

AFRICA: 6 NOVEMBRE 2018 - [Egypt achieves significant industrial development rates: PM / China International Import Expo (CIIE) | E-commerce : le Rwanda, premier hub africain d'Alibaba | What Kenyans had to say about Uhuru's visit to China]

(1) During the opening of the first session of the China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Monday attended by the Chinese President Xi Jinping, Madbouly said that Egypt had developed an investment plan in order to attract investments. He further called on the Chinese business community to pump more investment into Egypt and benefit from the country's unique geographical position between Europe, Africa and Asia

(2) Avec l'implantation de la plateforme d'e-commerce d'Alibaba à Kigali, le Rwanda devient le premier hub africain de la société chinoise.

(3) President Uhuru is expected to sign a horticulture trade deal which will allow Kenya to export fresh produce such as avocados, cashew nuts and mangoes to China



November 2018 - BDI-AGNEWS
[Images : egypttoday.com; pmldaily.com ; standardmedia.co.ke]

[Images : pmldaily.com / egypttoday.com / standardmedia.co.ke]

BURUNDI :

Burundi : Renforcement de la coopération militaire avec l’Egypte

<http://burundi-agnews.org/afrique/burundi-renforcement-de-la-cooperation-militaire-avec-legypte/>
SECURITE, DEFENSE – Le Burundi renforce sa coopération bilatérale en matière de défense avec l’Egypte.

CAIRE (EGYPTE), Samedi 3 novembre 2018 – Dans le cadre de la Politique de Défense des Burundi, le Lieutenant-Général NIYONGABO Prime, Chef d’Etat Major de la Force de Défense Nationale du Burundi (FDNB), accompagné d’une délégation composée d’autres officiers, ont été reçus par le Général ZAKI Mohamed, Ministre Égyptien de la Défense, avant de rencontrer le Lieutenant-Général MOHAMED Farid, Chef d’Etat des Forces Armées Égyptiennes, en vue d’un renforcement bilatéral de la coopération militaire.

DAM, NY, AGNEWS, <http://burundi-agnews.org>, Lundi 5 novembre 2018

RWANDA :

E-commerce : le Rwanda, premier hub africain d'Alibaba

Avec l'implantation de la plateforme d'e-commerce d'Alibaba à Kigali, le Rwanda devient le premier hub africain de la société chinoise... et accède par la même à un marché de millions de consommateurs potentiels.

Déjà présenté comme l'épicentre de la révolution numérique en Afrique, le Rwanda conforte son avance. Cette semaine, le pays a en effet accueilli le hub africain de la plateforme d'e-commerce d'Alibaba Group. Il a été lancé depuis Kigali par le président Paul Kagamé et le PDG de l'entreprise chinoise, Jack Ma. Les deux hommes se connaissent bien, et se sont déjà rencontrés à plusieurs reprises. Leur dernière entrevue date du 23 septembre 2018 à New York, en marge de la Commission sur le haut débit.

Objectif de l' eWTP, ou « Electronic World Trade Platform » : promouvoir le dialogue public-privé pour favoriser un environnement politique et commercial plus efficace, et à terme permettre aux petites et moyennes entreprises (PME) de participer au commerce électronique transfrontalier. Grâce aux accords signés dans la capitale rwandaise, les PME du pays pourront ainsi vendre leurs produits, dont le café par exemple, à des consommateurs chinois via les places de marché en ligne d'Alibaba.

Un atout pour les producteurs rwandais

Avec l'installation du hub, le deuxième du géant de e-commerce hors de Chine après la Malaisie, le pays accède donc à des millions de clients potentiels. Une opportunité bien comprise par Paul Kagamé, pour qui « la plateforme de commerce mondial [...] stimulera la capacité et la compétitivité des entrepreneurs et acteurs d'affaires ». Les producteurs rwandais seront en mesure « d'effectuer des ventes directes à un ensemble de consommateurs beaucoup plus large qu'auparavant, a-t-il déclaré lors du lancement. Et cela, tout en contournant les intermédiaires coûteux ».

« Ce partenariat entre le Rwanda et Alibaba transformera positivement l'existence de la population. Nous sommes déterminés à tirer parti de l'économie numérique pour soutenir nos exportateurs, producteurs locaux et artisans, a fait savoir, quant à elle, la présidente-directrice générale du Comité de développement du Rwanda (RDB), Clare Akamanzi.

Jack Ma l'Africain

Si le Rwanda compte bien confirmer son statut de leader du numérique en Afrique grâce à l'installation de l'eWTP, elle permet également à Jack Ma de s'implanter encore davantage sur le continent. Car le milliardaire, pour qui « l'Afrique d'aujourd'hui est bien meilleure que la Chine, d'il y a quatre-vingt-dix ans » y multiplie les initiatives. Dernière en date, le lancement de Netpreneurs Prize, un nouveau concours consacré aux fondateurs africains de start-up. Le prix prévoit la distribution de près de 10 millions de dollars à cent entrepreneurs du continent, sur les dix prochaines années.

Depuis sa nomination au poste de Conseiller spécial de la Conférence des Nations unies sur le commerce et le développement (Cnuced) en septembre 2016, le PDG chinois a les yeux rivés sur l'Afrique. Un intérêt qui se manifeste via diverses initiatives philanthropiques, mais, aussi, par le développement de ses affaires sur le continent. En juin, il a d'ailleurs signé pour le compte de sa société de paiement Alipay un protocole d'accord avec Equity Bank, une institution financière basée au Kenya, et Red Dot, une société de paiement en ligne de Singapour.

http://afrique.lepoint.fr/economie/e-commerce-le-rwanda-premier-hub-africain-d-alibaba-03-11-2018-2268270_2258.php

TANZANIA :

Tanzania's LGBT community 'fearing for their lives'

<https://edition.cnn.com/2018/11/05/africa/tanzania-crackdown-on-gays-intl/index.html>

By Gertrude Kitongo and Bukola Adebayo, CNN

(CNN)Members of Tanzania's LGBT community are fearing for their lives, hiding in their homes and even fleeing the country after threats from a powerful politician to round up gay Tanzanians, activists said.

The announcement from the regional governor of Tanzania's largest city, Dar es Salaam, has also led to a new travel warning by the US State Department warning US citizens to remove any material on social media that could "run afoul" of Tanzania's anti-homosexuality laws.

"I have closed my office today and we will not be operating for a while," said James Wandera Ouma, one of the few activists openly campaigning for LGBT rights in the country.

Another well-known activist, who cannot be named for safety reasons, said that gay Tanzanians are in hiding.

"We are worried about both those who are known to the community and those who are closeted," he said.

The LGBT community in Tanzania has suffered through community and police harassment before, but last week the regional governor of Dar es Salaam vowed to set up a task force to round up and arrest people suspected of being gay.

"I am announcing this to every citizen of Dar es Salaam. If you know any gays, report them to me," said Paul Makonda in a news conference with local reporters last Monday.

The task force was supposed to be launched this Monday. So far it is unclear if the governor's deadline is being met.

Multiple attempts by CNN to reach Makonda were unsuccessful.

"It is extremely regrettable that Tanzania has chosen to take such a dangerous path in its handling of an already marginalized group of people," said Joan Nyanyuki, Amnesty International's regional director for East Africa, the Horn and the Great Lakes.

"The idea of this task force must be immediately abandoned as it only serves to incite hatred among members of the public."

Central government not on board

On Sunday, after intense international pressure, the Tanzanian government tried to distance itself from the controversial governor's plans.

"His views are not the view of the government. The state would like to use this opportunity to assure people that it will continue to respect all organizations that are relating to human rights," a Foreign Ministry statement said.

The statement did not criticize the governor's actions, nor reassure gay Tanzanians of protection.

"If the government really means it, then they should stop these actions by Makonda. Otherwise the harassment and fear will just continue," the LGBT activist said.

Ouma said that until they get guarantees of protection, people will just remain in hiding.

"I need the government's assurance that I will not be attacked," he said.

Tanzanian President John Magufuli's government has tried to distance itself from the regional official's stance.

Tanzanian President John Magufuli's government has tried to distance itself from the regional official's stance.

Tanzania is a deeply conservative country and, unlike in neighboring Kenya, hasn't seen progress on LGBT rights.

On the contrary, under the current administration of John Magufuli, rights groups believe that the situation has gotten worse.

Human Rights Watch says the government has shut down LGBT-friendly clinics, prohibited community organizations from doing HIV outreach targeting key populations and arrested activists holding workshops on legal advice.

LGBT people face a 30-year jail sentence in Tanzania for gay male sex, a holdover from colonial-era laws, mirroring severe penalties for same-sex relationships across many African countries.

But the prospect of a task force scouring the streets and social media accounts for "evidence" of LGBT Tanzanians has terrified many in the community already dealing with a homophobic community and government.

But the activists contacted by CNN say they refuse to leave.

"I have to help people who are in hiding. The government needs to stop this harassment. We are, after all, all citizens of Tanzania," said the LGBT activist.

ZITTO KABWE: It is clear Tanzania's opposition is in a shambles, under attack from the State
Saturday November 3 2018

<http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/ea/ZITTO-KABWE-on-Tanzania-democracy-and-opposition-/4552908-4835144-2jvn07z/index.html>

Tanzanian opposition MP Zitto Kabwe. He says the opposition is under attack and an honest observer of Tanzanian politics would add that it is in a shambles. FILE PHOTO | THE CITIZEN
By ERICK KABENDERA

More by this Author

The Tanzanian opposition leader Zitto Kabwe spoke to Erick Kabendera on the current political space in the country.

What is your assessment of the state of opposition in Tanzania?

It is under attack and an honest observer of Tanzanian politics would add that it is in a shambles. However, the situation we are in is attributable to the actions of the state, which does not observe the rule of law.

The Political Parties Act allows for mobilisation, recruiting of members and public rallies. But the president issued a decree in July 2016 that political parties are not allowed to conduct public rallies until election time. Only parliamentarians and councillors can go on political rallies in their localities, but CCM and the president continue to conduct public rallies all over the country. The opposition is in the boxing ring with their hands tied.

The democratic space has narrowed. People are being arrested for airing their views. The top five leaders of the main opposition party Chadema are facing various charges and are supposed to go to court every Thursday, which means they can't conduct political activities. I have been arrested at least four times since President John Magufuli was elected.

We have also seen massive defections and CCM is co-opting key opposition members into government.

So what is the solution?

We are engaging the Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation, which has created a platform for all political parties to meet and discuss our political situation and recommend reforms — whether it be a new Constitution or minimum reforms to the current law.

As the opposition, we need to talk among ourselves to counter the autocratic leadership in our country. Some members are suggesting that we form one party. This isn't practical, but it is worth considering.

What is your take on President Magufuli?

We've never seen a president who behaves like him. Founding president Julius Nyerere was a philosopher; Ali Hassan Mwinyi opened up the country to the rest of the world; Benjamin Mkapa and Jakaya Kikwete allowed parliament to do its work without interference, but the current president doesn't respect institutions.

What is your assessment of the economy?

Tanzania has registered remarkable economic growth of six-seven per cent, but it isn't reflected in people's lives. Exports of manufactured goods have gone down by 53 per cent in the past two years. Our trade balance with Kenya is negative; we used to export more to Kenya than we imported from then. Our exports of cotton, coffee, sisal and tea have gone down, when these are the sectors that employ the majority of Tanzanians. The only sectors that are holding up are tourism and transport. Some Tanzanians believe that we are in a sort of trade war with Kenya...

I am a staunch supporter of East African integration. Our leaders must understand that the EAC is a Common Market: Goods produced in Nairobi should get the same treatment in terms of prices and duty as goods manufactured in Dar es Salaam.

There must be freedom of movement of goods and people in the region. The fact that a Kenyan needs a permit to work in Tanzania is worrying because we signed protocols with EAC member states.

The current administration has placed emphasis on large infrastructure projects. Have these projects helped transform the economy?

The results are mixed because we finance construction projects with taxpayers' money. This approach creates jobs outside our country because almost all the inputs used for construction are imported. The only benefit we have achieved is the creation of menial jobs.

Another cause for concern is that we are not sequencing our development projects. For example, we built a 515km Mtwara-Dar es Salaam pipeline to pump natural gas and generate electricity, but the Controller and Auditor General said in his latest report that we are only using six per cent of the pipeline's capacity. The government embarked on a new hydropower project at Stigler's Gorge before utilising the pipeline.

I am not suggesting that the government shouldn't carry out projects critical for generating electricity for our industrialisation, but we have to do it in a prudent manner.

You have persistently criticised the government for buying new planes and constructing the standard gauge railway. Why are you not supporting these projects?

Experts have advised that we rehabilitate the existing Central Line and use it to generate revenues to inject into the SGR rather than taking money from the treasury to build a new railway. The government has borrowed at a commercial rate to build the railway, but will start servicing the loan before the investment generates money to pay for it.

The private sector has been complaining about the deteriorating business environment, which is scaring away foreign investors. Is this a matter of concern to you?

We have been declining on the ease of doing business, and red tape has increased. The government has changed the arbitration policy and foreign investors will not be able to file for international arbitration. This has led to a drop in the confidence of investors.

EU recalls envoy from Tanzania

2018-11-04 10:00

European Union (iStock)

<https://www.news24.com/Africa/News/eu-recalls-envoy-from-tanzania-20181103>

The European Union said on Saturday it has recalled its chief representative in Tanzania to Brussels for discussions, following reports he had been asked to leave by the government.

Roeland van de Geer "has been recalled by his headquarters to Brussels to meet next week with senior officials to discuss the situation in Tanzania," Susanne Mbise, press officer at the EU delegation, told AFP by phone.

The EU, like the United States, has been critical of the government's rights record and in February it condemned recent incidents it said had tarnished Tanzania's relatively good record.

February's statement noted in particular the death of a student killed by a stray bullet fired by police as they broke up an opposition demonstration, and the attempted assassination several months earlier of opposition MP Tundu Lissu.

Rights groups including Amnesty International have protested recent calls by local politicians for homosexuality to be outlawed.

Rights activists claim that President John Magufuli, who came to power in 2015, has cracked down on dissent and freedom of expression.

In February, the Catholic church in Tanzania called on the government to respect democratic rights.

Tanzanian students set for Ethiopia satellite launch

Saturday, November 3, 2018

<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/News/Tanzanian-students-set-for-Ethiopia-satellite-launch/1840340-4834992-8dav43/index.html>

KENYA :

New law bad for Kenya, cartels at work: Pharmacy students

<https://www.nation.co.ke/news/New-law-bad-for-Kenya--Pharmacy-students/1056-4838282-nrbbks/index.html>

Monday November 5 2018

A university student in the Pharmacy Students Association of Kenya (Kephsa) during a protest on November 5, 2018 against the enactment of Health Amendment Bill, 2018, which seeks to group them with pharmaceutical technologists, who are diploma holders. PHOTO | AGGREY OMBOKI | NATION MEDIA GROUP

By AGGREY OMBOKI

More by this Author

Undergraduates at the Pharmacy Students Association of Kenya (Kephsa) have called for the withdrawal of sections of Health Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018, saying it will dilute professionalism.

Led by chair Dr Cohen Andove, they marched on the streets of Nairobi in protest on Monday, from Uhuru Park, to the Office of the President at Harambee House and then to Parliament.

PETITION

They later presented a petition to Speaker Justin Muturi, calling for the withdrawal of Chapter 244, which they term dangerous for the entire health sector.

"Kephsa is disillusioned to learn of the proposed amendments to the Cap 244, which is an act of parliament, to make better provisions for the control of the profession of pharmacy and the trade in drugs and poisons," Mr Andove said.

"While we agree with certain clauses in the proposed amendment, we reject it in its entirety as it fails to address fundamental issues of the pharmacy practice."

The bill was passed by the National Assembly on October 28 and is awaiting President Uhuru Kenyatta's assent.

The amendment seeks to register both pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians under one board, using the title 'pharmacy practitioners', and grade them under one job group.

This essentially degrades the rigorous pharmacy course that takes five years. The diploma pharmaceutical technicians course that takes 18 months.

MALICE

The association also targeted the mover of the bill, Baringo Woman Representative Gladyswell Chesire, accusing her of malice. The bill was sponsored by Majority Leader Aden Duale.

"We reject her antics, which continue to stagnate our very young democracy, as her failure to engage all stakeholders of the pharmacy profession betrays the very basic tenets of our democracy. We are appalled by her malicious attitude and failure to recognise that our democracy can only grow if we choose to debate such contentious issues openly, with inclusivity and continuity," he said.

Dr Andove further said the country cannot afford to water down the profession through the amendment. He asked it to instead scale up the level of care offered to patients in public facilities in line with universally accepted standards.

"We are in a critical era of personalised patient care due to the very recent realisation that different patients respond differently to the same drugs. To integrate with the rest of the world in this era, the pharmacist has to be given space in the healthcare system and be equipped with modern knowledge and techniques," he said.

"As future pharmacists, the future looks bleak to us with this amendment, despite the rigorous training we have undergone."

University students in the Pharmacy Students Association of Kenya

University students in the Pharmacy Students Association of Kenya (Kephsa) demonstrate along Haile Selassie Avenue in Nairobi County on November 5, 2018, against the passing of Health Amendment Bill, 2018, which seeks to group them with pharmaceutical technologists, who are diploma holders. PHOTO | AGGREY OMBOKI | NATION MEDIA GROUP
"GRAVE DANGER"

Kephsa's University of Nairobi chair, Njenga Muiruri, said it is time for parliamentarians to reject the bill, which he termed "a grave danger to patients and quality care in the health sector". Dr Muiruri criticised the bill for downgrading the qualifications of pharmacists to a diploma, saying the diploma holders do not take oaths but that pharmacists vow to protect their patients. "The US and the UK recently revamped their pharmacy curricula to ensure medics learn for at least seven years. We cannot stand aside as people seek to mutilate our health care," he said. In a previous interview with the Nation, Pharmaceutical Society of Kenya (PSK) President, Dr Louis Machogu, hit out at what he called "the systematic effort to lock professionals out of the regulation of the industry".

Dr Machogu noted that amendments to the law were first drafted in the 11th Parliament.

"The whole process was initiated in the 11th parliament when a politician with vast interests in the pharmaceutical sector tabled amendments that removed the legally accountable individual, who is the pharmacist, from the Kenya Medical Supplies Authority (Kemsa)," he said.

"The same tabled amendments watered down the independent pharmacist's role in self-regulation and the upholding of public interest within the Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB) by reducing the number of board members from four to three."

CARTELS

The PSK president further termed the decision to remove pharmacists from the board "a move by cartels and other unscrupulous business people who want to control the pharmaceutical business".

"What this means is that cartels are fighting back to get control of the business of selling counterfeits. They are now angling for the big four agenda of manufacture of medicines by supplying expired and poor quality medicines worth billions to Kenyans," he said.

Kephsa Organising Secretary, Dr Bona Ogendi, said the amendments are dangerous to public interest and that he will not allow unqualified individuals to import drugs into Kenya.

"We cannot have semi-qualified individuals playing the role of board members at the PPB. It would expose the entire process to interference by cartels since it would be easier for them and other interested individuals to compromise pharmaceutical technologists, who do not fully understand the drugs they are dealing with, in a bid to import fake, substandard drugs in to the country," said the pharmacist.

DEGREE

Dr Christine Ndanu, a pharmacy student at the University of Nairobi, with a diploma in pharmaceutical technology, told the Nation that there is no law against diploma students advancing their qualifications.

"I have gone through the diploma course and now I have joined the university. If diploma students wish to be recognised as pharmacists, let them go back to school just as I did," said Dr Ndanu.

Dr Triza Okoth said the diploma course will not allow a certificate holder to open a chemist if global standards are enforced locally.

"Under international standards, a diploma holder is not even allowed to open a chemist let alone import drugs in to the country," said Dr Okoth.

She said some technologists are likely to endanger the lives of patients if elevated to the level of pharmacists since they do not fully understand the drugs they issue at health facilities.

What Kenyans had to say about Uhuru's visit to China

By Grace Gichuhi

| Published Mon, November 5th 2018 at 12:42, Updated November 5th 2018 at 14:40 GMT +3

<https://www.standardmedia.co.ke/article/2001301640/what-kenyans-had-to-say-about-uhuru-s-visit-to-china>

After President Uhuru Kenyatta announced online that he was in China for bilateral talks with President Xi Jinping, Kenyans it was a flurry of mixed reactions on social media.

While in China, President Uhuru is expected to sign a horticulture trade deal which will allow Kenya to export fresh produce such as avocados, cashew nuts and mangoes to China. The visit comes on the heels of some unease after President Uhuru hinted at protective tariffs against Chinese fish exports to Kenya with Beijing ambassador to Kenya talking of a trade war. Most reactions urge against taking more Chinese loans. Here, are some of them on Twitter:

UGANDA :

Uganda's Museveni under fire for saying men shouldn't cook

Published on 05.11.2018 at 20h54 by AFP

<https://www.journalducameroun.com/en/ugandas-museveni-under-fire-for-saying-men-shouldnt-cook/>

Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni came under fire Monday for saying he had not stepped into the kitchen since he got married, and that it was not a man's role to cook.

"The head of the home never goes into the kitchen. It is now 45 years with Mama Janet, I have never stepped into the kitchen. That is how it should be," he said on Sunday in a statement, as an example of how politicians and civil servants should stick to proscribed roles.

Oxfam's International Executive Director, Winnie Byanyima, hit back at the 74-year-old president on Twitter, saying she was "disappointed".

"Cooking isn't a woman's job. It's a life skill. All people – men and women should cook," she wrote.

"When cooking, cleaning and doing other domestic chores are left to women, they are denied an equal chance to raise incomes or to be politically active."

Beatrice Alaso from the opposition Forum For Democratic Change told AFP: "Museveni has revealed to the world what he has always believed in: that women can never be the same as their male counterparts."

Online news website Watchdog Uganda however defended Museveni's comments as consistent with the country's culture which sees men cooking as "taboo", saying some ethnic groups in the country have a word referring to men who cook as a "transvestite or a man dressing and behaving like a woman."

SUDAN :

Juba to host peace talks between Khartoum and all Sudanese armed groups: adviser
Tuesday 6 November 2018

<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article66556>

November 5, 2018 (JUBA) - South Sudanese government will host peace talks between the Sudanese government and all the armed groups in Sudan including Darfur movement, announced the presidency in Juba.

Last week, Juba announced a mediation to reunite the two factions of the Sudan Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N) and narrow the gaps between them and Khartoum in an effort to facilitate a peaceful settlement for the conflict in the Two Areas which border South Sudan.

But on Monday Presidential Adviser Tut Kew Gatluak announced that all the armed opposition groups in Darfur are also invited to Juba for discussions with the Sudanese government in a bid to reach a comprehensive peace agreement in Sudan.

"President Kiir has invited all the Sudanese armed opposition groups, whether in Darfur or in the two states of the Blue Nile and South Kordofan states, to participate in the (peace) talks in Juba," he told reporters on Monday.

Gatluak who chaired his government delegation for the Khartoum peace talks further stated that all the Sudanese groups welcomed the mediation of President Kiir between them and the Sudanese government.

"Next week, the Sudanese government delegation and the opposition negotiating teams will gather in Juba in order to begin peace talks," he added.

President Omer al-Bashir, in the past, refused a proposal Kiir had made to mediate between the government and the rebels in the Two Areas. However, the relationship between men has been strengthened during the three months of talks between the South Sudanese warring parties.

The Juba process for peace in Sudan will tackle all the outstanding issues in the African Union-brokered process to end the conflict in the Two Areas. The same for the armed groups Darfur which had failed to conclude a humanitarian ceasefire agreement in Addis Ababa before to move for the political talks in Doha.

In Khartoum, the ruling National Congress Party (NCP) welcomed the South Sudanese mediation and recalled the benchmarks for peace in Sudan.

The Head of NCP Information Sector, Ibrahim Siddiq Ali, said in a statement issued in Khartoum that the point of reference for the Two Areas is the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP), the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) includes the benchmarks for the talks with the armed groups in western Sudan.

He also underscored that the dialogue with the political opposition remains governed by the National Document and the recommendation of the National Dialogue Conference.

SPLM-N AGAR WELCOMES

The SPLM-N Agar welcomed the inclusion of Darfur groups in the Juba process and praised once again the initiative of President Salva Kiir to bring to Juba the SPLM-N factions and the Sudanese government to discuss peace in Sudan.

"The initiative of President Salva Kiir will support the efforts of the African Union and the international community and will pave the way for a comprehensive solution to the whole Sudanese issue," Yasir Arman told Sudan Tribune from Juba.

Arman stressed that the South Sudanese mediation between the Sudanese parties is a good opportunity in light of regional changes, including the peace agreement in South Sudan.

"This initiative supports the conclusion of a comprehensive and lasting solution between the Sudanese parties and it should include all the factions of the Sudanese opposition," said Arman. The presence of the armed groups from South Kordofan and Blue Nile states and Darfur region along the border area between the two countries and inside South Sudan caused many problems between Juba and Khartoum in the past.

In a speech before the United Nations General Assembly on 28 September 2018, the South Sudanese First Vice-President Taban Deng Gai called on Khartoum to negotiate a peaceful settlement of its conflicts in Darfur and the Two Areas, saying these conflicts affect stability in South Sudan and the whole region.

The 2015 peace agreement between Juba and the armed opposition groups included an article providing to disarm, demobilized and repatriated the Sudanese armed groups present in the country.(ST)

SOUTH SUDAN :

South Sudan denies defection of diplomat in Kenya
<http://www.sudantribune.com/spip.php?article66560>

November 5, 2018 (JUBA) - The South Sudanese embassy in Kenya Monday dismissed rumours about the defection of one of its diplomats to a rebel group led by General Paul Malong Awan.

The diplomatic mission in Nairobi was reacting to a statement circulating Sunday in the social media announcing the defection of Minister Plenipotentiary Kur Garang Deng to the South Sudan United Front/Army (SSUF/A) of Gen Malong who is based in Kenya too.

Deng in his alleged statement of defection denounced the bad leadership, tribalism, lack of governance, killing of civilians and corruption. Also, in the personal statement appeared the stamp of the embassy but it was obviously photocopied from another document.

"We would like to unequivocally state that this document is not genuine and is aimed at defaming and maligning the character and name of Mr Kur Garang Deng and the Embassy in an attempt to create obstacles in his dispensation of duties at the mission," said a statement released on Monday.

The embassy further denounced the "smear campaign" against its diplomat and pointed out that the stamp has been copied and pasted onto the document and also the document bears no signature.

Kenya hosts thousands of South Sudanese and over 115,000 refugees from South Sudan.

Also, several opposition leaders including SSUF leader Malong.

The former army chief of staff sought to join the IGAD brokered peace process but his request was declined by the regional body.

Malong accuses his old friend President Salva Kiir of objecting to his participation while other sources say the IGAD did not want to have an opposition leader who is under international sanctions. (ST)

EGYPT :

Egypt achieves significant industrial development rates: PM / China International Import Expo (CIIE)

<http://www.egypttoday.com/Article/2/60059/Egypt-achieves-significant-industrial-development-rates-PM>

By: Amr Mohamed Kandil

Tue, Nov. 6, 2018

CAIRO – 5 November 2018: Prime Minister Mostafa Madbouly said on Monday that Egypt has achieved significant industrial development rates over the past four years, adding that a number of procedures have been taken to improve investment situation and attract foreign investors.

During the opening of the first session of the China International Import Expo (CIIE) on Monday attended by the Chinese President Xi Jinping, Madbouly said that Egypt had developed an investment plan in order to attract investments. He further called on the Chinese business community to pump more investment into Egypt and benefit from the country's unique geographical position between Europe, Africa and Asia.

He stressed that Egypt had sought to strengthen its trade agreements with a number of international economic and trade organizations, affirming the state's intention to facilitate all measures required for investors to start their business.

Madbouly also praised the positive role played by the Egyptian-Chinese Business Council to strengthen relations between the two countries, calling on all delegations to have a look at the Egyptian branch's Chinese expo, in order to watch the Egyptian products.

Madbouli participated in the Chinese expo in Shanghai, on behalf of President Abdel Fatah al-Sisi, accompanied by Amr Nassar, Minister of Trade and Industry.

The Expo's Egyptian branch comprises 38 companies over a total area of 256 square meters. The companies include 24 companies in the fields of agricultural crops and food industries, 6 companies in the medical and chemical industries, 4 companies in the field of ready-made garments, a company in the field of engineering industries, a company in the field of handicraft, and a company in the field of printing and packaging.

Madbouli thanked the Chinese president and people for inviting Egypt to attend the event as a guest of honor. This invitation mirrors China's keenness on boosting trade and economic cooperation with Egypt, he said.

He said the CIIE provides a real opportunity to enhance joint cooperation between Egypt and China in the commercial and investment domains, stressing that Egypt's participation in this important expo comes in recognition of China's efforts to promote international trade and achieve the principle of fair trade among countries.

At regional level, Egypt was among the earliest countries that signed a joint cooperation agreement with China within the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative announced by the Chinese president in 2013, he added.

China is Egypt's fourth largest trade partner and Egypt is also China's fourth largest trade partner in the African continent, Madbouli said.

According to the 2017 statistics, bilateral trade between the two countries reached 11 billion dollars with the trade balance tilted towards the Chinese side. This demonstrates the importance of heightening joint efforts for balanced trade between the two countries.

Additional reporting by MENA

ETHIOPIA :

Ethiopian women movement could revolutionize Ethiopian politics

<https://www.borkena.com/2018/11/05/ethiopian-women-movement-could-revolutionize-ethiopian-politics/>

Jegnit, Ethiopian Women Movement, has the potential to revolutionize conflict recipe of ethnic-based politics of difference and transform it to one that unites Ethiopians as citizens.

Editorial borkena November 5,2018

Despite the world is hailing Ethiopia as a country making great forward march since Abiy Ahmed took office as prime minister sometime in April of this year, much is not going well for the internal situation is rather becoming increasingly fragile.

The change, as many Ethiopians seem to understand it correctly, is mostly nominal. Government made no structural or ideological changes. The result is that government is making all the effort to make the “change” fit into the old structure and ideology too to minimize discontent from within the ruling coalition and their support base.

The incompatibility between the two is causing security and political problems for citizens whose individual rights are bartered to group rights, among other things, but the government (and some opposition leaders as well) seem to think that the “challenges that Ethiopia is experiencing are expected during transition time.” Paradoxically, at times government authorities seem to tell Ethiopians that the change, as they call it, is in danger unless they work with the government to ensure that it is not reversed.

Among the few notable and meaningful changes is the revolution like is the unprecedented gender balance in government positions in recent weeks. In addition to the head of state post, ten of the twenty ministerial positions, including powerful ones like the defense ministry and ministry of peace, are now held by women.

Not just that. Last week week, new addition is made in the court system when the parliament approved Meaza Ashenafi as the first female Chief Justice. Today, two females are appointed in the office of the prime minister as the office is being re-organized.

Birtukan Mideksa, a woman who paid immensely in the struggle for freedom and without a doubt a women who is poised to be an icon in the history of Ethiopian women, is expected to arrive in Ethiopia this week after invitation by government and is poised to hold a key position in Election Board.

Last week, newly appointed women leaders launched a movement called Jegnit which could translate to heroines. From the look of it, it sounds like organic idea which aims to make Ethiopia achieve peace through creating women networks across the country to form a solid ground for a culture of peace. It suggests that the movement has a very good grasp of the fragility of the condition in the country.

When the women movement organized its first peace conference today which was also meant to be an official launch, at the African union, as the ministry of foreign Affairs of Ethiopia reported, President Sahle-Work Zewde called on women to play a leading role if the reform in the country is to take root.

She reiterated what she said in her acceptance speech in the parliament: “We should all stand together and safeguard peace as it is the foundation for all things,” as quoted by the Ministry of Foreign affairs of Ethiopia.

As well, it seems the case that there is concrete understanding in the women movement that radical ethnic based political environment has affected women in the country, socially, economically and security wise.

That coupled with the passion to change Ethiopia, experience and knowledge of the leaders in the Ethiopian women movement could certainly revolutionize the way politics is understood and practiced in the country.

Tanzanian students set for Ethiopia satellite launch

Saturday, November 3, 2018

<https://www.thecitizen.co.tz/News/Tanzanian-students-set-for-Ethiopia-satellite-launch/1840340-4834992-8dav43/index.html>

RD CONGO :

Le FCC déterminé à gagner les élections à tous les niveaux
<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5be167c2d977ea00041d1717/>

Kinshasa 06-11-2018 Politique - Grâce au Président Joseph Kabila qui a rabattu le caquet, ou du moins, a ignoré les bruits de la communauté dite internationale et ceux d'une opposition somme toute en perte de vitesse, le FCC a le vent en poupe désormais. Il y a donc comme une réelle impuissance de cette opposition à faire face au rouleau-compresseur enclenché par le Rais dans ce schéma tracé vers la victoire.

Le ministre de la Communication et médias, Lambert Mende Omalanga, a affirmé lundi, dans une intervention sur une radio de la place, que le Front commun pour le Congo (FCC) déjà en ordre de bataille est déterminé à gagner les scrutins du 23 décembre prochain à tous les niveaux.

Après la publication de la liste de campagne, a indiqué à cette occasion le ministre Lambert Mende, on attend le programme du candidat du FCC qui a été officiellement présenté à la population par le Premier ministre Bruno Tshibala Nzenzhe le samedi 27 octobre 2018 dans un stade Tata Raphaël archicomble et en présence de plusieurs personnalités de la République, membres de cette méga structure.

Par ailleurs, en réponse à une question, il a invité les personnes qui n'auraient pas été consultées et dont les noms figurent sur la liste de l'équipe de campagne du candidat du Front commun pour le Congo (FCC) d'en informer le coordonnateur, Ramazani Shadary, afin d'être remplacées.

Le ministre Mende n'a pas voulu faire trop de commentaires à ce sujet, indiquant simplement que cela n'aura aucun impact parce qu'aucune de ces personnes n'a la direction d'une cellule.

Certainement, « il y a eu malentendu mais personne n'est indispensable », a-t-il martelé.

Par ailleurs, le directeur de cabinet du Président de la République, Néhémie Mwilanya Wilondja, a, quant à lui, noté qu'il ne fallait pas se fier aux listes diffusées sur les réseaux sociaux et que la liste définitive de l'équipe de campagne serait diffusée incessamment sur le site du FCC.

Après la liste, le programme

Le ministre de la Communication et médias a fait remarquer que le Front commun pour le Congo a mis du temps à se préparer au vu de ce qui se passe dans les camps adverses aussi bien au pays que dans certaines chancelleries et capitales occidentales. Pour Lambert Mende, avec sa manière d'agir, l'opposition ne peut pas s'adjuger un résultat positif.

A une question sur l'usurpation du pouvoir par le FCC qui serait la continuité d'une œuvre qui a démarré il y a 17 ans, le ministre de la Communication et médias a soutenu que la querelle sémantique n'est pas de mise : « Nous, nous parlons de consolidation des choses qui se sont mises en place voyant ce que le pays était lorsque le Président de la République, Joseph Kabila, est arrivé au pouvoir et ce qu'il est aujourd'hui. Est-ce de la panacée ? Non. Nous allons nous atteler et proposer à notre peuple ce que tout le monde attend ».

En réponse à une question sur ce que Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary peut faire et qui n'aurait pas été fait en 17 ans, Lambert Mende a assuré que le dauphin du Président de la République fera beaucoup de choses en consolidant ce que le Chef de l'Etat, Joseph Kabila, a déjà fait de très bien.

Pour lui, « on doit beaucoup de respect au Chef de l'Etat, Joseph Kabila, parce que c'est grâce à lui que ce pays existe encore dans les frontières héritées de la colonisation, c'est grâce à lui qu'on a la sécurité dans la quasi-totalité de 149 territoires du pays et qu'aujourd'hui. C'est grâce à lui si nous sommes classés en Afrique à la 10ème position en termes de forces de projection et d'équipements en armement et, toujours grâce lui, si des chantiers, des routes ont commencé mais, ce n'est pas encore le paradis».

Parlant du financement de la méga structure du FCC, Lambert Mende a rappelé que cette plateforme est une structure composite avec plus de 250 partis et recoupements politiques, des hommes d'affaires, des ministres qui se cotisent.

ACP (ROL/Milor/Yes)

EU to renew sanctions on Congolese officials including presidential candidate, diplomats say
BRUSSELS (Reuters) - The European Union is set to renew sanctions in December on senior officials in Democratic Republic of Congo, including presidential candidate Emmanuel Ramazani Shadary, four Western diplomats told Reuters.

The EU imposed sanctions last year on Shadary, who served as interior minister, and 15 other Congolese after a crackdown on protesters who opposed a delay in holding elections. The delay has let President Joseph Kabila stay in office two years past his legal mandate, although an election is now set for Dec. 23.

Congo's government has said the sanctions, which include travel bans and asset freezes, are illegal, and renewing them is pointless because Kabila plans to step down after the election.

Renewal requires a unanimous vote from the EU's 28 member states, with a decision expected just 11 days before the election in Congo. Two diplomats said the EU had agreed on renewal despite initial opposition from Spain, which proposed to take Shadary off the list.

A Spanish-led consortium two weeks ago signed a joint deal with Congo to develop a \$14 billion hydroelectric project. Two diplomats said the project influenced Spain's position. A Spanish spokesperson was not immediately available to comment.

As interior minister, Shadary oversaw the police during the crackdown, in which demonstrators protesting against Kabila's extended rule were killed. He is now running for president and has been hand-picked by Kabila.

He faces some popular opposition candidates hoping to take advantage of Kabila's decision to step aside after 18 years in power.

Felix Tshisekedi, who leads Congo's largest opposition party, would receive 36 percent of the vote ahead of 16 percent for Shadary, according to a poll released on Tuesday by the Congo Research Group at New York University and Congolese polling firm BERCI.

However, the poll showed that 64 percent of people do not trust the electoral commission to conduct a free and fair election.

Major would-be contenders including former vice president and militia leader Jean-Pierre Bemba and millionaire businessman Moise Katumbi have been barred from running. Katumbi faces criminal convictions for real estate fraud and Bemba a conviction for witness tampering.

Reporting By Giulia Paravicini; Editing by Edward McAllister and Peter Graff

Our Standards: The Thomson Reuters Trust Principles.

Distribution des cartes aux réfugiés burundais installés au Sud-Kivu

<https://www.digitalcongo.net/article/5b901ba50acb52000421e4ee/>

Kinshasa 05-09-2018 Politique - Les réfugiés burundais de douze ans et plus du camp de Mulongwe reçoivent des cartes devant assurer leur sécurité, protection et leur permettre de bénéficier aussi des avantages accordés par le HCR et par la CNR à travers le ministère de tutelle du pays d'accueil.

La Commission nationale des réfugiés, CNR, et le HCR continuent à distribuer des cartes aux réfugiés burundais, âgés de douze ans et plus du camp de Mulongwe en vue d'assurer leur sécurité, protection et leur permettre de bénéficier aussi des avantages accordés par le HCR et par la CNR à travers le ministère de tutelle du pays d'accueil.

Depuis août 2018 à ce jour, 4409 cartes ont été distribuées aux réfugiés qui se trouvaient dans une situation d'irrégularité.

Selon le HCR 46.000 réfugiés sont, à ce jour recensés, dans les camps de Mulongwe et de Lusenda dans le territoire de Fizi. ACP

Expulsion of Congolese from Angola aggravates dire crisis in Kasai

Published 01. Nov 2018

<https://www.nrc.no/news/2018/november/expulsion-of-congolese-from-angola-aggravates-dire-crisis-in-kasai/>

An estimated 360,000 Congolese have crossed the border from Angola and back into DR Congo during the first half of October. Most of them are arriving to Kasai, where the influx aggravates an already dire humanitarian crisis and risks fuelling new conflicts.

The expulsion of Congolese from Angola over the course of the last month is truly shocking and risk further destabilizing the situation in Kasai,” said Ulrika Blom, NRC DR Congo Country Director. “Several hundred thousand people flooding across the border to Congo puts an even greater strain on an already dire humanitarian situation.”

During the month of October, an estimated 360,000 Congolese have poured across the nine border crossings that the Democratic Republic of Congo shares with Angola. The people coming across the border are a mixed population of longstanding migrant workers, as well as the thousands of refugees who had fled Congo when the Kasai regional conflict broke out in the latter half of 2016 and into 2017.

An expulsion of unprotected Congolese citizens in such large numbers over a short period, poses a massive threat to the already fragile and unstable context in the Greater Kasai Region. At least 2 million people in the region have returned to their places of origin while 1.3 million remain displaced. With the funding of the Congo Humanitarian Response Plan well under 50 per cent and with a thin humanitarian presence in the region, there is a very serious risk that this latest influx of people in need could fuel conflict and cause hundreds of thousands of people in need to battle over the meagre assistance available.

“Lacklustre donor response to the overall humanitarian crisis in DR Congo has come to haunt us with this latest emergency at the Congo-Angola border,” said Blom. “The 2018 humanitarian budget is basically obsolete because of the sheer number of crises and setbacks we have experienced across the country over the last three months.”

The conditions that the expelled face once they return to Congo are shocking. The risk of waterborne disease is high due to the lack of latrines and sanitation systems. People are unable to bathe regularly due to lack of potable water in border towns like Kamako. Thousands are sleeping outdoors, putting their security at risk, because there is no shelter or housing available for the influx of people crossing the border. Extortion of goods on both sides of the border is rife. Expelled children—many of them separated from their parents—are enrolling in local border schools without uniforms or any school materials.

Food prices for staple foods such as rice, flour and oil have tripled because Angolan merchants that normally crossed the border to sell their produce are too afraid to do so, thus paralysing the economy of Congolese border communities. Finally, the economic situation is further compounded by the fact that the value of the Angolan Kwanza, the currency many of the expelled were using prior to being sent back to Congo, lost a third of its value since the beginning of the crisis in early-October.

“Hundreds of thousands of people have been robbed of their right to a dignified existence,” said Blom. “This is not a crisis that is about to begin, it is a full-blown emergency. The international community must urgently increase the funding for humanitarian assistance.”

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) is addressing some of the humanitarian challenges arising from Congolese expulsion with rapid response interventions in the affected areas. The agency will provide water, shelter and cash, and will work to improve the sanitation facilities in consortium with the French humanitarian organisation, Solidarités International, with funding from UNICEF and the European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Operations agency (ECHO). NRC has already assisted over 300,000 people in need across the Greater Kasai Region with cash, shelter, household items, education and food since May 2017.

For information or interviews, please contact:

Kimberly Bennett, Advocacy Manager in DR Congo, +243993338579, Kimberly.bennett@nrc.no
NRC media hotline, +4790562329, info@nrc.no

CONGO :

Congo: première visite de Mushikiwabo après son élection à la tête de l'OIF

<http://www.rfi.fr/afrique/20181101-congo-premiere-visite-mushikiwabo-apres-son-election-tete-oif>

Par RFI Publié le 01-11-2018 Modifié le 01-11-2018 à 04:21

Deux semaines après son élection aux fonctions de secrétaire générale de l'Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), la Rwandaise Louise Mushikiwabo a entamé une visite à travers les pays d'Afrique qui l'ont soutenue afin de les remercier. Première étape : le Congo-Brazzaville où elle est arrivée mercredi 31 octobre. Face à la presse, elle a évoqué la place qu'elle entend réserver à l'Afrique centrale et à son pays d'origine durant son mandat.

Moins d'une vingtaine de minutes après sa descente d'avion en provenance de Paris, Louise Mushikiwabo a eu des échanges dans un salon VIP de l'aéroport de Maya-Maya avec le ministre congolais de la Défense et le secrétaire général des Affaires étrangères.

Répondant à la presse, elle a reconnu le rôle joué par le Congo avant et pendant son élection. A la zone du Bassin du Congo elle a fait des promesses qu'elle veut bien tenir durant son mandat qui commence en janvier prochain. « Pour moi c'est cette zone de l'Afrique centrale ; celle région du Bassin du Congo à laquelle je serai très attentive dans mes fonctions et mes mandats. Vous me verrez très souvent », a-t-elle déclaré.

Quant à son pays le Rwanda, elle entend lui redonner une place de choix dans la Francophonie.

« Il est clair que dans l'exercice de mon mandat mon pays ne sera pas exclu. Mon pays est un pays multilingue. L'importance de la langue française - bien évidemment - sera une priorité », a poursuivi Mme Mushikiwabo.

Après un échange avec la presse, Louise Mushikiwabo a repris un autre avion pour Oyo où l'attendait le président congolais qui y séjourne depuis deux jours.

ZIMBABWE :

Zimbabwe : l'Inde alloue 333 millions \$ pour les travaux des centrales thermiques de Hwange et de Bulawayo

<https://www.agenceecofin.com/investissement/0511-61504-zimbabwe-l-inde-alloue-333-millions-pour-les-travaux-des-centrales-thermiques-de-hwange-et-de-bulawayo>

(Agence Ecofin) - L'Inde vient d'octroyer au Zimbabwe, une ligne de crédit supplémentaire de 333 millions \$ pour financer l'augmentation de la capacité de la centrale thermique de Hwange et la réhabilitation de celle de Bulawayo. Les deux projets bénéficieront respectivement d'un financement de 310 millions et 23 millions \$.

Les travaux de modernisation de la centrale de Hwange permettront à cette dernière de voir sa durée de vie augmenter de 15 à 20 ans environ. D'une capacité de 480 MW, l'infrastructure a été mise en service de 1983 à 1985 et sa durée d'exploitation est arrivée à expiration en 2016. Une situation qui a augmenté les coûts de l'infrastructure aussi bien en matière de production d'énergie que de maintenance des infrastructures.

Quant à la centrale thermique de Bulawayo d'une capacité de 120 MW, les travaux prévus depuis 2016 ont été reportés à cause des clauses de prêt mis en place par l'Eximbank d'Inde. Le coût total des travaux a été estimé à 87 millions. La centrale qui est en exploitation depuis 71 ans, n'a fait l'objet que de peu de travaux depuis l'indépendance du Zimbabwe en 1980.

Gwladys Johnson Akinocho

Visite du Président du Zimbabwe en Guinée

<https://intellivoire.net/visite-du-president-du-zimbabwe-en-guinee/>

Le Président du Zimbabwe, Emmerson Mnangagwa, est arrivé à Conakry, en Guinée, pour une visite d'Etat de deux jours destinée à consolider l'appui de l'Afrique au programme de réengagement du Zimbabwe.

Le Président du Zimbabwe a été accueilli à l'aéroport international de Conakry par son homologue guinéen, le président Alpha Condé.

S'adressant aux journalistes zimbabwéens en Guinée, le secrétaire général adjoint aux Communications présidentielles, M. George Charamba, a déclaré que la visite du président était à l'invitation du président Condé et que les deux pays devraient renforcer leurs relations dans tous les domaines.

«C'est essentiellement une visite diplomatique et politique. C'est une partie de notre façon de consolider l'appui africain pour nous assurer que toutes les régions sont fermement derrière le Zimbabwe en ce qui concerne le réengagement et la position anti-sanctions. Nous pensons que l'on est plus efficace lorsque les pays frères lancent le même appel. Nous avons déjà consolidé le soutien de SADC et essayons maintenant de construire ce même soutien sur le continent », a-t-il déclaré.

Charamba a également déclaré que ses engagements avec la Guinée et l'ensemble de la francophonie contribueraient à améliorer les relations du Zimbabwe avec la France.

«La France est un membre clé de l'UE, le FMI est dirigé par un français. Nous consolidons donc notre relation avec l'Afrique francophone. Sur un autre plan, la Guinée souhaite bénéficier de l'aide du Zimbabwe dans le domaine de l'agriculture. Ils veulent des semences du Zimbabwe, alors nous espérons pouvoir ouvrir un marché pour les semences du Zimbabwe ici qui va se développer sur le continent », a-t-il ajouté.

Pas de gisement pétrolier découvert au Zimbabwe comme l'affirmait le gouvernement

<https://www.camer.be/71267/11:1/pas-de-gisement-petrolier-decouvert-au-zimbabwe-comme-laffirmait-le-gouvernement.html>

La compagnie pétrolière australienne Invictus Energy a précisé ce vendredi l'objet de ses travaux au Zimbabwe alors que le gouvernement du président Emmerson Mnangagwa affirmait que des puits pétroliers avaient été découverts par la firme.

Aucun puit pétrolier n'a été découvert au Zimbabwe ces derniers mois. C'est l'essence d'une déclaration faite ce vendredi à la Bourse australienne par la compagnie Invictus. Si la compagnie reconnaît que le site situé dans le bassin de Muzarabani présente d'importantes potentialités pour la découverte du pétrole, elle précise que la découverte de l'or noir n'est possible que par le forage d'un puits d'exploitation.

La compagnie pétrolière prévoit de forer son premier puits d'exploration dans les deux ans à venir dans ce district situé à 240 kilomètres au nord de la capitale Harare.

Ces propos viennent atténuer les attentes du Zimbabwe qui se réjouissait jeudi de la découverte d'importants gisements pétroliers estimés à plusieurs dizaines de millions de dollars. Frappé de plein fouet par une crise économique, le Zimbabwe est à la recherche de ressources alternatives afin de soutenir son économie.

Après une élection contestée en juillet, le Zimbabwe a du mal à convaincre les bailleurs de fonds internationaux qui ont fait de la maturité démocratique et le respect des droits de l'homme des conditions sine qua non pour apporter leur soutien au Zimbabwe.

MALAWI :

Malawi : la BAD approuve un financement de 15 millions \$ pour un projet d'approvisionnement en eau et d'assainissement

<https://www.agenceecofin.com/investissements-publics/2710-61264-malawi-la-bad-approuve-un-financement-de-15-millions-pour-un-projet-dapprovisionnement-en-eau-et-dassainissement> (Agence Ecofin) - La Banque Africaine de Développement a approuvé, le 18 octobre dernier, un financement d'un montant de 15 millions \$ du Fonds Africain de Développement (FAD), en faveur d'un projet d'approvisionnement en eau et d'assainissement dans la ville portuaire de Nkhata Bay, au Malawi.

Ce projet permettra d'améliorer l'accès durable à des services d'approvisionnement en eau potable et en assainissement. Ce qui profitera à 60 000 résidents de Nkhata Bay et ses environs, ainsi qu'à 220 000 autres personnes qui dépendent des services offerts par la ville.

Dans sa phase de construction, ce projet devrait favoriser la création de 300 emplois, ainsi que de 50 emplois supplémentaires au cours de son exploitation. Il permettra également d'améliorer les moyens de subsistance de près de 300 000 personnes.

En outre, de nouvelles infrastructures, des usines de traitement de l'eau, des canalisations et des réservoirs d'eau construits dans le cadre du projet devraient permettre d'accroître de 37% à 90% l'accès des résidents de Nkhata Bay à l'eau potable et de 45% à 85% aux installations d'assainissement.

D'un coût total de 30,4 millions \$, ce projet sera financé, outre les 15 millions du FAD, par un prêt de 12 millions \$ du Fonds de l'OPEP pour le développement international (OFID) et par un apport du gouvernement du Malawi à hauteur de 3,4 millions \$.

Pour la BAD, les ressources approuvées permettront d'appuyer le programme de développement du Malawi contenu dans sa troisième stratégie de croissance et de développement (MGDS III) et dans la Vision 2020 du pays.

Notons que le projet d'approvisionnement en eau et d'assainissement a renforcé la responsabilité sociale et le partenariat entre la ville et le gouvernement grâce à l'inclusion des habitants de la ville de Nkhata Bay et des zones environnantes dans les consultations lors de la conception du projet.

MOZAMBIQUE :

Angola: Mozambique and Angola Call for Increased Trade
4 November 2018

Agencia de Informacao de Mocambique (Maputo)

<https://allafrica.com/stories/201811060095.html>

Maputo — The Mozambican and Angolan governments on Friday declared their interest in increasing trade between the two countries, and stepping up the exchange of experiences in the exploitation of hydrocarbons.

This desire was expressed during a meeting in Maputo between Mozambican Foreign Minister Jose Pacheco and his Angolan counterpart, Manuel Augusto.

In declarations to reporters. Pacheco said that Mozambique hopes to learn from the Angolan experience in hydrocarbon exploration, and would like to see Angolan companies doing business with Mozambicans.

"There are areas in which Angola is advanced and we have every interest in learning from the experience of our Angolan brothers.

Manuel Augusto said that his country not only desires to step up its trade with Mozambique, but hopes to learn from the Mozambican municipal elections, held on 10 October.

"The case of Mozambique inspires Angola", he said, "since we are currently preparing to hold our own municipal elections in 2020. We have to drink from the experience of Mozambique in order to carry out a process which is as close as possible to that of Mozambique, in terms of transparency, justice and inclusive participation".

Augusto also admitted that corruption has been a heavy burden for Angola. He said the Angolan people could be enjoying a better standard of living were it not for the scourge of corruption.

"The struggle against corruption will continue, even though it looks like a war", he said. It looked like a battle inside the ruling MPLA, and he admitted that the MPLA has only itself to blame for the current situation.

There was nobody else to blame, since the MPLA had been governing the country since independence in 1975.

"The MPLA is ruling the country", he said. "Where is it going to complain about corruption? There isn't anywhere else. So the MPLA itself must reverse the scenario".

He recognised it was difficult since it looked like a struggle inside the MPLA. Nonetheless, the MPLA must be prepared to continue the anti-corruption offensive, he stressed, "even if this means that some high ranking leaders are affected".

ZAMBIA :

Zambian and Angola signs an MOU on trade in oil and gas worth US\$ 5 billion.

November 5, 2018

<https://www.lusakatimes.com/2018/11/05/zambian-and-angola-signs-an-mou-on-trade-in-oil-and-gas-worth-us-5-billion/>

The Zambian and Angola government have signed a Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral cooperation on trade in oil and gas worth US\$ 5 billion.

And Minister of Energy Mathew Nkhuwa says the equity partner in Indeni oil refinery is expected to be announced by the end of this month.

Mr Nkhuwa says the process of acquiring an equity partner for Indeni through the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) has reached advanced stage.

He says move is aimed at capitalizing the petroleum refinery plant.

He says due to absolute equipment, the refinery is currently operating at 65% of its installed capacity of 1.1 million tons of feedstock per year to 600,000 tons.

And Mr. Nkhuwa says government spends up to US \$1 billion in importing petroleum products per annum.

He, however, notes that the price of fuel will start to reduce once Zambia finalizes the importation of petroleum products from neighboring Angola through the setting up of a pipe line.

Mr. Nkhuwa was speaking during the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on bilateral cooperation on trade in oil and gas with Angolan Minister of Petroleum Diamantino Azevedo in Lusaka.

And Mr. Azevedo says the signing of the MoU, whose desk study value is US\$ 5 billion, is the first step in achieving his Country's goal to contribute to the economies of neighbouring countries like Zambia.

Mr. Azevedo says the MoU now opens the way for Angolan companies to start the implementation of the trade in oil and gas between the two countries.

He says the Angolan national oil company (Sonangol) which oversees petroleum and natural gas production will be in charge of the trade deals.

ANGOLA :

Angola seeks UN support to fight corruption

<https://southerntimesafrica.com/site/news/angola-seeks-un-support-to-fight-corruption>

By Arnaldo Vieira

The Angolan government has asked the United Nations to help it fight corruption, an official has confirmed.

The state-owned Jornal de Angola quoted Paolo Balladelli, confirming the request by Luanda.

Balladelli was quoted saying the UN was helping the southern African country's Attorney-General's Office deal with the corruption issues transcending its borders.

Last month during the ruling MPLA's sixth extraordinary congress, President João Lourenço pledged to fight corruption, nepotism and impunity, adding that the ills were the top enemies of the nation that compromised the investors' confidence.

His predecessor

President Lourenço took over from José Eduardo dos Santos in August 2017, in an election that marked the end of his 38-year reign.

He has since made numerous decisions affirming his divergence from the shadows of his predecessor.

It is believed that former President dos Santos's allies have fortunes abroad, hence the need for the UN's help.

Angolan National Reserve Bank Governor, José de Lima Massano, confirmed that over US\$30 billion belonging to the country was deposited abroad.

Foreign Affairs minister Manuel Augusto confirmed last month that he had contacts with the US State Department to repatriate the stolen money and support Angola with other reforms.

Oil exporter

It was not clear the amount of money Angolan nationals had illegally shipped to the US.

Apart from the US, it is believed that Angolan nationals have cash stashed in Portugal, the UK, Switzerland, South Africa and Cape Verde.

Angola, Africa's leading oil exporter, has a population of 26 million, majority of them impoverished, and earn less than US\$2 per day.

According to the United Nations, the oil sector represents 97% of Angola's exportation and 80% of public revenues and employs one per cent of the population.

The International Monetary Fund in June said the dramatic drop in oil prices, substantially reduced Angola's tax revenues and exports, with growth coming to a halt and inflation accelerating sharply.

– The East African

Migrants expelled from Angola are in desperate need in the Congo

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/church/news/2018-11/migrants-expelled-angola-congo-caritas-humanitarian-crisis.html>

A humanitarian crisis is developing on the border between Angola and the Democratic Republic of Congo after Angola expels thousands of Congolese migrants employed in diamond mines.

By Sr Bernadette Mary Reis, fsp

A fresh humanitarian crisis is in the making along the Angolan/Congolese border. Since the beginning of October, more than 450,000 Congolese migrants working in diamond mines in the

northeast of Angola have been expelled. The UN has cited excessive force and human rights violations against these migrants on the part of both Angolan and Congolese security forces.

Expulsion sudden

The expulsion of these miners was sudden. They are fleeing across the Angolan border into the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) provinces of Kasai, Kasai Central and Kwango. At least 6 migrants have died and 100 others have been injured. Others have allegedly been subjected to extortion and illegal taxation in the border town of Kamako on the part of DRC security forces.

Caritas mobilizes

Catholic parishes and the local Caritas in Kamako have mobilized in order to assist the hundreds of thousands of expelled migrants. But resources at hand are completely disproportionate to the number of people in need.

One parish Caritas office in Kamako opened all of its structures in order to welcome the migrants. This has allowed 2,300 people to find refuge. Other local parish Caritas offices are also organizing themselves in order to welcome other migrants.

Caritas Congo is coordinating the efforts of local Caritas offices on the ground. It is in contact with Caritas Internationalis in order to put a strategic plan in place.

UN involvement

UN Human Rights Chief, Michelle Bachelet, has urged Angola's government to halt the expulsions. She also called on the Congolese government to provide the expelled migrants with protection against extortion and violence.

Congo's reality

Despite being rich in mineral and natural resources, the DRC is among the poorest countries in the world. It is emblematic in terms of the inequality and the contradictions in the world economic and financial systems. For decades the DRC has experienced internal conflicts and has been the victim of exploitation for the benefit and profit of mostly foreign interest groups and companies.

SOUTH AFRICA :

Regulatory uncertainty holds back South African mining sector

November 6, 2018

<https://www.miningreview.com/uncertainty-south-african-mining/>

The Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Amendment Bill has loomed over South African mining firms since 2014.

It has caused unwarranted uncertainty in a sector already suffering from rising costs and labour unrest. This uncertainty has hampered investor confidence in an industry that is the traditional backbone of the South African economy.

“Regulatory uncertainty and the delay in resolution of concerns have harmed South Africa’s mining sector, and the formal withdrawal of the bill is optimistically the first step towards legislative clarity,” says Justin Malherbe, Consultant at Frost & Sullivan.

Mining firms were understandably concerned about some of the vague stipulations made in the bill, which included requiring ministerial sign-off for minerals to be exported and allowing the minister to impose seemingly arbitrary conditions for the export of minerals.

Concerns about the bill date back years, and the lack of resolution has made some points in the bill irrelevant to the current industry, contributing to the bill’s withdrawal.

“The importance of the mining sector to South Africa is well documented and although the country should be doing all it can to diversify the economy, this does not mean that a sector that has been so vital in the past should simply be neglected now,” says Malherbe.

Mining in South Africa is beset by a number of challenges, and the decision to remove the bill will potentially restore some of the sector’s former vigour and help boost corporate tax revenues as well as employment levels.

Although the withdrawal of the bill should be seen as a positive, it must be noted that this leaves mining legislation operating under the current Mineral and Petroleum Resources Development Act without amendment.

Furthermore, the petroleum sector will be addressed directly with legislation framework dedicated to the sector. The current strategy of separating the regulation of the mining and petroleum sectors will need to be diligently followed to ensure sensible governance in both sectors.

“South Africa relies significantly on coal, and firms such as Sasol have established themselves as global leaders in energy technology processes through their coal- and gas-to-liquid methods,” says Malherbe.

“The withdrawal of the bill could allow for the development of legislation for the petroleum industry, specifically for gas. South Africa has the potential to be a global leader in coal technologies, and investments into innovative processes such as UCG (underground coal gasification) among others were restrained by the bill.”

The top ten universities in South Africa

<https://www.thesouthafrican.com/top-5-universities-in-south-africa/>

It's that time of the year where hopeful students across the country start writing the most important examination of their lives.

BOTSWANA :

Botswana Seeks Win-Win Relationship With China, Minister Kenewendo Says

Bloomberg Daybreak: Middle EastTV Shows

November 6th, 2018, 8:54 AM GMT+0100

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/videos/2018-11-06/botswana-seeks-win-win-relationship-with-china-minister-kenewendo-says-video>

Botswana Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry Bogolo Kenewendo discusses Botswana's relationship with China and where she's finding opportunity. She speaks exclusively on "Bloomberg Daybreak: Middle East" from the sidelines of the Bloomberg New Economy Forum in Singapore. (Source: Bloomberg)

Botswana, Russia tussle for Kimberly Process vice chair

Home Botswana, Russia tussle for Kimberly Process vice chair

<https://southerntimesafrica.com/site/news/botswana-russia-tussle-for-kimberly-process-vice-chair>

By Mpho Tebele

Gaborone - Botswana is competing with Russia for the vice-chairmanship of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS), the world's premier watchdog against conflict diamonds and their trade, a report contained in the weekly Mmegi newspaper has revealed.

It has emerged that Botswana and Russia are the only two countries so far which have shown an interest in the coveted post.

Botswana is the largest producer of rough diamonds by value while Russia is the largest producer by volume. According to the report in Mmegi, Botswana last chaired the KPCS in 2006, after Russia's own term ended in 2005.

The paper reported that under KPCS rules, the annual battle to lead the organisation is focused on the vice chair, as the vice automatically becomes chair the following year. The vice is chosen by other member states at the organisation's annual plenary meeting, which this year is set for November 12 to 16 in Brussels, Belgium.

The KPCS, which has 81 countries and observers who include the World Diamond Council, is dedicated to cleaning up the diamond industry and preventing production and trading of conflict diamonds.

Mmegi quoted authoritative sources as saying that while both countries had gathered support from other members for the Brussels battle, there were also discussions towards a compromise ahead of the November election.

"Both countries are wary of pushing too hard ahead of the plenary and are also wary of the fallout from such campaigns. They would rather discuss among themselves what to do and reach a compromise. All indications are that the talks are at an advanced stage," a diamond industry analyst was quoted as saying.

In a brief response to written enquiries, the Ministry of Mineral Resources, Green Technology and Energy Security, confirmed that Botswana was in the running for the KPCS' vice chair position and that a compromise had been discussed. "We are aware that Russia has also submitted a bid for the same position. Botswana continues to lobby other members to support us. The process of consultation is in place and the two countries have begun negotiations to reach a consensus for a single candidate," Ministry spokesperson, Moreri Mosei was quoted as saying.

Officials at the Russian Embassy in Gaborone confirmed that a proposal had been sent to the government outlining what Moscow was willing to offer and concede.

Russian Embassy attaché, Nikita Eroshov told Mmegi that no compromise had been reached yet.

“We have not finished discussions and there is no compromise position yet. We continue to talk and we will share information when we have results,” he said.

The KPCS chairmanship is viewed as a powerful position from which countries enhance their influence in the diamond industry.

MOROCCO :

Morocco competes to be the renewable energy leader in Africa

By Yvonne Andiva -

Last Updated: Nov 5, 2018

<https://constructionreviewonline.com/2018/11/morocco-competes-to-be-the-renewable-energy-leader-in-africa/>

Morocco is competing to be the renewable energy leader in Africa with King Mohammed VI spearheading efforts with the launch of large-scale projects aiming to generate 52% of the country's electricity needs from solar, wind and other renewable sources.

The King recently chaired a meeting at the Royal Palace in Rabat to follow up the implementation of the renewable energy strategy.

Also Read: Morocco's Noor Ouarzazate III solar thermal power plant switched on

Noor Ouarzazate III solar thermal power plant

This initiative has come in a year marked by the switch on of Noor Ouarzazate with 580 MW, which together with Noor Ouarzazate III, stands as the largest operating solar farm in the globe.

Morocco also completed two solar farms in the southern Saharan provinces of Laayoune and Boujdour with a joint capacity of 100 MW. These two plants were built thanks to green bonds, a first in the kingdom's history.

Noor PV II and Noor Midelt

Head of the Moroccan renewable energy agency MASEN, Mustapha Bakoury, highlighted the next steps with regards to the completion of Noor PV II and Noor Midelt in the Atlas Mountains. As for wind energy, the King was briefed about several projects notably the Midelt 180MW plant and the 100 MW plant in Taza scheduled to be ready in 2019.

2019 will also be marked by the re powering of Koudia El Baida wind farm with 120 MW capacity.

At the end of the meeting, King Mohammed VI gave instructions to work in order to exceed the 52% renewable energy target in national electricity mix by 2030. He additionally urged the government to promote the use of renewable energy in public buildings and to encourage energy efficiency.

TUNISIA :

Jewish businessman to serve as Tunisia's tourism minister

Tunisian Prime Minister shuffles cabinet, names Jewish businessman Rene Trabelsi as country's new tourism minister.

<http://www.israelnationalnews.com/News/News.aspx/254321>

Ben Ariel, 06/11/18

A Jewish businessman was named Tunisia's minister of tourism on Monday as Tunisian Prime Minister Youssef Chahed reshuffled his cabinet, Reuters reported.

Chahed hopes to inject fresh blood into his government which has been widely criticized for failing to fix an economic crisis.

Rene Trabelsi, in becoming minister of tourism in the Muslim Arab country, became only the third member of the small minority of 2,000 Jews to enter a cabinet since Tunisia's independence in 1956, noted Reuters.

Key portfolios such as finance, foreign and the interior ministries were kept unchanged.

Since the toppling of former ruler Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali in 2011, Tunisia's economy has been in crisis and nine cabinets have failed to resolve economic problems, including high inflation and unemployment.

Tunisia's government has been showcasing its Jewish heritage sites, including Djerba, whose ancient synagogue was on Tunis' list last year for locales put forth for recognition as world heritage sites by the United Nations.

In September, the Tunisian city of Sousse decided to name four streets for local prominent Jews.

The municipality recognized Claude Sitbon, a lawyer; Daniel Uzan, a physician; Yvonne Bessis, a midwife; and the Ghouila-Houri and Ichoua families of city developers.

While local Jews have been honored, the country does not have diplomatic relations with Israel.

In 1996, Tunisia and Israel opened interest sections in each other's country, but Tunis froze relations in 2000 in protest against Israel's response to the Second Intifada.

In 2014, Tunisia's tourism minister faced criticism from parliamentarians over a trip to Israel she took in 2006 to take part in a UN training program for Palestinian Arab youths.

She, along with another minister, also faced censure later that year after being accused of promoting "normalization" with Israel. Those motions were withdrawn.

Last year, Tunisia banned the film "Wonder Woman" which stars Israeli actress Gal Gadot, because Gadot had defended Israel's counterterrorism Operation Protective Edge on Facebook.

This year, a Tunisian legislator ripped up an Israeli flag during a parliament session to push his demands for a law criminalizing relations with Israel.

ALGERIA :

Algeria, Italy vow to boost cooperation

Source: Xinhua| 2018-11-06 03:22:39|Editor: Chengcheng

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-11/06/c_137584486.htm

ALGIERS, Nov. 5 (Xinhua) -- Algeria and Italy are "determined" to extend their partnership and reinforce security cooperation, Algerian Prime Minister Ahmed Ouyahia said on Monday.

He made the remarks during the press conference jointly held with his visiting Italian counterpart Giuseppe Conte.

Ouyahia stressed that "Algeria and Italy need to strengthen their economic partnership in various fields, including in energy sector," adding that the two countries have so far signed 50 bilateral agreements in various fields.

He further said that the two countries are determined to strengthen their relations in security cooperation to combat all kinds of crimes.

Illegal immigration issue was also discussed during their meeting, Ouyahia revealed.

He pointed out that Algeria is committed to bring home all its illegal immigrant nationals abroad, based on international laws, bilateral agreements, and the respect of human rights.

The two officials also discussed international and regional issues of common interest, most importantly the civil war in Libya, Ouyahia noted.

Conte's visit is part of the promotion of the high-level political dialogue between Algeria and Italy.

Emerson to Modernize Sonatrach Gas Processing Plant in Algeria

Sonatrach awards \$32 million contract, selects Emerson as main automation contractor

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20181105005077/en/Emerson-Modernize-Sonatrach-Gas-Processing-Plant-Algeria>

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates--(BUSINESS WIRE)--Emerson (NYSE: EMR), in partnership with Fores Engineering, has signed a \$32 million contract with Sonatrach, Algeria's state energy company, to modernize its gas processing plant in Alrar. As part of the contract, Emerson will combine its innovative technologies and operational certainty methodology to optimize Sonatrach's production operations and improve the reliability and security of the Alrar plant's processes.

Emerson's modernization program at the Alrar gas processing plant, in the southeast part of Algeria, is designed to help Sonatrach achieve Top Quartile performance—defined as operations and capital performance in the top 25 percent of peer companies.

"Sonatrach has long been a valued customer to Emerson, and this contract further recognizes Emerson as a leading automation technology company capable of executing complete, turnkey projects to achieve measurable business improvement," said Mounir Taleb, vice president for measurement and analytical, Emerson Automation Solutions, Middle East and Africa. "This project also enables us to support Sonatrach to ensure its facility meets the latest standards for safe, reliable and efficient operations."

The project strengthens Emerson's presence in Algeria, which is a strategic market for the company in Africa. "We are proud to provide Sonatrach the automation it requires to expand its gas processing operations in Alrar," Taleb added.

In its role, Emerson will update control and safety systems, fire and gas systems, field instrumentation control and isolation valves, and other equipment to improve production efficiencies, equipment reliability and safety.

The project includes the engineering procurement, commissioning and testing of the new integrated control and safety systems, fire and gas systems, boosters and compressor controls, field

instrumentation, liquid and gas metering skids, control and isolation valves, and other equipment for improved production efficiencies, equipment reliability and safety.

Sonatrach, an Algerian government-owned company that processes the hydrocarbon resources of the country, has diversified its activities to cover all aspects of the oil and gas industry value chain, including upstream (exploration and production), midstream (processing and transport) and downstream (refining, petrochemicals and marketing).

About Emerson

Emerson (NYSE: EMR), headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri (USA), is a global technology and engineering company providing innovative solutions for customers in industrial, commercial, and residential markets. Our Emerson Automation Solutions business helps process, hybrid, and discrete manufacturers maximize production, protect personnel and the environment while optimizing their energy and operating costs. Our Emerson Commercial & Residential Solutions business helps ensure human comfort and health, protect food quality and safety, advance energy efficiency, and create sustainable infrastructure. For more information visit Emerson.com.

Contacts

For Emerson

Denise Clarke, 512-587-5879

Denise.Clarke@fleishman.com

Lebanon, Algeria work on boosting ties

Source: Xinhua| 2018-11-06 05:18:03|Editor: yan

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-11/06/c_137584579.htm

BEIRUT, Nov. 5 (Xinhua) -- Algerian Ambassador to Lebanon Ahmed Bouziane said Monday that Lebanon and Algeria are working hard to strengthen their relations on all levels, local media reported.

"The two countries enjoy a very fruitful relation but we are working hard on strengthening our ties in a way that would be a model to be followed by other countries," Bouziane was quoted by the National News Agency as saying.

Bouziane's remarks came during a ceremony held on the occasion of the Algerian National Day. Bouziane said that the efforts exerted by Lebanon and Algeria were reflected by the creation of a Lebanese Algerian council for businessmen in addition to a joint parliament committee between the two countries.

The ambassador added that Lebanon and Algeria have expressed similar points of views on the political level regarding specific matters such as the Palestinian cause.

LYBIA :

Security Council renews measures against illicit crude oil export from Libya

Source: Xinhua| 2018-11-06 01:27:08|Editor: yan

http://www.xinhuanet.com/english/2018-11/06/c_137584415.htm

UNITED NATIONS, Nov. 5 (Xinhua) -- The UN Security Council on Monday adopted a resolution renewing measures related to the illicit export of crude oil from Libya until Feb. 15, 2020.

Resolution 2441, in order to prevent illicit exports of petroleum, decided to extend the authorizations provided by and the measures imposed by resolution 2146 (2014), which allows member states to inspect vessels on the high seas, using all measures commensurate to specific circumstances.

The resolution decided further that the authorizations and measures shall apply with respect to vessels loading, transporting, or discharging petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, illicitly exported or attempted to be exported from Libya.

Resolution 2441 also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts assisting the 1970 Libya Sanctions Committee.

The final report of the Panel of Experts said that six attempts to illicitly export crude oil were documented between August 2017 and August 2018, and these attempts came from the self-styled "National Oil Corporation" in Benghazi, which is a rival to the internationally recognized "National Oil Corporation" based in Tripoli.

TCHAD :

Coopération : Le Tchad et le Maroc étudient de nouvelles actions concrètes

https://www.alwihdainfo.com/Cooperation-Le-Tchad-et-le-Maroc-etudient-de-nouvelles-actions-concretes_a68078.html

Alwihda Info | Par Djimet Wiche Wahili - 5 Novembre 2018 modifié le 5 Novembre 2018 - 22:20

Le Tchad et le Maroc ont échangé sur divers domaines de coopération en vue d'un renforcement lors de la seconde session de la commission mixte entre les deux pays.

Ambassade du Maroc au Tchad informe dans un communiqué de presse qu'en prélude à la préparation de la commission mixte de coopération entre le Royaume du Maroc au Tchad et la République du Tchad, une réunion préparatoire des experts des deux pays a eu lieu, à N'Djamena, les 29 et 30 octobre 2018.

Cette réunion préparatoire a vu la participation des représentants des ministères des Affaires étrangères, de l'Agriculture, de la Pêche maritime, du Développement rural, des Energies et des mines, et de l'Eau. Elle a permis aux experts des deux pays, au cours de leurs travaux, d'étudier l'état d'exécution des recommandations issues de la 1ère session de la commission mixte tenue à Rabat les 11 et 12 avril 2014 ainsi que la mise en œuvre des accords signés entre les deux pays. Selon l'Ambassade du Royaume Chérifien au Tchad, les experts ont également examiné l'état de la coopération entre les deux pays et ont passé en revue les différents secteurs pouvant faire l'objet d'actions concrètes, notamment dans le domaine du développement durable, de l'économie, de la formation et de l'enseignement supérieur.

Par ailleurs, elle souligne que les membres des deux délégations ont échangé sur les divers domaines de la coopération entre le Maroc et le Tchad. Ils ont examiné les nouveaux projets d'accords qui seront finalisés en vue de leur signature lors de la deuxième session de la commission mixte.

Au terme de leurs travaux, les experts marocains et tchadiens se sont mis d'accord sur un procès-verbal de la réunion préparatoire qui sera soumis à la deuxième session de la commission mixte, prévue au Maroc sous l'auspice des ministères en charge des affaires étrangères des deux pays.

Djimet Wiche Wahili

NIGERIA :

Minimum Wage: NLC suspends planned nationwide strike

November 6, 2018Azeezat Adedigba

<https://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/headlines/294279-minimum-wage-nlc-suspends-planned-nationwide-strike.html>

The Nigerian Labour Congress (NLC) has called off the nationwide industrial action initially scheduled to commence on November 6 to further press for workers' demand for new national minimum wage.

The President of the NLC, Ayuba Wabba, said this on Monday night in Abuja while addressing journalists at the end of a meeting of the tripartite committee set up by government to negotiate labour's demand.

Organised labour had threatened to commence nationwide strike on November 6 should government fail to accede to its N30,000 minimum wage demand. The federal government had offered to pay N24,000 while some state governments are even offering less.

But briefing journalists on Monday night, Mr. Wabba said, "The tripartite negotiating committee this evening concluded its assignment. Agreement has been reached and also documents have been signed. The report will be submitted to Mr. President tomorrow by 4:15pm.

"Therefore, as organised labour, we want to use this medium to thank all the tripartite partners for their understanding and importantly for concluding this very national assignment.

"And having reached this position, and also the fact that the assignment has been concluded, organised labour also decided that the proposed industrial action is hereby suspended.

"Therefore, we thought this should be communicated appropriately without also any delusion or missing information.

"As the chairperson have said, mutual agreements have been reached and this will be make public tomorrow and we must appreciate the roles that organised private sectors have actually demonstrated and the attitude brought to this process and to members of the tripartite negotiating team."

Similarly, the chairperson of the Tripartite Committee, Amma Pepple, also noted that the assignment of the committee has been concluded.

"We are going to present our report to Mr President tomorrow at 4:15pm and he will reveal the figure that we have recommended," she said.

Meanwhile, the Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Boss Mustapha, commended members of the committee for their time and commitment to the long and tortuous negotiation processes.

"I am confident that government will give expeditious consideration of the report tomorrow by Mr President and very soon the processes will be put in place to truly actualise your recommendations so that the status of our working populace will be enhanced and they would receive appropriate and

commensurate payments for the services they offer to our nation and to the different sectors of our economy,” he said.

Government and labour had been at loggerheads over the demand for a new minimum wage. Labour says the minimum wage of N18,000 is paltry and no longer acceptable.

NIGER :

Six US Army Officials Reprimanded Over Deadly Niger Ambush - Reports

<https://sputniknews.com/military/201811061069534359-six-army-officials-reprimanded-over-deadly-niger-ambush/>

Military & Intelligence

01:48 06.11.2018(updated 01:49 06.11.2018) Get short URL

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The US Army has reportedly reprimanded four officers and two enlisted soldiers involved in the ambush in Niger on October 4 last year that resulted in the deaths of four American and four Nigerien soldiers.

US Special Operations Command Africa Maj. Gen. Marcus Hicks received a general officer memorandum reprimand for insufficient oversight of his subordinate officers. Hicks is the highest-ranking official to be punished for the ambush, the New York Times reported Saturday, citing anonymous military sources.

In addition to Hicks, Captain Mike Perozeni, the leader of Team 3212, Alpha Company, Second Battalion, Third Special Forces Group, also received a letter of reprimand citing insufficient training and rehearsals before departing base on October 3, 2017.

The letter of reprimand states that Team 3212 rarely trained with the Nigerien soldiers who fought with them the day of the ambush. Team 3212's second in command, a master sergeant, was also reprimanded for similar reasons. His name has not been published due to privacy concerns, the New York Times reported. A warrant officer for Team 3212, whose name was also not revealed, was also reprimanded for an inaccurate mission plan.

Maj. Alan Van Saun, the company commander for Alpha Company, was punished for improper training even though he was home on paternity leave when Team 3212 was ambushed. Alpha Company's sergeant major, who was the top enlisted soldier in the company, was also punished for improperly training the company while it was in North Carolina. His name was also withheld.

In October 2017, 50 militants believe to be aligned with a local Daesh offshoot, the Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS), attacked and killed four US special forces soldiers, four Nigerien soldiers and an interpreter in an ambush in the village of Tongo Tongo in Tillaberi, Niger, near the border with Mali. The militants opened fire on them with machine guns and destroyed their vehicles with rocket-propelled grenades. The ambush ended when French air support stationed in Mali arrived, sending the militants into retreat.

A February report by the US Africa Command (AFRICOM), one of 10 unified combatant commands of the United States Armed Forces, found that the deadly mission in Niger was originally reported to be a low-risk patrol, as US forces in Niger are not authorized to undertake actions believed to have a high risk of enemy engagement, Sputnik previously reported.

AFRICOM's field commanders in Niger have the authority to send US soldiers on reconnaissance patrols, which proved to be controversial when it was discovered that the dozen US soldiers involved in the ambush, most of them Green Berets, accompanied 30 Nigerien troops to the Niger-

Mali border to perform reconnaissance on reports that a local terrorist leader had made his base there.

The US has had forces in Niger since at least 2013 to coordinate with country's government against Islamic militant groups active in the region. The 2017 ambush revealed that many Americans, including some lawmakers, did not know that the US maintained a military presence in Niger at all.

The mission of US forces in Niger is to aid in the quest to "defeat violent extremism in Africa" and respond to the "global threat with foreign fighters," US Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. Joseph Dunford has previously stated.

GUINEE EQUATORIAL :

E Guinea expels ruling party members it links to coup bid

2018-11-05 18:53

<https://www.news24.com/Africa/News/e-guinea-expels-ruling-party-members-it-links-to-coup-bid-20181105>

Equatorial Guinea's ruling party has expelled 42 of its members for their alleged role in a coup bid late last year, party sources told AFP on Sunday.

The ruling Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea (PDGE) decided to expel them for their role in the failed December 24 coup, said a resolution passed by the party's disciplinary committee on Friday.

Those expelled included a former ambassador, at least two former judges and the former head of security for President Teodoro Obiang Nguema, Africa's longest-serving leader.

They had collaborated with "a group of terrorists and mercenaries", the party resolution said.

In March, the Convergence for Social Democracy (CPDS), Equatorial Guinea's second largest opposition party, said the coup bid had been organised from within the ruling party.

It was, it argued, a sign of the general discontent with the government.

The authorities in the West African country announced in January that they had foiled the coup bid. They blamed the plot on militants from "certain radical opposition parties with the support of certain powers".

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Around 30 mercenaries from Chad, the Central African Republic and Sudan were detained in neighbouring Cameroon at the time.

A trial of those involved in the coup plot was due to begin next February, sources close to the regime said, but talks to extradite the mercenaries from Cameroon have not yet been settled.

Equatorial Guinea is one of sub-Saharan's biggest oil producers but a large proportion of its 1.2 million population still lives in poverty.

Obiang seized power in a coup on August 3, 1979, ousting his own uncle, Francisco Macias Nguema, who was shot by firing squad.

He survived a coup bid in 2004 when mercenaries thought to have been backed by British financiers tried to oust him.

Last year, a French court handed down a three-year suspended jail sentence to Obiang's son, Teodorin, who is also vice president, for siphoning off public money to fund his jet-set lifestyle.

GHANA :

Nigeria summons Ghanaian envoy over closure of 400 Nigerian shops

<https://www.ghanaweb.com/GhanaHomePage/NewsArchive/Nigeria-summons-Ghanaian-envoy-over-closure-of-400-Nigerian-shops-698253>

Nigeria's Federal Government has summoned the High Commissioner of Ghana to Nigeria, Ambassador Rashid Bawa, over the closure of over 400 Nigerian shops in Ghana. Foreign Affairs Minister, Geoffrey Onyeama, said the Ghanaian envoy was invited to explain the treatment of Nigerian traders in his country.

The closure of over 400 Nigerian businesses had sparked protest by the National Association of Nigerian Traders, NANTS, and Nigerian Union of Traders Association, Ghana, NUTAG.

According to Onyema, “there had been some horror stories and a case of a Nigerian lady’s suicide. When this broke, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ghana came here. “We were assured that Nigerians were not the targets and that efforts were on to calm the situation.

“Again, in New York, assurances were made by President Nana Akufo-Addo and we were shown the text that the shops that have been closed that belong to Nigerians would be reopened.”

Onyeama said a committee was being set up at the highest level in Nigeria to look into the matter and to look at how government can respond to the situation.

“The Ghanaian envoy was invited to give him the opportunity to brief us on current situation on the closure of Nigerian businesses in that country,” he said.

Envoy’s response

The High Commissioner, in his response, said he had visited the areas affected by the clampdown, confirming that about 80 to 85 percent of shops that were locked had been re-opened and that the exercise was in still ongoing.

He said the Ghanaian authorities were also making efforts to ensure that Nigerian traders, who were doing business in Ghana, were registered and had resident permits.

His words: “I was in Accra at the invitation of the President to go have a look at what was happening on the ground. I spent two days on the ground, meeting with all stakeholders.

“Some of the shops at the time I visited 10 days ago have been re-opened and re-opening of shops is still ongoing as we speak.

“Those that have not been opened are locked because owners were not present at their shops. Ghana Union of Traders Association, GUTA, wants to open the shops with owners present.”

On the suicide by a Nigerian in Ghana, Mrs Stella Upaleke, he said: “I was with the regional police commander where the issue happened.

“The statement by the husband and daughter of the woman indicated that the suicide was not due to the lock up of her shop.”

The issues

Former Secretary General of Nigerian Union of Traders Association Ghana, NUTAG, Mr. Jasper Emenike, confirmed that some shops had actually been re-opened.

He, however, noted that some Nigerian traders refused to show up because of harassment by GUTA.

Emenike, therefore, appealed to the Ghanaian authorities to reduce the cost of registering business and totally exempt Nigerian traders from the Ghana Investment Promotion Council, GIPC, Act.

He said the charges were contrary to the spirit and letters of ECOWAS free movement protocol, and appealed to the government to stop the relocation of Nigerian traders from their shops.

He added that “we want to appeal that in furtherance to the efforts being made, there is need to put a permanent end to this issue.

“There is also the need to stop charging Nigerian citizens I.D. card fees, which cost 120 dollars for registration and 60 dollars for renewal every year.”

CAMEROUN :

L'assaut culturel chinois au Cameroun

Sputnik. Anicet Simo

Culture

19:45 05.11.2018(mis à jour 19:48 05.11.2018) URL courte

Anicet Simo

<https://fr.sputniknews.com/culture/201811051038785499-cameroun-chine-assault-culture/>

Loin du prisme économique, souvent brandi comme seul enjeu de la relation sino-africaine, l'Empire du milieu mène une offensive culturelle à travers la promotion du mandarin. Au Cameroun, outre les instituts Confucius, le «hold-up» culturel chinois se poursuit dans les écoles par l'initiation des élèves au mandarin dès la petite enfance.

Forum de coopération entre l'Afrique et la Chine

© AP Photo / Lintao Zhang

La Chine s'implante durablement en Afrique: «C'est inévitable»

L'école primaire «Les dégourdis», située à la périphérie de la capitale Yaoundé, fait partie des nombreux établissements du Cameroun où le chinois est enseigné dès la petite enfance. Dans cette école, en plus du programme obligatoire du ministère de l'Éducation de Base, des périodes sont réservées à l'initiation au mandarin. Des vagues d'enseignants d'origine chinoise ou camerounaise se succèdent depuis trois ans dans les salles de classe, suivant un programme préétabli pour l'initiation des enfants à cette langue.

«Au niveau 1 et 2 (SIL, CP, CE1 et CE2) nous avons une séance par semaine. Au niveau 3 (CM1 et CM2) il y a 2 séances par semaine; les séances durent 30 minutes. À la fin des leçons, des évaluations sont faites. Pour les niveaux 3 exceptionnellement, une évaluation est passée; les copies sont corrigées en Chine et les résultats renvoyés ici au Cameroun», nous renseigne Reine Edima, l'un des cadres de cette école. Dans ce pays qui a déjà l'anglais et le français comme langues officielles, la direction de l'école entend faire de ses élèves des trilingues afin de leurs ouvrir d'autres horizons.

«Les Chinois sont déjà très présents au Cameroun. Il y a un grand nombre de projets qui lient le Cameroun et la Chine, aussi des Chinois qui tiennent des commerces au Cameroun. Il faudrait qu'il y ait collaboration avec les Chinois pour qu'ils se sentent chez eux ici au Cameroun via le dialogue avec eux», souligne Reine Edima.

Reine Edima, enseignante, revient sur les enjeux de l'apprentissage du mandarin aux élèves.

«Nous sommes en guerre avec la Chine»: les Américains délogés d'Afrique

© AFP 2018 Yasuyoshi CHIBA

«Nous sommes en guerre avec la Chine»: les Américains délogés d'Afrique

Depuis 2011, le Centre Confucius de l'école normale supérieure de Maroua, à l'extrême Nord du pays, est une institution pilote en Afrique centrale et de l'Ouest. Le centre est doté d'une double mission d'enseignement du mandarin et de promotion de la culture chinoise; il forme des professeurs certifiés des lycées d'enseignement général (PLEG) pour la transmission de cette langue et cette culture. Depuis 2016, la langue parlée dans l'Empire du milieu a été inscrite parmi les épreuves à l'examen national de «probatoire», l'un des diplômes du secondaire. Des élèves en classe

de 4eau lycée, comme Oswald Mokiaje, 14 ans, peuvent désormais choisir le chinois comme deuxième langue.

«J'ai choisi d'apprendre le mandarin, parce que je pense que c'est la meilleure langue. Le mandarin est une langue qui permet aux enfants de développer les valeurs culturelles de leurs pays et celles d'autres pays. En l'apprenant, je pourrais faire des affaires avec les Chinois dans le futur», nous explique Oswald, fier de lui.

Forum de coopération entre l'Afrique et la Chine

© AFP 2018 Lintao Zhang / POOL

La Chine promet à l'Afrique sa part de développement dans la Route de la soie

Oswald Mokiaje, élève, nous renseigne sur les cours dispensés.

Dans sa salle de classe, ils sont 59 à avoir opté pour le mandarin dans une classe de 90 élèves. Si la plupart a librement porté son choix sur la langue chinoise, certains de ses camarades disent avoir été contraints par leurs parents. L'offensive culturelle chinoise a pourtant débuté bien avant cette insertion dans le programme scolaire.

Instituts Confucius, l'atout charme de la Chine

Au Cameroun, Paul Biya prête serment dans un climat de tension

https://www.lemonde.fr/afrique/article/2018/11/06/au-cameroun-paul-biya-prete-serment-dans-un-climat-de-tension_5379439_3212.html

A 85 ans, le président entame un septième mandat alors qu'un conflit armé sévit dans les deux régions anglophones du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest.

Le Monde.fr avec AFP Le 06.11.2018 à 10h33 • Mis à jour le 06.11.2018 à 10h37

Le président camerounais Paul Biya, 85 ans, dont 36 au pouvoir, prête serment ce mardi pour un septième mandat dans un climat de tension, au lendemain de l'enlèvement de 79 élèves en zone anglophone frappée par un conflit armé. « Le président élu » du Cameroun, Paul Biya, prêtera serment ce mardi à 11 heures (10 heures GMT), a annoncé la présidence dans un communiqué. Le maire de Yaoundé a demandé aux habitants et aux groupes de danse de sortir en masse pour ovationner le chef de l'Etat le long de l'itinéraire qu'il empruntera pour se rendre à l'Assemblée nationale où la cérémonie est prévue.

A la veille de cette prestation, 82 personnes, dont 79 élèves, ont été enlevées par des hommes armés non identifiés à Bamenda, chef-lieu de la région anglophone du Nord-Ouest, qui ont fait irruption à la Presbyterian Secondary School, un établissement protestant. « Les recherches pour retrouver les otages ont été lancées, la mobilisation est totale », selon une source gouvernementale.

« Combattre pour l'Ambazonie »

Dans une vidéo de six minutes obtenue par l'AFP, onze adolescents d'une quinzaine d'années ont décliné un à un, en anglais, leur identité, et indiquent avoir été enlevés par les « Amba Boys », les séparatistes anglophones. « Nous allons ouvrir nos propres écoles ici, nous allons rester ensemble et combattre pour l'Ambazonie », l'Etat que les séparatistes entendent créer, indique un homme au micro du téléphone filmant la scène. Dans la même région du Nord-Ouest, le sous-préfet de l'arrondissement de Noni a également été enlevé dimanche 4 novembre.

Dans les deux régions anglophones du Nord-Ouest et du Sud-Ouest, une crise sociopolitique sans précédent s'est installée fin 2016, qui s'est transformée fin 2017 en conflit armé. Des affrontements entre armée et séparatistes, regroupés en groupes épars dans la forêt équatoriale, s'y produisent quasiment tous les jours depuis plusieurs mois. Les séparatistes ont décrété un boycottage des établissements scolaires, estimant que le système scolaire francophone marginalise les étudiants anglophones.

Depuis l'annonce de la réélection du président Paul Biya, au terme de la présidentielle du 7 octobre, la situation dans ces régions s'est encore détériorée, tout comme le climat politique, des dizaines d'opposants ayant été arrêtés. Le 30 octobre, un missionnaire américain a été tué par balle dans son véhicule à Bambui, en banlieue de Bamenda. Les raisons de son assassinat restent inconnues, mais l'Etat a accusé les « terroristes » d'être à l'origine de sa mort alors que Washington a évoqué des « tirs croisés ».

« Hold-up électoral »

En prévision d'éventuels troubles qui pourraient survenir lors de la prestation de serment de Paul Biya, réélu pour un septième mandat avec 71,28 % des votes, policiers et gendarmes ont été déployés depuis plusieurs jours dans plusieurs zones de Yaoundé et d'autres villes.

L'opposant Maurice Kamto, qui revendique la victoire, a appelé ses partisans à résister par des actions pacifiques. Plusieurs manifestations sont prévues ce mardi au Cameroun et à l'étranger. Mais, sur place, Yaoundé a décidé de réprimer toute velléité de contestation. Dimanche, 38 militants du Mouvement pour la renaissance du Cameroun (MRC), le parti de M. Kamto, ont été arrêtés à Bafoussam (ouest) alors qu'ils participaient à une marche pacifique contre le « hold-up électoral » en faveur du président Biya. Plus de 60 autres, dont des avocats, avaient déjà été arrêtés avant d'être relâchés à Douala (sud) et Yaoundé, mais plusieurs ont été inculpés.

Classé deuxième avec 14,23 % des voix, M. Kamto a demandé à la communauté internationale le recomptage des votes. L'opposant affirme que l'élection a été marquée par des « fraudes massives et barbares » en dépit desquelles « le Conseil constitutionnel a décidé de proclamer Paul Biya vainqueur sur la base des documents fabriqués pour la circonstance par des officines du pouvoir... » « Tu t'es battu, tu as perdu et ça suffit », a rétorqué sur Facebook Grégoire Owona, ministre et secrétaire général adjoint du Rassemblement démocratique du peuple camerounais (RDPC, au pouvoir).

MALI :

AngloGold may sell Mali mine after failing to agree investment

November 05, 2018, 01:48:00 AM EDT By Reuters

<https://www.nasdaq.com/article/anglogold-may-sell-mali-mine-after-failing-to-agree-investment-20181105-00278>

By Tanisha Heiberg

JOHANNESBURG, Nov 5 (Reuters) - AngloGold Ashanti Ltd and its joint venture partner are looking at selling a mine in Mali after failing to reach an agreement with the west African country about an investment project, the company said on Monday.

The news came as AngloGold, Africa's biggest gold miner by output, said it expected full-year production to reach the upper end of its guidance range, helping to push its shares as much as 9 percent higher.

AngloGold said it had started the process of selling the Sadiola mine, a joint venture with IAMGOLD, after failing to agree the terms of an investment project with the Malian government.

The South African company and IAMGOLD had been in talks with Mali about a project to add sulphide-ore processing capability to a plant.

"While this agreement has not yet been reached, AngloGold Ashanti and IAMGOLD, who collectively own an 82 percent interest in Sadiola, have initiated a process to identify third parties that may be interested in acquiring their collective interests in Sadiola," AngloGold said.

The company reported a 15 percent fall in production to 851,000 ounces in the quarter ended Sept. 30 from the same period a year earlier, after it sold some South African assets.

Output from retained operations was broadly flat at 851,000 ounces, as a rise from its Mponeng mine in South Africa and a fully-ramped up Kibali mine in Democratic Republic of Congo offset falls at Siguiriri in Guinea and AGA Mineração in Brazil.

AngloGold said it expected full-year production to reach the upper end of its guidance of 3,325,000 to 3,450,000 ounces.

All-in sustaining costs for the retained South African operations fell 11 percent to \$920 per ounce, while net debt was down 15 percent to \$1.75 billion.

"The net debt was lower, they managed to bring down all-in costs so generally I think it is looking quite positive," said Vasili Girasis, market trader at BP Bernstein.

AngloGold shares were up 6.7 percent to 150.42 rand at 1015 GMT.

GUINEE :

Conakry : L'appel "de la ville morte" lancé par l'opposition en Guinée

<https://intellivoire.net/conakry-lappel-de-la-ville-morte-lance-par-lopposition-en-guinee/>

Un appel à la grève "de la ville morte" lancé par l'opposition en Guinée a en grande partie vidé les rues de la capitale Conakry lundi, sans solution en vue d'un conflit salarial dans le secteur de l'éducation.

Les rues étaient désertes dans certaines parties de la ville, tandis que la circulation était bloquée dans d'autres zones où tous les conducteurs étaient détournés, a constaté un correspondant de l'AFP. Les troupes et la police ont été mises en alerte mais peu ont été déployés dans les rues. Au lieu de cela, ils ont été rassemblés dans les postes de police centraux et les casernes de gendarmerie, a déclaré le correspondant.

Les jeunes ont brûlé des pneus tôt dans la journée le long d'une artère principale de Conakry, la rue Le Prince, mais la pluie a rapidement éteint les incendies et atténué l'ardeur des manifestants potentiels.

L'opposition politique a appelé à la grève pour protester contre ce qu'elle considère comme une violation par les autorités d'un accord conclu en août sur la nomination de représentants du gouvernement local élus lors d'un vote très controversé le 4 février.

Les rivaux du président Alpha Condé ont également appelé à une marche et à un rassemblement à Conakry mardi, une semaine après une manifestation interdite au cours de laquelle le chef de l'opposition, Cellou Dalein Diallo, a affirmé que la police avait tenté de l'assassiner.

Mardi dernier également, un homme de 18 ans a été tué dans des affrontements dans la rue et sa famille a blâmé la police, qui a nié les deux accusations.

Lundi matin, des centaines d'écoliers de Siguiré, une ville de l'extrême nord du pays, sont descendus dans la rue pour réclamer le retour de leurs enseignants, qui ont entamé "une grève illimitée" le 3 octobre pour faire pression pour demander une augmentation des effectifs, salaires, selon les médias locaux.

Les enseignants ont décidé de prendre des mesures plus sévères après que le gouvernement a annoncé qu'il ne paierait pas le salaire d'octobre pour les grévistes, a déclaré Aboubabar Soumah, secrétaire général de la puissante Union libre des enseignants et des chercheurs de Guinée (SLECG).

"A partir de maintenant, ce n'est pas le travailleur qui est payé, mais le travail", a averti le président Condé sur les médias d'Etat.

"Les enseignants resteront chez eux jusqu'à la fin du deuxième mandat du chef de l'Etat en 2020", a déclaré le SLECG.

BENIN :

Dossier "faux médicament" au Bénin : Mohamed Atao Hinnouho condamné à 5 ans de prison ferme

<https://lanouvelletribune.info/2018/11/dossier-faux-medicament-au-benin-mohamed-atao-hinnouho-condamne-a-5-ans-de-prison-ferme/>

Le député Mohamed Atao Hinnouho poursuivi pour une affaire de faux médicament puis de fraude douanière est condamné pour 60 mois d'emprisonnement ferme et des milliards d'amende, de dommages et intérêts.

Le juge Azo commis pour le dossier a livré le délibéré très tôt ce matin du mardi 6 novembre 2018 au tribunal de première instance de Cotonou. Le député arrêté le dimanche 13 mai 2018 devra poursuivre son séjour carcéral. Il est ainsi jugé coupable de fraude douanière dans cette affaire de faux médicament.

En effet, c'est un dossier de trafic de faux médicaments avec le laboratoire New Césamex qui a évolué vers une affaire de fraude douanière et puis de violence sur des agents de la police lors de leur mission de perquisition chez lui à Akpakpa en décembre 2017.

Outre les 5 ans d'emprisonnement ferme, Mohamed Atao Hinnouho devra payer un milliard de francs Cfa comme amende et puis deux milliards de dommages et intérêts à la douane béninoise. Le juge a aussi ordonné la destruction des médicaments saisis.

BURKINA FASO :

Cardinal in Burkina Faso suspends groups with 'ambiguous spirituality'
Groups charged with imposing tithes, falsely claiming to operate under the auspices of the bishops conference, creating confusion among Catholics

Lucie Sarr

Burkina Faso

<https://international.la-croix.com/news/cardinal-in-burkina-faso-suspends-groups-with-ambiguous-spirituality/8776#>

Cardinal Philippe Ouedraogo has suspended four spiritual movements, associations and groups from his Archdiocese of Ougadougou in Burkina Faso for creating confusion among local Catholics.

SENEGAL :

Gambia and Senegal – Visit by Jean-Yves Le Drian (5-6 November 2018)

<https://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/country-files/gambia/events/article/gambia-and-senegal-visit-by-jean-yves-le-drian-05-06-11-18>

Jean-Yves Le Drian, Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, is visiting Gambia and Senegal from November 5 to 6.

In Banjul, the minister will meet with President of the Republic of the Gambia Adama Barrow and will express France's support for democratic consolidation in this country. Our support will be demonstrated through an unprecedented commitment of €50 million over four years, making France the largest bilateral donor, and the signing of agreements on the financing of projects in the areas of agriculture and access to drinking water. The minister will give concrete expression to the strengthening of French presence by inaugurating a new French diplomatic office in Banjul and by visiting the Alliance Française as well as the construction site for the new French school.

In Dakar, Mr. Le Drian will meet with President of the Republic of Senegal Macky Sall, and will discuss the priority areas of the partnership between France and Senegal. He will notably discuss major projects, such as the regional express train, as well as education and cybersecurity issues. During his visit, the minister will launch a training program on cybersecurity through the new Ecole nationale à vocation régionale (ENVR) (national academy with regional outreach). He will sign three agreements in the area of combating climate disruption (coastal erosion; flood risk prevention; support for climate change adaptation in Senegal).

The minister will take part in the 5th edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa where he will deliver a speech on African peacekeeping operations. He will reaffirm France's support for the adoption of a resolution on these operations in December at the UN Security Council.

GABON :

Gabon President Ali Bongo hospitalised in Saudi Arabia

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/10/gabon-president-ali-bongo-hospitalised-saudi-arabia-181029152942267.html>

Bongo's office says president admitted to hospital with 'severe fatigue', while sources tell Reuters he suffered stroke.

29 Oct 2018

Gabon's President Ali Bongo has been hospitalised in Saudi Arabia with fatigue, his office said.

Bongo was admitted to hospital last week because of "severe fatigue", government spokesperson Ike Ngouoni said in a statement on Sunday, while sources told Reuters news agency that he had suffered a stroke.

The Gabonese president was still under observation on Monday at the King Faisal hospital in Riyadh, where he was taken on October 24.

A medical and a diplomatic source both told Reuters that the president suffered a stroke.

Ngouoni, however, denied this and said that Bongo instead had "severe fatigue" due to months of strenuous work.

WATCH: Violence erupts in Gabon as Ali Bongo elected again (2:12)

Bongo is feeling better and has been told to rest, Ngouoni added, while calling for "vigilance" against "fake news" following false reports of his death.

A Cameroon TV station had announced live on air on Saturday that the Gabon president had died, without providing any evidence, he said.

The 59-year-old president was in Saudi Arabia to attend the Future Investment Initiative conference where he was scheduled to speak alongside other African leaders but was not seen during the discussion.

Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman visited him in the hospital that evening, the official Saudi Press Agency (SPA) said on Thursday.

However, in a separate dispatch, SPA said Bongo attended a speech by bin Salman at the conference on Wednesday.

Bongo, whose family has ruled the oil-rich central African nation for nearly half a century, has been president since succeeding his father Omar in 2009.

He narrowly won re-election in 2016 in a poll that the opposition claimed was marred by fraud.

Mass protests broke out, during which the national parliament was gutted by fire.

The country went to the polls this month for the first time since that vote, with the second round of legislative elections on Saturday seeing Bongo's party coasting towards victory.

SOURCE: News agencies