



(Des hommes armés ont attaqué des résidents du district de Musanze, près de la frontière congolaise Une attaque, menée par des hommes armés non identifiés a fait huit morts et 18 blessés dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, au nord du Rwanda, dans une région frontalière de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC). « Dans la nuit du 4 au 5 octobre, un groupe de terroristes munis principalement d’armes blanches ont attaqué le secteur de Kinigi, dans le district de Musanze, et ont tué et blessé des résidents », a indiqué la police rwandaise dans un communiqué. Au total, 6 personnes ont été tuées à l’arme blanche et 2 autres par armes à feu.)

BURUNDI :

**Burundi / Élections 2020 : Ngozi – Un jour sport entre tous les Partis Politiques**

October 5, 2019/By admin

SOCIETE, INSTITUTION, ELECTIONS 2020, SPORT – Ngozi organise une journée sportive dédiée à la cohabitation pacifique entre les Partis Politiques

NGOZI, Vendredi 4 octobre 2019 – Dans le cadre de la Politique Intérieure, Institutionnelle des Barundi, en cette période préélectorale 2019-2020, M. NDUWIMANA Albert, gouverneur de la province de NGOZI, a organisé une journée sportive dédiée à la cohabitation pacifique entre les Partis Politiques, en vue de détendre l’atmosphère entre les citoyens de la même localité. Toutes les formations politiques présentes dans la province étaient conviées à présenter des candidats en vue de s’affronter sur le champ sportif.

Par la suite, un moment de convivialité, notamment d’échanges autour d’un verre de l’amitié était organisé.

C’est pendant la période coloniale Belge (\*) que le Décret colonial intermédiaire du vendredi 25

décembre 1959 [ <http://burundi-agnews.org/histoire/burundi-1959-naissance-des-partis-et-de-la-democratie-occidentale/> ] a introduit les partis politiques au Burundi. L'idée des élections fondées sur un affrontement entre partis politiques n'est pas Burundaise, ni Africaine. L'Afrique, étant communautaire, traditionnellement, depuis l'Australopithèque ( Le 1er Humain qui a existé ) il y a 7 Millions d'années, ce sont les communautés ( Imiryango ) qui se créent des alliances entre elles, enracinées depuis les collines ou les villages jusqu'à des grands territoires tels des Royaumes, Empires, Continents ou Globe, pour établir une gouvernance territoriale permanente.

Au Burundi, en cette année 2019, près de 60 ans après l'introduction des partis politiques, c'est la première fois de l'histoire que l'on tente cette approche à quelques mois des élections. Toutes les provinces burundaises ont été conviées par l'état à organiser ce type d'activités en cette période préélectorale. L'idée est d'éviter les fréquentes victimes innocentes des élections précédentes où l'émotion électorale souvent prenait le dessus. Cette activité sportive rappelle d'abord à tous les Burundais que l'on fait tous partie d'une même communauté, celle des Burundi.

(\*) La Colonisation est un crime contre l'Humanité. L'Esclavage et la Colonisation ont fait près de 300 Millions de Victimes Amérindiennes et Africaines.

RWANDA :

**Rwanda: Huit morts et 18 blessés dans une attaque proche d'une zone touristique**

20minutes.fr/06/10/19

Des hommes armés ont attaqué des résidents du district de Musanze, près de la frontière congolaise

Une attaque, menée par des hommes armés non identifiés a fait huit morts et 18 blessés dans la nuit de vendredi à samedi, au nord du Rwanda, dans une région frontalière de la République démocratique du Congo (RDC). « Dans la nuit du 4 au 5 octobre, un groupe de terroristes munis principalement d'armes blanches ont attaqué le secteur de Kinigi, dans le district de Musanze, et ont tué et blessé des résidents », a indiqué la police rwandaise dans un communiqué. Au total, 6 personnes ont été tuées à l'arme blanche et 2 autres par armes à feu.

Une zone touristique

Le district est connu des touristes pour le parc national des volcans, qui abrite des gorilles des montagnes et fait face côté congolais au célèbre parc des Virunga. Il a par le passé déjà été le théâtre d'attaques menées par des rebelles venus de RDC opposés au gouvernement rwandais.

Le Conseil de développement du Rwanda a voulu rassurer les touristes, affirmant que « l'ordre a été rétabli ». Dans un communiqué, il a ainsi assuré que « les services touristiques continuent d'opérer normalement dans le parc national des volcans et dans tous les autres parcs nationaux et attractions au Rwanda ».

Peu d'informations sur les assaillants

« Une enquête est en cours pour trouver ces terroristes » a précisé la police, sans fournir plus d'informations sur les assaillants. Plusieurs sources militaires ont évoqué la possibilité que ces hommes armés soient des rebelles opposés au gouvernement rwandais venus de RDC.

Le Rwanda doit faire face à la menace de plusieurs groupes rebelles basés en RDC, en tête desquels

le Front démocratique de libération du Rwanda (FDLR), une milice hutu fondée par des responsables du génocide rwandais de 1994, qui avait fait quelque 800.000 morts selon l'ONU, essentiellement au sein de la minorité tutsi. La dernière attaque menée par des rebelles au Rwanda date de décembre 2018. Elle avait mené à la mort de deux soldats rwandais dans le district de Rubavu, au sud de celui de Musanze.

RDC CONGO :

**Le point sur l'épidémie de maladie à virus Ebola en République Démocratique du Congo - Un deuxième vaccin utilisé**

5 oct. 2019/mesvaccins.net

En République Démocratique du Congo (RDC), 18 nouveaux cas confirmés de maladie à virus Ebola ont été notifiés par le ministère de la Santé depuis le 2 octobre 2019, dont 9 décès et deux nouveaux cas probables.

Un professionnel de santé figure parmi les victimes.

Les zones de santé les plus actives au cours des 21 derniers jours étaient Mambasa, Mandima, Kalunguta et Komanda. Les deux nouveaux cas probables incluent un nourrisson de Komanda qui a présenté des symptômes le 7 septembre (décès le 10 septembre) et un homme adulte de Mambasa qui a présenté des symptômes le 21 août (décès le 29 août).

En octobre 2019, un deuxième vaccin expérimental contre le virus Ebola (fabriqué par Johnson & Johnson) devrait être utilisé dans des zones situées en dehors des zones de transmission les plus actives.

Dans les zones de transmission active du virus Ebola, le vaccin rVSV-ZEBOV, fabriqué par MSD, restera le seul utilisé.

Un incident majeur de sécurité à Lwemba (aire de santé de Mandima), a entravé les activités de lutte contre le virus Ebola pendant plus de deux semaines.

Selon l'Organisation mondiale de la santé (OMS) et le ministère de la Santé de RDC, les autorités sanitaires ont notifié au 2 octobre 2019 et depuis le début de l'épidémie 3.198 cas de maladie à virus Ebola (3.084 cas confirmés et 114 cas probables), dont 2.137 décès (2.023 confirmés et 114 probables).

Les professionnels de santé paient un lourd tribut à la maladie : 161 ont été victimes d'Ebola, dont 41 sont décédés.

Vingt neuf zones sanitaires dans trois provinces (province du Kivu, province de l'Ituri et province du Sud-Kivu) ont notifié un cas confirmé ou probable de maladie à virus Ebola cas.

En Ouganda, un cas importé (notifié le 29 août) est décédé le 30 août dans le district de Kasese, qui borde le Nord Kivu. Cependant, à ce jour, aucune transmission autochtone n'a été signalée en Ouganda.

La mise en œuvre de mesures d'intervention reste difficile dans les zones touchées en raison de la crise humanitaire prolongée, de la situation sécuritaire instable et de la résistance de la population.

La poursuite de l'épidémie dans des zones de population transfrontalière avec le Rwanda, le Soudan du Sud, le Burundi et l'Ouganda est préoccupante.

Au 2 octobre 2019, l'OMS estimait que le risque de propagation d'Ebola était très élevé aux niveaux national et régional tout en restant faible au niveau mondial.

Sources : Organisation mondiale de la santé ; European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control ; Ministère de la santé de la République Démocratique du Congo et d'Ouganda ; Comité multisectoriel de la riposte à la maladie à virus Ebola.

UGANDA :

[Presidential reprieve for the 'idle and disorderly' of Uganda  
theguardian.com/2019/oct/04](https://www.theguardian.com/2019/oct/04)

Yoweri Museveni urges repeal of 'colonial' law grounded in 'fear of Africans' as he orders release of those jailed for 'nonsensical crime'

Uganda's president has ordered a reprieve for street vendors arrested in a recent "idleness" crackdown, saying the law was the result of a colonial "fear" of Africans.

Yoweri Museveni signed a directive to the attorney general and the chief of police for the immediate release of people jailed for being idle and disorderly.

He directed the director of public prosecution to discontinue all such cases pending in courts of law.

"Why should this be a crime? If I am unemployed and I hang about the park, why should somebody accuse me of the crime of hanging around? It is the colonialist that feared that Africans being around that drafted that law. It should be repealed," he said.

Museveni also ordered the release of street vendors and hawkers serving jail sentences for selling clothes, food, trinkets, spices, fruits and household goods on the pavements in the capital, Kampala.

"All people that have been arrested on account of this nonsensical crime should be released immediately and all prosecution discontinued because, in any case, the police and courts have got more real crimes that they need to deal with (murder, rape, robbery, embezzlement, etc)," said Museveni in a tweet on Thursday.

Patricia, a street vendor on the capital's Kampala Road welcomed the directive.

"We welcome the president's gesture. This is a big relief for us. As vendors we can't afford the rent fees for arcades. The police and enforcement officers have been torturing us," said Patricia, a mother of three.

There are more than 10,000 vendors and hawkers in Kampala who have been engaged in running battles with the Kampala City Authority enforcement officers and police over illegal trade in the streets, with some of them arrested, charged and jailed. They face heavy fines and two-month prison sentences.

But Museveni's actions have been challenged. Male Kiwanuka Mbirizi, a Kampala lawyer filed a case at the high court in Kampala this week, challenging the president's directive as illegal, unreasonable, irrational and procedurally improper.

In his lawsuit, Mbirizi is arguing for the civil court to quash the directives and issue a permanent injunction and prohibition of any Ugandan government official or agency from implementing the orders.

"I am suing Museveni because he is taking Uganda back to [late dictator president] Idi Amin days, where he used decrees to expel Asians, kill citizens without trial, ban international media, etc," Mbirizi told the Guardian.

"The inspector general of police is required to act according to the law. The offence of idle and disorderly is in the Penal Code Act, laws of Uganda," he said.

"The director of public prosecution is independent and cannot take directives from the president."

Frank Baine, Uganda's prison spokesperson, said the directive will be respected and observed once received by the authorities.

"If the president has directed, the attorney general is going to write and the directive will be adhered [to] accordingly. We are waiting for the official communication and act," said Baine.

"We have had [presidential] pardons, we have had other directives and we always respond to them," he said.

However, Mbirizi said the president doesn't have the powers to direct the release of inmates serving sentences without the advice of the advisory committee.

"The president can only exercise his prerogative of mercy upon being advised by the advisory committee on prerogative of mercy," said Mbirizi.

"Uganda prisons admit and release prisoners upon court orders or a duly signed and sealed presidential pardon reached upon the advice of the committee on prerogative of mercy, and not on directives communicated through police," he said.

"Museveni is not an appellate court to set aside convictions and sentences of courts. If he wants to help the convicts, let him pay for them the fines imposed by court. If Museveni wants the penal codes to be repealed, he should table a bill in parliament, as he did with removing [presidential] term limits and age limits. Other than that, he has no powers to direct the police, director of public prosecutions or prisons," said Mbirizi.

## SOUTH AFRICA :

### Safety scare as criminals supply dodgy parts to South African planes

6 October 2019/businessstech.co.za

An investigation into a recent Mango flight has raised serious safety concerns at the country's state-owned airlines.

Passengers on a recent Boeing 737 flight from Johannesburg to Cape Town were terrified when the aircraft suddenly nosedived, forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing.

The nosedive has been blamed on a defective part in the Mango Airlines' Boeing 737, fitted at maintenance subsidiary SAA Technical.

SAA Technical provides all major maintenance for SAA, as well as a number of major European, African and Middle Eastern airlines.

Speaking to the Sunday Times, SAA said it had been infiltrated by an international crime syndicate that had looted hundreds of millions of rands through questionable tenders which include the supply of "possibly suspect" parts.

It added that a massive investigation involving international law enforcement and aviation regulatory authorities was underway into a sophisticated syndicate which includes senior SAA procurement executives.

Possible merger

The investigation comes at a difficult time for South African Airways which continues to face financial troubles.

One of the proposed measures to help stem these financial losses is a merger between South African Airways, Mango and SA Express.

In September the Department of Public Enterprises said that it has completed a study on the merger, finding that a merger would be beneficial in the consolidation of the three airlines, and would lead to greater cost savings.

It added that the document which supports the consolidation is currently being reviewed by the government's economic cluster and will soon head to cabinet for consideration.

Acting Interim CEO of SA Express, Siza Mzimela, said that she fully supported the integration of the airlines, but what is of critical importance is how the merger is put together.

TANZANIA :

**Tanzania Angered By Ebola 'Conspiracy' and Mistrust**

5 October 2019/The East African (Nairobi)

As regional governments move to enhance Ebola surveillance through screening of people at border crossings with Tanzania, the government in Dar es Salaam now says it "suspects there is a conspiracy at international level to spread negative information about Tanzania in the face of an ongoing conflict with the WHO over how a recent potential Ebola case in the country was dealt with."

Kenya has deployed a mobile laboratory at the common Namanga border crossing with Tanzania and at the same time the Ministry of Health's acting director general Dr Wekesa Masasabi saying there is no cause for alarm.

Dr Masasabi also said that Kenya is in constant communication with Tanzania, but "has enhanced screening at the points of entry along the entire border as well to confirm any suspected case."

Uganda's Health minister Dr Jane Ruth Aceng said on Wednesday that one of the country's ongoing preparedness involves deploying health workers at the border with Tanzania.

"There is already fatigue in response management from the health workers and communities. So, we shall deploy our health workers as part of our preparedness plan," she said.

Dr Aceng says since the reported cases of at least five Ugandans dying of ebola in the border district of Kasese, the country continues to be vigilant in screening and isolating suspected cases.

She added that Uganda has been on the alert to deal with cases of the disease since August 2018 when an outbreak was first registered in the DR Congo.

Rwanda too has deployed an Ebola screening rapid response team at Rusumo at the border post with Tanzania.

### Training

Speaking to our sister publication Rwanda Today, Dr José Nyamusore, the country's head of division epidemiology and surveillance response, said they have already started training doctors and nurses in Rusumo, Kirehe, Kabarondo, and Kayonza.

"We did not consider the Tanzanian border with Rwanda a high-risk zone but after the recent suspected Ebola case in Dar es Salaam, we have deployed specialists and offering training in the area," said Dr Nyamusore.

The reaction in Dar es Salaam has remained as firm as it was a fortnight ago when the suspected Ebola case was reported.

Minister for Health, Ummu Mwalimu said on Thursday the government reassures the international community that it is aware of the dangers and implications not sharing information.

Ms Mwalimu also played down reports of heightened Ebola surveillance by neighbouring countries along the borders with Tanzania.

"We don't know why our neighbours are doing what they are doing, but instead of continuing with the mistrust, I urge them to join forces with us and we share our contingency plans because there are more than 300 borders crossings where there are several movements of people."

### Growing mistrust

The ministry's deputy spokesperson Catherine Sugura and director of preventive services Dr Leonard Subi weighed in by saying that Tanzania too has frontline health workers conducting Ebola screening at its borders.

Ms Mwalimu added: "According to the laboratory protocols of WHO, when the samples test negative, there is no need to take them to a reference laboratory. Only if 25 samples test positive, that is when you are supposed to forward them."

The growing mistrust comes at a time when both the US and British governments have issued travel

advisories for Tanzania and calling for increased caution.

The US State Department and the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention have updated travel advisory for those visiting Tanzania, further calling upon the government to comply with its obligation under the International Health Regulations.

The UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office website highlighted a WHO investigation into suspected Ebola in Tanzania and warns travellers to "keep up to date with developments."

WHO communications officer Tarik Jasarevic told The EastAfrican that the organisation still advises against applying any restrictions on travel or trade to and with Tanzania on the basis of currently available information on the Ebola matter.

"As per WHO guidance, we recommend sharing samples (including negative ones) with a reference laboratory. We stand by to offer our support no matter what health issues Tanzania is facing," said Mr Jasarevic.

KENYA :

**Kenya : la BAD approuve une enveloppe de 23,8 milliards de shillings pour l'extension de la « Great North Road »**

04 octobre 2019/Agence Ecofin

La Banque africaine de développement (BAD) – le 26 septembre, lors d'une réunion à son siège à Abidjan – a approuvé un prêt d'environ 209 millions EUR (23,8 milliards de shillings) pour financer l'expansion d'une autoroute reliant les principaux centres économiques du Kenya.

Il s'agit des travaux de l'axe routier Kenol – Sagana – Marua qui connecte le centre à l'est du Kenya. Ce chantier, qui s'étend sur 84 km, aboutira à la construction d'une route à quatre voies de contournement. Le projet est prévu pour durer cinq ans.

La route Kenol – Sagana – Marua fait partie intégrante de la « Great North Road », un axe de 800 km qui sépare Nairobi et Moyale, à la frontière avec l'Ethiopie. Une fois achevée, elle bénéficiera à environ 1,15 million d'individus, dont probablement 44 % des femmes, indique un rapport du projet.

« Parmi les bénéficiaires figurent des producteurs, des fabricants et des commerçants, qui gagneront du temps et de l'argent grâce à un meilleur accès au corridor principal, au nord », a déclaré la BAD dans un communiqué.

Rappelons que le coût total du projet est de 257,68 millions EUR (29,3 milliards de shillings) dont 69 % seront financés la BAD, tandis que 12 % proviendront d'Africa Growing Together Fund (AGTF), un fonds mis en place par la Banque et la Banque populaire de Chine en 2014. Les 19 % restants seront mobilisés par le gouvernement kenyan.

ANGOLA :

**Angola : cinq cent mille migrants clandestins expulsés**



Samedi 5 Octobre 2019/adiac-congo.com

Les expulsions ont lieu dans le cadre d'une opération de lutte contre le trafic de diamants.

"Les autorités ont rapatrié 527 725 immigrants illégaux, fermé quatre-vingt-seize coopératives illégales de diamants, quatre projets miniers et 289 maisons d'achat de diamants", a affirmé le ministre d'Etat à la présidence, Pedro Sebastiao.

Au moins trente-cinq mille carats de diamants auraient été saisis lors de l'opération baptisée Transparence, lancée en septembre 2018. Une action visant à lutter contre l'exploitation minière et l'immigration clandestine dans le pays. Le gouvernement angolais a justifié cet acte par la nécessité de restructurer le secteur clef du diamant, où opèrent illégalement, selon Luanda, de nombreux étrangers. En mai 2018, il avait annoncé vouloir instaurer des règles "plus strictes" pour la vente des pierres.

L'objectif est de mieux contrôler le marché et les énormes revenus qu'il est susceptible d'engendrer. La pêche illégale et le trafic de drogue sont eux aussi visés. Au total, trois cent cinquante-six bateaux de pêche ont été saisis.

"Mauvais traitements"

Dans un rapport, Human rights watch (HRW) avait soupçonné les autorités de "mauvais traitements" dans le cadre de cette opération, mais Luanda a toujours nié toute exaction. "Les forces de sécurité angolaises et des jeunes de l'ethnie Tshokwe alliée au gouvernement ont tué par balles au moins six Congolais (...) dans la province de Lunda Norte, frontalière de la RDC", affirmait l'ONG, citant l'ONU. "Le nombre exact des victimes est très probablement plus élevé", ajoutait-elle.

Les réfugiés expulsés, apparemment des Congolais pour la plupart, arrivaient dans leur pays "totalement démunis". La République démocratique du Congo avait fait part de "toute son indignation et de ses vives protestations". L'Angola, deuxième producteur de pétrole en Afrique subsaharienne, et l'un des principaux producteurs au monde de diamants. Le pays a été frappé de plein fouet par la chute des cours du brut en 2014. Le pétrole fournit 70% des revenus de l'Etat. En prenant les rênes du pays en 2017, Joao Lourenço avait promis un "miracle" économique, lequel tarde cependant à se concrétiser.

AU/AFRICA :

UN/AFRICA :

US/AFRICA :

U.S Africa Command and the Ghana Armed Forces host 2019 North and West Africa Directors of Military Intelligence Conference

Oct 04, 2019/africom.mil

United States Africa Command (USAFRICOM) and the Ghana Armed Forces co-hosted the 2019

North and West Africa Directors of Military Intelligence Conference at the Kofi Annan International Peace Keeping Training Center in Accra, from Sept. 18-19, 2019.

Directors of military intelligence attended the maiden conference, under the theme “Intelligent Support Operations,” from 17 African countries and delegations from four North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) partners and AFRICOM. It focused on the dynamic Violent Extremist Organization (VEO) threat, advancement of intelligence sharing and the regional partnership to combat regional threats to peace and security.

In his opening remarks, the Ghanaian Minister for Defence, Hon Dominic Nitiwul, drew the attention of participants to the current challenges with violent extremists as the continent is scourged by transnational and organized crimes, such as terrorism, political strife, civil wars, violent extremisms, cyber-crimes and farmer-herder conflicts. The minister expressed worry at the rate of poverty, limited economic opportunities, and the rise of environmental degradation and health pandemics because of the current challenges. He charged the leaders to make up for the shortfalls in intelligence gathering and sharing by reminding them that, stabilizing North and West Africa may halt the speed of violent extremism, and safeguard the territorial integrity of the Sub-region rests with them.

On her part, the U.S. Ambassador to Ghana, Stephanie S. Sullivan commended AFRICOM and the Ghana Armed Forces for convening the conference to discuss their shared interest of regional peace and security. She raised concerns about the increase of threats and attacks from growing networks of international VEOs that has plagued the North and West African Sub-region.

She encouraged participants to take keen interest in coming out with discourse that will help protect the entire region rather than their own countries. The ambassador advised that they must strengthen their law enforcement, border security, development, health, education, administration of justice, public outreach, and good governance and private sector growth to generate jobs.

On behalf of AFRICOM, the Director of intelligence, U.S. Navy Rear Adm. Heidi Berg reinforced the importance of improving intelligence support to a collective response to violent extremism.

“The foundation of intelligence sharing is trust, and the trust we build here is the trust we need in the field,” she said.

She highlighted this close collaboration between intelligence services ensures violent extremist groups cannot exploit seams between nations.

“Our persistent and collective engagement will prepare us for enduring success against shared adversaries, Berg said. Indeed, it is only through synchronized, joint approaches that we ensure regional peace and prosperity.”

Earlier, the Director General, Defence Intelligence of the Ghana Armed Forces, Brig. Gen. Peter Nicholas Andoh outlined intelligence as one of the main pillars for a successful combat strategy in the fight against terrorism and the activities of extremist groups. He drew the attention of the leaders to the fact that these groups have increased in number and organisation. He added that extremists groups collaborate and share information across national borders in a bid to outwit the security forces and implement their selfish desires on the populace.

Andoh said the expectation of the conference is to achieve a common understanding of the threat that confronts Africa and he challenged the participants to proffer intelligent assessments that can explore the real social interventions needed with the necessary mechanisms in order to bring lasting

peace to the sub-region.

CANADA/AFRICA :

### Africa Channel launches in Canada

October 3, 2019/cartt.ca

LOS ANGELES – The Africa Channel has come to Canada by launching on the subscription streaming platform Demand Africa.

The channel currently broadcasts into more than seven million homes in the U.S. and Caribbean, through some cable and satellite providers, with over 1,000 hours of English language lifestyle and entertainment programming from across Africa and the diaspora.

The channel does not appear to be available on major Canadian BDUs.

"We are thrilled to introduce our multi-cultural Canadian audiences to The Africa Channel's unique programming, much of which will be receiving its Canadian premiere on our platform," said Dean Cates, vice-president of digital strategy for Demand Africa, in a press release. "As a global OTT service provider, our goal is to make modern Africa's influence and culture more accessible throughout the world. In addition, audiences will also have the opportunity to access a vast library of curated programming from the continent on Demand Africa's subscription video-on-demand service."

"The growth in content consumption through the internet has allowed us to target African diaspora audiences and cultural enthusiasts worldwide who seek well curated Pan-African content which major networks and streaming services consider too niche and are often reluctant to carry," added Narendra Reddy, general manager of The Africa Channel.

"We are excited that this trend has also allowed us the opportunity to expand our reach for The Africa Channel which has been broadcast to US and Caribbean audiences for over fifteen years."

The Africa Channel is the first streaming channel to launch on Demand Africa's subscription service and joins a growing library of over 1,500 hours of Pan-African TV shows, series, soaps, movies and lifestyle entertainment.

Viewers have the option of either purchasing a standalone subscription to The Africa Channel for C\$2.70 per month or have it included with their monthly or annual subscription to Demand Africa, which is \$9.49/mo. or \$95/year.

AUSTRALIA/AFRICA :

EU/AFRICA :

EU launches negotiations to deepen trade relations with Eastern and Southern Africa countries  
europa.eu/2 October 2019

Brussels, 2 October 2019

Today, in Mauritius, the EU started negotiations with five Eastern and Southern Africa partners (so-called ESA: Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) to deepen the existing Economic Partnership Agreement. Given the positive results generated by the current agreement, now in its 8th year of implementation, the five countries have declared their readiness to move beyond trade in goods, towards a more comprehensive agreement. The EU has welcomed this step, especially in the context of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs.

Since the initial agreement started to apply in 2012, exports of goods from the five ESA countries to the EU have increased by almost a quarter, reaching nearly €2.8 billion in 2018. European businesses are also increasingly investing in the region. The new agreement should cover other important trade related areas and trade related rules, such as services, investment, technical barriers to trade, intellectual property rights as well as trade and sustainable development.

EU Trade Commissioner, Cecilia Malmström said: “The ESA region is a pioneer for the whole of Africa as regards our trade partnership. The deepening of the current agreement will move our partnership to another level. It will boost bilateral trade and investment flows and will contribute to the creation of jobs and further economic growth in our respective regions while promoting sustainable development. The EU is fully behind this important endeavour”.

The EU is the number one trading partner for the five ESA countries. In addition to improving the business and investment environment, a comprehensive free trade agreement would stimulate the economies of the five ESA countries, for instance by diversifying their exports to the EU. The process would also support the implementation of the Africa-Europe Alliance for Sustainable Investment and Jobs launched in September 2018. Moreover, it would promote both regional economic integration, for instance by developing regional value chains, and continental integration by furthering the ESA five countries' preparedness for implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) under the African Union. Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) are one of the building blocks towards the future AfCFTA.

At the request of the five ESA countries, the European Union has agreed to provide financial assistance for the setting up of an EPA Coordination Mechanism. Its aim is to ensure appropriate coordination and technical support to the five ESA countries so they can engage effectively in the negotiation process. The Coordination Mechanism has already contributed on the ESA side to the preparation of the scoping phase for the upcoming negotiations.

## Background

Economic and Partnership Agreements (EPAs) are trade and development cooperation agreements that provide duty-free quota-free access to the EU market based on favourable rules of origin for the partners countries. They support export diversification, competitiveness and promote creation of local value chains.

Since the current interim Economic Partnership Agreement (iEPA) with the Eastern and Southern Africa (ESA) states started applying in 2012, the exports by Madagascar to the EU have more than doubled. Seychelles have seen their exports increase by more than one third in the period 2012-2018. Exports by Zimbabwe to the EU have increased by 12% over the same period, while the country's exports to the rest of the world have decreased. For Mauritius, the European Union remains the main destination for its exports, with for instance fisheries products seeing export gains.

In 2017, the four ESA states (Mauritius, Madagascar, Seychelles and Zimbabwe) requested the EU to start discussing the possible extension of the iEPA beyond the currently covered market access for goods and development cooperation. The aim was to include new trade-related areas and rules as provided for in the rendezvous clause foreseen in Article 53 of the EPA (i.e. so-called "deepening" process). Both parties agreed on the scope and objectives of this deepening before launching negotiations. In February 2019, after ratifying the iEPA, Comoros started to apply it provisionally, also joining the other four ESA states in the deepening process.

CHINA/AFRICA :

INDIA/AFRICA :

BRAZIL/AFRICA :

EN BREF , CE 06 Octobre 2019... AGNEWS/DAM, NY, 06/10/2019