

## Congo's \$7 Billion Deal With China Linked to Copper Price Under New Contract

Congo expects \$324 million annually if copper is above \$8,000. Chinese infrastructure financing stops at \$5,200 copper. A revamped minerals-for-infrastructure deal between the Democratic Republic of Congo and China that will send billions of dollars in financing to the Central African nation is contingent on the price of copper, according to a newly published contract. Congo signed an updated agreement in March to its 2008 deal to trade copper and cobalt from a joint mining venture known as Sicomines for development funding. Under the new contract published on May 3, Congo will get \$324 million annually for infrastructure projects from its Chinese partners through 2040 as long as the copper price remains above \$8,000 per ton. Copper traded at \$9,910 a ton Friday, according to data compiled by Bloomberg. The price has averaged \$8,500 over the past 12 months and \$7,937 over the past five years. The lowest price during that period was \$4,630 in March 2020 at the beginning of the Covid-19 pandemic. Bloomberg.

# French Journalist Surprised to Hear Congo President Says He Prefers Dealing With Russia and China Over the West

French journalist Darius Rochebin seemed genuinely surprised when Democratic Republic of the Congo President Félix Tshisekedi stated in a recent interview that he and other African leaders prefer to work with Russia and China over Western democracies. Rochebin, one of francophone Europe's most well-known reporters, interviewed Tshisekedi for the French news channel LCI during the president's recent trip to Paris. The China Global South Project.

### 27th Chinese peacekeeping troops to MONUSCO return home

A total of 218 members of the 27th Chinese peacekeeping troops to United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) arrived in Chengdu City, southwest China's Sichuan Province, on May 4, after completing the 8-month-long peacekeeping mission. It is learnt that the 27th Chinese peacekeeping troops to MONUSCO were mainly responsible for engineering and medical support tasks in the mission area. Since being deployed to the mission area in September 2023, its engineering company had completed 13 engineering investigations, 16 engineering tasks, and two rescue tasks with high standards. The troops' medical company had received nearly 500 patients in total and successfully carried out 41 surgeries and more than 620 examinations. All members of the 27th Chinese peacekeeping troops to MONUSCO were awarded the UN Peace Medal on April 9, 2024. China Military Online.

### China hands over new Clement Mboro Bridge in Wau to South Sudan

The Government of the People's Republic of China, through its embassy in Juba, on Monday handed over the newly constructed Clement Mboro Bridge to the Government of South Sudan. In March 2021, China Tianyuan Construction Group Company Limited, together with China Aid for Shared Future, started the construction of

the Clement Mboro Bridge that was recently completed but the handover was done in Juba instead of Wau where the bridge is located. Speaking during the handover ceremony at the Chinese Embassy in Juba, Ma Qiang, the Ambassador to China to South Sudan, said the handover of the bridge brings a new opportunity for the development of Western Bahr el Ghazal State and South Sudan "After more than three years of construction and overcoming the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic, the project was completed as scheduled with great efforts from both sides," he said. "The project is not only the crystallization of the common wisdom and sweat of the people of both sides, but also another new milestone in the friendship between China and South Sudan." Radio Tamazuj.

#### China Commits \$49 Million for Burkina Faso's Donsin Airport Solar Power Plant

Burkina Faso's transitional parliament approved a \$49 million loan from the Export-Import Bank of China (CHEXIM) that will help one of the world's least electrified countries marginally increase its electricity generation. The country's government officials and CHEXIM signed the concessional loan agreement in September 2023 to construct the 25 MWp solar power plant at Donsin airport in Loumbila, some 23 kilometers north-east of Ouagadougou, the country's capital. Burkina Faso's Transitional Legislative Assembly (ALT), which is made up of 71 deputies, has to validate such agreements. The solar power plant, equipped with a battery electricity storage system, will be built in 15 months. After that, it is expected to stabilize energy security at the airport while increasing the country's generation capacity. The China Global South Project.

### Chinese Nationals Kidnapped in the Central African Republic

According to independent local sources, an undisclosed number of Chinese nationals working at a mining site in Gofo, Basse-Kotto prefecture, in the Central African Republic have been kidnapped. Reports claim three vehicles belonging to the Chinese nationals were also taken during the incident. The mining site lies nearly 400 miles east of the capital of Bangui, which remains the Central African government's only stronghold. The rest of the country is largely controlled by different rebel factions including the anti-Balaka, Seleka, Chadian Rebels, Misseria Arabs, and the Azande AKG. The current whereabouts of the taken Chinese mine workers is currently unknown, nor is it known why they were kidnapped. local publication Corbeau News Centrafrique, has alluded to Wagner forces being behind the kidnapping. However, as seen in previous attacks on Chinese nationals by the private military group, hostage taking does not fall into the group's usual modus operandi. Atlas News.

#### China, Djibouti and the Tory MP

The African nation detained and deported a British critic of Beijing. The long arm of Chinese political intimidation is getting longer as its global influence spreads. Consider the case of a British lawmaker who sought to visit the African country of Djibouti, which is a long way from Beijing. Tory Member of Parliament Tim Loughton says his "highly intimidating and very lonely experience" began after he presented his passport at the immigration desk after landing in Djibouti last month. A guard locked him in a room "without any explanation, no provisions," and "crucially, no Wi-Fi connection." Hours later, immigration officials informed him "that I would not be allowed to enter the country and that I would be put on the next plane out" without providing an explanation. WSJ.

#### Malawi launches soybean exports to China

Malawi's soya industry has made a breakthrough into the Chinese market as the southern African country seeks to increase agricultural exports to boost the economy. Malawi's soya industry has made a breakthrough into the Chinese market as the southern African country seeks to increase agricultural exports to boost the economy. Malawi Investment and Trade Center Chief Executive Officer Paul Kwengwere confirmed to local media Friday that a 240-metric-ton trial consignment by Paramount Holdings Limited, a local company, was exported to China. This was a culmination of efforts by various stakeholders, including government agencies, private enterprises, and Chinese representatives, he said. Xinhua.

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