 counties to facilitate capacity building to the county technical team in project management."*

The Governor of Makueni County Prof Kivutha Kibwana said: *"The total investment in Makueni County under the IDEAS programme is Ksh 142,194,956. The county contribution is Ksh 32,194,956. The*

Makueni County Fruit Processing plant is one of my flagship projects with an objective of reducing post-harvest losses and increasing market competitiveness for the local farmers."(EU 16-05-2018)

NIGERIA RECORDS 8,800 FLIGHT DELAYS IN THREE MONTHS

Domestic airlines operating in Nigeria recorded 8,825 cases of flight delay from January to March, the Nigerian Civil Aviation Authority (NCAA), has said.

The statistics released by the Consumer Protection Department of the NCAA shows that 14,633 flights were operated by eight airlines during the period under review, while 208 flights were cancelled for various reasons.

The statistics released on Thursday show that airlines in operation as Aero Contractors, Arik Air, Air Peace, Azman Air, Dana Air, First Nation, Med-View and Overland.

According to the record, Air Peace, which operated 5,066 flights, topped the chart of delayed flights with 2,901 and 59 cancelled flights.

It said that Arik Air followed with 2,322 delayed flights and 56 cancellations out of 3,972 flights, while Dana Air operated 1,726 flights with 1,043 cases of flight delay and one cancellation.

The document said that Azman Air recorded 792 and 23 delayed and cancelled flights respectively, out of 1,140 flights it operated during the period.

According to the record, Medview Airline operated 894 flights with 632 delayed flights and 15 cancellations, Overland, 614 flights with 484 delayed and 12 cancelled while FirstNation Airways had 359 flights with 101 delayed and three cancelled.

The Federal Executive Council (FEC) has approved \$19.6 million for the procurement of navigational aids such as Instrument Landing System (ILS) and Aeronautic Information System (AIS) for some major airports.

The stakeholders are hopeful that the installation of the equipment will go a long way in reducing cases of flight delays and cancellations due to adverse weather and low visibility. (APA 07-06-2018)

EMMANUEL MACRON VA-T-IL ACHEVER LA FRANÇAUFRIQUE ?



Emmanuel Macron et Ibrahim Boubacar Keita à la base de Gao le 19 mai 2017

Derrière la volonté affichée du président français de rompre avec la politique de l'ancien monde, un impératif : la lutte contre les vagues migratoires.

« On m'a dit que c'était un amphi marxiste, je me suis dit que je devais venir », a-t-il lancé, sur le ton du défi, [aux quelque 800 étudiants de l'université de Ouagadougou](#), le 28 novembre dernier. Avec les

ouvriers de l'usine Whirlpool, à Amiens, dans le nord de la France, comme avec les étudiants burkinabè, Emmanuel Macron aime la castagne. En réponse à une question (non filtrée) d'un étudiant sur le néocolonialisme de l'armée française, il a réussi à faire applaudir les soldats de l'opération Barkhane. Le goût du risque, Macron le manifeste aussi dans son casting africain. Qui pour prendre la tête de l'Organisation internationale de la francophonie (OIF), en octobre prochain ? Comme l'a annoncé *Jeune Afrique*, il a proposé le poste à Louise Mushikiwabo et a fini par la convaincre. Depuis neuf ans, la ministre rwandaise des Affaires étrangères accuse pourtant la France d'être complice du génocide des Tutsis, au Rwanda, en 1994... Quand un ami africain lui glisse : « Attention, tu vas introduire le loup dans la bergerie », il se contente de sourire. Qui pour copiloter le projet de restitution des biens culturels à l'Afrique ? L'écrivain sénégalais Felwine Sarr, qui continue pourtant d'affirmer que « la France n'a pas renoncé à son imaginaire impérial et colonial ».

Des « prises de guerre » à l'international

Comme avec l'écologiste ombrageux Nicolas Hulot sur la scène intérieure, le président français tente de multiplier les « prises de guerre » à l'international. Objectif : séduire. Felwine Sarr admet qu'Emmanuel Macron « est en mouvement dans l'espace symbolique » et qu'il « amorce une réinvention de la relation, qui doit déborder sur les autres espaces ». Autres gestes significatifs : le visa de longue durée pour les diplômés africains de France, le projet de faire passer aux étudiants africains des diplômes français en Afrique et le lancement de la plateforme « sport et développement » – c'était le 21 février, à l'occasion de la visite très médiatique de George Weah à Paris.

Mais, au-delà des gestes sociétaux et symboliques, quels changements politiques ? Chez Macron, ni dogme socialiste ni « droit-de-l'hommeisme ». Fini les échanges de SMS complices avec les chefs d'État de l'Internationale socialiste, fini les bouderies ostentatoires avec les autocrates. « Macron ne va certainement pas refaire le coup de François Hollande à Kinshasa, en octobre 2012, confie un proche du nouveau président. Il ne va pas jouer avec Kabila sur l'air de : "Je suis à côté de toi, mais je fais exprès de ne pas te serrer la main." Macron est avec les Africains comme avec tout le monde. C'est pour cela qu'il a déclaré, à Ouaga : "Il n'y a plus de politique africaine de la France." »

Macron sait bien que, s'il renonçait à faire le sale boulot au Sahel, il ne serait peut-être plus reçu en visite d'État à Washington

Plus de politique africaine, vraiment ? Difficile à croire. À l'Élysée, une équipe « africaine » est en place. Elle comprend les conseillers Franck Paris, Marie Audouard et, pour l'Afrique du Nord, Ahlem Gharbi, plus le tout nouveau Conseil présidentiel pour l'Afrique (CPA), piloté par Jules-Armand Aniambossou. Bien entendu, il n'y a rien d'équivalent pour les autres continents. Surtout, comme le dit un haut diplomate français : « Macron sait bien que, s'il renonçait à faire le sale boulot au Sahel, il ne serait peut-être plus reçu en visite d'État à Washington. »

Comme Hollande, Macron suit donc de près les crises en cours en RD Congo, où ses proches souhaitent « des élections sans Kabila », ou au Togo, où la situation est jugée politiquement « anachronique ». Il laisse, certes, les pays de la sous-région monter en première ligne, mais il envoie des émissaires auprès de Joseph Kabila et de Faure Gnassingbé. Pourtant, comme il est accaparé par les convulsions du Moyen-Orient, il ne prend pas toujours au téléphone les chefs d'État africains qui souhaitent lui parler. « Hollande était plus facile à joindre », regrette un ministre africain des Affaires étrangères.

Intensification des activités au Sahel

« Franchement, avec Macron, je vois des inflexions, des additions, notamment grâce à l'augmentation de l'aide publique au développement (APD), mais pas de changements », glisse un proche dudit Hollande. Au Sahel, son successeur « intensifie et accélère » – comme l'admet ce même « hollandais » – l'opération Barkhane. Entre la mi-février et la mi-avril, l'armée française, grâce à de bons renseignements, a réussi à neutraliser plusieurs lieutenants du chef jihadiste Iyad Ag Ghaly, mais sans parvenir à atteindre ce dernier. « On ne touche pas à notre dispositif avant la présidentielle malienne, confie un expert français, mais après on pourra peut-être l'alléger en organisant des patrouilles communes avec les forces du G5 Sahel. »

Pour qui « vote » Emmanuel Macron au Mali ? À Paris, le président sortant Ibrahim Boubacar Keïta (IBK) n'a pas bonne presse. « Quand on lui demande un choc de gouvernance, il faut le lui répéter tous les jours », grince un proche du président français. Un ancien décideur parisien ajoute : « Il y a six mois, Macron aurait sans doute penché pour l'opposition, mais celle-ci est divisée, et IBK a réussi un joli coup

en nommant Premier ministre le “sécurocrate” Boubèye Maïga. Cela nous rassure. » À l'Élysée, on est dans l'expectative.

L'impératif antimigratoire

C'est après cette consultation que Macron verra s'il peut programmer un retrait des soldats français du Sahel avant la fin de son mandat, en mai 2022. « Depuis qu'il est à l'Élysée, il ne nous a jamais fixé cet objectif, confie l'un de ses proches, mais il est vrai que plus on reste, plus on s'expose. » Outre la faiblesse des forces du G5 Sahel, le chef de l'État français est confronté à l'attitude des Algériens. « Iyad Ag Ghaly est un élément dans leur jeu, donc ils le protègent », soupire un décideur français. « Nous partageons plus d'informations antiterroristes avec les Russes et les Turcs qu'avec les Algériens », fulmine un expert du renseignement.

Plus encore que la lutte contre les jihadistes, c'est sans doute le contrôle des vagues migratoires qui est la priorité du président français en Afrique. Est-ce parce que le sujet est clivant ? Il en parle peu. Mais dès le 1er avril 2017, lors d'un meeting à Marseille, le candidat Macron déclarait : « Notre relation avec l'Afrique, ça ne peut pas être simplement d'être le réceptacle de la nécessité, c'est d'aider l'Afrique à réussir et, en même temps, de reconduire à la frontière celles et ceux qui sont venus et qui n'ont pas de titre de séjour. »

Après le discours un peu évangélique de Ouagadougou sur les temps nouveaux, on est revenus dans l'ancien monde

Le 23 avril, Macron fait voter en première lecture par des députés rétifs [une nouvelle loi « asile-immigration »](#) qui porte de quarante-cinq à quatre-vingt-dix jours la durée maximale de rétention des étrangers en attente d'expulsion. « Il y a un dramatique déficit de coopération de la part des pays d'origine dans les procédures de reconduite, déplore un haut diplomate. Avec l'allongement des délais de rétention, nous pourrions mettre en place avec les ambassades africaines des procédures plus efficaces. »

Cet impératif antimigratoire, un proche du président l'assume. « On ne va pas se mentir, dit-il. On n'augmente pas l'APD pour être agréable aux Africains, mais parce que c'est notre intérêt. Cela aide à lutter contre l'immigration. » Commentaire acerbe de Jean-François Bayart, de l'Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement, à Genève : « Après le discours un peu évangélique de Ouagadougou sur les temps nouveaux, on est revenus dans l'ancien monde. La politique africaine de la France est strictement subordonnée à la lutte contre l'immigration. Macron est tout à fait dans la continuité de Sarkozy et de Hollande. »

Il lâche du lest sur quelques questions symboliques, mais la remilitarisation est à l'ordre du jour
Le pari d'Emmanuel Macron ? Enrôler l'Union européenne (UE) dans sa politique (intéressée) en faveur du développement de l'Afrique. « Si l'Afrique tombe dans l'obscurité, l'Europe aura les mêmes difficultés, car s'ouvrira une longue période de migration et de misère », a-t-il lancé à Ouagadougou sur le ton de Cassandra. Le 13 décembre à La Celle-Saint-Cloud, près de Paris, et surtout le 23 février à Bruxelles, le couple Macron-Merkel a réussi à mobiliser toute l'UE. Pour soutenir la force du G5 Sahel et le programme de développement Alliance pour le Sahel, 414 millions d'euros ont été débloqués.

Jusqu'à quel point casse-t-il les codes ? « Il est davantage dans la continuité qu'il ne le croit », glisse un proche de Sarkozy. « Il n'est pas une contradiction, il est une addition », souffle un dignitaire socialiste. « Il lâche du lest sur quelques questions symboliques, mais la remilitarisation est à l'ordre du jour. Or c'est un foyer structurant du contentieux franco-africain », affirme le penseur camerounais Achille Mbembe, qui ajoute toutefois : « Il pose quelques bases assez sérieuses d'un dialogue qu'il faut espérer constructif. »

Ce dialogue, Guy Labertit, l'ex-« Monsieur Afrique » du Parti socialiste, veut croire qu'Emmanuel Macron l'ouvrira sérieusement sur le franc CFA. « J'espère qu'il ira très loin », dit-il. À Ouagadougou, Macron est « sorti du facile », comme dit l'un de ses proches. L'admirateur de Bonaparte s'est mis en danger. Il lui reste quatre ans pour planter le drapeau de l'autre côté du pont d'Arcole. (JA 07-06-2018)

NIGERIA LOSES 11 PERCENT FORESTS ANNUALLY

Nigeria loses its forests at the rate of 11.1 percent annually, making it the highest on earth, the Regional Centre of Expertise on Education (RCE) for Sustainable Development, has said.

Prof. Albert Olayemi, the Focal Person of the Ilorin RCE for Sustainable Development, made the disclosure on Thursday at the University of Ilorin in Kwara State.

Speaking while signing a document backing the Kwara House of Assembly on its proposed amendments to improve the law governing the operations of chainsaw men and the law that governs the charcoal economy in the state, he said that an estimated 13 million hectares of land was deforested each year in the tropical region of the world.

“There is enormous evidence on the devastating effect of deforestation and charcoal production on the environment.

“Forests are being cleared for logging, timber sale, subsistence agriculture and collection of wood for fuel, which remains a problem in Nigeria,” he said.

He explained that in Kwara State, fuel wood and charcoal were the main sources of energy for many households.

On some of the effects of deforestation, the don said: “The loss of biodiversity, depletion of water resources, atmospheric pollution and environmental calamities such as acid rain, desertification and flood are some of the effects of deforestation.

According to him, soil erosion, soil destabilisation, migration of animal species and increase in reflected solar radiation are also effects of deforestation.

“In the light of these negative effects, the centre expresses its wholehearted support for the new initiative of the Kwara State House of Assembly,” he said.

He, however, disapproved of the existing effort to stop deforestation in the state, describing it as “half-hearted” and “half spirited”.

He noted that the current law enjoins fellers to plant trees as replacements for the ones felled, while there is shortage of tree seedlings in the state.

Olayemi explained that the law is also silent on the number of trees to be planted for each tree removed and that the centre wants at least 10 tree seedlings planted for each tree felled.

According to him, RCE proposes the creation of forest reserves, conservation processes, improved rainforest management and forestation programmes as ways to combat the challenge of deforestation in Nigeria.

“We also propose the establishment of plantations dedicated to charcoal production because charcoal is now an export commodity in Nigeria, with a large market in the EU, USA and Asia,” Olayemi said.

RCE centre is located inside the University of Ilorin and members include all universities operating in Kwara State. (APA 07-06-2018)

SOUTH AFRICA’S RAIL OPERATOR TO OCCUPY ITS RAIL SERVICES HUB

Locomotive and rail operator [Traxtion Sheltam](#) plans to move into its rail services hub in Rosslyn, Pretoria, later this month. This is according to Traxtion Sheltam CEO James Holley.

The rail services hub will be the base for Traxtion Sheltam’s operations across the Southern African Development Community region and it will provide locomotive rebuild, overhaul and upgrade, as well as parts refurbishment services, for its own fleet and third parties. The hub will enable the company to rebuild up to nine locomotives at a time.

The company begun the project last year, owing to its requiring a hub to service its own fleet of locomotives, wagons and cabooses.

“We have found the ideal site in Rosslyn for a locomotive workshop in the form of an old pipe manufacturing factory,” said James Holley.

The company has invited other non-competing industry and participant to benefit from “the synergies of working from one location” as the 50 000m2 site is too large for the company’s requirements.

The company’s rail school, located in Randfontein, Gauteng, will be relocated to the site in Rosslyn and the company will also distribute parts from the site.

Phase I of the hub which is 90% complete will be 7 750 m2, including a fully functioning workshop that will service all Traxtion Sheltam's and third-party clients' existing requirements. Phase 1 of the facility will also include component repair bays, secure parts storage facilities, ample parking space for rolling stock, offices and meeting rooms.

"We have a further seven phases planned, which include capacity expansions, a wheel shop, a dedicated parts warehouse and extra workshops for those interested in joining the hub."said James Holley.

Other investment platforms

Traxtion Sheltam launched Traxtion Leasing, a focused rolling stock leasing company, and Traxtion Projects, a focused rail infrastructure investment platform, in October last year.

Traxtion Leasing focuses on product innovation and flexible financing solutions. Traxtion Projects, is the first dedicated rail track infrastructure platform focused exclusively on Africa aiming to invest in concession companies and rail track upgrades, as well as new-build projects and associated infrastructure.

Holley states that Traxtion Leasing is busy with final negotiations on two transactions, with Traxtion Projects well advanced on an exciting track refurbishment project. "Given the highly capital intensive nature of these deals, the transactions naturally take time."

He mentions that many of the railways in Africa are yet to live up to their potential and Traxtion Sheltam aims to build a company that provides governments, private and public railways, mines and industry a platform to reach their potential. He believes that the biggest opportunities lie in increasing the capacity of public and private railways across the continent.

The company is excited about the opportunity for railways in Africa, pointing out that, Africa's economies is continuing to grow hence the need for them to invest in infrastructure.

"Railways present the most efficient mode of transport for large volumes across long distances. We've been around for 30 years—we know what works and we have the capital behind us to make a meaningful impact to the industry," he concludes.

The company expects its hub to add efficiency and cost savings, as it will bring different industry participants together. (CRO 07-06-2018)

SENEGAL TO CONVENE NATIONAL DIALOGUE ON OIL AND GAS

A national dialogue on the exploitation of oil and gas resources discovered in Senegal opens on June 12, 2018 at the Presidential Palace in Dakar, APA learned from an official source.

According to an official communique, the President informed the council of ministers of the launch, on June 12, 2018, of the national dialogue on the exploitation of oil and gas resources in Senegal.

It added that this is "in order to establish an inclusive and transparent governance of our natural resources, and to build a lasting national consensus on the strategic orientations which frame the development, in the exclusive service of the nation, of the oil and gas industry."

The communiqué noted the establishment of the Oil and Gas Strategic Orientation Committee (COS-PETROGAZ) and the National Institute of Oil and Gas (INPG), which were created "to consolidate the dynamics of concerted, responsible and transparent management of Senegal's natural resources."

It should be noted that sections of Senegal's opposition have rejected participation in this national dialogue, with some criticizing the agreements the government in Dakar signed, without national consultations, with its counterpart in Nouakchott, which includes the equal sharing of gas discovered on their common border. (APA 07-06-2018)

KENYA TOPS AFRICA AND NINTH GLOBALLY IN GEOTHERMAL RANKINGS

Kenya has been ranked 9th globally in geothermal power generating capacity and leads in Africa with a

generating capacity of 700MW according to the Renewable Global Status 2018 beating the famous technological heavyweight Japan who took position ten in the rankings with an output of 500MW.

The status report highlights growing investments in Kenya's renewable energy sector including US \$80m secured by the largest solar deal in Africa, M-KOPA in 2017. About 9m households in Kenya have access to off-grid renewable energy. This accounts for over 70% of Kenya's installed capacity compared to the world average of 24%.

The largest geothermal generating Country, USA has a generating capacity of 2,500MW followed by the Philippines 1,900MW, Indonesia 1,800MW, Turkey 1,100MW, New Zealand 1000MW, Mexico 900MW, Italy 800MW) and Iceland 750MW. The rest of the world share 950 MW where else Ethiopia is the only other African country with developed geothermal energy 7MW.

Clean energy

Geothermal energy is a preferable energy source due to low emissions when compared to thermal sources. It is also cheaper than thermal power when used as an alternative to mitigate depressed hydro power generation due to drought.

Kenya has a target of 5GW geothermal capacity by the year 2030. Green energy power plants under development in Kenya include the 300 MW Lake Turkana Wind Power Plant, the 70MW Olkaria 1 and the 140 MW Olkaria V. The Lake Turkana Wind Power Plant is the single largest wind power plant in Africa.

However, the Turkana wind farm has faced installation challenges and is yet to be connected to the national grid. (CRO 07-06-2018)

ESWATINI KING MSWATI III VISITS TAIWAN

King Mswati III of Eswatini has landed in Taiwan on a state visit.

This is the king's first visit to that country after Eswatini assumed the status of being the only African country with bilateral relations with Taiwan.

The king is in the company of his second wife Inkhosikati LaMotsa, some of his children and officials.

"The king has landed in Taiwan where he was met by Taiwanese Ambassador to Eswatini Thomas Chan, cabinet ministers Jabulile Mashwama, Mgwagwa Gamedze and Jabulani Mabuza who were all part of an advance delegation," read a government statement.

The ministers are for Natural Resources and Energy, Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Tourism and Environmental Affairs.

It was not mentioned for how long the king will be staying in Taiwan.

It would be recalled that APA reported earlier this week that the Kingdom of Eswatini has declared that it will maintain its diplomatic ties with Taiwan, despite being the only African country having relations with it.

Eswatini government spokesperson Percy Simelane said: "The country will maintain its diplomatic relations with Taiwan despite mainland China pressure on us to sever our ties with Taiwan.

"There is no change of heart or position on our ties with Taiwan. Whosoever spreads rumours that we will ditch Taiwan can be referred to as a fake news peddler," the government mouthpiece said in an interview.

A Chinese newspaper, NewsAsia, had reported that a Chinese government top diplomat, State Councillor Wang Yi, had urged eSwatini to follow suit after Burkina Faso which recently cut relations with Taiwan.

The Chinese official was reportedly speaking at a press conference in Beijing, where a spokesperson for the Chinese Foreign Affairs ministry Hua Chunying was present.

“We of course welcome Swaziland (eSwatini) to join the family of China-Africa cooperation at an early date, and hope that by the time the China-Africa cooperation forum or Beijing summit happens, we can have a happy picture of the whole family,” she was quoted as saying. (APA 07-06-2018)

EU’S EXTERNAL ACTION: ‘CROSS-BORDER COOPERATION’ COMPONENT TO UNDERGO MAJOR CHANGES

Substantial changes regarding the future of Cross-Border Cooperation (CBC) programmes currently implemented under the European Neighbourhood Instrument (ENI), will be introduced for the period 2021-2027.

On 29 May 2018, the European Commission presented its proposal for the future of Cohesion Policy beyond 2020. The Cohesion Policy is the main EU’s investment policy for regional development and includes, among other instruments, the European territorial cooperation goal, better known as Interreg: this latest provides a framework for the implementation of joint actions and policy exchanges between national, regional and local actors from different EU Member States.

Here are some of the changes envisaged for the period 2021-2027 and included into the draft Interreg Regulation issued on 29 May:

- **Approximation with Interreg rules** : “*In a major effort to simplify and maximise synergy*”, the draft Interreg Regulation proposes to apply most of the rules of internal territorial cooperation between Member States to cooperation with non-EU countries. As a consequence, programmes belonging to the EU’s future external financing instruments, such as the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI), will be implemented mostly under the rules established by the Interreg Regulation.

- **New programmes** : the current ENI CBC programmes will be divided into different types of programmes:

- external “Interreg Neighbourhood CBC programmes”, limited to EU Member States and partner countries sharing land borders;
- maritime cooperation programmes (such as the current ENI CBC Med Programme for instance) covering territories around sea-basins.

The list of Interreg programmes to receive financial support will be contained in an implementing act to be adopted by the European Commission.

- **Thematic framework**: some of the policy objectives of the Cohesion Policy and Interreg-specific objectives should also be relevant for external cooperation programmes.

Given the scale of the reform proposed by the European Commission, it is important to build on the achievements of the past 2007-2013 period and the current 2014-2020 phase to ensure a smooth transition towards the future 2021-2027 Interreg programmes involving Mediterranean Partner Countries. Therefore, efforts should be put in a dialogue with Partner Countries to jointly develop priorities and programmes that focus on mutual interests in the Mediterranean area.

The draft “Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI)” Regulation, to be presented on 14 June, should contain further information on the articulation between European territorial cooperation and EU external funding instruments. (EC 07-06-2018)

[Draft Interreg Regulation](#)

CAMAIR-CO TO RESUME NIGERIA FLIGHTS

Cameroon Airlines Corporation (Camair-Co) will resume flights to Lagos, Nigeria, on June 23, 2018 from the economic and political capitals, Douala and Yaoundé respectively, after some three years of absence, reliable sources told APA on Wednesday.

Flights will be available on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays with a Boeing B737 and Bombardier Dash8-Q400 recently taken delivery of.

After concentrating on internal flights with 70 weekly flights, the Cameroonian company has since October 27, 2017 returned to regional services with flights to Libreville (Gabon) before Bangui (Central African Republic), Cotonou (Benin), Ndjamena (Chad), Dakar and Abidjan.

With a five-aircraft-strong fleet, it also aims to extend its wings to Bamako (Mali), Kinshasa (Democratic Republic of Congo) and Brazzaville (Congo).

Struggling until 2016 under a debt estimated at 35 billion CFA francs, Camair-Co launched on March 28, 2011 announced recently that its turnover had increased from two to six billion CFA francs between the 1st quarter of 2017 and the same period this year.

Camair-Co is currently implementing a recovery plan proposed by the US firm Boeing Consulting, after receiving a government grant of 30 billion CFA francs representing the first disbursement for financing of the plan. (APA 07-06-2018)

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.



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