



(The 5th Tana Forum on security in Africa ended Sunday with deliberations on a range of issues related to peace and security on the continent.)

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

**Who is behind the political drama in South Africa?**

April 18, 2016/newsday.co.zw

The past few weeks have been among the toughest for President Jacob Zuma (pictured). From the allegations of state capture by the Gupta family to the Constitutional Court ruling and the failed

attempt to impeach him. For now, one thing is true; Zuma remains the President of South Africa and if he survives the current battles, he is certainly going to break the record of being the longest-serving post-independence President of that country.

Most of the cases that have been thrown at Zuma seem like genuine cases, but when one links them to the seemingly growing calls and callers for him to step down, it cannot be denied that these cases are politically motivated. This is a narrative, which South Africa has resisted and deliberately shied away from, as if these cases are happening organically, even when it is clear that the timing is suspect and has intended objectives. What options South Africans have when integrity is the key word to protect the purported independence of the courts?

The courts in South Africa have a record of feeding into and giving legitimacy to political narratives on leadership choices. Just like the media, the courts in South Africa have made and/or broken potential leaders before. They have been willing parties to political dynamics in the country. There are so many examples, but some of the key highlights include: The rape and corruption charges against Zuma before his campaign for African National Congress (ANC) leadership, the fall of Zuma's corruption charges, which led to the downfall of Thabo Mbeki and now the Nkandla homestead and the Public Protector's report, which has led to recent political drama. Julius Malema, the ring leader in the Zuma-must-fall campaign faced charges of tax evasion in the amount of R16-million related to companies that obtained other lucrative contracts from the Limpopo government.

When these and others are put together, certainly there is justifiable reason to think that the courts in South Africa are part of the political machinery, which then questions their purported integrity and independence from political influence. While their rulings have echoed the sound of a thriving democracy, but these decisions raise a lot of stink, further raising the question whose interests are they serving. It is certainly not for leadership change in ANC alone. There could be a bigger scheme considering where the country came from and whose hands control the economy. For example, when Nhlanhla Nene was relieved of his ministerial duties, the rand fell significantly and when Zuma was facing impeachment, the rand gained. Does that mean the economy dislikes Zuma's decisions to the extent that it celebrates his potential downfall? Whose face is behind these faceless markets?

The Gupta family is another scapegoat used to justify calls for Zuma to step down. It is alleged that Zuma's close links and allegedly corrupt relationship with the Gupta family has created tensions in the ANC. The opposition has wasted no time on riding on this horse by claiming "State capture" following revelations that it was the Gupta, who influenced State's decisions such as ministerial appointments. Again, it raises the question on the timing of the revelations and the relevance of the case. A letter purportedly written by the Democratic Alliance thanking the same Gupta family for financially supporting the opposition in the last elections has gone unnoticed because it is not an issue of relevance to leadership change.

Ultimately, it is okay to have the Guptas support any other political party or politician as long as it is not Zuma. Curiously, whoever is financing the Zuma-must-fall campaign must have failed to penetrate the ANC this time, as they did with Mbeki, which explains why those calls are louder outside the ANC, mainly coming from the opposition parties.

A close analysis of the concept of state capture in South Africa may reveal that the state was captured at birth by the economic interests of those who control the economy since the apartheid era. State capture is a form of political corruption where private interests, influences State decisions to their advantage. It is a known fact that the South African constitution divides between the "haves" and the "have nots" and allocates them different forms of guarantees and protection rights. It protects property rights for the "haves" from the "have nots" and gives the "have nots" the

freedom of expression without interfering with the property of the “haves”. The State has a stronger responsibility to protect the “haves” from the “have nots” than it should to the “have nots”. Resultantly, it is the “haves” who control and influence State’s decisions to their advantage. The negativity we read about the Guptas is nothing but a polygamous relationship, where the senior spouse feels the heat from the new spouse. There is nothing new that Guptas have done, which has not been done by resident oligarch, in South Africa. This is why some banks, which are controlled by the same oligarchs are in complicit cutting ties with the Guptas, an act which should be seen as racial discrimination.

### **Zuma's Woes Dim Ex-Wife's Chances to Win South Africa Presidency**

April 18, 2016/bloomberg.com

President Jacob Zuma’s chances of choosing an eventual successor are fading after South Africa’s top court found that he violated the constitution. That may be bad news for his ex-wife, Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma.

While Zuma, 74, is only due to step down as head of the ruling African National Congress in 2017 and as president in 2019, the contest to replace him is intensifying as calls mount from ANC veterans, civil rights groups and church officials for him to quit or be fired. The nation’s next leader will almost certainly come from the party since it’s won every vote since the end of apartheid 22 years ago by more than 60 percent.

The main contenders are Dlamini-Zuma, who divorced Zuma in 1998 and whose term as the chairwoman of the African Union Commission ends in July, and Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa. While Zuma may hope his ex-wife would help shield him from an opposition party bid to reinstate graft charges dropped just weeks before he became president in May 2009, his legal travails may undermine her chances, according to Zwelethu Jolobe, a politics lecturer at the University of Cape Town.

‘Poisoned Chalice’

“The court ruling will limit the role Zuma plays in the ANC succession battle,” Jolobe said by phone. “An endorsement from Zuma would be tantamount to a poisoned chalice.”

Controversy has dogged Zuma’s political career. Prosecutors spent eight years investigating allegations that he took 4.07 million rand (\$279,000) in bribes from arms dealers and charged him with corruption, racketeering, fraud and money laundering before abandoning the case. The main opposition Democratic Alliance have been fighting to have it reinstated ever since.

As president, Zuma’s been accused of making ill-advised appointments, abusing taxpayer funds and allowing the Gupta brothers, a wealthy Indian family that’s in business with his son, to peddle cabinet posts in exchange for business concessions -- allegations he denies.

Zuma Apologizes

The biggest blow came on March 31, when the nation’s highest court ruled that Zuma “failed to uphold, defend and respect the constitution” by refusing to abide by a Public Protector directive to repay part of the 215.9 million rand of state funds spent on his private home. Zuma apologized for the confusion the scandal caused and said he never willingly broke the law -- an explanation the ANC leadership says it accepts.

“The Jacob Zuma presidency has tainted the image of the ANC,” said Mcebisi Ndletyana, a politics professor at the University of Johannesburg. “If you hold the view that succession should be all about restoring the ANC back to decency and credibility, then you would not want to have a successor with links to Jacob Zuma.”

The ANC discourages campaigning for posts, and lobbying takes place behind closed doors. Candidates will only be announced in the lead-up to party elections late next year.

Speculation that Dlamini-Zuma, 66, would make a bid has risen since she said she wouldn’t seek a second term as head of the AU commission. A medical doctor who previously served as minister of health, foreign affairs and home affairs, she has the backing of the ANC women’s league and parts of her home province of KwaZulu-Natal, which has the biggest concentration of ANC members. Constitutional Negotiator

Ramaphosa, 63, has been endorsed by the Congress of South African Trade Unions, the country’s largest labor group and an ally of the ANC. A lawyer who co-founded the National Union of Mineworkers, he helped negotiate a peaceful end to apartheid and draft South Africa’s first democratic constitution. He lost out to Thabo Mbeki in the contest to succeed Nelson Mandela as president in 1999 and went into business, amassing a fortune before returning to full-time politics in 2012 when he became ANC deputy president.

“My money is on Cyril,” Ndletyana said. “He is independent of the Zuma shenanigans. He would pretty much give the ANC a clean start.”

Ramaphosa’s reputation took a hit in 2012 when police shot dead 34 striking miners at Lonmin Plc’s Marikana platinum mines. Ramaphosa was a non-executive director of Lonmin at the time, and the opposition Economic Freedom Fighters said he was responsible for the deaths because he urged the government to act to end an illegal strike at the mines. Ramaphosa denied wrongdoing and a commission of inquiry absolved him of all responsibility.

### Marikana Shootings

Ramaphosa “has got that cloud of Marikana hanging over him,” said Joleen Steyn-Kotze, a politics professor at Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, in the southern town of Port Elizabeth. She sees former President Kgalema Motlanthe, 66, and Baleka Mbete, 66, the speaker of Parliament and ANC chairwoman, as potential candidates.

The election race still has some way to run, and more contenders could emerge such as Zweli Mkhize, 60, the ANC’s treasurer-general and former premier of KwaZulu-Natal province, who has strong support within the ANC, said Jolobe.

“There isn’t a nationwide consensus on who the next president should be,” he said by phone. “I don’t think at the moment anybody is a clear front-runner. The scenario is too fluid.”

### TANZANIA :

**Tanzania digs in over oil pipeline bid**

Sunday, April 17, 2016 /busiweek.com

ARUSHA, Tanzania - The government has continued to step up efforts to convince its counterparts in Kampala to route a proposed oil pipeline through Tanzania after a Ugandan team of experts endorsed the Tanzania's proposal on the project, last week.

Energy experts from Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda met in Kampala last week alongside all key stakeholders in the oil pipeline project.

The meetings were being held ahead of the Northern Corridor Summit when President Uhuru Kenyatta of Kenya and President Museveni of Uganda are scheduled to meet over the contentious issue.

Tanzania wants the pipeline to end at Tanga while Kenya is offering Lamu, both along East African coast.

The Tanzanian Team of Experts (ToE), according to a press statement from the Tanzanian Ministry of Energy and Minerals, emerged as key drivers of the meetings by making a compelling case as to why the infrastructure should pass through Tanzania.

The ToEs included the Ministry of Energy and Minerals Permanent Secretary Prof Justin Ntalikwa and his deputy in charge of energy Eng. Dr Juliana Pallangyo, and experts from the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) and the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA).

Negotiations and lobbying teams from the three neighbouring East African Community states spent busy hours working out the advantages and disadvantages of the options presented by Kenya and Tanzania.

The team made a case that the proposed 1400-km pipeline from Hoima in Uganda to the port of Tanga should pass through the country owing to its experience in such projects, citing examples of among them the legendary 1,710-km, Tanzania, Zambia Mafuta Pipeline (Tazama), the latest development of the SongoSongo—Dar es Salaam gas pipeline, Mnazi Bay—Mtwara and the main pipeline from Mtwara to Dar es Salaam as success stories.

The statement touched on the point that Kenya did not have a running project that matched the Tanzanian experience.

In addition, the Uganda team was further convinced on the land policy in Tanzania. Land is owned by the state and it allows the President of Tanzania to acquire and relocate it as the state sees fit. In this arrangement citizens are compensated according to the law, whereas in Kenya land is owned by private individuals, making the acquisition a complex one in which it may attract more costs and delays.

Tanzania is selling the operational Tanga port as the best route to pump Uganda's reportedly rich reserves of crude oil, which is expected to start flowing to international markets in 2018, unlike Kenya's yet-to-be-built Lamu port.

The tug-of-war for the project between the two neighbouring countries appears to have been intensified by a disagreement of sorts over which route is better among the three international oil firms involved – The French oil company Total, Britain's Tullow Oil and China's CNOOC.

The Tanga route remains the most cost effective, according to Total E & P Uganda general manager Adewate Fayeni. Fayeni said that as far as the company is concerned all the options have been evaluated carefully and the least cost remains the Tanga route. The Total company has already

committed funds for the \$4 million-plus project.

“As a company, our position remains that we are going through to Tanga route, I understand there are issues being discussed, but our position remains the same,” Fayemi told an East African Oil and Gas conference in Dar es Salaam.

Tanzanian authorities have also been steadfast in maintaining that the agreement between President Magufuli and his Ugandan counterpart Presidenti Museveni over the project in early March, was conclusive despite Kenya’s continued lobbying.

According to the presidency’s acting director of communications Gerson Msigwa, maneuvers by high-level officials in Kenya to try to snatch the project from Tanzania will eventually prove futile.

“The Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation and Ministry of Energy and Minerals are already carrying out tangible activities in relation to this project,” Msigwa said.

“At the end of the meeting, the Kenyan team reportedly refused to sign the (meeting) minutes in protest against the Ugandans’ apparent preference of the Tanzanian route rather than that offered by Kenya,” the statement read.

**Tanzanian land rights victory earns Masaai leader Goldman prize**  
[theguardian.com/2016/apr/18](http://theguardian.com/2016/apr/18)

Edward Loure wins leading environmental award after helping communities in Tanzanian Rift Valley secure legal title to ancestral land

The Tarangire national park in Tanzania is known for its vast concentrations of wildlife in the dry season, the spectacular annual migrations of its elephants, wildebeest and zebra, and its majestic old baobab trees.

But few people who visit it realise that the 1,100 sq mile park was, until colonial times, widely used by pastoralists and hunter-gatherers, or that many of the new tourist lodges built around it are situated on ancestral lands “grabbed” by government or companies, without compensation, to stimulate money-spinning tourism.

For Maasai leader Edward Loure, the loss of his family land from what is now Tarangire park was a catalyst to get all ancestral land in the Tanzanian Rift Valley legally protected from land-hungry companies, tour operators and others. Working with the Ujamaa community resource team (UCRT) – one of the first tribal-led NGOs in Tanzania – more than 200,000 acres now has full protection; a further 800,000 acres will follow in the next year.

Loure, who has won a Goldman environmental prize for reconciling the competing needs of development and wildlife, identified an innovative legal mechanism that grants land rights to entire communities rather than to individuals, and was the first person to establish certificates of customary right of occupancy (CCROs).

Giving communities legal title to land is, he says, the key to reducing human-wildlife conflicts and stimulating sustainable development in rural Tanzania. Without it, land is continually fought over and safari companies and multinationals have been able to take what they want. With legal title, the different needs of conservation and pastoralism can be met and indigenous people can coexist with conservation and settled communities, he says.

Loure's new model for conservation and development has been widely welcomed, because it can be adopted throughout Tanzania and beyond.

"People had no legal documents, no security," he says. "Nothing was documented. We had to make sure people had security. Many villages had lost huge amounts of land and received no compensation. Now they can show that the land belongs to them. Until now, government or anyone could claim that it was not owned by anyone and do what they want."

But it has required a shift in perception to have customary rights recognised both by government and communities, he says. "It's a case of everyone seeing that land belongs to the community as much as the individual. It's saying 'our land' rather than 'my land'. So many companies have come and there has been a lot of land grabbing going on. But we have shown that if we use resources well there is enough for everyone.

"Pastoralist and hunter-gatherer livelihoods must be recognised as important and not seen as a brake on development. They are often dismissed."

Land in Tanzania has been bitterly fought over since colonial times, with successive governments evicting pastoralists and hunter-gatherer communities from many areas to establish national parks, game reserves and large-scale farming. The Maasai were forced to leave the Serengeti to create the national park in the early 1950s, and the Barabaig forced from the Basotu plains for wheat farming in the early 1970s. The result was severe disruption to customary land tenure and land management practices.

One of the beneficiaries of the new customary rights are the Hadzabe tribe, who have lived in this region for more than 40,000 years but are now reduced to 1,200. "Without land rights, these communities would face extinction," says Loure.

"Maasai and Hadzabe tribes can now continue to live sustainably on their ancestral lands where CCROs have been established; some Hadzabe CCROs have also formed successful partnerships with Carbon Tanzania, receiving carbon credits to help pay for schools and medical care."

KENYA :

**Kenya risks isolation if it ditches ICC, say lawyers**

Apr. 18, 2016/the-star.co.ke

Kenya risks being isolated among other nations if it fails to co-operate with the ICC, lawyers have warned in criticism of President Uhuru Kenyatta.

International law experts yesterday told the Star Kenya remains a State Party to the Rome Statute and failure to co-operate with the International Criminal Court would be a violation of Kenya's own constitution. "Kenya remains obliged to comply with the ICC," Fergal Gaynor, victims' lawyer in the defunct Uhuru case, said.

"This is a treaty obligation under the Rome Statute and under the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties. Kenya's obligation to comply also exists under Kenyan law, in particular under the International Crimes Act 2008." On Saturday, Uhuru said no Kenyan will ever face trial at The

Hague again, setting the stage for a major showdown with the ICC over the extradition of three Kenyans.

“I will not allow any other Kenyan to be tried in a foreign court. As a country, we have closed the ICC chapter,” Uhuru said at a thanksgiving rally in Afraha Stadium, Nakuru. Alex Whiting, a professor of international law at Harvard University in the United States, said Uhuru is now openly saying he will not abide by the law.

“Kenya signed and ratified the Rome Statute, and therefore it has a legal obligation to co-operate with the court,” Whiting told the Star. He said the international community will also have to take a position on Kenya.

“The ICC will continue to insist that Kenya co-operates with the court, and the international community, in particular other members of the ICC, will have to decide if they will also demand that Kenya fulfil its legal duties,” Whiting said. He said Kenyans will also ultimately have to decide if they want a President who does not follow the law.

Former journalist Walter Barasa, lawyer Paul Gicheru and Phillip Bett are wanted by the ICC for alleged witness interference.

Uhuru says no one will go to icc

During a thanksgiving ceremony at Afraha Stadium, Nakuru, on Saturday, President Uhuru Kenyatta said no Kenyan will ever face trial at the International Criminal Court again. “I will not allow any other Kenyan to be tried in a foreign court. As a country, we have closed the ICC chapter,” Uhuru said. He said Kenya has courts capable of trying anyone for any crime. Three Kenyans are wanted by the ICC for alleged witness interference in DP William Ruto and Joshua Sang’s case.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

**Ethiopia: Tana forum deliberates Africa’s security issues**

Monday 18 April 2016/sudantribune.com

By Tesfa-Alem Tekle

April 17, 2016 (ADDIS ABABA) – The 5th Tana Forum on security in Africa ended Sunday with deliberations on a range of issues related to peace and security on the continent.

Conflict prevention, building peace infrastructures, sustaining peace and peace support operations, were some of the items discussed during the two-day event.

The annual forum, which was held in Bahir Dar, the capital city of Ethiopia’s Amhara regional state brought together over 250 participants, including African heads of state and governments,



academics, policymakers, representatives of non-governmental organisations and officials of regional, continental and international organisations.

Speaking at the closing of the forum, Ethiopian Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn announced the formation of Tana Foundation after the previous ended its five year term.

The new foundation was formed after structures of the former Tana foundation were revised.

Desalegn said, "The formation of the Foundation is of paramount importance to attain the objectives and principles of Tana Forum and Pan-Africanism, respectively".

He said Tana Forum has been working by giving due attention to African affairs over the last five years.

The premier said the Tana forum foundation was instrumental in promoting peace and security through education at regional and continental level.

"Ethiopia will strengthen its support to Tana Foundation", stressed the Ethiopian premier.

The chairman of the foundation, also former Nigerian President, Olusegun Obasanjo side Tana Forum's Board had finished its five year- term and a new board will be designated soon after the forum's report is submitted.

He stressed the need for Africa to work in united form and the need for the foundation to involve the private sector.

"Africa must struggle to get its rightful place in the world," Obasanjo told reporters Sunday.

"What we said we wanted to achieve through Tana Forum, we have achieved it," he added.

During Saturday's opening of the forum, the Ethiopian premier said African solutions to its problems require collecting, analysing knowledge and upgrading local institutions.

At the side lines of the forum, panel discussions and symposiums were also held on good governance, corruption, employment and the continent's peace-keeping operations.

The Tana forum intends to boost Africa's struggle to reposition itself in the global security agenda, operationally and normatively, by giving vent to the idea of African solutions to African problems in its peace and security issues.

This year's theme was "Africa in the Global Security Agenda."

The whole aim of the initiative is for Africa to eventually control its own security destiny by crafting home-grown solutions and avoid externally designed solutions.

**Africa Empowered: Akinwunmi Adesina**

On April 18, 2016/vanguardngr.com

By Onome Amawhe AKINWUNMI Adesina has worn many different hats at global institutions of varying sizes in his career. His appointment as President of the African Development Bank Group is his first outing in a financial institution.

What he thinks he will enjoy most about being a development banker is to see an improvement on the quality of life of “African women and men” as a result of the operations and projects led by the African Development Bank during his tenure: “My mandate as President of the African Development Bank, affords me the opportunity to work with highly trained and qualified professionals on some of the continent’s most challenging development goals. We have an interesting mandate as a bank, which is to support Africa in areas that constitute a critical part of the continent’s development strategy and we are adopting a selective, focused approach away from the shotgun approach. Developmental potential We have identified five elements that we believe if dealt with appropriately will allow the developmental potential of the continent to run free. Coined “The High Fives”, these five priority areas within the context of the Bank’s Ten-Year Strategy – to light up and power Africa, feed Africa, integrate Africa, industrialize Africa, and improve the quality of life for the people of Africa – represent the Bank’s proposed blueprint for African countries and to embark on a course of sustainable transformation”.

The African Development Bank Group (AfDB) is a regional development Bank established in 1964 to foster social and economic development in Africa. Comprising three entities, namely : The African Development Bank, the African Development Fund and the Nigeria Trust Fund. The AfDB’s purpose is to fight poverty and develop living conditions on the continent through the promotion of public and private funds in projects and programs that could engender the continent’s socio-economic development: “We have identified poverty as a scourge that the continent must not simply manage but eradicate, and the best way to address this problem is by financing Africa’s Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), which constitute over 80% of the continent’s private sector, and as you know the private sector is the creator of wealth and veritable engine of economic growth in Africa. We have launched several programs, such as the Africa SME programme and the Trade Finance Program, the Private Sector Credit Enhancement Facility, to increase financial support to the private sector in Africa with the aim of eradicating poverty”.

Adesina is a staunch SME proponent who believes they have potential to play a more pivotal role in Africa’s development. However, SMEs have been criticized for their high rate of bankruptcy. While they create many jobs, they also destroy a lot of jobs on the grounds that they provide low value added goods and services and have short lives. In developed countries, SME growth depends on the business cycles. When the economy is booming the number of new firms is larger than the number of dying firms. This isn’t the case in emerging markets where SME growth depends on crisis cycles. Buttressing his proponentcy, Adesina explains : “SMEs are crucial for Africa’s development. More than 90% of businesses in Africa are SMEs because they make a huge contribution to GDP. This is not only so in Africa, this is globally the case. In Africa, a lot of SMEs are still operating in the informal sector, often for good reasons, but it hinders their growth. There are challenges in the enabling environment that must be overcome so that SMEs can reach their full growth potentials. Career options I also believe SMEs and entrepreneurship are essentially the same because entrepreneurially driven SMEs are the drivers of growth in our economies. We need to create such growth oriented SMEs and assist them, through a level playing ground, to grow, prosper and create jobs. It is true that growth opportunities may be more abundant in some sectors compared to others; agribusinesses, health, education and clean energy offer tremendous opportunities. But there are also lots of opportunities in many other sectors, and if we can get small businesses to innovate and industrialize, they can also play important roles in local and internal value chains”. When Young men and women in Africa consider career options, starting their own business is near the bottom on the list.

Entrepreneurship does not have a positive image and is not encouraged by the school system, families, or social networks. Many young people starting on the job market prefer waged employment to being an entrepreneur because of job security and peace of mind. The negative attitudes towards entrepreneurship are part of what the AfDB set out to change: “Africa has, in parts, a legacy that does not promote entrepreneurship amongst young people seeking white collar jobs. And small businesses are often driven by survival needs rather than through entrepreneurial drive. The AfDB is preparing an initiative that will ‘boost’ African entrepreneurs, by channeling

both 'patient investments' and technical assistance through a wide range of funds, incubators and other agencies that support early stage and start-up SMEs. The Bank will also support education systems that prepare students for life as entrepreneurs. There will be a strong focus on agriculture and agribusiness, and in particular on smallholder farmers, to enhance productivity and value chains. After all, agriculture is still the mainstay of many Africans, but it is not commonly viewed from an entrepreneurial perspective".

One of the challenges managing an African Bank Group, in a continent where the global economic crisis meets an ongoing local crisis of poverty and unrest is certainly that of a slowdown in the global economy. Africa being a resilient continent- is expected to grow by 4.4% in 2016, above 3.5% for the global economy and slightly behind the 6% for Asia. However, at the back of these challenges lie opportunities. And in the case of Africa, the opportunities are the need to increase energy production, build infrastructure and shift Africa's industrial base into more technologically oriented enterprises: "Technological progress offers Africa tremendous opportunities to "leapfrog" its development and have its own kind of industrial revolution – For instance, mobile phone-based technological innovations are changing the service delivery landscape in Africa in a number of sectors such as mobile-money, pay-to-go energy payment, health care and agricultural services. Not only are these innovations leapfrogging traditional service delivery constraints, they are also expanding the service delivery frontier—making more and better services available with any given level of resources.

Technology innovation "They also provide budgetary relief/savings for government and improving service delivery and efficiency gains. The potential for Africa's technology innovation is evident with enterprises such as Mpesa, Jumia, Iroko TV, etc. And the Bank is powering these opportunities to new record levels – transforming Africa into an Innovation-driven continent". By any measure, Akinwunmi Adesina, eighth president of the African Development Bank, has been successful in every chosen career endeavor. He has worked at the Rockefeller Foundation as a senior scientist. He has also represented the Foundation for the southern African area. Between 2003 and 2008 he was the foundation's associate director for food security. In 2010, he was appointed Nigeria's Minister of Agriculture before his sterling appointment as President of The African Development Bank Group: "I think I have been successful for two main reasons. First, I have always believed in myself- I always set very high targets for myself and I firmly believe that if I can think of something, then I certainly can do it. I wanted to be President of the AfDB, I believed in myself and I worked hard towards achieving this. Second, I believe in excellence. My father was a farmer and so we lived with limited resources. My father only went to school at the age of 14 and upon completion of his education; he joined the civil service at a very low level and made his way to the top. I therefore believed in my father, who served as my role model."

### **Africa: AU Mission Apologises for Somali Civilian Deaths**

17 April 2016/Al Jazeera (Doha)

The African Union peacekeeping mission in Somalia (AMISOM) has apologised for accidentally killing four civilians after soldiers mistook them for al-Shabab fighters when they failed to stop at a roadblock.

The apology came on Sunday, a day after the incident happened in the area of Buulo Mareer in the Lower Shebelle region, 80km south of the capital Mogadishu.

"A speeding vehicle approached the roadblock and failed to adhere to repeated warnings to stop. Assuming the car to be a Vehicle Borne Improvised Explosive Device (VBIED), the troops opened fire resulting in the death of four occupants of the vehicle," said a statement issued by AMISOM.

"AMISOM profoundly regrets the loss of civilian lives that occurred during the operation and

presents its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved families," said the statement.

The incident has been referred to the African Union commission and an AMISOM inquiry has been opened to determine the circumstances of the shooting, the AFP news agency said.

Human Rights Watch called on AMISOM to carry out "thorough and transparent investigation" into the incident before reaching conclusions.

"If AMISOM and the troop-contributing countries involved are truly committed to scrutiny of their conduct, they should ensure that the investigation includes more than just questioning of their own soldiers and that witnesses can speak freely, without fear of reprisals," Laetitia Bader, a spokesperson for Human Rights Watch in Kenya, told Al Jazeera.

The Somali government is defended by the African Union's 22,000-strong AMISOM mission against the al-Qaeda-linked al-Shabab, which has vowed to overthrow the country's fragile Western-backed authorities.

Confronted with AMISOM's superior fire power, al-Shabab fighters were chased out of Mogadishu in August 2011.

After a relative calm in the Somali capital, al-Shabab has ramped up attacks in recent months, taking advantage of the apathy of the AMISOM mission and the weakness of Somalia's central government.

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

## CHINA/AFRICA :

### Africa expands trade presence in east Chinese city

2016-04-18/– Nampa–Xinhua

HANGZHOU – Trade between African countries and the eastern Chinese city of Yiwu increased 20-fold, while the city's imports from the continent rose 30-fold in the past half-decade.

Local companies from the city have also invested US\$39 million in seven African countries by the end of 2015, about 16% of the city's overseas investment, according to Yiwu deputy mayor Xiong Tao during the fifth China-Africa Think Tanks Forum, which was held over the weekend.

Last year, imports and exports between African countries and Yiwu reached 49,8 billion yuan (US\$7,7 billion ), up 49% year-on-year, accounting for 2,7% of China's total trade volume with Africa.

"Africa is Yiwu's second-largest continent-level trade partner after Asia, accounting for 23% of foreign trade," Xiong said.

Yiwu is the world's largest wholesale market for small consumer goods.

More than 3 000 African merchants are stationed in Yiwu, and nearly 300 Africans study here. The city reports 80 000 buyers from Africa every year.

Besides, over 5 000 kinds of products from 29 African countries and regions are available at the Yiwu International Trade City.

### China's top political advisor says cooperation with Africa eyes win-win results

Source: Xinhua / 2016-04-18

ACCRA, April 17 (Xinhua) -- China's top political advisor Yu Zhengsheng said Sunday that in conducting cooperation with Africa, China seeks win-win results and common development.

Yu, chairman of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC), made the remarks during a meeting with representatives of Chinese enterprises operating in Ghana.

After being briefed on the growing profile of Chinese businesses in the African country, Yu said that after years of hardwork, many Chinese enterprises, both state-owned and private ones, have made substantial achievements regarding their operations in Africa.

He saw great development potential in the African continent during his Africa tour, which also took him to Gabon and Cote d'Ivoire, Yu said.

"We sincerely hope that Africa will achieve its development ambitions, since there will be more opportunities for China-Africa cooperation," said Yu.

Regarding the latest developments in global market, and the changes in the African economic arena, the Chinese enterprises operating here should make adjustments in their business structure, Yu suggested, adding that they could move up in the industry value chain and focus on capacity cooperation instead of on trade of goods.

Representatives taking part in the meeting came from various industries including finance, telecommunication, aviation, steel and fishery.

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF, CE 18 Avril 2016... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 18/04/2016