

AFRICA: 14 NOVEMBRE 2017 : ( Sudan's president, wanted by the ICC, visits Uganda )



( **Photo** : Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, center, inspects the guard of honor after his arrival at State House in Entebbe, Uganda Monday, Nov. 13, 2017. Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan authorities to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court for serious crimes. (AP Photo/Ronald Kabuubi) ) **Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, center, inspects the guard of honor after his arrival at State House in Entebbe, Uganda Monday, Nov. 13, 2017. Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan authorities to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court for serious crimes.**

## **BURUNDI :**

### **L'enquête CPI du 9 novembre 2017 ne concerne pas le Burundi**

<http://burundi-agnews.org/sports-and-games/lenquete-cpi-du-9-novembre-2017-ne-concerne-pas-le-burundi/>

**JUSTICE, GÉOPOLITIQUE, GUERRE HUMANITAIRE – Le Burundi, qui n'est plus membre de la Cour Pénale Internationale (CPI) depuis le vendredi 27 octobre 2017, n'est pas lié à la décision d'ouvrir une enquête prise par la CPI le jeudi 9 novembre 2017.**

A Bujumbura, ce vendredi 10 novembre 2017, Mme Kanyana Aimée Laurentine, Ministre burundaise de la Justice et Garde des Sceaux, a informé, lors d'un point de presse, que le Burundi n'est pas lié à la décision prise le jeudi 9 novembre 2017 par la Cour Pénale Internationale (CPI) – d'ouvrir une enquête – car le Burundi ne fait plus partie de la CPI depuis le vendredi 27 octobre 2017.

[ [https://www.youtube.com/watch?time\\_continue=4&v=JMevFoShy2I](https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=4&v=JMevFoShy2I) ]

Le Burundi dénonce le caractère politique et désordonné de la décision du Procureur Général de la CPI. Le processus de retrait de la CPI dure 1 an justement pour permettre aux partis concernés ( ETAT et CPI ), de poser des derniers actes comme celui que Mme Fatou Bensouda, Procureur Général de la CPI, vient de faire 3 semaines après le retrait du Burundi de la CPI. Bref, ce n'est pas la faute du Burundi si Mme Fatou Bensouda a fait ses devoirs en retard de 3 semaines ou en dernière minute bafouant les règles de Droit ! [ [http://burundi-agnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Communique\\_de\\_presse\\_AmbassadeBurundi\\_LaHaye\\_EnqueteCPI\\_9novembre2017.pdf](http://burundi-agnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/Communique_de_presse_AmbassadeBurundi_LaHaye_EnqueteCPI_9novembre2017.pdf) ]

Dans un contexte de GUERRE GÉOPOLITIQUE opposant la Chine à l'OCCIDENT ( précisément les familles des anciens COLONS et des anciens ESCLAVAGISTES occidentaux en Afrique ) dans les Grands Lacs Africains, le Burundi a subi une REVOLUTION DE COULEUR RATEE en 2015 [ <http://burundi-agnews.org/revolution-de-couleur/> ], notamment avec l'échec du Coup d'ETAT militaire du mercredi 13 mai 2015, organisée par les USA d'OBAMA associés au RESEAU SOROS, la FRANCE de François HOLLANDE, et la BELGIQUE de la famille MICHEL, soutenus par le RWANDA du dictateur KAGAME Paul et le RESEAU CIVIL ET MILITAIRE de l'ancien dictateur HIMA burundais BUYOYA Pierre.

Ces pays et réseaux, depuis ce raté, mènent une GUERRE HUMANITAIRE [ <http://burundi-agnews.org/guerre-humanitaire/> ] contre les autorités BARUNDI afin qu'ils soient traînées à la Cour Pénale Internationale CPI.

Dans une pièce de théâtre actuellement jouée en France "Histoire de la Mitraillette", mise en scène par le Suisse M. Milo Rau, proche des idées de Jean Ziegler [ <http://burundi-agnews.org/agenda/burundi-diaspora-agenda-du-7-au-11-11-2017-histoire-de-la-mitraillette-a-la-grande-halle-de-la-villette/> ], on rappelle que les violences cycliques dans les Grands Lacs Africains ont une cause. La COLONISATION et l'ESCLAVAGE sont des CRIMES CONTRE L'HUMANITE. Pourtant aucun des acteurs de ces CRIMES n'ont encore été jusqu'aujourd'hui inquiétés par la JUSTICE INTERNATIONALE. Ces crimes ont occasionné plus de 250 Millions de victimes africaines. Et au travers du NÉOCOLONIALISME ces crimes se perpétuent ...

**DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org>, le samedi 11 novembre 2017**

### **Burundi : L'Arabie Saoudite financera des infrastructures Burundi**

<http://burundi-agnews.org/sports-and-games/burundi-l-arabie-saoudite-financera-des-infrastructures-burundi/>

ECONOMIE, SOCIETE, HISTOIRE – Le Fonds Saoudien pour le Développement (FSD) participera au financement des infrastructures routier,sanitaire, et scolaire Barundi.

En visite de travail en Arabie Saoudite, à Riyadh, ce mardi 14 novembre 2017, S.E. BUTORE Joseph, Vice Président du Burundi, a reçu la promesse de soutien financier du Fonds Saoudien pour le Développement (FSD), pour 3 projets prioritaires : 1/ la réhabilitation de l'Hôpital Roi Khaled; 2/ la réhabilitation de la Route Nyanza Lac- Bujumbura ; et 3/ la construction et équipement d'un Institut Supérieur Professionnel.

Le Burundi et l'Arabie Saoudite entretiennent des relations bilatéraux depuis de longues années. Pour l'Afrique, les Arabes, comme les Hébreux, ( les Sémites en général ) sont des Peuples nés des mélanges, depuis Babylone, entre les Peuples Noirs d'Afrique et d'Inde ( Les Dravidiens ) vers 2.000 avant notre ère. C'est ce lien qui rend familier les Arabes, comme les Hébreux, à l'Afrique. Ces enfants de PEUPLES NOIRS, les Arabes, viendront s'installer, fin 700 de notre ère, pour l'expansion de l'ISLAM ( soumission à un DIEU UNIQUE ), en Afrique de l'Est, notamment sur le territoire du MWENE MWEZI ( Tanzanie, Malawi, Nord Mozambique, Est Congo RDC, Rwanda, Burundi, Ouganda, Kenya, Sud-Soudan ), gouverné à cette époque par un EMPEREUR portant le nom d'un MWAMI invisible (\*) des BARUNDI -MWEZI- "MWENE MWEZI". Toute cette RÉGION était déjà soumis à cette cosmogonie du DIEU UNIQUE -IMANA-. De là, naîtra, ce mélange entre les langues ARABE et BANTOU qui ont donné la magnifique langue qu'est le SWAHILI, aujourd'hui langue officielle de l'EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY EAC.

(\*) L'Afrique IMPERIALE avait des institutions complexes calquées sur les vérités de notre UNIVERS. Par exemple, le JOUR et la NUIT, d'ou les ROIS VISIBLE ET INVISIBLE.

**DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org>, le mardi 14 novembre 2017**

## **RWANDA :**

### **Le Burundi accuse le Rwanda de « continuer d'être un mauvais voisin »**

<http://info241.com/le-burundi-accuse-le-rwanda-de-continuer-d-etre-un-mauvais,3222>

Publié le 9 novembre 2017 à 13h15min / par La rédaction d'Info241

Le gouvernement burundais a accusé mercredi le Rwanda de « continuer d'être un mauvais voisin » depuis l'éclatement de la crise burundaise d'avril 2015 à ce jour.

« Nous sommes bel et bien au courant que le régime rwandais du président Kagame continue d'investir dans la déstabilisation du Burundi en incitant les jeunes se trouvant dans des camps de réfugiés burundais sur son sol à s'enrôler dans des mouvements armés dans une perspective de mener des attaques sur leur patrie », a déclaré hier l'assistant du ministre burundais de l'Intérieur et de la Formation Patriotique, Térance Ntahiraja, lors d'un point de presse tenu mercredi en marge des travaux d'un forum des formations politiques agréées.

M. Ntahiraja a illustré ses propos par une attaque armée menée en juillet 2015 contre le Burundi dans la commune de Bukinanyana relevant de la province burundaise de Cibitoke (nord-ouest) directement frontalière du sud du Rwanda.

« Le Burundi a déjà officiellement porté plainte contre le Rwanda devant des instances régionales et internationales comme la Communauté Est-Africaine (CEA), l'Union Africaine (UA), et l'ONU.

Tant que la résolution de ce contentieux burundo-rwandais n'aura pas trouvé une issue favorable dans le sens de mettre fin à ces agressions du voisin rwandais, la normalisation des relations politiques entre le Burundi et le Rwanda, s'avèrent difficiles », a-t-il estimé.

L'intervention de M. Ntahiraja, a reçu un écho favorable auprès du président du forum des partis politiques agréés, le député Félicien Nduwuburundi. Ainsi, il lui a emboîté le pas en appelant l'ONU à « prendre des sanctions contre le Rwanda » pour le rôle joué dans la déstabilisation des institutions burundaises issues du verdict électoral de 2015.

A certaines occasions des foras internationaux organisés sous les auspices de l'ONU ou de l'UA, les autorités rwandaises, à divers échelons de la haute hiérarchie gouvernementale, ont toujours nié ces accusations des autorités burundaises.

## **RD CONGO :**

### **Le calendrier ayant été publié et surtout accepté par la communauté internationale : Cap désormais sur les élections**

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5a0ab76c4037610004361fe2>

Kinshasa 14/11/2017 Politique - Les différentes parties prenantes invitées à ne privilégier que des actions ayant trait directement à la tenue des scrutins fixés en décembre 2018.

Le Premier ministre, Bruno Tshibala, est attendu dans quelques jours à l'Hémicycle accompagné de tous les membres de son gouvernement. Devant la Représentation nationale, le chef de l'Exécutif va présenter ses moyens de défense au cours de la plénière consacrée au vote de la motion d'interpellation du député Henri-Thomas Lokondo Yoka. L'élue de Mbandaka voudrait savoir pourquoi à ce jour le Budget 2018 n'est toujours pas déposé.

Outre le Premier ministre, le Vice-premier ministre, ministre des Affaires étrangères devrait affronter une motion de défiance en rapport avec l'« affaire passeport biométrique ». Pas plus tard que la semaine dernière, son collègue en charge des Transports et voies des communications, José Makila Sumanda, venait d'être sauvé de griffes des députés nationaux par une motion incidentielle au moment où les élus attendaient débattre avec lui sur l'importation des véhicules d'occasion de plus de 20 ans, autorisés à entrer à nouveau en RD Congo.

Sans être contre ces initiatives qui du reste procèdent du rôle de l'Assemblée nationale- celui de contrôler l'action du Gouvernement- dans les conditions actuelles, elles éloignent cependant les institutions de la seule tâche qui vaille : à savoir la préparation des élections. Le contexte actuel du pays impose de sortir du formalisme institutionnel pour se consacrer entièrement aux élections. Le calendrier électoral ayant été publié, et surtout soutenu par la quasi totalité des capitales occidentales entre les mains desquelles nombre des politiques confient traditionnellement la destinée du Congo-Zaïre. Pas seulement. L'ONU, l'Union européenne, l'Union africaines et autres organisations sous-régionales ont pris acte de la publication de ce chronogramme. Il revient donc à tous les protagonistes de placer le curseur sur ces élections là. Au nom du dicton « qui trop embrasse mal étreint » les institutions publiques et leurs animateurs seraient inspirés de ne pas éparpiller leurs efforts.

A un an des élections, on n'attend plus du Gouvernement un hypothétique miracle sur le front du social. L'Exécutif central devrait plutôt s'atteler à mobiliser les moyens logistiques et les ressources financières en vue de l'organisation des élections ainsi que la sécurisation de l'ensemble du processus électoral. L'Exécutif doit déposer au plus vite ce projet de Budget quitte à l'examiner en mode urgence dans les deux chambres. Le même Gouvernement devrait concrétiser les mesures de décrispation politique. Outre le Gouvernement, l'Assemblée nationale doit jouer aussi sa partition, notamment voter dans le meilleur délai, la loi électorale avec son annexe ayant trait à la répartition des sièges pour faire avancer le processus.

La Communauté internationale est attendue aussi pour son soutien tant logistique que financier. D'autant que les partenaires extérieurs n'avaient cessé de réclamer la publication d'un calendrier électoral et de subordonner leur appui à celui-ci.

Premiers concernés par les élections, les acteurs politiques devraient créer les conditions favorables au déroulement du processus électoral, gage de la tenue des élections apaisées. Cela suppose des mesures de confiance mutuelle. Cela exclue aussi des schémas suicidaires. Cela exclue des recours aux voies extra ou anticonstitutionnelles susceptibles de plonger le pays dans la confusion.

Didier Kebongo/Forum des As (CL/Yes)

### **Cadre de concertation CENI-Chefs coutumiers. Le pouvoir coutumier va s'impliquer en faveur du calendrier électoral**

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5a0ae1994037610004361fe8>

Kinshasa 14/11/2017 Politique - Invitant les Chefs coutumiers à soutenir le calendrier électoral, le Vice-président de la Ceni a rappelé que sa concrétisation est tributaire de trois contraintes : législative, politique, logistique et financière. C'est dans ce sens que l'hôte des autorités coutumières a invité toutes les parties prenantes à remplir, chacune en ce qui le concerne, son rôle.

Le cadre de concertation CENI-Chefs coutumiers de ce lundi 13 novembre 2017 organisé dans la Salle de conférence Abbé Apollinaire MALUMALU s'est inscrit non seulement dans le cadre de la redynamisation de ce cadre d'échanges mais surtout dans le contexte de la sensibilisation que mène la Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante en faveur d'une appropriation maximale du contenu du calendrier électoral et de ses contraintes par toutes les parties prenantes au processus électoral y compris les Chefs coutumiers et traditionnels.

Les autorités coutumières ont répondu en nombre à l'invitation lancée par la CENI. Le Vice-président, Norbert BASENGEZI KATINTIMA était accompagné, à l'occasion de ce cadre de concertation, par le Rapporteur Jean-Pierre KALAMBA MULUMBA NGALULA, M. Benjamin BANGALA BASILA, Mme Elodie NTAMUZINDA WIGULU, M. Augustin NGANGWELE MBOBI, tous Membres de l'Assemblée Plénière de la CENI ainsi que de Maître Ronsard MALONDA et M. Verdonck THSIYA, respectivement, Secrétaire Exécutif National et Secrétaire Exécutif National Adjoint de la CENI.

Le Vice-président Norbert BASENGEZI KATINTIMA s'est largement appesanti sur le chemin critique du calendrier électoral ainsi que les contraintes à la tenue effective du scrutin combiné présidentiel, législatives nationales et provinciales, le 23 décembre 2018.

Deux dates du calendrier électoral ont été mises avant pour ceux de Chefs coutumiers qui souhaiteraient concourir : celle du 23 juin 2018 relative à la convocation de l'électoral et la période du 24 juin au 08 juillet 2018 relative à l'ouverture des Bureaux de Réception et Traitement des candidatures pour l'actualisation des candidatures des députés provinciaux.

Norbert BASENGEZI KATINTIMA : « la réussite du processus électoral est une responsabilité partagée »

Le Représentant de Corneille NANGAA YOBELUO, Président de la CENI, à cette activité a mis en avant la place prépondérante qu'occupent les autorités traditionnelles dans la vie sociale, politique et traditionnelle de la République Démocratique du Congo. Fort de leur autorité sur 734 chefferies et secteurs, 6.095 groupements et plus de 88.000 villages, la Commission Electorale Nationale Indépendante n'a cessé de recourir à leur ancrage local depuis les premières opérations de l'identification et de l'enrôlement des électeurs en 2005. Les Chefs coutumiers ont de nouveau été des incontournables acteurs pour la réussite de la Révision du Fichier Electoral (RFE) en cours. Le législateur a particulièrement réaffirmé dans la Loi portant identification et enrôlement des électeurs, leur rôle de témoins en faveur des requérants en vue de l'obtention de la carte d'électeur.

Invitant les Chefs coutumiers à soutenir le calendrier électoral, le Vice-président a rappelé que sa concrétisation est tributaire de trois contraintes : législative, politique, logistique et financière. C'est dans ce sens que l'hôte des autorités coutumières a invité toutes les parties prenantes à remplir, chacune en ce qui le concerne, son rôle.

Relativement aux Chefs coutumiers, l'Accord de la Saint Sylvestre leur a donné mandat, avec les confessions religieuses, à vulgariser le processus électoral. Le Vice-président a succinctement rappelé les recommandations suivantes :

- S'impliquer dans la sensibilisation de la population sur le processus électoral tout en veillant au caractère apolitique et impartial à leur statut ;
- Appuyer la CENI, le cas échéant, dans l'identification des personnes au moment de l'enrôlement ;
- Promouvoir la cohabitation intercommunautaire pacifique.

Norbert BASENGEZI KATINTIMA a conclu sa communication aux Chefs coutumiers sur un appel à la vulgarisation aussi de l'Accord de la Saint Sylvestre que du calendrier électoral. Il a particulièrement insisté auprès des Chefs de coutumiers d'assurer le plaidoyer en faveur de la paix à tout leur niveau de responsabilité.

L'Alliance Nationale des Chefs Traditionnels du Congo encourage la CENI

Le Président national de l'ANATC, Sa majesté Mwami MUNONGO a félicité la CENI pour la relance du partenariat entre le pouvoir coutumier et la Centrale électorale.

Le communiqué de l'ANATC distribué aux médias encourage à son tour la CENI de convaincre tous les acteurs politiques à adhérer à ce calendrier en tenant compte aussi de leurs revendications. L'autorité coutumière a finalement appelé à tous les Chefs de chefferie, de groupement et de village afin d'œuvrer pour la réussite du processus électoral dans la paix et la transparence.

Ceni.cd (CL/GW/Yes)

## CONGO :

### **Les USA se proposent d'aider le Congo à développer son économie grâce au numérique Par agencecofin.com - 14/11/2017**

<http://www.journaldebrazza.com/article.php?aid=10309>

C'est la raison de la rencontre Matthew Casseta, le représentant l'ambassadeur des USA au Congo, avec Léon Juste Ibombo, ministre congolais des Postes, des télécommunications et de l'économie numérique

Les Etats-Unis désirent partager leur expérience avec le Congo en matière de développement de l'économie nationale grâce au numérique. Matthew Casseta, le premier conseiller, chef de mission adjoint, représentant l'ambassadeur des USA au Congo, a rencontré à cet effet, Léon Juste Ibombo, le ministre congolais des Postes, des télécommunications et de l'économie numérique le 10 novembre 2017.

Au cours d'une audience que le patron du secteur national des télécoms a accordé au diplomate américain, dans ses bureaux à Brazzaville, les deux hommes ont particulièrement échangé sur les moyens de faire profiter au Congo, des opportunités qu'offre l'e-commerce et le numérique. Le ministre a indiqué que l'introduction du e-commerce dans le pays devrait se faire via le secteur postal, conformément à ce qui est envisagé par le gouvernement « dans le cadre de la participation du secteur des postes au processus de diversification de l'économie Congolaise».

Léon Juste Ibombo a révélé que pour l'atteinte de l'objectif de faire de la poste un pilier de l'économie nationale, il est prévu la connexion des bureaux de poste à Internet et la facilitation de l'accès des entreprises postales aux solutions numériques à travers le développement du système électronique. Les usagers pourront ainsi effectuer leurs achats en ligne et confier l'acheminement de leurs colis à la Poste. Une nouvelle activité à valeur ajoutée plus rentable que l'acheminement de courrier en déclin depuis le début des années 2000.

Au-delà du e-commerce, la société des postes et de l'épargne du Congo (SOPECO) pourrait aussi tirer parti du numérique pour offrir de nouveaux services tels que le transfert d'argent par mobile ou sur Internet ou encore le paiement de factures en ligne.

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## TANZANIA :

### Tanzania will auction 10,000 cattle seized from Ugandans and Rwandans – minister

<http://www.nation.co.ke/news/africa/Tanzania-seizes-10-000-cattle-from-Uganda-and-Rwanda/1066-4185916-9y1ttgz/index.html>

Tuesday November 14 2017

Cattle keepers from Tanzania entering Rwanda at the Rusumo border in 2013. Tanzania has seized 10,000 head of cattle from Uganda and Rwanda that were found in its borders. It plans to auction them. In October, Tanzania seized and later auctioned more than 1,300 livestock from Kenya.

By THE CITIZEN

#### DODOMA

Authorities have seized more than 10,000 head of cattle from Uganda and Rwanda that were found inside Tanzania's borders, a Cabinet minister told Parliament on Monday.

Livestock and Fisheries Minister Luhaga Mpina said the cattle would be auctioned in a similar manner as the ones recently seized from Kenyans on the Tanzania-Kenya border.

#### AUCTION

The minister made the remarks in Parliament when contributing to a discussion on the national development plan for 2018/19.

The government recently auctioned 1,325 head of cattle owned by Kenyan herders, saying they were grazing in Tanzania illegally.

Mr Mpina accused Ugandan and Rwandan pastoralists of violating Tanzanian law by driving their animals to graze beyond their borders.

But the minister was quick to explain that relations between Tanzania and other East African Community (EAC) member states were stable.

#### POLICY

His remarks come a week after the Kenyan government formally protested to Tanzania over what Nairobi terms "a policy shift that condones hostile actions against Kenyan citizens and their business interests".

Mr Tom Amolo, Kenya's Political and Diplomatic Secretary in the Foreign Affairs ministry, criticised Tanzania's decision to burn chicks imported from Kenya as well as auction animals from Kenyan herders without involving authorities in Nairobi.

He said such actions risked soiling historical relations between the two countries.

#### RETALIATION?

The Kenyan Maasai community also reportedly recently seized at least 4,000 head of cattle from Tanzania, ostensibly in retaliation.

Commissioner of Kajiado County in southern Kenya, Harsama Kello, said he was trying to stop the Maasai community in Kenya from confiscating cattle from Tanzania as an act of revenge.

Minister Mpina said the Tanzanian government was not aware of the incident.

### **Uganda's Museveni, Tanzania's Magufuli condemn ICC probe in Burundi**

12/11 - 12:37

<http://www.africanews.com/2017/11/12/uganda-s-museveni-tanzania-s-magufuli-condemn-icc-probe-in-burundi/>

Two East African presidents on Saturday condemned a decision by the International Criminal Court to open a war crimes investigation into Burundi, saying it undermined regional peace initiatives.

The court ordered a formal investigation on Thursday into crimes committed in Burundi from April 2015 to October 2017.

“Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has condemned the decision of the International Criminal Court (ICC), which ordered its prosecutor to launch an investigation into the Burundi conflict,” Tanzania’s presidency said in a statement on Saturday.

Museveni is the current chairman of the East African Community (EAC) regional economic bloc comprising Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya, Burundi, Rwanda and South Sudan.

The statement was issued after Tanzanian president John Magufuli ended a three-day visit to Uganda where he held talks with Museveni on Burundi and other matters.

Burundi plunged into violence in April 2015 after President Pierre Nkurunziza said he would seek a third term in office, triggering protests and a crackdown by security forces.

He won re-election that July, but most opponents boycotted the vote, saying his decision to stand violated the constitution and the terms of a peace agreement that had ended a war in the central African country.

Government forces are suspected to have killed more than 1,000 people and displaced 400,000 during a crackdown after the election, although rights groups say the number killed could be higher. The court is investigating crimes against humanity that include murder, torture, rape and persecution.

Tanzania, which hosts thousands of Burundian refugees, and Uganda have been engaged in months of diplomatic efforts aimed at restoring peace in Burundi. So far, there has been little progress.

“Museveni ... said the ICC is interfering in EAC affairs without consulting regional leaders, which is a wrong move that undermines previous peacemaking efforts in Burundi,” said the statement.

Tanzania’s Magufuli also criticized the ICC investigation.

“Magufuli said the move (by the ICC) was going against efforts already taken by the East African Community, which include appointing a mediation committee for the Burundi peace process led by former Tanzanian president Benjamin Mkapa,” the statement said.

Regional mediators of the Burundi peace talks are expected to hold another round of talks on Nov. 23, the Tanzanian presidency said.

Magufuli said security concerns in Burundi have been exaggerated, citing a recent voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees from Tanzania.

Last month Burundi became the first nation to withdraw from the court, amid growing criticism from African leaders who complain prosecutors are excessively targeting Africans.

Reuters

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## UGANDA :

### **Presidents Museveni, Magufuli call for more Trade Between Uganda and Tanzania**

<http://www.mediacentre.go.ug/news/presidents-museveni-magufuli-call-more-trade-between-uganda-and-tanzania>

Friday, 10th November 2017

President Yoweri Museveni and his visiting Tanzanian counterpart, Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, have called for more business and trade between Uganda and the Tanzania.

The Presidents made the call today during a bilateral meeting at Masaka State Lodge in Masaka Municipality. The Tanzanian leader is currently on a 3-day state visit to Uganda at the invitation of President Museveni.

President Museveni said that during the meeting, they discussed a number of strategic and statistical issues such as trade between their two countries.

“Trade between Tanzania and Uganda is very small compared to trade between Uganda and Kenya,” he noted.

President Museveni said that while trade between Kenya and Uganda has been high, it has also reduced. “Kenya has been selling to Uganda US\$ 700 million but this has also come down to US\$ 500 million,” he said.

“Before 1986, Kenya was selling to Uganda US\$200 million while Uganda was only selling US\$12 million but Uganda sells US\$500 million to Kenya today,” he said.

President Museveni called upon Ministers of both Uganda and Tanzania, to identify more areas in trade where the two countries would cooperate more. “We need to analyze what Tanzania is producing and why Ugandans are not buying from there and address these issues,” he said.

Mr. Museveni said that although Uganda will in the future purchase gas from Tanzania for industrial and domestic use, there was a need to address the limitations such as the high transport costs that limit trade between the two countries.

“Tanzania has done well and repaired 770 miles of the railway line from Dar-es-Salaam to Mwanza and also repaired Pemba ferry. However, the problem comes with the 11 km from Port Bell to Central Kampala that is not repaired,” he said.

He said that there was need to reduce the transport costs with rail and water transport to boost trade between the two countries adding that rail and water transport would reduce by 60 – 70 percent the high transport costs incurred when using road transport.

Visiting President Magufuli re-affirmed his government’s commitment to partner with Uganda on development projects. “The relationship between Uganda and Tanzania is very historical and the trade between our countries should not be that way,” he said.

He noted that the big population numbers in the two countries provide a ready market for trade. Uganda has a population of about 40 million while Tanzania has about 55 million.

During the meeting, the two Heads of State also agreed to cooperate on a number of electrification projects such as the Lushengezi 35 megawatts hydro power station, and the Kitageti 14 megawatts

station. The two governments also agreed to work to extend power to Nangoma, an enclave of Uganda on the south of River Kagera in Rakai district.

President Magufuli called upon the Ministers of both countries to take firm and bold decisions that would promote cooperation between Uganda and Tanzania. He also called for strict measures to protect the environment and cited the nomadic tribes near the Mutukula border who that ‘think’ all the grass /green is theirs.

On is part, President Museveni called for a joint animal vaccination programme at the border against foot and mouth disease so that the nomadic tribes do not take disease from one country to another. He also urged the responsible Ministers in the two countries, to work together and develop vaccines against foot and mouth disease.

President Magufuli commended President Museveni’s leadership in Uganda and Africa at large. “In President Museveni, we see another Nyerere and one day, Ugandans will appreciate your leadership,” he said.

Turning to the ongoing inter-Burundi dialogue, the Presidents reiterated their call to all parties in that country to take part in an all-inclusive dialogue in order to find a durable solution to the crisis in Burundi. Mr. Magufuli commended the efforts being made by President Museveni in his capacity as Mediator as well as former Tanzania leader, Benjamin Mkapa, aimed at resolving the crisis in Burundi.

During the press briefing after the bilateral meeting, President Museveni commended President Magufuli’s fight against corruption in Tanzania.

“President Magufuli is using non-bearaucratic methods, which I really salute. The problem in Uganda is corruption-using bureaucracy. When you suspend corrupt Public Service workers, they use our institutions like Public Service Commission to survive.

Two memoranda of undertsanding were also signed at the press briefing: one between the Uganda Broadcasting Corporation and the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation and another between the Uganda Police Force and the Tanzania Police Force on security matters. ENDS

### **Sudan's president, wanted by the ICC, visits Uganda**

By rodney muhumuza, associated press <http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/sudans-president-wanted-icc-visits-uganda-51112428>

KAMPALA, Uganda — Nov 13, 2017, 12:32 PM ET

Sudan's President Omar al-Bashir, center, inspects the guard of honor after his arrival at State House in Entebbe, Uganda Monday, Nov. 13, 2017. Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan authorities to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court for serious crimes.

Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan authorities to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court for serious crimes.

Sudan President Omar al-Bashir was welcomed to Uganda Monday by Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni. Sudan's president is here for a two-day visit.

As a signatory to the ICC treaty, Uganda has an obligation to arrest Omar al-Bashir, who has been indicted by the ICC for alleged war crimes and crimes against humanity in Sudan's Darfur region.

"Inviting an international criminal suspect to Uganda not only undermines the fight against impunity which Uganda has for long championed but also betrays the concerns and interests of the victims of the most heinous crimes," six Ugandan rights watchdogs said in a joint statement. "We therefore call upon the government of Uganda to fulfill its obligations under international and domestic laws by arresting and surrendering President Omar al-Bashir."

Al-Bashir's presence in Uganda "is an affront to Darfur's victims," said the U.S.-based Human Rights Watch. Other African members of the ICC, including Kenya and Nigeria, "have avoided or curtailed such visits by al-Bashir," said Elise Keppler of Human Rights Watch.

South Africa, however, hosted al-Bashir in 2015 and did not arrest him. The ICC's finding that South Africa should have arrested al-Bashir prompted South Africa to announce that it would withdraw from the ICC. Some other African countries have called for a mass exit from the ICC treaty, saying the court unfairly targets Africans.

Ugandan authorities say the Sudanese leader is immune from arrest because he is a head of state visiting at the invitation of Uganda's government.

Uganda's Museveni has sharply criticized the ICC, calling it "useless" during his inauguration in May 2016, an event that al-Bashir attended.

During al-Bashir's visit "areas of cooperation will be discussed, including trade and investment, agriculture, regional peace and security as well as international matters of mutual interest," Uganda's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said in a statement.

Sudan imports 20 percent of Uganda's coffee, "the single biggest export market" for one of Uganda's top revenue earners, according to the statement.

Uganda's diplomatic ties with Sudan once were frosty, but relations improved after South Sudan gained independence from Sudan in 2011. Uganda, which backed South Sudan's decades-long war of independence, accused Sudan of supporting rebels opposed to Uganda's government who operated in northern Uganda.

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## **KENYA :**

### **Kenyan court considers petitions to nullify election win**

<https://www.ft.com/content/553ce846-c923-11e7-aa33-c63fdc9b8c6c>

Kenya's supreme court on Tuesday began considering two petitions to nullify Uhuru Kenyatta's victory in last month's repeat presidential election that was overshadowed by rigging allegations. The petitioners, a businessman and two civil society groups, claim the October 26 poll was conducted unconstitutionally and that the electoral commission was biased. They argue the agency had not been sufficiently reformed to guarantee a credible process following the supreme court's nullification of the August election result over "irregularities" and "illegalities" in the vote tallying. NEXT <https://www.ft.com/content/553ce846-c923-11e7-aa33-c63fdc9b8c6c>

### **Jubilee activist wants Luo Nyanza removed from the map of Kenya in draft Bill**

By Geoffrey Mosoku | Published Tue, November 14th 2017 at 16:26,

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001260218/jubilee-activist-wants-luo-nyanza-removed-from-the-map-of-kenya-in-draft-bill>

National Assembly to where bill to amend the Constitution to exclude four counties from Kenya could be submitted. [File pic: Standard] A Jubilee activist cum political consultant Washington Makodingo wants four Luo Nyanza Counties excluded from the Kenyan map. ALSO READ: Youths take over peace initiatives along Kisumu-Kericho border In a draft bill yet to be submitted to the electoral commission, Makodingo wants Kisumu, Migori, Homabay and Siaya to be removed from Kenya and allowed to form their own government. The activist however says the Kuria community in Migori County should be given their own county and be allowed to remain in Kenya. He further wants Maseno division of Kisumu County (North West ward of Kisumu West constituency), be moved from Luo lands to Vihiga via an amendment of First Schedule to reflect the new Counties. The activist seeks to reduce constituencies to 263 to cater for the ones removed. "If the people of Luo Nyanza think that they cannot belong in Kenya, we give them opportunity to make that choice." Makodingo told the Standard. He explained that the draft bill was a brainchild of some like-minded individuals with most of them identifying with the Jubilee coalition. "The conversations began within jubilee but we have support from across and by the time we submit the bill, we shall have a complete list of the drafters." Makodingo said. Voter submits Bill to Parliament to amend Constitution to exclude 4 counties from Kenya While defending the draft, the activist said they had targeted the Luo counties since 25 constituencies from the region not only refused to vote during the October 26 repeat polls but also violently blocked the elections. ALSO READ: Governors pledge joint projects at volatile border "The Makodingos and Tujus will have a choice to either remain in Kenya or secede within 90 days," he said. The activist said that they will submit the draft to IEBC by Thursday for concurrence and if approved, will start collecting signatures to push for a referendum.

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## SUD SOUDAN :

### U.S. welcomes pledge by South Sudan to allow free access for humanitarian groups

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/us-welcomes-pledge-by-south-sudan-to-allow-free-access-for-humanitarian-groups/2017/11/14/ad6a4ec0-c976-11e7-aa96-54417592cf72\\_story.html?utm\\_term=.7b34ece61750](https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/us-welcomes-pledge-by-south-sudan-to-allow-free-access-for-humanitarian-groups/2017/11/14/ad6a4ec0-c976-11e7-aa96-54417592cf72_story.html?utm_term=.7b34ece61750)

President Salva Kiir, center, attends a ceremony marking the 34th anniversary of the Sudan People's Liberation Army at military headquarters in Juba, South Sudan, on May 18. (Jok Solomun/Reuters)  
By Anne Gearan November 14 at 4:39 PM

The Trump administration is welcoming a pledge from South Sudanese President Salva Kiir to allow free passage for humanitarian agencies that have struggled to reach some of the war-ravaged country's neediest people.

Kiir's written order promising "free, unimpeded and unhindered movement" for aid convoys followed months of international demands and a blunt warning from U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Nikki Haley.

Haley had told Kiir during a visit in late October that his U.S.-backed government is at risk of losing future U.S. diplomatic and financial support. The United States, U.N. monitors and others blame Kiir for sanctioning ethnic warfare and atrocities against civilians.

"This is a good sign, but we must see actions — more than words — from President Kiir," Haley said Tuesday, in a statement to The Washington Post.

"The true test will be whether humanitarian assistance is actually allowed to get to the South Sudanese people in a consistent way. We will be watching, and we will continue to encourage President Kiir to do the right thing."

[Haley warns U.S. aid 'at a crossroads' unless South Sudan reforms]

Haley plans a speech on the South Sudanese conflict as part of a program Wednesday at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. The focus on a conflict that some activists call genocide will include huge pictures documenting the largest humanitarian crisis in Africa projected on the museum's exterior walls.

Kiir's Nov. 9 decree directs that physical roadblocks be dismantled so that convoys can pass, and instructs "all levels of the Government" to help aid groups in their work. In the past, Kiir's central government in the capital, Juba, has sometimes pleaded ignorance of alleged obstruction or crimes by far-flung military or police agents.

"Anybody who intentionally obstructs the delivery of Humanitarian Aid and services or imposes taxes on Humanitarian Convoys shall be held accountable," the order said.

The order does not spell out what that means, but Kiir would have the power to fire or prosecute some wrongdoers.

Haley told reporters traveling with her to Juba that Kiir had seemed to understand that he has run out of excuses and that Washington had run out of patience with a leader it helped to install.

Access for humanitarian agencies was among the specific demands she made, along with an end to violence.

[Nikki Haley and the awful dilemma of South Sudan]

A U.N. report last month said Kiir's government bears "primary responsibility" for violence that has driven millions from their homes.

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A confidential report to the U.N. Security Council also blamed Kiir's government of using food as a weapon of war, Reuters reported Friday.

A U.S. official confirmed the report, which spans activity in 2016 and 2017.

"Kiir's government has a terrible history of using food as a weapon. That must end," said the official, who requested anonymity because the report has not been publicly released.

Haley visited destitute South Sudanese refugees who had fled across the border to an overflowing camp in Ethiopia and others who had sought refuge in a U.N.-assisted camp on the outskirts of Juba. Residents of both camps blamed Kiir's soldiers for atrocities.

U.N. Humanitarian Coordinator for South Sudan Alain Noudéhou also welcomed Kiir's order, "at a time when food insecurity continues to deteriorate and humanitarian organizations face pressure to expand their response."

Anne Gearan is a national politics correspondent for The Washington Post.

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## SOUDAN :

### **Al-Bashir, Museveni discuss peace efforts in South Sudan**

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article63988>

November 13, 2017 (KHARTOUM) - The Sudanese President Omer al-Bashir and his Ugandan counterpart Yoweri Museveni Monday have discussed bilateral relations, regional peace and security and the ongoing crisis in South Sudan.

Al-Bashir has arrived in Kampala on Sunday for a three-day visit on the invitation of President Museveni.

Sudan's Foreign Minister Ibrahim Ghandour told reporters following the meeting of al-Bashir and Museveni the two leaders discussed joint cooperation between the two countries, saying they agreed to organize an investment forum in Khartoum.

According to the official news agency SUNA, Ghandour added al-Bashir and Museveni underlined support for peace and security in the Great Lakes region.

He also said the two leaders agreed to support peace efforts in South Sudan according to the agreements mediated by the East African regional bloc (IGAD).

The Sudanese top diplomat pointed out that Museveni has congratulated al-Bashir on the lift of the U.S. economic embargo on Sudan, renewing his firm stance against the International Criminal Court (ICC).

Ghandour added the two leaders agreed on the need to exchange visits and continue meetings of the joint ministerial committee between the two countries.

Following ten years of strained relations, Museveni visited Khartoum in September 2015 where he and al-Bashir agreed to work together to bring stability in South Sudan and the region, and to end tensions between the two countries over the issue of rebel groups.

The Year 2016, witnessed a steady rapprochement between the two countries, accelerated, by the South Sudanese crisis and their joint efforts to end the three crisis in the neighbouring nation.

The visit of President Museveni to Khartoum in October 2016 to take part in the closing conference of the government-led national dialogue is seen as a turning point in the relationship between the two countries.

In September 2016, the Ugandan government facilitated informal talks between the Sudanese government and armed groups in Darfur and Sudan's Blue Nile and South Kordofan areas, in a bid to support the African Union High Implementation Panel (AUHIP) efforts to bring peace in the east African country.

## CALLS TO ARREST AL-BASHIR

Rights groups on Monday urged Ugandan government to arrest the visiting president of Sudan, who has long been wanted by the International Criminal Court (ICC) for crimes against humanity, genocide and war crimes .

"Inviting an international criminal suspect to Uganda not only undermines the fight against impunity which Uganda has for long championed but also betrays the concerns and interests of the victims of the most heinous crimes," six Ugandan rights watchdogs said in a joint statement.

"We, therefore, call upon the government of Uganda to fulfil its obligations under international and domestic laws by arresting and surrendering President Omer al-Bashir," further said the joint statement.

In May 2016, al-Bashir, who was indicted by ICC on counts of war crimes and crimes against humanity, was one of the dignitaries at Museveni's inauguration in Kampala.

Uganda is a state party to the Rome Statute and has an obligation to arrest the Sudanese president. (ST)

### **Sudan accuses S. Sudan of obstructing Abyei oversight commission**

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article64000>

November 14, 2017 (KHARTOUM) - Head of the Sudanese committee for the administration of Abyei area Hassan Ali Nimir has accused South Sudan of obstructing meetings of the oversight committee on the disputed region.

Ownership of Abyei, a disputed border region contested by Sudan and South Sudan, remained contentious after the world's youngest nation split from Sudan in July 2011.

There is no joint administration between Sudan and South Sudan, as the Ngok Dinka refuse the formation of Abyei Joint Oversight Committee (AJOC). Instead, they call to hold a referendum without the Sudanese pastoralist Misseriya.

Now, there are two committees one for the Misseriya appointed by the Sudanese government and another for the Ngok Dinka appointed by Juba government.

The two committees are currently holding their 12th meeting from 14 to 15 November in Addis Ababa under the auspices of the African Union.

In his address before the meeting Monday, Nimir accused South Sudan government of disrupting the work of the AJOC by unilaterally suspending participation in its meetings.

According to Ashoroq TV, Nimir added the continued delay of the AJOC meetings indicates that Juba doesn't seek to achieve a final solution for the issue of Abyei which constitutes a clear violation for the 2011 agreement.

For his part, the head of the Sudanese committee for the administration of Abyei Deng Arob has dismissed Nimir's allegations, saying his country has not obstructed the meetings of the AJOC.

On the other hand, the African Union representative Mishoko Mohatli has urged both parties to make some progress and constructively cooperate with the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA).

On 30 May 2017, after more than two years of suspension, the two AJOC parties held an extraordinary session convened by the African Union. The latter urged them to commit to a functioning Joint Oversight Committee as a forum in which contentious issues could be addressed.

Also, the two parties signed an outcome document, in which they agreed that they would resume bimonthly meetings and that the next meeting would be held in the last week of July in Addis Ababa. But since they didn't meet again.

On 27 June 2011, the Security Council, by its resolution 1990, responded to the urgent situation in Abyei by establishing the UNISFA.

UNISFA's establishment came after Sudan's government and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement (SPLM) reached an agreement in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, to demilitarise Abyei and let Ethiopian troops monitor the area.

The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) provides that the contested territory remains part of the north until the organisation of a referendum determines its fate. The difference over who will participate in the referendum prevents the two countries from holding the agreed referendum.

However, the Dinka Ngok organised a unilateral referendum from 27 to 29 October 2013 to say they want to join the Republic of South Sudan.

Khartoum, Juba, the African Union and the international community refused to recognise the outcome of the vote. (ST)

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## **ÉTHIOPIE :**

### **Ethiopian Airlines agrees to buy Boeing 777 freighters in \$1.3 billion deal, mulls mid-sized aircraft**

<https://www.thenational.ae/business/aviation/ethiopian-airlines-agrees-to-buy-boeing-777-freighters-in-1-3-billion-deal-mulls-mid-sized-aircraft-1.675543>

November 14, 2017

Ethiopian Airlines, Sub-Saharan Africa's largest carrier, agreed to buy four Boeing 777 freighters in a deal worth \$1.3 billion, and continues its discussions with the Chicago-based plane manufacturer to buy wide-body 777Xs while also mulling the purchase of mid-sized aircraft the company is looking to produce.

"We are still discussing the [possibility of ordering] 777X" chief executive Tewolde GebreMariam said at the Dubai Air Show today. "As an airline we want an airplane to replace the 757, it's right-sized and right range for the mission that we have, especially taking [into account] the altitude at Addis Ababa airport," he said. Ethiopian would be interested in buying between 10 and 20 of the aircraft if Boeing decides to produce them, GebreMariam added.

Earlier this week Boeing, the world's largest aerospace company, said it sees strong interest in the Middle East for a mid-sized jet and is progressing with plans to develop a new model, but did not provide a time-frame for the aircraft. Earlier reports have suggested the aircraft would have around 220-270 seats and a smaller cargo hold to add passenger capacity.

Ethiopia is Africa's fastest growing economy which is set to expand 8.5 per cent in 2017, according to the International Monetary Fund. Half of the world's population will reside in Africa by 2050 according to UN figures.

Africa has always faced "tailwinds due to rising demand [rather than headwinds due to rising competition]. So we expect the tailwinds to continue, it's a very fast growing region," GebreMariam said.

The carrier doesn't plan on purchasing any Airbus A350s and the expansion of the country's airport is progressing he said.

"Maybe part of the project will be completed by mid-2018 - the expansion of the existing airport, we are expanding the terminal. In total, when the project is fully operational it will take capacity to 22 million passengers, around 10 million now," GebreMariam said.

Ethiopian, which competes with South African Airways and Kenya Airways had committed to two freighters at the Paris Airshow but topped that pledge with two aircraft on Tuesday. The airline will begin taking delivery of the aircraft in 2018. Ethiopian Airlines has 20 777-200s already in operation.

### **Egypt concerned over failure on Ethiopia's dam, says min.**

By: MENA

Mon, Nov. 13, 2017

<https://www.egypttoday.com/Article/2/32214/Egypt-concerned-over-failure-on-Ethiopia-s-dam-says-min>

CAIRO - 13 November 2017: Irrigation Minister Mohamed Abdel Aati expressed on Sunday Egypt's concern over the future of talks with Sudan and Ethiopia after they rejected the introductory report on technical studies of the Ethiopian Renaissance Dam.

Cairo hosted activities of the tripartite technical committee meeting on the Renaissance Dam, which were held on Saturday and Sunday.

A consultative office had been assigned to finalize two studies on the impact of the controversial dam on Egypt and Sudan.

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## EGYPTE :

### Egypt to establish trading area along Sudan border

<http://www.egyptindependent.com/egypt-establish-trading-area-along-sudan-border/>

The Egyptian Company for Land, Dry Ports and Logistical Areas, which operates under the Ministry for Transport, signed a memorandum with the Trans Export Company on Tuesday to establish a trading area in Port Qustal, bordering with Sudan.

The trading area will include a logistical area, a space to develop agricultural projects, a veterinary quarry, and a slaughterhouse to enhance trade between Egypt and Sudan.

Ezzat al-Khated, CEO for the Egyptian Company, said that this agreement comes as part of the Transport Ministry's framework to develop logistical projects, provide infrastructural service, and develop industrial projects to increase trade between Egypt and countries south of its border.

The infrastructural development of an area totaling 575,000 sq meters, as well as the provision of a power station, industrial sewage, the construction of roads, and an integrated service station for trucks, will contribute towards boosting trade between Egypt and African countries, he added.

He confirmed that a veterinary quarry and slaughterhouse has been certified by the General Authority for Veterinary Services. A general customs warehouse for receiving goods and agricultural products from Sudan, exporting products from Egypt, and for transit goods, has also been certified.

Edited translation from Al-Masry Al-Youm

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## SOUTH AFRICA :

### **ANC says South Africa 'will not get involved' with Zimbabwe turmoil**

<https://www.thesouthafrican.com/gwede-mantashe-claims-sa-wont-get-involved-with-zimbabwe-coup-attempt/>

Speaking at a press conference on Tuesday evening, the BBC reported that Secretary-General Gwede Mantashe told his audience that the party would not be getting involved in the apparent upheaval. He stated that Zimbabwe is 'our neighbour, not our province'.

Gwede Mantashe rules out SA intervention in Zimbabwe

"The party would be concerned if "things go wrong there because it will impact on us. But we have no authority over them. That's the point we are making," he said.

"At one time at the height of the Zimbabwe question there were suggestions by big powers that we must just walk into Zimbabwe [and] whip them into line. We will not do that. It is not done. It is our neighbour, not our province."

On Tuesday, Zim's army chief General Constantino Chiwenga warned that the military would step in if "treacherous shenanigans" continued in the ruling Zanu-PF. The bellicose threat seemed to be put into action earlier today, as numerous army vehicles charged towards Harare.

However, earlier speculation that a coup was underway seemed to have cooled a little. It does seem like this was a show of force, though, by a military who are happy to show their dissent against Robert Mugabe.

What started off the alleged 'coup' in Zimbabwe?

Mr Mugabe sacked his Vice President Emmerson Mnangagwa from office on Monday 6th November. This has turned out to be one of the more eventful decisions of Bob's reign in the last decade.

Mnangagwa has since fled the country, but he harbours the strong support of Zimbabwe's military forces. He has previously refused to rule out military coup of the Mugabe regime, and it is suspected he is involved in today's rising tensions.

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**ANGOLA :**

**Angola and Zambia Seek Strengthened Transport Cooperation**

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201711130887.html>

Luanda — The Angolan Transport minister, Augusto da Silva Tomás, travelled Saturday to Lusaka, Zambia, to meet local authorities with a view to strengthening cooperation with that neighbouring country in the transport sector.

The Angolan official was also expected to travel to the Democratic Republic of Congo to witness the signing of a trade agreement between the Benguela Railways (CFB) and the Congolese National Railway Company (SNCC).

The said agreement aims at boosting the development of the Lobito corridor.

The minister, who leads a delegation of senior staff of the Transport Ministry and of Lobito's and Benguela's railroads, was also expected to deliver a message from the Angolan president, João Lourenço, to his Zambian and Congolese counterparts, Edgar Shagwa Lungu, and Joseph Kabila Kabange, respectively.

Lobito is a transnational corridor that crosses the southern Africa region and projects itself beyond Angolan borders with great structuring impact on the SADC space.

Lobito region also stands as one of the main circulation route for raw materials, products and goods, not only inside the countries it crosses, but especially due to worldwide connections mainly with the Lobito port. Angolan, Zambia and the DRC witnessed on 14 February 2014 the inauguration of the Moxico's Luena city airport and the CFB inaugural trip to the bridge at the border with the DRC, after 30 years of paralysation.

Angola is currently building the Rivungo-Shangombo border canal, to improve the social condition and economic development of the peoples living in the region.

The said canal located between Rivungo municipality in Angola's Cuando Cubango province and the Zambian locality of Shangombo, will boost trade between both peoples.

**President Lungu Receives Angola, Zimbabwe Special Envoys**

November 14, 2017 <https://www.lusakatimes.com/2017/11/14/president-lungu-receives-angola-zimbabwe-special-envoys/>

President Edgar Lungu receive a special messege from President Robert Mugabe by Zimbabwe Foreign Affairs Minister Dr Walter Mzembi at State house in Lusaka

President Edgar Lungu has received Special Envoys from Angola's President João Lourenço and Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe who delivered special messages from their Principals.

The President received a special message from President Lourenço, which was delivered by Angola's Minister of Transport, Augusto Da Silva Tomas.

President Lungu and His Angolan Counterpart President Lourenço have committed to transforming the transport infrastructure such as roads, rail and water transport linking the two countries.

The two leaders have committed to ensuring that all agreements signed between Zambia and Angola on rehabilitation of transport infrastructure notably the Lobito Corridor are accelerated for the mutual benefit of the two countries.

And the President has received a Special Envoy from Zimbabwe's President Robert Mugabe, Dr Walter Mzembi, Minister of Foreign Affairs who has delivered a special message which included among other things, President Mugabe's sincere gratitude to the Zambian Government for supporting Zimbabwe with affordable maize imports during the last four years of grain shortages in that country.

The Minister also briefed the President on the political situation in Zimbabwe and assured him that stability and unity of the nation were President Mugabe's top priority as he prepares the country for general elections next year.

President Lungu said Zambia will continue to support processes for peaceful elections within the framework of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) principles of promoting peace and stability for both individual countries and the region as whole.

He thanked the Minister for the comprehensive overview regarding the political situation in Zimbabwe.

The President says the continued visits of various foreign leaders to Zambia is a demonstration of Zambia's diplomatic vision of enhancing bilateral and multilateral cooperation as a common ground for accelerating regional integration.

Meanwhile, the President held an exit meeting with outgoing United States of America (USA) Ambassador to Zambia Eric Shultz at State House.

In his farewell message, Mr Shultz said he was emotional to be leaving a country he had so dearly come to love.

"Your Excellency, I am sad to be leaving Zambia after three years of extraordinary engagement with you, Government officials and the people of Zambia. What I have seen in recent years gives me hope about the future of this country. I am very optimistic about the future of this country, quiet a lot of progress is being made in many areas," Mr Shultz said.

Mr Shultz reaffirmed the US government's continued support to Zambia in various socio-economic areas and governance. He particularly emphasised that the American government will support Zambia in dealing with the refugee crisis in the north of the country due to political instability in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

The President wished Mr Shultz the best in his future endeavours and urged him to remain Zambia's envoy in Washington in whatever position he will assume.

He thanked the outgoing Ambassador for his extraordinary services he rendered both to his country and the Republic of Zambia. He urged Mr Shultz to brief the incoming Ambassador so that the strong foundation that he established for progressive interaction continues.

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## MAROC :

### Maroc : le gouvernement de transition de Saadeddine El Othmani

Publié le 14 novembre 2017 à 13h31 — Mis à jour le 14 novembre 2017 à 13h36

<http://www.jeuneafrique.com/mag/489357/politique/maroc-saadeddine-el-othmani-met-en-place-un-gouvernement-dinterim/>

Le chef du gouvernement, Saadeddine El Othmani, assure rester dans le périmètre fixé par le communiqué du cabinet royal, qui l'a chargé de « soumettre des propositions de nomination de nouveaux responsables pour remplacer les postes vacants ». Mais il n'est pas encore certain qu'il puisse procéder à ce simple ajustement ministériel sans toucher aux équilibres de sa majorité.

Car si le Mouvement populaire (MP) a déjà tranché et a choisi de rester au gouvernement, se contentant de soumettre de nouveaux noms pour remplacer Mohamed Hassad et Larbi Bencheikh, tel n'est pas le cas du Parti du progrès et du socialisme (PPS), lequel devait réunir, le 4 novembre, son comité central pour décider éventuellement de basculer dans l'opposition.

Phase d'intérim

Auquel cas El Othmani pourrait réaffecter les deux départements du PPS (Habitat et Santé) entre les partis de la majorité actuelle ou même ouvrir la coalition au parti de l'Istiqlal, redevenu « présentable » après l'élection de Nizar Baraka à sa tête.

En attendant cet ajustement ministériel, qui peut toujours se transformer en remaniement élargi, El Othmani a confié l'intérim des départements vacants à des ministres en fonction afin d'assurer la continuité des affaires. Moulay Hafid Elalamy, ministre de l'Industrie, hérite ainsi du portefeuille de Nabil Benabdellah à l'Habitat.

Le ministère de la Santé revient à Abdelkader Amara, qui le cumulera avec le département de l'Équipement. Enfin, Mohamed El Aaraj, ministre de la Culture et de la Communication, s'est vu confier le très sensible ministère de l'Éducation nationale. Mais cette phase d'intérim ne devrait pas s'éterniser.

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## **AFRICA UNION :**

### **African Union force begins troop withdrawal from Somalia**

2017-11-07 18:31

<https://www.news24.com/Africa/News/african-union-force-begins-troop-withdrawal-from-somalia-20171107>

Mogadishu - The African Union says it has begun its withdrawal from Somalia and will cut 1 000 troops by the end of this year as security responsibilities start to shift to the local military.

The continental body said on Tuesday that the move comes at a critical time, less than a month after the country's worst attack killed more than 350 people. The Somalia-based al-Shabaab extremist group has been blamed.

The AU says its troop movements shouldn't cause alarm, but the withdrawal has begun earlier than expected. Plans had said the first troops would leave in 2018.

The 22 000-strong African Union force in Somalia is expected to fully withdraw by the end of 2020. The United States military and others have expressed concern that Somalia's security forces will not be ready by then.

### **African leaders urge support for new security doctrine**

2017-11-14 <https://www.news24.com/Africa/News/african-leaders-urge-support-for-new-security-doctrine-20171114>

Dakar - African leaders on Monday used a regional forum to call for extra support as the continent moves to assure its own security after years of Western interventions.

The annual Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security this year brings together the presidents of Mali, Rwanda and hosts Senegal along with military officials and experts to discuss the continent's serious challenges in the sector.

The vast Sahel region, stretching from Senegal to Sudan, has turned into a hotbed of lawlessness since chaos engulfed Libya in 2011, Islamists overran northern Mali in 2012 and Boko Haram rose up in northern Nigeria.

In an opening address, Senegal's President Macky Sall told the forum a "military response must be comprehensive, and one of solidarity, to leave terrorist groups no place to hide.

"The risk today is seeing terrorists defeated elsewhere seeking fallback zones in Africa," Sall added.

Sall pointed to the western intervention in Libya as an example of why African populations had to be involved in decisions on rooting out terror groups, as the nation's instability has fuelled conflict elsewhere.

"We must beware of preconceived solutions formulated without Africans," Sall added. "The consequences of these interventions, which we are living in the Sahel, are often worse than what they were supposed to rectify."

The forum follows the recent launch of the G5 Sahel force, an anti-jihadist military initiative working across Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania and Niger to counter the significant threat al-Qaeda-linked groups pose in the region and to stop Islamic State gaining a foothold.

The world's newest joint international force, the five-nation G5 Sahel plans to number up to 5 000 military, police and civilian troops by March 2018.

Paul Kagame, the Rwandan President who will chair the African Union from 2018, said African nations "have only ourselves to blame" if the international community alone decided on the continent's security needs.

Beyond the Sahel, the Shabaab, a militant group aligned with al-Qaeda, regularly carries out suicide bombings in its bid to overthrow Somalia's internationally-backed government, while conflict in eastern Congo, Central African Republic and South Sudan blights the continent.

The Dakar Forum is a French-backed initiative, and the European nation retains a heavy military presence across the Sahel.

French Defence Minister Florence Parly said Africans "know what it is to be wounded to the core by terrorist savagery," paying tribute to the 130 people killed in the 2015 Paris attacks on the event's second anniversary.

### **5th AU-EU summit : Morocco's first major challenge ten months after joining the AU**

<https://en.yabiladi.com/articles/details/59338/au-eu-summit-morocco-s-first-major.html>

Last March in Dakar, Morocco protested against the presence of a Polisario delegation at a meeting organized by the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the AU. Would it be interesting for Morocco to adopt the same position in Abidjan ? Details.

The 5th AU-EU summit is a challenging event for the Moroccan diplomacy, ten months after formally joining the African Union. The Kingdom is indeed in an uncomfortable position.

Accepting the presence of a Polisario delegation on the 29th and 30th of November in Abidjan would be misunderstood by the states of the continent that backed Rabat during the 10th annual meeting, the UN Economic Commission for Africa and the AU, held in March in Dakar. For the record, in the Senegalese capital, Morocco had strongly protested against the participation of a Polisario delegation, arguing that «SADR» is a separatist movement that is unrecognized by the United Nations.

In Dakar, Morocco's position was supported by the legal adviser of the African Economic Commission. On the other hand, Algeria and South Africa were there to defend the Front. Finally, without compromising and after two days of discussions, the ECA-AU meeting was postponed to a later date.

Would Rabat change its strategy in Abidjan ?

Two weeks before the AU-EU summit, Morocco prefers to remain silent. Official TV channels avoid addressing the issue. This is confirmed through a communique issued by the Royal cabinet after King Mohammed VI held talks with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Moussa Faki Mahamat.

Reacting in the same way as last year would create more tension as the separatist movement had already warned the AU members against the consequences of Morocco's admission to the continental organization.

«The kingdom has an interest in unifying Africans and getting closer to the states that still support the Polisario. With the exception of Algeria, Morocco is able to shake some of the separatist movement's alliances especially those that strengthen its presence in the AU. This is done through ratifying the charters of several African Union commissions while avoiding a confrontation,» says a source who requested anonymity.

«The mandates of Pretoria and Algiers to the Peace and Security Council, which will expire on March 31, 2018, should in principle benefit Morocco. Also the timing of the presidential elections in South Africa in 2019 shall have the same effect».

Obviously, by integrating the African Union; Morocco knew that the Polisario would not be expelled immediately. This process, if successful, will be long and difficult.

Portrait de Latifa Babas

Mohammed Jaabouk

Latifa Babas

(Translation)

Journalist at Yabiladi.com

### **L'UA débloque 100 mille dollars pour l'assistance humanitaire en Rdc**

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5a0b20344037610004361fff>

Kinshasa 14/11/2017 Politique - La cérémonie de remise de ce don a eu lieu lundi 13 novembre, à l'immeuble du gouvernement, dans la commune de la Gombe à Kinshasa.

L'union Africaine vient de mettre à la disposition du gouvernement congolais une enveloppe de 100 mille dollars américains, dans le cadre de l'aide humanitaire. Ces fonds sont destinés à assister, les personnes vulnérables, les victimes des conflits, des catastrophes naturelles et des épidémies.

Pour l'ambassadeur, chef de mission humanitaire de l'UA, il s'agit d'un geste symbolique. Fafré CAMARA qui reconnaît l'immensité des besoins humanitaires en RDC et la complexité de la tâche indique que l'Union Africaine va continuer à appuyer la rdc pour réduire la misère de ces populations. « Nous sommes allés à l'intérieur du pays, notamment à Goma et à Kananga où nous avons eu des échanges avec les autorités provinciales, la MONUSCO, la société civile, les agences humanitaires.

Ces discussions nous ont permis de recenser toutes les préoccupations sur le terrain. Ces préoccupations sont résumées en l'insuffisance des moyens pour répondre aux besoins humanitaires. Nous devons conjuguer beaucoup d'effort pour qu'un grand nombre de la population puisse bénéficier de l'assistance humanitaire », a affirmé l'émissaire de l'Union Africaine.

Il a aussi indiqué que l'union africaine vient de mettre sur pied une agence humanitaire. A l'en croire, cette agence sera opérationnalisée d'ici 2018. Il a précisé que cette agence humanitaire sera active sur le terrain, à l'instar d'autres agences des Nations-Unies, pour donner des réponses immédiates à des situations d'urgences humanitaires sur le continent.

La Croix Rouge RDC a été choisie comme agence de mise en œuvre de ce don de l'union africaine orienté vers une réponse d'urgence aux besoins humanitaires en RDC. Pour le vice-président de la CICR/RDC, Gaston NYIMU, cet acte prouve à suffisance la volonté et la détermination du

gouvernement congolais à accompagner la Croix Rouge dans les initiatives et actions menées en faveur des populations en situation de détresse.

« Nos remerciements vont également à l'Union- Africaine pour non seulement ce geste de confiance, mais aussi pour avoir entendu le cri de détresse des populations vulnérables, déplacés internes et victimes de diverses catastrophes et épidémies, cibles premières des actions de la Croix Rouge de la RDC », a-t-il indiqué.

Le ministre de la solidarité et action humanitaire Bernard BIANDO a aussi salué le geste de l'Union Africaine. « Un adage africain dit qu'on reconnaît les vrais amis pendant la souffrance. En ce moment où le pays est secoué par diverses catastrophes, le peuple congolais vient de se rendre compte du soutien du peuple africain à travers ce don », a reconnu le ministre.

Il promet de travailler en étroite collaboration avec la Croix rouge RDC, chargé d'acheminer cette aide aux vulnérables.

Le ministère de la solidarité et action humanitaire, à travers son organe technique compte, d'après Bernard BIANDO, mettre incessamment à la disposition de la société nationale de la Croix Rouge de la République Démocratique du Congo, le plan opérationnel d'intervention.

Murka/Le Phare (CL/Rei/GW/Yes)

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## AFRICA - USA :

### Before High-Level Discussions, US Aims to Strengthen Ties to Africa

<https://www.voanews.com/a/us-aims-to-strengthen-ties-to-africa/4114596.html>

U.S. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will welcome 37 African foreign ministers to Washington later this week in the largest African foreign policy event to date under President Donald Trump.

The event on November 16 and 17 will include discussions on trade and investment, counterterrorism, and good governance. In addition to the ministerial attendees, African Union Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat and other A.U. representatives will attend.

Acting U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Donald Yamamoto told VOA's Africa 54 the goal is to craft policy that goes beyond aid to build mutually beneficial partnerships.

“If you look at the United States and our approach to not just Africa, but in the other regions of the world, it’s a much more multidimensional, very complex approach,” Yamamoto said. “It is not just only humanitarian assistance, but also developing capacity infrastructure, and also we’re looking at capacity building. In other words, we’re looking at how we can have sustainable economic growth.”

Yamamoto said the meeting will focus on preparing for the future. By the year 2100, Africa is projected to be the most-populous continent in the world with 2.2 billion people. About 70 percent of its population is under 30, and this “youth bulge” can either be a blessing or a curse, depending on how the continent prepares.

“What’s the potential for unemployment, and do we have enough job creation to meet those needs?” Yamamoto asked. “A stronger Africa means a stronger America and a stronger world.”

Security, counter-terrorism

Africa unexpectedly came to the forefront of the Trump administration’s foreign policy last month with the killing of four Green Berets in a remote village in Niger. Following the attack, U.S. Sen. Lindsey Graham, R-South Carolina, said, “The war is headed to Africa. It’s beginning to morph. As we suppress the enemy in the Mideast, they are going to move.”

In this image provided by the U.S. Air Force, a U.S. Army carry team transfers the remains of Army Staff Sgt. Dustin Wright of Lyons, Georgia, Oct. 5, 2017, upon arrival at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

In this image provided by the U.S. Air Force, a U.S. Army carry team transfers the remains of Army Staff Sgt. Dustin Wright of Lyons, Georgia, Oct. 5, 2017, upon arrival at Dover Air Force Base, Delaware.

In the near term, the United States will continue to play a lead role in training African partner nations. U.S. forces have trained thousands of African soldiers in the past 10 years. Working with local partners, the United States has helped upgrade security and facilitate coordination across nations to guard against Boko Haram, Islamic State, drug trafficking and other threats, according to Yamamoto.

In the long term, however, security will come from economic growth and prosperity, Yamamoto said. To ensure this, the United States wants to discuss strategies for reducing debt and eliminating barriers to trade within the continent.

“If we break down non-tariff trade barriers and barriers that prevent trade from happening between the countries, then what we are going to see is not only expansion of investments in trade and opportunities, but also economic growth, and that could be the spark, the basis for other trade and development,” he said.

Salem Solomon

### **U.S. appeals against withdrawal of AU troops from Somalia, pledges support**

<http://www.africanews.com/2017/11/12/us-appeals-against-withdrawal-of-au-troops-from-somalia-pledges-support/>

Ismail Akwei 12/11 - 16:54 Somalia

The United States has appealed against the downsizing of African Union troops in Somalia fearing escalation of extremist attacks.

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) announced last week that following a decision by the AU and UN Security Council to hand over security responsibilities to the Somali Army, a thousand soldiers will be withdrawn from the country by the end of 2017.

The U.S. State Department told East African regional news portal The EastAfrican that the decision calls for concern and they are ready to continue their support for the mission until the time the Somali forces can take over.

“We do not support further drawdown of forces beyond that level at this time, due to ongoing security concerns. The United States supports a conditions-based Amisom drawdown that is tied to the development of capable, professional Somali security forces,” said Wohlers Marion, Foreign Service Officer at the State Department.

We do not support further drawdown of forces beyond that level at this time, due to ongoing security concerns. The United States supports a conditions-based Amisom drawdown that is tied to the development of capable, professional Somali security forces.

AMISOM chief Francisco Madeiro had said that the withdrawal will be gradual and 500 police officers will be deployed to train and mentor the Somali Police who will enforce law and order in the country.

He called for timely support for the Somali Army as it fights the Islamist insurgency which has heightened its attacks in the country.

Somalian President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed sought support from neighbouring Uganda, Ethiopia and Djibouti to help launch an offensive against al Shabaab.

Uganda offered to send 5,000 extra troops to Somalia despite being the highest troop contributor to the country. Ethiopia and Djibouti had also made promises.

The withdrawal will see five countries reduce their troops by four per cent. Each of them will contribute to the 500 police officers needed to train the Somali Police Force.

Al Shabaab has killed thousands of civilians and soldiers through car and suicide bombings as it seeks to topple the western-backed government and impose its strict version of the Sharia law.

Its deadliest attack on October 14 killed at least 400 people when a truck carrying explosives was detonated at a busy junction in Mogadishu.

Somalia had appealed to the international community to lift the arms embargo imposed on it by the United Nations 25 years ago.

This has limited its soldiers from engaging in a swift offensive as they only carry light weapons to fight al Shabaab.

The jihadist group is still attacking as at least two bombings were recorded a week after the deadliest October 14 bomb blast.

AMISOM has 22,000 soldiers in Somalia. It is expected to fully withdraw by 2020.

### **US - President extends the national emergency with respect to Burundi**

Burundi, USA November 13 2017

<https://www.lexology.com/library/detail.aspx?g=716ea72e-9f15-4bbb-8a8f-cd8c3d529317>

On November 8, 2017, the Federal Register published Presidential Notice of November 6, 2017 – Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Burundi, which continues for an additional year the national emergency first declared in Executive Order (E.O.) 13712 (November 22, 2015) to deal with the unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States constituted by the situation in Burundi, which has been marked by the killing of and violence against civilians, unrest, the incitement of imminent violence, and significant political repression, and which threatens the peace, security, and stability of Burundi and the region. The national emergency is being extended because The situation in Burundi continues to pose an unusual and extraordinary threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

### **The U.S. Military In Africa: A Discreet Presence In Many Places**

October 20, 2017 3:11 PM ET [ <https://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2017/10/20/558757043/the-u-s-military-in-africa-a-discreet-presence-in-many-places> ]

A U.S. Army team transfers the remains of Staff Sgt. Dustin Wright, 29, of Lyons, Ga., at Dover Air Force Base, Del., on Oct. 5. Wright was one of four U.S. troops killed in an ambush in Niger. U.S. forces work with many African militaries. While the Americans are advising and assisting in most cases, they also travel into the field, where they can face combat.  
Staff Sgt. Aaron J. Jenne/U.S. Air Force via AP

When U.S. troops were ambushed in Niger on Oct. 4, the widespread reaction was surprise. The U.S. has military forces in Niger? What are they doing there?

Yet in many ways, the Niger operation typifies U.S. military missions underway in roughly 20 African countries, mostly in the northern third of the continent. They tend to be small, they are carried out largely below the radar, and most are focused on a specific aim: rolling back Islamist extremism.

In almost all of the missions, the Americans are there to advise, assist and train African militaries — and not to take part in combat. Still, those supporting roles can often take U.S. forces into the field with their African partners, as was the case in Niger.

"The missions are different, but obviously if they're out in a high-threat environment, they're going to be prepared for combat as a contingency," said Dan Hampton, a retired Army colonel at the Africa Center for Strategic Studies, a think tank sponsored by the Defense Department.

"It's hard to say it's not a combat mission when there's the potential for conflict and combat as they accompany these African troops," he added.

In Niger, about a dozen U.S. troops traveled with members of Niger's military to meet villagers in a remote southwest corner of the country, near the border with Mali. The entire contingent was ambushed as they were leaving. Four Americans were killed and two were wounded, and the Nigerien troops also suffered casualties.

The U.S. military established its Africa Command, AFRICOM, in 2007, in an effort to work more closely with African militaries that were often ill-equipped to deal with the emerging extremist threat.

While many African countries welcome the U.S. assistance, they aren't interested in a high-profile U.S. presence. AFRICOM headquarters has always been based in Stuttgart, Germany, and not in Africa.

"The focus of the U.S. military operations is basically 'African solutions for African problems,' " said John Campbell, who follows Africa for the Council on Foreign Relations. "What that means is developing the indigenous capacity to respond to security threats."

Then-President Barack Obama sent the U.S. forces to Niger in 2013, a time when extremists were on the rise in northwest Africa. Boko Haram was on the march in Nigeria, Niger's neighbor to the south. Radicals aligned with al-Qaida had taken over large parts of Mali, Niger's neighbor to the west.

Borders mean little in this region. The area has a long history as a trade and smuggling route that connects sub-Saharan Africa with North Africa and troubled countries like Libya — Niger's neighbor to the north.

U.S. Defense Secretary Jim Mattis said Thursday that the U.S. military has more than 1,000 personnel in the region, an apparent reference to an area that includes Niger as well as Mali and Nigeria.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack in Niger, though Mattis did refer to the Islamic State.

Mattis described the mission as "supporting the French-led and the African troops, in the campaign to throw ISIS and the terrorists, the radicals, those who foment instability and murder and mayhem, off their stride."

The U.S., he added, was largely helping with intelligence and surveillance. The U.S. reportedly has one drone base in Niger and is working on a second one.

This is only one region in Africa where the U.S. is active. Here are several other examples:

Uganda: The U.S. military launched a search in 2011 for rebel leader Joseph Kony, whose Lord's Resistance Army had terrorized Uganda and neighboring states for years. The U.S. efforts have help weaken the group. But Kony remains at large and the search has wound down.

Somalia: The American military charged into the East African nation in 1992 and helped end a famine but became entangled in the country's civil war. The U.S. is now working with the military in its fight against al-Shabab militants. A U.S. military plane landed in the capital, Mogadishu, on Monday to deliver medical supplies after a massive truck bomb that killed more than 300 people.

Djibouti: This tiny nation hosts the only permanent U.S. military base in Africa, though the Americans here tend to focus more on the turbulence in the nearby Persian Gulf.

Libya: The U.S. carried out a drone strike last month, part of a periodic campaign aimed at the Islamic State and other extremists in the war-ravaged country.

Greg Myre is a national security correspondent. Follow him @gregmyre1.

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## CHINA – AFRICA :

### Chinese firm helps install traffic lights across Bujumbura in Burundi

Source: Xinhua | 2017-11-06 07:29:24 | Editor: Mengjie [http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/06/c\\_136730274.htm](http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/06/c_136730274.htm)

#### BURUNDI-BUJUMBURA-CHINA-TRAFFIC LIGHTS

A pedestrian crosses a road in Bujumbura, capital of Burundi, on Nov. 5, 2017. Traffic lights in Burundi stopped functioning due to a lack of repair mechanism less than one year after being installed in 1999. Funded by the African Development Bank, STECOL Corporation, a Chinese firm focusing on engineering and construction works, started installing traffic lights at 19 street corners across Bujumbura in May. All of the traffic lights, made in China, have been put to use since August. (Xinhua/Evrard Ngendakumana)

### Ancient skull from China may rewrite the origins of our species

14 November 2017

<https://www.newscientist.com/article/2153242-ancient-skull-from-china-may-rewrite-the-origins-of-our-species/>

By Colin Barras

The origins of our species might need a rethink. An analysis of an ancient skull from China suggests it is eerily similar to the earliest known fossils of our species – found in Morocco, some 10,000 kilometres to the west. The skull hints that modern humans aren't solely descended from African ancestors, as is generally thought.

Most anthropologists believe, based on fossil evidence, that our species arose in Africa around 200,000 years ago. What's more, genetic studies of modern humans indicate that we are all descended from a single population that left Africa within the last 120,000 years and spread around the world. This African group is the source of all modern human genes, barring a few gained by interbreeding with other species like Neanderthals.

However, the Dali skull may not fit this story. Discovered in China's Shaanxi Province in 1978, it is remarkably complete, preserving both the face and the brain case. A study published in April concluded the skull is about 260,000 years old.

Dali skull

Sheela Athreya

When researchers first described the Dali skull in 1979, they assumed it belonged to *Homo erectus*. This hominin species arrived in South-East Asia 1.8 million years ago and probably disappeared from the region by about 140,000 years ago. That fits with the standard story.

But by 1981, Xinzhi Wu at the Chinese Academy of Sciences in Beijing had noticed that the Dali skull's face had many features in common with our species, *Homo sapiens*. This suggested that *H. erectus* in east Asia

## **China's three new economic challenges for the U.S.**

By Roselyn Hsueh November 13

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/11/13/chinas-three-new-economic-challenges-for-the-u-s/?utm\\_term=.9b737ecb1385](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/monkey-cage/wp/2017/11/13/chinas-three-new-economic-challenges-for-the-u-s/?utm_term=.9b737ecb1385)

President Trump and Chinese President Xi Jinping shake hands at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing, on Nov. 9, 2017. (Damir Sagolj/Reuters)

President Donald Trump is scheduled to attend the Nov. 13-14 East Asia Summit, the last stop on a lengthy Asia trip. This year's meeting brings together the leaders of 16 Asia-Pacific countries, the United States, Canada and Russia for a discussion of regional and global issues, including trade and security.

At the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation forum in Vietnam over the weekend, Trump told the leaders gathered that the United States will no longer enter into large trade pacts that cede U.S. sovereignty with weak trade laws. Chinese President Xi Jinping struck a different tone by calling globalization an "irreversible historical trend" and pledged to pursue a free-trade area in Asia.

[Four reasons Trump's Asia trip is so important]

At the summit, Trump will have to contend with a self-assured China, that now aspires to build on the internal consolidation of the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) by boosting China's external influence.

What new challenges does a stronger China pose to the United States? Here are three things to watch:

1) Xi is emboldened by China's strategic use of globalization.

Xi rolled out the red carpet for Trump last week and the two leaders seemed to have friendly discussions. At the CCP's 19th National Congress in October, however, Xi displayed his personal power and articulated China's vision of its "national rejuvenation."

[China's top leaders are meeting. What's at stake?]

Xi has strengthened the CCP's political and administrative authority, building up markets and the state. This builds on four decades of China's "reform and opening" and entrenchment of deliberate party-state control as part of the country's global economic integration strategy.

Before and after China's entry into the World Trade Organization in 2001, the "liberalization two-step" used foreign direct investment and limited state resources and state capacity to develop high-tech, value-added industries like telecommunications, automobiles and renewable energy. These strategic industries, which also have national security applications, have boosted competitiveness and transformed China into a would-be high-tech behemoth.

My research on China's telecom industry, for example, shows how China built a domestic communications sector from scratch by harnessing foreign investment. At the same time, reinforced state control and changes in bureaucratic organization, industrial structure and regulations nurtured favored equipment makers, such as ZTE and Huawei, and service providers such as Alibaba and China Mobile. These Chinese firms dominate the domestic market and Chinese smartphones are fast making inroads into global markets. But Beijing also kept tight supervision on how information was shared, and imposed strict Internet censorship.

[Can the Chinese government really control the Internet? We found cracks in the Great Firewall.]

Xi has continued to use markets and the party-state to guide strategic industries and issue areas. New party and state council groups on cybersecurity, oil and gas line security and the management of nongovernmental organizations (NGOs), for instance, guide those sectors.

As my book discusses, China has mixed ownership structures, which first upgraded the state-owned carriers in the late 1990s. Back then, the state courted private and foreign minority shareholders to invest, but later forced them to divest after the state had restructured the sector. Earlier this year, privately owned companies, including Alibaba and Tencent, were asked to purchase shares of state-owned telecommunications companies to help reform the sector further.

2) The new structure of China's economy tests the region.

But economic decision-making in many sectors in China is not centralized, I found in the course of my research. Local governments and firms can try to attract domestic and foreign investment in industries that fall outside of any national security or technology-related sensitivities. They do this through fiscal incentives and low-cost labor and production.

The state still has a big role to play, though: Xi's anti-corruption campaign and an extensive apparatus for maintaining social order aim to prevent social unrest, stop bureaucrats from lining their pockets — and tackle corruption, uneven development, industrial overexpansion and runaway pollution.

The Chinese economy no longer grows as it once did, at 10 to 12 percent a year. With Chinese-style capitalism still producing annual growth rates of over 6 percent, Xi does not have to worry too much about economic growth. China's manufacturing dominance has forced other economies in the region to restructure and search for new niches and markets, as well as accept large amounts of Chinese investment.

On Saturday, 11 Asia-Pacific economies announced a new trade deal, this time without the United States. The new Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP) is the successor to the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) — the U.S.-led attempt to limit Chinese influence and keep other Pacific Rim countries in the U.S. orbit. Like the original TPP, the CPTPP excludes China. As one of his first acts in office, Trump pulled the United States out of the TPP, which President Obama signed in 2016.

[Okay, the Trans-Pacific Partnership is dead. What was it?]

3) China's regional strategy will challenge U.S. leadership.

It's likely China will continue to build artificial islands and drill in gas fields in disputed waters of the East China and South China seas. These waterways are an important part of China's ambitious One Belt, One Road initiative to build up infrastructure networks and trade throughout Asia and beyond.

Indonesia and Thailand, for instance, are increasingly dependent on Chinese Belt/Road investments in railways, real estate and tourism. Last year the Philippines consented to bilateral talks with China and recently halted a construction project in the South China Sea.

Just before Trump's departure for Asia, China ended its dispute over South Korea's decision to deploy an antimissile system. China lifted its boycott of South Korean businesses and flight routes. South Korea also agreed not to accept additional launchers — or join a regional missile defense system with the United States and Japan.

China also is erecting international institutions that exclude the United States. These Chinese alternatives in global development finance (Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank and New Development Bank) and regional trade (Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership) promote China's economic and political dominance in the region.

The leaders of Asia had looked to Trump to sustain U.S. leadership in the region at a time of China's growing ambition and assertiveness. The Trump administration has expressed unwillingness to step in; however, the challenges brought forth by China remain.

Roselyn Hsueh is an associate professor of political science at Temple University and the author of "China's Regulatory State: A New Strategy for Globalization." A visiting scholar at the Perry World House of the University of Pennsylvania, she is working on a book project that compares the globalization and development of China, India and Russia. Follow her on Twitter @RoselynHsueh.

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## AFRICA - INDIA :

### Post-Doklam, India asserts itself in China's backyard

Kallol Bhattacharjee MANILA, November 14, 2017 23:19 IST Updated: November 15, 2017 01:26 IST Highlights convergence with Quad nations

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/post-doklam-india-asserts-itself-in-chinas-backyard/article20446029.ece>

Displaying convergence of interests with the new quadrilateral grouping with U.S., Japan and Australia, India on Tuesday reached out to China's backyard, addressing an array of issues ranging from the tension in the Korean peninsula to freedom of navigation and sought a crackdown on chemical weapons during the ASEAN and the East Asia summits. A high-level Indian official told The Hindu that New Delhi has emerged as a more dependable partner for South-East Asia following the Doklam faceoff with China, and indicated that the South-East Asian countries expect New Delhi to be assertive with Beijing. "The Doklam standoff was keenly observed by the countries in the SouthEast Asian region that have been absorbing the impact of China's assertiveness. But the outcome of the Doklam crisis has shown that India has reached a stage where it can be a resilient strategic and defence partner for them," said the official.

The explanation of India's post-Doklam international image acquires significance in view of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's one-on-one meeting with Premier Li Keqiang that was held on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit on Tuesday.

Following the meeting the MEA spokesperson took to social media to announce that the meeting signified, "two neighbours in deep conversation."

Elaborating on the counter-China angle, the high-level official said the Southeast Asian region had been facing uncertainties following the exit of President Barack Obama as he took visible interest in the region.

However, the latest visits by the leaders of the quadrilateral countries, including by the new U.S. President Donald Trump have once again assured support to these countries as they face China's commercial and military domination.

In this context, he said the fundamental change in India's foreign affairs is in its embrace of the big ticket issues of East Asia like the North Korean nuclear crisis as well.

"Prime Minister Narendra Modi shared concerns of DPRK's pursuit of missiles and nuclear weapons and called for complete verification and irreversible denuclearisation of the Korean peninsula. He also said that North Korea's proliferation links must be investigated and the parties who have supported these unlawful programmes must be made accountable," Preeti Saran, Secretary in charge of eastern ties in the Ministry of External Affairs said at a media briefing explaining India's position.

The issue of North Korea's has been mentioned in the press statement of the United States following first official level discussion of the 'Quad' held on 12 November here.

The anonymous Indian official said that taking up of North Korean threats was part of a new Indian set of concerns that also covers major global issues like terrorism by the Islamic State and its

capability to inflict mass casualties, and tensions in the South China Sea that concern the world as well as India.

“The North Korean nuclear missiles are not just problematic for the U.S., but for the entire world, including us, as Pyongyang’s missiles are capable of hitting targets in different parts of the world,” said the diplomat.

The situation in the South China Sea also featured in the statement of Prime Minister Modi in the ASEAN who asked for upholding of the ‘rules based regional security architecture’, an expression often described to refer to China’s opposition to adhere to the UN laws of the seas (UNCLOS).

The official source elaborated that India remains concerned about China’s manmade structures in the South China Sea that are likely to create navigational problems and international friction and said, “As of now there is a jockeying for power between the US and China that is going on in South China Sea but in future we anticipate that identification (of vessels or aircraft) can be raised by the other (Chinese) side,” he said.

India also pushed for a total ban on chemical weapons in the region and for an end to terrorist financing. “The biggest issue facing counter-terror efforts has been the inability of powerful countries to stop flow of funds to the terror groups,” said the diplomat elaborating that the agreements on terror financing, chemical weapons and de-radicalisation adopted at the East Asia Summit will help the region cope with the threat of terrorism effectively in future.

### **India to become world’s third-largest economy by 2028**

Published time: 14 Nov, 2017 13:10 <https://www.rt.com/business/409826-india-third-largest-economy/>

According to the report, the country has already overtaken Brazil and Russia becoming the second biggest BRICS economy after China. It is also projected to pass France and the UK as the world's fifth largest economy behind Germany by 2019.

“We see India crossing Germany and Japan in nominal GDP in dollar terms by 2028. This assumes the Indian economy grows at ten percent (in nominal US GDP) in the next decade, well ahead of Japan's 1.6 percent,” said the report.

It has outlined three key drivers which will help India stand among the large emerging economies. Those are falling dependency ratios, financial maturity, as well as increasing incomes and affordability.

It would be difficult for India to “replicate South Korea’s export-driven industrialization as its dependence on oil imports implies Delhi cannot depreciate its currency,” said the report.

It added that services have “climbed by ten percent to almost 70 percent of world GDP in the past 20 years. Not surprisingly, they have emerged as a key driver of India's growth as well.”

A recent report by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has also projected India's outstanding growth. It said the country will overtake Germany in 2022 as the world's fourth-largest economy and will push its former colonial ruler UK out of the five top economies this year.

The IMF Managing Director Christine Lagarde said there was much potential, calling India a “bright spot.”

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## **AFRICA - EUROPA :**

### **European Union extends sanctions against Burundi for one year**

<http://www.coastweek.com/4043-European-Union-extends-sanctions-against-Burundi-for-one-year.htm>

BUJUMBURA, (Xinhua) -- The European Union (EU) on Monday decided to renew sanctions against Burundi until Oct. 31, 2018, the EU embassy in Burundi said in a press release.

According to the press release, lack of progress on the situation in Burundi explains the “renewal of sanctions” against Burundi for another year.

“There are still extrajudicial killings, arbitrary arrests and forced disappearance,” said the press release.

In October 2015, the EU imposed sanctions against four Burundian police officers for their alleged participation in the repression of protests against the east African country’s President Pierre Nkurunziza’s third term bid in April 2015.

The EU sanctions against the four Burundian security officials include a ban on entry visas on the European territory and freezing their assets.

Later in March 2016, the EU decided to cancel direct aid to the east African nation, arguing that the Burundian government had failed to properly address human rights abuses, a democratization process and a rule of law.

Burundi plunged into a crisis in April 2015 when Burundian President Pierre Nkurunziza decided to run his controversial third term bid, which he won in July 2015. His candidature, which was opposed by the opposition and civil society groups, resulted in a wave of protests, violence and even a failed coup on May 13, 2015.

### **EU countries agree to create a European mega-army**

Robin Emmott, Reuters

<http://uk.businessinsider.com/eu-countries-agree-mega-army-2017-11?r=US&IR=T>

European Union foreign and defence ministers attend a signature ceremony of a defence pact, aiming to mark a new era of European military integration to cement unity after Britain's decision to quit the bloc, in Brussels, Belgium, November 13, 2017. REUTERS/Emmanuel Dunand/Pool

BRUSSELS (Reuters) - France and Germany edged toward achieving a 70-year-old ambition to integrate European defenses on Monday, signing a pact with 21 other EU governments to fund, develop and deploy armed forces after Britain’s decision to quit the bloc.

First proposed in the 1950s and long resisted by Britain, European defense planning, operations and weapons development now stands its best chance in years as London steps aside and the United States pushes Europe to pay more for its security.

Foreign and defense ministers gathered at a signing ceremony in Brussels to represent 23 EU governments joining the pact, paving the way for EU leaders to sign it in December.

Those governments will for the first time legally bind themselves into joint projects as well as pledging to increase defense spending and contribute to rapid deployments.

“Today we are taking a historic step,” Germany’s Foreign Minister Sigmar Gabriel told reporters.

“We are agreeing on the future cooperation on security and defense issues ... it’s really a milestone in European development,” he said.

The pact includes all EU governments except Britain, which is leaving the bloc, Denmark, which has opted out of defense matters, Ireland, Portugal and Malta. Traditionally neutral Austria was a late addition to the pact.

Paris originally wanted a vanguard of EU countries to bring money and assets to French-led military missions and projects, while Berlin has sought to be more inclusive, which could reduce effectiveness.

Its backers say that if successful, the formal club of 23 members will give the European Union a more coherent role in tackling international crises and end the kind of shortcomings seen in Libya in 2011, when European allies relied on the United States for air power and munitions.

Unlike past attempts, the U.S.-led NATO alliance backs the project, aiming to benefit from stronger militaries.

The club will be backed by a 5-billion-euro defense fund for buying weapons, a special fund to finance operations and money from the EU’s common budget for defense research.

Members will also be required to submit national plans and be subject to a review system identifying weak spots in European armies with the goal of plugging those gaps together.

Many governments say Russia’s seizure of Ukraine’s Crimea in 2014 was a turning point, after years of defense spending cuts that left Europe without vital capabilities.

“This is a commitment for countries to do better together,” French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian said. “It comes at a time of significant tension,” he said, referring indirectly to Russia’s rising military reach and Islamic militants who have attacked European cities.