

[France will move surveillance drones to West Africa and is holding secretive talks with U.S. officials in Paris this week as it seeks to steer international military action to help Mali's feeble government win back the northern part of the country from al-Qaida-linked rebels, The Associated Press has learned. France and the United Nations insist any invasion of Mali's north must be led by African troops. But France, which has six hostages in Mali and has citizens who have joined al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, is playing an increasing role behind the scenes.]

BURUNDI :

**Burundi : la société civile déplore l'absence de la lumière judiciaire sur la mort du président Ndadaye**

( Xinhua )/23.10.2012

La société civile déplore que les commanditaires de l'assassinat du premier président Melchior Ndadaye restent inconnus 19 ans après sa mort, a déclaré lundi Pacifique Nininahazwe, délégué général du Forum pour le Renforcement de la Société Civile (FORSC).

S'exprimait en marge des cérémonies du 19ème anniversaire du décès du président Ndadaye auxquelles ont participé les plus hautes autorités républicaines dont le couple présidentiel, M. Nininahazwe a déploré le mutisme de la chambre de cassation de la Cour suprême sur ce dossier.

Me Fabien Segatwa, de la partie civile, a demandé pour sa part que la chambre de cassation de la Cour Suprême se prononce pour établir les responsabilités dans ce meurtre et que le parlement s'en saisisse et propose la voie approprié à suivre pour que la vérité puisse éclater au grand jour.

L'assassinat du président Ndadaye en octobre 1993 a été suivi par une guerre civile qui a duré plus d'une décennie avec plusieurs milliers de personnes tuées.

RWANDA :

**Rwanda: 65-Year Old Woman Faces Genocide Charges in Holland**

By Edwin Musoni/The New Times/23 October 2012

Dutch judicial authorities yesterday began a Genocide trial for a woman remembered for singing the infamous extremist song, Tubatsembatsembe (exterminate them), during the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

According to reports, Ward Fernandusse, the prosecutor in the case that is being held in The Hague, said that Yvonne Basebya, 65, is accused of involvement with "killing and raping Tutsis with the aim of the extermination of the Tutsi population".

According to the charge sheet, Basebya, maiden name Ntacyobatabara, is accused of playing a central role in the killings at Pallottines Church in Gikondo where over 110 people who had sought refuge at the church were killed.

At the church, massacres were largely carried out using clubs and machetes.

Basebya allegedly incited others, including members of the Interahamwe militia, to kill Tutsis through "gifts, promises, abuse of authority, violence or threat of violence."

According to the Dutch Prosecution, she allegedly sang songs including 'Tubatsembatsembe' and kept lists of Tutsis marked for death and kept track of their murders.

Speaking to The New Times, the Head of the Fugitive Tracking Unit, Jean Bosco Siboyintore, said that the Dutch authorities have been carrying out investigations for the last two years.

"The Gacaca court in Gikondo tried Basebya in absentia and sentenced her to life. Her case involves many witnesses who testified to the Dutch authorities, including some defence witnesses who were flown there. This was all before the beginning of the trial," said Siboyintore.

He added that after the Dutch authorities heard witness accounts, they found it necessary to try Basebya.

She was arrested in Holland in 2010. Basebya is married to a former investigator at the United Nations' International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

She has been living in the Netherlands since October 1998 where she got Dutch citizenship in December 2004.

In July, 2011, a Dutch appeals court sentenced Joseph Mpambara to life in prison for war crimes committed in Rwanda in 1994, before the new genocide clause went into effect in April this year.

Basebya's case will run until the end of the year. A verdict is expected about three months later.

### **Rwanda: RwandAir's New CRJ900 Jet Touches Down**

By Eric Kabeera/The New Times/23 October 2012

At exactly 3:55pm yesterday the long waited brand new CRJ900 aircraft purchased by RwandAir touched down at the Kigali International Airport.

At the tarmac, top government officials, diplomats as well as officials from aviation sector were present to witness the landing of the new Bombardier plane from Canada.

The new Canadian Regional Jet (CRJ), according to Bombardier, the manufacturer, is the first of its kind to operate in the east and central African sky.

The plane, that has seven business class seats and 68 in economy, will be operating in east and central Africa.

Speaking to reporters shortly after touchdown, RwandAir Chief Executive Officer, John Mirenge, said the new plane will concentrate on regional routes.

The national flag carrier has been using a big plane to fly to the region which Mirenge said was costly in terms fuel consumption.

"We want to increase our destinations and by the end of this year we shall be operating in South Sudan, Cameroon, Zambia and Zanzibar," he said.

Mirenge further disclosed that RwandAir targets to own 18 planes within the next six years.

The new acquisition brings the number of planes owned by RwandAir to six. The seventh air craft, also a CRJ900, is expected next month.

The Minister of Infrastructure, Albert Nsengiyumva, said that the acquisition of the new jets was in line with government plans to expand the aviation industry.

"The purpose of purchasing more planes is also to attract other airline companies. Besides, the number of passengers coming to Rwanda is increasing because of different destinations that RwandAir makes," the minister said.

He emphasised that it was important to boost the capacity of the national carrier so as to compete favourably with other airlines.

The minister added that plans are underway to renovate and upgrade other airports, including Kamembe and Rubavu as well as construct a new one in Bugesera.

Rwanda's aviation industry has experienced rapid growth with more airlines adding Kigali to their destinations.

The most recent entrants include, South African Airways, Qatar Air and the Turkish Airlines.

Others operating in the country are SN-Brussels, KLM, Ethiopian Airlines, Kenya Airways and Air Uganda.

Available statistics indicate that for the past three years, passenger traffic at Kigali International Airport has increased at a rate of 15 per cent per year. Currently, 400, 000 passengers use the airport annually.

In an interview with The New Times, Raphael Haddad, the vice president of Bombardier in charge of Middle East and Africa, said the jet was manufactured to suit the African climate.

The interior of the plane brings new, modern, sculpted sidewalls and window features meant to enhance passengers' exterior views.

RDC CONGO :

**Des Congolais dénoncent les viols et pillages des rebelles du M23**

23/10/12/Source: belga.be

"Des femmes et des filles sont violées par le M23. Ils pillent nos chèvres ou nos biens dans nos maisons", se plaint un habitant de Rugari, une ville de la province instable du Nord-Kivu, dans l'est de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC, où une rébellion opère depuis mai.

Les rebelles Mouvement du 23 mars (M23) contrôlent une partie du Rutshuru, territoire situé dans le Nord-Kivu. Les habitants de cette région agricole verdoyante, qui vivent de la culture de fruits et de légumes et de l'élevage de chèvres et de vaches, dénoncent, discrètement, exactions, viols et

pillages.

Le M23 est composé essentiellement d'anciens membres du Congrès national pour la Défense du Peuple (CNDP), une ex-rébellion intégrée dans l'armée nationale de RDC en 2009. L'ONU accuse le Rwanda et l'Ouganda, pays voisins de la région du Rutshuru, de soutenir le M23, ce que démentent Kigali et Kampala.

Samedi, le président du M23, Jean-Marie Runiga, a annoncé que son bras armé changeait de nom et était rebaptisé "Armée révolutionnaire du Congo".

Les combats entre l'armée et le M23 ont fait plus de 300.000 déplacés et réfugiés. Les affrontements sont rares depuis juillet mais les populations reviennent au compte-goutte, et de nombreuses maisons et commerces restent fermés. Mais, signe qu'une certaine normalité s'installe, les écoles rouvrent.

Avant la rentrée, début septembre, le M23 avait encouragé les parents à scolariser leurs enfants et, après une reprise timide, on observe désormais un peu partout des jeunes en uniforme bleu et blanc qui vont ou viennent de l'école, cartable ou dos, et jouant parfois en cours de route.

Mais l'habitant de Rugari, qui comme beaucoup, ne donne pas son nom, n'est pas rassuré. "J'accompagne ma fille au camp de Kanyarucinya, où restent ma femme et mes autres enfants: même des petites filles sont violées", affirme-t-il en charriant deux gros sacs de charbon sur un vélo, avec l'aide d'un proche et de sa fille.

"Chez moi, il n'y a pas beaucoup de viols. Mais à Rugari, il y a des viols de femmes à grande échelle", renchérit un habitant d'une localité proche. Il ne précise pas directement qui, d'après lui, en sont les auteurs, mais il soupçonne le M23.

Dans la capitale régionale du Nord-Kivu, Goma, Justin Paluku, gynécologue-obstétricien à l'hôpital Heal Africa, a estimé récemment que 5.000 femmes avaient été violées depuis le début de l'année, et que cette hausse "dramatique" était due au regain d'instabilité qui a suivi la création du M23.

Outre les viols, le M23 est accusé de recrutement d'enfants soldats et d'exécutions sommaires par l'ONG Human Rights Watch (HRW). Reporters sans Frontières (RSF) et Journaliste en Danger s'inquiètent par ailleurs du "climat d'insécurité" dans lequel les journalistes locaux font leur travail.

Le président du M23, Jean-Marie Runiga, réfute les accusations: "Jusque-là, il n'y a pas d'exactions" et si jamais elles arrivaient les responsables seraient "jugés et condamnés", dit-il. Il a aussi promis de sanctionner ses hommes qui menaceraient des journalistes.

Face aux feux des critiques, le M23 tente de donner des gages de confiance. A Rutshuru-centre, des panneaux neufs siglés "M23" annoncent: "Luttons contre la corruption", en français, anglais, swahili et kinyarwanda. Des taxes et impôts assimilés à des "tracasseries" ont été supprimés mais un système de péage a été instauré.

"C'est cinq dollars pour un minibus, vingt pour les camions, et cela peut aller jusqu'à 50 pour les très gros camions", explique Benjamin Mbonimpa, l'administrateur du territoire désigné en juillet par le M23.

Dans les rues de Rutshuru, l'ambiance paraît calme. "On ne voit absolument rien de mal concernant le M23, mais les gens ont peur à cause de tout ce qui s'est passé... Ils n'ont pas confiance", dit à voix basse un commerçant de la ville, qui affirme n'avoir jamais entendu parler de viols.

Calme aussi à Bunagana, un important poste-frontière avec l'Ouganda, qui a été le théâtre d'âpres combats. La vie tourne au ralenti, comme à Rutshuru et d'autres zones conquises par le M23. "C'est la crise! Il n'y a plus rien comme avant! ", se plaint une restauratrice.

"Les gens ne sont pas tous revenus, ajoute-elle. Beaucoup continuent à traverser en Ouganda pour passer la nuit. Moi-même, je dors là-bas parce qu'ici on n'a pas de garantie sécuritaire et que je n'aime pas rester là quand les rebelles sont ici".

UGANDA :

### **Rwanda: Government On Alert As Marburg Virus Kills Four in Uganda**

By Caesar Abangirah/Rwanda Focus (Kigali)/22 October 2012

The Ministry of Health has cautioned the public to remain vigilant as government steps up measures of preventing in-flow of the deadly Marburg virus into Rwanda. The move follows an outbreak of the hemorrhagic fever in Uganda, which has so far killed four members of the same family in Kitumba Sub-county, Kabale district in South-Western Uganda.

Kabale district borders Rwanda and specifically the districts of Gicumbi, Musanze, Nyagatare, and Burera that share a boarder with Uganda are at a high risk.

Marburg is a killer disease caused by a virus and is spread through direct contact with wounds, body fluids like blood, saliva, vomitus, stool and urine of an infected person. A person suffering from Marburg presents with sudden onset of high fever with any of the following; headache, vomiting blood, joint and muscle pains and bleeding through body openings such as eyes, nose, gums, ears and the skin. It is highly contagious and kills in a short time but can easily be prevented.

Recovery can take 5 weeks or more, and is marked by prostration, weight loss, and amnesia for the period of acute illness. Complications during convalescence can include recurrent hepatitis, as well as inflammation of the spinal cord, bone marrow, eyes, testes, and parotid gland.

Patients who are at greatest risk of dying experience diffuse or extensive hemorrhage into the skin, mucous membranes, internal organs, stomach, and intestines. Swelling of the spleen, lymph nodes, kidneys, sometimes pancreas, and especially brain occurs. Patients finally experience coma and convulsions, followed by death. Death from shock usually occurs 6-9 days after clinical onset of symptoms.

"Though no case has been reported in Rwanda, the government has put in place measures aimed at protecting Rwandans from this deadly disease but is also cautioning Rwandans to remain vigilant and report any suspected cases immediately," a statement from the ministry of health reads in part.

"Specifically, the Ministry of Health has issued alert warnings to all health centres on how to detect and handle cases once they arise. The Ministry has already conducted training on prevention and management of viral hemorrhagic fevers to all health care providers in District Hospitals and Health Centers. "

Rwandans are advised to immediately seek medical attention at the nearest health facility in case of suspicion of Marburg hemorrhagic fever.

"Any person who visited Uganda and had contact with someone presenting signs and symptoms of Marburg hemorrhagic fever should immediately inform the nearest health facility," MINISANTE advises.

### **Uganda: Govt Dismisses UN Sanctions**

22 October 2012/The New Vision

Uganda will contradict UN accusations that it supports the M23 rebel group in Democratic Republic of Congo, and does not fear threatened sanctions, Kampala's acting foreign minister said Saturday.

The UNSC said Friday it intends to sanction leaders of M23 and implicitly threatened Rwanda and Uganda, accused in a recent UN report of arming the movement. "We are in the process of preparing a formal response to the allegations" made in the UN report, Henry Okello told AFP.

"We shall respond word by word and statement by statement", he added. "Threats of sanctions talked about is mere talk and we are undeterred by them because the truth will come out."

He described the UN accusations and the threat of sanctions as "another manipulation by individuals in the UN ... who are trying to fail the regional efforts on DRC."

Kampala is chairing regional efforts by leaders of the Great Lakes region to try to end the chronic violence in eastern DR Congo and to deploy a neutral force there.

When asked if Uganda still has the moral authority to lead the regional initiative, Oryem said: "Put that question to the DRC government.

"Ask them: since the report of the so-called UN group of experts came out accusing us of supporting rebels, does DRC believe Uganda has the moral authority to chair the regional initiative?"

UN investigators accuse both Rwanda and Uganda, which border eastern DR Congo, of arming and supporting the M23 rebels, in a confidential report seen by AFP.

Rwanda has repeatedly denied accusations that it backs the fighters.

The M23 rebel force is made up of former fighters in the National Congress for the Defence of the People (CNDP), an ethnic Tutsi rebel movement.

The group emerged after an unsuccessful attempt to integrate CNDP fighters into the Congolese army under a 2009 peace deal. AFP

### **Uganda: I Don't Owe Govt Money, Businessman Basajja Tells Legislators**

By Mary Karugaba/The New Vision/22 October 2012

City businessman Hassan Basajjabalaba has told MPs that he does not owe Government any money.

"I was supposed to be paid sh142b but because I owed government sh24b, they paid me less by that amount. I challenge any government official to come up and say, that is not true," Basajja told MPs on Public accounts Committee.

"You should pin the finance officials and ask them, where is the money," he added tabling several correspondents, to prove his case.

Basajja however, failed to table evidence of acknowledgement letter from the accountant general indicating the payment.

The MPs however rejected his arguments saying that without an acknowledgement letter, the matter still stands.

He was appearing before the committee chaired by Kassiano Wadri on Monday.

The MPs summoned Basajjabalaba after Government last week said would sell off his properties in order to recover sh21b debt that he owes it.

Deputy Secretary to Treasury Keith Muhakanizi told MPs that in case Basajjabalaba fails to pay; Government will sell off the properties that he deposited with Bank of Uganda as security for the payment.

Muhakanizi however did not indicate the period in which Basajjabalaba should pay back the money before his properties are sold off.

"We plan to sell off the properties and recover the money. This is the only way we can get back this money. We have the titles for these properties," Muhakanizi said as MPs built pressure on him to have the money recovered from Basajjabalaba.

But during the meeting on Wednesday, it was discovered that although BOU had the titles, Government does not know whether the properties still exist or their value.

Both the Accountant General and Muhakanizi admitted that they did not know their current status

The money to Basajjabala was a credit facility obtained by the Government that was on-lent to Bassajjabalaba Hides and Skins Ltd (BHSL) in 2003 after depositing various land titles with from Bank of Uganda.

Muhakanizi explained that the payments were made on the understanding that when Government compensated Bassajjabalaba sh46b, it would deduct the money.

The compensation has however hit a snag after Parliament rejected the payment which has since risen to over sh140b.

In his annual report for financial year 2007/2008 to Parliament, the Auditor General John Muwanga indicated that Government stood to lose in the event of the company failing to pay back the loan because the properties which BHLS had presented as security had their "caveats fraudulently cancelled and the properties sold by the company.

He recommended that the matter be investigated with a view of revoking of the cancellation of the caveat.

Bank of Uganda legal officer Margaret Kasule told members that when reports of fraudulent sale of the properties rose, Bank of Uganda took the matter to Court and won the case.

"Court ruled that if any sale was made, it was illegal and therefore should not be recognised. This means the properties are still in our hands," she said.

SOUTH AFRICA :

Onus is on us to halt descent into the abyss

David Shapiro/timeslive.co.za/ 23 octobre, 2012

Any person of moderate intelligence must realise South Africa is in decline and, if we don't do something about it, we could end up impoverished like our northerly neighbour, Zimbabwe.

Last week, I highlighted a disturbing article that appeared on the front page of the popular Wall Street Journal. This week we achieved further notoriety, featuring as the cover story in The Economist, which is respected as one of the most intelligent and knowledgeable periodicals on public affairs in the world.

The Economist refers to itself as a newspaper, but appears weekly in magazine format. Its origins date back to the 1840s, and today the publication boasts a circulation of 1.5 million that includes a wide array of business executives and policymakers.

The periodical has a history of truth and candour. In recent times, it has accused former Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi of corruption and dishonesty, called for the impeachment of then US president Bill Clinton and promoted the election of Barack Obama in 2008.

This week, the newspaper targeted South Africa, acknowledging that Africa - once labelled "the hopeless continent" - is beginning to make bold strides, while South Africa is on the slide, both economically and politically.

Among other criticisms, it called the country's education system a disgrace. The author attributed the nation's descent to the ruling party's incompetence and outright corruption, and censured President Jacob Zuma for drifting, dithering and "offering neither vision nor firm government". The publication concluded that, unless the ANC's dominance is challenged, South Africa is doomed to go down as the rest of Africa goes up.

But the condemnation of the country's deficiencies has not been confined to the foreign media.

Recently, a number of prominent personalities joined the chorus voicing their concerns about South Africa's absent leadership. Former president Thabo Mbeki expressed doubts about the nation's future in a speech delivered at the University of Fort Hare, attacking those who joined the ANC with the intention of using their membership as a stepladder to access state power for self-enrichment.

Businessman and former JSE boss Russell Loubser, in a well-publicised speech at the University of the Witwatersrand, called the ANC Youth League a disgrace and embarrassment. BDFM publisher and columnist Peter Bruce wrote that South Africa was becoming the sort of place only investors with shiny suits will take seriously, continuing the litany of bad policy, poor judgment, rotten leadership and blatant corruption that Zuma has brought to the highest office in the land - all that was too long to list in his short column.



I have no doubt government top brass will stand their ground denying these brutal claims, issuing foolscap pages of inconsequential feats achieved during their years in power and, in some way, shifting the blame of their ineffectiveness to the legacies of apartheid.

But the time for political posturing and lame excuses has long expired. Further rating downgrades will relegate our credit to "junk", forcing international institutions to abandon our bonds, making it more difficult and more expensive to fund projects designed to lift growth, eradicate disease and eliminate poverty.

What's needed now is a frank analysis of where we are and how we can get ourselves out of this awful mess.

South Africans are some of the friendliest, warmest and most generous people in the world. Given proper guidance, they are hard-working, conscientious and eager to learn. They deserve more than they're getting at present.

It's clear the ANC, especially its current flag bearers, has not come close to fulfilling the promises to its support base of a more prosperous life for all.

Its policies of transformation have benefited only a handful of elites - the majority of whom are former political bigwigs. Its education standards have failed to keep pace with the demands of a modern information-based economy, thereby disqualifying our youth from competing in the global market place for jobs. It has allowed state hospitals to decay to such an extent that the majority of citizens are denied even primary healthcare. And, finally, the governing party has placed persons in positions of authority that those people are neither experienced nor skilled to fill, resulting in logjams in a number of critical government and municipal departments.

Getting South Africa back on track is no big deal. It requires nothing more than faithfully embracing the values we adopted so enthusiastically in 1994, when we approved a constitution designed to build a united and democratic country able to take its rightful place as a sovereign state in the family of nations.

The constitution called on us to understand the injustices of the past, but also to recognise those who worked hard to build and develop the country. It prohibited, among others, discrimination on grounds of race and ensured every citizen's right to education, housing, food, water, healthcare, social assistance and legal protection.

South Africa has a wealth of resources - the energy and will of the majority of people to accomplish those undertakings. But what isn't in place, as *The Economist* pointed out so articulately this week, is the right leadership.

It's up to us to change that.

### **Johannesburg prison van blast in South Africa: Three dead**

22 October 2012/bbc.co.uk

A bomb blast during an escape attempt from a prison van in South Africa's main city, Johannesburg, has killed three people, police say.

The explosion hit a police van returning 36 prisoners to Johannesburg Central prison from court, a police spokesman said.

Two prisoners escaped but were recaptured, the spokesman said.

The police were at the scene of the blast, and the wounded have been rushed to hospital under heavy guard.

Police are investigating a case of murder and illegal possession of weapons, confirming dangerous criminals were part of the escape plot, says the BBC's Nomsa Maseko in Johannesburg.

The explosion took place just metres from the prison, as the bus carrying the prisoners returned from court in Randburg, about 40km (25 miles) away, adds our reporter.

The driver heard a loud bang just outside the prison, South Africa's Eyewitness News quoted a police spokesman as saying.

"There was an explosion in the vehicle. Two of the prisoners managed to escape, but they were rearrested," said the spokesman, Neville Malila.

Early reports suggest that plans to detonate an explosive device at the back of the van to facilitate an escape went badly wrong.

South Africa's National Commissioner of Correctional Services Tom Moyane described the incident as South Africa's most "daring escape attempt".

### South African photographer who chronicled apartheid dies

Tue Oct 23, 2012/Reuters

JOHANNESBURG (Reuters) - Alf Khumalo, a South African photographer whose pictures of the brutalities of the apartheid regime piled pressure on the white-minority government, has died of renal failure at the age of 82.

Khumalo made his name as a photographer for Drum magazine, initially a black lifestyle magazine that was notable for its reportage of township life under the apartheid state.

He photographed some of the most significant moments of the liberation struggle including the student uprisings of the 1970s and captured images of Nelson Mandela when he was released from prison and led the country to its first democratic elections in 1994.

"He was a meticulous photographer and his work will live on forever as a monument to the people's resilience and fortitude in the face of colonial oppression and apartheid," President Jacob Zuma said on Monday after Khumalo died at the weekend.

Former colleague and award winning photo-journalist Peter Magubane described Khumalo as a hardworking man whose apartheid photographs helped free South Africa.

"We were calling the shots and did not believe in being dictated to. We used our cameras as our guns to liberate ourselves and South Africa," Magubane said.

### South African scientists make breakthrough in developing antibodies against HIV

(Xinhua)/October 23, 2012

JOHANNESBURG, Oct. 22 (Xinhua) -- South African scientists have discovered how some people can make potent antibodies capable of neutralizing strains of HIV, a local newspaper said on Monday.

"A team of South African scientists have found that when the virus evolves to evade its host's immune system by adding a sugar molecule to its surface, the host's antibodies adapt to recognize the sugar in such a way they can kill nine of 10 known strains of HIV," the Business Day quoted a research report published in the journal Nature Medicine on Sunday as saying.

The medical research was jointly conducted by some units at home and abroad, including the Center for the AIDS Program of Research in South Africa (CAPRISA), the South African universities of Cape Town and KwaZulu-Natal as well as the U.S. universities of North Carolina and Harvard.

"The study is based on blood samples taken at regular intervals over several years from two women infected with HIV, enabling the scientists to study how both the virus and women's antibodies have changed over time," said Dr. Moore, lead author of the research report and a senior scientist at the National Institute for Communicable Diseases.

The report said the scientists found that sugar molecule called a glycan located at a specific point on the virus's outer protein coating labeled 332 prompted these women's immune system to make antibodies that killed 88 percent of HIV strains.

"These broadly acting antibodies do not cure HIV, but they do stop it from infecting healthy cells," said the female doctor.

It is believed that the South African research fruit in tackling the HIV is closer to developing a vaccine.

A vaccine that prevents HIV infection in the world has proven elusive for decades, partly because there are many different varieties of the rapidly evolving virus, the newspaper said.

Scientists in the world are exploring the way how to produce a vaccine that prompt the body to make broadly acting antibodies to combat the multiple strains of HIV.

The South African scientists found that even if they could produce the vaccine by using the research fruit it would be only partially effective, because the proposed vaccine could only target this glycan.

"Like all science, this study needs to be replicated by other researchers," said Prof. Abdool Karim, co-director of CAPRISA.

The South African discovery was lauded by the U.S. researchers.

"Once we can see how broadly neutralizing antibodies arise naturally during infection, it becomes much more realistic to think that we can design more vaccine strategies to induce similar neutralizing antibodies," said John Mascola, deputy director of the vaccine research at the U.S. National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases.

South Africa has the highest number of people infected with HIV/ AIDS in the world, with an estimated 5.6 million people living with HIV/AIDS among its total population of 50 million in 2009.

It was reported that some 280,000 South Africans died of HIV/ AIDS in 2010.

In recent years, the South African government has been striving to combat HIV/AIDS by actively exploring possible ways, including launching awareness campaigns and supporting the anti-HIV/AIDS research.

### Canadian law firm Fasken Martineau in South African deal

Tue Oct 23, 2012/Reuters

TORONTO (Reuters) - Canadian business law and litigation firm Fasken Martineau said on Monday it is combining forces with South Africa's Bell Dewar, beefing up its business in Africa and its expertise in mining and other key areas.

Johannesburg-based Bell Dewar has 76 lawyers on staff, and Managing Partner Blaize Vance will become regional managing partner for Africa for the combined firm, Fasken Martineau said in a release.

Fasken Martineau, with about 700 lawyers worldwide, has had five to 10 lawyers in Johannesburg since 2003.

"We went there because we thought it was important to the mining business that we were doing," said David Corbett, firm managing partner.

The office started out representing Canadian miners operating in Africa and then took on South African clients raising capital internationally, he said.

The Toronto Stock Exchange and TSX Venture Exchange are together home to almost 60 percent of all publicly traded mining companies.

"Most recently there's a lot of Asian and Middle East money that's coming into Africa, so it's a question of servicing that," said Corbett. "Clients, you know, were looking, and they expect to have people on the ground to do the work."

Corbett said Bell Dewar's strengths in mining, infrastructure, banking and finance, construction and life science line up with Fasken Martineau's main practice areas.

Fasken Martineau, formed by the merger of three regional Canadian firms in 2000, has offices across Canada and in London and Paris. With about one in five of its lawyers outside Canada, it already has a bigger international presence than any other Canadian-based firm, Corbett said.

The two firms should be integrated by February 1, Fasken Martineau said.

### S.Africa police shot striking miners in back, lawyers say

Tue Oct 23, 2012/By Jon Herskovitz/Reuters

RUSTENBURG, South Africa (Reuters) - Police in South Africa shot at least a dozen striking miners in the back during the so-called "Marikana Massacre" in August, lawyers said on Monday, undermining arguments that officers acted in self defence when they killed 34 people.

Lawyers for the victims also told a South African investigation panel hearing opening statements on

the August 16 shooting at Lonmin's Marikana platinum mine that no police officers appear to have been injured in what was the deadliest security incident since the end of apartheid.

"(Evidence shows) that no less than 14 striking miners were shot from behind," Dumisa Ntsebeza, a lawyer for families of 21 of those killed told the Marikana Commission of Inquiry. "That would be wholly inconsistent with the claims of necessity that the South African Police Service will advance."

If it is proved that the police did shoot miners in the back, it could be used by critics of President Jacob Zuma, who is facing an internal election at the end of the year to renew his leadership of the ruling African National Congress.

The commission is expected to hear post-mortem reports on the 34 shot dead as early as Tuesday - the lawyers said they had already had access to the material.

South African police said they had used force as a last resort and that all the shootings were justified in what was a swiftly shifting situation.

"The evidence will regrettably show that some of the protesters intended a bloodbath," the police said in their opening statement.

Video images of the police gunning down protesters rekindled painful memories of apartheid, which ended in 1994, and raised questions about salaries at the mines where tens of thousands of workers live in shanty towns near shafts producing enormous mineral wealth.

## TURF WAR

About 3,000 protesters demanding higher pay and armed with spears, clubs and at least three handguns, converged on a hill at the Lonmin mine for several days in mid-August.

Ten people, including two police officers and two Lonmin security guards, were killed before police shot dead 34 and injured more than 70.

In the past few weeks, major global ratings agencies have soured on South Africa, criticising Zuma's government for failing to fix a broken school system and chronic unemployment which have fanned social unrest and eroded the competitiveness of Africa's largest economy.

After the Lonmin wildcat strike was settled with hefty wage increases, more miners in the platinum belt centred around Rustenburg, about 120 kms (80 miles) northwest of Johannesburg, embarked on a wave of often violent wildcat walkouts that paralysed several platinum and gold producers.

Most of the disputes have been settled, with many firms threatening to fire striking workers if they did not return.

Lonmin management and the powerful National Union of Mineworkers (NUM) told the panel several witnesses were being intimidated into not testifying. An NUM official was killed earlier this month and the union said he was executed to prevent him from giving evidence.

The trouble at Lonmin was sparked by a turf war between NUM and the upstart AMCU union.

"The climate of violence and intimidation that characterised the period leading up to August 16 has not abated at Marikana and has since spread to other mines in the Rustenburg area, leading to more

death, injury and destruction," NUM said in its statement.

## South Africa: Media Statement By the Department of International Relations and Cooperation On Developments in the International Relations Field

22 October 2012/South African Government (Pretoria)/allafrica.com

press release

### 1. SA-DRC Bi-National Commission

President Jacob Zuma will on 23 October 2012 host His Excellency President Joseph Kabila Kabange of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) on the occasion of the 8th Session of the Bi-National Commission (BNC) between South Africa and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The 8th South Africa/Democratic Republic of Congo (SA/DRC) BNC is preceded by a ministerial meeting held on 22 October 2012.

At the opening of the Ministerial Meeting on Monday, 22 October, South Africa's International Relations and Cooperation Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane said cooperation between South Africa and the DRC was visible through a number of bilateral agreements and memoranda of understanding. "We have about 30 signed agreements and memoranda of understanding between our sister countries. These agreements and memoranda of understanding have paved the way for the initiation of various projects."

Minister Nkoana-Mashabane added: "We recognise commendable progress in the Public Service Census Project which is almost complete as only four of the eleven provinces are yet to be done. This project has helped the Government of the DRC to weed out ghost workers. In this regard, we believe that financial resources have been saved, thanks to this Project. This is a great achievement!"

### 2. The situation in Mali

South Africa is concerned about the political instability in Mali, especially in the Northern region, where rebel movements have seized the territory from the central government.

In this regard, South Africa expresses its regret about the reported violation of human rights and the deteriorating humanitarian situation resulting from the recent annexation of part of Mali's territory, compounded by the drought and recent floods across the Sahel region.

South Africa remains committed to the resolution of conflict through peaceful means. South Africa is also a strong supporter of a rules-based multilateral system and, in this regard, South Africa will abide by all resolutions and decisions taken by relevant international institutions, including the African Union and the United Nations Security Council.

The South African Government will continue to urge all role-players in Mali to double their efforts towards achieving a peaceful resolution of this conflict, within the established national and international legal instruments such as the invaluable sovereignty and territorial integrity of Mali.

South Africa also encourages the Transitional Government of Mali to return to democratic governance within the framework of its national constitution within the stipulated timeframe.

### 3. Preparations for the COP18/CMP8 climate change conference

The Republic of Korea and the State of Qatar will jointly host the Pre-COP in Seoul, Republic of Korea, from today, 22 to 23 October 2012, in preparation for the COP18/CMP8 UN Climate Change Conference, which will take place in Qatar, Doha, from 26 November to 7 December 2012.

The outcome in Doha needs to give a clear message that actions are being taken to move forward in implementing the Durban Outcome in a balanced way. South Africa will participate in the meeting as one of the state parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

At the historic COP17/CMP7, which was held in Durban, South Africa, at the end of 2011, the Parties to the UNFCCC agreed to a package of decisions, anchored in the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. In this Durban package, the Parties agreed to finalise the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action and unanimously agreed to an amendment of the Kyoto Protocol, which established a second commitment period.

The package of decisions agreed to in Durban constitutes a delicate balance which needs to be safeguarded. It is vital that the Durban outcomes are not reopened and that they do not unravel. This is a position that South Africa has been strongly pursuing in the different negotiating sessions and informal consultations between the two conferences.

As the Parties agreed to in Durban, South Africa will strive to ensure that the work of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Long-term Cooperative Action delivers on its mandate and implements all the outstanding matters from Bali and Cancun, finalising its work in Doha. Outstanding issues of implementation for both mitigation and adaptation cannot be ignored as well as secure a predictable support for developing countries, including scaled up finance. Parties also need to decide how to deal with the "unresolved issues" and which body within the UNFCCC will take the work forward.

The Ad Hoc Working Group on the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action needs to adopt at Doha a plan of work to enhance ambition, not only in mitigation but also in adaptation and in the means of implementation. We also need to discuss the design of the new instrument to be negotiated by 2015 and come into effect by 2020. South Africa is of the view that the principles of the Convention, namely common but differentiated responsibilities (CBDR) and equity will be the cornerstone of the new instrument.

South Africa also pledges its support to the incoming COP18/CMP8 President, Qatar both in our capacity as COP17/CMP7 President as well as a party to the UNFCCC and the Kyoto Protocol.

Over the past two years, a lot of work has gone into ensuring that mutual trust and transparency in the multilateral process, and in the UNFCCC negotiations, is restored. The conference in Doha must ensure that this continues.

#### 4. BRICS Summit, March 2013

Last week we announced that preparations were well underway for South Africa to host the 5th BRICS Summit on 26 to 27 March 2013.

The summit will take place at the Inkosi Albert Luthuli Convention Centre in Durban, eThekweni, KwaZulu-Natal province.

As you know, it is the first time that BRICS will be hosted on the African continent.

South Africa has a direct interest in extending BRICS cooperation to support Africa's development

agenda, particularly by increasing financial aid to build infrastructure and industrial capacity, and increasing imports of value-added manufactured products from the continent.

The expansion of South Africa's trade and direct investment with the countries of the South, notably the BRIC countries, continues apace, with China and India at the forefront. South Africa's trade with the BRIC countries have increased to 18,6% in 2011.

The BRICS website has been operational since the beginning of October.

## 5. Upcoming events

At the end of this month, 28 to 30 October 2012, Minister Nkoana-Mashabane will host her Zimbabwean counterpart, Minister Mumbengegwi, for the fourth session of the Joint Commission for Cooperation between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

### South Africa: Public Protector Advocate Thuli Madonsela Says There Were No Errors On the Midvaal Investigation

22 October 2012/South African Government (Pretoria)/allafrica.com

press release

Public Protector Advocate Thuli Madonsela has clarified that no errors were committed in her investigation of irregularities at Midvaal Local Municipality in Gauteng. This follows a news article in one Sunday newspaper, alleging that she "admitted to errors" in her investigation of irregularities at the municipality.

The Public Protector would like to put it on record that she only admitted to the fact that she had made undertakings on the release of the report, which were not met because the report didn't come through as agreed from the investigation team.

With regard to a letter that was not sent to the Law Society of Northern Provinces, the Public Protector would like to state that, as a matter of principle, letters and copies of reports are sent to individuals and institutions that need to execute the remedial action stemming from the findings. Such letters are sent on the same day investigation reports are released to the public.

These letters are dispatched by the investigation team that would have assisted the Public Protector with a particular investigation. In the case of Midvaal, it appears as though the letters and the report were not sent the Law Society. All other individuals and institutions, who had to get the documents, received them.

The Public Protector has been looking at this issue internally to establish what might have gone wrong. It has since been established that an oversight led to the documents not being forwarded to the Law Society. The Law Society will be favoured with all the documents expeditiously.

It is important to note that the Public Protector was not aware of this oversight hence she made reference to this particular case when she addressed Law Society's annual general meeting on Saturday, October 06, 2012. The Public Protector has also made mention of the case during a recent interview with the Law Society's magazine, De Rebus.

With regard to recurring yet unsubstantiated allegations that the Public Protector withheld the report in question until after the 2011 Local Government Elections, kindly see the attached flow chart,



which details a sequence of events from the time the complaint was received until the report was issued. As can be shown from the chart and supplementary documents within the Public Protector's office, the investigation process remained with the Deputy Public Protector and team until after the election, with the Public Protector being given the provisional report on 18 May 2011.

The Public Protector welcomes all measures that seek to ensure that she is accountable and answerable for her work and conduct. However, she is concerned there are many allegedly sponsored anonymous letters containing wild, malicious and untrue allegations.

She is also concerned that the time she spends responding to enquiries on these matters diverts her attention from her mandate and focusing on pressing issues relating thereto. She has called on anyone with more allegations to make a sworn statement under oath and lodge it with the Auditor-General under the Protected Disclosure Act of 2000 or forward same to Parliament, which is looking into allegations against her and her office. In this regard, the Public Protector will no longer entertain such enquiries.

### South Africa: Rock Bottom - South Africa in the Eyes of Global Media

By Khadija Patel/Daily Maverick/23 October 2012

analysis

Tongues were set wagging by last week's sensational Economist cover story detailing the decline of South Africa. While the rest of the continent is on the up and up, South Africa is battling to claw itself out of its own chaos. Or so the story goes.

Experts have long warned that South Africa suffers from delusions of grandeur. They warn that South Africa's clout on the international stage has been collected on the back of an 18-year-old triumph. We hugged, made up; as a bonus, we had Nelson Mandela for a president.

As a darling of the international media, South Africa was held up as an example to other challenged states, particularly African ones.

"Despite South Africa's loathsome Apartheid heritage, solid institutions underpinned its transition to democracy in 1994: a proper Parliament and electoral system, a good new Constitution, independent courts, a vibrant press and a first-world stock market. Nelson Mandela, whose extraordinary magnanimity helped avert a racial bloodbath, heralded a rainbow nation that would be a beacon for the rest of Africa," The Economist said in last week's lead story detailing the decline of South Africa.

"Cry, the Beloved Country", screamed the magazine's cover, evoking a host of reactions from South Africans. Some were just irritated by the unnecessary invocation of Alan Paton; others were enraged that a Western publication still saw fit to pronounce on the state of an African state.

Others felt vindicated: The country is going to pot, they agreed. And so says The Economist.

Whatever the reaction, however, the fact remains that the article itself is significant. "The Economist is a very important publication," Wadim Schreiner, Managing Director of Media Tenor South Africa, explained last week. "It is a publication that sets trends and it picks up on trends."

After eighteen years, it seems fair to say the nagging problems of our democracy did not suddenly pop up like acne on a teenager. Our various crises of education, inequality, unemployment and a

ruling party at war with itself did not suddenly appear with the wildcat strikes in the country's mines this year.

These problems have existed for years. They have existed despite Mandela, our judiciary, our electoral system and Constitution. They have undermined South Africa's progress for a lot longer than the duration of the strikes this year.

And while The Economist certainly does not point to a sudden emergence of these problems, the timing of its latest representation of our country has helped it wade straight into the morass of the South African political spectacle.

"It's nothing new that The Economist is saying," Schreiner points out.

He, however, believes the significance attributed to The Economist cover story is derived at least partially from the magazine's previously upbeat assessment of the rest of the continent. The "Africa Rising" edition of December 2011 was the antithesis of the doom and gloom served up by the "Hopeless Continent" edition of May 2000. It was an affirmation; a narrative of a resurgent Africa.

The most recent focus on South Africa by the Economist, however, excludes the country from the more positive outlook on the rest of the continent's future.

"Africa, once harshly labelled by this newspaper as 'the hopeless continent', has begun to make bold strides. Meanwhile, South Africa, though still a treasure trove of minerals with the most sophisticated economy on the continent, is on the slide both economically and politically," last week's article says.

Schreiner believes the "Africa Rising" edition was particularly important to South Africa marketing itself as the "gateway to Africa", and that the latest assessment by the magazine stings all the more for this reason.

"Our pride has been hurt," Schreiner explains.

Besides an affront to South African vanity, The Economist's focus on South Africa does also present an opportunity to further interrogate the perception of South Africa in the rest of the world.

"The Economist story was superficial, but then, much of the West's perception of South Africa is superficial," media commentator Wessel van Rensburg believes.

"The Economist's assessment is quite right, yes," Schreiner argues, but adds, "It misses some context and, like some other assessments of South Africa, it also ignores many positive developments."

For years, Western understanding of Africa and African challenges was said to be stymied by such Western analytical assessments that refused to accept an idea of Africa devoid of conflict and famine. In the process then of reconciling age-old storytelling techniques about Africa and a newer trend to temper African stories with more context and African voices, the depth and tenor of coverage of South Africa in world media has shifted.

Van Rensburg believes many of the challenges that have riddled South Africa's development to this point have escaped the weary eye of the global mass media – media that have become fatigued and no longer devote the same attention to South Africa they once did. To him, as a South African living abroad, South Africa has slipped off the global media agenda.

“I think besides the bigger pieces coming our way now from the likes of The Economist, it’s remarkable how SA has fallen off the news agenda internationally compared to the 90s and 80s,” van Rensburg says. He believes the lack of prominence is a result of South Africa’s descent in esteem from a state with decidedly European characteristics to an African state, complete with dubious leadership.

Schreiner, however, argues that according to research, coverage of South Africa in international media has certainly not waned in recent years, even if not grown considerably. “South Africa is still among the best-covered African states, and this is without conflict or despotic leaders,” he says.

And perhaps most tellingly, Schreiner points out that it is in the BRICS countries – Brazil, Russia, India and China – that South Africa has been covered more extensively in the last few years. “South Africa’s profile has increased prolifically in the BRICS media,” he said.

He warns against a perception South Africans may have of being misunderstood by world media. “I think we underestimate the depth of knowledge about South Africa in the rest of the world,” he says.

The real significance of The Economist’s assessment of South Africa, then, is its clinical assessment of the state of the country. It may not be entirely accurately framed, but it is a well-versed view of South Africa from without.

“In South Africa, we are caught between political correctness and saying it like it is,” Schreiner says.

“The world is expecting more from us.”

The Daily Maverick is a unique blend of news, information, analysis and opinion delivered from our newsroom in Johannesburg, South Africa.

TANZANIA :

### **Tanzania: Security Tightened As Clerics Appear in Court**

By Issa Yussuf/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/ 23 October 2012

Zanzibar — THERE was tight security on Monday around Mwanakwerekwe District Magistrates' Court here, when seven Muslim clerics, including leaders of the Uamsho group were arraigned on charges of incitement, instigating and causing chaos on August 17, this year, in Zanzibar.

Some followers of the group had even attempted to gather near the court area, but the police and some armed security units responded by using tear gas to disperse them. Apart from this incident, Zanzibar was generally calm yesterday.

The leaders who were arrested last Saturday after the 'reappearance' of Sheikh Farid Hadi Ahmed who had gone missing for four days, include Msellem Ally Msellem, Mussa Juma Issa, Azzan Khalid Hamad, Suleiman Juma Suleiman, Khamis Ali Suleiman and Hassan Bakar Suleiman.

Sheikh Farid had claimed that he was abducted by people who identified themselves as police

officers on October 16 this year, but police have categorically denied the accusations. The charge yesterday was not connected to the abduction or last week's unrest.

"You are accused of inciting the public and causing chaos at Magogoni area in the municipality, the offence which is contrary to section 45 (1) (a) & (b) of the Criminal Procedure Act," Maulid Ame Mohammed from the Director of Public Prosecutor (DPP) read the charge sheet. Ame was assisted by Khamis Jaffar Mfaume and Ramadhani Ali Abdallaah.

All the accused denied the charges as their advocates Abdallah Juma, Rajab Abdallah and Suleiman Salum prayed for bail. Magistrate Ame Msaraka Pinja said that he would decide on bail next Thursday, the date set for another mention.

In a different district court, eleven youths were charged with conspiracy and incitement including burning of tires on streets and throwing stones at police officers, thus endangering peace and stability. In a packed courtroom, the prosecution alleged that on October 17 and 18, this year, within Zanzibar municipality, the 11 accused conspired to commit an offence contrary to section 74 (1) (b) of the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA).

Meanwhile, FAUSTINE KAPAMA reports from Dar es Salaam that another batch of five people allegedly linked to recent violence at Mbagala area in Dar es Salaam, were yesterday arraigned for several offences, including armed robbery and malicious damage to property worth over 500m/-, being property of Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT).

Before Resident Magistrate Bingi Mashabara at the Kisutu Resident Magistrates' Court, the accused were Majebele Julius (20), Hamad Mahembo (19), Ahaban Mzee (25), Kambi Haji (25) and Issa Abdallah (19). They denied the charges. They were remanded until October 30, after being denied bail.

The prosecution said the accused would be joined with 17 others facing similar charges, who were brought before the same court on October 16. Senior State Attorney Tumaini Kweka informed the court that investigations into the case have not been completed.

Other offences against the accused include conspiracy to commit an offence, breaking into a building and commit an offence therein and arson. Prosecuting, Kweka claimed that the accused committed the offences between October 10 and 12, this year, at Mbagala Zakhem area in Temeke District, Dar es Salaam region.

It is alleged that on October 12, the accused broke and entered into the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania (ELCT) Church, Mbagala Parish. The prosecution alleged that the accused, thereafter, willfully and unlawfully damaged several items, including air conditioners, executive tables and chairs, electric system, windows, book shells, sofa sets, cupboard, altar and other church furniture, all valued at 500m/-.

On the same day at the same place, the prosecutor alleged, the accused stole a laptop computer, printer, electric key board, projectors, speakers, wall watches and plastic chairs, all valued at 20m/-, property of the parish.

Before and after such theft, the accused allegedly threatened one Michael Samwel, a watchman, by using some offensive weapons in order to obtain the said items. The prosecution further claimed that on the same day at the church premises, willfully and unlawfully, the accused set on fire the church's building, a place used for worship.

## Tanzania: Pharmaceutical Industry to Construct Modern Factory

By Abdulwakil Saiboko/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/23 October 2012

THE Tanzania Pharmaceutical Industries (TPI) is constructing a state-of-the-art factory in Arusha at the cost of 5 million Euros that will, among other things, triple production and double employment.

The TPI Chief Executive Officer, Mr Ramadhani Madabida said in Dar es Salaam that the factory will be handed over in November this year and actual production is expected to start in March, next year.

"This is the first biggest pharmaceutical factory in Southern Saharan Africa with exception of South Africa, it is equipped with the latest technologies," he said. He said that the factory's construction was made possible by aid from the European Union through a programme dubbed aid for poverty related diseases in developing countries.

"We inked a 5 million Euros contract with the EU for the construction of the factory in November, 2006 on the condition that we would dish out 727,000 Euros and provide a plot for the construction and now the construction work is done with all the machinery installed," he said.

"We expect to double the number of employees from the current 101 to 200 and we are expecting to triple production capacity," he said. A team of journalists toured the factory in Arusha over the weekend and witnessed a complete modern factory awaiting production to commence.

Mr Madabida said that machines were waiting to undergo tests and the Tanzania Food and Drug Authority (TFDA) would inspect the factory for certification. The factory is equipped with modern standby generators and clean air systems and has its own drilled water reservoir that is installed with water treatment machines to ensure efficiency in production.

This comes at a time when the government recently issued a notice to TPI to stop production following production of fake Antiretroviral Drugs (ARVs) which are claimed to be produced by the company who are the sole producer and distributor of the drugs in the country.

The TPI management has, however, categorically denied responsibility in the controversy of the fake drugs saying that they neither have the technology nor the equipment to produce the drugs.

The TPI Executive Director, Mrs Zarina Madabida said recently in Dar es Salaam that TPI produces TT-VIR 30 with oval shaped tablets whereas the fake drugs are round shaped TT-VR 30.

She said that while the TT-VIR 30 tablets are white in colour and marked TPI on one side and T 30 on the other side, the TT-VR 30 have a white colour on one side and yellow on the other. "We do not have the technology that can produce tablets in a round shape and in two colours, the product is simply not ours," she said.

When asked about the packaging, Mrs Madabida said that TPI does not manufacture packages, but orders the same from Nairobi, Kenya. However, despite the notice, Mr Madabida said that he was optimistic that the truth would be out sooner.

"People will know what really happened and I am optimistic that our plans will continue smoothly because we have never engaged ourselves in any dubious production of medicines," he said.

## **Tanzania: Oil, Gas Must Benefit Citizens**

23 October 2012/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)

editorial

DURING the world conference on oil, gas and the media in Baku, Azerbaijan, mid last month, African countries were cautioned against rushing to sign agreements with multinational companies.

The concern stemmed from endless crises in Africa's oil producing countries whereby the local communities have been reduced to slaves on their own land. In Nigeria for instance, natives in the Niger Delta have experienced the worst scenarios such as pollution and mistreatment by the multinational companies.

It's from this experience that the Tanzanian government has ordered a review of all contracts with oil and gas exploration companies by November 30, this year, to ensure a win-win situation. The government argues that some of the contracts were not in the best interest of the country, thus a need for a thorough review.

Already, the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) has suspended a licensing round for nine deep-sea oil and gas blocks previously set for last month until a new gas policy is put in place.

Latest reports show that huge gas deposits up to 28.74 trillion cubic feet from 10 million trillion have been discovered on the Indian Ocean coastline. There are also bright prospects that more gas and oil could be discovered on the Western part of the country especially on the Lake Tanganyika shores.

For the past five years East Africa has been a focus of hydrocarbon exploration after substantial deposits of crude oil were found in Uganda in 2006 and recently in Kenya. These positive trends are a proof that multinational gas companies will not let this opportunity slip out of their hands.

It's a fact that Tanzania, like many other developing countries, lack expertise when negotiating with giant oil companies which have been in the business for many years. Always, Tanzanians must remember that multinational companies are here to make money - good money if possible.

Therefore, they will always keep saying that they are here to help the country but in fact, they are simply doing business which must record profit. So, the government needs not to rush to sign new contracts until it has built internal capacity to handle this delicate but lucrative sector.

This could be done by training own experts so that they could advise when signing production sharing agreements (PSAs) which give the parties a level playing field. The recent move by the government to invite consultants across the world to advise on how best the oil and gas sector could be harnessed, is a timely decision worth praising.

KENYA :

## **Kenya: Bensouda Says Kenya Reluctant to Share Crucial Data**

By Judie Kaberia/Capital FM (Nairobi)/22 October 2012

Nairobi — ICC Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda on Monday accused the Kenyan government of delays in submitting important information that the court requires in the cases against four Kenyans.

Addressing the media in Nairobi, she said the court was concerned at the reluctance by the government in handing over information she described as confidential and important in the ICC process.

Bensouda further told the media that she would discuss with the government cooperation matters that will also include the protection of victims and witnesses, which she described as worrying.

"One of the reasons for my coming is to discuss cooperation between the ICC and Kenya but also regarding the victims and witnesses and to ensure that adequate protection is given to them," she said.

Bensouda maintained that the court will go on with its judicial calendar which is not subject to the Kenyan political process and it is up to Kenyans to elect leaders of their choice.

However she said no one is immune to the process which is targeting at bringing justice to victims of the 2008 post-election violence.

She further reminded Kenyans that the court is not targeting any communities but is dealing with individuals accused of crimes against humanity during the 2008 post election violence.

"The ICC process will proceed irrespective of the choices that Kenyans make. We are a judicial institution. The Kenyan elections are a political process, let the political process go on but the ICC process will go on and the calendar that has been set by the judges will also be followed," she asserted.

Bensouda confirmed that the court was getting everything in place to be ready for the start of trials of Uhuru Kenyatta, William Ruto, Francis Muthaura and Joshua arap Sang.

"As with any judicial process, we face challenges. We are working hard every day to address efforts to interfere with our witnesses and our evidence. We are also working to resolve delays in the execution of our requests by the government of Kenya."

During her five-day stay in the country, she will meet President Mwai Kibaki, Prime Minister Raila Odinga, other government officials, members of the civil society and the international community.

She will later in the week visit Naivasha, Nakuru and Eldoret where she will meet with victims of PEV before holding another press conference on Thursday evening.

The ICC ruled on January 23 that Kenyatta, Muthaura Ruto, and Sang will face trial for inciting violence following the disputed presidential election of December 2007.

Charges against Cabinet Minister Henry Kosgey and former Police Commissioner Hussein Ali were however dropped.

Ruto, Muthaura and Kenyatta all stand accused of instigating the violence that swept Kenya in late 2007 and early 2008.

Sang is accused of contributing towards the commission of these crimes by putting Kass FM at the

disposal of those who organised the violence.

The ICC launched an investigation into the Kenyan cases in March 2010 after the country failed to initiate local prosecutions.

### Kenya: Uhuru, Ruto Win Kikwete Support

By Charles Kerich/The Star (Nairobi)/22 October 2012

TNA presidential aspirant Uhuru Kenyatta and Justice minister Eugene Wamalwa met Tanzania President Jakaya Kikwete in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Uhuru led what was described as a TNA, URP and Ford Kenya delegation that included TNA-allied MPs Rachel Shebesh (nominated), Moses ole Sakuda (Kajiado North) and former Wajir North MP Dr Abdulahi Ali together with assistant minister Kazungu Kambi, an ally of URP presidential hopeful William Ruto.

There was no representative from Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka's Wiper Democratic Party, a key player in the G7 Alliance. Also present was the Kenyan High Commissioner to Tanzania, Mutinda Mutiso.

The Star could not readily establish the reason for the trip that comes just days after the media reported a possible Uhuru-Ruto alliance signed a deal that would see them contest on a joint ticket in the March 4, 2013 general election.

"International or foreign powers should keep off politics of Kenya and let Kenyans democratically elect their leaders," President Kikwete was quoted as having said by the head of the Eugene Wamalwa Centre, Tony Gachoka.

"Kenya's elections should be left to the people of Kenya to decide. Democracy will only reign in Africa when the people have leaders they elected democratically themselves."

President Kikwete was part of the mediating team that brought President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga to the negotiating table during the 2007-08 post-election violence that rocked the country and culminated with the signing of the National Accord.

Uhuru again attacked former UN secretary General Kofi Annan who last week said an Uhuru or Ruto presidency would be risky for Kenya.

Annan told a media briefing in Nairobi at the end of his tour of Kenya the country risked international isolation if any of the two politicians were elected president.

Uhuru said Annan and the panel of eminent persons' role in Kenyan politics ended with the signing of the National Accord, and they should stop meddling in internal politics.

"Annan should stop pretending to be a prefect of Kenyans when everybody knows it was Jakaya Kikwete who broke the stalemate between President Kibaki and Prime Minister Raila Odinga when Annan had stayed in Kenya for a month without success," Wamalwa said yesterday.

Wamalwa argued that Chapter Six of the constitution, on leadership and integrity, applied differently to appointed and elected leaders. "The Supreme Court should urgently interpret the difference between the two as when you get the vote from the citizens, that is the highest form of



mandate and not a decision by three judges," Wamalwa said through Gachoka.

The leaders praised the close ties between Kenya and Tanzania, and reaffirmed the friendship that goes back many years. President Kikwete stressed the need for unity in Kenya ahead of the general election.

He called for the respect of the "decision of the people of Kenya", adding that Kenyans are the masters of their own destiny and must be allowed to elect their leaders without undue interference. President Kikwete said Africa would respect the decision Kenyans would make in the general election.

Uhuru said his goal and that of like-minded leaders was to move the country forward in unity, and he was therefore reaching out to leaders of other political parties.

The trip to Tanzania is part of campaign by politicians to gather support from regional leaders ahead of the elections. This was the second meeting between President Kikwete and the leaders allied to the G7.

In June 2011, Ruto led a group of ministers and MPs to meetings with the Uganda President Yoweri Museveni and President Kikwete in what was described as attempts by the URP leader to portray himself as credible presidential material.

It comes as debate rages over whether Uhuru and Ruto should be allowed to contest in the elections as they are facing charges of crimes against humanity at the International Criminal Court at the Hague.

The Kenya Youth Parliament and the Kenya Youth League, as well as registered voters Patrick Njuguna, Agostino Netto and Charles Omanga have moved to court seeking orders that Uhuru and Ruto should be barred from contesting in the general election on the grounds that International Criminal Court charges against them are serious offences under Kenyan and international law.

The groups argue that allowing the two to contest for public office would be a recipe for chaos and perpetuate a culture of impunity. The court was asked to permanently restrain the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission from accepting the nomination of any candidate who has been committed to trial for serious criminal charges.

The petitioners also sought a declaration that the presumption of innocence in favour of Uhuru and Ruto should not override the need to uphold the principles of the constitution which has placed strict requirements for a high level of integrity for public office holders.

### **Kenya: Man Who Surrendered Not Wanted Terror Suspect**

By Bernard Momanyi/Capital FM (Nairobi)/22 October 2012

Nairobi — Police now say a man who surrendered on Monday resembles wanted terror suspect Hassan Owiti and even carries a similar name, but he is not the one sought over terror links.

Police spokesman Eric Kiraithe said detectives were set to release the man after interrogating him because he is innocent.

"He is not the one. He has been interrogated and will be released," Kiraithe said.

The man turned up at the Coast Provincial Police headquarters on Monday morning, after police circulated names and photographs of four men accused of plotting terror attacks.

Kiraithe said all the four men were still at large and urged the public to volunteer information that can lead to their arrest.

Owiti who spoke to journalists before he was taken in for questioning maintained his innocence.

"I am innocent; I think it is a case of mistaken identity and that is why I came here to see why they want me," he said before he was quizzed and subsequently ferried to Nairobi for further interrogation.

The photo that resembles him was circulated on Sunday alongside those of three other wanted men described by the police as dangerous terrorists plotting attacks in Nairobi and Mombasa.

They include Hassan Owiti, Shaban Namusenda Makotse, Yassin Olunga Ndungu and Ali Masadiq.

"Shaban is a Luhya from Mumias but has adopted a strong Kiswahili accent to camouflage himself and he is of medium build. Ali Masadiq is small bodied and can easily pass as a primary school pupil. He is mainly used to carry out surveillance on potential terrorism targets and convey firearms and grenades," Kiraithe said when he released the photographs.

The photos released by police were not very clear because they were taken by surveillance cameras.

Kiraithe told journalists that there was sufficient evidence showing that the four had been trained in Somalia and have links with the Al Shabaab militia group.

"Evidence in the possession of the police indicates that they have also been involved in various acts of terrorism in Nairobi and Mombasa. The four are currently believed to be on the run inside Kenya and planning attacks in Nairobi and Mombasa again," Kiraithe said.

He said they are also looking for Faud Abubakar who was charged alongside another terror suspect Briton Jermaine Grant earlier this year.

The police spokesman called on any person who may know the whereabouts of Abubakar to report to any police station, warning that he may have criminal plans.

"Abubakar was charged in Mombasa law courts earlier this year together with Jermaine Grant for criminal offences of being in possession of explosives, being a member of an organised group and preparation to commit a felony," he said.

The announcement comes at a time when cases of terror attacks have increased, especially after the Kenya Defence Forces entered Somalia in pursuit of the Shabaab who are behind most of the attacks.

### **Kenya: Safaricom Tops List of Taxpayers**

By Margaret Wahito/Capital FM (Nairobi)/ 22 October 2012

Nairobi — Safaricom has been named the top tax payer for the 2011/2012 financial year by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA).

The telecom company was followed by East African Breweries Limited (EABL) and Teachers Service Commission taking the third position.

KRA Commissioner-General John Njiraini said the top companies did not only contribute the highest amount but also paid in time and followed all the required regulations.

"The celebration of distinguished tax payers aims at rewarding those who voluntarily comply and at the same time try to change the behaviour of those who do not. We however urge these non compliant ones to change their ways in order to avoid punitive consequences when we finally catch up with them," said Njiraini.

The other top 10 companies include British American Tobacco, Kenya Commercial Bank, Barclays Bank, Kenya Ports Authority, Equity Bank Limited, Standard Chartered Bank and KenGen.

President Mwai Kibaki who officiated the event on his part directed all relevant government agencies to deal with Kenyans and businesses that are evading paying taxes.

He said the government's aim through KRA is to improve tax collection in order to raise resources for funding government operations without excessive borrowing.

"I remind Kenyans that tax evasion is an economic crime punishable under the Economic Crimes Act. Let us keep the required standards in all ways that we can. And that the few individuals who escape tax, can feel ashamed," the president said.

"We also aim to make our tax system simpler, easier to comply with and efficient in promoting domestic investment, Foreign Direct Investment and employment creation," he added.

The Head of State said the government will continue to ensure that the revenue raised is utilised efficiently and transparently through the elimination of wastage and corruption.

The top 10 taxpayers appreciated on Monday contributed close to Sh115 billion during the period, which is 17 percent of the total tax collected in the last financial year.

Finance Minister Njeru Githae who also attended the award ceremony revealed that in the next financial year, KRA targets to collect over Sh1 trillion as revenue.

"Continued good performance in tax collection is paramount to a nation's ability to achieve high and sustainable growth, job creation and poverty eradication," Githae said.

### **Kenya: Arm Cement Ltd Continues to Post Rise in Profit**

By Victoria Rubadiri/Capital FM (Nairobi)/22 October 2012

Nairobi — ARM Cement Limited (formerly Athi River Mining Ltd) has posted a nine month net profit of Sh826 million marking a 328 percent growth from the previous year's Sh193 million.

Turnover climbed 29 percent to Sh7.74 billion driven primarily by higher sales of Rhino Cement.

Rhino Cement, which is ARM's flagship operation set up in 1997, launched its Tanzania cement production plant in Dar es Salaam this month.

"This will contribute to the group revenues in the 4th quarter of 2012. Construction at the 1.2

million tonnes per year Clinker plant at Tanga is progressing as per schedule," the company said in a statement.

ARM Cement Ltd received \$50 million from the African Finance Corporation (AFC) to fund in part the Tanzania plant as well as expansion efforts into the region.

The company has operations in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and South Africa

Profit before unrealised foreign exchange differences increased by 18 percent from Sh978 million to Sh1.15 billion.

"The unrealised foreign exchange loss provision in the nine months of 2011 was Sh681 million. With the strengthening of the Kenya shilling, this exchange loss has since reversed and turned into a gain of Sh42 million in 2012," the firm revealed.

The company's overall outlook remained optimistic about the business environment in the region and with expectations of growth in demand for Rhino Cement and other products.

Standard Investment Bank (SIB) said over the last five years cement industry players have invested over Sh42 billion (\$500 million) in capacity expansion.

This investment has seen cement grinding capacity in the region increase by 65.8 percent over the same period to 10.4 Million Tonnes Per Annum (mtpa) in 2011; a figure SIB expects to further increase by 41.8 percent to 14.76 mtpa by 2015.

Between 2001 and 2010 total cement traded across the East African Community jumped from 0.447 mtpa to 2.182 mtpa.

Kenya remains the region's largest net exporter with 0.61 mtpa in 2010 up from 0.23 mtpa in 2002, while Rwanda is the largest net importer with 0.21 mtpa in 2010.

ANGOLA :

**Angola: FAO Signs Cooperation Agreement With FESA**

22 October 2012/AngolaPress

Luanda — The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) signed recently an open cooperation agreement with Eduardo dos Santos Foundation (FESA) providing for the implementation of joint projects, mainly intended to provide service to rural communities, announced Monday in Luanda an official of organisation.

According to the regional representative for Africa of FAO, Maria Helena Semedo, who will attend the 16th technical-scientific events of FESA, running in Luanda, "the signing of the memorandum of cooperation makes FESA a privileged partner of that UN body".

She said that the agreement demonstrates the emergence of a new vision of cooperation.

According to her, the process that used to restrict only to the governments is now extensive to the Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), civil society institutions and associations producer,

"which shows an innovative partnership.

The protocol which comes into effect in indefinite period, the official said, can be renewed and adjusted according to the interest of the parties and context.

It also covers actions in the fields of agriculture, food security, staff training, rural development, technical assistance, among others.

The president of Republic of Angola is the patron of Eduardo dos Santos Foundation (FESA), chaired by Ismael Dio.

AU /AFRICA :

### **Africa: Govts Urged to Harness Natural Resources**

By Rose Athumani/Tanzania Daily News (Dar es Salaam)/23 October 2012

Addis Ababa — PARTICIPATION of relevant stakeholders, including communities at grassroots levels, will help ensure good management of natural resources abundant in many African nations, for economic growth and benefit of citizens.

Addressing participants attending the Coalition for Dialogue on Africa (CoDA), a head of the 8th African Development Forum (ADF VII) starting today, the former President of Botswana and CoDA Chairman, Mr Festus Mogae, said many African countries endowed with abundant resources are yet to maximize the potential of the sector for economic growth.

"Successful harnessing of resources is a key driver in economies around the world, Africa included, but many African nations are yet to effectively realize the great potential of their natural resources," Mr Mogae explained.

He said if all stakeholders work together, successful harnessing of natural resources and equitable sharing of the benefits down to those at community levels can be achieved.

"The experience of my country, Botswana, over the past 45 years is testimony to that. Am not saying it is an easy task, but it can be done, if all stakeholders in a nation put their will together, behind a common national vision and pledge to lift their own weight and agree in an equitable sharing of national resources revenues," he explained.

He said with the growing demand for mineral resources, water and land for agriculture by new players such as China; Africa has a window of opportunity to improve natural resources governance.

He explained that many countries with natural resources have encountered significant barriers to progress such as lack of negotiation skills, weak administrative capabilities to organize and monitor relevant sectors such as good governance.

"One factor to consider is trust and stability among all stakeholders to allow for constructive participation, which will help build confidence that the benefits from natural resources will be distributed equitably," he explained.

In his presentation at the CoDA conference which was going by the theme "Leveraging State-Society dialogue for improving natural resources governance in Africa," the Chairman of the Kenya Legal Resources Foundation Trust, Prof Kimani Njogu, emphasized the importance of involving the society in all levels of natural resources management.

Prof Njogu noted that despite global recognition of the role of natural resources in improving lives of people, accelerating economic growth and transforming societies, the bulk of Africans are languishing in poverty and hunger.

"The potential available on the continent has led to the scramble for land and other natural resources in Africa, but the custodian, the African people bear the cost of the land acquisition and participate minimally in determining the process and direction of the global rush," Prof Njogu noted.

He noted that among ways to ensure natural resources benefit African people, governments should deliberately include relevant stakeholders including local communities, grassroots organizations and civil societies in decision making process.

"Citizen participation in determining governance practices is vitally important because it ensures sustainable and efficient service delivery by public officers," he stressed. Commenting on bad contracts already entered by African nations, Prof Njogu noted that governments can still renegotiate the contracts, so that communities living around the mining areas can benefit.

The Coordinator of Third World Network-Africa, Mr Yao Graham, noted that small operators in natural resources sector are losing out to large and commercial investors who are the government's focus on foreign direct investment.

Mr Graham stressed on the need to strengthen weak regulatory frameworks and create new ones to safeguard interests of Africa and its people. "If we move toward multi-stakeholder dialogues, we will be able to craft a path that will benefit the bulk of African people," he explained.

### Qatar ruler begins landmark visit to Gaza

23 October 2012/bbc.co.uk

The emir of Qatar has arrived in the Gaza Strip - the first head of state to visit since the Islamist group Hamas came to power there in 2007.

Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Thani is expected to launch a \$254m (£158m) construction project to help rebuild the war-torn Palestinian territory.

Qatar has become one of Hamas's main benefactors since it fell out with Syria and has had a rift with Iran.

The Palestinian Authority expressed reservations about the emir's visit.

Sheikh Hamad flew to Egypt and crossed into Gaza by car amid tight security.

The Hamas interior ministry said it had a "well-prepared plan" to protect the emir, deploying thousands of security personnel and blocking roads to Gaza City's stadium, where he is expected to address a crowd.

Earlier, the Israeli military said a soldier had been wounded by a bomb explosion along Israel's

border fence with Gaza, near Kissufim.  
Syria fall-out

The visit is a sign of the increasing ties between the Gulf state and Hamas, the BBC's Jon Donnison reports from Gaza.

Qatar, one of the richest countries in the Arab world, has become an important source of revenue for Hamas in the aftermath of its fallout with Syrian President Bashar al-Assad.

In February, Hamas announced that its political leadership had been moved from Syria to Egypt and Qatar, because it could no longer effectively operate because of the unrest in its long-time ally.

The political bureau of Hamas had been based in Damascus since 1999, and relations appeared to be good until anti-government protests erupted throughout Syria in March 2011.

Hamas initially neither publicly endorsed the Syrian government's handling of the uprising nor repudiated it.

Analysts said the Sunni Islamist movement was torn between risking the financial backing of Syria and its ally, Iran, and supporting Syria's majority Sunni community, which has borne the brunt of the crackdown by the Alawite-dominated security forces.

But in February, the head of the Hamas government in Gaza, Ismail Haniya, declared his support for "the heroic people of Syria who are striving for freedom, democracy and reform".

Qatar, meanwhile, was the first Arab nation to call publicly for military intervention in Syria to topple the government.

It was the main Arab player in the Nato-led coalition in Libya and has played a major part in trying to resolve regional conflicts.

The country maintains cordial relations with both the US and Iran, and - even more unusually for an Arab state - with both Hamas and Israel.

Most recently, Qatar has been involved in the reconciliation process between Hamas and its long-time rival faction, Fatah, which dominates the Palestinian Authority and is in power in the West Bank.

Hamas, which won parliamentary elections in 2006, ousted forces loyal to Palestinian Authority President Mahmoud Abbas in Gaza during clashes in 2007 and set up a rival government.

In response, Israel tightened its blockade on the coastal territory, which has had a crippling effect on Gaza's economy.

A spokesperson for Mr Abbas said the Palestinian Authority welcomed Qatar's efforts to help the people in Gaza but also stressed "the necessity to preserve the legitimate representation of the Palestinian people".

Mr Abbas called on Sheikh Hamad to "urge Hamas in Gaza to go for reconciliation and to end this split".

## Des djihadistes affluent dans le nord du Mali

Par Tanguy Berthemet/lefigaro.fr/Mis à jour le 23/10/2012

Une colonne de salafistes lourdement armés en provenance de Libye a rejoint les territoires occupés par les islamistes.

Les islamistes, maîtres du nord du Mali, se préparent à la guerre. Alors qu'une intervention armée d'un contingent africain dans la région se dessine de plus en plus, les djihadistes ont reçu ces derniers jours des renforts. «Ils sont arrivés vendredi ou samedi sur des gros 4 × 4 avec des armes. Ce sont des étrangers. Il y a des Soudanais mais aussi d'autres Arabes comme des Tunisiens», affirme un habitant de Gao, l'une des villes aux mains des extrémistes, qui estime leur nombre à «100 ou 150 combattants».

À Gao, Habib Ould Issouf, l'un des dirigeants du Mujao, a confirmé l'arrivée des islamistes étrangers. «Ils veulent la guerre? On va faire la guerre. C'est pour cela que nos frères viennent de partout», a-t-il expliqué à l'AFP. Un responsable de la ville assure que ces nouveaux venus se sont installés dans un camp situé à quelques kilomètres à l'est de cité. «Comme tous les autres islamistes, ils ne résident pas au centre mais en brousse. À Gao, ils n'y a que nos jeunes qu'ils ont recrutés.»  
Convoi de 4 × 4

Les armes lourdes ont, elles aussi, été retirées de Gao pour être cachées dans les environs. Un autre groupe de mercenaires étrangers aurait rejoint Tombouctou, la cité des Saints contrôlée par les Touaregs d'Ansar Dine et par al-Qaida au Maghreb islamique (Aqmi).

Selon plusieurs sources, cet afflux de salafistes est la conséquence de l'arrivée d'un fort convoi en provenance de Libye. Cette colonne, forte de 50 à 60 véhicules, aurait atteint le Mali en fin de semaine après avoir traversé le nord du Niger. L'enlèvement de plusieurs employés d'une ONG, le 14 octobre, à Dakoro dans le sud du Niger, est désormais regardé avec plus d'attention. Effectuée par le Mouvement pour l'unicité et le djihad en Afrique de l'Ouest (Mujao), le groupe malien qui occupe Gao, cette opération pourrait être une manœuvre de diversion réussie.

L'Objectif de ce convoi, plus que l'apport de troupes aguerries, serait l'approvisionnement en armes des islamistes. Ces dernières semaines, les médias locaux avaient noté la hausse du prix des munitions dans le nord du Mali, signe d'une certaine pénurie. Pour les militaires occidentaux et particulièrement français, qui se sont engagés à apporter un soutien logistique et aérien aux soldats africains, cette colonne repose la question des moyens dont disposent les islamistes. Leur arsenal provient des dépôts saisis à l'armée malienne lors de sa débâcle de mars mais surtout de Libye, des stocks de l'ancienne armée de Kadhafi. Or le Guide possédait des armes performantes, notamment des SA-18, des missiles sol-air russes, aujourd'hui introuvables.

Pour les islamistes d'Aqmi, ces renforts ont aussi valeur de symbole. L'intérêt porté au Sahel par des djihadistes soudanais ou égyptiens est une forme de reconnaissance. Cette filiale d'al-Qaida n'a jamais caché son intention de faire du Sahel un nouveau foyer de la guerre contre les «mécréants».

## Africa News Round Up October, Tuesday 23, 2012

Posted on October 23, 2012/.independent.co.uk/ by Administrator

The United States on Monday announced an extra \$58 million in aid for Horn of Africa countries, lamenting the region's "fragile" situation with over nine million people in need, RNW reports.

Secretary of State Hillary Clinton said more than two million Somalis still need urgent assistance



despite the end of a famine earlier this year, while the region faces crises fueled by conflict, floods or drought.

“The United States continues to be concerned by the crisis in the Horn of Africa,” she said, adding: “The overall humanitarian situation in the region remains fragile; more than nine million people in the Horn need assistance.”

In 2011, famine in Somalia caused the deaths of tens of thousands of people and affected more than four million people, or more than half of the population, according to UN figures.

“We will keep working with our partners and targeting those most in need until every man, woman and child has the chance to live healthy lives and realize their potential,” added Clinton.

In Somalia, sea piracy has fallen to its lowest level since 2008 as robust international action deters attacks from Somali pirates, but Somalia’s waters remain extremely high-risk, the BBC reports.

The International Maritime Bureau said Monday that just 70 attacks were reported by ships in the first nine months of this year, compared with 233 incidents in 2011.

International intervention and new security measures are deterring pirates, the IMB adds.

But the organisation warned seafarers to remain vigilant in the waters around Somalia.

More attacks are being reported in the Gulf of Guinea, where the Nigerian navy has begun patrols. The waters off Benin and Togo are also high-risk areas.

The IMB says the attacks are often planned to steal refined oil products which can be easily sold on the open market.

“We welcome the successful robust targeting of Pirate Action Groups by international navies in the high-risk waters off Somalia, ensuring these criminals are removed before they can threaten ships,” the IMB’s director, Captain Pottengal Mukundan, said in a statement.

The group noted that as of September 30, suspected Somali pirates were holding 11 vessels and 167 crew members hostage.

In Kenya, the Daily Nation reports that presidential aspirants Uhuru Kenyatta and William Ruto will not get any respite from the International Criminal Court even if they win the next elections, prosecutor Fatou Bensouda has said.

The two politicians are facing crimes against humanity charges in connection with the 2007 post-election violence in which some 1,133 people were killed and nearly 600,000 displaced from their homes.

Their cases start on April 11, a month after the March 4 elections. But this is also the date a run-off is scheduled if there is no clear winner in the first round, complicating matters for Mr Ruto and Mr Kenyatta.

Some high profile world leaders, including US Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and former UN Secretary General Kofi Annan have warned that it might not be a good idea for Kenya to elect people who face such serious charges.

Speaking during her first tour of Kenya since she took over from Mr Luis Moreno-Ocampo in June, Ms Bensouda was categorical that Kenya's elections will not be used to reschedule the proceedings against Mr Kenyatta, Mr Ruto and two other Kenyans. The ICC's time table will continue uninterrupted.

In Uganda, officials said on Monday they would stop mediating in the conflict between the Democratic Republic of Congo and M23 rebels if the UN Security Council endorsed accusations that Uganda was supporting the rebels news24 reports.

A report by a UN panel of experts leaked to Reuters last week accused Uganda and Rwanda of providing support to M23, whose insurgency has displaced half a million people in North Kivu province, which borders both countries.

The report, written for the UN Security Council's DRC sanctions committee, said Uganda had allowed M23's political branch to operate from Kampala in addition to providing M23 with troops, weapons, technical help, political advice and facilitation of external relations.

We have contacted the UN via our diplomats in New York because we want to know whether what the media wrote about is true," junior foreign minister Asuman Kiyingi told Reuters.

"If the UN confirms its experts wrote these outrageous falsehoods, then we'll withdraw from our mediation role in the conflict between DRC and the M23 rebels."

Uganda has been spearheading faltering efforts by a regional body, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), to put together a 4 000-strong force to neutralise M23 and police the border between DRC and Rwanda.

M23 said this month that Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni was trying to engage it in direct talks with DRC, although DRC denied it and said it had not dropped its refusal to negotiate with the insurgents.

### Argentine sailors stuck in Ghana long for home

Published on 22 October 2012 /rnw.nl

Argentine sailors longing for home bought suitcases Monday and prepared to leave Ghana, where they have been stuck for three weeks over a debt dispute that has ensnared their stately military ship.

"Everyone wants to go home," one sailor dressed in plainclothes said as he headed out to shop and change money, the hot sun beating down on the port of Tema, along the west African nation's Atlantic coast.

The more than 300 sailors on the ship -- most of them Argentine -- will eventually return home from their mission in Ghana not with tales of derring-do on the high seas, but something much more prosaic.

The sailors' stranding has been the result of actions by lawyers and investors and judges, and most of all by a firm some label a "vulture fund". It involves bonds and a debt default, and has absolutely nothing to do with military heroism.

Argentina's foreign minister on Monday called on the United Nations to help free the frigate, but he

received what seemed to be a less-than-enthusiastic response.

The UN Security Council president, Gert Rosenthal, Guatemala's UN ambassador, said "this case is not exactly threatening world peace."

Argentina announced on Saturday that the 326 sailors, who also include eight from Uruguay, 15 from Chile and others from Brazil, Paraguay, Ecuador, South Africa and Venezuela, will be evacuated.

But when had been another question, complicated by the possibility that an Argentine plane sent to fly them home could be detained as well.

Then, on Monday, Argentina's foreign minister said it had chartered a flight to bring home 281 of the sailors on Wednesday.

They have waited and spent time playing football, going shopping and hanging out at a beach. Not too bad a life, but several of the sailors on Monday seemed weary and ready to leave.

"It doesn't have much," said one sailor who identified himself as Peter Richard, referring to the area around the port. He declared that he was not bored, but also said there was not much to do.

Ghana offers attractive beaches, many fine pubs, friendly people and loads of history to take in, but it would be fair to say that it is not the French Riviera, if that is the kind of thing one is looking for.

Sailors on Monday took the 15-minute walk down to the market area of Tema, which is near the capital Accra, and bought large, rolling suitcases from stalls along the street before bringing them back to their ship, the ARA Libertad.

It was ahead of the announcement of the charter flight, so no one seemed to know when they would actually leave as the saga of the three-masted tall ship, which appears to have sailed in from a past era, continued to play out.

It is a tale more legalistic than Borgesian.

The ship had arrived in Ghana for a training mission, but a judge ordered it detained on October 2 after an investment fund, NML Capital Limited, filed a claim based on previous court decisions in New York and Britain.

The Cayman Islands investment fund, a subsidiary of New York-based Elliott Capital Management, says Buenos Aires owes it more than \$370 million (283 million euros).

NML Capital -- which some call a "vulture fund" -- bought Argentine bonds at a discount when the country's economy was in freefall in 2000. Buenos Aires later defaulted.

Argentina has rescheduled and refinanced much of its debt, but bonds held by speculative funds are among its unsettled business.

Court rulings in the United States and Britain have gone against Argentina, and the Ghanaian government says due process must be followed and that it cannot interfere in a judicial matter.

The court ruling applies only to the ship and not the crew, so the journey home is apparently within reach.

The ship's detention has led to major controversy in Argentina. The head of Argentina's military intelligence, Lourdes Puente Olivera, has resigned over the incident.

Her departure followed that of the commander of the Argentine navy, Carlos Alberto Paz. The government has also punished two high-ranking naval officers.

The fund's lawyer has previously said the Libertad could be released "tomorrow" if Argentina posts a bond of \$20 million, but Argentina does not appear willing to engage in what might be considered negotiations with NML.

So the days have passed and the sailors have waited. Even beach football can apparently get old.

"This is for my friend and this one's for me," sailor Richard said, signaling to two rolling suitcases he had just bought, but not yet sure when they would take flight.

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UN/AFRICA :

**Africa: Infectious Diseases Account for 63 Percent of Deaths in THE Continent - WHO Official**  
22 October 2012/AngolaPress

Luanda — Communicable diseases account for 63 percent of deaths in the African region, with emphasis on HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis, said Monday in Luanda the regional director of the World Health Organization for Africa, Luis Gomes Sambo.

Luis Sambo who was speaking at the opening session of the first meeting on Medical Education, sponsored by the Faculty of Medicine of Agostinho Neto University, mentioned the HIV / AIDS as the responsible for 38.5 percent of deaths from communicable diseases and for 15.6 percent of all deaths in the region.

According to Luis Gomes Sambo, despite these facts the African region has made progress toward fighting against HIV / AIDS, with the addition of coverage of interventions with antiretroviral to reduce the mother-to child transmission.

He also spoke of the increase in coverage of antiretroviral treatment from 100,000 people in 2003 to 6.2 million in 2011, but the annual incidence of infection by the disease is still very high with 1.7 million new cases in 2011.

With regard to malaria, 12 countries in the African region have experienced a reduction in morbidity and mortality by 50 percent, stressing that the fight against this epidemic in Africa has good opportunities and prospects in the coming years, he said.

The official recalled that the reduction of the mortality among the children aged under five years and improve maternal health are among the millennium goal.

He added that the mortality rate of children aged less than 5 years continues to decline in the African region, from 159 per 1000 live births in 2000 to 109/100 in 2010.

Despite this fact, current statistics show that about 40 percent of deaths in children occurred in the first month of life, reflecting a poor attention to neonatal care.

He noted that maternal mortality decreased an average of 720 deaths per 100,000 live births in 2000 to 480 per 100 000 live births in 2010.

According to WHO statistics on the global burden of disease, about 59 million people died in 2008 and almost 18 percent of these occurred in the African region, the home to about 12 percent of the world population.

US/AFRICA :

### US Pledges More Aid To Horn of Africa

Posted October 22nd, 2012 /blogs.voanews.com

U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton says the United States will give \$58 million in aid to countries in the Horn of Africa.

In a statement Monday, Clinton said the humanitarian situation in the region is fragile, with more than 9 million people in need of assistance because of conflict, flooding, drought and economic problems.

She said that although the famine in Somalia has ended, more than 2 million people in that country still need humanitarian aid.

Years of conflict in Somalia coupled with prolonged drought has left 1 million Somalis living in the region as refugees. More than half of those refugees live in neighboring Kenya.

U.N. agencies have asked for more than \$1 billion this year to meet Somalia's humanitarian needs.

The U.S. State Department says the United States has given \$1.3 billion in emergency assistance since 2011 to affected people in Somalia, Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti.

### East Africa, US Announce Progress Under Trade And Investment Partnership

by Lorys Charalambous, Tax-News.com, Cyprus/23 October 2012

Following a ministerial meeting on October 19, the United States and the East African Community (EAC) were said to have taken important steps to advance their Trade and Investment Partnership.

The EAC and the US announced the new Trade and Investment Partnership in June 2012 at the 2012 African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) Forum. The initial topics the two sides have agreed to explore under the Partnership include an investment treaty, a trade facilitation agreement and a commercial dialogue.

The partnership should help to promote EAC regional integration, while expanding and diversifying US-EAC trade and investment. It could also provide building blocks towards a more comprehensive trade agreement over the long-term.

Initially, the EAC and the US agreed on a framework to move forward on the establishment of a Commercial Dialogue, which will be formally launched in late November 2012, while they also agreed that their respective technical teams will meet at the soonest possible date for further consultations toward negotiation of a proposed investment treaty and a trade facilitation agreement.

The parties will hold their next ministerial meeting on the margins of the 2013 AGOA Forum in the middle of next year.

CANADA /AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

Veterans honour lost mates in North Africa 70 years on  
23rd Oct 2012 /gympietimes.com.au

MINISTER for Veterans' Affairs Warren Snowdon joined 21 Australian Second World War veterans who helped defeat the Germans in North Africa in 1942, in honouring lost mates at commemorative services in El Alamein, Egypt on Friday.

Among the veterans was former gun sergeant Alan Read, 92, who served with the 2/4th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment in El Alamein. Mr Reid is the father of Gympie radio 4GY announcer Warren Read.

Mr Snowdon said Friday's services at the Commonwealth War Graves Commission El Alamein War Cemetery and the Australian 9th Division Memorial marked the the 70th anniversary of the end of Australia's involvement in the North Africa campaigns, including the decisive Battle of El Alamein.

"We paid tribute to the efforts of the Australian servicemen and women in North Africa; their great victory alongside Allied counterparts; and the loss of some great mates in arms they left behind 70 years ago," he said.

Many thousands of Australians served in the campaigns in North Africa and Syria during the Second World War, in major actions at Bardia, Libya, in January 1941, the capture of Tobruk in January 1941 and the siege of Tobruk from April to December 1941, Syria from June to July 1941 and El Alamein from August to November 1942.

At El Alamein the Allies launched a major offensive that would force the Germans to ultimately abandon their campaign in North Africa. This final action was not without cost - between July and November more than 1,100 Australians were killed, almost 200 listed as missing in action and more than 3,600 wounded.

Mr Snowdon said the 21 veterans were aged between 88 and 95 and came from all over Australia.

He said the group represented all arms of service involved in the campaign and included a Prisoner of War, several Rats of Tobruk and a nurse.

"For most, it is their first time returning to the places where they served 70 years ago and it was an honour and a privilege to share their journey," he said.

EU/AFRICA :

### France to send drones to Mali in fight against al-Qaida-backed insurgents

Afua Hirsch, West Africa correspondent/guardian.co.uk/Monday 22 October 2012

Move is reportedly part of 'unprecedented' intervention with US and EU states to tackle threat following coup in March

France is planning to send drones into Mali as part of an international intervention to free the west African country from al-Qaida-backed insurgents who control large swaths of its territory, according to reports.

A French defence official said the country was moving surveillance drones to the region as part of secretive plans with the US, amid increasing fears that, if left unchecked, the crisis could serve as a launchpad for terrorist attacks on its own soil.

Speaking to the Associated Press, the official said on Monday that France was discussing plans with the US for drones, intelligence-gathering and security in Africa's Sahel region. The German chancellor, Angela Merkel, said that Germany would be prepared to train Malian security forces and would consider providing "material and logistical support".

"Free democratic states cannot accept international terrorism gaining a safe refuge in the north of the country," Merkel said at a German military conference near Berlin. A diplomatic source told the Guardian that the international consensus on the need for a concerted action in Mali was unprecedented.

"I've never seen anything like this level of international co-operation : the United States, the EU – both collectively and its individual states – the UN security council, all are in 100% agreement about what we should do here," said the source, speaking in Mali's capital, Bamako, on condition of anonymity.

"It is no secret that there is military planning going on. The EU is conducting a scoping mission and looking to send a training team to help train the Malian army. But the French are the nation with the most experience working here, and they see the terrorism threat more acutely than others."

News of the possible scale of the western intervention comes after the UN security council passed a resolution earlier this month giving the Malian government and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) 45 days to formulate a plan for military action. An ECOWAS source told the Guardian that the governments of Niger, Burkina Faso and Togo had all agreed to contribute to a force to reclaim the north of the country from rebels backed by al-Qaida insurgents who seized power following a coup in March.

On Friday a meeting of African and international officials in Bamako saw increasingly belligerent rhetoric, as foreign powers agreed on the urgency of military action in the country.

"The Malian people rely on us to take determined and efficient action, and we must be up to their hopes and expectations," UN deputy secretary general, Jan Elias Eliasson, said.

"From the Mali government's perspective, the meeting was a big success," a senior security source in the Mali government said. "The international community came to Mali to discuss our solution with us, and agreed that Mali will be the lead."

But humanitarian groups expressed concern that plans for military action should consider the wellbeing of the most vulnerable groups.

"Mali is a country whose people are dealing with immense challenges from dire poverty, a food and nutrition crisis, and the political and security crises. We have seen hundreds of thousands of people forced to flee their homes, especially women and children," said Chance Briggs, national director in Mali of the charity World Vision. "It would be intolerable to see further pain and suffering heaped on children and their families in Mali. They have enough to deal with in the past few months."

#### AP Exclusive: France to send drones to Mali region

Associated Press/22102012

France will move surveillance drones to West Africa and is holding secretive talks with U.S. officials in Paris this week as it seeks to steer international military action to help Mali's feeble government win back the northern part of the country from al-Qaida-linked rebels, The Associated Press has learned.

France and the United Nations insist any invasion of Mali's north must be led by African troops. But France, which has six hostages in Mali and has citizens who have joined al-Qaida in the Islamic Maghreb, is playing an increasing role behind the scenes.

Many in the West fear that northeast Mali and the arid Sahel region could become the new Afghanistan, a no-man's-land where extremists can train, impose hardline Islamic law and plot terror attacks abroad. And France, former colonial ruler to countries across the Sahel, is a prime target.

"This is actually a major threat \_ to French interests in the region, and to France itself," said Francois Heisbourg, an expert at the Foundation for Strategic Research, a partially state-funded think tank in Paris. "This is like Afghanistan 1996. This is like when Bin Laden found a place that was larger than France in which he could organize training camps, in which he could provide stable preparations for organizing far-flung terror attacks."

France is turning its attention to the Sahel just as it is accelerating its pullout of combat troops from Afghanistan ahead of other NATO allies.

A French defense official said Monday that France plans to move two surveillance drones to western Africa from Afghanistan by year-end, though he did not provide details. France is also reported to have special forces in the region around Mali, and to have contracted out surveillance of Mali to a private company.

Top-level American and French military leaders and diplomats, including U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs Johnnie Carson, began two days of talks in Paris on Monday on intelligence-gathering and security in the Sahel region, including Mali, diplomats from both sides told the AP.



The defense official and diplomats spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to talk publicly about the activities.

The Paris meetings follow a U.N. Security Council resolution that gives Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon about a month to help Malian authorities devise a plan to regain control of the north. And on Friday, African leaders met in Bamako, Mali's capital, to prepare a plan for a military intervention in the north, which was seized under the cover of a coup d'etat six months ago.

The United States is partnering with France, which has airpower and hundreds of troops across western Africa \_ in Senegal, Ivory Coast, Chad and Gabon, French and U.S. officials said. The United States has no full-time military presence in Africa, but from time to time sends trainers or other advisers on specific missions, according to Africom, the U.S. military command for Africa based in Stuttgart, Germany.

The attack on the U.S. consulate in Benghazi, Libya, last month that left four Americans dead including the U.S. ambassador has fanned an increasing American awareness of the terror threat in the Sahel.

The United States sees France as a key player in Mali, and the French defense official said the U.S. "has conferred to us the role of leader" in the crisis.

Other Western powers are increasingly worried about a lawless Mali.

On Monday, Chancellor Angela Merkel said that Germany would be prepared to take part in a European mission to train and provide logistical support for Malian security forces. European Union members are considering a noncombat training mission to help the interim Malian government.

"Free democratic states cannot accept international terrorism gaining a safe refuge in the north of the country," Merkel told a German military conference near Berlin.

Yet despite the clear French interest in a Mali campaign, French officials don't want to be seen as too aggressive in helping Mali fight AQIM and its allies \_ the Movement for Unity and Jihad in West Africa, known as MUJAO, and Ansar Dine, which now controls the famed Malian city of Timbuktu.

French President Francois Hollande, his popularity flailing just five months since he took office, faces a variety of challenges.

First, he wants to free the hostages while quashing the group that holds them. His hardline stance is puzzling to some observers but suggests that larger geopolitical concerns may be holding sway over concern for the hostages.

Secondly, Hollande has just returned from a trip to Senegal and Congo, where he vowed a new, fairer French relationship with Africa. A more robust French military footprint could revive allegations of a long-despised colonialist mindset.

But France is also determined to prevent more kidnappings across Africa, where thousands of French expatriates live under the growing threat of terrorism.

And French authorities have long been concerned that home-grown Islamic militants could get training abroad, then come back to France to sow terror \_ a fear borne out by at least two terrorism

cases publicly announced this year.

On Friday, a high-level European diplomat told the AP that French authorities know that AQIM has French nationals as members, though the official didn't provide an estimate of how many.

"At this phase, it's not a very high number," the official said. "But if nothing happens on the ground, and AQIM continues to settle in in a durable way and get structure, it's clearly a number that's going to grow."

Whether or when an international intervention in Mali will come remains uncertain.

At a meeting on the Sahel at the United Nations last month, Hollande called for an African-led military intervention in Mali "as quickly as possible." Since then, he has reiterated that France won't provide any ground troops. His government has pledged logistical support, training, and intelligence-gathering to help back up African forces.

French Defense Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian has said launching the operation is "a question of weeks," though the diplomatic official said that such a timetable was too hasty, and his comments were taken out of context. The main order of business for the French now, the diplomat said, is building consensus among the partners \_ and ensuring that African countries take the leading role.

The idea would be intervention in northern Mali through a series of concentric circles: first by Malian government troops, then the ECOWAS alliance in western Africa, then possibly the broader African Union, and last a Western \_ French, EU or American \_ in a support role to fill any remaining gaps.

Mali government forces, which are run mostly by junior-level officers who staged the coup, are widely seen as incapable \_ or unwilling \_ to lead a military operation to recover control of the north.

In August, Mali's interim leaders announced a 31-minister government, including five seen as close to coup leader Capt. Amadou Sanogo, who nominally handed over power but still has not completely relinquished control.

Intelligence Online, which first reported about the French drone deployment, has reported that France has contracted Luxembourg-based CAE Aviation to monitor parts of north Mali and western Niger. A CAE Aviation executive didn't respond to phone messages and an e-mail from the AP seeking comment.

The United States has already expanded its Mali-related intelligence effort with satellite and spy flights over the north to track and map the rebels, U.S. officials have said.

The CIA is believed to use armed drones in places such as Pakistan and Yemen. The top-secret program is especially controversial in Pakistan, where residents view it as an affront to their sovereignty and contend that the drones frequently kill civilians, not just militants. France's military is not believed to have any armed drones.

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Rukmini Callimachi in Dakar, Senegal, and Geir Moulson in Berlin contributed to this report.

CHINA/AFRICA :

### China firm makes \$850 million bid for Australia's Discovery Metals

Reuters/ October 23, 2012

By Narayanan Somasundaram and Sonali Paul

SYDNEY (Reuters) - A private equity firm founded by Chinese billionaire Yu Yong has gone hostile with its A\$824 million (\$850 million) takeover bid for Australia's Discovery Metals Ltd after the copper miner's board rebuffed a similar offer earlier this month.

Discovery's shares jumped more than 6 percent to slightly more than the offer price, indicating investors may hold out for a higher offer from CF Investments, which is 75 percent owned by Yu's Cathay Fortune Corp and 25 percent by China-Africa Development Fund.

The decision to go hostile after Discovery's surprise rejection of an initial bid has bolstered expectations that resource-hungry Chinese firms will seek more acquisitions in the sector, especially among companies that have promising projects in emerging markets.

"What the major institutional shareholders will or should do is go back to these guys and say: 'Give us an extra 10 percent and you can have it,' and that's what I think the current market price is reflecting," said Pieter Bruinstroop, an analyst at broker Octa Phillip.

CF Investments offered A\$1.70 a share, 3 percent above Discovery's last closing price but 17 percent above its last trade before the initial offer was made public on October 4, adding to a string of small to mid-sized mining deals in Asia after a slide in metals prices made valuations more attractive.

Cathay Fortune, which already owns 13.7 percent of Discovery, is targeting the firm for its Boseto project in Botswana, near a central and southern African region that has attracted more than \$10 billion in copper takeovers in the past two years.

The company has set a minimum acceptance condition of 51 percent, which means it only needs just over 37 percent support to go ahead with the deal.

China, which accounts for nearly 40 percent of global copper consumption, has been on the prowl for mining investments in Africa, South America and central Asia as it looks to feed ever expanding domestic demand for key commodities.

Discovery's shares touched a six-month high of A\$1.76 after the news but later trimmed some of their gains to trade up 5 percent at A\$1.732.

### AFRICAN ASSETS

The hostile bid for Discovery stoked gains in other copper miners and explorers on hopes of more takeover activity, with Oz Minerals rising nearly 3 percent, and PanAust and Tiger Resources both rising about 1.3 percent.

Discovery rejected the offer earlier this month, saying it failed to reflect the value of its operations, expansion plans and exploration potential. On Tuesday, it told shareholders to take no action until they receive an official offer document.

"I think there is more value in it for the Chinese. It is a fantastic asset for them," said Octa Phillip's Bruinstroop, pointing to 200 million tonnes in copper and silver resources at Boseto and a large volume in mineralisation that has yet to be classified as resources.

Bruinstroop has a base case valuation of A\$1.27 a share, but sees the company worth more than A\$2 a share if its resources can be fully developed.

The company's rejection of the previous offer came as a surprise, as it was well above some analysts' valuations on the stock.

"The decision of the Discovery board to refuse access to due diligence and further engagement without any reasonable basis has prompted CFC's decision to bypass the Discovery board," said Yong Yu, whose net worth is estimated at \$1.4 billion by Forbes.

For investors who bought into a recent capital raising at A\$1.20 a share, the offer of A\$1.70 would generate a 42 percent profit.

Cathay Fortune also owns 35.5 percent of Hong Kong-listed China Molybdenum Co Ltd <3993.HK>, the largest molybdenum producer in China and the fourth-largest in the world.

It said the offer, which has already gained Chinese regulatory approval, will be funded by agreed term loans from China Development Bank Corp and existing liquidity.

Chinese firms have been actively pursuing assets in Africa this year.

China-Africa Development Fund and China Guangdong Nuclear Power Corp agreed to buy Kalahari Minerals and Extract Resources for about \$2.3 billion, gaining control of the Husab uranium project in Namibia.

State-owned China National Gold is considering a bid for the African unit of Barrick Gold Corp , the world's No. 1 gold producer.

The interest in Africa coincides with a switch away from Australia and Canada, where asset prices have become more expensive.

Long project approval processes have also put off some Chinese investors, spurring the search for assets in emerging markets.

Citigroup is advising Cathay Fortune and China-Africa Development Fund on the deal, and UBS is advising Discovery Metals.

(\$1 = 0.9689 Australian dollars)  
(Editing by Gary Hill and Edmund Klamann)

**Chinese firm makes \$850 million bid for Australia's Discovery Metals**  
Mon Oct 22, 2012/Reuters

SYDNEY |

(Reuters) - A private equity firm founded by Chinese billionaire Yu Yong has gone hostile with a A\$824 million (\$850.49 million) takeover bid for Australia's Discovery Metals Ltd (DML.AX) after

the copper explorer's board rebuffed a similar offer earlier this month.

CF Investments, 75 percent owned by Yu's Cathay Fortune and 25 percent by China-African Development Fund offered A\$1.70 compared with Discovery's last closing price of A\$1.65. Discovery traded at A\$1.45 before the initial offer was made public.

The takeover offer for Discovery is the latest in a series of small to mid-sized metals and mining deals to hit Asia in the wake of sliding commodity prices.

And China, which accounts for nearly 40 percent of global copper consumption, has been on the prowl for mining investments in Africa, South America and central Asia as it looks to feed ever expanding domestic demand for key commodities.

Discovery rejected the offer, calling it undervalued. The rejection came as a surprise, as the company's shares have traded below the offer price, reflecting the view that investors had expected the deal to go ahead.

"The decision of the Discovery Board to refuse access to due diligence and further engagement without any reasonable basis has prompted CFC's decision to bypass the Discovery Board," said Yong Yu, whose net worth is estimated at \$1.4 billion by Forbes.

Yu's Cathay Fortune already owns 13.7 percent of Discovery Metals, which owns the Boseto project in Botswana, close to the central and southern African copper belt that has seen more than \$10 billion in copper mine takeovers in the past two years.

CFC also owns 35.5 percent of Hong Kong-listed China Molybdenum (3993.HK), the largest molybdenum producer in China and the fourth largest in the world.

The firm said the offer, which has already bagged Chinese regulatory approval, will be funded by agreed term loans from China Development Bank and existing liquidity.

The deal, which requires a minimum 51 percent acceptance to go ahead, follows a string of Chinese acquisitions in the region.

Earlier this year, China-Africa Development Fund and China Guangdong Nuclear Power Corp (CGNPC) agreed to buy Kalahari Minerals and Extract Resources for about \$2.3 billion, giving them control of the Husab uranium project in Namibia.

State-owned China National Gold is also considering a bid for the African unit of Barrick Gold (ABX.TO), the world's No. 1 producer.

Of late, China has seen switching away from Australia and Canada as asset prices became more expensive.

Long project approval processes have also put off some Chinese investors, spurring the search for assets in emerging markets instead.

Citigroup (C.N) is advising the Cathay Fortune and China-Africa Development Fund on the deal.

(Reporting by Narayanan Somasundaram; Editing by Gary Hill and M.D. Golan)

## SA signs up locomotives from China on pledge of fast delivery

by Nicky Smith/bdlive.co.za/23 octobre 2012

SOUTH Africa is buying locomotives from China for the first time, with Transnet Freight Rail signing a contract on Monday with China South Rail (CSR) Zhouzhou Electric Locomotive worth about R2.6bn.

The acquisition of the new hauling capacity is part of Transnet's market demand strategy, which is one of the central pillars of the government's plans to lift economic activity and job creation through infrastructure investment.

Public Enterprises Minister Malusi Gigaba said on Monday the agreement to buy 95 dual-electric locomotives for Transnet's general freight business was a demonstration of the government's commitment to embrace South Africa's entry into the Brics — Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa — economic bloc.

CSR Zhouzhou, a state-owned company, will form a joint venture company with Masete Basadi, a consortium of black economic empowerment partners, to assemble the locomotives in South Africa under the name CSR E-loco Supply.

The company will hold 70% equity and its partners the balance, Xu Zongxiang, president of the Chinese rail company, said on Monday.

A letter of intent was also signed between CSR and Transnet Rail Engineering, the train-building unit of the freight and logistics group, to ensure that once the contract was completed the technology was transferred to Transnet, Mr Xu said.

Winning the contract was an important stepping stone for China into South Africa and Africa, he added.

The timelines on the project were tight. One of the reasons why CSR beat eight other rolling stock manufacturers to the contract was its ability to begin delivering locomotives from December next year, Brian Molefe, Transnet's CEO, said on Monday.

"Their manufacturing capacity is enormous, they produce 160 locomotives a month," he said.

The localisation target for the contract has been set at 60% and CSR exceeded this by committing itself to a local content requirement of 60.5%.

"When we buy equipment we are procuring commitments by suppliers to enhance the capabilities of our national industry," Mr Gigaba said.

"This can take the form of direct investments in plant, technology transfers, skills development programmes and commitments to promote exports from South Africa. This value proposition is not necessarily limited to only the locomotive supply chain."

Transnet declined to disclose the value of the locomotives as this was "confidential".

The locomotives will have to be configured to run with both 3-kilovolt DC and 25-kilovolt AC power supply and will need to have 3,500-horsepower engines, Transnet Freight Rail CEO Siyabonga Gama said on Monday.

Mr Xu said CSR had a prototype of the locomotive required, which was running on its test track in China.

Mr Gama and Mr Molefe said the design and manufacture of the locomotives would not present technical problems to CSR as the company manufactured locomotives to higher specifications than those required by South Africa.

The first 10 locomotives will be assembled in China and delivered by December next year. The balance will be assembled in South Africa and phased in over the duration of the contract, which terminates in September 2014, Mr Gama said.

Any winner of the contract would have had to adapt existing technology to meet South African conditions such as power supply, engine requirements and the gauge. In South Africa, railway tracks are 1,067mm wide, while in China most trains are built for a rail width of 1,400mm-1,600mm.

**China Mobile remains world's largest operator, India's Bharti up to fourth: Report**  
22nd October 2012 /by Jon Russell/thenextweb.com

China Mobile remains the world's largest telecom operator by a stretch, according to a report from Wireless Intelligence which pegged it at 683.08 million subscribers, a significant margin ahead of second-placed Vodafone (386.88 million customers).

The data and analysis firm pulled together the cumulative customer base for the world's top operators during the second quarter of 2012. Asia dominates the top ten ranking, and it is notable that India's Bharti Airtel Group passed 250 million subscribers to move into fourth place.

Equally worthy of mention is the fact that all three Chinese operators rank in the top ten for the first time after the country's third operator — China Telecom, which saw 33 percent subscriber growth year-on-year — was the report's biggest riser, jumping two places to tenth, courtesy of its 144.18 million customer base.

Other global giants featured in the top ten include Latin America's América Móvil (third), Spain's Telefónica (fifth), Russia's VimpelCom, India's Reliance and Norway Telenor, which came in seventh, eight and ninth respectively.

China Mobile also topped out on revenue, hitting \$22.05 billion, according to Wireless Intelligence, which ranks Verizon Wireless (\$15.78 billion), AT&T (\$14.77 billion), Vodafone (\$13.92 billion) and Telefónica (\$11.40 billion) next.

While it is head and shoulders above the rest of the pack, state-owned China Mobile is being chased by smaller rivals China Unicom and China Telecom, both of which are making significant 3G subscriber gains. That's aided in no small part by deals to offer the iPhone, something which Hong Kong-listed China Mobile does not have. However, as of March, China Mobile did have 15 million iPhone users on its network.

As well as 180 million users in India, Bharti is active in 17 markets in Africa, where it serves more than 50 million customers and holds 12 3G licenses. It has businesses in two other Asian countries.

Emerging market operators dominate the subscriber numbers but comparatively lag their Western peers as their customer are less likely to be big spenders or smartphone users, however a shift is

continuing to occur.

Strategy Analytics last week claimed that there are now more than one billion smartphones active in the world. The analyst firm is anticipating continued development in growing markets and it believes that the figure will double to hit 2 billion by 2015.

China passed 1 billion mobile devices this year, and India reached 929 million active phones in July. In addition to Asia, both Africa and Latin America are seen as regions with significant potential.

INDIA /AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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