

# China, Africa seek more cooperation between local governments

Chinese and African officials emphasized the need for increased cooperation among local governments at the 5th Forum on China-Africa Local Government Cooperation held in south China's Guangzhou on Tuesday. Around 350 delegates attended the event, including political leaders, officials and organization heads from China and Africa. They agreed to enhance cooperation between local governments for shared governance experiences, joint responses to issues, and mutual benefits. Christian Ntsay, Prime Minister of Madagascar, said at the forum that strengthening local government cooperation is essential for sustainable development. This forum provides an opportunity for African countries to explore development opportunities by strengthening collaboration and friendship between the Chinese and African people, he added. Xinhua.

# China willing to promote modernization with Africa: vice premier

China is willing to provide new opportunities for Africa concerning its development and to join hands in promoting modernization, Chinese Vice Premier Liu Guozhong said on Tuesday in Guangzhou, capital city of south China's Guangdong Province. Liu, also a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks when addressing the opening ceremony of the 5th Forum on China-Africa Local Government Cooperation. Liu said China and Africa have worked together to deepen and consolidate relations and the two sides have entered a new stage of jointly building a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future in the new era. Noting that the world today is intertwined and chaotic, with changes unseen in a century accelerating, Liu said China and Africa need to strengthen solidarity and cooperation more than ever. Liu said the local governments of China and Africa should treat each other as equals for mutual benefit and win-win results, and expand the dimensions of opening-up and cooperation. The State Council The People Republic of China.

#### China's solar power prowess can truly shine in energy-starved Africa

The US market may be closed to it but China can shape development in Africa – as a developer and operator of solar energy projects. Compared to electric vehicles (EVs), China's production overcapacity in solar panels may be more glaring. The country commands 80 per cent of the solar photovoltaic (PV) value chain and its five-fold expansion in module manufacturing capacity during 2022 and 2023 precipitated a 40 per cent price decline last year. Long before the US moved to lock out Chinese EVs, it had imposed heavy tariffs on Chinese solar panels – in 2012. But the industry's supply-demand balance must be understood in the context of its sustained high growth. South China Morning Post.

## Chinese products at Tanzania's trade fair create new business opportunities

Mussa Kaisi, a cashew nut farmer from Tanzania's Mtwara region, could not take his eyes off a 50-horsepower tractor displayed by Bada (Shandong) Agricultural Machinery Company Ltd. at the 48th Dar es Salaam

International Trade Fair (DITF). "I bought this type of tractor from this company in March this year, and it is helping me in my cashew nut farming," said Kaisi, who owns 125 hectares of cashew nut trees. Using the tractor, he expects to boost his cashew nut production from 20 tonnes to more than 35 tonnes in the next harvesting season, starting in September 2024. "Products displayed by Chinese companies are helping Tanzanian entrepreneurs improve production in various sectors, including agriculture and manufacturing," he added. Many other Tanzanians visiting the DITF, like Kaisi, were also attracted to various Chinese products on display at the Chinese pavilion. The trade fair, running from June 28 to July 13, hosted more than 4,000 exhibitors from 26 countries, including over 200 Chinese companies. Xinhua.

# <u>Vice Foreign Minister Chen Xiaodong Meets with Kenyan Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Abraham Korir SingOei</u>

On July 8, 2024, Vice Foreign Minister Chen Xiaodong met with a delegation led by Kenyan Principal Secretary of Foreign Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Abraham Korir SingOei, who was paying a visit to China. Chen Xiaodong said that Kenya is China's comprehensive strategic cooperative partner in Africa, and the Chinese side has always viewed China-Kenya relations from a strategic and long-term perspective. The Chinese side is willing to work with the Kenyan side to take the important common understandings reached by the two heads of state as a guide and the new session of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation as an opportunity to enhance exchanges and cooperation in various fields, and push for greater development of China-Kenya comprehensive strategic cooperative partnership. Abraham Korir SingOei thanked China for its long-term support for the economic and social development of Kenya, and expressed willingness to deepen cooperation with China within such frameworks as the Belt and Road Cooperation and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, so as to better benefit the people of both countries. Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the People's Republic of China.

### Chinese firm helps transform Kenya's construction sector through precast technology

About 30 km southeast of Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, China Wu Yi (Kenya) Precast Company Limited has built an expansive factory for new building technologies, causing ripples in the local construction sector. The company in 2016 established the Kenya Building Industrialization Research Development and Production Base alongside the building materials supermarket project called "Wu Yi Base" in the industrial town of Athi River. The Wu Yi Base is an architectural marvel nestled between serene plains and farmland. For the past several years, the factory has been churning out precast materials, including concrete slabs, steel beams, and columns, for assembly into a modern house. Inside the sprawling complex that houses the production base, a supermarket for building materials, and living quarters, local youth like Brian Calisto Kariuki have secured gainful employment, a platform to gain insight into precast building technology. Xinhua.

#### South Sudan's president inaugurates Chinese-built central bank headquarters

South Sudan's President Salva Kiir on Monday inaugurated the new headquarters of the Bank of South Sudan built by a Chinese firm as part of the country's Independence Day celebration on July 9. The 12-storey building, constructed by China's Shandong Hi-Speed Group Co (SDHS), is an iconic gift to the people of South Sudan, Kiir said. Kiir also urged officials and citizens to focus on improving economic growth and promoting peace and social harmony in the country. Also attending the ceremony was Ma Qiang, Chinese ambassador to South Sudan.

"As a good friend and good partner, China affirms its support to the South Sudanese government and people to actively explore the development path that suits their national conditions," said Ma. China is willing to continue to provide necessary assistance to the peace process and economic and social development of South Sudan within its capacity, he added. Xinhua.

### Chinese concert captivates Moroccan audience in Rabat

A concert themed the Silk Road was held in the Moroccan capital Rabat on Monday, drawing nearly 400 spectators entranced by performances from Chinese artists. At the concert, the Silk Road Band from Hainan Sanya Silk Road Show Company performed traditional Chinese folk music "Xiyangyang" and "Bubugao," Sheng solo "Yimeng Mountain Song," Erhu solo "Horse Racing" and Dunhuang dance. The artists also played Moroccan folk songs, eliciting continuous applause from the audience. Li Changlin, Chinese ambassador to Morocco, said in his speech that both China and Morocco are committed to promoting cultural diversity and dialogue among civilizations, and the interaction of the two countries' long history and unique culture will spark inspiration. Rachid M'Stfa, director of the Cooperation Department of the Moroccan Ministry of Youth, Culture and Communication, said he hopes more Chinese art groups will come to Morocco to further deepen the cultural cooperation between the two countries. Xinhua.

## Chinese EV battery firms bet big on Morocco for access to lucrative U.S. EV incentives

It positions Morocco as a bridge between the US, Europe, and China in the EV supply chain. Amid new restrictions by the US government, Chinese electric vehicle (EV) battery manufacturers are strategically expanding their footprint into an unlikely location – Morocco, triggering an unexpected twist in the global supply chain. As an effort to fight climate change, the US signed the Inflation Reduction Act, a \$430 billion US climate change bill, that includes significant subsidies for electric vehicles. However, one of the criteria for US EV carmakers to qualify, is that they cannot source critical battery components from companies with ties to certain blacklisted countries, including China. This has sent Chinese battery giants scrambling for a workaround. Enter Morocco. Boasting a well-developed car manufacturing sector, proximity to key markets, and a signatory to U.S. free trade agreements, the North African country has become an attractive destination for Chinese investments in EV components. Techloy.

## China-Zimbabwe ties strengthen with infrastructure projects, investments

The decades-long relationship between Zimbabwe and China will continue to evolve alongside the southern African country's economic development trajectory, a senior official has said. China has committed to Zimbabwe's development as the latter seeks to attain upper-middle-income economy status by 2030, said Monica Mutsvangwa, minister of women's affairs, community, small and medium enterprises' development, on the sidelines of the first Harare Forum for Africa and Academic Week, which concluded in the Zimbabwean capital Monday. "We can see from that time it has continued to grow, with a lot more initiatives, whether in agriculture. We have seen China coming on board, assisting Zimbabwe with vaccinations for COVID-19. Zimbabwe managed to contain COVID-19 because of the vaccinations we received from China," Mutsvangwa said. Xinhua.

China and Zimbabwe strengthen cultural exchanges to involve women in the economy

Through the Harare Forum for Africa and Academic Week, Zimbabwe is eager to deepen its bilateral cooperation with China, according to Monica Mutsvangwa, the country's Minister of Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services. This is reported by The Herald. The forum's theme is "Mutual learning between Chinese and Zimbabwean civilisations and rural development cooperation". According to Minister Monica Mutsvangwa, Zimbabwe and China have a rare chance to create new, mutually beneficial relationships that will further bilateral cooperation, cross-cultural learning, and the revival of the rural economy. "With the mutual interchange of ideas and their modification and adoption being key to sustainable growth, it is expected that this forum works as a catalyst for positive interaction and cooperation for both countries," stated Minister Monica Mutsvangwa. TV Brics.

# Chinese medical team provides medical services for locals in Bissau

The 20th batch of Chinese medical team to Guinea-Bissau has been providing medical services for locals since May this year. China has sent about 400 medical workers to Guinea-Bissau since 1976, treating more than 200,000 patients and performing about 8,000 surgeries. (Xinhua/Han Xu) Xinhua.

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