

AFRICA: 8 FEVRIER 2018 : (S.E. Magufuli, Président de la Tanzanie, ouvre officiellement une nouvelle école militaire chinoise dans la Région des Grands Lacs Africains, appelé Chinese-funded Comprehensive Training Centre CTC, mardi 6 Février 2018 en présence de l'Amb. de Chine Wang Ke)



Tanzania's President John Magufuli officially opened a new Chinese-funded Comprehensive Training Centre (CTC) on 6 February in a ceremony attended by Chinese ambassador Wang Ke. President John Magufuli poses with commandos during the opening of the new Chinese-built Comprehensive Training Centre on 6 February. (Office of the President (Tanzania))President John Magufuli poses with commandos during the opening of the new Chinese-built Comprehensive Training Centre on 6 February. (Office of the President (Tanzania))

LIRE LA SUITE : AFRICA: 8 FEVRIER 2018 : (Tanzania opens Chinese-built military training centre) [<http://burundi-agnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/02/bur08022018.pdf>]

Burundi :

Burundi Denies China has Spied on the African Union

<http://www.plenglish.com/index.php?o=rm&id=24341&SEO=burundi-denies-china-has-spied-on-the-african-union>

Bujumbura, Feb 7 (Prensa Latina) Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza has denied China has spied on the African Union (AU) in recent years. Nkurunziza dismissed as unfounded a recent report by the French newspaper Le Monde, in which it accuses the Asian nation of putting illegal microphones at the office building it had built and donated to the AU in 2012, and downloaded data from the servers.

According to the Burundian leader, the report was invented to create divisions shortly before the 30th summit of the AU, held late in January.

During a press conference at the end of the conclave, the head of the AU Commission, Moussa Faki, assured that he did not find any sign that the building was targeted for espionage.

In an interview with Chinese media, the president of Burundi said that the development of a report like this seeks to create a gap between Africa and China at a time when the Asian country remains an irreplaceable partner of the pan-African organization.

Nkurunziza pointed out that this is not the first time that certain Western media have tried to create divisions between countries and sow hatred.

China and Africa are friends who work together. Both sides have a relationship characterized by mutual respect and the spirit of reciprocal benefit, added the head of state. mh/abo/mem/lp/gdc

Bujumbura remet 34 miliciens congolais à l'armée régulière de la RDC

02 février 2018 VOA Afrique

<https://www.voafrique.com/a/bujumbura-remet-34-miliciens-a-l-armee-reguliere-de-la-rdc/4236617.html>

Ces miliciens appartiennent au groupe Yakutumba, du nom d'un ex-officier de l'armée congolaise en conflit avec l'armée régulière dans la province du Sud-Kivu.

Trente-quatre miliciens congolais membres d'un groupe armé rebelle ont été remis mercredi par le Burundi à la République démocratique du Congo, selon une source militaire congolaise.

Une trentaine de ces miliciens avaient traversé le lac Tanganyika vers Rumonge au Burundi alors que l'armée congolaise menait des opérations dans la région de Fizi côté, avait indiqué jeudi la police burundaise.

"Trente-quatre miliciens qui se sont rendus aux forces de sécurité burundaises au niveau de Rumonge ont été extradés mercredi de cette région et sont actuellement entre les mains de l'armée

congolaise à un endroit gardé secret", a indiqué à un correspondant de l'AFP le porte-parole adjoint de l'armée dans le Sud-Kivu, le capitaine Dieudonné Kasereka.

Parmi les 34 miliciens figurent "un capitaine qui commandait la force marine de Yakutumba et un lieutenant de l'armée congolaise qui a rejoint Yakutumba en novembre dernier", a ajouté le porte-parole.

Les miliciens sont "arrivés sur le sol congolais via la province de Cibitoke frontalière de la RDC", selon un autre officier.

Ils ont été remis aux autorités congolaises par le Service national de renseignement burundais (SNR), a-t-on précisé côté burundais.

"Seuls quatre rebelles blessés sont restés au Burundi où ils sont soignés dans un hôpital", a précisé la source burundaise sous couvert d'anonymat.

Bujumbura et Kinshasa collaborent très activement en matière de sécurité à leur frontière, alors que plusieurs groupes armés burundais sont aussi signalés dans la province congolaise du Sud Kivu.

Officiellement, les deux armées mènent des opérations coordonnées de part et d'autre de la frontière. Mais des incursions de l'armée burundaise en RDC ont déjà été signalés à plusieurs reprises. Avec AFP

Burundi : Terres Rares et Or – Plus 18% de recettes en 2017

<http://burundi-agnews.org/economie/burundi-terres-rares-et-or-plus-18-de-recettes-en-2017/>

POLITIQUE, ECONOMIE – Les exploitations minières de terres rares à Bujumbura et de l'or à Cibitoke ont permis une augmentation de recettes de 18% en 2017.

A Kayanza, ce dimanche 31 décembre 2017, S.E. NKURUNZIZA Pierre, le très populaire Président africain du Burundi [<http://burundi-agnews.org/tdc/> ; <http://burundi-agnews.org/inaugurations/>], lors du message à la Nation pour la nouvelle année 2018, a informé que, économiquement, en 2017, l'ETAT a débuté l'exploitation des minerais de terres rares à Bujumbura et de l'or à Cibitoke; d'où un renforcement d'une politique de lutte contre la vente illicite et frauduleuse des minerais.

Le Burundi a récolté, en 2017, avec l'Office Burundais des Recettes (OBR), près de 757 Milliards BIF, soit une augmentation de 18% par rapport à 2016. L'Etat compte acquérir un équilibre budgétaire entre 2019 et 2020.

Ces dernières années, la classe de PRODUCTION des Burundi, appelée HUTU, est plus PRODUCTIVE. Le niveau d'ENTROPIE (LE DESORDRE, causé par le HIMA) a baissé, permettant au SYSTEME plus ORDONNE de jouir d'une PRODUCTION PLUS IMPORTANTE, d'où des RECETTES en augmentation constante...

DAM, NY, AGNEWS, le lundi 1 janvier 2018

Burundi / France : La Murundikasi MFAYOKURERA Karine alias Karine Le Marchand

DIASPORA, FRANCE – L'animatrice burundo-française – Karine Le Marchand – donne son vrai nom burundais – Mme MFAYOKURERA Karine

A Paris, ce mardi 6 février 2018, l'animatrice Mme – Karine Le Marchand – a informé, sur le plateau de Touche pas à mon poste, de l'animateur français Cyril Hanouna que – Karine Le

Marchand – était son nom “d’artiste”. Car, son vrai nom, dont elle est fière, est Mme MFAYOKURERA Karine puisque son père est natif du Burundi.

Mme MFAYOKURERA Karine explique : “Moi je voulais garder mon nom, je trouvais ça cool, mais le directeur des programmes, avant que l’émission ne commence en direct, a dit c’est trop compliqué, donc j’ai pris le nom de mon ex amoureux”.

Au Burundi, Mme MFAYOKURERA n’a pas vécu longtemps avec son père, un pilier dans sa vie qu’elle n’a pas vraiment eu le temps de connaître…

DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org> , le mardi 6 février 2018

Burundi : Plus de 215.000 réfugiés Burundais rapatriés depuis 2016, Amb.SHINGIRO, ONU DIPLOMATIE, ONU, HUMANITAIRE – L’Ambassadeur SHINGIRO Albert : Plus de 215.000 réfugiés Burundais ont été rapatriés sur une base volontaire depuis 2016, certains avec l’assistance du HCR et d’autres par leur propre moyen.

A New York, aux Nations Unies, ce lundi 29 janvier 2018, l’Ambassadeur SHINGIRO Albert, Représentant Permanent du Burundi auprès des Nations Unies, à l’occasion de la réunion de la configuration-Burundi de la Commission de Consolidation de la paix, a informé, dans son discours, que, “En ce qui concerne le retour des réfugiés qui ont fui le pays en 2015, le Gouvernement du Burundi ne cesse de demander aux réfugiés de rentrer pour contribuer à l’édification d’un Burundi paisible, stable et prospère. Je rappelle que le 7ème Sommet des Chefs d’Etat de la Conférence internationale sur la Région des Grands Lacs qui s’est tenu au mois d’octobre l’an dernier à Brazzaville en République du Congo, a lancé un appel vibrant aux pays de la région qui ont accueilli les réfugiés burundais de faciliter leur retour volontaire au pays natal. Pour ceux qui, pour l’une ou l’autre raison, ne souhaiteraient pas retourner au pays, le Sommet a exhorté les pays d’accueil de les réinstaller loin des frontières communes conformément à la Convention de 1951 sur le statut des réfugiés. Il serait aussi extrêmement important que les pays hôtes qui ont accueilli généreusement les réfugiés burundais respectent le caractère civil des camps des réfugiés conformément aux prescrits de la même convention. Le paragraphe opérationnel 18 de la résolution 2389 (2017) du 8 décembre 2017 du Conseil de Sécurité abonde dans le même sens en rappelant aux Etats de la région les obligations qu’ils ont contractées au titre de la Convention de 1951 relative au Statut des réfugiés. Au paragraphe 6 de cette résolution, le Conseil de Sécurité demande à tous les Etats signataires de l’accord-cadre pour la paix, la sécurité et la coopération pour la RDC et la région de redoubler d’efforts pour honorer pleinement et rapidement leurs engagements, en toute bonne foi, notamment ceux consistant à s’abstenir de toute ingérence dans les affaires intérieures des pays voisins, à ne pas tolérer de groupes armés ni à leur fournir une assistance ou un appui de quelque nature que ce soit et à ne pas héberger de criminels de guerre qui ont fui leur pays d’origine.

Aujourd’hui, grâce au retour de la paix et la sécurité, le mouvement de rapatriement volontaire continue à un rythme satisfaisant avec l’arrivée de plusieurs milliers de citoyens qui s’étaient réfugiés en Tanzanie. Plus de 000 Burundais se sont rapatriés eux-mêmes en 2016, plus de 68.000 jusqu’au 15 août 2017. Et plus 7.549 rapatriés officiellement après la réunion tripartite du 29 au 31 août 2017. Selon le planning de cette tripartite, au moins 13.000 burundais ont été rapatriés officiellement en provenance des pays limitrophes du Burundi au 31 décembre 2017 dépassant ainsi les 12.000 qui étaient attendus à cette date. De 2016 à la date d’aujourd’hui, plus de 215.000 Burundais sont déjà de retour au pays sur une base volontaire, certains avec l’assistance du HCR et d’autres qui regagnent directement leurs familles. Et pour 2018, le Burundi attend plus de 60.000 rapatriés en provenance de Tanzanie principalement. D’où la pertinence de tenir une réunion

tripartite Burundi-HCR-Tanzanie au cours de ce premier trimestre pour une bonne préparation et coordination“.

Le Burundi, ancien Royaume millénaire Africain —http://burundi-agnews.org/histoire_du_burundi.htm — est en paix depuis 2005 et a réussi à organiser 3 élections démocratiques consécutives (2005 ; 2010 ; et 2015).

DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org> , jeudi 1 février 2018

Burundi : Le Mwene Mwezi ou Empire CWEZI des Barundi.

<http://burundi-agnews.org/sports-and-games/burundi-le-mwene-mwezi-ou-empire-cwezi-des-barundi/>

HISTOIRE , AFRIQUE, GRANDS LACS AFRICAINS, BURUNDI – La gestion d’un EMPIRE dans les Grands Lacs Africains par les BARUNDI au 16ème siècle.

A Bujumbura, ce mercredi 7 février 2018, AGNEWS revient sur le MWENE MWEZI, cet Empire régional d’Afrique de l’Est, aujourd’hui disparu, mais ressuscité récemment à travers l’East African Community (EAC).

1. Pour bien comprendre cet empire MWENE MWEZI ou CWEZI des BARUNDI, il faut impérativement faire un plongeon dans ce qu’était cette Afrique autrefois ...

Historiquement les institutions africaines depuis 350.000 avant notre ère [1] au 16ème siècle, ont évolué.

L’Afrique était arrivée à mettre en place des INSTITUTIONS jusqu’à l’UNIVERS, chez le CREATEUR DE L’UNIVERS.

La preuve se trouve dans ce que l’on appelle – Les Textes des Pyramides – d’Egypte , documents (Papyrus) écrits en -MEDU NETER- ou Hiéroglyphes, datant de 2.700 avant notre ère. Les Textes des Pyramides sont appelés par les Africains – La Bible des Noirs ou Livre de la Résurrection – et par les Occidentaux – Le Livre des Morts -.

Les Législateurs Africains, de la Corporation des Savants Chercheurs Africains -, -UNIVERSISTES-[2], maîtrisaient les 7 principes fondamentaux de l’UNIVERS : 1/ (Mentalisme) Tout est Mental (Esprit) – L’UNIVERS est Mental. ; 2/(Correspondance / Fractale – Invariance par dilatation – chacune de leurs parties reproduit leur totalité) Tout ce qui est en bas sur terre et au sous sol, et en haut dans l’Univers. Tout ce qui est en haut dans l’Univers est en bas sur Terre et au sous sol ; 3/ (la Polarité) Tout a 2 pôles. Mal/Bien ou Positif/Négatif ou Ordre/Désordre etc.; 4/ (La vibration) Tout bouge. Tout est une masse en mouvement. L’UNIVERS est en mouvement, en expansion- ; 5/ (Le Rythme) Tout a un Rythme. Tout a une pendule. Il y a un début, un fin ; 6/ (La causalité) tout a une cause .Toute cause a un effet et tout effet à une cause. 7/ (Le Genre) Féminin/Masculin. Tout a un Genre. Comprenant tout cela, la loi d’attraction est transversale à ces 7 principes. Le Culte des anciens était une pratique quotidienne et courante chez les Peuples Noirs. Ainsi ces SAVANTS-CHERCHEURS Africains et législateurs, depuis ces périodes très avancées, vers le 15 siècle avant notre ère, dans les Grands Lacs Africains, on arrive à mettre en place un Chef de l’UNIVERS – IMANA / ZAMBI / NZAMBI / ZAMA ... -, avec un Conseil de l’UNIVERS. C’était le début du – MONOTHEÏSME –.

Ces Peuples Noirs installe sur toute la TERRE, avec un chef de la TERRE [3]. La trace la plus probable à cela, ce sont les PYRAMIDES que l’on retrouve à travers le monde (Afrique, Amérique, Asie, Europe) qui se situaient là où un membre du – Conseil de la TERRE – résidait. Le Chef de la TERRE était un Africain (Peuple noir).

Bref, pour mettre en place des Royaumes (INGOMA) cela était devenue un jeu d’enfant, par exemple vers 3.200 avant notre ère, le Royaume de Kemet en Egypte. Et faire un EMPIRE, c’est la

même chose, la science étaient connue. Les peuples noirs d'Afrique peuvent montrer le modèle de l'Empire d'Akat (2.900 avant notre ère).

Ces Savants Chercheurs africains partis de GRANDS LACS africains pour un voyage à travers le monde en remontant le NIL, ils faisaient aussi des vas et viens.

2 grands événements tragiques vont se produire chez les Africains : 1/ l'invasion de l'Égypte par les Blancs vers 600 avant notre ère ; 2/ l'expansion de l'Islam à partir de 800 après notre ère. Ces 2 événements vont : 1/ Pousser des mouvements de population vers le Sud du Continent, donc les Grands Lacs Africains [<http://burundi-agnews.org/sports-and-games/burundi-histoire-ulundi-le-burundi-dafrique-du-sud/>]; et 2/ Faire régresser les institutions africaines qui étaient arrivées à fonctionner à des dimensions TERRESTRES (avec un Conseil de la TERRE, et un Chef de la TERRE) et UNIVERSELLES (avec un Conseil de l'UNIVERS, et un Chef de l'UNIVERS : IMANA).

2. Au 15ème siècle, l'Afrique est IMPERIALE. C'est à dire elle est organisée en EMPIRE.

Le Burundi au 15ème siècle, INGOMA Y'UBURUNDI gère l'EMPIRE MWENE MWEZI [<http://burundi-agnews.org/eac/burundi-au-15eme-siecle-ingoma-yuburundi-gere-lempire-mwene-mwezi/>], connu dans la région des Grands Lacs Africains , comme l'EMPIRE CWEZI (qui deviendra vers le 18ème siècle EMPIRE KITARA).

D'après les Portugais, confirmée par les Arabes qui leur servaient de guide, le chef de toute cette région était sans aucun doute : MUGI, qui est MWEZI prononcé en Portugais. Les seuls législateurs dans la Région des Grands Lac Africains qui appelaient – MWEZI – , leur MWAMI (Chef), étaient les législateurs BARUNDI, d'INGOMA Y'UBURUNDI (du ROYAUME) du BURUNDI.

Cela signifie ainsi que MWEZI (Le Murundi) était l'EMPEREUR (le CHEF) de l'EMPIRE CWEZI.

En Afrique, pour être CHEF d'un TERRITOIRE il faut que le CONSEIL DE CE TERRITOIRE, composé des Représentants des COMMUNAUTES MAJORITAIRES, occupant les plus grandes superficies sur ce TERRITOIRE, élite l'EMPEREUR, qui est le Représentant de la COMMUNAUTE occupant la plus grande superficie sur cet EMPIRE.

Le Burundi, à cette période du 15ème siècle, est immense, notamment grâce à l'expansion qu'en ont donné les BALENGE depuis -1.200 avant notre ère (clan LUBA, originaire du NIGER / NIGERIA / SOUDAN – TCHAD venu jusqu'en ANGOLA et installés au CONGO dans la Région des Grands Lacs, disposant de HUTU forgerons – de la Corporation de Production des Barundi HUTU – , réalisant des armes guerrières redoutables. Le Burundi aura son titre de – Royaume des seigneurs de la lance – (Cfr. NTIBAZONKIZA Raphaël, historien des Barundi) . Mais aussi et surtout, grâce aux LEGISLATEURS BARUNDI, de la Corporation des SAVANTS CHERCHEURS BARUNDI – Abapfumu / Abatwa , de la trempe de la DYNASTIE DES BAHANUZI – BAJIJI – comme BAKEBA, MITIMIGANBA, et SHAKA. CES LEGISLATEURS BARUNDI appartenaient à 3 grandes ECOLES D'INITIATIVES AFRICAINS – celle des LEOPARDS, des LIONS, et des ELEPHANTS [<http://burundi-agnews.org/societe/burundi-rencontre-du-lion-du-leopard-et-de-lelephant/>], seules capables d'HARMONISER L'ORDRE (UNIVERSELLE) ET LE DESORDRE (UNIVERSELLE), appelé HIMA chez les BARUNDI.

Lors des migrations BACK TO AFRICA (différentes des migrations OUT OF AFRICA à partir de 100.000 avant notre ère des HOMO Sapiens Sapiens), les Peuples Noirs Africains s'enfonçaient dans ce que les OCCIDENTAUX appelés autrefois l'ETHIOPIE INTERIEUR (L'AFRIQUE DES GRANDS LACS AFRICAINS, Berceau de l'Humanité)-, où en suivant le cours du NIL notamment, jusqu'à sa source. Parce que, à sa source la plus méridionale, on trouvait -les Premiers Habitants Terrestres- : Les BAHANZA, nom du clan majoritaire du Burundi d'aujourd'hui et occupant un grand territoire à l'Ouest de la TANZANIE. Ainsi, à leur 1ère DEMEURE, l'être HUMAIN – Le MUNTU (BANTU au pluriel) était rassuré, d'être où tout avait commencé. Cette SOURCE DU NIL burundaise était une SORTE DE MECQUE, DE JERUSALEM, bref un lieu SAINT pour les PEUPLES NOIRS ou L'HUMANITE.

Aujourd'hui on a encore les limites de ce Grand Royaume millénaire Africain -INGOMA Y'UBURUNDI-, il suffit de parcourir l'Afrique avec quelques marqueurs de ces LEGISLATEURS BARUNDI, tels INGOMA (un délimiteur ou pôle du Royaume BARUNDI à un instant t, selon les Vibrations), CWEZI (nom territorial IMPERIAL BARUNDI), ou BURUNDI (Espace, Territoire BARUNDI), NTARE (la roche primordiale ou atome), MWEZI (La Lune), KIRANGA (nom territorial TERRESTE BARUNDI) etc.

(Le Zululand, Afrique du Sud. Images: Google, Yahoo 2018)

On a KIGOMA en Tanzanie, GOMA en RDC Congo, NONOGOMA en Afrique du Sud, ULUNDI en Afrique du Sud, CWEZI en Afrique du Sud, CWEZI en Ouganda, NYAMWEZI en Tanzanie etc. On retrouve au niveau continental africain des Tambours au Ghana, au niveau Asiatique en Chine et au Japon, ...

Selon les Portugais, l'Empereur MWENE MWEZI régnait sur un empire puissant qui s'étendait jusqu'aux frontières du MONOMOTAPA (LE GRAND ZIMBABWE), de l'ABYSSINIE, comprenant la Région des Grands lacs Africain, et la côte orientale (actuellement (Kenya) Mombassa et Tanzanie (Dar Es Salaam), le Malawi et le nord de la Mozambique)[2]. Cet Empire MWENE MWEZI comprenait l'actuel EAST AFRICAN COMMUNITY (EAC), dont le RWANDA, le BURUNDI, l'OUGANDA, le SUD SOUDAN, le KENYA, la TANZANIE. A cela, il fallait ajouter le MALAWIE et le NORD DE LA MOZAMBIQUE.

Jusqu'au 17ème siècle, résistant aux vagues d'islamisation, et d'Esclavage, le Burundi sera toujours le plus grand Royaume de la Région des Grands Lacs.

3. Comment est que ces législateurs Barundi ont géré cette Empire ?

Les institutions d'Ingoma y'Uburundi étaient organisées en appliquant les principes fondamentaux de l'Univers, notamment -La Polarité-. Les institutions étaient bicéphales. Concernant le MWAMI, par exemple, pendant cette période dynastique des Baganwa Barundi, instaurée par le CONSEIL D'INGOMA Y'ABARUNDI composé par les représentants de l'ALLIANCE BAHANZA-BAJIJI-BASHUBI, il y avait le MWAMI (Roi) du JOUR -LE VISIBLE- et le MWAMI de la NUIT -L' INVISIBLE-[4].

A l'arrivée des Portugais, accompagnés des Arabes, au 16ème siècle, lorsque ces derniers cherchaient à contrôler la Région Des Grands Lacs Africain, en éliminant le chef de la Région. Ce chef, à cette période, était MWEZI, le MWAMI INVISIBLE des BARUNDI, qui était EMPEREUR de l'EMPIRE MWENE MWEZI ou EMPIRE CWEZI.

4. Pour terminer, voici des sources OCCIDENTALES daté qui décrivent le Mwene Mwezi des Barundi ...

L'EMPIRE MWENE MWEZI - "Du Royaume du Monoemugi ou de Nimeamaye" (Graumkeiten der Schwarzen im südl. Afrika). Dessin : Olfert Dapper Date : 1686

2-V40-A1-1686-22 (127397) 'Du Royaume du Monoemugi ou de Nimeamaye' Völkerkunde / Schwarzafrika:

– 'Du Royaume du Monoemugi ou de Nimeamaye' (Graumkeiten der Schwarzen im südl. Afrika).

– Kupferstich, unbez.; aus: Olfert Dapper,

Description de l'Afrique, Traduite du Flamand, Amsterdam (Wolfgang, Waesberge, Boom & van Someren) 1686, S.394.

-120 : (120 av. notre ère) – Ptolémée (Claude), astronome et astrologue grec, vivant à Alexandrie (Égypte) parle déjà des « Selênês Oros » ou « Lune Montagne». Cette région d'Afrique est déjà connu par les Egyptiens.

1527 : Hassan al-Wazzan, dit Léon l'Africain ou Jean-Léon de Médicis, explorateur nord africain, est celui qui donnera l'idée d'exploration de cette région des Grands Lacs aux Portugais. À la demande du pape -Léon 10 ou Léon X -, Léon l'Africain écrit – Cosmographia de Affrica – , publiée à Venise sous le titre Description de l'Afrique. Cet ouvrage de référence (cfr. Bibliothèque nationale centrale de Rome), informe sur l'Afrique militaire et sociale (mœurs, us et coutumes) au XVIe siècle.

1578 : Le Portugais Edouard (Duarte) Lopez s'en va explorer les Grands Lacs Africains, et y découvre – Royaume MONEMUGI –

1590 : Le Portugais Duarte Lopez, venant de passer 10 ans, dans les Grands Lacs africains, raconte son voyage et ses rencontres dans le – Royaume MONEMUGI –, à l'évêque Antonio Migliore et à l'italien Philipo Pigafetta, qui rédige son histoire.

1592 : Giovanni Botero, contemporain à Pigafetta, dans son ouvrage, dit ceci : « ce prince (Monemugi) fut découvert par les Portugais, probablement durant les guerres qu'ils engagèrent si malencontreusement contre le Monomotapa » Cfr. Delle Relazioni Universali, 1ère partie, p. 146.

1598 : Les Frères de Bry écrivent en latin le voyage du Portugais Edouard (Duarte) Lopez en Afrique en 1578. Le Français M. David Léon Cahun, un orientaliste, en 1884 traduit le livre en français est publié dans – Le Congo, la Véridique Description du Royaume Africain -. Le peuple du Moénémugi fait le trafic avec le Congo d'une part, et avec Mombasa et Mozambique de l'autre : « Outre ces trois royaumes côtiers de Chiloa, de Melinde et de Mombaza, quand on entre dans l'intérieur vers l'ouest, on trouve le grand royaume de Monemugi qui, vers le sud, sert de limite aux royaumes de Mozambique et de Monomotapa, vers l'Occident s'arrête entre les deux lacs du Nil et, vers le Nord, va jusqu'aux confins de l'empire du Prêtre Jean (L'Abyssinie) ».

1614 : Le Jésuite français de Toulouse, Pierre de Jarric écrit : pais de la découverte des Portugais. A la page 156, livre 2d, reprenant Pigafetta : « L'empereur de Monemuge est amy des Roys qui tiennent la côte maritime, à cause du commerce dont il tire aussi beaucoup de profit ».

1654 : M. Charles Chaulmer ou sieur Chaulmer écrit le – Le tableau de l'Afrique – où il représente les royaumes africains. Un chapitre est intitulé page 286 : « De l'Empire de Monoemugi ». Voici un extrait : « On l'appelle encore Monemagi et l'on lui donne pour limites vers le septentrion les pais qui relèvent du grand Négus des Abyssins, vers le midi, Monomotapa et Mozambique ; à l'orient Mombaze et Quiloa ... ».

1686 : M. Olfert Dapper, géographe hollandais, écrit – Description de l'Afrique – où il dit à la page 359 : « A l'est et au sud-est de Macoco il y a un autre royaume qu'on (appelle) Monoemugi ou Nimeamaye. On dit qu'il s'étend jusqu'aux confins de Mombase, de Quiloe, de Soffale et de Mosambique ». <https://www.akg-images.com/archive/Du-Royaume-du-Monoemugi-ou-de-Nimeamaye-2UMDHUH42EY2.html>

1845 : M. William Desborough explique dans – The Geography of N'yassi – à la page 211 et 212 : « Deux siècles et demi ont passé depuis que l'Europe a connu l'existence de l'empire de Monomoezi ; cependant notre connaissance de ce pays ne s'est pas accrue durant ce temps, mais son nom même a sombré dans l'obscurité. On suppose que ce puissant empire occupait le vaste espace compris entre le Monomotapa, l'Abyssinie, le grand lac (ou les lacs, suivant les théories de l'époque), et la côte orientale ; qu'il était continuellement en guerre avec ses voisins de l'intérieur, mais maintenait la paix avec les états côtiers pour les besoins de son commerce... Le nom Monomoezi, ou, peut-être, comme il devrait être écrit : M'wana M'wézi, est une dénomination politique, M'wana impliquant la souveraineté. Du Congo à Zanzibar, ce mot prend diverses formes : Mani, Mueni, Mwana et Buana, ce dernier signifiant « maître » en swahili. Cependant la signification primitive du mot, qui est toujours préfixé au nom du pays donnant le titre, est probablement très différente. Les géographes du dix-septième siècle prirent soin de souligner le fait que l'empire de Monomoezi se trouve immédiatement autour des Montagnes-de-la-Lune. Ils se seraient réjouis s'ils avaient su que moezi, signifie, en swahili et mucaranga, « la lune » — en Bunda, riégi ou moégi. »

M. William Desborough a discuté avec les indigènes et les Arabes les plus instruits, selon eux le pays s'appelait autrefois Oukalaganza (1). Il eut pour monarque un prince du nom de Mouézi, qui fut le plus grand de tous ceux qui l'ont gouverné et de tous les chefs qui, à la même époque, régnaient sur les peuplades

voisines. Pas un de ses ennemis qui pût lui résister à la guerre, pas un roi qui ait jamais eu autant de sagesse. Quand il mourut, l'empire, dont il était l'unique souverain, s'étendait depuis l'Ouhyanzi jusqu'à l'Ouvinza. Ses fils se disputèrent le pouvoir et chacun d'eux, arrachant un lambeau du royaume, s'en fit un domaine qui, avec le temps, prit le nom de son nouveau chef. Toutefois, la partie centrale de l'Oukalaganza, plus considérable que les districts perdus, resta entre les mains de l'héritier légitime ; ceux qui l'habitaient furent dès lors désignés sous le nom d'« Enfants de Mouézi

», et leur province fut appelée Ounyamouézi, de même que tous les territoires détachés se nommaient pays de Konongo, de Sagazi, de Simbiri, etc... A l'appui de cette tradition, que a racontée le vieux chef de Masange, à M. William Desborough. Ce dernier rappelle que le souverain actuel de l'Ouroundi porte de nom de Mouézi, et qu'en Afrique, la majeure partie des villages sont désignés par des noms de chefs. M. William Desborough ne traduisait plus – Terre de la Lune – mais bien – Ounyamouézi – la terre de Mouézi ».

1856 : M. Richard Francis Burton, orientaliste Britannique, qui a mené l'expédition de la Société Royale de Géographie qui a abouti à la découverte du lac Tanganyika en 1858. Burton parle de « maître du monde » pour traduire le nom d'Ounyamouézi, qu'il écrit Monomoezi.

1860 : Dr. Draft sortait un livre intitulé – The Athenaeum, «The Land of the moon». A la page 823, il décrit l' UNYAMWEZI.

1877 : M. Henry Morton Stanley, explorateur britannique (pays de Galles), parle aussi de l' -UNYAMWEZI-, comme PAYS DE MWEZI, ou du MWAMI (CHEF) MWEZI.

1890 : Andre Engels, cartographe, réalise une carte du parcours de M. Henry Morton Stanley : (Source : https://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Henry_Morton_Stanley#/media/File:Stanleyroutes.PNG). La région est déjà partagé -German- mais on y voit -UNYAMWEZI-.

1893 : Dr Oscar Baumann, explorateur Autrichien, dans – Le Mouvement géographique- qu'il adressa à l'Association antiesclavagiste allemande, écrit à propos des « Montagnes de la Lune » à la page 79, n° 19 : «... Or, chose remarquable, ces sources (du Nil) et leurs environs sont tenues par les Warundi, en particulière vénération. C'est là, dans un épais bocage d'arbres séculaires, situé au centre du flanc herbeux d'une montagne, que jadis on célébrait les funérailles des Mwesi décédés, qu'on enterrait au sommet d'un pic escarpé... Les montagnes qui entourent les sources du Nil-Kagera, et que hantent les esprits des Mwesi défunts, sont appelées par les Warundi : Misozy a Mwesi, les Montagnes-de-la-Lwwe ». Il devait dire les Montagnes de Mwezi, comme on doit dire pour Unyamwezi : le Pays de Mwezi et non : le Pays de la Lune ».

1892 : (réédité en 2011) Encyclopaedia Britannica, 11th Edition, Volume 11, Slice 6 “Geodesy” to “Geometry” – Source : <https://www.gutenberg.org/files/37461/37461-h/37461-h.htm> : While the Spaniards were circumnavigating the world and completing their knowledge of the coasts of Central and South America, the Portuguese were actively Portuguese in Africa and the East. engaged on similar work as regards Africa and the East Indies.

With Abyssinia the mission of Covilhão led to further intercourse. In April 1520 Vasco da Gama, as viceroy of the Indies, took a fleet into the Red sea, and landed an embassy consisting of Dom Rodriguez de Lima and Father Francisco Alvarez, a priest whose detailed narrative is the earliest and not the least interesting account we possess of Abyssinia. It was not until 1526 that the embassy was dismissed; and not many years afterwards the negus entreated the help of the Portuguese against Mahomedan invaders, and the viceroy sent an expeditionary force, commanded by his brother Cristoforo da Gama, with 450 musketeers. Da Gama was taken prisoner and killed, but his followers enabled the Christians of Abyssinia to regain their power, and a Jesuit mission remained in the country. The Portuguese also established a close connexion with the kingdom of Congo on the west side of Africa, and obtained much information respecting the interior of the continent. Duarte Lopez, a Portuguese settled in the country, was sent on a mission to Rome by the king of Congo, and Pope Sixtus V. caused him to recount to his chamberlain, Felipe Pigafetta, all he had learned during the nine years he had been in Africa, from 1578 to 1587. This narrative, under the title of Description of the Kingdom of Congo, was published at Rome by Pigafetta in 1591. A map was attached on which several great equatorial lakes are shown, and the empire of Monomwezi or Unyamwezi is laid down. The most valuable work on Africa about this time is, however, that written by the Moor Leo Africanus in the early part of the 16th century. Leo travelled extensively in the north and west of Africa, and was eventually taken by pirates and sold to a master who presented him to Pope Leo X. At the pope's desire he translated his work on Africa into Italian.

1926 : Monseigneur Julien GORJU, Belge, écrit dans – En zigzags à travers l'Urundi – : “Mwezi était l'un des quatre noms ou titres que pouvaient porter par les rois de l'Urundi issus d'une même origine”.

1930 : R. P. BÖSCH, F. a écrit dans – Les Banyamwezi, peuple de l’Afrique orientale, Bibliothèque ethnologique Anthropos, t. III, fasc. 2, Munster, 1930 – , parlant des 4 noms des Bami (Roi) Barundi : “ces quatre noms seraient : Ntare, Mwezi, Mutaga, et Muambutsa (Op. cit.,p. 7). Les Banyamwezi ayant la même organisation politique que les Barundi, il est probable que quand les Portugais ou autres voyageurs apprirent qu’il existait un royaume Monemugi (Mwene Mwezi), c’était un prince Mwezi qui en était le Chef... Ainsi, en 1858, le souverain de l’Urundi s’appelait Mwezi, et en 1889, les Allemands eurent affaire avec le fameux Mwezi-Kisabo qui leur résistait”.

1954 : M. Auguste Verbeken, Commissaire Belge du District Honoraire au Congo Belge, réalise un écrit – Contribution à la géographie historique du Katanga et de régions voisines- où il parle dans un chapitre du – royaume monomwezi -. A la page 21, il explique : “Quant à la signification du titre de Mwezi, il me paraît qu’elle peut être rendue par la traduction du radical du verbe ku-weza = être capable,pouvoir ; nous retrouvons également cette racine weza dans le terme désignant l’Être Suprême, le Grand Esprit Tout-Puissant, chez d’importantes peuplades bantoues : Maweji, Mawezi, Kabeza, Leza, etc. Ainsi, Mwezi signifierait : le Fort, le Puissant, et Unyamwezi « Pays du Puissant(Chef) »

Notes :

[1] L’apparition Homo Sapiens Sapiens – les sources les plus certaines parlent de 200.000 avant notre ère.

[2] cfr. Mbog Bassong, L’Universisme – Philosophie africaine

[3] Cela est équivalent actuellement à la 1ère Puissance Mondiale qu’ est la Chine -. Le Président de la Chine est le chef de la TERRE.

[4] L’ Histoire du Burundi avec Charles BARANYANKA et ses 2 livres – <http://burundi-agnews.org/histoire/lhistoire-du-burundi-avec-charles-baranyanka-et-ses-2-livres/>

DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org>, le mercredi 7 février 2018

Soudan :

Egypt-Sudan intelligence meeting to be held in Cairo

February 7, 2018 <https://www.middleeastmonitor.com/20180207-egypt-sudan-intelligence-meeting-to-be-held-in-cairo/>

Sudan’s Foreign Minister Ibrahim Ghandour and the Director of Security and Intelligence Mohammed Atta will travel to Cairo today for a two-day official visit.

Ghandour and Atta are scheduled to meet with their counterparts Sameh Shukri and the acting Egyptian intelligence chief, Abbas Kamel, according to the Sudanese News Agency.

“The visit comes as a result of the bilateral summit which brought together Sudanese President Omar Al-Bashir and Egyptian President Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi on the sidelines of the 30th African Union summit which recently took place in Addis Ababa,” the agency quoted the Sudan’s foreign ministry spokesman, Qareeb Allah, as saying.

According to Egyptian newspapers, Cairo’s concerns about the Turkish presence expected on the island of Suakin in north-eastern Sudan are the reason behind the meeting of the officials.

Cairo fears that the island, located on the western coast of the Red Sea, could become a Turkish military base under the agreement between Khartoum and Ankara, which Egypt considers a security threat to it.

Sud Soudan :

S. Sudan's deputy information minister sacked

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article64672>

Wednesday 7 February 2018 / February 6, 2018 (JUBA) – The deputy information minister in South Sudan's coalition government, Paul AKol Kordit has been sacked.

The state-owned television (SSBC) announced Akol's sacking on Tuesday following an order President Salva Kiir Mayardit had issued.

The order, however, gave no reasons for the deputy minister's sacking.

Kiir, in another decree, appointed Lily Albino Akol Akol as the new deputy minister of information and communication.

Kordit, a former leader of the country's ruling party (SPLM) youth wing, also represents Western Lakes State in South Sudan's national legislative assembly.

(ST)

Egypt:

Archaeologists unearth two 4,000-year-old buildings in Egypt alongside ancient workshops once used to make bread and BEER

By Maggie O'Neill For Dailymail.com <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5364325/Newly-discovered-buildings-reveal-clues-Egypt's-history.html>

Published: 19:58 GMT, 7 February 2018 | Updated: 20:54 GMT, 7 February 2018

Archaeologists recently uncovered two Egyptian buildings dating back to 2400 BCE.

The scientists, from the University of Chicago's Oriental Institute, found the buildings while excavating an ancient city in southern Egypt.

They discovered well-preserved buildings in the Nile Valley from a time in Egyptian history that is considered a turning point: the pharaohs had started to invest in provincial regions.

According to the archaeologists, the two buildings are from the earliest known time the area was occupied.

Scroll down for video

Archaeologists from the University of Chicago have discovered two buildings in southern Egypt that they believe were built during a turning point during Egypt's history, around 2400 to 2350 BCE

Archaeologists from the University of Chicago have discovered two buildings in southern Egypt that they believe were built during a turning point during Egypt's history, around 2400 to 2350 BCE. They date back from 2400 to 2350 BCE, during the Fifth Dynasty of Egypt.

The archaeologists learned that the people who lived in the settlement made bread and beer and that they worked with copper.

They believe that the buildings held some cult or religious significance given its proximity to the temple, which was 20 yards away.

Additionally, the archaeologists believe that the settlement was created so that officials who were sent from the royal capital, Memphis, would have a place to stay.

It is believed that the purpose of the officials' trips was to manage mining expeditions in nearby deserts.

The University of Chicago team found the two mudbrick buildings in December.

The buildings are in the middle of open courtyards, and workshops are located near the two buildings.

The researchers found clay sealings at the site of the excavation. Some of the artifacts showed the hieroglyph titles of officials

Archaeologists found storage containers, among other objects, at these workshops, which point to beer and bread making as activities of the people who lived in the area.

Additionally, they found copper slag, parts of crucibles and small weights.

Inside the buildings they found, the team discovered papyrus letters that were sealed and clay sealings, some of which showed the hieroglyph titles of officials who lived during that time.

One name they spotted was that of a leader of royal prospectors in charge of overseeing mining missions on behalf of King Djedkare-Isesi.

WHAT COULD NEW DISCOVERIES IN THE NILE VALLEY REVEAL ABOUT ANCIENT EGYPT?

Researchers from the University of Chicago recently discovered two ancient buildings in southern Egypt.

They reveal much about the country's history, but they also left archaeologists with new questions.

The preservation of one of the buildings is curious to the researchers, who find it odd that the building wasn't stripped of its materials after they believe it was abandoned.

Pictured is an archaeologist from University of Chicago examining remains from ancient Egypt. Researchers recently found two buildings that were built during a turning point in the country's history: when pharaohs became interested in provincial regions

Pictured is an archaeologist from University of Chicago examining remains from ancient Egypt. Researchers recently found two buildings that were built during a turning point in the country's history: when pharaohs became interested in provincial regions

The trend at the time was to take from buildings any useful materials when abandoning them, but the building was left untouched. This is strange considering that wood was a rarity in the region.

Researcher Nadine Moeller said: 'It's such a unique site. We've had a hard time finding architectural parallels because no other settlement in Upper Egypt has such extensive remains from this time period. We've learned so much, and there's still more to come.'

This map shows where University of Chicago archaeologists recently unearthed two ancient buildings that revealed unknown information about Egyptian history

The purpose of the missions would have been to supply the king - and elites - with metals, the archaeologists believe.

They said this theory was confirmed by the discovery of Red Sea shells and rare ceramics.

Researcher Nadine Moeller said: 'It's a wonderful find because we have so little information about this era of settlement in the southern provinces. We don't know any such similar complex for the Old Kingdom.'

Moeller's team has been excavating the area, which is around 400 miles to the south of Cairo, for more than 16 years.

She explained: 'It's just about this time that the Egyptian royalty, until then focused on the northern area directly around the capital Memphis, began to expand its reach after a period of contraction during the fourth and much of the fifth dynasties.'

The University of Chicago researchers believe that the buildings they discovered were built during a turning point in Egypt's history that they don't know much about

'This is a first sign that the ancient city of Edfu was evolving into an important departure point for large expeditions leaving for the Eastern desert regions, and possibly the Red Sea shore, located 125 miles to the east.'

But the discovery left the research team with new questions.

The architecture of one of the two buildings is not of the same style as previously discovered remains.

Namely, a slope on one of the building's facades seems unusual to the team.

'It's very well-constructed and so the slope is certainly intentional, which highlights the architectural peculiarity of this monument. We don't know of any other structure within an urban context in Egypt that looks like this,' said researcher Gregory Marouard.

Read more: <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5364325/Newly-discovered-buildings-reveal-clues-Egypt-history.html#ixzz56X4PUtE>

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Ethiopia :

Danger, camels crossing - Camel trains are holding up Ethiopia's new railway line

Compensating the owners of camels killed by trains with twice their market value creates perverse incentives

Print edition | Middle East and Africa <https://www.economist.com/news/middle-east-and-africa/21736572-compensating-owners-camels-killed-trains-twice-their-market-value>

Feb 8th 2018 | ADAMA

"MORE than any other technical design or social institution," wrote the late British historian, Tony Judt, "the railway stands for modernity." But the road to modernity can be a bumpy one. So it was at the opening of the world's first steam passenger railway in 1830, when a dignitary in Liverpool was crushed by a train. So too in Saudi Arabia today, where construction of a high-speed railway was almost derailed by advancing sand dunes. And also in Ethiopia, where Africa's newest major railroad has been frustrated by one of civilisation's earliest forms of transport, the camel.

Since the start of commercial operations last month, at least 50 animals have been killed crossing the new Chinese-built line connecting Addis Ababa, the capital of landlocked Ethiopia, with the port of neighbouring Djibouti. Of these, 15 were camels flattened in a single collision, according to Tilahun Farka, the head of the jointly state-owned Ethio-Djibouti Railways, which manages the locomotives.

Camel herders in the arid scrubland east of Addis Ababa report many more such incidents over the previous year of trial operations. Nado, a 21-year-old nomad on the outskirts of Adama, says his family lost 35 camels in an especially bloody collision. "Some of my brothers lost all the camels they have," he complains. And it is not just camels. Donkeys, cows, sheep and goats have also been hit, though it is the ungainly camels that are most at risk. "The train never stops," says Nado. "It just hits and passes on."

For the Ethiopian government this is a headache. The train, which is supposed to slash transportation times to the coast from two days to ten hours, is operating at around half speed. Mr Tilahun says his company pays out 30,000 Ethiopian birr (\$1,089) for each camel, twice the market price. So a profit-maximising camel-owner would chivvy the whole herd onto the tracks. This is perhaps why there have been so many collisions.

The problem is also technical. It was deemed too expensive to build an elevated track, such as the one that runs through Tsavo National Park in neighbouring Kenya, allowing wildlife to cross freely. Ethiopia opted instead for level crossings and some tunnels. But herders complain that there are too few of these, or that their camels refuse to use them. Some say they do not know where to go for compensation, and often do not get paid what is owed.

In most parts of the world fencing is used to prevent dangerous crossings. But for eastern Ethiopia's large nomadic population, mobility matters. Fences built along some sections of track have been torn down by nomads who regard distant officials with suspicion. Mr Tilahun hopes all Ethiopians will eventually view the railway as a "national resource". Nomads may be the last to feel this way. This article appeared in the Middle East and Africa section of the print edition under the headline "Danger, camels crossing"

Ethiopia: Ethiopian Signed Strategic Partnership with Guinea Airlines

Written by 2M Editor / Published on 05 February 2018

<http://www.2merkato.com/news/alerts/5340-ethiopia-ethiopian-signed-strategic-partnership-with-guinea-airlines>

Ethiopian Airlines, the largest Aviation Group in Africa and SKYTRAX certified Four Star Global Airline, is pleased to announce that it has signed an Agreement with Guinea Airlines, for strategic partnership in management, maintenance and training, on January 30, 2018 at Ethiopian headquarters.

Ethiopian Group CEO Mr. Tewolde GebreMariam, Mr. Cheick Dem, from Guinea Airlines and Guinea's Minister for Transport, H.E. Oyé Guilavogui signed the agreement in the presence the Minister and Strategic Adviser to the President, H.E. Ansoumane Condé, the Ambassador of Guinea in Addis Ababa, H.E. Ms. Sidibé Fatoumata Kaba, the Director General Guinea Civil Aviation, Mr. Mamady Kaba, and Ethiopian Executive Management members.

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Mr. Tewolde said, "As part of our Vision 2025 and with a view to enable African airlines to regain market share for travel, to from and within the continent, we are establishing strategic partnerships with many African countries. This partnership is in line with the recently launched African Single Air Transport Market at the African Union Heads of State Summit in Addis Ababa.

We are partnering with Guinea Airlines and other African countries because we have the capacity and the expertise to support our African brothers and sisters in the aviation sector. I appreciate the speed with which we reached an agreement with Guinea Airlines thanks to the support of H.E. President Alpha Condé.

This is a trilateral partnership with Guinea, ASKY Airlines and Ethiopian Airlines with a view to fill the air connectivity vacuum in domestic Guinea market and between the Mano River countries. The time has come for Africans to join hands as one and reclaim our rightful place in the global aviation industry."

On behalf of Guinea Airlines CEO, Mr Cheick Dem for his part appreciated Ethiopian Airlines for the effort to realize the establishment of Guinea Airlines. He also vowed to honor the terms of the agreement and to ensure that the partnership will indeed be a model.

H.E. Mr. Oyé Guilavogui, the Guinean Minister for Transport, who co-signed the agreement, on his part, expressed his joy and said: "I thank the entire delegation that accompanied me for the realization of this partnership. I am very happy with the Ethiopian side who deployed a lot of efforts for the signing of this agreement. We hope that by the end of June, our aircraft will start flying to Conakry, neighboring countries as well as regional capitals."

The Honorable Minister also noted that there are some prerequisites to be fulfilled on the Guinean side so to establish the airline no later than the end of June.

Source: Ethiopian Airlines Press Release

RDC Congo :

Joseph Kabila : « Sur les 145 territoires que compte la RDC, il n'y a que 5 territoires qui sont affectés par l'insécurité... »

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5a7465018e393700048d7593>

Kinshasa 02/02/2018 Politique - « Avec l'arrivée massive des réfugiés et les armes qui sont entrées dans le pays d'une façon incontrôlée, la province du Nord et Sud-Kivu n'ont pas connu jusque-là une situation de paix générale à l'instar des autres provinces du pays », a déclaré le Président de la République, lors de son récent point de presse.

Pour le Chef de l'Etat Joseph Kabila Kabange, parlant de la situation sécuritaire de l'ensemble du territoire national, sur les 26 provinces que compte le pays aujourd'hui, il n'y a que deux provinces où nous avons une situation susceptible d'être qualifiée d'inquiétante. Il s'agit, à l'en croire, des provinces du Nord-Kivu et du Sud-Kivu. Et que sur les 145 territoires, il n'y a que 5 ou 6 territoires qui sont « affectés ».

Pour ce qui est de la situation dans la province du Nord-Kivu, le Président de la République a fait cette précision : « Vous n'êtes pas sans savoir qu'après l'entrée massive des réfugiés à l'Est du pays par le Nord-Kivu, avec comme porte Goma, et au Sud-Kivu, Bukavu et Uvira, ces réfugiés rwandais et burundais qui n'étaient pas venus seulement avec leurs bagages, leurs enfants et chèvres, 2 à 3 millions de réfugiés avec des centaines de milliers de kalachnikovs à la main, et c'était le début de notre cauchemar, le début de l'insécurité dans ces deux provinces.»

Et de poursuivre : « Bien avant, dans les années 90, il y avait bien évidemment le début d'une insécurité dans la province principalement du Nord-Kivu.

En 2005, après la réunification, on avait au total quelque 300.000 hommes issus des mouvements rebelles et les FAC à l'époque. En 2006, on avait levé l'option de démobiliser au-delà de 150.000 hommes. L'objectif était de construire une armée nationale, une armée républicaine. »

Toujours d'après le Chef de l'Etat, dans la province du Nord-Kivu, il n'y avait pas que les « rebelles », il y avait des troupes étrangères, des FDLR, des ADF, des Maï-Maï et bien d'autres groupuscules. « Le problème le plus sérieux que nous avons aujourd'hui dans la province du Nord-Kivu, c'est autour de la ville de Beni, ou du territoire de Beni, avec le mouvement terroriste des ADF. Formés de groupes venant d'Ouganda dans les années 1986-1987, ils se sont installés dans le massif de Ruwenzori, du côté congolais. Et depuis 2 ou 3 ans, ils se sont radicalisés, et ils ont commencé à mener des opérations et des attaques contre la population civile.»

Qu'à cela ne tienne, a rassuré le commandant suprême des Fardc et de la Police nationale congolaise, qu'actuellement, il y a des opérations qui sont en cours contre tous ces mouvements et l'objectif est d'éradiquer cette menace terroriste une fois pour toute et par ricochet, les opérations vont se poursuivre au Nord-Kivu contre d'autres mouvements et groupuscules qui sont à la base de l'insécurité dans cette province.

« Au Sud-Kivu, c'est presque la même situation, à l'exception près que ce sont des groupuscules ou des mouvements dits de Maï-Maï, mais alliés aux étrangers et rebelles burundais. Ils avaient déclenché des opérations contre la population, contre l'Etat congolais, contre la République à la fin de l'année passée. Et face à cette situation, on était obligé une fois de plus de mobiliser et déployer

les forces armées de la République dans cette province. Et au moment où nous vous parlons il y a effectivement des opérations qui sont en cours. L'objectif in fine, c'est de mettre fin à cette insécurité dans la province du Sud-Kivu », a-t-il renchéri.

Après avoir gagné la guerre, l'objectif ultime c'est de gagner la paix. Et pour gagner cette paix, l'on a besoin et l'on aura toujours besoin de tout le monde, de la nation toute entière, a conclu le Président de la République.

Célestin Lutete/MMC (CL/Yes)

Indaba Mining: le secteur minier de RDC au cœur de la polémique

Une mine d'or en République démocratique du Congo (RDC).

Par RFI Publié le 08-02-2018 Modifié le 08-02-2018 à 09:36

La grande messe des investissements miniers sur le continent, Indaba Mining, se poursuit au Cap, en Afrique du Sud. L'occasion pour les gouvernements et les investisseurs de faire valoir la bonne santé de leurs entreprises, leurs choix politiques. En plein bras de fer sur le futur code minier entre le gouvernement congolais et les entreprises, beaucoup de regards étaient tournés vers les officiels congolais.

Lundi, c'est Albert Yuma, le patron de la Gecamines (Société Générale des carrières et des mines de RDC), qui, avant même le ministre des Mines de son pays, a dit tout le mal qu'il pensait des partenaires de son entreprise. Une dizaine de sociétés accusées par un audit qu'il a commandité et dont il livrait les résultats d'avoir ruiné le géant minier congolais : « Après plus d'une décennie de partenariat industriel, nous avons fait le constat d'un système structurellement déséquilibré en faveur de nos partenaires, et qui ne permet ni au pays ni à la Gecamines de percevoir une part suffisante de la richesse produite dans le cadre de l'exploitation des richesses de son sous-sol ».

Dans les jours qui suivent, ce sont les patrons des entreprises concernées qui sont montés au créneau. C'est le cas du PDG de Randgold, Mark Bristow, qui ne manque pas d'égratigner le gouvernement pour son manque de concertation, comme Albert Yuma, qui est aussi le patron de Fédération des entreprises du Congo. Pour lui, comme pour d'autres miniers, le président de la FEC, en soutenant une forte hausse de toutes les taxes et redevances, ne défend pas les investisseurs ni les entreprises.

Le débat ne sera en tout cas pas tranché à Indaba. Le ministre congolais des Mines, Martin Kabwelulu, s'est refusé à confirmer ce mercredi la promulgation du nouveau code minier tant contesté. « Le code est avec le président », s'est-il contenté de dire.

Avec la nomination de Mgr Ambongo à l'archevêché de Kinshasa : Monsengwo, une sortie de scène sur fond d'interrogations !

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5a7b0d697ca6f20004f34d75>

Kinshasa 07/02/2018 Politique - D'aucuns se demandent si, par cette nomination, le Vatican voudrait placer, à Kinshasa, un archevêque moins porté sur le bras de fer avec le pouvoir ? Mgr Fridolin Ambongo va-t-il poursuivre la dynamique en cours, faites de marches des fidèles ?

C'est officiel. Mgr Fridolin Ambongo Besungu vient d'être nommé archevêque coadjuteur de Kinshasa. La nouvelle, émanant de la Nonciature Apostolique en République démocratique du Congo, a été diffusée hier mardi 6 février, à travers une correspondance de la Conférence Episcopale Nationale du Congo (CENCO). Désigné par le Pape François, l'archevêque de

Mbandaka-Bikoro aura désormais à œuvrer aux côtés du Cardinal Laurent Monsengwo Pasinya, qui a déposé récemment sa démission auprès du Souverain Pontife.

Dans une lettre officielle, le Secrétaire général de la CENCO, l'abbé Donatien Nshole, relève qu'en nommant Mgr Fridolin Ambongo, le Pape François a décidé de le transférer du siège de Mbandaka-Bikoro pour venir "aider l'archevêque métropolitain dans sa mission pastorale à Kinshasa". Ainsi, au nom de l'épiscopat congolais, il félicite le nouveau promu à qui il souhaite "un fructueux ministère dans l'Eglise-Famille de Dieu qui est à Kinshasa".

Aux dires de l'abbé Donatien Nshole, Mgr Fridolin Ambongo, Archevêque Coadjuteur de Kinshasa et Vice-président de la CENCO, est bien "en bonne position pour remplacer Laurent Cardinal Monsengwo, au cas où le Saint-Père accepterait la démission que l'archevêque de Kinshasa, 75 ans révolus, lui avait déjà remise".

"Le Souverain Pontife, précise Donatien Nshole, n'a toutefois pas encore accepté la démission du Cardinal Monsengwo, membre du C9, ce collège de neuf cardinaux qui aident le Successeur de Saint Pierre dans le gouvernement universel de l'Eglise Catholique romaine".

Le cardinal prêtre à passer le relais

Légaliste, l'Archevêque de Kinshasa n'a pas hésité à déposer sa lettre de démission à l'autorité pontificale, une fois franchie la barre d'âge requis. Il s'est ainsi montré prompt à céder le bâton de commandement de l'archidiocèse de Kinshasa à son successeur que Rome allait désigner de plein gré. Une nomination qui commence à prendre corps avec l'avènement de Mgr Fridolin Ambongo.

Bien que s'inscrivant dans la droite ligne du Droit Canon qui régit l'Eglise catholique, la retraite du Cardinal Monsengwo qui profile à l'horizon et la désignation de son successeur ne sont pas perçues dans la même lucarne dans les salons politiques de Kinshasa. Les tenants du pouvoir comme ceux de l'Opposition, de même que certains acteurs de la Société civile, semblent voir les choses sous une couleur politique.

Une nomination sous haute tension

La décision du Saint Siège intervient, en effet, dans un contexte fort tendu entre l'Eglise catholique de Kinshasa et le Gouvernement. Un climat surchauffé par les récentes positions tranchées du Prélat catholique face à la répression des marches de chrétiens, organisées par le Comité Laïc de Coordination (CLC) le 31 décembre 2017 et le 21 janvier dernier qui réclamait le respect de l'Accord de la Saint Sylvestre.

Interdites par les pouvoirs publics, ces manifestations se sont soldées par des morts et des blessés dans les rangs des fidèles catholiques, soutenus par le clergé, principalement à Kinshasa, au moment où, des évêques de l'Est, appelaient plutôt au soutien du processus électoral par la prière et le jeûne, comme le recommande d'ailleurs le Pape.

Interrogations

Les tensions ont été telles que les dirigeants congolais n'ont cessé de multiplier des déclarations contre l'Archevêque de Kinshasa, qui n'hésitaient pas non plus à répondre à ses pourfendeurs. L'avalanche de communiqués a fini par occasionner le rappel, à Rome, du Nonce apostolique.

Face à ce climat envenimé, les observateurs s'interrogent. D'aucuns se demandent si, par cette nomination, le Vatican voudrait bien soustraire le Cardinal Monsengwo de menaces qui pèseraient sur lui. Est-ce pour le Saint Siège l'occasion de placer, à Kinshasa, un archevêque moins porté sur le bras de fer avec le pouvoir ? Mgr Fridolin Ambongo va-t-il poursuivre la dynamique en cours, faites de marches des fidèles ?

Difficile de trancher, mais toujours est-il que le Pape François a préféré inviter chrétiens et non chrétiens à prier et jeûner pour la paix en RDC.

Forum des As (CL/Yes)

Kenya :

Kenya tourism earnings rise to Sh120 billion with more arrivals

Thursday February 8 2018 Tourism Cabinet Secretary Najib Balala

<https://www.nation.co.ke/news/Kenya-tourism-20pc-growth/1056-4296882-1459m9yz/index.html>

Tourism Cabinet Secretary Najib Balala (2nd right) during a press conference in his office on February 8, 2018. He said Kenya's tourism sector has improved after the country recorded a 20.3 percent growth last year to post earnings of Sh120 billion despite the long electioneering period.

PHOTO | KENNEDY KIMANTHI | NATION MEDIA GROUP

By KENNEDY KIMANTHI

More by this Author / Strategies to revive Kenya's tourism sector bore fruit after the country recorded a 20.3 percent growth last year to post earnings of Sh120 billion despite the long electioneering period.

This is an improvement from the Sh99.69 billion earned in 2016 according to Tourism Cabinet Secretary Najib Balala.

Latest statistics released by the ministry show international arrivals increased by 9.8 percent to 1.4 million from the previous year's 1.3 million tourists.

The United States remained Kenya's leading market, growing by 17 percent with 114,507 arrivals.

DIRECT US FLIGHTS

"We look forward to the Kenya Airways direct flights (to the US) that start in October to boost arrivals. In March the ministry will conduct a road show in US to promote the Nairobi-New York flights by the national carrier," Mr Balala said.

The United Kingdom was second with an 11.1 percent share of the arrivals accounting for 107,078 tourists.

Uganda was third with a share of 6.4 percent at 61,542 arrivals.

Other top markets were India, China, Germany, Italy and South Africa.

BED NIGHTS

Mr Balala said a total of four million bed nights were taken up by Kenyans last year compared to 3.5 million in 2016.

"Domestic market performance is measured in terms of bed nights taken up by Kenyans touring the country. This denotes a 15.9 percent growth," he said.

Travel warnings issued by western governments which form the bulk of the foreign tourists arriving in the country impacted negatively on the sector with numbers dropping to 12 per cent in the first 11 months of 2015 to 690,893.

TERROR ATTACKS

This was a result of increased insecurity following spate of terrorist attacks.

After the August 8 elections, Mr Balala announced the government would find ways to counter the bad publicity occasioned by the post-election protests in some parts of the country.

The minister slammed foreign and international media for what he said was portraying Kenya in negative light but assured visitors and holidaymakers that the country is safe.

"The numbers dropped after the first elections and tourists had started cancelling bookings before the second election in October," he said.

This year, the ministry projects there will be a 16 percent growth in the tourism sector.

Kenya is sliding into a dictatorship

By Larry Madowo February 7 - https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/global-opinions/wp/2018/02/07/kenya-is-sliding-into-a-dictatorship/?utm_term=.d0ad70d238f9

On Monday, civil rights activists in Nairobi protest the government shutdown of Kenyan television stations. The channels were blocked from broadcasting a “swearing-in” of opposition leader Raila Odinga. (Tony Karumba/AFP/Getty Images)

Larry Madowo is a Kenyan broadcast journalist and writer. He tweets at @LarryMadowo

Living in Kenya these days often feels like an alternate reality far removed from the year and such alien concepts as the Constitution, the Bill of Rights and democratic freedoms. First, the opposition National Super Alliance (NASA, not to be confused with the space agency) carried out a mock swearing-in of its leader, Raila Odinga, as “the people’s president,” despite protests from the government, foreign envoys and some opinion leaders in the country.

The overreaction from President Uhuru Kenyatta’s embattled administration was swift and relentless, starting with a week-long illegal shutdown of four television stations, including the three largest independent TV stations, NTV, KTN News and Citizen TV, which collectively control 70 percent of total viewership. Two were partially reopened seven days later, but market leader Citizen TV remains inexplicably closed, in direct contravention of several laws and court orders.

Next, the state went after two prominent politicians who stood next to Odinga as he took the oath before an ecstatic crowd in Nairobi’s Uhuru Park. The lawmaker T.J. Kajwang was arrested, kept hidden for a few days, then charged with being party to a treasonable offence using a colonial oath law the British used against the Mau Mau independence fighters in the 1950s. Miguna Miguna, a dual Kenyan-Canadian citizen who also flanked the former prime minister was detained for four days despite five valid court orders ordering his release before being “deported” late at night. A Kenyan “citizen by birth does not lose citizenship by acquiring the citizenship of another country,” but Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang’i signed Miguna’s deportation papers anyway, setting the stage for a legal battle. He also suspended passports of 14 opposition leaders closely associated with Odinga in an unprecedented attempt to limit their movement out of the country.

In the space of just one week, a Kenyan government that proclaims itself a rule-of-law government has repeatedly defied nearly a dozen court orders in an alarming descent toward authoritarianism. When the Kenyan Supreme Court annulled Kenyatta’s reelection in a landmark ruling last year, he promised to “revisit” the judiciary and called the chief justice and his judges “crooks.” “There is a problem, and we must fix it. Going forward we must fix it,” he said shortly after the court’s judgment that a new election would have to be held within 60 days. A few days later, the vice chair of the president’s party, who is widely believed to be a close ally of Kenyatta, openly advocated for a benevolent dictatorship on national television. “What this country needs now is a benevolent dictator. People have been too soft so that things have gone rogue,” David Murathe told KTN News. “You find places like Rwanda are very stable, Uganda is very stable,” he said, quoting two East African nations with notoriously limited space for dissent.

The shameless disregard for the court process, switching off private media outlets, and intimidation of opposition politicians and journalists all build on the intolerance for criticism that characterized Kenyatta’s first term. It began with the vilification of civil society as an “evil society” by senior aides to the president and surrogates on broadcast talk shows until “activist” all but became a slur in Kenya. Even as the government borrowed more and more from the West and took in billions of dollars in aid, it accused human rights groups and opposition leaders of being agents of imperialism hellbent on reestablishing colonialism. This is the same administration that is now using colonial laws that Kenyatta’s father, Jomo Kenyatta, the first president of a newly independent Kenya, conveniently left in place to cement his own rule. It feels like we’re back to the dark era of Daniel arap Moi, who ruled Kenya with an iron fist for 24 years and is also the political mentor of the current president.

The current President Kenyatta, whose first name, Uhuru, ironically means ‘freedom’ in Swahili, has borrowed from the Moi playbook of repression and perfected it to devastating effect. What was once a vibrant media, a beacon of freedom and independence in Africa, has been threatened into submission to protect business interests. What was once just despotism-lite will turn into a full-blown dictatorship if this government continues on the downward spiral the progressive 2010 constitution was supposed to guard against.

The writing is now firmly on the wall: Kenyatta intention is to become another African strongman if he stands aside and lets his rogue government systematically crack down on the liberties so many Kenyans sacrificed so much to earn. When peaceful protesters are violently dispersed or demonstrations outlawed entirely as has happened in the past, when journalists are too scared to keep the people in power accountable, and the opposition is harassed and the rights of ordinary citizens infringed upon, what is that if not autocracy? All Kenyans — and the international community — must say no before the country becomes just another banana republic.

Rwanda :

Fin de la visite d'une délégation militaire éthiopienne au Rwanda
08 Février 2018

Kigali, Rwanda, 8 février (Infosplusgabon) - Une délégation militaire éthiopienne de cinq officiers supérieurs, dirigée par le directeur des tribunaux militaires, le général de brigade, Addisu Gebreyesus Gebreyohanes, a terminé mercredi, une visite de quatre jours au Rwanda au cours de laquelle les deux parties ont échangé sur la fonction de la justice militaire, a annoncé, dans un communiqué, la Force de Défense du Rwanda (RDF).

Au cours de cette visite, la délégation s'est rendue au siège de la Haute Cour militaire à Kanombe, dans la banlieue de Kigali, où elle a reçu des comptes rendus et a discuté avec des responsables des tribunaux militaires et des procureurs militaires.

"Ces échanges ont porté principalement sur le système juridique et de la structure organisationnelle des tribunaux militaires, la nomination et la responsabilité des juges militaires, la relation entre les tribunaux militaires et les procureurs militaires, ainsi que la prestation des services", selon un communiqué de l'armée.

La délégation a également visité le Memorial du génocide de Kigali à Gisozi et le Musée de la campagne contre le génocide au Parlement pour en savoir plus sur le génocide de 1994 contre les Tutsis et la manière dont le Front patriotique rwandais (RPF, en anglais) et sa branche armée, l'Armée patriotique du Rwanda (RPA) y a mis fin.

S'exprimant à cette occasion, le chef de la délégation a révélé avoir reçu des informations supplémentaires utiles sur la manière dont le système judiciaire et la justice militaire du Rwanda ont évolué.

"Sur le terrain, nous avons obtenu de nouvelles informations. Le Rwanda est doté d'un système judiciaire moderne qui découle de l'organisation des tribunaux, des juridictions et des autorités militaires de poursuite. Le Rwanda a une justice militaire efficace et disciplinée", a déclaré le général Gebreyesus.

Le Rwanda et l'Ethiopie ont de bonnes relations, en particulier dans le domaine de la formation militaire des membres de l'armée de l'air rwandaise, entre autres.

En outre, la coopération du Rwanda avec l'Ethiopie inclut le renforcement des capacités des Rwandais en leur permettant de se former au Defense and Engineering College, à Ethiopian Airlines et à la Metals and Engineering Corporation (Metec) en Ethiopie.

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Rwanda, Singapore sign aviation training agreement

By: Times Reporter Published: February 08, 2018

Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority Director General, Silas Udahemuka and his Singaporean counterpart Kevin Shum during the signing. Looking on is the Rwandan envoy to Singapore, Guillaume Kavaruganda looks on.

Rwanda Civil Aviation Authority (RCAA) and the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) have signed an agreement that will see the latter train Rwandan officials in the aviation industry.

According to the agreement that was signed in Singapore on Wednesday, the training will be conducted in Rwanda by officials from CAAS' training arm, the Singapore Aviation Academy (SAA).

Under the Agreement, SAA will work closely with RCAA to co-organise training programmes based on international aviation requirements and industry best practices, with the aim of developing human resource capacity in Rwanda's civil aviation sector as well as regional countries and beyond. The agreement was signed by Silas Udahemuka, the Director General of RCAA, and Kevin Shum, Director General of CAAS.

"Partnering with the Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore will impart aviation knowledge and skills in our nascent human resource, which is a much needed building block for Rwanda to steadily achieve the required standards for a safe and secure aviation industry.

"The collaboration is also in line with ICAO Next Generation of Aviation Professionals initiative seeking to ensure that enough qualified and competent personnel are available to sustain the global growth of the aviation industry," said Udahemuka.

Mr Kevin Shum said that the civil aviation sector in Rwanda is emerging and it is important to attract and train more aviation personnel to support the rapid growth in this region.

"In this regard, the signing of the new training Agreement is an affirmation of CAAS' commitment to the development of aviation human capital for the advancement of international civil aviation," he is quoted in the statement.

The Singapore Aviation Academy was founded in 1958 and has previously been conferred upon the prestigious Edward Warner Award by the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) for its eminent contribution as a centre of excellence in international civil aviation training.

French hospital suspends Rwanda doctor convicted of genocide

By The Associated Press KIGALI, Rwanda — Feb 6, 2018

A French public hospital has suspended a Rwandan doctor who was convicted on genocide charges back home, after a protest by a Rwandan government commission.

Dr. Charles Twagira started working at the Paul Doumer Hospital outside Paris last month, and the Rwanda National Commission for the Fight against Genocide issued a protest Monday. The commission says his hiring trivializes the 1994 Rwandan genocide in which 800,000 people were killed.

The Paris regional hospital authority said in a statement to The Associated Press on Tuesday that the hospital learned of the accusations against Twagira only a week after he started working there.

The hospital sought clarification from the Paris prosecutor's office and decided to suspend him "to ensure the good functioning of the public hospital service," the statement said.

Twagira, a former regional health director in Rwanda, was found guilty in absentia in 2009 of crimes related to Rwanda's genocide and sentenced to life.

He is also under investigation in France, where he was handed preliminary charges of complicity to genocide and crimes against humanity in 2014. That investigation is ongoing.

Twagira denies wrongdoing. His lawyer, Arthur Vercken, said Tuesday the Rwandan case against Twagira was politically motivated and driven by a government that is "using genocide (investigations) for political ends."

Vercken said Twagira told the hospital about his legal problems when applying for the post.

"What is wrong ... if someone who is under preliminary charges and presumed innocent gets a job while he is preparing his defense?" the lawyer asked. "He's a good doctor. That's it."

Relations between Rwanda and France are increasingly strained over Rwanda's accusations of French complicity in the genocide, which France denies.

Rwanda's exports grew by 58% in 2017

By: Collins Mwai & Eugene Kwibuka Published: February 08, 2018

Rwanda's total exports grew by 57.6 per cent in 2017 to US\$943.5m compared to US\$589.7m in the previous year. According to Finance and Economic planning Minister, Amb. Claver Gatete, the significant growth in exports was largely due to mineral exports which grew by over 210% to \$248.5m compared to \$80.1m in the previous year.

Gatete made the remarks yesterday while tabling a draft law for the revised 2017/18 fiscal year budget, which among others, sought to increase public spending by Rwf20.5 billion.

The mineral sector has been under adjustments in recent months, including the establishment of a specialised agency; the Mines, Petroleum, and Gas Board to give oversight in the sector.

Among the significant developments in the sector include exploratory studies, ridding the sector of middlemen and bringing in investors with modern mining technology.

"The increase in exports is largely from the receipts from mineral exports which grew by 210.4 per cent to reach US\$248.5m compared to US\$ 80.1m in the previous year, 2016," Gatete said.

Other major drivers of the growth in exports include receipts from coffee and tea exports with the former growing at 9.6 per cent and the later at 32.9 per cent.

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Members of the Lower House of Parliament follow Minister Gatete's remarks during his presentation.

Gatete said that this was due to recovery of the commodities' prices in the international market in the course of the year.

Rwanda's imports value also shrank by 0.4 per cent in 2017 consequently leading to a significant reduction in the trade deficit.

"Due to the increase of exports and decrease of imports, trade deficit went down by 21.7 per cent from \$1624.6m in 2016 to \$1271.9m in 2017," Gatete said.

Budget revision

Gatete asked the legislators to approve an increase of the budget by Rwf20.5bn adding that it will help to continue the fiscal consolidation and prudent borrowing policies to make debt and external imbalances sustainable.

According to the proposal for the current financial year, the budget will be revised upwards by Rwf20.5 billion from Rwf2,094.9 billion that was approved by Parliament in June last year to Rwf 2,115.4 billion.

The changes to the budget will affect both resources and expenditures.

On the resources side, government expects a net increase in domestic revenues of Rwf669.4 billion, which is Rwf6.5 billion higher than the projected Rwf662.9 billion in the original budget.

“The increase comes from the sale of treasury bills and bonds as well as a drawdown from strategic fuel reserves. External grants disbursements were on track registering an amount of Rwf168.3 billion against Rwf168.8 billion projected for the period,” a statement reads in part.

Members of the parliament follow Minister Gatete's during his presentation.

On the expenditure front, the government expects an increase of Rwf8.7 billion from Rwf1,033.8 billion of the previous budget estimates to Rwf1,042.5 billion.

“The rise will mainly cover salaries and operational expenses of newly created ministries and agencies,” the ministry said.

Development budget is expected to increase by Rwf9.8 billion from Rwf772.7 billion in the original budget estimates to Rwf782.5 billion.

According to the ministry, the increase will finance construction of strategic fuel storage facilities, construction of dams and irrigation systems for increased food production, land acquisition to facilitate medical related investment for Masaka hospital, provision of basic infrastructure for Gako beef farm project as well as government subsidy for Ntare School of Excellence project among others.

The government plans to raise its net borrowing budget by Rwf18.9 billion from Rwf159.1 billion in the original budget to Rwf178 billion in the revised budget.

The increase in borrowed money through sale of treasury bonds will finance Rwanda Air expansion as well as the restructuring of government investment in Marriot hotel, the ministry said in the release.

The Lower House unanimously approved the basis of the draft law for the 2017/18 revised budget, which means that its assessment will continue at the parliamentary committee level before it is finally passed by the House.

MP Barikana chats with MP Bazatoha during the session.

Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Donatille Mukabalisa.

Finance and Economic Planning minister Claver Gatete speaks to the MPs in Kigali yesterday.

editorial@newtimes.co.rw

Tanzanie :

Tanzania opens Chinese-built military training centre

Jeremy Binnie, London - Jane's Defence Weekly - 07 February 2018

<http://www.janes.com/article/77722/tanzania-opens-chinese-built-military-training-centre>

Tanzania's President John Magufuli officially opened a new Chinese-funded Comprehensive Training Centre (CTC) on 6 February in a ceremony attended by Chinese ambassador Wang Ke.

President John Magufuli poses with commandos during the opening of the new Chinese-built Comprehensive Training Centre on 6 February. (Office of the President (Tanzania))

President John Magufuli poses with commandos during the opening of the new Chinese-built Comprehensive Training Centre on 6 February. (Office of the President (Tanzania))

Magufuli's office released a statement saying the CTC was constructed in the Mapinga area of Bagamoya district with the support of China's People's Liberation Army and TZS67.87 billion

(USD30 million) and will be used to provide modern training to the Tanzanian People's Defence Force (TPDF).

It said the president witnessed training at the centre that included an amphibious landing and counter-terrorism operations.

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Congo Rebel Leader Extradited From Tanzania to Face Trial

February 05, 2018 12:08 PM Reuters <https://www.voanews.com/a/congo-rebel-leader-extradited-tanzania-face-trial/4239674.html>

A renegade Congolese colonel who had threatened to depose President Joseph Kabila has been extradited from Tanzania and will be prosecuted for rebellion, Congo's defense minister said on Monday.

In a video circulated on social media last month, John Tshibangu, who had been based in the east of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), gave the president a 45-day ultimatum to leave or "we are going to take Kabila down."

But Tshibangu was then detained by authorities in Tanzania towards the end of last month.

"John Tshibangu is in Kinshasa. We are going to leave him to face justice for rebellion, a crime catered for and punished by the Congolese penal code," Defense Minister Crispin Atama Tabe told Reuters by text message.

Tshibangu used to be a military commander in the central Congolese region of Kasai. He defected in 2012 and moved to the lawless east, long a haunt of would-be Congolese rebels.

One of Tshibangu's associates, a captain in the Congolese army called Freddy Ibeba, was also arrested in northern Congo on Monday and will be taken to Kinshasa for a hearing, justice minister Alexis Thabwe Mwamba told a press conference on Monday.

Of Tshibangu, he said: "I would like to reassure that he will be entitled to a fair and equitable trial."

Kabila's refusal to step down when his mandate expired in December 2016 has emboldened several armed groups, stoking violence and raising the spectre of the vast, mineral-rich nation tumbling back into the kind of wars that killed millions in the 1990s, mostly from hunger and disease.

Reporting Amedee Mwarabu.

Tanzania lays down the law on local participation in mining sector

[<https://www.miningreview.com/news/tanzania-lays-law-local-participation-mining-sector/>]

The mining industry in Tanzania is adopting a wait-and-see approach following the government's sweeping changes to mining regulations, aimed, in part, at ensuring sovereign ownership of the country's natural resources.

"Over the past 12 to 18 months – and as recently as early January 2018 – there has been significant movement in the mining regulatory landscape.

This is driven largely by the government's objective of ensuring that Tanzania and its citizens benefit from the country's mineral wealth, which will have significant implications for holders of

mining licences and those involved in providing goods and services to those licence holders,” says Chris Green, partner in the Dar es Salaam office of pan-African law firm Bowmans.

We are not seeing any significant new investment in the mining space - Chris Green

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Green says the new regulatory environment, signed into law in July 2017, has left the mining industry treading water.

“We are not seeing any significant new investment in the mining space in Tanzania at the moment, and companies with existing operations are adopting a cautious approach to further investment and are having to consider how best to ensure the continued viability of existing operations.”

Regulations seek to ensure sovereign ownership

One of the biggest changes is that all holders of special mining rights - meaning major mines - are, by law, required to list on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange and ensure that 30% of shares are placed in the hands of Tanzanian citizens.

Another important change is that in future, when government and a rights holder are negotiating the terms of a mining development agreement, government must have a 16% carried interest in the project.

Existing agreements have not been overlooked.

“Government has brought into play a mechanism to notify any rights holder that it wants to renegotiate the terms of an agreement to deal with so-called ‘unconscionable provisions’,” says Green.

The definition of such a provision is broad and could include any aspect of an agreement that runs against government’s ambition of ensuring sovereign ownership of Tanzania’s mineral resources.

An example could be a mining development agreement that is regulated by the laws of a foreign jurisdiction other than Tanzanian law.

“Where the government of Tanzania and the rights holder are unable to agree on revised terms within a legislated time period, the terms in question will be deemed to be expunged.”

Also noteworthy is the 2017 ban imposed on the export of mineral concentrates from Tanzania.

“The reason is that government feels there has been too much extraction of raw materials without beneficiation in Tanzania, to the detriment of the economy,” explains Green.

Different local content thresholds cause uncertainty

Recent regulations published to facilitate the implementation of the earlier legislative changes have added a further layer of complexity for industry participants to consider.

“The latest regulations do not, in some respects, align with the terms of the Mining Act as amended in July 2017, in that different terminology and thresholds are used to define what constitutes a local or indigenous company for local content purposes. At this stage, it is not clear which requirements will be given precedence or how they will be read together.”

According to the July 2017 amendments to the Mining Act, mining sector participants must give preference to suppliers of goods and services who are Tanzanian citizens, to local companies that are 100% owned by Tanzanian citizens or to joint ventures where Tanzanian citizens hold a 51% participating interest.

However, in regulations issued in January 2018, government introduced the concept of “indigenous Tanzanian companies” (not referred to in the Act), where the threshold for acceptable local participation in joint ventures providing goods and services to mining sector participants appears to have been set at 20%.

“Time will tell how the various requirements are interpreted and implemented, possibly when the issue becomes the subject of disputes,” states Green.

“In the meantime, it will be important for organisations already operating or considering commencing operations to keep a close eye on the legal and regulatory developments as they unfold.”

Feature image credit: Flagpedia

Tanzania: Refugees With Criminal Conduct Not Welcome

8 February 2018 - Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam) -
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201802080227.html>

THE National Assembly has been told that the State considers tightening security at all refugee camps in the country. This is in response to increasing threats posed by refugees who attempt to escape from the camps.

Nyarugusu refugee camp is a case in point. It has come to light that some refugees enter the country as illegal immigrants often using unlawful entry points. Many remain in hideouts for years. These, the National Assembly has been told, will be sought, apprehended and herded into established refugee camps. What the refugees (legal or illegal) do not appear to know is that their presence in the country pushes Tanzanian financial resources to alarming proportions. Nevertheless, the nation is compelled to take pity on these needy, homeless souls.

It is on record that Tanzania has done almost what other countries have never done in helping refugees who seek protection from persecution and violence in their countries. However, some refugees are not aware of the weight of the burden this nation is shouldering. At independence Tanzania received its first group of refugees from Rwanda, who were running away from persecution and terror.

Another group arrived in the 1970s from Burundi, escaping state-inspired violence. More refugees followed in subsequent years from Rwanda, DR Congo, Burundi and Somalia following massive violence in their countries. They were all received, protected and offered social services at a cost none of them bothered to comprehend.

A significant number of old case refugees from Rwanda, Burundi and Somalia were later naturalized to become Tanzanian citizens. It is also evident that Tanzania has on numerous occasions paid a price for hosting refugees. Some refugees became a source of instability in their host localities and environmental degradation. In yesteryears, some refugees had to be flushed out after outliving their welcome or for causing mayhem in Tanzanian villages.

Much as Tanzania is praised for its generosity and spirit of humanity, we should not forget that it cannot sustain endless influx of refugees who put a strain on resources. The international community and other stakeholders in the situation should be aware of this. It should be the responsibility of everybody to ensure that the problem of refugees is solved by avoiding situations that generate them.

Wars and other forms of violence are responsible for generating refugees and they should be avoided at any cost. It is imperative to mention here that some refugees are actually illegal immigrants looking for economic prosperity. These are a smarting pain in the neck in this country.

The nation is downright tired about their escapades. Too many of them are already in our jails swelling the number of prisoners and exploiting our resources. Indeed, illegal aliens must stay away.

Tanzania

Govt in Huge Plan to Decongest Dar

In a calculated move which will save billions of shillings Tanzania's economy loses daily, the government has outlined a... [Read more »](#)

[Read the original article on Daily News.](#)

La Tanzanie pourrait exporter 144 000 tonnes de riz vers le Rwanda et le Kenya cette saison

(Agence Ecofin) - En 2018, la Tanzanie pourrait expédier 84 000 tonnes de riz vers le Kenya et 60 000 tonnes de la céréale vers le Rwanda, selon les récentes prévisions du Bulletin de Commerce Transfrontalier pour l'Afrique de l'Est.

D'après le document relayé par theeastafrican, cette perspective repose sur l'hypothèse d'un robuste approvisionnement du marché tanzanien grâce à une bonne récolte durant le mois d'août ainsi que par des stocks élevés qui devraient tirer les prix vers le bas.

La Tanzanie est l'un des producteurs majeurs de riz d'Afrique de l'Est avec un volume de 2,7 millions de tonnes de la graminée en 2016/2017, selon les estimations du Département américain de l'agriculture (USDA).

La culture de riz est principalement pratiquée en système pluvial dans la plupart des régions dont principalement Myeaba (Sud-Ouest) et Morogoro (Centre-Est).

Espoir Olodo

Uganda :

Uganda to get national talent register for oil jobs

By Billy Rwothungeyo Added 8th February 2018

https://www.newvision.co.ug/new_vision/news/1470723/uganda-national-talent-register-oil-jobs

For any foreigner to get a work permit, the employer must demonstrate that there was no competent Ugandan (for an oil job)," he said.

Kenyaoil 703x422

The Petroleum Authority of Uganda (PAU) is developing a national talent register for all Ugandan citizens who are qualified to work in the oil and gas industry.

Speaking at a national suppliers' workshop for the Tilenga upstream project organized by Fluor and Ponticelli on Tuesday, Ali Sekatawa, PAU's director for legal and corporate affairs revealed that the register is meant to ensure that players in the oil and gas industry give priority to Ugandans for jobs.

"As part of the national content plan, for anyone to get a work permit in Uganda, they need to get clearance from the petroleum authority. For you to get this clearance, you must demonstrate that there was no competent Ugandan (for an oil job)," he said.

Sekatawa revealed that the register is in final stages of being designed and will be officially launched soon.

"So if there is a qualified Ugandan, we shall insist that they get the job."

Oil and gas activities in Uganda are entering a critical stage as the country grows closer to first commercial oil production, more than ten years since the 6.5 billion barrels of reserves were discovered.

The three anchor-projects for the industry, the Tilenga upstream project, the Kingfisher oilfield project and the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) are in the final stages of Front-End Engineering Design (FEED).

After FEED results are released, Final Investment Decisions (FID) will be taken, before the Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) phase commences.

Training in China takes Uganda closer to fruition of modern railway project

Source: Xinhua| 2018-02-08 18:48:36|Editor: Chengcheng
http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-02/08/c_136959527.htm

KAMPALA, Feb. 8 (Xinhua) -- A team of 10 Ugandan engineers have finished a three-month training in China as part of the drive to enhance landlocked Uganda's connectivity by building a modern rail line, a Ugandan military spokesperson said Thursday.

Brig. Richard Karemire told Xinhua the training in standard gauge railway (SGR) construction, sponsored by China Harbour Engineering Company (CHEC) and held in north China's Hebei Province, has given the engineers from the Uganda People's Defense Force (UPDF) the necessary skills to build an SGR line that will connect Uganda to the seaport of Mombasa in neighboring Kenya.

The CHEC and the Ugandan military signed a memorandum of understanding in August. The Chinese company, contracted to construct Uganda's SGR, will also train Ugandan personnel for the project.

The CHEC will also work with the UPDF to build a polytechnic institute in the eastern border district of Tororo.

Once the SGR is completed, it will take only two days to transport goods from Mombasa to Ugandan capital Kampala. Currently, it takes 14 days. It will slash transportation costs and boost the economy.

Kenya has already begun operating an SGR linking its capital Nairobi to Mombasa. The Mombasa-Nairobi SGR was built with Chinese expertise and funding.

Zambia :

Japan invites Zambia to share of US\$2bn Africa fund <http://www.times.co.zm/?p=102860>

Published On February 7, 2018 - From CHILA NAMAICO, Cape Town -

JAPAN has asked Zambia to put up a proposal with particular focus on the development of infrastructure to benefit from its US\$2 billion investment destined for selected African countries this year.

A consortium of investors from Japan has also expressed interest to set up industries in Zambia for mining of rare-earth, a key component in manufacturing of electronics such as mobile phones, cameras, computers and television.

Japanese Vice-Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry, Masaki Ogushi said here yesterday that Zambia was a beneficiary of the Japanese Pan-African Initiative.

Mr Ogushi said the initiative was a funding of \$2 billion his government would invest in Africa and Zambia was one of the targeted countries.

He urged the Government to come up with proposal on infrastructure development citing road and railway sectors so that part of funding could be applied to those areas.

Mines Minister Christopher Yaluma disclosed this to journalists on the sidelines of Investing in African Mining Indaba after Mr Ogushi and a team of Japanese investors held a closed door meeting with him.

“Zambia is one of the candidates to the Japanese Pan African Initiative and our country has been asked to put up a proposal focusing on infrastructure development to benefit from this \$2 billion investment for some African countries and Zambia can benefit from this fund,” Mr Yaluma said.

He said Japan was optimistic that with increased investment in Zambia's railway sector to haul copper and other minerals, it could reduce pressure on road infrastructure.

Japan was also interested in building new water infrastructure to increase provision of water especially in Lusaka following on a successful project to connect water from Kafue to Lusaka in the 1980s when Lolanda water works was constructed.

Mr Yaluma said a Japanese investor from Mitsubishi Corporation wants to engage Zambia to supply copper and cobalt for its manufacturing process of electric cars.

Copper and cobalt are key ingredients in making of electric cars and the investors want to purchase minerals on short and long term from local mining firms.

He assured Mr Ogushi and his delegation that Government would work closely with Japan to uplift the welfare of Zambians from benefiting in areas of cooperation.

Other investors want to invest in information and communication technology, telecommunication, mining of rare-earth and oil exploration among other areas.

Copperbelt, Southern and Northern provinces are among many parts of the country said to have large deposits of rare-earth.

Mr Yaluma said Zambia was in need of more advanced technology and setting up of industries that could trigger creation of more jobs across the country.

Zambia's Nuclear Science programme will spur industrial development-

February 7, 2018

Mr. Mwakalombe says the programme will result in the establishment of the Centre for Nuclear Science and Technology and the development of the Nuclear Power Plant in Zambia.

He says the Nuclear Energy programme is envisaged to address the power deficit that Zambia experienced in 2016.

Mr. Mwakalombe was speaking at the Nuclear Energy and Technology dissemination meeting at the Lusaka Provincial Administration offices.

He called for more sensitization and awareness programme to clear the misunderstanding that the public have on nuclear energy.

Mr. Mwakalombe has since urged the members of the public to support the Interim Secretariat on Nuclear Science and Technology in their awareness programme.

And Interim Secretariat on Nuclear Science and Technology Scientific Officer Bright Mweetwa said the benefits of the nuclear energy to the nation are enormous.

Mr. Mweetwa said phase one of the project will see the construction of the Nuclear Center for Science and Technology and this is expected to be done in a period of five years.

Meanwhile, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting Services Director, Press and Media Development Isaac Chipampe said the proposed site for the project is in Chongwe district – Lusaka Province.

Mozambique :

Mozambique Proposes Constitutional Changes to Secure Peace Agreement

Feb. 7, 2018, at 1:20 p.m. Reuters

Under the proposed bill, President Filipe Nyusi said on Wednesday, political parties that win provincial parliamentary elections will be able to select regional governors, whom the president would need to approve.

The bill is a result of talks Nyusi has been having with Afonso Dhlakama, the leader of the opposition party Renamo.

"The consensus reached up to now is a giant step forward in the search for an effective and definitive peace," Nyusi said in a televised speech.

Fighters from Renamo and the ruling Frelimo party have clashed sporadically since Renamo challenged the results of a 2014 election. The fighting takes place mostly in the remote interior, making it difficult to gauge its scale and casualties.

Renamo members, who hold seats in parliament, have been calling for rights to elect its own governors in six districts where it scored a majority in the polls three years ago.

Frelimo, a former Marxist liberation movement, fought a 16-year civil war against Renamo and there have been concerns that Mozambique could slip back into conflict after Renamo withdrew from the 1992 peace deal that ended the fighting.

Mozambique is on the verge of developing huge offshore gas reserves which could transform one of the world's poorest countries into a middle-income state. Competition to control this newfound wealth could stir unrest, analysts have said.

(Reporting by Manuel Mucari, editing by Larry King)

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Mozambique: Government Denies Cooperation With North Korea
<http://allafrica.com/stories/201802060153.html>

Maputo — Mozambique's Deputy Foreign Minister, Maria Lucas, on Monday denied claims, carried by the US television station CNN, that Mozambique is violating United Nations sanctions against North Korea, and is cooperating militarily with Pyongyang.

Interviewed by Radio Mozambique, Lucas said that the only cooperation between Mozambique and North Korea is political. She added that international experts will be visiting the country in the first quarter of the year to monitor compliance with the sanctions against the Kim Jong-un regime.

The experts are from the United Nations panel set up in 2009 to monitor the sanctions, which were imposed because of Pyongyang's illicit nuclear weapons programme. Lucas said Mozambique is willing to cooperate with the UN panel.

"The government recently invited the panel to visit Mozambique to see on the spot the work the country is doing to collaborate with this panel", said Lucas. "The panel has promised to visit Mozambique during this quarter".

Lucas said Mozambique has "historic relations" with North Korea dating back to the early days of the liberation struggle against Portuguese colonial rule, when North Korea provided support for the guerrilla army of the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo).

"We continue to have these political relations with North Korea, but because Mozambique is part of the United Nations, we are cooperating with all the work of the UN panel on the sanctions against North Korea", said Lucas. "Mozambique is implementing all the lessons and agenda of the United Nations and that is why work is being done on the ground to identify some Mozambican companies working with North Korea before the publication of the sanctions".

She claimed the government had been working with these companies to make them aware of the sanctions, and insisted "now we have no economic relations with North Korea".

The CNN piece claimed to have stumbled across a joint fishing venture between Mozambique and North Korea. It filmed two rusting vessels named “Susan 1” and “Susan 2” in the Maputo fishing port, which it claimed were “sanctions busting trawlers manned by crews from North Korea”.

CNN showed ignorance of the Mozambican economy by describing fishing as “one of the country's most lucrative industries”. While this may have been true in the 1970s, today fisheries accounts for a small percentage of Mozambican GDP and of the country's exports.

After the first couple of paragraphs, CNN switches to much more serious allegations of military cooperation. CNN claims that it “uncovered a secret web of front companies, military cooperation and elite-forces training deals between North Korea and Mozambique, all in violation of international sanctions”.

The CNN reporters say they had access to documents showing “that the cooperation is sealed with illegal contracts worth millions of dollars. The money is funnelled through regionally based North Korean diplomats to Pyongyang”.

The report cites unnamed Mozambican military sources saying that “North Koreans have been training elite forces at a base in Maputo for at least two years”.

CNN does not pinpoint the exact location of this alleged base, and no other media has mentioned it. The purpose of this cooperation, from Pyongyang's point of view, is to obtain desperately needed hard currency. But Mozambique itself has been in severe financial difficulties since the discovery of previously undisclosed debts in 2016.

The “hidden debts” of over two billion US dollars, incurred, with illicit government guarantees, by the security related companies Ematum (Mozambique Tuna Company), Proindicus and MAM (Mozambique Asset Management), led the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to suspend its programme with Mozambique. Other donors and financial agencies followed suit - in April 2016, all 14 donors who used to provide direct support to the state budget suspended their disbursements and to date have not resumed them.

Other parts of the CNN report seem to suggest that the military cooperation of the past may have ended. An earlier report from the UN Panel of Experts mentioned North Korean cooperation with the Mozambican armed forces in such areas as radar and air defence systems, and the refurbishment of tanks and other Soviet-era equipment. A front company called Haegeumgang was used to run the operation.

Thanks to correspondence between Mozambican military officials and North Korean representatives, which CNN claims to have seen, the journalists discovered the Haegeumgang premises in Maputo - a two-story building in the heart of the city.

But the house has been abandoned, and is now up for rent. A rental agent told CNN "There were some Asians living and working here. They left three or four months ago". He said they left because they could not afford to pay the rent.

Mozambique

Govt Denies Doing Business with North Korea

Mozambique is denying allegations that it continues to do business with North Korea in violation of U.N. sanctions. [Read more »](#)

Mozambique Approves Anadarko's \$20 Billion Natural Gas Plan

by Bloomberg Matthew Hill & Borges Nhamire Wednesday, February 07, 2018

(Bloomberg) -- Mozambique's council of ministers approved the development plan for Anadarko Petroleum Corp.'s liquefied natural-gas project in the north of the nation, an investment estimated at about \$20 billion.

The government announced the decision in a statement on Tuesday. The next major requirement that the Anadarko-led consortium has to meet before reaching a final investment decision on the Area 1 project is to sign enough sales and purchase agreements, according to the company.

Anadarko and its partners have agreed the price and volumes for 5.1 million metric tons a year of gas production, out of the 8.5 million tons required to reach financial close, the company said in a statement Tuesday. During the last quarter of 2017, it signed an agreement with Tohoku Electric Power Co. of Japan to sell it gas.

Anadarko said it's already started resettling communities from the land where it plans to build its liquefied natural-gas plant.

Exxon Mobil Corp. and Eni SpA are developing another gas project near Anadarko's. The development of Mozambique's gas deposits could make the southeastern African nation the world's fourth-biggest natural gas exporter.

With assistance from Paul Burkhardt. To contact the reporters on this story: Matthew Hill in Johannesburg at mhill58@bloomberg.net; Borges Nhamire in Maputo at bnhamire@bloomberg.net. To contact the editors responsible for this story: Antony Sguazzin at asguazzin@bloomberg.net Pauline Bax, Andre Janse van Vuuren.

Malawi :

Drones used to identify cholera hotspots in Malawi

Africa Wednesday 7 February 2018 - 5:13am

This photo shows a drone during a mapping exercise for cholera hotspots organised and funded by UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) Malawi in Likuni, outside Lilongwe, on January 27, 2018. Photo: AMOS GUMULIRA / AFP

JOHANNESBURG – Malawi is using drones to identify hotspots for cholera transmission in the capital, Lilongwe.

At least four people have died, and over 340 cases have been reported. Drones help map areas that are densely populated, and collect data for health workers to implement interventions against the spread of the disease.

READ: Cholera shuts Shoprite restaurants in Zambia

Malawi is vigorously working to control a cholera outbreak which started in November. It has been blamed on poor hygiene and the use of contaminated water by residents.

eNCA

Malawi has benefited from China relations, says Amabssador Shi-Ting

February 8, 2018 Sylvester Kumwenda- Mana

Malawi has benefited a lot from the bilateral relationship she established with the Peoples Republic of China over a decade ago; Chinese ambassador to Malawi Shi-Ting Wang says.

Wang said the relations between the two countries have yielded positive results for Malawi in different sectors ranging from education, finance and human resource capacity building.

He was speaking during a presentation ceremony of a K7.2 million worth donation of music instruments from some Chinese students to their counterparts in the country through First Lady Gertrude Mutharika.

“Malawi has been transformed because of its relations with China. Now China has become one of the largest investors in Malawi, bringing tens of thousands of job opportunities to local people.

“In the past years we have provided scholarships for more than 100 Malawians every year. In the same period we also provided about 600 short-term training opportunities for Malawi annually. China has now become the biggest contributor to Malawi’s human resources development,” said Wang.

The ambassador added that it was pleasing to note that there has been a rapid and stable development of government to government relations over the last ten years.

However, he said there is need to further develop the people to people relations.

“The official diplomacy is important but the people to people exchange (programs) which is called peoples diplomacy is equally important. The sound official relations must be based on the strong friendship between the two peoples,” he said.

First Lady Mutharika described China as a true friend of Malawi saying the country has transformed due to the development infrastructure projects China has provided to Malawi.

“The Chinese are not just singing any ordinary music. They are singing the tune of development. Road construction, Hotels and Conference Centers, the Parliament building and the magnificent Bingu National stadium are part of the Chinese developmental music,” she said.

SWAZILAND :

Schools across Swaziland are in chaos at the start of the new academic year.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201802070604.html>

Children have been turned away because there are no spaces for them in classes at High School. This is because the kingdom has in recent years introduced free primary school education. Now children have graduated there are not enough places in secondary schools. Parents were reported by local media to be walking from school to school in unsuccessful attempts to get their children placed.

Minister of Education Phineas Magagula told the Swazi Observer that new classes had been built across the kingdom to accommodate the expected influx of schoolchildren. Magagula was unable to tell media exactly how many new schools had been opened and how many had been upgraded from secondary to high school.

Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education has not paid fees to about half the 650 primary schools in Swaziland. The Times of Swaziland reported money was being withheld because pupils did not have personal identification numbers (PINs). The Ministry said to avoid audit queries, it had to pay fees against a PIN, not a name of a pupil.

Parents have been outraged that some primary schools are charging top-up fees when the Swazi Constitution and Government policy says primary education should be free.

Swaziland, is ruled by King Mswati III as sub-Saharan Africa's last absolute monarch. Political parties are banned from taking part in elections and the King appoints the Prime Minister and top ministers. Seven in ten of the estimated 1.4 million population live in abject poverty with incomes less than US\$2 per day. The kingdom's economy has been mismanaged for decades.

Swaziland cannot afford to pay for its free primary education policy. Government pays E580 per child, but this is heavily subsidised by the European Union (EU). Up to December 2016, the EU had

spent a total amount of E110 million (about US\$8 million). In 2015, it reportedly sponsored 34,012 learners in 591 schools. The EU plans to continue paying for the school fees until the end of 2018. The EU started funding all first grade pupils in the whole country in 2011.

The problem does not end at primary level. An investigation by the Swazi Observer (27 January 2018) revealed that some high schools charged nearly E9,000 per child per year in top-up fees. It also found (1 February 2018) that some schools were not allowing children, including OVCs (orphaned and vulnerable children) to attend classes until deposits on fees were paid.

The Ministry of Education then announced that no school in Swaziland had been given permission to charge top-up fees because none had made the necessary formal request to do so. Permission can take up to a year.

In February 2017, nearly E2.7 billion (US\$216 million) was allocated in the national budget for the kingdom's security forces that comprise the Umbutfo Swaziland Defence Force (USDF), Royal Swaziland Police Service (RSPS) and His Majesty's Correctional Services (HMCS). This was 12.4 percent of Swaziland's total budget.

An organisation called Teach According to Qualification (TEATQ) reported that the main reason the Teaching Service Commission was not hiring teachers on a permanent basis was because it could save more than E30 million annually. It estimated there were more than 1,000 teachers on contracts. The Legal Notice 147 of 2009, states that contract teachers should be made permanent after working for two years.

Children across Swaziland are going hungry because the government has failed to pay suppliers for food to be distributed free in the so-called zondle programme. This has been going on for more than a year despite continual promises from government that the crisis has been resolved.

Phephisa Khoza, the editor of the Swazi News, wrote a scathing attack on the government which 'has absolved itself of its responsibility to provide free and quality education to its citizens'.

Khoza wrote (27 January 2018), 'In the past there has been talk about limited resources, but this is not the real issue when it comes to public education. We have heard of teachers being hired but not paid, of crumbling infrastructure and how some school administrations are operating as dictators, demanding top-up fees much against government policy.

'However, they cannot be blamed for their actions as they are forced into such decisions by government's failure to provide the essential resources to enable schools to perform at the maximum level.'

Ackel Zwane, the veteran columnist of the Swazi Observer, wrote (26 January 2018), 'Since the introduction of Free Primary Education, government did not mobilise resources to make the programme sustainable, especially with the anticipation of ever rising numbers at intake.

'In the same vein, government did not provide for effective teacher training for the task but instead went to embark on highly ambitious initiatives such as Religious Education compulsory instead of the sciences that are responsible for the overall development, including making correct calculations to avert crises in the education system.

'The children are now overcrowded with insufficient teaching aids and furniture in almost all the public schools.'

'In some cases, parents offer to assist with the provision of desks just for the child to squeeze into that tight corner that will be home for the whole school calendar year without the teacher ever having access to him or her, all because of overcrowding in the small classrooms.'

Swaziland

50/50 - Learn Lesson of Past Disaster

People in Swaziland are being prepared for the double celebration of King Mswati's 50th birthday and the 50th... [Read more »](#)

[Read the original article on Swazi Media.](#)

Zimbabwe :

Zimbabwe's top opposition party hurt by power struggles

<http://abcnews.go.com/International/wireStory/zimbabwes-top-opposition-party-hurt-power-struggles-52927002>

By farai mutsaka, associated press HARARE, Zimbabwe — Feb 8, 2018

Power struggles are ravaging Zimbabwe's main opposition party months before the election as party leader Morgan Tsvangirai seeks cancer treatment in neighboring South Africa.

Three deputies are vying to act as MDC-T party leader in Tsvangirai's absence. Spokesman Luke Tamborinyoka tells reporters that Tsvangirai remains unwell but will return to the country "soon." The spokesman described those interested in succeeding him as "political vultures."

The 65-year-old Tsvangirai has dominated opposition politics for close to two decades as the leading voice against former President Robert Mugabe, who resigned under pressure in November.

The upcoming election will be the first without Mugabe, who led the southern African country for 37 years. The opposition is scrambling to counter new President Emmerson Mnangagwa, a longtime Mugabe ally who has vowed that the election will be free and fair as he seeks to re-engage the international community after years of sanctions over alleged human rights abuses.

Tamborinyoka on Wednesday announced that Tsvangirai had appointed deputy Nelson Chamisa to act as party leader until his return. But other party members are disputing that, saying deputy Elias Mudzuri, who was acting leader before the announcement, or deputy Thokozani Khupe is acting leader or rightful heir.

Tamborinyoka described the disputes as "needless furore."

An opposition alliance has endorsed Tsvangirai as its presidential candidate. But his condition appeared to have deteriorated when he met Mnangagwa in January.

The opposition infighting could come as a gift to Mnangagwa as he seeks to stay in power.

Zimbabwe: 96% of total transactions in 2017 were electronic, mobile

Published on 08 February 2018 By Tawanda Karombo

Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe governor, John Mangudya said on Wednesday that the value of transactions on these platforms accounted for over 90% of the US\$97.5 billion in total value transactions in the country in 2017.

This means that cash transactions accounted for about US\$3.8 billion of the total value of financial transactions in the country during the period under review.

Econet Wireless Zimbabwe's mobile payment platform, EcoCash has grown while Telecel Zimbabwe's Telecash and NetOne's own version are also active on the market.

In his 2018 Monetary Policy Statement, Mangudya said: "The growth in the use of plastic money, away from cash transactions, was phenomenal in 2017 to the extent that more than 96% of the \$97.5 billion - from the 1 billion transactions - processed in the entire country in 2017 were through electronic and mobile banking systems.

READ MORE

Econet Wireless, Untu Capital partner to launch mobile money bond platform

Zim mobile payments surge to US\$11bn as Bitcoin emerges stronger

Zimbabwe's financial market closes ranks to absorb international monetary pressure

Zimbabwe's NetOne plans 'M-Pesa of Southern Africa'

"Mobile payments constituted the bulk of payment streams in volume terms in 2017."

Internet payments amounted to US\$7 billion, accounting for about 7.2% of total payments in 2017 and significantly up from US\$2.5 billion registered in 2016. Mobile payments topped US\$18 billion, up from the 2016 figure of US\$5.8 billion and representing about 18% of total value. In terms of volumes, there were about 754.7 million mobile transactions in 2017 from 298.5 million mobile transactions in 2016.

EcoCash has enabled toll payments, bank to wallet transactions, bill payments and MasterCard debit card payments on its mobile money platform.

Analysts at IH Securities said in an investment strategy note on Zimbabwe this week that cash and forex challenges have forced Zimbabweans to spend money locally.

Most of this spending has been transacted using mobile, electronic and internet payments as it has become difficult to get money out of Zimbabwe in hard cash.

IH Securities said in a Zimbabwe Equity Strategy note for 2018 released this week, "We also believe that forex shortages for specific consumers to spend more money in Zimbabwe as opposed to in neighbouring countries like Botswana and South Africa."

Afrique du Sud :

South Africa offers olive branch to mining industry

Neil Hume in Cape Town 5 hours ago <https://www.ft.com>

South Africa struck a more conciliatory tone towards the mining industry on Thursday with the deputy minister of mineral resources saying he wanted to find a way to break the impasse over controversial new regulations.

"We are going to find a way to deal with this by working together," Godfrey Oliphant told the Investing in African Mining Indaba in Cape Town, admitting the government could have done a better job consulting the industry on the policy change.

South Africa's mining charter is currently suspended pending a judicial review. It has been fiercely opposed by the mining industry, which says it was not consulted on the new rules.

Launched in June, the charter is designed to force companies to give more ownership to black shareholders, regardless of previous deal to address economic inequality. That has angered the industry because it could result in further dilution of their interests.

The Chamber of Mines, which represents miners in South Africa including Anglo American, Glencore and South32, is refusing to engage with the country's mining minister Mosebenzi Zwane over the charter and says it will continue with legal challenges until the new rules are dropped.

"The leaders of this industry must talk to each other. Government leaders must talk to the Chamber of Mines and we have started discussions," said Mr Oliphant.

Mr Oliphant said the discussions, which took place last week, covered a whole range of issues, with the government asking if the impasse was down to a lack of consultation or more substantive issues in the charter "that we can't talk about and solve".

"We need to look into it and ask what is there really," he said. "We are talking."

If Cyril Ramaphosa, the head of the ruling African National Congress, replaces Jacob Zuma as South Africa's president there is speculation he will replace Mr Zwane as minerals minister. Mr Ramaphosa has also said the impasse over the mining charter was holding back the industry and needed to be addressed.

South Africa's Jacob Zuma could quit within days - ANC

7 February 2018 - <http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-42975323>

South Africa's Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa says he is holding direct talks with embattled President Jacob Zuma over a transfer of power.

Mr Ramaphosa, who heads South Africa's governing party, said both he and Mr Zuma understood the need for a speedy resolution.

He said the pair aim to conclude talks on the president's future within days.

It is being seen as the first confirmation that Mr Zuma will step down shortly.

The 75-year-old president is facing extensive corruption charges after a turbulent nine years in power.

He has faced increasing pressure to quit since December, when Mr Ramaphosa replaced him as leader of the ruling African National Congress (ANC).

Mr Ramaphosa said direct talks were an opportunity to reach an agreement without spreading discord or division.

The ANC said they had been "fruitful and constructive discussions".

An urgent Wednesday evening meeting of the party's top leadership - which has the power to unseat Mr Zuma - has been pushed back to 17 February.

Opposition parties are demanding a vote of no-confidence to remove the president.

Media caption The Zuma presidency: Scandals and successes

The Nelson Mandela Foundation has also urged him to step down.

South Africa had seen "systematic looting" under Mr Zuma's rule, and he "must go sooner rather than later", it said in a statement.

How has parliament reacted?

On Tuesday, South Africa's parliament took the extraordinary step of postponing Thursday's state of the nation address.

The address is always made by the sitting president, and is the political event of the year in South Africa.

Parliament cancelled it out of concern over "calls for disruption", according to Speaker of the National Assembly Baleka Mbete.

Media caption Cyril Ramaphosa recently told the BBC's Zeinab Badawi that Jacob Zuma was "feeling anxious"

Mr Zuma's office said in a statement that "the president has requested the postponement due to certain developments".

Analysis: 'Zexit' seems inevitable

Andrew Harding, BBC News, Cape Town

They've started calling it "Zexit" here - the long, fractious process of nudging President Jacob Zuma out of his job.

Quite why it is proving so difficult is still not entirely clear.

The man poised to replace him, Cyril Ramaphosa, said only that they had been busy discussing "pertinent matters".

The best guess here is that Mr Zuma, who is facing multiple corruption charges, may be looking for some sort of legal guarantees - although an amnesty is not an option in South Africa.

Mr Ramaphosa - already sounding like the country's new president - said both he and Mr Zuma were aware of people's anxieties, and the need for a speedy resolution in the "coming days".

He made it sound as if "Zexit" was now inevitable.

What lies ahead?

South Africa's elections are scheduled for 2019 and Mr Zuma cannot run again as there is a two-term limit.

Many in the ANC want him gone as soon as possible so they can rebuild the party's standing. Mr Ramaphosa has associated himself with an anti-corruption drive.

In the 2016 local elections, the ANC lost ground to opposition groups, Democratic Alliance and the Economic Freedom Fighters.

Why is there a push to remove him?

Mr Zuma's presidency has been overshadowed by allegations of corruption.

In recent years his links to the wealthy India-born Gupta family, who are alleged to have influenced the government through their relationship with Mr Zuma, have caused his popularity to plummet. In South Africa, it has become known as "state capture".

Both Mr Zuma and the Guptas deny the allegations.

Then there is also the country's struggling economy, with the unemployment rate rising to about 28%.

In brief: The allegations against Zuma

2005: Charged with corruption over multi-billion dollar 1999 arms deal - charges dropped shortly before he becomes president in 2009

2016: Court orders he should be charged with 18 counts of corruption over the deal

2016: Court rules he breached his oath of office by using government money to upgrade private home in Nkandla - he has repaid the money

2017: South Africa's public protector said he should appoint judge-led inquiry into allegations he profited from relationship with wealthy Gupta family - he denies allegations, as have the Guptas

2018: Zuma approves inquiry

Long read: The trials of Jacob Zuma

Namibie :

Namibia/Botswana treaty to end deadly border incidences

February 8, 2018 Albertina Nakale <https://www.newera.com.na/2018/02/08/namibia-botswana-treaty-to-end-deadly-border-incidences/>

Windhoek-The Minister of Defence Penda ya Ndakolo has assured the nation that the signed historic Boundary Treaty will see an end to previous deadly border disputes between Namibia and Botswana, which left several Namibians shot dead by Botswana Defence Force (BDF) soldiers on suspicion they went into that country to poach.

Botswana has a shoot-to-kill policy regarding poachers found on its territory.

This shoot-to-kill policy raised grave concerns among Namibians who said the government was not doing enough to address the fatal shootings, especially during 2015 when most killings took place.

During 2015, some Namibians suspected of being ivory poachers were shot and killed close to the Botswana border by the BDF.

Therefore, Namibia took a decision to actively engage Botswana to find common ground on the fatal shooting of several Namibian citizens along the border by members of the BDF.

This week Namibian President Hage Geingob and his Botswana counterpart, Lieutenant-General Seretse Khama Ian Khama, who was in Namibia on a two-day state visit, signed the historic Boundary Treaty which clearly marks the borders between the two countries.

"To us, we hope these shootings will not happen anymore as we were assured by His Excellency, the President of Botswana. We have a permanent commission on defence and security issues between Namibia and Botswana. Last year, we held it in Botswana and this year we will have it here in Namibia.

If there is anything, we will discuss it – but we are sure that [the shootings] is in the past according to my understanding," Ya Ndakolo told New Era.

President Khama said the signed treaty is to reaffirm a common boundary and to cooperate on trans-boundary issues.

In the past, Khama said, the wrangling was along the northern border of the Zambezi region where there are a lot of wetlands.

“But it was never really clear to either party where the border of the flat plains of the river is. So that’s why this reaffirmation hopes to remove any doubt and mark the border so that people who commonly operate in those areas –be it members of the security forces or the general population – will know where the border lies. So that is now something of the past and I think it’s a positive step in the right direction,” Khama said.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of International Relations and Cooperation, Selma Ashipala-Musavyi, on Tuesday said the significance of the treaty is that boundaries are now clearly marked to avoid any contravention.

“The issue of the shooting at the border has been resolved. The two ministers of international relations have engaged and that is why you have not heard of any incident. But if everyone knows that this is where the border stops, then at least you can’t blame others that you didn’t know because it’s clearly demarcated,” she said.

Moreover, she said the African Union (AU) has a border programme in place to deal with border dispute resolutions to ensure confidence-building between nations.

She urged Namibians to familiarize themselves with the Boundary Treaty once it’s made available.

“It’s a historic treaty and the AU played a significant role in finalizing this treaty,” she noted.

Video: President Geingob opens 2018 Legal Year

Botswana :

Minergy seizes first-mover advantage in Botswana coal industry

10:03 08 Feb 2018 <http://www.proactiveinvestors.co.uk/companies/news/191374/minergy-seizes-first-mover-advantage-in-botswana-coal-industry-191374.html>

Minergy could be shipping 1.2mln tonnes of saleable coal within a couple of years

“Botswana’s got vast coal resources.”

It’s a simple enough statement from Andre Boje, the chief executive of Minergy Coal (BSE:MIN). So why then has it got so little production?

The answer comes in two related parts. The first is that as a landlocked country, shipping out a bulk commodity like coal hasn’t always struck potential miners as an easy undertaking. The second is that Botswana is so well endowed with diamonds that almost all the attention thus far has gone there.

But that’s changing now as miners recognise that the old model of planning to site power stations near coal projects, just to make the coal economic to mine, was getting it all back to front.

Vast Resource

That’s where Minergy comes in. Minergy has a huge 2bn tonne-plus resource at its Masama project, north of Gaborone but still not far from the South African border.

For the time being though, it’s not the size that will count, but the quality of the high-grade 380mln tonne seams at the heart of the deposit.

“It’s a vast resource,” says Boje. “But at 2bn tonnes it’s too big. What we do have is a 380 mln tonne resource of low strip ratio, high grade thermal coal.”

The plan is simple enough: to mine and process at a rate of 1.2mln saleable tonnes per year and sell it into South Africa, to the big industry in the north of the country in North West, Limpopo

Provinces and beyond. That's close enough to make the economics of shipping viable, and a serious enough hub for the demand to be there.

Eskom itself, says Boje, has the spare capacity to take the coal. But as far as Botswana's been concerned, no one's turned up with a viable plan to ship it over in a profitable way.

Boje, though, brings years of coal market experience to the project. He started in the coal trading business in the 1990s and moved onwards and upwards until his company, Wescoal (JSE:WSL), was generating revenues of US\$200mln per year.

Most of his team from Wescoal has moved across to Minergy with him, so the African skills base inside Minergy now rivals that of any smaller capitalised company south of the Sahara.

Still, Botswana is new country for Boje, and there have been a couple of new experiences. One of them has been a listing on the Botswana stock exchange, which local operators often find expedient in that it allows local pension funds, which are governed by strict rules, to come in in a fairly big way.

AIM Listing

For a company like Minergy, still in its early stages, the US\$10mln that Botswana's pension funds have invested for equity has been significant. They will be diluted when the company lists on AIM, as planned, but the funds themselves are ready for that.

By that time, the market should have come to a clearer understanding of the real upside at Masama. Under the current timetable, the final permits should come in at the end of March, and Minergy will then break ground in July and ship its first saleable coal in September.

"Within three months of that we plan to be producing at the rate of 1.2mln saleable tonnes per year," says Boje.

That production will be supported by a coal price environment that's become more benign since Minergy first got onto the ground in Botswana a couple of years ago.

"When we started the project, coal prices were weak," says Boje. "Now they're stronger the project is even more attractive."

If coal were to drop back to 2016 prices, then the planned 1.2mln tonne output at Masama would still be economic. But in the current environment, expansion beyond that is certainly on the cards.

"In five years' time Botswana will be exporting 10mln tonnes of coal," says Boje. "We will be the first producers and we would like to have 4-6mln tonnes of that."

No doubt there'll be plenty of interest later in the year, when Aim investors get their chance to take a serious look and put up some serious money.

Angola :

Angola and Zambia sign memo against cholera and malaria

Published on 07 Feb 2018 — View Original <https://reliefweb.int/report/angola/angola-and-zambia-sign-memo-against-cholera-and-malaria>

Luanda - A memorandum of collaboration in the health domain was signed last Monday, in Lusaka, between the Health Ministries of Angola and Zambia, represented by the incumbent ministers, respectively Sílvia Lutukuta and Chitalu Chilufya.

The memo outlines the exchange of regular information in relation to epidemiological outbreaks at the common border regions, joint sensitisation work to raise health measures awareness and the strengthening of the control over border activities like trade.

Chitalu Chilufya, the Zambian Health minister, emphasised in his intervention that by 2021 malaria will have to be eradicated from Zambia.

He also stressed the importance of investments in infrastructures, namely those ones linked to the abstraction, treatment and distribution of potable water, as well as the improvement of basic sanitation.

Silvia Lutukuta, on her turn, focused on prevention as the main antidote against diseases, having commended the Zambian experience in its anti-larvae and anti-vector fight. She defended that this example has to be widely disseminated in Angola.

The Angolan Health minister stressed also that despite the current difficult financial situation, the Angolan Executive still deems the health sector one of its main pillars in the ambit of the promotion of policies intended to elevate the living standard of the citizens.

She reminded that the 9% per cent allocated to the Health sector in the 2018 Draft State Budget has to be seen as a mobilisation factor and a motive for greater responsibility in the search for solutions to the problems.

Since last October, Zambia has been tackling a strong cholera outbreak, with over 3,500 cases already recorded, which resulted in over seventy deaths.

Angola and Zambia share a border of over one thousand kilometres.

Tango partners with CC Mining for Txapemba project in Angola

8 February 2018 - <https://www.mining-technology.com/news/tango-partners-cc-mining-txapemba-project-angola/>

Canadian company Tango Mining has entered a partnership with CC Energy's (CCEL) subsidiary CC Mining (CCML) with regard to diamond projects in Angola, southern Africa.

CCEL is a member of the Consolidated Contractors Company (CCC) group.

As part of the deal, the companies have agreed to invest \$1.3m, which Tango will use towards development of its Txapemba Project in Angola subject to certain conditions.

In September last year, Tango signed a three-year renewable services agreement for mining and marketing of diamonds with Txapemba Canguba RL for the semi-industrial exploitation of diamonds.

Under the service agreement, Tango is responsible for capital expenditures associated with alluvial mine design and equipment acquisition and is the sole operator.

In return, Tango will receive 60% of net proceeds from selling produced stones, after deduction of the company's operational costs.

It is reported that Txapemba will be the first collaborative project between the two companies.

"Tango will receive 60% of net proceeds from selling produced stones, after deduction of the company's operational costs."

The investment will include both a debt and equity contribution to a new special purpose company, is subject to a renewal of the project and transfer of the service agreement to a new subsidiary of Tango and other conditions precedents.

Upon completion of final legal documentation, the company will provide terms and conditions of the investment.

Since Tango took operational control of the project last October, it has seen earth moving equipment mobilised for construction, with roads upgraded and maintained, as well as trenching having been completed in two areas in order to identify diamondiferous gravels.

With support from the Txapemba Caguba RL technical team, the company will continue its geological and technical assessment of the project that will result in developing a work plan.

The company intends to start bulk sampling and small-scale alluvial diamond production this year. Through its South African subsidiaries, Tango holds three thermal coal, metallurgical, processing plant and engineering contracts that process 6.5Mt of coal per annum with client Exxaro.

Angola oil minister sees no further OPEC cuts, expects to become gold producer

Ed Stoddard CAPE TOWN (Reuters) - Angola sees no further OPEC cuts in 2018 and Africa's No. 2 crude exporter hopes to join the ranks of gold producers next year as it strives to diversify an economy long based on oil and diamonds, its minerals and petroleum minister said on Tuesday.

Angola, where oil wealth has failed to translate into wider prosperity, has a reputation for graft on a grand scale but President João Lourenço, who took power in September, is seeking to win credibility with international investors.

Speaking to Reuters at the annual Africa mining conference in Cape Town, minerals and oil minister Diamantino Azevedo said the southwest African country was serious about widening its commodities mix.

"We are just producing diamonds and stuff like marble and granite at the moment. We are expecting to start gold production soon, we expect to have two or three gold mines operating next year but at a small scale," he said.

Speaking after presentations on mining opportunities in Angola, Azevedo said there were 10 exploration projects in the country focused on gold involving junior mining companies, which typically take the prospecting lead in new frontiers. He did not name them.

"We want to promote the mining sector beyond diamonds ... We have had good meetings here with the major mining companies," Azevedo said.

He said there were also exploration opportunities for iron ore and copper. Angola borders Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia, Africa's top copper producers.

Much of Angola remains unexplored, not least because the former Portuguese colony was embroiled in a civil war from its birth in 1975 until 2002.

Critics have also said the elite of the ruling MPLA party under former President Jose Eduardo dos Santos had little incentive to reduce the economy's reliance on the opaque oil sector.

Angola is a member of the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, and it must limit output in line with OPEC's commitment to cut output by about 1.2 million barrels per day (bpd) as part of a deal with Russia and others.

"We will not go above our OPEC quotas," Azevedo said, adding that he did not see OPEC imposing any deeper cuts this year. Angola produces just over 1.6 million BPD, providing it with over 90 percent of its export revenue.

Reporting by Ed Stoddard; Editing by Catherine Evans

Our Standards: The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.

Algérie :

Algérie: protocole d'accord de "coopération" Engie-Sonatrach dans les énergies renouvelables

Économie Actualité économique / Par AFP , publié le 07/02/2018 à 18:00 , mis à jour à 18:00
https://lexpansion.lexpress.fr/actualites/1/actualite-economique/algerie-protocole-d-accord-de-cooperation-engie-sonatrach-dans-les-energies-renouvelables_1983060.html

Alger - Le géant français de l'énergie Engie (ex-GDF-Suez), filiale de Suez, a signé un protocole d'accord dans le secteur des énergies renouvelables avec le groupe public pétrolier algérien Sonatrach, a constaté un journaliste de l'AFP.

"Il s'agit d'un accord de coopération et de partage des compétences dans trois domaines d'intérêt commun", a expliqué à l'AFP Bruno Bensasson, directeur Afrique d'Engie.

Ces domaines sont la "solarisation" (utilisation de l'énergie solaire) des stations de compression des gazoducs, la valorisation des gaz torchés (brûlés lors de l'extraction du pétrole et du gaz) et "l'efficacité énergétique" des processus industriels (tels que production ou liquéfaction de gaz par exemple), a-t-il précisé.

Cet accord est "un engagement de travailler ensemble", a-t-il souligné. "Il n'y a pas encore d'engagements commerciaux" à ce stade. "Il s'agit de fixer une collaboration, de préparer l'avenir (...) avant de passer à des choses de plus grande envergure".

Engie est un acteur économique important en Algérie, notamment dans l'exploration et la production de gaz naturel. Il est notamment le principal acheteur de gaz naturel liquéfié (GNL) dans le pays.

Engie a conclu des contrats GNL à long terme avec Sonatrach représentant 8,5 milliards de m3 par an, selon le groupe, ainsi qu'un contrat à long terme pour de la fourniture de gaz par conduite via Medgas, représentant 1 milliard de m3 par an.

Il a également notamment signé un accord de partage de production de gaz avec Sonatrach pour la région de Touat, située dans le sud-ouest du pays, dans le Sahara algérien.

Le début de la production est attendu en 2018 pour une période de 27 ans.

Les relations entre Engie et Sonatrach s'étaient tendues ces deux dernières années.

En mai 2016, un dirigeant de Engie s'était dit favorable à une révision du système des contrats de fourniture de gaz à long terme, indexés sur les cours du pétrole, ce qu'avait fermement rejeté Alger.

En janvier 2017, un haut responsable d'une filiale d'Engie avait imputé la tension sur l'approvisionnement en gaz dans le sud-est de la France, en pleine vague de froid, à un "problème de production" en Algérie. Sonatrach avait réagi en assurant avoir respecté ses "engagements contractuels".

En avril, le Premier ministre algérien de l'époque, Abdelmalek Sellal, avait assuré que les contentieux avec Engie étaient réglés.

Nigeria :

Nigeria: Google Ranks Nigeria Among Top Three in Global Online Search

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201802080088.html>

By Emma Okonji

A recent research conducted by Google has showed a rapid increase in online search among Nigerians. The research study which ranked Nigeria among the top three countries of the world that spend quality time online in search of various goods and services, disclosed that Nigerians' passion to go online is highest among Africa countries, surpassing South Africa and Kenya, and among top three countries globally.

Country Manager for Google Kenya, Mr. Charles Murito, who made the disclosure in South Africa, while presenting a paper on the evolution of digital advertising and the rise of online presence among African countries, said that South Africa has grown its online presence through mobile

search from 61 per cent in 2014 to 67 per cent in 2017, Kenya grew its online presence through mobile search from 74 per cent in 2014 to 81 per cent in 2017, while Nigeria, which tops the African list for online presence through mobile search, grew from 76 per cent in 2014 to 86 per cent in 2017. He equally puts the growth of YouTube watch time in the past 12 months in Nigeria at 120 per cent, Kenya 110 per cent and South Africa 90 per cent.

He attributed the growth in online presence among African countries to the availability and affordability of mobile devices, occasioned by the fact that Africans are majorly mobile dependent people.

However, he said that the number could grow faster than that if the cost of mobile broadband data is drastically reduced. He said South Africa still have the highest rate of mobile broadband data in Africa, which is put at \$7.6 per gigabyte, followed by Kenya at \$4.9 per gigabyte and Nigeria at \$3.1 gigabyte. He said Tanzania and Ghana operate at \$2.3 per gigabyte each, while Egypt has the lowest rate of mobile broadband data at \$1.2 per gigabyte.

Aside the increase in online presence and the YouTube watch time growth, Murito added that internet usage among African countries has also increased tremendously.

Giving the implication of the growth in online presence and internet usage among African countries on digital marketing, Murito said the entire digital marketing ecosystem must rise to develop the right contents and then channel such contents to the target audience at the right time.

"The lack of local data and the ignorance of commercialising local data owned by some individual and organisations, have always remained a major challenge for digital marketing in Africa," Meulen said.

Speaking on the Google advertising tools that will enhance digital marketing across Africa, Head of Ads PR, EMEA Google and YouTube, Jennifer Kaiser, said the Google Ad Network is available to further grow digital marketing across Africa. According to her, Google has put in place, the Google Ad Policies, designed to create transparency and growth in the entire digital marketing ecosystem. She said over 1.7 billion bad adds were detected and disapproved on the Google Ad Network in 2016 on a global scale, while 12 per cent of all online ads was approved and published on the Google Ad Network in 2016. She insisted that policy enforcement is needed to grow digital marketing in Africa.

Pleased with the growth of online presence and Internet usage among African countries, the Group General Manager, Hitch Digital, Nicky Van der Meulen, called on Africans to generate sufficient data that will drive online advertising and digital marketing. According to Van der Meulen, African counties lack sufficient data that would boost digital marketing and online advertising.

"Data creation is an issue for the African digital marketing and there is need for local data creation in order to depend less on global data, since global data will not yield the right accuracy for digital marketing across Africa," Meulen said.

She said the digital marketing ecosystem is changing, with the introduction of technology tools like programmatic, which helps the advertisers, the publishers and the audience in the entire ecosystem to function well with less stress.

Nigeria

Buhari Fails to End Worsening Fuel Scarcity Across Nigeria

In what appears the worst fuel crisis in the country in recent history, petrol users in Nigeria have for two months... [Read more »](#)

[Read the original article on This Day.](#)

Union Africaine :

A Pékin, le chef de l'Union africaine rejette les accusations d'espionnage chinois
<http://information.tv5monde.com/en-continu/pekin-le-chef-de-l-union-africaine-rejette-les-accusations-d-espionnage-chinois-219293>

08 fév 2018 / Mise à jour 08.02.2018 à 11:00 / AFP / © 2018 AFP

Le président de la Commission de l'Union africaine a fustigé jeudi à Pékin l'enquête du journal français "Le Monde" selon laquelle la Chine a espionné le siège de l'UA en Ethiopie, dénonçant des "mensonges" et plaidant pour une coopération sino-africaine renforcée.

"Je ne vois pas quel intérêt a la Chine à espionner (l'UA). Ce sont des allégations totalement mensongères", a martelé Moussa Faki Mahamat, aux côtés du ministre chinois des Affaires étrangères Wang Yi.

"Les relations entre la Chine et l'Afrique sont inébranlables (...) Nous sommes en plein débat pour le renforcement de cette coopération" qu'"aucune manoeuvre" ne fera dérailler, a-t-il ajouté devant la presse.

Moussa Faki Mahamat est en visite à Pékin pour discuter d'un approfondissement des relations entre l'UA et le régime communiste, ainsi que pour inaugurer une représentation permanente de son institution dans la capitale chinoise.

Dans ce contexte, l'enquête du Monde publiée fin janvier fait désordre.

Citant des sources internes à l'institution, le quotidien français a rapporté que des informaticiens de l'Union africaine s'étaient rendus compte il y a un an que des contenus des serveurs de son siège, dans la capitale éthiopienne Addis Abeba, étaient transférés vers d'autres serveurs à Shanghai, en Chine.

S'appuyant sur les mêmes sources, le journal expliquait que ces transferts avaient eu lieu depuis 2012, date à laquelle s'est achevée la construction du bâtiment flambant neuf de l'UA, offert par... la Chine.

"Le Monde" soutient également que, après la découverte des transferts de données, des experts éthiopiens ont débusqué dans le bâtiment des micros sous les bureaux et dans les murs.

Mais le président de la Commission de l'UA a nié en bloc: "L'Union africaine est une organisation internationale qui ne traite pas de dossiers secret-défense", a-t-il insisté. "Je ne vois pas quel intérêt a la Chine à offrir un tel bâtiment puis à l'espionner".

A ses côtés, le ministre chinois Wang Yi a réaffirmé que ce siège d'Addis Abeba était "un symbole de l'amitié sino-africaine" et que Pékin avait pris en charge sa construction "de façon désintéressée". Mais certains "sont jaloux de la coopération sino-africaine", a-t-il commenté, suggérant que les accusations d'espionnage pourraient être une tentative de compromettre ces échanges en plein boom entre le géant asiatique et le continent africain.

Le commerce sino-africain s'est élevé à 150 milliards de dollars en 2016. Les entreprises chinoises, dont de nombreux groupes d'Etat, multiplient les investissements et travaux d'infrastructures dans les pays africains, auxquels Pékin accorde volontiers des prêts.

Selon "Le Monde", les serveurs de l'UA ont été changés en 2017, lorsque la faille du système a été découverte, et une nouvelle architecture informatique déployée.

H.E. Paul Kagame, the New Chairperson of the African Union
February 1, 2018 <https://freedomnewspaper.com/2018/02/01/h-e-paul-kagame-new-chairperson-african-union/>

H.E. Paul Kagame, the New Chairperson of the African Union,
The Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) meeting at their 30th Ordinary Session at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, elected on 28th January 2018 a new bureau to pilot the activities of the Union for the year 2018.

In his acceptance speech delivered in the backdrop of the theme of the year 2018: “Winning the Fight against Corruption: A Sustainable Path to Africa’s Transformation”, President Paul Kagame said it is a solemn honour, to accept the call to serve as Chairperson of our Union. He expressed his gratitude to the Heads of State for their double trust. First as the leader of the reform process and now as the leader of the African Union

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“I promise to do this with you and do the best job I can. Obviously, I will need your full support” he said, before acknowledging the high experience of his predecessor, saying “President Alpha Condé is a professor, a teacher, and I can safely say that I have learned from him. I have also seen his very big heart for Africa. Congratulations Mr President”. He called on his peers to join him in paying tribute to President Conde’s impeccable service to our organization. “I have been lucky to work with his predecessor President Idriss Deby, and even luckier, to work with both of them. I want to assure you that I had a lot of wisdom flowing from them”, said Kagame.

President Kagame further said the programmes, policies, and priorities of the African Union contain the right tools for the job. “I wish to pay tribute to previous leaders of the African Union, and to former Heads of State, for paving the way forward”. He added that, there is tremendous value in the African Union’s flagship initiatives, such as Agenda 2063.

H.E. Professor Alpha Condé, outgoing Chairperson of the African Union (AU), and President of the Republic of Guinea during his chairmanship in 2017 appointed H.E. Nana Akufo Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana, as Champion on Gender and Development in Africa. Promoting women to high-level positions, the Republic of Guinea under the leadership of H.E. Pr. Alpha Condé, for the first time since its independence welcomed the largest number women in his government to high office, including the Ministry of Economy and Finance; several National Directorates or Autonomous Services.

While the Summit this year’s concentrating on tackling corruption, the presentation outlined how the AU among many other global players is coming to recognize and seek to harness the powerful contributions of faith and faith actors in order to reach their goals.

H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, in his address boldly stated that to date, the African Union is the first inter-governmental organization that made parity a reality at higher decision-making levels. Applauding the placement of women in management positions in the Commission, he accounted that between 2013 and 2017 the gender gap reduced in strategic positions and the increase from 29% of women to 45% currently on Director’s positions; cognizant of the fact that yet more needs to be done.

President Buhari congratulated the African Union for dedicating the theme of the year to the noble cause of fighting corruption on our Continent. He thanked the African Heads of State for entrusting him with the responsibility of serving as the Champion of the theme of the year. He pledged that he will do his very best to ensure that the anti-corruption agenda will receive the attention it deserves and make the impact we all hope for, during 2018 and beyond.

Addressing invitees from the African Union Commission Summit, local and international media, and global and regional development organizations, the Commissioner for Economic Affairs of the AUC, Prof. Victor Harrison, endorsed the report, urging African countries to adopt the recommendations for inclusive growth. “These studies present the behaviour of African economies in the face of difficult external conditions and announce the revival of growth with an estimated rate of 4.1 percent in 2018. We all know that growth is not yet inclusive in Africa, and unemployment affects more women and young people,” he told the audience.

In another development the AU-EU-UN Task Force on the Stranded Migrants situation in Libya on held its Second meeting of the year in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the Sixth since the establishment of the Task Force during the AU-EU Summit in Abidjan in November 2017. The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson, H.E. Madam Amira Elfadil, and Commissioner for Social Affairs. It was attended by the EU Ambassador to the AU and the IOM representative to the AU.

The Commissioner of Social Affairs applauded the efforts of the Libyan authorities in facilitating the voluntary evacuations, particularly in expediting the issuance of landing rights permits and facilitating AU and other stakeholders' missions to Libya.

The outgoing Chairperson of the AU for 2017, H.E. Prof. Alpha Conde, President of Guinea, appointed H.E. Nana Addo Dankwa Akufo-Addo, President of Ghana, as the African Union's Champion for Gender and Development Issues. As part of his vision for this important role, the President of Ghana launched the Gender and Development Initiative for Africa (GADIA). GADIA is an unprecedented flagship programme and implementation framework for the President's AU Gender and Development Championship.

Newly Elected Chairperson of the African Union, H.E. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda also officially launched the first phase of the Single African Air Transport Market (SAATM) championed by twenty-three African countries at the Headquarters of the AU, a historic and a vital milestone towards the continental effort to start the implementation of the 1999 Yamoussoukro Decision.

Saidina Alieu Jarjou / Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Africa: President Trump Wishes 'Successful Summit' to African Union- TEXT

<http://allafrica.com/stories/201801270269.html>

Washington, DC — Three days before an assembly of African heads-of-state and government that begins this weekend in Addis Ababa, the White House sent a letter from President Trump expressing "best wishes for a successful Summit."

The letter, a copy of which was obtained by AllAfrica, comes at a sensitive moment in U.S.-African relations, following reported comments by Trump referring to "shithole" countries in Africa. Trump has denied using that language.

"The United States profoundly respects the partnerships and values we share with the African Union, member states, and citizens across continent," Trump says in the letter dated January 25, "I want to underscore that the United States deeply respects the people of Africa. and my commitment to strong and respectful relationships with Africa states as sovereign nations is firm."

In his letter, which has not been published on the White House web site., Trump offers a "salute" to the leadership of Chairperson Moussa Faki and congratulated Rwanda President Paul Kagame on his assumption of the chair of the AU Assembly.

RELATED: 78 Former U.S. Ambassadors to Africa Send Protest Letter to President Trump

Trump and Kagame met at World Economic Forum in Davos on Friday to discuss "the partnership between the United States and African nations on economic growth and improved security," according to a White House statement.

In his letter, Trump said Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will travel to Africa on an "extended visit in March."

Full Text of President Trump's Letter to African Union Leaders

I offer my deepest compliments as you gather in Addis Ababa for the 30th African Union Summit. I salute the leadership of Chairperson Moussa Faki in working to transform the Union into an increasingly effective institution to advance economic prosperity, strengthen peace and security and deliver positive outcomes for Africa and the broader international community.

I congratulate His Excellency Paul Kagame on his succession as Chairman of the Assembly and thank His Excellency Alpha Conde for his service.

The United States profoundly respects the partnerships and values we share with the African Union, member states, and citizens across continent. I want to underscore that the United States deeply respects the people of Africa. and my commitment to strong and respectful relationships with Africa states as sovereign nations is firm. Our soldiers are fighting side by side to defeat terrorists and

build secure communities. We are working together to increase free, fair and reciprocal trade between the United States and African countries, and partnering to improve transportation security and safeguard legal immigration.

The challenges and opportunities this summit will address - advancing trade and development, resolving armed conflicts, and combatting corruption, among many others - are critical to the future of the African continent, and you can rely upon America's partnership and support for the African Union's leadership on these issues.

In the coming year, I look forward to building on relationships established during the African Leaders' Lunch during the United Nation's General Assembly, the Africa Ministerial in Washington, and engagements of Ambassador Nikki Haley, Deputy Secretary of State John Sullivan and my Ambassadors throughout the continent. Secretary of State Rex Tillerson will travel to Africa for an extended visit in March, and I look forward to welcoming many of you to the White House.

Please accept my greetings, highest regards, and best wishes for a successful Summit.