



(La Cour de cassation de Ouagadougou a annulé le mandat d'arrêt international lancé par la justice militaire contre l'ex-président burkinabé Blaise Compaoré et le président de l'assemblée nationale de Côte d'Ivoire Guillaume Soro, a-t-on appris jeudi de source judiciaire à Ouagadougou.)

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

RDC CONGO :

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

**South Africa: Shoppers go to new mall, despite economy woes**

By Stuart Graham | AP/ April 28

JOHANNESBURG — South African shoppers flocked to the opening Thursday of one of Africa's

largest malls outside Johannesburg, despite rising unemployment and slowing economic growth.

The Mall of Africa, spanning 130,000 square meters (140,000 square feet) registered 68,000 visitors by 1 p.m. local time, a spokesman for the mall's owners told The Associated Press.

"We did expect a high number but this has exceeded our expectations," said Michael Clampett of the Attacq group the majority owner of the mall. "It's the kind of number you get on December 23. ... I am fairly confident we will cross 100,000."

Before the opening of stores at 9 a.m. lines of people, some stretching for more than a hundred meters (yards), waited outside of international stores that recently launched in South Africa, such as fashion retailer H&M, Starbucks and doughnut shop Krispy Kreme

The mall, which caters for a luxury as well as a low-end market, had to block overcrowded escalators as massive crowds built up outside retailers offering opening specials on everything from televisions to bulk packs of toilet paper.

The mall, which developers say will be the largest in Africa once it is completed, opens as the country's economic prospects look bleak. Unemployment has increased from 22 percent in 1994 to 25 percent at the end of 2014 with approximately 5 million estimated to be jobless, according to the state Statistics South Africa.

The country's gold and platinum mines have been retrenching tens of thousands of workers in the past year after a fall in demand for commodities from China, while an El Nino drought has decimated agricultural production, forcing food prices to go up. South Africa's economic growth is expected to slow to a 0.5 percent this year, according to ratings agency Moody's

TANZANIA :

KENYA :

**Tullow raises Kenya's oil reserves potential**

Apr. 29, 2016/the-star.co.ke

Kenya has potential for more oil after Tullow Oil tests showed recoverable resources could be up to 750 million barrels. The British exploration firm had previously estimated the country's recoverable oil at 600 million barrels.

Tullow said yesterday ongoing assessment of recently completed South Lokichar appraisal programme in Turkana, indicates potential to increase the oil output. In a statement, the firm, which is working with Africa Oil in its exploration locally, further said exploration potential shows an upside of one billion barrels.

Tullow told shareholders yesterday during a general meeting that its appraisal campaign has been very successful with ongoing assessment indicating increased resource estimates. In March, Tullow announced Cheptuket-1 well in Block 12A in Northern Kenya had encountered good oil shows.

The company has welcomed recent developments in the building of a new pipeline, where Kenya will build its own pipeline from the Lake Turkana Basin to Lamu, after Uganda opted for a partnership with Tanzania on a similar project. “We now have much greater clarity and certainty around oil production in both countries. CEO Aidan Heavey said in a statement.

Tullow operates Block 12A with 40 per cent equity, and is partnered by Delonex Energy with 40 per cent and Africa Oil Corporation with 20 per cent.

Meanwhile, the World Bank has projected that oil prices could rise from \$37 (Sh3,744) to \$41 (Sh4,149) per barrel as oversupply diminishes in 2016. The gain, if realised, will be a slight relief for Kenya which is expecting to start commercial production in 2017. According to World Bank's commodities markets outlook, the crude oil market rebounded from a low of \$25 (Sh2,529) per barrel in mid-January to \$40 (Sh4,047) per barrel in April. This followed production disruptions in Iraq and Nigeria.

A weaker dollar and improved oil demand sentiment also contributed to the rally. The rebound would have been higher, had the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries, who are the major oil producers, agreed to a proposed production freeze during a meeting in Doha on April 17. “We expect slightly higher prices for energy commodities over the course of the year as markets rebalance after a period of oversupply,” World Bank's Senior Economist John Baffes said.

Despite the improved sentiment, World Bank said, the oil market remains oversupplied with stocks near record levels. Higher prices will give Kenya more returns on its oil, which Energy Cabinet secretary Charles Keter says will be transported by road and railway to the Port of Mombasa for export.

### Kenya to burn more than 100 tons of elephant tusks, ivory

CBS/AP/ April 28, 2016

NAIROBI, Kenya -- Kenyan authorities have built towering pyres of more than 100 tons of elephant tusks that will be burned on Saturday, in what wildlife officials believe will be the largest single destruction of ivory in history.

In front of the tusks are illegal ornaments made from ivory, such as a Chinese warrior on horseback with his fist in the air.

As local conservation groups and media visited the ivory-burning site in Nairobi National Park on Thursday, workers were putting the finishing touches to the stacks of ivory as rangers from the Kenya Wildlife Service stood guard nearby.

The ivory is now piled into some dozen giant pyres, ready to be lit when the Giants Club wildlife summit being held in Laikipia ends on Saturday.

Dignitaries led by Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta -- who last year set fire to 15 tons of ivory -- are expected to light a fuel gel which will flow into the center of each pyre and ignite pieces of confiscated endangered African sandalwood. A mixture of diesel and kerosene will be pumped through pipes into each pyre, creating a sufficiently high temperature to incinerate the ivory, a process expected to last many days before everything is reduced to ashes.

The 105 tons of ivory and over 1 ton of rhino horn were transported in shipping containers from

across Kenya, representing the vast majority of the country's stockpile.

Conservationists worry that there is a real threat of elephants becoming extinct in the next 50 years because of poaching bankrolled by the illegal trade in ivory.

Some 25,000 elephants a year are now being lost to poachers in Africa. Despite laws banning the harvest and sale of ivory, it remains a powerful status symbol in China and the Far East, where it is used commonly to make artworks and religious icons.

Neighboring Tanzania has been identified as a key hotspot for elephant poachers. The elephant population declined by 60 percent to about 40,000 since 2009, according to a census announced last year.

In January, poachers in Tanzania fired on a helicopter on an anti-poaching mission and killed the British pilot.

ANGOLA :

AU/AFRICA :

**Burkina: annulation du mandat d'arrêt contre Compaoré et Guillaume Soro**

AFP/le jeudi 28 avril 2016

La Cour de cassation de Ouagadougou a annulé le mandat d'arrêt international lancé par la justice militaire contre l'ex-président burkinabé Blaise Compaoré et le président de l'assemblée nationale de Côte d'Ivoire Guillaume Soro, a-t-on appris jeudi de source judiciaire à Ouagadougou.

"Tous les mandats d'arrêt internationaux ont été annulés aujourd'hui par la Cour de cassation pour vice de forme. Ca concerne aussi bien le mandat d'arrêt contre Blaise Compaoré, celui contre Guillaume Soro et bien d'autres", a déclaré à l'AFP le procureur général de la Cour de cassation Armand Ouédraogo.

"Ces annulations ont été faites pour vice de forme parce qu'il aurait fallu demander les réquisitions du commissaire du gouvernement (procureur), du tribunal militaire avant d'émettre les mandats. Cette formalité n'ayant pas été accomplie, la Cour a donc décidé d'annuler tous les mandats internationaux", a indiqué M. Ouédraogo.

Le commissaire du gouvernement a saisi la Chambre de contrôle puis la Cour de cassation afin d'obtenir l'annulation de ces mandats, a indiqué une source proche du dossier.

"L'article 130 du Code de procédure pénale oblige le juge à requérir les réquisitions du procureur avant tout mandat international", a précisé cette source.

La justice militaire burkinabè a lancé le 4 décembre un mandat d'arrêt international contre Blaise Compaoré réfugié en Côte d'Ivoire depuis qu'il a été renversé le 31 octobre 2014.

M. Compaoré a été inculpé pour son implication présumée dans l'assassinat du président Thomas Sankara, tué le 15 octobre 1987 lors d'un coup d'Etat qui l'avait porté au pouvoir.

Il est poursuivi pour "assassinat", "attentat" et "recel de cadavre" dans le cadre de l'enquête ouverte fin mars 2015, par les autorités de la transition burkinabé.

La justice militaire burkinabè a par ailleurs émis le 8 janvier un mandat d'arrêt contre le président de l'Assemblée nationale ivoirienne Guillaume Soro pour son implication présumée dans le coup d'Etat manqué contre le gouvernement de transition burkinabè en septembre 2015.

La justice se base sur l'enregistrement d'une conversation téléphonique supposée entre Djibrill Bassolé, ex-ministre des Affaires étrangères du Burkina, et Guillaume Soro.

Djibrill Bassolé, homme clé du régime de Blaise Compaoré, et Guillaume Soro, ancien chef de la rébellion ivoirienne (2002-2010) ont tous les deux nié avoir eu cette conversation, dénonçant une "manipulation".

Le mandat d'arrêt international contre Mme Fatou Diallo, l'épouse du général Gilbert Diendéré, cerveau présumé du coup d'Etat manqué, a été également annulé.

"L'annulation des mandats ne veut pas dire que c'est fini. Les juges peuvent reprendre et corriger les actes en suivant les procédures pour les rendre valides. Ce sont des lacunes qui peuvent être reprises. Même dès demain si les juges le veulent", a indiqué M. Ouédraogo.

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

**Waldhauser Nominated to Replace Rodriguez at Africa Command**  
Apr 28, 2016 /military.com

President Barack Obama has nominated Marine Lt. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser for promotion to four-star rank to replace retiring Army Gen. David Rodriguez as head of U.S. Africa Command in the ongoing effort to halt the spread of ISIS on the continent, the Pentagon said Thursday.

If confirmed by the Senate to lead the command, Waldhauser would become the only Marine to head one of the combatant commands. In a statement, Defense Secretary Ashton Carter called Waldhauser, 62, of St. Paul, Minnesota, the "perfect pick for this dynamic command."

Waldhauser, currently the director for Joint Force Development on the Joint Staff at the Pentagon, was commissioned in 1976. He served in Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm in 1991 and, as commander of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit, led Marines in Afghanistan and Iraq. As a Major General, Waldhauser was commander the 1st Marine division.

Waldhauser would replace the highly-regarded Rodriguez, 61, who also was commissioned in 1976 and has spent more time in combat zones from Panama and Desert Storm through Iraq and

Afghanistan than almost any other officer on active duty.

In his career, Rodriguez has commanded the International Security Assistance Force -- Joint Command in Afghanistan; the 82nd Airborne Division; the 2nd Brigade, 82nd Airborne Division; and the 101st airborne division. He also has commanded companies of the 75th Ranger Regiment, and 1st Armored Division.

In his statement, Carter said that Waldhauser led "some of our first troops into Afghanistan after Sept. 11, and in his most recent service in the Pentagon as director for Joint Force Development, Lt. Gen. Waldhauser has demonstrated strong military leadership, excellent political-military experience, and superb management skills."

As head of Africa Command, Waldhauser will be challenged in "building partner capacity, enabling regional forces and combating the metastasis of ISIL and other violent extremists," Carter said. "I am confident that Lt. Gen. Waldhauser will bring the same caliber of strong and steady leadership to AFRICOM that Gen. David Rodriguez has brought to the command for the past three years."

In a Pentagon briefing earlier this month, Rodriguez estimated the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria, or ISIS, now has 4,000 to 6,000 fighters in Libya. "Over in East Africa, of course, the big threat is Al-Shabab inside Somalia. We work with five of the troop contributing countries as well as the Somalis -- developing the Somali national army to continue to support the Somali government in helping provide stability in that region," he said.

Waldhauser gained unwanted attention in a dispute with then-Marine Commandant Gen. James Amos over potential undue command influence in the 2011 case of five Marines videotaped urinating on Taliban corpses in Afghanistan.

Waldhauser had original oversight over the investigation of the incident but was removed after a controversial meeting with Amos. At the meeting, Waldhauser later testified, "The Commandant leaned back on his chair, looked at me right in the eye very close and said, 'those guys need to be crushed.'" Amos later said he did not recall saying anything about Marines being crushed.

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

**Mimica: Emergency Trust Fund for Africa ‘might not be a game-changer’**

By Matthew Tempest in Senegal | [EurActiv.com/29/04/2016](http://EurActiv.com/29/04/2016)

In a wide-ranging interview, Commissioner Neven Mimica tells EurActiv.com's Matthew Tempest about the executive's master plan for legal migration, as well as the limits of development aid to

African states in the rough.

Neven Mimica, a former deputy prime minister of Croatia, is the EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO).

Mimica spoke with Tempest – along with journalists from Die Welt and El Pais – in Dakar, Senegal, on the eve of the EU-Africa, Pacific, Caribbean ministerial summit.

With regards to the Emergency Trust Fund for Africa (aimed at stemming irregular migration from Africa to Europe), can I put a simple proposition to you? That no matter how much you put in (currently €1.8 billion), these are some of the poorest countries on the planet, and it is not going to reduce the ‘pull factor’ of Europe.

Yes, they are the poorest. 1.8 billion might not be the game-changer. But again, let us take it together with our overall development actions. 20 billion in Africa, mostly for the least developed countries in the world.

20 billion, plus 1.8 billion for the most vulnerable, fragile, countries in the world. What we have to do is change the mindset and approach to our projects in two aspects – making them as focussed to the root causes of migration as possible, and also making them as fast, as operational, as possible. Our own development programmes – under National Indicative Programmes, under Regional Indicative Programmes – the lifespan of these projects are far too long, five to six years. With the Trust Fund, these two projects were approved only two months after Valleta [the November 2015 summit]. Five months later, we are at the operational stage of the project.

A lifespan could be one year, two years, not longer than that, for the Trust Fund, so if we could bring this sense of urgency into the 20 billion [euros] regular EU member states operations in Africa, then we could really have a better impact on the overall state of development affairs in the most fragile and vulnerable parts of the world. So (we) have to take this forward and be more focussed on the results, not any longer on the inputs, on the quantity of money we put in, but focussed on the output, the results.

Are you optimistic about the support of governments in general in Africa? Obviously, Senegal might be a role-model, but if you look at Niger, for instance, the country profits from remittances from people who are living in Europe. Whole cities are dependent on refugee streams – they are making a living out of the crisis, in a way. How can you convince governments like that to really tackle the root causes of migration?

Actually in all my discussions, contacts, talks with African leaders, and visiting countries here or in Brussels, is now more than ever focussed on this migration interaction and interdependence. It is to be seen, from all these contacts, they recognise it's a very politically sensitive to discuss, let alone to agree, on a return and readmission policy to be fully and completely implemented.

But we agree with all of them. We are not aiming at stopping migration or turning (around) people who are working in Europe, who are there for years and decades, who are part of the history of European-African relations. So what we are aiming at is this recent influx of irregular migrants to Europe, because it's about smuggling, about endangering the life of the migrants. It's about allowing a legal framework for the migrants that does not allow for free international protection or asylum-based access when it comes to economic migrants.

But here we try to look together into these new flows that come to Europe and assess to what extent and how we can make them as legal as possible. As strongly connected to the legal migration

framework that we have to develop in the European Union – and we are about to do it. In the next month or two, you will witness the European Commission's proposal for this legal migration agenda in Europe.

Therefore they understand, our partners in Africa, that we have to work together in order to stop the irregular smuggling coming to Europe for illegal, not refugee, reasons.

I see that we discuss it in a way that return and readmission is only one part of the whole migration agenda puzzle that we would like to fit together with them, because it's really about tackling the root causes of migration. It's about better management, and it's about better border management, it's about better security in the region and in the countries. So therefore I don't feel there is complete resistance to discuss it as this whole common migration agenda.

Return and readmission should not be politicised, it's more about administrative cooperation and improving the coordination between the European Union member states and the African partners. Not to search and send back all those who are already there in Europe under the previous ways they came, but to look at this new wave of migrants and to agree that there must be this kind of legal framework. This could be the basis for the new migrants to be accepted in the European Union member states.

In terms of electricity projects, you mentioned renewable energy.

We have, unlike some other energy initiatives or some other electricity initiatives in Africa, 25 bilateral or multilateral energy initiatives in Africa alone. We would like to make them much less fragmented. And, unlike others, we would like to make them our energy facility in Africa under one condition – it must be renewable.

No other sources of energy generation will be supported by co-finance or supported by blending operations. Renewables only. This is what we would like to see. And the other condition or approach that we would like to see...renewables need some other inputs, and therefore we would like to do it with companies, with private sector investment, where they don't go alone.

We have to develop the mechanisms to complete this way of doing it with the European Investment Bank and other development banks. We have to develop the real measures and conditions that wouldn't bring in Africa energy infrastructure investment that would come anyway without additional support from these blending operations.

After the EU-Turkey Joint Action Plan, we hear voices, people saying that similar operations will need to be replicated to other countries, especially Africa, in order to prevent irregular migrant flows, from the Italian Prime Minister [Matteo Renzi]. While the Trust Fund is to deal with the causes of migration, do you think there would need to be more effort, and even more creative ways of the EU supporting African countries before another migration crisis?

Yes, again in preventing or limiting the impact of migratory irregular flows, we need to tackle this migration crisis we need all sorts of partnerships. The one with Turkey might be the fast-track one, or faster than what we do or would like to do with our African partners. But it doesn't mean that we would give up the idea of bringing migration and development together in African countries. This is here in Africa, where we see migratory flows are growing.

But you must always have in mind that out of 60 million people on the move, more than 80% of them are here in the developing countries, most of the in Africa.



Some African countries do host right now more migrants than those going to Europe – see Ethiopia, Kenya, even here in Senegal. Senegal is a country of origin, a country of transit, a country of destination for migrants.

So we have to build this common migration agenda with African countries, and this is what we are doing right now.

Maybe it will take bit longer time than the arrangement with Turkey, but not too long.

Therefore I spoke of accelerating our, let us call it irregular development programmes and turning it towards tackling the root causes of irregular migration.

That I can see being more engaged in turning irregular migration towards regular migration. That is the way we see that this partnership could work. Partnership that includes the our partner country in Africa actions, as well as our support to these development and migration related actions – that includes private sector engagement as well, more blending operations as well.

This might look like a long-term project. But it will work, and it will work faster than long-term projects will.

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF, CE 29 Avril 2016... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 29/04/2016