



MEMORANDUM

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ETHIOPIA: EU INCREASES HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR REFUGEES

The European Commission is providing an additional €5 million to respond to the needs of the growing number of refugees in Ethiopia. The country has become the largest refugee-hosting nation in Africa: it is sheltering more than 643 000 refugees. Most of them are fleeing the conflict in South Sudan and are facing malnutrition and the risk of epidemics.

"The catastrophe happening in South Sudan has a huge impact throughout the region," said Kristalina Georgieva, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response. "Since the crisis erupted last December, Ethiopia has given refuge to more than 190 000 South Sudanese people. With this funding, we will help meet the basic needs of refugees, including shelter, food, water, hygiene and health."

The new funding brings the Commission's humanitarian aid in Ethiopia to €31 million for this year. The aid will be channelled through humanitarian partners, including United Nations agencies and non-governmental organisations.

The Commission has previously supported other neighboring countries of South Sudan with €15 million to cope with the inflow of refugees from the ongoing conflict.

Ethiopia is prone to recurrent droughts and floods, which have increased in frequency and intensity in recent years. The high influx of refugees is further adding to the vulnerabilities in the country. The European Commission provided over €130 million of humanitarian funding in the period 2011-2013 to assist around 3 million of the most vulnerable people, including those affected by drought and refugees.

To help strengthen the resilience of the population to recurrent shocks, the European Union is also supporting the regional initiative entitled Supporting the Horn of Africa's Resilience (SHARE) with an initial allocation of €50 million for Ethiopia. The initiative is helping build a more holistic approach that better links humanitarian and development efforts in strengthening the capacities of the most vulnerable communities to cope with recurrent shocks.

To respond to the unprecedented humanitarian crisis in South Sudan, the European Commission has so far provided humanitarian assistance worth over €111 million this year. It supports life-saving assistance for internally displaced people, refugees, returnees and other most vulnerable populations providing them with food assistance and nutrition, basic healthcare, access to clean water, sanitation, shelter and protection. European Union humanitarian funding – EU Member States and the Commission – for the crisis in South Sudan stands at over €360 million in 2014 so far.

CUBA RESPONSE TO EBOLA FIGHT WINS US PRAISE

Cuba's contribution of hundreds of doctors and nurses to fight Ebola puts the island at the forefront of the international response and is even thawing relations with sworn enemy the US.

Despite its small population and strapped economy, Cuba has sent 165 medical professionals to Sierra Leone, a larger contingent than most western countries'.

A further 91 Cuban doctors and nurses are to begin work shortly in Liberia and Guinea, and Cuba has pledged to send more than 200 others.

The island's response to the epidemic, which has killed more than 4,500 people in west Africa, has won plaudits from humanitarian workers who say the international community's reaction has otherwise been lacking.

"The international response has been slow. The virus is spreading faster than we're all setting up," said Sean Casey, director of the International Medical Corps's emergency response team in Liberia, where Cuban advance teams are laying the groundwork for new medical teams' arrival.

"It's good that the Cubans are coming. We need more countries to step up."

Cuba's contribution has also won plaudits on the global stage — even in the US, where Cold War bitterness towards the island lingers, more than 50 years after the Cuban missile crisis and the severing of diplomatic ties.

US Secretary of State John Kerry paid Cuba a rare compliment last week, singling out the country for its "impressive" response to Ebola.

Mr Kerry, whose country has pledged 4,000 troops to combat the disease in West Africa — by far the largest international contingent — pleaded for greater mobilisation against the epidemic. "Cuba, a country of just 11-million people, has sent 165 health professionals and it plans to send nearly 300 more."

A New York Times editorial on Sunday praised the island's "impressive role," calling the Cuban doctors "an urgent reminder ... that the benefits of moving swiftly to restore diplomatic relations with Cuba far outweigh the drawbacks."

And on Tuesday, the US welcomed the chance to co-operate with Cuba in the fight against Ebola, a State Department source said in Washington.

"Cuba is making significant contributions by sending hundreds of health workers to Africa.... In that spirit, the US Department of State is communicating with all members of the global community, including Cuba, involved in this effort through multilateral channels such as the World Health Organisation and diplomatic briefings," the source said.

These rare displays of warmth have been reciprocated on the Cuban side. Fidel Castro, the retired father of the island's communist revolution, said Cuba "will gladly co-operate with American personnel" on Ebola, in an article published in state media on Saturday.

His brother, Raul, who succeeded him as president in 2006, echoed the sentiment at a regional Ebola summit on Monday in Havana, the first of its kind in Latin America.

Cuba has long used medical diplomacy to fight US efforts to label it a pariah on the international stage. The country prizes its universal healthcare system and, since 1960, has sent 135,000 health workers overseas for emergency response or to work in underserved communities. Cuba has about 50,000 doctors and nurses in 66 countries across Latin America, Africa and Asia, according to the health ministry.

The doctors have also become a key source of billions of dollars a year in revenue for the Americas' only communist regime, since 2004, when Havana began charging host governments for their services. (AFP 23-10-2014)

JAPAN SUPPORTS GUARANTEE FUND FOR SMES IN MOZAMBIQUE

The government of Mozambique, in partnership with the Japanese Agency for International Development, has created a financial security for small and medium enterprises (SMEs) with an initial allocation of US\$13 million, according to Mozambican daily newspaper Notícias.

The guarantee fund is intended to support SMEs in their dealings with banks and enable applications for loans to finance their business ventures.

The announcement was made Monday by the Deputy Director General of the Institute for the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises (Ipeme), Adriano Chamusso at a seminar to train provincial departments of Industry and Trade and district departments of Economic Activities on the instruments to be used in support of micro, small and medium enterprises as part of the "Each District, One Product" programme.

Chamusso also said that the fund was available to interested parties through banks Millennium bim, Banco Comercial e de Investimentos (BCI), Banco Único and MozaBanco.

With the fund Ipeme wants to provide guarantees and to streamline the banks' requirements for granting loans, as well as to provide subsidised interest rates in order to make SME investments sustainable.

The Institute for the Promotion of Small and Medium Enterprises supports and promotes micro, small and medium enterprises in Mozambique. (23-10-2014)

TEMPORARY MIGRATION GENERATES WEALTH IN COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, SAYS FEMISE STUDY

When migrants return to their country of origin, they generate wealth, invest and create employment, according to a report entitled "Return Migration in south Mediterranean countries", published by the EU-

funded Euro-Mediterranean Forum of Economic Institutes (FEMISE), which analyses this phenomenon in Morocco and Egypt.

In 2013, 12 million people from these nations were living abroad. Where do they go? Egyptians mainly migrate to Gulf and OECD countries, while Moroccans, similarly to their Algerian and Tunisian neighbours, prefer to migrate to Europe.

Morocco's diaspora stood at 4.5 million people in 2013, with the majority of migrants living in Europe. After Turkey, Morocco has the second largest population of migrants to Europe from a non-European country. It could well surpass Turkey in the number of migrants to Europe in the next ten years.

The aspiration for a better life constitutes the main motivation to migrate. And, contrary to popular belief: "82% of Moroccan migrants already have a job". They simply want a higher salary.

The education level of Egyptian migrants is higher than that of Moroccan migrants. The latter have a tendency to remain in the destination country for the rest of their lives while Egyptians prefer to migrate on a temporary basis and return either to their country of origin or to another Gulf country.

Most migrants leave their country of origin between the ages of 15 and 29. It is at 44 that they decide to return, bringing with them new knowledge and skills which they will be able to build upon on their return, according to the study.

Some migrants become business leaders (entrepreneurs) and play a vital role in job creation. Hence there is a need to maximise the potential benefits for the country of origin. "*We show the impact of return migration on the accumulation of human capital and entrepreneurship, and the role played by return migration policy,*" explains Jackline Wahba, professor of Economics at the University of Southampton and leader of the report.

Nevertheless, returning of migrants proves to be complicated from an administrative point of view, in particular when it comes to transferring pensions and social security contributions. Moreover as a result of the global economic crisis, European countries have had a tendency to tighten up their immigration policy; nevertheless the report predicts that low birth rates and ageing populations in Europe could lead to a significant increase in the number of temporary migrants. The numbers are expected to rise to 4.9 million by 2015 and 11.8 million by 2020.

FEMISE is an EU-funded project, which aims to contribute to the reinforcement of dialogue on economic and financial issues in the Euro-Mediterranean partnership, within the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy and the Union for the Mediterranean. More specifically, it seeks to improve understanding of the priority stakes in the economic and social spheres, and their repercussions on the Mediterranean partners in the framework of their implementation of EU Association Agreements and Action Plans. (EU Neighbourhood 21-10-2014)

BRAZIL SUPPORTS CABO VERDE'S GENERAL INSPECTORATE OF FINANCE

Brazil's Office of the Comptroller General (CGU) plans to provide technical assistance to Cabo Verde's (Cape Verde's) General Inspectorate of Finance (IGF) under the terms of a memorandum signed in Brasilia, the Inspector General of Finance told Cape Verdean weekly newspaper A Semana.

Victor Veiga said that the memorandum signed with the CGU should enter into force in 2015, and until then the two sides will draw up mechanisms of cooperation and develop a two-year plan of action.

Veiga said that the IGF had worked with similar institutions within the Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries, particularly Portugal and Brazil.

"About a year ago we started negotiating with the Office of the Comptroller General, which culminated with the signing of a memorandum in Brasilia. It is a document to provide technical assistance to the

IGF, to train finance inspectors, and reorganise the service we provide,” the Inspector General of Finance told the newspaper.

The memorandum was signed during a mission by the IGF to Brazil to take part in an International Seminar on Internal Control focused on institutions from EU member states and at which Cabo Verde was a guest. (23-04-2010)

EU STRIKES A COMPREHENSIVE TRADE DEAL WITH EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY

Negotiators from the EU and the East African Community (EAC) finalised today a new comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) between both regions.

The agreement will provide legal certainty for businesses and open a long-term perspective for free and unlimited access to the EU market for products from Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

"The East African Community region stands out for its dynamism, and ambition to develop as an integrated region. The comprehensive partnership agreement we have just reached is the best way in which we can support EAC's aspirations", said EU Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht. "We have concluded two other development-oriented partnerships with African regions this year. It's a source of my personal satisfaction also to see East Africa benefiting from the opportunities that Europe wants to offer. I hope that these EPAs will be signed and implemented soon."

The new comprehensive EPA lays the new and stable grounds for EU-EAC trade relations. East African Community countries will now be able to focus on improving their economic performance without worrying about the potential loss of full duty-free quota-free access to the European market due to their improving status. All EAC members, least developed or more advanced, will benefit from the same predictable and uniform trade scheme.

To comply with the rules of the World Trade Organisation, the EAC countries committed to increase the share of their duty-free imports to 80% over the coming 15 years. As EAC customs union tariffs on imports are already low, absorbing the EPA is a feasible endeavour. Also, when EAC countries will be ready to grant more far-reaching concessions to the Europe's main competitors, the EU will be able to claim those same improvements. The EU and EAC have also reached a balanced outcome on export taxes.

Beyond the elimination of customs duties, the agreement covers important issues, such as free movement of goods, cooperation on customs and taxation, and trade defence instruments, which mirror the effort of the EAC to strengthen its customs union and to set up an effective internal market. This is the EU's most tangible contribution to support the regional objectives of the EAC.

The agreement, initialled today by all negotiators, is now going to be presented for approval according to the domestic procedures of each partner.

The Eastern African Community (EAC) consists of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. All EAC members, with the exception of Kenya, are least developed countries according to the UN classification. The current development prospects indicate however they may be successful in leaving this group in a relatively near future.

The geographically and economically homogeneous group is strongly committed to regional integration, with an ultimate goal of becoming a federation. The EAC established a common external tariff in 2005, removed customs duties in intra-regional trade, ratified a common market protocol as of 2010 and most recently took steps towards achievement of a far-reaching monetary union.

In 2007, the East African Community finalised a framework agreement on tariff elimination, which

became a basis for the comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement, initialled today.

In 2013, total trade between the EU and the East African Community amounted to €5.8 billion. The EU imports from the EAC are worth €2.2 billion and consist mostly of coffee, cut flowers, tea, tobacco, fish and vegetables. Exports from the EU into the EAC, mainly machinery and mechanical appliances, equipment and parts, vehicles and pharmaceutical products, amount to €3.5 billion.

CONFERENCE DEBATES BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES IN GUINEA-BISSAU

The business climate, trends and opportunities in Guinea-Bissau will be the focus of a conference on “Public-Private Partnership for Competitiveness” to be held on 29 and 30 October in Bissau, the conference organisers said Tuesday.

The conference is sponsored by the Business Confederation of the Portuguese-Speaking African Countries (CE-PALOPs) and will take place on the sidelines of the extraordinary session of the Council of Ministers of the CPLP, taking place in the capital of Guinea-Bissau.

“The Bissau conference will be the first of a series that will be hosted annually by CE-PALOP member-countries,” said the organisers in a statement.

Guinea-Bissau held elections this year that brought an end to a period of political transition that began with a coup in April 2012.

The new government bodies have resumed foreign relations and are now preparing a number of planning documents, some of which will be analysed at the conference.

The second day of the conference will offer presentations focused on the infrastructure, energy, tourism, transport, communications, agriculture, fisheries, minerals and construction materials sectors.

The conference is expected to be attended by Guinea-Bissau’s Prime Minister Domingos Simões Pereira, the Minister for Economy and Finance Geraldo Martins, former presidential candidate and government consultant Paulo Gomes, and the former Cape Verdean Minister for Foreign Affairs José Brito, according to Portuguese news agency Lusa. (23-10-2014)

MOROCCO: INFORMATION DAY TO ASSESS IMPLEMENTATION OF GENDER EQUALITY STRATEGY IN EDUCATION

The Head of the EU Delegation to Morocco Rupert Joy and the Moroccan Minister of National Education and Vocational Training Rachid Benmokhtar have chaired an information day to take stock of EU support to Morocco’s Strategic Action Plan for the institutionalisation of gender equality in education.

This support, in the form of technical assistance, completes the implementation of the Moroccan Educational Strategy, supported by the EU, which has provided a budget of over 1 billion dirhams for a five-year period.

This technical assistance aims at setting up permanent regional gender units. These units have benefited from trainings and coaching to integrate gender equality in all the strategic plans. The Ministry of National Education and Vocational Training has also been helped in strategies and internal and external communication tools to promote gender equality.

Ambassador Rupert Joy told participants at the information day that, “*Gender equality in the educational system is, to my mind, the highest priority. We know that to be competitive, a country must provide to its human capital the skills, the knowledge and the attitudes that enable to succeed in our knowledge societies.*”

In recent years, education has become, with health, the sector that has benefited from the most important EU assistance and investments in Morocco. Since the end of the nineties, more than 24 billion dirhams have been made available to Morocco under different programmes.

The EU helps Morocco in the implementation of its Support programme to education. It focuses on three major aspects: to make the principles of equity and equality of opportunities effective, to reinforce professional efficiency and support the staff who take care on a daily basis of the children's schooling, and finally, to consolidate efforts to improve the system's governance. The EU has committed to renew its support to the sector for four years with support of more than one billion dirhams. (EU Neighbourhood 21-10-2014)

ANGOLAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDES GUARANTEE ON LOAN TO COMPANHIA DE BIOENERGIA DE ANGOLA

The government of Angola has approved a sovereign guarantee of a 70 percent portion of a US\$300 million investment by Angolan-Brazilian bioenergy partnership Companhia de Bioenergia de Angola (Biocom), according to a presidential order.

The guarantee is provided due to the creation of the Capanda agro-industrial complex (Malanje province) and to attract "large" projects to the region in order to develop the agro-livestock sector. The same order said the company had a "strategic role" as an anchor company to "promote the structure of the supply chain in the region" and provide electricity for "industrial and domestic consumption" in the region.

Finance minister Armando Manuel is thus authorised to issue the guarantee "on behalf of the Angolan State," covering 70 percent of the US\$300 million bank loan taken on by Biocom.

Biocom plans to invest a total of US\$750 million according to the loan contract signed in Luanda with the Angolan National Agency for Private Investment (ANIP) on 28 August.

Biocom, which is part of the Capanda Agro-Industrial Complex, is a partnership between the Angolan State, through the National Agency for Private Investment (ANIP) and Sonangol Holding, with a 20 percent stake and Angolan group Damer and Brazil's Odebrecht, with 40 percent.

The project is based on production of sugar from sugar cane and ethanol (ethyl alcohol), as well as electricity for its own consumption and to sell the surplus to the national grid. (23-10-2014)

MOROCCO: EXTRA EU SUPPORT FOR BASIC HEALTH REFORM

The EU and Morocco have signed a funding agreement for the support programme to the reform of basic health coverage, worth 555 million dirhams (approx. €50 million) over the period 2014-2016.

The Head of the EU Delegation to Morocco, Ambassador Rupert Joy, said: "*EU assistance to Morocco for health reform is all the more relevant that it contributes to inclusive growth and to the reduction of social and territorial differences. It is also essential to the success of the EU-Morocco advanced status, that the ongoing reform leads to an equal access to daily quality health care and to social protection.*"

This third phase of the support programme follows on from two previous programmes that benefited from a budget of about 1 billion dirhams (approx. €90 million). It also complements other EU support programmes to the Moroccan health sector, namely the sectorial support programme to the health system reform, and the programme "Réussir le Statut Avancé". (EU neighbourhood 21-10-2014)

AFRICAN STATES TO EARN US\$2.6 TRILLION FROM AGRICULTURE BY 2020

Africa's leading economies, including Nigeria, South Africa, Egypt and Kenya, are expected to earn some US\$2.6 trillion from agriculture, consumer goods as well as infrastructure growth, according to a Nigerian expert, Mr. Armstrong Katang.

The private Guardian newspaper on Wednesday quoted the telecoms and economic expert, as saying this in a presentation, titled: 'Investment Opportunities in the Nigerian ICT sector', to investors at the just-concluded GITEX Technology show in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

He said over the past decade, Africa has grown to become the second fastest growing regional economy in the world (after Asia).

Katang noted that 11 African countries grew at a yearly rate of 7% between 2000 and 2009, stressing that the International Monetary Fund estimates that 11 of the 20 fastest growing global economies through 2017 will be African.

According to him, there are increasingly better educated work forces as a result of increasing access to education at all levels.

According to the expert, "Foreign Direct Investments (FDI) projects in Nigeria, South Africa and others have grown at a compound rate of nearly 20 per cent since 2007 and despite a global downturn, it grew by 5.5 per cent from 2011 to 2012.'

It was estimated that since 2000, 31 million African households have joined the world's consumers' class and with income to make purchases other than food and shelter

The expert said, with an estimated population of 170 million, Nigeria is the seventh largest country in the World and the largest in Africa. Some 42% of Nigeria's population is below 15 years old, making it a young-driven economy.

The Nigeria's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has grown at close to 7% over the past five years. The country has now grown to be Africa's largest economy after recent re-basing exercise and the 26th largest of such in the world.

Revised GDP for 2013 is now US\$509.9 billion up from old estimates of US\$269.5 billion, PANA reported. (Pana 23/10/2014)

EU-ALGERIA COOPERATION REPORT REVEALS EXTENT OF PARTNERSHIP

A press conference was organised this week at the EU Delegation to Algeria to mark the publication of the new "[EU-Algeria cooperation report](#)" and the visit of two senior officials from the European Commission's DG Development and Cooperation.

Under the motto "let's move forward together", Mrs Navarro, Head of Cooperation Operations at the Delegation, presented the content of the report with examples of concrete results. "*The assessment of the cooperation between the EU and Algeria is positive,*" she said, underlining the variety of sectors concerned: diversification of the economy, health, water resources, environment, higher education, transport, employment, youth, energy, governance, heritage, etc.

She added that through cooperation, the EU had contributed to enhancing phytosanitary and food safety, preparing the "National Water Plan" and the "fight against non-communicable diseases plan", and introducing the programmes "Licence-Master-Doctorat" in Algeria. Thousands of Algerian executives have also been trained in many different subjects.

Gérald Audaz, who is in charge of the cooperation with the Maghreb at the European Commission, traced the origins and evolutions of the European Neighbourhood Policy, focusing on the important role Algeria played in this context. (EU Neighbourhood 22-10-2014)

DJIBOUTI INTERNET START-UP AIMS TO BOOST BROADBAND SPEEDS ACROSS EAST AFRICA

Internet access in east Africa is still relatively slow and costly but a Djibouti-based technology start-up company has ambitions to help change that.

Djibouti Data Center (DDC), set up by a group of local and international investors 18 months ago, is the first data centre and internet exchange in east Africa connected to eight fibre optic cables that are part of the main internet route from Europe to Asia.

The internet route travels through the Mediterranean, Red Sea and into the Indian Ocean, passing by tiny Djibouti, which is sandwiched between Eritrea, Somalia and Ethiopia.

African internet users have typically enjoyed little benefit from these cables passing along its coast because connectivity to them has been limited, something DDC aims to correct as it plans to expand from its home base into Kenya, Ethiopia, South Sudan, and Somalia, which are all at varying stages of internet development.

"The Djibouti market itself may be small, but the DDC serves as a unique gateway hub to the many millions of customers in these neighbouring east Africa countries," said Anthony Voscarides, CE of Djibouti Data Center.

The company launched services in March 2013 in partnership with Djibouti Telecom and will connect to at least three more cables on the Europe/Asia route next year.

"Africa has historically been challenged by high internet costs," Mr Voscarides, an Australian former telecoms industry executive, said.

According to The Internet Society, 15.7% of Kenya's average gross domestic product (GDP) per capita is required for broadband access, compared to 6.1% in SA and less than 2% in most of Europe.

In Ethiopia the figure rises to 60.4% while in Uganda it is 31% in Uganda and 7.4% in Sudan.

Less than 2% of Ethiopia's 97-million population use the internet.

But Sydney-based consultants BuddeComm, in a report published last month, said the country's "broadband market is set for a boom following massive improvements in international bandwidth, national fibre backbone infrastructure and 3G mobile broadband services".

Kenya is the biggest market in the region with internet penetration of 39%, the fourth-highest in Africa, according to the International Telecommunications Union.

In terms of median download speeds, however, Kenya is ranked 105th globally, while Ethiopia is 94th, Sudan 154th, and SA is 116th, according to the Internet Society. Madagascar is the highest-ranked African country at 61.

Faster connectivity

DDC's goal is to expand into neighbouring east African countries with small data centres which would then allow telecom operators, cable companies and others in those countries to access the submarine cables off Djibouti via its main data centre.

Access to more cables should spread the load, reduce the effect of cable cuts or other problems in those countries and also increase capacity as internet penetration and usage rise.

"The results are reduced latency, faster connectivity, and lower costs for network operators and internet users in East Africa," said Mr Voscarides.

Latency is the time it takes for internet data to travel from source to destination: the closer together these two points are together, the lower the latency.

Mr Voscarides did not give estimates of how much connectivity could be improved or cost reduced.

DDC's customers include MTN, Belgacom International Carrier Services and Telkom SA, who can house data at DDC in Djibouti, which connects to the cables running north towards Europe and East towards Asia.

Mr Voscarides said DDC had been "designed to not only reduce costs for operators, but to also add significant value by being a tool for carriers, content providers and other service providers to improve the efficiency, resilience and performance of their networks."

Government regulatory policies and the deployment of new technologies could affect the timing of the company's expansion plans, he said. He did not give a timeframe for the expansion into new markets.

DDC's customers, which also include so-called content delivery networks (CDNs), do not pay high import taxes for equipment housed at the facility or need special import permits, he said.

CDNs are the likes of Google, Microsoft and Amazon, although DDC has not confirmed if they are customers. (Reuters 21-10-2014)

UFM LAUNCHES PROJECT TO FOSTER COMPETITIVENESS AND ENTREPRENEURIAL COOPERATION IN SOUTHERN MEDITERRANEAN CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES

The Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean has officially launched the UfM-labelled project "Establishment of a Regional Platform for the Development of Cultural and Creative Industries and Clusters in the Southern Mediterranean". The launch took place at a regional workshop organised by the United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) — promoter of the project — on the sidelines of the CAT 2014 Business and Technology Exchange (Carrefour d'Affaires et de Technologies 2014), held last week in Tunis.

The workshop provided the opportunity to present the overall EU/UNIDO programme as well as the initiative's first achievements, including a mapping of creative and cultural industries clusters and a call for proposals for the selection of those clusters to be supported.

"Following the decision taken by Industry Ministers on the occasion of the 9th UfM Ministerial Meeting on Euro-Mediterranean industrial cooperation to promote entrepreneurial collaboration and pilot initiatives in the cultural and creative industries, the UfM has labelled this project with the aim to leverage the potential of this sector as well as promote new employment opportunities and inclusive growth in the region," said UfM Deputy Secretary General Claudio Cortese in his speech.

The initiative "Support for the Development of Cultural and Creative Industries and Clusters in the Southern Mediterranean" is funded by the European Union, with a contribution by the Italian Development Cooperation, and is developed and implemented by UNIDO. Within this framework, the UfM Secretariat will further develop the regional dimension of the project by establishing a platform to foster coordination, disseminate best practices and identify additional enterprises and stakeholders in other Southern Mediterranean countries. Furthermore, the Secretariat will organise eight workshops, in coordination with the promoter, to identify common challenges across the region and define training needs for all the industries and clusters (EU Neighbourhood 22-10-2014)

ENI AND KOGAS COOPERATE IN NATURAL GAS SECTOR IN MOZAMBIQUE

Italian oil group ENI signed a cooperation agreement with the Korea Gas Corporation (Kogas) to strengthen cooperation in the Area 4 block in northern Mozambique, according to a statement released recently in Milan.

The group holds a 50 percent stake in the block, Kogas and Portugal's Galp Energia and the Mozambican government's Empresa Nacional de Hidrocarbonetos each have a 10 percent stake and the China National Petroleum Corporation (CNPC) the remaining 20 percent.

The deposits discovered to date in that block indicate the presence of 85 trillion cubic feet of natural gas and development is expected to begin in 2015.

Before this agreement was signed the two groups cooperated in oil projects in Cyprus, Iraq, Indonesia and Timor-Leste (East Timor).

Meanwhile, the KD consortium, which brings together US company KBR Inc. and South Korea's Daewoo Shipbuilding & Marine Engineering (DSME) Co. Ltd., was hired by ENI East Africa, a subsidiary of the ENI Group, to build a platform for collection, processing, liquefaction and discharge of natural gas for the Coral Sul project in the Rovuma Basin, northern Mozambique.

The Coral Sul project is located 150 miles northeast of the city of Pemba and 30 miles off the coast of Mozambique. (22-10-2014)

DRC - OPPOSITION PLANS PROTEST AT US EMBASSY, MONUSCO OFFICE

The opposition coalition in the Democratic Republic of Congo has said it will proceed with its planned sit-in at the US Embassy and the office of the UN Organizational Stabilization Mission in DR Congo (MONUSCO) in the capital, Kinshasa, Monday.

Acting under the group political and social forces for unity and action, the opposition said it would proceed with the protest, despite the refusal of the municipal authority to grant it the necessary permit, Mr. Martin Mukonkole, one of the organisers of the demonstration, said Sunday.

Mr. Mukonkole said the reasons given by the authority to reject the opposition's request were contradictory.

While the authority pretends not to be aware of the existence of the coalition, the opposition official recalled that the authority had agreed to the demands of the same group to hold political gatherings in Kinshasa 13 and 27 Sept.

'We informed the municipal authority in accordance with the constitution. And so far, nothing has changed within the procedure and the texts that govern this type of rally. It is up to the municipal authority to take dispositions to supervise the demonstration,' he said.

On Saturday, Mrs Thérèse Olenga, the provincial government spokesperson, announced the decision by the provincial government of Kinshasa banning Monday's opposition rally.

According to her, the group is not recognised officially and did not obtain permission from the Interior Ministry. (Pana 21/10/2014)



EBCAM NEWS



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Ebola in Africa: The impact on your business

Webinar on the latest update and advice

The largest ever Ebola outbreak is rapidly evolving in several countries in Africa. The epidemic continues to grow and spread into new areas, threatening more lives and potentially the economies of affected countries.

International SOS is delighted to host a webinar in partnership with Business Council for Africa to raise awareness on:

- What is the current situation and outlook?
- How do these developments affect your business?
- What do travellers and organisations need to know?
- Which are the resources available?

In addition to speakers from International SOS, it is hoped that some of BCA In-Country Directors will also join the webinar and may be able to answer specific questions from their respective countries during the Q&A session.

The webinar is expected to last 45 minutes to an hour, including a **30-min presentation** followed by a **Q&A session**.

How to register

Please click [here](#). You will be sent a confirmation email including webex link and dial-in numbers.

How to join the webinar on the day

- To see the slides: log in 10 minutes before using the link provided in your confirmation email
- To hear the speakers: dial in using one of the numbers provided

[REGISTER NOW](#)

When:

Wednesday 29 October 2014

Time:

12:00 am (UK time)
30 min presentation + Q&A

Speakers:

Dr Dick Hooper

Regional Medical Director, Medical Services, International SOS

Dr Katherine O'Reilly

Manager, Medical Information & Analysis, International SOS

Dr Laurent Taymans

Regional Medical Director, Assurances Services & Medical Service, International SOS

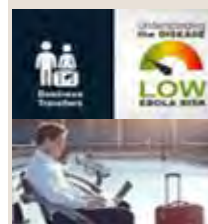
Register ▶

Resources ahead of the webinar:

[Ebola dedicated website:](#)

For the latest information and advice on Ebola

[Short video for business travellers: "What business travellers to know about Ebola"](#)



www.bcafrica.co.uk

The Business Council for Africa, West & Southern (BCA) makes every effort to ensure the accuracy of statement and the validity of assessments made. However, neither BCA nor its officers can accept responsibility for any errors or omissions. Members are advised to seek professional advice before taking decisions based upon information or opinions given in the webinar service we are offering via International SOS.



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Venue

HypoVereinsbank AG
 Kardinal-Faulhaber-Straße 1
 80333 Munich, Germany

"Somebody was asked how he would operate in government and the person said he would face only two things — infrastructure and education. With infrastructure, other things will follow."

Aliko Dangote, Nigerian Investor and Richest Man in Africa

Orders and projects in the infrastructure sector for the German construction industry are no longer limited to Germany and Europe. Being aware of the negative development impact of poor infrastructure African governments are **investing billions** in the development of their **infrastructure** such as streets, houses, ports, or energy supply. One big project follows the next. Plans, which could result in **contracts worth billions** for German construction companies, suppliers and engineers. **"Made in Germany"** and the German craft are **more in demand than ever** before.

The **German-African Infrastructure Forum (GAIF)** is the **leading business forum** in bringing together **more than 200 experts** and **decision makers** from more than 20 countries of the African continent and German companies. We expect **mayors** from some of the fastest growing African mega cities like Lagos, Johannesburg, Harare, and Dakar. **Ministers for Transport, Logistic, and Urbanization** are invited from all over Africa. Some of the **most successful German companies** in Africa already announced their willing to attend.

The **2nd German-African Infrastructure Forum** in Munich offers you exclusive contact opportunities to African and German decision-makers from the following sectors:

- Transport infrastructure and logistics

- Building & Construction
- Urban Development and Water Management

The program of the 2nd **German-African Infrastructure Forum** also provides:

- Presentations of current projects and German-African Cooperation in the fields of transport, infrastructure and logistics, construction and urban development
- possibilities for a targeted exchange with African and German companies in your industry
- Presentation opportunities for your products and solutions

Fernando Matos Rosa
Brussels



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