



(Le bureau du Procureur de la CPI accusait l'ex vice président de la RDC d'avoir fermé les yeux sur le régime de terreur infligé par sa milice en Centrafrique entre octobre 2002 et mars 2003.)

BURUNDI :

RWANDA :

**Rwanda: President Kagame Concludes Two-Day Visit to Morocco**  
22 June 2016/The New Times (Kigali)

President Kagame today met with members of the Private sector community in Casablanca to discuss the multiple business opportunities Rwanda has to offer.

Members of the business community from different fields including banking, infrastructure, tourism and the pharmaceutical sector were keen to learn more about Rwanda's business environment.

According to Serge Kamuhinda, the Chief Operations Officer at Rwanda Development Board who also attended the meeting, those present expressed their eagerness to use Rwanda as a hub to enter the East African region.

President Kagame ended his two day trip to Morocco and was seen off by the Prime Minister, Abdel-Ilah Benkiran, the Wali of the Casablanca-Settat Region, the Governor of the Nouaceur Province, elected officials and civilian and military representatives of the Nouaceur Prefecture.

During the first day of his visit, President Kagame was decorated by His Majesty King Mohammed VI with the Grand Collar of Wissam Al-Mohammadi, Morocco's highest national award of honour.

In observance of the holy month of Ramadan, His Majesty King Mohammed VI also hosted the official "Iftar" in honour of President Paul Kagame.

RDC CONGO :

**La Haye [Congo RDC] – Jean Pierre Bemba Gombo condamné à 18 ans de prison par la CPI**  
mardi 21 Juin 2016/connectionivoirienne.net

Fatou Bensouda. Le bureau du Procureur de la CPI accusait l'ex vice président de la RDC d'avoir fermé les yeux sur le régime de terreur infligé par sa milice en Centrafrique entre octobre 2002 et mars 2003. Le Mouvement de libération du Congo (MLC) s'était rendu dans le pays pour soutenir le président Ange-Félix Patassé face à une tentative de coup d'Etat menée par le général François Bozizé. Près de 1 500 hommes, sous le commandant de Jean-Pierre Bemba, avaient tué, pillé, et violé. Des viols, considérés pour la première fois par la CPI comme des crimes de guerre. Selon les experts, il y avait la volonté de terroriser et de torturer. Jean Bemba pourrait être placé dans une autre prison hors des Pays-Bas en attendant l'issue d'un éventuel appel de la procureure ou de ses propres avocats contre la peine prononcée ce mardi 21 juin 2016. (Connectionivoirienne.net avec agences)

Communiqué de presse : 21.06.2016

La Chambre de première instance III de la CPI condamne Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo à 18 ans d'emprisonnement pour des crimes de guerre et des crimes contre l'humanité commis en République centrafricaine en 2002-2003

160621-bemba-sentence-10-1

Situation : République centrafricaine

Affaire : Le Procureur c. Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo

Aujourd'hui, 21 juin 2016, la Chambre de première instance III de la Cour pénale internationale (« la CPI » ou « la Cour ») a condamné Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo à 18 ans d'emprisonnement. Le 21 mars 2016, Jean-Pierre Bemba avait été déclaré coupable au-delà de tout doute raisonnable, en tant que chef militaire, de deux chefs de crimes contre l'humanité (meurtre et viol) et de trois chefs de crimes de guerre (meurtre, viol et pillage), commis en République centrafricaine entre octobre 2002 et mars 2003. La Chambre de première instance III est composée de Mme la juge Sylvia Steiner (Brésil), juge présidente, Mme la juge Joyce Aluoch (Kenya) et Mme la juge Kuniko Ozaki (Japon).

La Chambre de première instance III a prononcé cette peine lors d'une audience publique, au cours de laquelle la juge Sylvia Steiner a donné lecture du résumé de la décision de la Chambre. La Chambre a jugé que les crimes de meurtre, de viol et de pillage étaient d'une grande gravité. Elle a aussi conclu que deux circonstances aggravantes s'appliquaient au crime de viol, en ce qu'il avait été commis i) contre des victimes particulièrement vulnérables et ii) avec une cruauté particulière. De plus, elle a conclu qu'une circonstance aggravante s'appliquait au crime de pillage, lui aussi

commis avec une cruauté particulière. En outre, elle a conclu que le comportement coupable de l'accusé était d'une grande gravité. Enfin, elle est convaincue qu'aucune circonstance atténuante ne s'applique en l'espèce.

Pour les crimes dont il a été déclaré coupable, Jean-Pierre Bemba a été condamné aux peines d'emprisonnement suivantes :

- Meurtre en tant que crime de guerre : 16 ans d'emprisonnement ;
- Meurtre en tant que crime contre l'humanité : 16 ans d'emprisonnement ;
- Viol en tant que crime de guerre : 18 ans d'emprisonnement ;
- Viol en tant que crime contre l'humanité : 18 ans d'emprisonnement ; et
- Pillage en tant que crime de guerre : 16 ans d'emprisonnement.

Considérant que la peine la plus lourde, soit 18 ans pour viol, était proportionnée à la culpabilité globale de Jean-Pierre Bemba, la Chambre a décidé que les peines prononcées à son encontre seraient confondues. La totalité du temps que l'accusé a passé en détention sur ordre de la Cour depuis le 24 mai 2008 sera déduite de la peine à purger. L'Accusation et la Défense peuvent interjeter appel de la peine au motif d'une disproportion entre celle-ci et les crimes.

La question des réparations en faveur des victimes, visées à l'article 75 du Statut, sera examinée en temps utile.

## Contexte

Le 21 mars 2016, la Chambre de première instance III a déclaré Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo coupable au-delà de tout doute raisonnable de deux chefs de crimes contre l'humanité (meurtre et viol) et de trois chefs de crimes de guerre (meurtre, viol et pillage). Ces crimes ont été commis en République centrafricaine du 26 octobre 2002 ou vers cette date jusqu'au 15 mars 2003 par un contingent du Mouvement de Libération du Congo (MLC). Jean-Pierre Bemba faisait effectivement fonction de chef militaire et savait que les forces du MLC placées sous son autorité et son contrôle effectifs commettaient ou allaient commettre les crimes visés par les charges. La Défense a jusqu'au 19 septembre 2016 pour déposer un mémoire d'appel contre la décision par laquelle Jean-Pierre Bemba a été déclaré coupable.

Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo a été arrêté par les autorités belges le 24 mai 2008, en exécution d'un mandat d'arrêt délivré par la CPI, et il a été remis à la Cour le 3 juin 2008. Le 15 juin 2009, la Chambre préliminaire II a confirmé les charges portées à son encontre. Le procès a débuté le 22 novembre 2010 et les parties et les participants ont présenté leurs conclusions orales les 12 et 13 novembre 2014. La Chambre a accordé à 5 229 personnes la qualité de victime autorisée à participer à la procédure.

## **Bemba conviction a step forward for ICC and Africa**

By Karen Allen Southern Africa correspondent, BBC News/21 June 2016

When Jean-Pierre Bemba drove through the streets of Kinshasa during historic elections in 2006 he was feted like a hero.

A man with a thundering presence, he looked confident, defiant and indestructible as the crowds thronged around his convoy in the capital of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Now Bemba is a war criminal, sentenced and convicted in a landmark case. As a former vice-president, he is the most senior figure sent to jail by the International Criminal Court (ICC).

And his nightmare is not over yet. A separate witness-tampering trial, in which he is accused alongside four accomplices, is still ongoing. He could do more time.

DR Congo warlord Bemba jailed over war crimes

What is the International Criminal Court?

So what is the significance of this case?

First of all, it matters because more than 5,000 victims testified, argues ICC Spokesman Fadi El Abdallah.

"Justice may take time but ends by being done."

He believes the Bemba judgement, for crimes committed in the Central African Republic (CAR), will give impetus to further investigations currently under way in that country.

And the case has cemented the principle of command responsibility, setting an important legal precedent.

But perhaps more significant than anything else is that it delivers on a conviction which Chief Prosecutor Fatou Bensouda holds dear - that sexual violence as a weapon of war is unacceptable.

Bemba is paying the ultimate price - 18 years for rape in a part of the world where sexual violence is often ignored.

Let's be blunt here. We are talking about gang rapes, sexual slavery and crimes in which victims - women, men and young boys - suffered appalling internal injuries after the butt of rifles or other sharp objects were used to punish them.

I recall seeing a former UN envoy John Holmes, reduced to tears during a visit to a Congolese hospital by women, stripped of their dignity, silently leaking urine from gaping wounds sustained during violent sexual attacks.

Bemba's victims suffered the same. Perhaps today they feel some sense of justice.

Jean-Pierre Bemba

Son of famous businessman

Former assistant to Mobutu Sese Seko

1998: Helped by Uganda to form MLC rebel group

2003: Becomes vice-president under peace deal

2006: Loses run-off election to President Joseph Kabila but gets most votes in western DR

Congo, including Kinshasa

2007: Flees to Belgium after clashes in Kinshasa

2008: Arrested in Brussels and handed over to ICC

2010: Trial begins

2016: Found guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity

Profile: Jean-Pierre Bemba

But experts caution against being too overwhelmed by this apparent victory for the ICC.

The court has been battling a PR war, especially among those who argue it has an anti-African bias.

"Expectations about the ICC are totally unrealistic," argues Mark Kersten, author of new book *Justice in Conflict*.

Although he believes that the jailing of a high-profile figure like Bemba "sends some signals" to other leaders, he believes it is "hard to see a deterrent effect".

What he considers just as important is that "the ICC learns something from this case".

It has taken nearly a decade to secure Bemba's conviction.

"The ICC needs to think why it took 10 years to get to this point. It needs to become more efficient," Mr Kersten argues.

That includes ensuring it has cast iron evidence before bringing a case to trial and being clearer on the law being applied.

The ICC spent roughly \$1bn (£680m) during the time it took to bring Bemba to justice, according to analysis done by Carsten Stahn of Leiden University in the Netherlands.

And compared with the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, it spends more money on support functions than actual investigations.

"It's costing a lot of money without much action and justice has been a long time coming," agrees Rachel Kerr of King's College London's War Crimes Research Group.

The ICC is still an evolving institution. Bemba's conviction will be seen as an indication that it is on the right track but it still suffers enormous obstacles.

African bias

The first challenge is accusations of anti-African bias. Of the 10 conflicts the court is currently investigating, all of them bar one, Georgia, is in Africa.

Yet most were referred by the country themselves, two were as a result of UN Security Council resolutions and one case in Kenya was opened by former prosecutor Louis Moreno Ocampo.

Preliminary investigations include alleged crimes in Afghanistan and Colombia - but the perception is that has failed to sell itself to the world.

Secondly, the ICC is a hostage to bureaucracy, and diplomatic horse-trading.

Unlike the tribunals in Rwanda and Yugoslavia, says Ms Kerr, the world's first permanent war crimes court "is dependent on voluntary co-operation".

In the cases of Rwanda and Yugoslavia, states were obliged to co-operate under a UN mandate.

By contrast the ICC depends on co-operation - and it has at times struggled to achieve it.

Countries like South Africa, which puts human rights centre stage, and by common consent has one of the most liberal constitutions in the world, seem to feel rather differently about justice where other Africans are involved.

It is currently battling against a Supreme Court ruling that found that South Africa broke its own international obligations by failing to arrest Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir when he attended an African summit in Johannesburg last year.

As former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan has also questioned the ICC for allowing Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta and his deputy, William Ruto to remain free during hearings against them.

Bemba's conviction comes just weeks after a Senegalese court sentenced the former Chadian ruler Hissene Habre to life.

Also this week the trial of another warlord from DR Congo, Bosco Ntaganda, resumes at the ICC.

The world's first permanent war crimes court may be under fire for its narrow focus - Syria is a case in point. Attempts to secure a referral to the ICC by the UN Security Council failed when China and Russia exercised their veto power.

Nevertheless, the Bemba case shows that the sentiment that Africa's citizens deserve the same protection against murder, pillage and rape as anyone else in the world, is one which is both worth fighting for and possible to win

UGANDA :

SOUTH AFRICA :

**South Africa desperately need change**

[randfonteinherald.co.za/22/06/2016](http://randfonteinherald.co.za/22/06/2016)

The education system is poor, health care services are poor, unemployment is high ...the list is endless

I personally urge all South Africans to vote in the best interest of the future of the country in the next municipal elections.

We must not vote for the ANC just because of the goodness and achievements of the past.

If you're a parent whose child fails at school, you're unlikely to console yourself by saying "Oh well, at least my child passed last year". You'd probably be angry and look for ways of changing

that fail into a pass, maybe by changing your parenting strategy, in the best interest of your child.

In the same vein, why do we keep on voting for and honouring a party that keeps on failing us? Let's change our way of thinking and vote for change.

South Africa desperately needs change; the education system is poor, health-care services are poor, unemployment is high, corruption is out of control, the justice system is slow ... the list is endless.

We should stop telling ourselves lies – we have to stand up for the truth to save our beautiful and blessed country.

At the Cosatu conference in 1993, then-President Nelson Mandela said, “If the ANC does to you what the Apartheid government did to you, then you must do to the ANC what you did to the Apartheid government.”

### South Africa Inflation Slows for Third Consecutive Month in May

June 22, 2016 /bloomberg.com

Rand has weakened 22% against dollar since start of 2015  
Reserve Bank increased rates four times since July to 7%

South African inflation slowed for a third consecutive month in May, giving the Reserve Bank room to continue the pause in its interest-rate increase cycle.

The inflation rate fell to 6.1 percent from 6.2 percent a month earlier, Pretoria-based Statistics South Africa said on its website on Wednesday. The median of 21 economist estimates compiled by Bloomberg was 6.4 percent. Prices rose 0.2 percent in the month.

The rand's 22 percent fall against the dollar since the start of last year has increased pressure on consumer prices, which compounded the effect of the worst drought in more than a century and drove up food costs. The Reserve Bank's Monetary Policy Committee has raised its benchmark rate four times since July to 7 percent to steer inflation back into its 3 percent to 6 percent target even as its forecasts the economy will expand at the slowest pace since a 2009 recession this year.

The central bank will announce its interest rate decision on July 21 and has said inflation will only return to its target band in the third quarter of next year. The five-year breakeven rate, a measure of bond investors' price expectations, has fallen 45 basis points this month to 6.89 percent, the lowest since December.

Core inflation, which excludes food, non-alcoholic beverages, gasoline and electricity costs, was 5.5 percent in May, the same as the previous month.

Forward-rate agreements starting in two months, used to speculate on borrowing costs, fell three basis points to 7.37 percent from minutes before the announcement.

### Riots in Pretoria as South Africa rebels over unpopular ANC decision

June 22 2016/Reuters

In Pretoria protesters burned buses and barricaded roads in South Africa's capital on Tuesday in an escalating dispute over the ruling party's mayoral candidate for local elections in August.

The vote is expected to be closely fought and will pose a major test for the African National Congress (ANC) as it looks ahead to a 2019 presidential election in the face of a strong challenge from the opposition and an economic slowdown.

Disturbances erupted on Monday night as residents of Pretoria's impoverished townships set vehicles and tyres on fire to block roads after the ANC's national leadership named a mayoral candidate not nominated by its regional branches.

Rioters looted shops, torched vehicles and placed rocks and other debris across roads on Wednesday, snarling traffic and business in the capital of Africa's most industrialised country.

The dispute flared at the weekend after an ANC member was shot dead on Sunday as party factions met to decide on a candidate for mayor of Pretoria's Tshwane municipality.

The ANC leadership then named senior party member and former cabinet minister Thoko Didiza as its candidate for Tshwane, overriding regional branch members.

Tshwane residents want the incumbent mayor, Kgosientso Ramokgopa, to be allowed to run on the ANC ticket, it was reported, but at a town hall meeting with some residents, Ramokgopa backed Didiza's selection and called for calm.

ANC Secretary General Gwede Mantashe said its members were not behind the violence, which he condemned as "thuggery".

Speaking to reporters, Deputy President Cyril Ramaphosa urged Tshwane residents to shun tribalism and accept Didiza even though she does not originally hail from the area. Didiza comes from KwaZulu Natal province.

Defence Minister Nosiviwe Mapisa-Nqakula told a media gathering that the military would not be deployed yet but warned a crackdown might be needed to restore peace in Pretoria's streets. "We are not going to allow anarchy to take over."

The ANC has been in power since the end of white-minority rule in 1994 but critics say it is losing its touch in areas, including Pretoria, where it was once unassailable.

Record unemployment and a looming recession have exacerbated discontent with President Jacob Zuma's leadership since the Constitutional Court ruled he had violated his oath of office by refusing to refund to the state some of the 240 million rand (NZ\$22 million) spent on refurbishing his private residence.

"The Tshwane explosion is an indication of the growing disconnect between the ANC and its own members," independent political analyst Aubrey Matshiqi said.

TANZANIA :

**East Africa: Tanzania's Refugee Burden**

21 June 2016/The Citizen (Dar es Salaam)



Kasulu — Tanzania hosts the world's third largest number of refugees, according to a Global Trends report released by the UN's refugee agency, UNHCR.

Since political violence broke out in Burundi in April, last year, more than 141,000 people have fled the country for the safety of refugee camps in western Tanzania.

The influx of refugees has created a precarious situation in refugee camps in Kigoma Region, with Nyarugusu camp accommodating over 130,000 refugees, well above its capacity of 50,000.

The UNHCR spokesperson in Tanzania, Ms Chansa Kapaya, acknowledges that the situation is difficult.

"Our priority is to decongest Nyarugusu and move people out so that we can reduce the number to the minimum of capacity of 50,000 and also provide people with better shelter," she told journalists at the camp on Monday.

Ms Chansa also said the UNHCR's response to the Burundi crisis was underfunded by over \$40 million, with the agency having received only 40 per cent of the funds it needs.

She praised the Tanzanian government for assisting with the opening of two extra camps since last October.

Kigoma Regional Commissioner Emmanuel Maganga said the regional administration was struggling to cope with the influx of refugees.

He said refugees should abide by Tanzania's encampment rules and refrain from leaving camps illegally.

"We value you, but you all need to live by Tanzanian rules. There are refugees who leave the camps and go elsewhere to commit crime. This is not expected of people who have fled their own country and sought refuge in a neighbouring country," Brigadier General (rtd) Maganga said during the event organised to mark World Refugee Day.

KENYA :

### Kenya to Feel the Pain of Britain's Possible EU Exit

22 June 2016/The Nation (Nairobi)

Kenya is one of the countries at a high risk of being hit by economic shocks associated with Britain's plebiscite tomorrow on whether to dump or keep its membership in the European Union, economists said.

The Central Bank of Kenya governor Patrick Njoroge, who is a former IMF economist, said East Africa's largest economy would "feel the shock wave" alongside other global economies should Britain vote to leave the EU.

Dr Njoroge's pronouncement was seen as expressing concerns that Kenya's economic policy makers have over the outcome of Thursday's vote, whose impact some economists have said could equal that of the 2008 global financial crisis.

Kenya is particularly seen as vulnerable to possible loss of trade, exchange rate pressure and capital outflows should Britons vote to leave the bloc.

Nairobi is seen as being at risk of massive capital outflows arising from the strong wave of anxiety in global markets, which is expected to follow an exit vote.

Increased capital outflows would, for instance, hurt trading at the Nairobi Securities Exchange, whose activity has more recently been anchored on strong foreign participation.

Listed companies that export goods and services to the UK also face the risk of a prolonged slowdown or even decline should Britain exit the EU and its economy suffers a downturn as a result.

Standard Chartered head of research for Africa Razia Khan said the shilling was likely to come under pressure if Britain exits and subsequent investor capital flight to relative safe havens such as US treasuries - ultimately triggering a stronger dollar.

"Any vote in favour of 'leave' is widely acknowledged as being a negative for global risk appetite. In this case, should it come about - the polls are extremely close at the moment - it would be a negative for all emerging and frontier markets, Kenya included," Ms Khan said, adding that Kenya will not be spared the resulting risk selloff under such a scenario.

"Outside of the very considerable financial market risks, Kenya's real economy would also be impacted by an exit vote. Any eventual need to renegotiate trade agreements outside of the EU would create more uncertainty for Kenyan exports," she said.

A possible strengthening of the dollar against the Kenyan shilling in the wake of an exit vote is also expected to pile upward pressure on inflation or cost of living for a net importer like Kenya.

That would ultimately force the Central Bank of Kenya to react with a tightening of monetary policy and a rise in interest rates.

Trade is, however, the more immediate of the concerns, analysts said while issues around capital flows would take root over time as markets adjust to a new reality of a reformed Europe. The Netherlands and the UK are two of Kenya's biggest export destinations.

Trading statistics for the first quarter of this year show that the two EU states together accounted for 18.3 per cent or Sh22.7 billion of Kenya's total exports worth Sh123.9 billion.

Kenya mainly exports horticulture products to Europe, with the Netherlands and the UK as the main landing points.

Standard Investment Bank head of research Francis Mwangi said that although Britons were less likely to vote against the EU, an exit would make Kenyan products going through the UK to Europe more expensive thus reducing the competitiveness they currently enjoy under the duty-and-quota-free terms.

"If Britain exits, any Kenyan company exporting to Europe through the UK will have to contend with extra duty charges. Agriculture firms stick out as the ones who would take the brunt of the downturn in demand," Mr Mwangi said, adding that the EU could move towards protecting its market by demanding wider access to African markets in return for any access offered to African

states.

"An exit of Britain is likely to push them further towards a protectionist stance," he said.

In the capital markets, nervous investors in European and US markets are expected to look for safety in secure government bonds in the event of a Brexit, pushing yields in countries such as Germany, the UK and Japan to all-time lows and in some cases to the negative.

Although Kenya's stock exchange and fixed income market would feel the effect alongside other frontier markets, Mr Mwangi reckons that the equities market may be spared the worst because primary foreign inflows come in from the US and South Africa -- mainly from long-term investing pension funds -- and not London.

In the first five months of the year, foreign investors pumped in a net of Sh1.2 billion into the Kenyan stock market alone.

ANGOLA :

**Op-Ed: Chevron's misplaced endorsement of nepotism in Angola**

21 Jun 2016/dailymaverick.co.za

What must Chevron's CEO John Watson be thinking as he sits in his office in San Ramon, California, and ponders the future of his Angolan subsidiary, the Cabinda Gulf Oil Company Ltd (Cabgoc)?

How much longer does he estimate that he needs to keep on the good side of José Eduardo dos Santos's corrupt and kleptocratic government to ensure Cabgoc can continue to operate? Is he hedging his bets? Or is he staking Chevron's African corporate future on the faint chance that the Dos Santos family and their acolytes will not be eventually brought to justice for their crimes?

While oil industry analysts around the globe were divided about the merit of the President's appointment of his daughter Isabel to head the restructured Angolan state oil company, Sonangol, Watson's man in Angola, the Cabgoc director John Baltz, was telling a US-Angola Chamber of Commerce conference that he was "optimistic" about the move.

"The government has acted. It is clear the direction they want to go. I am always optimistic. I certainly support the direction Sonangol is taking," John Baltz said.

That's an interesting position given Chevron's position as one of the doyens of international oil companies in Angola.

The Chevron website proudly boasts of nearly six decades of operations in Angola. Last year alone, Cabgoc produced 110,000 barrels of liquids and 55-million cubic feet of natural gas from its Angolan wells. Over those years it claims to have invested \$215-million US dollars in programmes to support the health, education, environmental and social needs of millions of Angolans.

As anyone who has visited the Cabgoc "enclave-within-an-enclave" in Cabinda knows, it has certainly invested millions in creating a slice of California in Angola, separated by barbed wire from the remainder of Cabinda, which shows little evidence of material benefits in health, education,

environmental or social needs from such oil company benevolence.

How did Chevron channel these funds to the millions of Angolans it claims to have benefited? To whom were those cheques made out? Given the well-documented reality of doing business in Angola, is it possible the funds had to be routed through the governing Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola (MPLA) and its notoriously corrupt leadership?

It must be quite the predicament for Chevron's top brass. On the one hand it would be foolhardy to jeopardise their current cozy corporate status in Angola by publicly acknowledging that the head of state has flouted the laws of the land by abusing his status to appoint a direct family member to run Sonangol.

On the other hand, if and when the Dos Santos family's grip on Angola comes to an end, if the presidential family is called to account for their actions, then the actions of many rich and powerful corporations who have done business with them over decades will surely also come under scrutiny.

There have been previous allegations that Chevron was able to influence the justice system in Angola because it benefits from its clout with the ruling MPLA. Would such influence survive beyond the Dos Santos regime?

And what about the US justice system? And in particular, that 1977 US federal law known as the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act?

If Isabel dos Santos's appointment to head Sonangol survives the coming legal challenges, Chevron may want to take note that Isabel's "track record of getting deals done" may have been based on the improper use of state funds and remember the old adage that "he who sups with the devil should have a long spoon". DM

AU/AFRICA :

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

**Nominee to Head US Military in Africa Warns of IS Focus on Libya**

June 21, 2016/voanews.com

PENTAGON—

Islamic State militants are "very likely" to set their sights on ungoverned spaces in Africa if they are defeated in Iraq and Syria, according to the general nominated to lead the U.S. military's Africa Command.

“That’s why instability inside Africa is to ISIL’s advantage,” U.S. Lt. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser told members of the Senate Armed Services Committee Tuesday. ISIL is an acronym for Islamic State.

Some studies estimate that 1 in 4 people will live in Africa by 2050, and Waldhauser warned the “scale and the scope of some of the issues that we see today certainly could be magnified significantly.”

“The seeds of a catastrophe are in place in terms of corruption, lack of economic growth, all of those kinds of elements,” Sen. Angus King (I-Maine) said during the hearing.

Islamic State already has influenced fighters to pledge allegiance to them in Libya and West Africa.

Libya as a 'backup'

Waldhauser said IS has focused on Sirte, Libya as a “kind of backup” if it fails elsewhere.

But despite the large presence of IS there, the general said the U.S. is not currently flying any sorties over Libya, which both the general and committee member Senator Lindsey Graham (R-South Carolina) agreed “makes no sense.”

“There are targets that are being developed but there have not been flights flown,” Waldhauser said.

The U.S. military has a small number of troops in Libya and has carried out strikes against Islamic State leaders and fighters in the past.

Pentagon press secretary Peter Cook told reporters at the Pentagon Tuesday the U.S. is prepared to strike in Libya again in the future, but the “ideal situation” would be for the U.S. military not to get further involved.

“If they [Libyans] are able to deal with this issue on their own, that would certainly be a good thing, and would be a factor going forward for us as to whether or not we need to carry out military action,” Cook said.

West Africa

Islamic State accepted the allegiance of Boko Haram, the Islamist extremist group based in northeastern Nigeria, about a year ago.

However, Waldhauser said several months ago that about half of the Boko Haram members broke off and formed a separate group that is even more aligned with Islamic State beliefs.

“They were not happy with the amount of buy-in from Boko Haram into the ISIL brand,” he said.

The general warned that while the leader of Boko Haram has not shown significant interest in attacking Western targets, this new splinter group could. “That would concern me,” he said.

Waldhauser said Africa Command needs more intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) to monitor the militants in Libya and West Africa, calling the lack of adequate ISR “one of the shortcomings” that needs to be addressed inside the combatant command.

CANADA/AFRICA :

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

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