



(Parliament of the republic of South Africa says it backs the position of the government to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC).)

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

**South Africa Not Another Zimbabwe!**

3 November 2016/Deutsche Welle (Bonn)

South Africa's ruling ANC has welcomed the release of the state capture report. It is a victory for democracy writes DW Head of Africa Service Claus Stäcker.

Once again Jacob Zuma's hosts, look for solidarity. "The president is going nowhere", explains ANC's youth league. "There will be no meeting of the ANC that will take a decision to remove Zuma in our presence", said a provincial chairperson of the youth group. He is called Thanduxolo

Sabelo. But one does not have to remember his name. This is because the young comrade is taking the wrong side and missing the turn of events. He will therefore be quickly forgotten.

When Zuma counts his allies, they seem to be getting fewer day by day. They are from Nelson Mandela's once influential ANC youth league, who lost ground since today's popular opposition figure Julius Malema left. There are still a few ANC's provincial leaders who are at the mercy of Zuma, of which without they would immediately lose their power. And there is the powerful ANC Women's League, once the pillar of feminism and progress - today a tragicomic election organization with peculiar preference of men. Not only because their role model Jacob Zuma is corrupt, but he is also a polygamist, adulterer, macho, sexist, and a lawbreaker. A sad group, which is digging itself in Zuma's defense.

Until now every ANC president since Nelson Mandela could support themselves on a broad basis of comrades, trade unions and business leaders. This came to an end with the South African spring in 2016. The employee's associations are turning their back on Zuma, leading companies are finally giving up their opportunism and taking position. More ANC members are openly turning away. Ministers are heading to the streets to protest against their own head of the cabinet.

From the latest Protests in Pretoria, Cape Town and Durban, the dream of a rainbow glimmered again, as black, white, rich and poor, painted the six colors of their flag on their cheeks. With the slogan "Save South Africa" they practiced Unity and self-determination - like back in 1994 during the first days of democracy at the Cape of Good Hope.

This is known as civil society and Jacob Zuma will feel its power in such days. And also the strength of justice which is tired of his legal dodges. The latest from the hundreds of corruption allegations against Zuma's regime seems to exceed everything. The wealthy Indian Gupta family are said to have captured the state. It's all about money, bought ministers and abuse of state-owned enterprises. Hardly a day goes by without a new scandal coming to light. The country can now read in a 355-page report, that reads like a theatrical play how former public protector Thuli Madonsela boldly questioned the head of state's relations with the Guptas. Zuma was unable to stop the release of the report. He failed in his bid to stop the media from publishing it. South Africa is stronger than the presidency - cheers to the pillars of democracy.

But Zuma is not gone, yet. One only needs to look at neighboring Zimbabwe, to see how long such transitions can last. It appears as almost impossible that the ruling African National Congress, ANC, Nelson Mandela's political movement, can revive itself. It will be tough to win back the confidence of the citizens. The once proud freedom movement is now being corrupted on a daily basis under President Zuma. But for Zuma and his corrupt circle, it's all about either holding on to power or going to prison. Therefore he will have to keep on fighting until the very end. And when he's gone a new battle begins.

### Groupon closes shop in South Africa

04 novembre, 2016/timeslive.co.za

Customers trying to access the website on Friday morning were greeted with an apology: "We are sorry to inform you that as of November 4 2016 Groupon has wound down its operations in South Africa and we are unable to offer you any deals today."

Groupon in SA offered discounts on goods, as well as on experiences such as restaurants, getaways and adventure activities.

It said on its website that vouchers bought before November 4 would remain valid until their expiry dates, but Groupon was offering customers who were “not comfortable with using their voucher” the option of returning it for cash, until November 30.

“Goods purchased up to November 4 will be fulfilled. Should you need to return [an item] you purchased, please do such before November 30,” the website said.

The US parent company recently announced a merger with rival LivingSocial. It has also been closing operations in other countries, to reduce its international footprint to 15 countries from 27.

It posted a \$35.8m net loss in the third quarter but said the North American operation was strong, with double-digit growth in gross billings and what CEO Rich Williams said was its “highest quarter for customer acquisition in over three years”.

Unit sales in North America rose 4%, while those in the Europe, Middle East and Africa region fell 8%, and in the rest of the world the decline was 31%.

Groupon’s US share price is trading at just below \$4 — from a price of \$28 when it listed in 2011 — and it recently announced retrenchments.

The business model has drawn criticism. Its aim is to “redefine how small businesses attract and retain customers”, by offering online discounted deals.

But merchants have complained that deals are often not profitable, and that they attract the wrong kind of customer, many of whom do not become repeat customers after the discounted deal, and do not spend money beyond what they’ve paid for the coupon.

**South Africa parliament backs govt on withdrawal from 'biased' ICC**  
[africanews.com/2016/11/03](http://africanews.com/2016/11/03)

Parliament of the republic of South Africa says it backs the position of the government to leave the International Criminal Court (ICC).

A statement released on Thursday by the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation said it welcomes the withdrawal of the country from the Rome Statute which established the ICC.

“We agree with Justice Minister Mr Michael Masutha’s statement on South Africa’s withdrawal from the ICC this afternoon in the House. For a long time we have witnessed the unevenness of international justice and the lack of universality of application in the manner in which countries are treated,” Mr Siphosizwe Masango chairman of the committee said.

The ICC is biased towards selectively targeting African heads of states. Leaders of the permanent members of the United Nation’s Security Council are never acted against when they transgress.

He cited bias on the part of the ICC in solely targeting African leaders while leaders of the UN security council are never hauled before the court despite grave crimes.

“The ICC is biased towards selectively targeting African heads of states. Leaders of the permanent members of the United Nation’s Security Council are never acted against when they transgress,” he added.

Mr Masango disclosed that the repeal process will soon begin, once the Speaker of the National Assembly has referred the matter to relevant parliamentary Committees.

On 19 October, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane, handed to the United Nations Secretary-General South Africa's intention to withdraw. Subsequently, Mr Masutha presented a statement that was discussed in Parliament.

Of the nine cases in front of the ICC currently, eight involve African presidents. Burundi is now waiting for a year after which they will successfully have left the ICC, the first country to leave the body.

The Gambia has also stated that they will be initiating steps to formally exit the Hague-based court. The government also cited selective justice being meted out. South Africa however said their withdrawal is linked to the ICC's Rome Statutes being at odds with its laws granting leaders diplomatic immunity.

South Africa had before now mooted the idea of dropping its ICC membership following its highly controversial failure to arrest Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir during an African Union summit in Johannesburg in June 2015.

On the eve of al-Bashir's arrival in South Africa, the ICC issued several calls for his arrest to the South African government. It's in light of this that Jeff Radebe, minister in the presidency, announced that South Africa was reconsidering its participation in the ICC.

TANZANIA :

### **East Africa: Renewed Tanzania, Kenya Relations Must Be Sustained**

3 November 2016/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)

Once upon a time during the colonial era, both Tanzania, then known as Tanganyika Territory and Kenya, designated as Protectorate and Colony, the people in both East African countries, fed up with years of foreign domination, waged separate struggles for independence.

Although both went their own ways in the struggle against British colonialism, they shared a common goal inspired by the Pan African Freedom Movement for East and Central Africa (PAFMECA).

The independence struggle in Tanganyika, led by one of the country's early intellectuals, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere, who in 1954 had formed the Tanganyika African National Union (TANU), won the day in 1961 as the country became the first in East and Central Africa to celebrate 'Uhuru'.

In neighbouring Kenya, a struggle for independence was then underway, taking on bloody proportions as the so-called Mau Mau movement waged an all-out war against British colonialism under cover of the dense Mount Kenya Forest.

Several Kenyan liberation fighters, led by a charismatic nationalist, Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, were rounded up and charged with leading the Mau Mau movement in the infamous Kapenguria Trial. We take note and cherish the famous statement by Mwalimu Nyerere in the late 1950s - that he was

prepared to delay the independence of Tanganyika if that would have expedited the freedom of Kenya and Uganda.

That is why even after Tanganyika celebrated 'Uhuru' on December 9, 1961, the country's leaders began crusading for the independence of other East African countries. We supported their struggle. Uganda followed with their independence in 1962 as Kenya became the last country in East Africa to gain her independence in 1963.

Later day post-Uhuru period for both Kenya and Tanzania as the latter became known following the Union with Zanzibar in 1964, was not exactly a bed of roses due to selfish machinations by a number of powerful individuals on the other side of the border in a fray of unfortunate happenings that are better forgotten than remembered.

It is, therefore, gratifying to note the restoration in recent years of the cordial relations between Tanzania and her northern neighbour.

Hopefully, President John Magufuli and Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, the former only two years old and the latter a few months' old at the time of our independence in 1961, will continue to forge closer links for the benefit of their people. We say 'Harambee' and 'Hapa Kazi Tu'.

KENYA :

#### Kenya to eject South Sudanese opposition politicians

Friday 4 November 2016/sudantribune.com

November 3, 2016 (JUBA) – 11 Kenyan lawmakers visited the South Sudan capital, with assurance on Thursday that opposition politicians will be ejected from Kenya.

The MPs, led by security committee chairperson, Asman Kamama, met First Vice President Taban Deng Gai and the leadership of the South Sudanese Transitional National Legislative Assembly (TNLA) on Wednesday and Thursday.

Kamama told reporters at Juba International Airport that Nairobi has decided to disengage from South Sudan's political game.

“We will discourage any one body trying to use any of our country as a launching pad for war. We are very categorical,” said Kamama at the end the visit.

As to whether Kenya reacted by arresting James Gatdet Dak, the spokesman for South Sudan rebel leader, Riek Machar, Kamama said no single individual was being targeted.

“We did not target a specific person but any leader from this region who is bent on trying to exert and trying to encourage people to go war; our country must not be used a launching pad,” he said.

Kamama added that Kenya will seek support in the Eastern African region to halt hosting South Sudanese politicians promoting “violent politics.”

“What I will urge the people of South Sudan is that they should not listen to anyone inciting or trying to encourage them to take up arms or fight among each other. I think this country has high

potential and if you maintain this peace, this country will prosper and it will even be one of the best countries in term of development in this part of the region,” he said.

According to family sources, Dak was deported to Juba on Thursday, a claim backed by Machar’s office. There is no confirmation in Juba on Dak’s arrival or his whereabouts.

### Kenya warned against closing world’s largest refugee camp

By Cara Anna | AP /November 4

JOHANNESBURG — Another major aid group is warning Kenya not to close the world’s largest refugee camp, saying the move is pressuring tens of thousands of Somali refugees to return to their deeply unstable country.

A new Refugees International report says Somali refugees in the Dadaab camp in Kenya say they feel under pressure to leave for Somalia, where attacks by Islamic extremist group al-Shabab continue and hunger is widespread.

The U.N. refugee agency “claims that it only supports voluntary returns, but none of the refugees whom we spoke with in Dadaab said they felt like they have much choice,” said Mark Yarnell, who wrote the report after visiting Dadaab and Somalia. “It is a failure of the international refugee response system that other options are not available.”

The report says Kenya should lift its Nov. 30 deadline to close the camp, which has existed for a quarter-century and holds more than 250,000 people. It sprawls in a dry, thorny region near the border with Somalia, where many born in the camp have never been.

Groups including Doctors Without Borders, Human Rights Watch and the Norwegian Refugee Council also have expressed alarm in recent weeks over Kenya’s reported pressure on Somali refugees to leave. They say large parts of Somalia remain insecure and aid for returnees is limited.

Kenya has expressed concern that some Dadaab residents are used by the Somalia-based al-Shabab to launch attacks inside Kenya. Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta has said repatriations will be voluntary and humane.

The Refugees International report urges the U.N. refugee agency to give Dadaab residents “reliable information” about security conditions in Somalia as they weigh whether to return.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

### Africa: ICC Needs to Promote Dialogue With African States for Prosperity

3 November 2016/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)

By Ambassador Tuvako N. Manongi

We welcome the report of the International Criminal Court and thank the President of the Court, Justice Silvia Fernandez de Gurmendi, for her introductory remarks. We also welcome the Court's move to its permanent premises in The Hague.

It marks yet another important step in its establishment. The report presents a picture of an institution that is growing but also facing different challenges and opportunities. We see this as a trend that will continue to define the work of the Court and demand greater engagement with all its stakeholders. The Court came into being with the largest support from Africa, following considerable frustration and outrage after the genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda.

It came into being as an organ with jurisdiction over persons responsible for the most serious crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes as well as the crime of aggression. Humanitarian tragedies had brought so much misery and affliction to Africa that the establishment of the Court became an inspiration against impunity and injustice.

That promise and hope is still relevant today if not more urgent. And yet as a State party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and member of the African Union, the United Republic of Tanzania notes that the Court has had a particularly tumultuous relationship with Africa: A relation that has engendered fear of an African exodus from the Court. That need not be the case.

It need not be the case for a number of reasons. One is that the primary foundations of the African Union's Agenda 2063 is based on an aspiration that seeks to promote a universal culture of good governance, democratic values, gender equality, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law.

Second, it is significant that in order to sustain the momentum of gender equality and women's empowerment, African Heads of States and Government declared 2016 as the year of Human Rights with special emphasis on women rights. It is recognition that peace and justice are indivisible. For these reasons what we must be encouraging today at the very least is dialogue.

It is therefore of concern that African countries have come to be critical of the Court to an extent that at some point a policy of non-compliance and non-cooperation with the Court was a real possibility.

For the Court to remain a credible institution in the execution of international justice, it is important that there be confidence building measures on how it functions as well as how it interacts with all its members. All too often avoidable misunderstandings when left unattended or dismissed as inconsequential grow into regrettable outcomes.

Lectures and claims of high moral ground from outside of the continent are unhelpful. Recognising and overcoming avoidable pitfalls associated with a new and evolving institution such as the Court is essential if it is to continue to grow and strengthen. We must thus ensure that what is done today does not make matters worse.

We must also undertake deliberate effort to talk to each other, remembering that the abilities we needed to establish the court are not necessarily the same that we would need to help it grow and discharge its mandate.

We must invest in building trust and confidence among members and the court: as its work becomes complex and affects member states it must listen while remaining true to its mission. While the

report claims the capacity of the Security Council to refer a situation to the Court is crucial to promote accountability, it remains a matter of great concern to us that some permanent members can use their position in the Security Council to refer a matter to the Court while are themselves not parties to the Court's Statute.

The political nature of the Security Council can also undercut the legitimacy of the process. We however note that in most instances the Court's jurisdiction is triggered when a state is unable or unwilling to deal with human rights violations on its territory: the primary task of the Court must therefore be to encourage and enable member states to perform their own programmes of justice and accountability.

Greater investment in this direction must be promoted and supported. No matter how current issues between African countries and the Court are eventually resolved, there is no denying that we must all improve our domestic legal and judicial systems so that they can deliver justice fully, fairly, effectively and timely.

Effective and legitimate States are in the interest of all our countries and people. States must be effective not only because of the need to prevent ICC's intervention in domestic affairs but also because it is the duty of each state to protect its citizenry. For Africa, the tragedies in Central Africa, Cote d'Ivoire, Rwanda and Sierra-Leone are illustrative of the risks and dangers we must guard against.

We also note from the report and welcome the holding in Tanzania of the second sub-regional seminar of counsel and the legal profession as well as with the AU, among others. Such opportunities provide for building skills and exchanges of information that is valuable to parties and to the work of the Court.

Indeed, the African Union Heads of States and Government established in 2012 the African Institute of International Law (AIIL) in Arusha - Tanzania, to contribute to the strengthening of the rule of law within the African continent.

The Institute can serve as a bridge and useful forum for addressing the deficit issues on trust and confidence with the African constituency of the Court. The Report also appeals for support to the Trust Fund for Victims.

Too often victims are easily forgotten and it is proper that attention to their needs is not lost. We commend the establishment of the International Criminal Court Bar Association. We hope it becomes not only a forum for strengthening skills, capacities and court procedures but also an avenue for consolidating legal norms and democratic institutions.

With the Courts continuing cooperation with civil society and hope that there is specific effort to strengthen such relationship especially with the civil society from developing countries.

Tuvako N. Manongi is Ambassador and Permanent Representative of the United Republic of Tanzania. He made the statement at the UN General Assembly on Agenda Item 71 on the Report of the International Criminal Court on Monday.

UN/AFRICA :



## UN pledges more to protect Central African civilians

Thursday 3 November 2016/AFP

BANGUI - The United Nations will do "everything in its power" to prevent further atrocities in the Central African Republic, a top UN official said on Thursday at the end of a three-day visit.

UN Deputy Secretary-General Jan Eliasson was addressing lawmakers in the capital Bangui a day after Human Rights Watch called on the UN to do more to protect civilians caught up in fighting between armed groups or being targeted by them.

"October was particularly violent," Eliasson said in parliament on Wednesday, referring to attacks in which over 70 people died.

"We have learnt lessons from these dreadful events and will do everything in our power to prevent such atrocities," he said.

On Monday, France withdrew its own military mission which it deployed in CAR in December 2013, leaving the UN's 12,500-strong MINUSCA peacekeeping mission to protect civilians from armed groups.

On Tuesday, Human Rights Watch said the UN "should urgently deploy more of the mission's forces to the volatile central region, expand their patrols and, consistent with the mission's mandate, use appropriate force to protect civilians under imminent threat".

According to HRW, witnesses to an October 12 attack in the town of Kaga-Bandoro said 200 UN peacekeepers "failed to stop at least 60 (rebel) Seleka forces from crossing a UN-guarded bridge and attacking civilians". Thirty-seven people died.

On Wednesday, Eliasson said the CAR government, the European Union, the UN and the World Bank had drawn up a "national recovery plan" that would be presented to a donors' conference in Brussels on 17 November.

Visiting the scene of Sunday's clashes, in a district of the capital called PK5, he told residents, "I have come to hear your grievances so as to present them in Brussels."

One of the world's poorest countries, CAR has scarcely emerged from the chaos of civil war which erupted in 2013 following the overthrow of former president Francois Bozize, a Christian, by Muslim rebels from the Seleka coalition.

Armed groups have flourished over the years given the weakness of the state. Among the main culprits are factions from the mostly Muslim former Seleka rebel force, and the Christian "anti-Balaka" (anti-machete) militias, a reference to the rebels who use machetes.

## Kenya accuses UN of bowing to pressure in South Sudan probe

Thursday 3 November 2016 /AFP

NEW YORK - Kenya on Thursday accused the United Nations of bowing to pressure from certain countries by setting up an investigation that pinned the blame for peacekeeping failures in South Sudan on the Kenyan force commander.

Ambassador Macharia Kamau charged that "certain current and future members of the Security

Council" had pushed for a probe with a "pre-ordained outcome" that targeted the Kenyan general as the "fall guy."

UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on Tuesday sacked Lieutenant General Johnson Ondieki after the investigation showed that peacekeepers failed to protect civilians during heavy fighting in Juba in July.

"The United Nations acquiesced to undertake the investigation with skewed terms of reference meant to target one individual," said Kamau, who slammed the report as "shameful, unfair and an exercise in scapegoating."

The ambassador did not name the countries involved, but China's peacekeepers in South Sudan were criticised in the report, and Ethiopia, which also has troops in the mission, is due to join the council in January.

Ondieki has been replaced as force commander by Major-General Chaoying Yang of China.

After learning that the report would recommend the dismissal of Ondieki, Kenya sought to intervene with Ban to defend the general, who had been in the post for three weeks, and demanded that the decision be reversed.

"The secretary-general in his lame-duck season seems to have found the courage that has eluded him throughout his tenure by choosing to ignore Kenya's plea," said Kamau.

- Systemic failure -

Kenya responded to the UN decision by announcing that it will pull its 1,050 troops out of South Sudan and dropped plans to contribute soldiers to a planned UN regional force for Juba.

UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric defended the sacking of the force commander, saying it was based on "leadership command decisions" taken by Ondieki during the fighting in July.

"There was no pre-ordained conclusion to Mister Cammaert's work," he said. Retired Dutch general Patrick Cammaert led the investigation.

The report found that a lack of leadership in the UN mission culminated in a "chaotic and ineffective response" during heavy fighting in the capital from July 8 to 11.

Peacekeepers abandoned their posts and failed to respond to pleas for help from aid workers under attack in a nearby hotel compound.

Russian Deputy Ambassador Petr Ilichev said the decision to sack Ondieki was "premature" and should be reconsidered, but it remained unclear if the Security Council would take up the matter.

The UN mission known as UNMISS has 16,000 troops deployed in South Sudan, which has been at war since December 2013.

The fierce fighting in Juba involved helicopter gunships and tanks pitting President Salva Kiir's government forces against those loyal to ex-rebel chief Riek Machar.

The Kenyan ambassador said there was a "systemic failure" at the United Nations and that responsibility lay also with the department of peacekeeping in New York and the joint command of

the UN mission in Juba.

The UN spokesman said in response that Ban has "full confidence" in peacekeeping chief Herve Ladsous, of France.

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

**Africa: Cape Verde - a Blueprint for China's Positive Role in Africa**

Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Beijing)/allafrica.com/4 November 2016

By Pedro Ramos

Why is China so interested in one of Africa's smallest countries?

As the United States enters into a decade hallmarked by its decline much of the developing world has begun to look toward the East, in the form of China. African countries in particular have joined the fray, with China pledging to invest \$60 billion into the continent. It is easy to see why such an investment from China would make sense in countries like Sudan, with its oil wealth, or South Africa, with its gold and mineral reserves. However, what is less clear are the motivations behind Chinese interest in the small archipelago off the coast of West Africa - Cape Verde.

Chinese Aid in the Development of a Success Story

Ever since the two established bilateral relations in 1976, China has played a significant role in the development of Cape Verde. Today Chinese-erected public buildings, such as the presidential and governmental palaces, cover the Cape Verdean landscape. Citizens today enjoy Cape Verde's first national stadium, built by China and hailed by then-Chinese Ambassador Su Jian as "the greatest construction after Independence" on the island nation. Chinese investments in key economic sectors such as real estate, infrastructure, service industries, and tourism have created an island of stability

only 300 miles off the coast of West Africa. Cape Verde has been praised by the United Nations as a success story, an example that other African nations should follow.

The relationship with China seems critical for Cape Verde. As a small nation, it is bound to benefit from Chinese investments. For China, however, the benefits seem less clear.

After 37 years of diplomatic relations, Cape Verde has proven to be "a faithful friend," as former Ambassador Su Jian declared. A shared history of oppression and a common struggle for independence act as binding glue in solidifying this "faithful" friendship. Although Cape Verde has little to offer in the realm of natural resources, the nation enjoys an important geostrategic position, giving China an essential influence at the heart of the Atlantic. As China begins to seek new naval bases throughout the globe in hopes of securing its trade routes, Cape Verde's geostrategic position might prove to be of significant military interest.

When dealing in Africa, it is always difficult to get over regional instability. China has no direct qualms about dealing with dictators as long as their regimes prove to be stable. However, African dictators are, for the most part, anything but stable - a reality that is confronting Chinese leadership in dealing with Sudan's Omar al-Bashir and Zimbabwe's Robert Mugabe. A culturally rich, economically and politically sound state, Cape Verde seems to belong to an entirely different continent. This stable island in a sea of instability has proved to be an essential partner in China's vision for Africa.

#### More Than Economic Interests

As crucial as Cape Verde is today in serving China's African goal, their economic partnership did not begin until 1995 when Chinese traders decided to invest in the archipelago. Soon after the first Chinese traders appeared, a sea of department stores followed. Today it is estimated that as many as 400 Chinese stores are located on the islands, enjoying a stable supply of consumers, and thousands of Chinese are to be found throughout the archipelago. However, Beijing's interest in the archipelago does not seem to be economically driven; after all, trade between the two countries remains a dismal \$42.6 million.

Chinese interest in Cape Verde seems aimed toward reshaping the People's Republic's image when it comes to dealing with the developing world. A stable and secure state with a positive international outlook provides fertile soil in spreading Chinese culture. The Cape Verde-China Friendship Association has played a major role in the building of this cultural bridge throughout the archipelago, continually holding the annual Chinese Culture Week in hopes of strengthening cultural understanding.

Claiming that China is practicing modern-day colonialism in Africa becomes a much more difficult argument to make when one looks toward the country of Cape Verde. When looking at Cape Verde-China relations, obvious signs of a new Chinese approach in dealing with Africa can be seen. Beijing's image when it comes to Africa has often appeared as that of a hungry economic machine, but when one looks at Beijing's relation with this small, stable, African democracy, that image appears to be inconceivable. The idea of China as a nation embedded with anti-human rights sentiments becomes harder to justify when faced with the reality of Cape Verde's success story, which was only made possible by Chinese aid.

However, Cape Verde is only one country; the People's Republic will need to adopt the same successful strategy when dealing with the whole of Africa.

Pedro Ramos is a Cape Verdean International student at the University of Bridgeport studying

International Political and Economic Diplomacy.

### Africa: Minister Jeff Radebe - South Africa-China Partnership

4 November 2016/Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (Beijing)/allafrica.com

Speaking notes by Minister Radebe on the South Africa-China partnership

I wish to extend a warm welcome to the colleagues from the National Development and Reform Commission.

South Africa and China has a long and deep historical relationship that continues to flourish at a political, economic, education and cultural level.

Our relationship is framed through a number of agreements, key amongst them being the Five to Ten Year Strategic Programme for Co-operation between the Republic of South Africa and The Peoples Republic of China 2015 -2024, concluded in 2014.

These agreements are being implemented through the Bi-National Commission (BNC) that meets annually under which trade, development and other sectoral cooperation focus areas are discussed and implemented.

This includes, the green economy;

- agro-processing and beneficiation;

- skills development and industrial financing;

- exploring co-operation between Chinese and South African companies in opportunities related to infrastructure construction projects, such as roads, railways, ports, power generation, airports and housing;

- the development of the SA Aquaculture sector;

- promoting co-operation and exchanges in science and technology fields closely related to the economic and social development of both countries;

- continued work on promoting co-operation in the fields of geology and mineral resources;

- as well as in tourism training, capacity building, promoting and developing cultural and medical tourism.

In the area of trade we are working towards the promotion of competitive products in order to expand trade volumes, improve trade structure and promote balanced and sustainable development of bilateral trade and strive to double the bilateral trade volumes on the current basis, including China giving favourable consideration in expanding its imports of the top ten value-added products from South Africa.

Total imports from China in 2015 were valued at R199, 4bn compared to the total value of SA exports into China of R94, 4bn resulting in a trade deficit of R105bn in 2015. If we look across different sectors, particularly agriculture and manufacturing. South Africa's agricultural exports amounted to R1, 1bn compared to agricultural imports from China amounting to R1, 7bn in 2015. For the manufacturing sector we were only able to export R33,5bn in contrast to a massive import value of R195bn in manufactured goods from China in 2015. The trade balance for our mining sector remains positive despite declining global demand for commodity products.

At the level of investment both countries have committed to increase direct investment in the areas of agriculture, fishery, energy, mining and particularly minerals beneficiation, manufacturing,

infrastructure building including water conservation, electricity, roads, telecommunications, railways, ports, airports, finance and tourism.

More specifically we want to encourage the support of investment and cooperation:

- In the exports of value add white goods into SADC and the rest of the region;
- Fuel Cell technology for small scale power generation;
- In the area of broadband services to increase access;
- In agriculture, particularly fisheries, aquaculture, aquatic product processing, crop and animal production;
- Human Resource Development;
- In the area of energy that includes nuclear, renewables and bio-fuels;

Facilitation of personnel exchanges in the area of Civil Aviation and Conservation of Environment and Wildlife.

Achieving all of the above will contribute to our own national imperatives which is embedded in our National Development Plan (NDP). Indeed our own endeavors around national planning have been drawn from your experiences. We look forward to build on this and continue to share from each other's experiences.

This spirit of co-operation expresses itself in our co-operation at a multilateral and regional level through amongst others, the Forum for Chinese and African Co-operation (FOCAC) and BRICS. In this regard, our respective Heads of States recognized, at the recently concluded Eight BRICS Summit in Goa, held on 15-16 October 2016, that our respective economic growth prospects and the increased momentum of the BRICS formation will continue to be a critical engine for our own growth and development objectives.

We therefore must ensure that we find and build on the key identified priorities to further strengthen our strategic partnership in the spirit of openness, solidarity, equality, mutual understanding, inclusiveness and mutually beneficial cooperation.

Inclusive and interconnected development, industrialisation' infrastructure roll out' increased intra Africa trade and curbing illicit financial flows remain crucial goals for the development of the African continent, as stipulated in Agenda 2063. In this way we are also partners in advancing Africa's agenda 2063.

Both at a national and continental level, infrastructure remains a critical priority focus. Reliable, efficient infrastructure is crucial to economic and social development that promotes inclusive growth.

To encourage growth and investment, the South African government has established Invest SA, a one stop shop investment centre, which is coordinated by an Inter-Ministerial Committee (IMC) and chaired by His Excellency, President Jacob Zuma.

Invest SA has identified a number of high impact priority projects in the water, energy, ports and rail and manufacturing which we will present to you today.

As South Africa we remain steadfast, deeply committed and involved in Africa. In the Presidential Infrastructure Championing Initiative (PICI), we emphasise the importance of the infrastructure investment, which aims to ensure economic efficiency in view of life-cycle costs, job creation, capacity building, and transfer of expertise and know-how on mutually agreed terms and conditions,

while also addressing the social and environmental impacts and aligning with economic and development strategies.

The PICI is led by His Excellency, President Jacob Zuma, who is the champion.

The PICI country infrastructure projects have an updated North-South Corridor with 34 infrastructure projects identified. These are mostly in the SADC region. The progress was again endorsed and duly celebrated at the AU Summit at Heads of state level in January 2016 and in July 2016 (The 2 AU Summits).

The four key PICI projects identified for fast-tracking in the first wave are:

The Grand Inga Hydro Project;

The Lesotho Highlands Water Project-Phase 2;

The Beitbridge Border Posts and linked roads; and

The AU Rail Stock decision for South Africa to become the de facto manufacturing hub for rail stock for the continent.

The partnership between South Africa and China remains a vital cog in our effort to give effect to our imperatives as articulated in our South Africa's National Development Plan as well as promoting mutually beneficial co-operation

Department of Planning, Monitoring and Evaluation.

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF, CE 04 Novembre 2016... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 04/11/2016