# MEMORANDUM

N° 190/2014 | 08/10/2014

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## SUMMARY

## EBOLA CRISIS: EU ORGANISES AIRLIFT OPERATION TO WEST AFRICA

The European Union is scaling up its response to the Ebola disease in West Africa with an airlift operation to the affected countries. The European Commission's Emergency Response Coordination Centre (ERCC) will facilitate the transportation of relief items to West Africa. In addition, the EU will fund and coordinate if necessary the evacuation of international staff from Liberia, Guinea and Sierra Leone.

A quarter of the new €4 million funding will be allocated to UNICEF, enabling three Boeing 747 cargo planes to transport vital material to Sierra Leone, Liberia and Guinea. The first plane will take-off on Friday, carrying 100 metric tons of emergency equipment from Amsterdam to Freetown, Sierra Leone. The supplies and equipment include personal protection equipment, including masks and gloves, as well as essential medicines and hygiene supplies.

In addition, the remaining €3 million will help in the setting up of a medical evacuation system, coordinated by the ERCC, that will enable international workers in West Africa diagnosed with the Ebola virus disease (EVD) to be evacuated in less than 48 hours by plane to hospitals within Europe that are equipped to deal with the disease.

This initiative is funded from €30 million in humanitarian aid announced by the President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, in New York last month during a High Level Meeting in response to the Ebola Virus Disease Outbreak convened by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki Moon.

"We are in a race against time to fight Ebola," said Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian aid and Crisis Response. "The European Commission alone has so far pledged some €180 million to help the affected countries. Funding is crucial but far from enough. That is why, together with our member States, we have been mobilising in-kind assistance including medical equipment and personnel."

Tonio Borg, European Commissioner for Health, added: "To strengthen Europe's preparedness to handle Ebola, we have been mobilising solidarity inside the EU. We are working closely so that patients can be treated in an appropriate healthcare facility."

The ERCC is coordinating the transportation of aid, equipment and personnel to hotspots in the countries affected by the disease. European countries such as the UK, France, Austria and Belgium have already made use of the mechanism, providing field hospitals, ambulances, sanitation products, medical isolation equipment and experts to the affected region.

The European Commission has been scaling up its response to the epidemic since March 2014 and has so far pledged €180 million to help the countries affected by the Ebola virus (Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia, and Nigeria). Humanitarian experts, mobile laboratories and teams of specialists from the European Mobile Laboratory project for dangerous infectious diseases have been deployed in the region, providing diagnostic support, monitoring the situation and liaising with partner organisations and local authorities. Funding will also cover the reinforcement of local and regional healthcare capacities and budget support to the affected countries.

The European Commission is also working closely with the EU Member States within the Health Security Committee to keep them informed about the latest developments and secure the synchronisation of measures. The Health Security Committee has produced advice for all travellers to the affected countries, available in all EU languages.

The European Union Civil Protection Mechanism (EUCPM) facilitates co-operation in disaster response, preparedness and prevention among 31 European states (EU-28 plus the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Iceland and Norway). The European Commission manages the Mechanism through the Emergency Response Coordination Centre. Operating 24/7, the ERCC monitors risks and emergencies around the world and serves as an information and coordination hub during emergencies. Through the Civil Protection Mechanism, the Commission also provides financial support to transport operations. (EC 08-10-2014)

## FRONTEX JOINT OPERATION 'TRITON' – CONCERTED EFFORTS TO MANAGE MIGRATION IN THE CENTRAL MEDITERRANEAN

### Background on Frontex assistance to Italy

Weeks after the tragic drowning of over 300 persons around the Island of Lampedusa in October 2013, Italy launched a major search and rescue operation called 'Mare Nostrum'.

The Mare Nostrum operation is on-going close to the Libyan coast with Italian naval assets. The EU has supported the operation financially with €1.8 million from the emergency actions under the External Borders Fund.

Assistance to Italy has also been provided through the two Frontex coordinated operations Hermes and Aeneas.

The joint operations Hermes coordinated by Frontex has, in one form or the other and with few interruptions, been going on for several years. Italy has acted as the sole host state.

This joint operation is on-going close to the Italian coast to control the EU external borders with a yearly budget for 2014 of around €5 million. In accordance with the host state's request, sea borne assets in the operation come from Italy (Coast Guard and/or Guardia di Finanza); other Member States contribute with one surveillance aircraft and guest officers on land to help with screening/debriefing.

Frontex also coordinated joint operation Aeneas with Italy as host state. This operation mainly focussed on migratory flows from Egypt and Turkey (via Greece) to Italy.

### Stepping up operational responses

As from 1 November 2014, at the earliest, the Frontex coordinated joint operation 'Triton' will start its activity in the Central Mediterranean in support of the Italian efforts.

The details of Triton, including the operational area and the necessary assets, have been agreed between Frontex and Italy on the basis of the requests made by the Italian authorities.

Triton will rely on human and technical resources made available by the participating Member States. Frontex has launched a call to Member States for contributions including two fixed wing surveillance aircrafts, three patrol vessels, as well as seven teams of guest officers for debriefing/intelligence gathering and screening/identification purposes. In addition Italian assets will form part of the operation.

Its monthly budget is estimated at €2.9 million per month. In order to finance the launch and the first phase of the operation, funds have been reallocated from the Internal Security Fund and from within the Frontex budget. An increase of the Frontex 2015 budget has to be agreed by the European Parliament and the Council in order to finance the operation with the same intensity in the longer run.

As for all Frontex operation, Triton will be operating in full respect with international and EU obligations, including respect of fundamental rights and of the principle of non-refoulement which excludes push backs.

The role of Frontex is key to ensure effective border control in the Mediterranean region, and at the same time to provide assistance to persons or vessels in distress. Frontex is entrusted with assisting Member States in circumstances requiring increased technical assistance at the external borders, taking into account that some situations may involve humanitarian emergencies and rescue at sea. Although Frontex is neither a search and rescue body nor does it take up the functions of a Rescue Coordination Centre, it assists Member States to fulfil their obligation under international maritime law to render assistance to persons in distress.

Triton is intended to support the Italian efforts, and does not replace or substitute Italian obligations in monitoring and surveying the Schengen external borders and in guaranteeing full respect of EU and international obligations, in particular when it comes to search and rescue at sea.

It implies that Italy will have to continue making continued substantial efforts using national means, fully coordinated with the Frontex operation, to manage the situation.

All Member States could use for operating support, i.e. running costs of their border control operations, up to 40% of the available resources for their national programmes under the new Internal Security Fund (Borders & Visa component). In the case of Italy, taking into account that over €156 million is allocated to Italy, more than €62.5 million could be assigned to operating support under its national programme over the period of 2014-2020. (EC 08-10-2014)

## ANGOLA EXPECTED TO PRODUCE 2 MILLION BARRELS OF OIL PER DAY IN 2017

The Angolan government's target to produce 2 million barrels of oil per day has been postponed for a further two years, from 2015 to 2017, according to Angola's Finance Minister, Armando Manuel, speaking in Washington.

The minister also told financial news agency Bloomberg that the state budget for 2015 had been prepared based on a price per barrel of oil of between US$88 and US$92 and said that Angola had called on the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to implement measures to prevent further price drops.

The previous target of 2015 was repeatedly stated by Oil Minister Jose Maria Botelho de Vasconcelos, who expected several oil exploration projects going into production, including Italian group ENI in Block 15/06, to increase daily output.

The Finance Minister also said that although oil prices are falling, the start of production of new projects could offset that and ensure that the growth of Angola's economy will not be affected.

"I hope that per barrel prices remain at an acceptable level that does not expose the country to bigger problems," said Armando Manuel.

According to Bloomberg's estimates, oil production from Angola stood at 1.87 million barrels per day in September.

On Tuesday the National Bank of Angola reported that foreign reserves fell from US$28.63 billion in July to US$27.03 billion in August.

Angola, which is the second-largest sub-Saharan oil producer obtains 95 percent of its foreign reserves from crude oil exports. (08-10-2014)

## AFRICA'S RICHEST WOMAN TO EXPAND BANKING EMPIRE TO NAMIBIA

Africa's richest woman, Angolan Isabel dos Santos, is set to spread her banking empire into neighbouring Namibia, after a banking licence was approved by the country's central bank.

Bank of Namibia spokesman Ndangi Katoma said the bank had granted provisional authorisation to Bank BIC Namibia Limited to conduct business as a banking institution in Namibia.

Bank BIC Namibia Limited is a subsidiary of Angolan Bank Banco BIC, which is 42.5% owned by Africa's first woman billionaire, the daughter of Angolan President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Ms dos Santos is reported by Forbes to be worth $3bn.

But Mr Katoma warned that Bank BIC Namibia would not be allowed to engage in banking activities with any person in Namibia just yet, "especially soliciting deposits".

The Bank of Namibia must first issue a certificate of authorisation.

Angolan Bank Banco BIC is one of Angola's biggest banks, with an estimated 200 branches across the country.

Portuguese newspaper Publico reported last week that Ms dos Santos had increased her stake in Angolan Bank Banco BIC by 25% to 42.5%. *(*AFP 08-10-2014)

## MOZAMBIQUE IS AFRICA'S THIRD LARGEST CHARCOAL PRODUCER

Mozambique is the third largest producer of charcoal in Africa, and consumes about 17 million cubic metres of wood per year to feed the industry, according to a study by the Mozambican Institute of Agricultural Research (AMI).

The study on the value chain of charcoal in southern Mozambique, authored by researcher Rosalina Chavana, said that only Nigeria and Ethiopia are ahead of Mozambique in terms of charcoal production.

The document cited by Mozambican newspaper Correio da Manhã, which also contains an analysis of the world's 10 largest producers of charcoal, seven of which are in Africa, said that in recent years there has been rapid growth in charcoal consumption, which is due to urban expansion and economic growth in those African countries.

The researcher who conducted the study in partnership with Michigan State University concluded that, "the production of charcoal in Mozambique is one of the main factors causing deforestation in the country," and the timber for its production has an annual value almost US$700 million per year.

The newspaper reported that over 70 percent of Mozambicans rely on charcoal to meet their energy needs for cooking, according to government figures. (08-10-2014)

## ZAMBIA CONSIDERS SIMPLER TAX FOR MINERS AS VAT ROW SIMMERS

Zambia could simplify its fiscal regime for mining companies by scrapping corporate tax for the sector next year, a government source said on Friday. The move that comes against the background of a simmering dispute over value-added tax (VAT).

Instead of corporate tax, regarded as hard to administer, companies would face a higher mineral royalty rate in Africa's second-largest copper producer, the source said, without detailing the size of the rise. The rate is currently 6%.

"This is under very serious consideration and may be announced by the finance minister," said the source, who asked not to be named. Zambia's 2015 national budget is set to be presented to parliament next week.

Like many producer countries, Zambia would like to see a bigger slice of mining revenue remain at home, and it has periodically been at loggerheads with mining companies, claiming in the past that it was owed hundreds of millions of dollars in unpaid taxes.

Now the industry says $600m of VAT refunds are being withheld by the government under a previously unenforced 1997 rule, prompting threats to cut back investment.

Mining group and commodity trader Glencore has halted its zinc operations in the southern African country. The company's Mopani copper unit has suspended some of its planned $800m investment in Zambian projects.

Konkola Copper Mines, owned by Vedanta Resources, said the issue of its VAT being withheld was hindering its investments and could have a "long-term negative impact".

The roots of the VAT row lie in Zambia's efforts to get to grips with the destination of its copper exports.

The regulation, aimed at determining whether or not Zambia was getting fair value and revenue for its mineral resources, requires mining companies and other exporters to produce import certificates from destination countries to qualify for tax refunds.

For example, a 2010 study by Christian Aid showed that as Zambia's copper production soared in the 2000s, Switzerland came to account for more than half of the country's exports of the commodity. The price of Swiss re-exports of the copper , however, was far higher than that received in Zambia.

In 2008, the study estimated, Zambia's gross domestic product would have been 80% higher if the copper leaving its borders in that year alone had received the same price as Switzerland.

"The international trade data suggest that Zambia may be suffering losses in the billions of dollars by failing to receive the real value of its exports," said Alex Cobham of the Centre for Global Development, a trade and aid think tank.

### Impossible to trace?

The industry for its part says that it is almost impossible to produce such documentation because it sells to multinational trading houses.

"Products, once received by the traders, can be split, can change hands several times and may even be changed into different products before reaching the final point," said Zambia's chamber of mines in a recent statement.

"It is impossible for the seller/exporter to track the products and obtain documentation from the receiving customs jurisdiction to confirm that the products did reach that destination or destinations," the chamber said.

Critics say the difficulty in tracking metal raises questions over the transparency of the commodities market, but Zambia's changing tax focus has also raised concerns.

In 2012, the country's mines minister at the time said the industry owed the fiscus up to $1bn in unpaid taxes. Now, it is enforcing an old rule that enables it to retain more cash.

"The Zambian government's tendency to intervene directly in the pursuit of its objectives has shed a poor light on the country's investment climate in recent months," said Irmgard Erasmus, an analyst at NKC Independent Economists.

"The current time is not optimal for the government to be throwing its weight around, especially against a backdrop of a softening in copper prices," the analyst said. (Reuters 04-10-2014)

## UNUSED LAND REVERTS TO THE STATE IN MOZAMBIQUE

Five thousand hectares of land provided under private concession in Mozambique will revert to the State after officials found that exploration plans were not being carried out, the National Directorate of Land and Forests said.

In the first half of the year, the Directorate inspected 634 plots with an area of 168,000 hectares and found that 49 percent were fully used, 35 percent were idle and 32 percent were partially used.

As a result, 63 plots (5,083 hectares) are proposed to be returned to the State, while 20 plots (862 acres) have been redefined, according to daily newspaper Notícias.

The National Directorate of Land and Forests said that any request for formal occupation of land is subject to inspection to verify the degree of compliance with exploration plans according to the deadlines established by law, which are two years for foreigners and five years for Mozambicans.

The Directorate noted that some applicants had limited capacity to explore the land and kept it fallow for too long leading to the population invading it, a lack of demarcation of plots and/or no knowledge of their boundaries, family disputes over inherited plots, illegal transfers and infrastructure improvements, and poorly managed community consultations. (08-10-2014)

## TANZANIA: REGIONAL POWER PROJECT PLANNED

Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya will soon enjoy reduced electricity costs following the envisaged completion of the ZTK interconnection power project.

Three energy ministers from Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya signed a Cooperation Agreement in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, binding their respective countries to the implementation of the power project which will also see many rural people accessing electricity.

The project will also attract investors. Addressing power utility delegates from the three nations, the Tanzanian Minister for Energy and Minerals, Prof Sospeter Muhongo said Zambia, Tanzania and Kenya will each solicit funding and implement the project infrastructure in each respective country that will be linked at the border.

He added that the three countries have enough resources to produce enough power for local consumption and sell the surplus to other African nations, connecting the North and the South Power Pool.

"We want to see power transmission connecting Cape Town and Cairo for the economic and social prosperity of our continent. This will reduce poverty once more people in rural areas access power and attract more investment to the continent," he said. He added that currently 75 per cent of Africa has no power.

The minister said that Zambia has enough resources to generate power from coal, while Kenya has already started generating power from geothermal sources and coal, while Tanzania has coal and natural gas.

"With all these resources at our disposal the three nations can produce enough electricity for local consumption and sell the surplus to other African nations," he said.

He added that the projects will be completed by 2016. He said the ZTK interconnection project will cost between 400 million US dollars and 500 million.

The Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Energy and Petroleum, Mr Davis Chirchir, underscored the need for the three nations to work quickly to ensure timely completion of the project to connect the Eastern and Southern Power Pool all the way to Cairo.

"Unless we start trading with one another, we cannot reach out to other markets," he explained, stressing that the Kenyan government is fully committed to the ZTK power interconnection project.

The Zambian Minister for Mines, Energy and Water Development, Mr Christopher Yaluma, said the three nations have procrastinated for too long, calling on theeach country to show commitment to the project. "This is unusual business. We need to get committed if we are going to achieve anything.

This project will not only bring benefits in trade, but also a boom in investment for our region," he added. Funding Institution present, including African Development Bank (AfDB) and World Bank (WB) and Donor countries including Norway, Japan, France and the European Union have expressed their continued support.

The African Development Bank (AfDB) Country Representative, Ms Tonia Kandiero, said her bank together with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is funding the Kenyan-Tanzania interconnection as a multi-nation project at an estimated cost of US 271.54 million dollars, split between the countries.

She said that Kenya will receive 50.52 million US dollars and the remaining 221.02 million US dollars will go to Tanzania. "We are also following up the 400kV Mbeya-Iringa transmission line as a national project and also the Zambia-Tanzania interconnector for funding purposes," she added. (Tanzania Daily News 01-10-2014)

## METALS OF AFRICA CONDUCTS AERIAL PROSPECTING IN MOZAMBIQUE

Australia’s Metals of Africa has extended the due diligence period of the Central Balama block, in the province of Cabo Delgado in Mozambique, for another six weeks to allow for aerial electromagnetic prospecting, the company recently announced.

The block in question is adjacent to the one currently being explored by another Australian company, Syrah Resources, which contains the world’s largest graphite deposits totalling 1.15 billion tons, and a graphite content of 10.2 percent.

After the extension of the due diligence period, Metals of Africa will complete the acquisition of Central Balama block, using a mixture of cash and shares and then immediately begin exploration activities.

In August Metals of Africa signed a purchase contract with Mozambique’s Dombeya Mineração Lda (Dombeya) to buy the block’s operating license, which was conditional on completion of the due diligence process.

Under the terms of the agreement, the Australian company paid US$50,000 on the day the contract was signed – 21 August – and by 13 November it will hand over shares worth US$200,000. Once the license is officially transferred it will make a final cash payment of US$200,000.

The Central Balama block covers an area of 9,600 hectares and has yet to be the target of any active mining. (08-10-2014)

## ROLLING STOCK FIRM TO EXPAND IN AFRICA

Thelo Rolling Stock Leasing, a South African rail financier, is seeking a partner to buy a 30% equity stake and help win new contracts around sub-Saharan Africa.
The company is looking for "a strategic equity partner that will lead the company forward," chairman Lumkile Mondi said on Friday. "We need a partner with deep pockets. There are billions and billions of rand worth of projects in Africa."

SA is part way through a R312bn infrastructure-development programme to improve its rail network and the efficiency of raw-materials exports. Closely held Thelo is targeting similar programmes in countries such as Nigeria, Ethiopia and Kenya as it seeks to expand across the continent, Mr Mondi said.

Thelo, 50% owned by the Industrial Development Corporation, is in talks with African Exim Bank about a $200m loan, Mr Mondi said. On Friday the company announced a $17.3m deal to finance four locomotives and 75 iron-ore wagons over 10 years for Swaziland Railway.

CEO Ronnie Ntuli said in July that since Thelo Rolling Stock was established in 2012 it had concluded three deals to buy rolling stock on behalf of clients and lease it to them.

Its most recent deal was to finance 16 General Electric locomotives on behalf of Vale Mozambique. Thelo bought the locomotives for R571m and will lease them to Vale for 12 years from January 2015.

Mr Ntuli says Thelo’s pipeline of deals is "north of $1bn (R10.8bn)". The leasing option appeals to rail operators that do not have capital available to buy fleets, wish to keep these assets off their balance sheets, and whose businesses are not geared towards being rail asset owners, he says (Bloomberg 08-10-2014)

## PORTUGUESE-SPEAKING AFRICAN COUNTRIES OWE PORTUGAL US$3.508 BILLION

The debt owed by Portuguese-speaking African countries (PALOP) to Portugal rose 3.5 percent in 2013 to US$3.508 billion, according to figures issued by the Bank of Portugal in Lisbon.

“The official debt owed by PALOPs to Portugal at the end of 2013 amounted to US$3.508 billion, continuing the upward trajectory apparent since 2005,” said the report published by the central bank.

The document presented as part of the 24th Lisbon Meeting between the central banks of Portuguese-speaking countries, detailed that “the whole of the direct debt owed to the Portuguese State and guaranteed by it increased by US$122 million in 2013 (+3.5 percent), despite slowing compared to the additional US$808 million and US$243 million seen in 2011 and 2012, respectively.”

Debt owed by Angola and Mozambique accounts for over 70 percent of total loans to Portuguese-speaking African countries, the Bank of Portugal said. (08-10-2014)

## EU, MALAWI DISCUSS €600M NON-BUDGETARY SUPPORT

Malawian President Peter Mutharika and visiting European Union (EU) Commissioner for Development Adris Piebalgs have discussed the finalization of €600 million non-budgetary support facility to cover the next seven years, according to a State House statement on Thursday. According to the statement, the EU official said the non-budgetary support would go towards agriculture and education over the next seven years.

“We have very good cooperation with Malawi and we are willing to provide assistance to enable the country deal with its challenges,” he said.

He added that the EU was looking at ways to support Malawi’s energy sector.

Mutharika promised the EU that his administration would spend the resources wisely and prudently. The two leaders met in New York on Wednesday on the side-lines of the United Nations General Assembly meeting. (APA 25-09-2014)

## GOVERNMENT OF MOZAMBIQUE LAUNCHES TENDER TO GRANT NEW OIL BLOCKS

The government of Mozambique this month plans to launch a tender to award 15 new blocks for oil exploration and production, covering an area of 76,800 square kilometres, the National Petroleum Institute said on its website.

The tender, which is scheduled for 23 October in London, includes three offshore concessions off the coast of Cabo Delgado province, in the eastern area of the Rovuma sedimentary basin , where US company Anadarko Petroleum and Italy's ENI discovered reserves of 200 trillion cubic feet of commercially viable natural gas, according to recent data from the Mozambican government.

Also in the north, off the coast of Nampula province, two concession will be awarded in the area of Angoche, while in central Mozambique six blocks in the Zambezi sedimentary basin will be offered, along with three on the mainland, in the Mozambique basin flanking the areas of Pande and Temane, which are explored by South African company Sasol.

The tender, the results of which will be published on 20 January 2015, is the fifth launched by the Mozambican government and also includes a block located in Gaza province (south), known as Palmeira. (07-10-2014)

## LOCAL BANKS JOIN POWER PLANT DEAL IN GHANA

A wide-ranging group of financiers and industrialists including several South African banks on Friday closed the $900m of debt and equity project finance for the Kpone Independent Power Plant and associated infrastructure in Ghana.

Kpone, a 350 megawatt combined cycle gas turbine plant in the Tema industrial zone close to Accra, is being developed by Cenpower Generation Company, a special purpose vehicle. Group Five announced in August it had been awarded the engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) contract worth R4bn, which is expected to take about three years to complete.

South African banks and construction companies have been expanding activities in the rest of Africa, where energy is one of the fastest-growing sectors. In the latest deal, Nedbank announced last week it had taken a 20% stake in West African banking group Ecobank Transnational.

Cenpower's funding consists of $650m of debt and $250m of equity. Rand Merchant Bank (RMB), the investment banking division of FirstRand, was global co-ordinator and mandated lead arranger of the debt portion, with Nedbank and Standard Bank of SA also acting as lead arrangers. Nederlandse Financierings-Maatschappij voor Ontwikkelings Landen (FMO) was the arranger for the tranche contributed by development finance institutions. These were the Industrial Development Corporation and the Development Bank of SA, as well as Deutsche Investitions-und Entwicklungsgesellschaft (DEG) and the OPEC Fund for International Development.

The $250m equity in Cenpower will be 32% owned by a subsidiary of Africa Finance Corporation, 28% by Sumitomo of Japan, 21% by Cenpower, 15% by African Infrastructure Investment Fund II's investment vehicle Mercury Power, and 4% by FMO.(BD 06-10-2014)

## CHINA IS MAIN BUYER OF ANGOLAN PRODUCTS IN 1ST HALF

China remained as Angola's main export destination in the first half of 2014, according to figures published Monday in Luanda by the National Customs Service, cited by state newspaper Jornal de Angola.

The figures showed that in the first six month of the year China bought goods from Angola worth over 1 trillion kwanza, accounting for over 50 percent of Angola's exports, followed in order of value by the United States (12.1 percent), India (6.8 percent), Taiwan (3.7 percent) and Portugal with 3 percent.

In the period Angola's exports fell year on year by 37.7 percent to 2.137 trillion kwanza (US$21.706 billion).

The figures showed the customs value of the five main commodities exported – crude oils or bituminous minerals, diamonds, unprocessed or sawn wood, natural gas, light oils, and preparations for chemical transformation and diesel – stood at 2.082 trillion kwanza, which accounted for 97.4 percent of total exports.

In the same six-month period Angola imported goods worth 1.4 trillion kwanza (US$14 .22 billion), which was an annual rise of 17.3 percent.

The main imported goods were diesel, fuel for airplanes, pipes for oil and gas wells, aeroplanes and other aircraft.

The list of the main countries of origin of goods imported by Angola continued to be led by Portugal, with 15.7 percent, followed by China (11.7 percent), Singapore (11 percent), United States (7.7 percent) and the Netherlands (5.6 percent). (08-10-2014)

## LIBYA: EU CONDEMNS GROWING VIOLENCE IN BENGHAZI

The EU has expressed alarm at the growing violence in the Libyan city of Benghazi, condemning recent suicide bombings, targeted assassinations, and clashes between armed groups: *"The continued fighting poses a serious threat to the security and stability of the country and the wider region,"* a statement said.

*"These violent incidents confirm once again the need for an urgent ceasefire in the country and the resumption of political dialogue. A political process, and not armed confrontation, is the only way to address underlying differences and to secure a peaceful future for all Libyans,"* said the statement, issued in Saturday by a spokesperson for the EU External Action Service.

*"The EU urges Libyan parties to constructively participate in the UNSMIL-facilitated peace talks, and welcomes the courage and conviction of those who have come to the negotiating table,"* the statement added.

*"The EU stands ready to support the Libyan people,"* the spokesperson concluded, adding the international community would *"not hesitate in taking action against those who undermine the political process and prospects of peace in the country."* (EU Neighbourhood 06-210-2014)

## EBCAM NEWS


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