

## **China's Military Intervention in Africa**

Africa has become a critical arena for China's military and security strategy beyond its border. The establishment of the PLA overseas base in Djibouti and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) which includes 53 African countries, and is one of the first multilateral forums outside China's periphery. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) has a notable presence on the African continent with deployments in Djibouti, approximately 2000 Chinese troops on-duty across five African nations covering 17 United Nations peacekeeping missions and for counter piracy operations. There is speculation that the PLA is considering establishing additional military bases in Africa, potentially in Equatorial Guinea, Angola, and Namibia on the Atlantic coast. Modern Diplomacy.

### Insights From Mjadala Afrika On China's Role In Africa

The recently held Mjadala Afrika debate in Addis Ababa offered an inspiring glimpse into the future of African Union (AU) leadership. Candidates vying for the African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson position outlined ambitious visions to address the continent's opportunities and challenges. Among the key themes discussed were Africa's growing relationship with China and the importance of adopting innovative benchmarking practices and cooperation strategies for sustainable progress. China's transformative role in Africa's development was a prominent focus during the debate. As one of the continent's most engaged economic partners, China has played a significant role in funding critical infrastructure projects, ranging from expansive rail networks to cutting-edge energy plants. Capital Digital Media.

## <u>Trump Expected to Renew Focus on China in Africa But Experts Say It Will Tougher Today</u> Than It Was the First Time

The foreign policy and national security teams that U.S. President-elect Donald Trump has nominated are far more hawkish towards China than his previous administration was, prompting speculation by leading experts that Washington's approach to Africa will focus primarily on countering Beijing's influence on the continent. But in a series of analyses published over the past several days, prominent scholars from Africa and Asia caution that the international geopolitical environment is a lot different today than it was when Trump was last in office and that it's going to be a lot more difficult for the U.S. to challenge China in Africa: China Global South Project.

### Next stop, Nigeria: China cement giant Huaxin's African expansion spree

For about four years, China's Huaxin Cement has been acquiring or building manufacturing operations in six African countries – part of an overseas expansion spree to hedge against shrinking profit margins at home. The next stop is Nigeria, Africa's most populous nation, where Huaxin is set to buy an 84 per cent stake in Swiss building materials maker Holcim's shares in Lafarge Africa, in a deal worth US\$1 billion. Lafarge Africa operates four cement plants in Nigeria, with a combined capacity of 10.35 million tonnes per year. South China Morning Post.

## <u>Facing Stiff Local Competition, Cement Maker, Holcim, Exits Nigeria, Sells Lafarge to Chinese</u> Firm for \$1bn

After roughly 65 years of operations in Nigeria, Swiss cement and other building materials' maker, Holcim, yesterday announced that it was set to leave the country. The company said in a brief statement that it will exit its Nigerian business through the sale of its almost 84 per cent stake in Lafarge Africa to China's Huaxin Cement in a deal valued at \$1 billion. Nigeria has in recent years developed huge local capacity in the manufacturing of cement, led by the Dangote Group and BUA Cement among others becoming market leaders in the business segment. This Day Live.

## Chinese New Hope is looking into expanding feed business in Egypt

The Chinese firm has already invested \$70 million in the construction of 5 feed mills in Egypt in the governorates of Menoufia, Beni Suef, and Beheira in the cities of Hosh Issa and Wadi El Natrun, and the city of Gamasa in Dakahlia, Liu Chang, New Hope chairwoman, was quoted in the government statement as saying. New Hope nameplate production capacity in the country is estimated at 650,000 tonnes of feed per year, equal to 10% of the country's installed capacity. With the new investments, the company seeks to achieve a strategic goal of pushing its performance in the country beyond 1 million tonnes per year. All About Feed.

# Q&A: Copper, Not Cobalt is the Main Focus for Chinese Mining Giant CMOC in the DR Congo

As global competition for access to critical raw materials intensifies, major mining companies are increasingly central to the debate over supply chains. The prolonged slump in prices for nickel, cobalt, and lithium has drawn scrutiny from Western policymakers and corporate leaders, who have criticized China and its companies for their significant influence in these markets. China Molybdenum (CMOC), the world's largest cobalt producer, operating in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), has been accused by U.S. officials of overproducing cobalt to intentionally suppress prices and discourage new competitors from entering the market. China Global South Project.

## DR Congo president cuts ribbon on China-aided cultural center

Felix Tshisekedi, president of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), late Saturday inaugurated the China-aided Central African Cultural and Arts Center of Kinshasa, the DRC's capital. "This DRC-China cooperation project reflects the wisdom of the two peoples," said the DRC President during a site visit after the inauguration ceremony. "The center is expected to fully unleash the potential of the DRC's cultural industry while transforming the DRC into a hub of creativity." Faustin Elombe, minister of culture, said the completion of this project will "usher in a new era of cultural innovation in the DRC" and strengthen cultural exchanges and connections among African countries. People's Daily Online.

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