

# China-Africa Cooperation: Beijing's vision raises free expression concerns

Meeting every three years since 2000, the FOCAC functions as a multilateral platform between China, the African Union, and 53 African countries. Eswatini, the only African state that maintains diplomatic relations with Taiwan, at odds with the People's Republic of China's (PRC) One-China principle, does not participate. This year, 51 African heads of state and government as well as the Chairperson of the African Union were among those attending, along with the United Nations Secretary General, António Guterres, who addressed the opening ceremony. Signalling the importance China is placing on expanding its influence in Africa, the 2024 summit is the largest diplomatic event the country has hosted in recent years, as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs was clear to point out during a briefing ahead of the Forum. Article 19.

### In the fast lane: Chinese car imports grow in South Africa

In South Africa's capital of Johannesburg, some of the most ubiquitous vehicles on the streets are the thousands of minibus taxis crammed tight with daily commuters traveling from the dusty townships into work. At the other end of the spectrum are souped-up sports cars and flashy convertibles zooming around the leafy suburbs that are home to the elite. Increasingly, however, there's another kind of vehicle cruising Johannesburg's streets: new gas-powered SUVs with names like Chery, BAIC and Haval — all Chinese cars that industry experts say are giving more established brands a run for their money and gaining popularity with South Africans. Potential car buyer Ross Grey was considering a large pick-up truck made by Chinese manufacturer JAC Motors. Voice of America.

#### World leaders extend congratulations on PRC's 75th founding anniversary

Leaders of France, South Africa, Pakistan and other countries have recently sent messages or letters of congratulation to Chinese President Xi Jinping, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, on the 75th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China (PRC). French President Emmanuel Macron said that 2024 marks both the 75th anniversary of the founding of the PRC and the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between France and China, with Xi's state visit to France in May one of the highlights. Macron said France is willing to maintain the positive momentum for the development of bilateral ties, promote Europe-China dialogue, seek common interests, advance world peace, and jointly address major challenges of our time, such as climate change. Global Times.

#### China's Role in the DR Congo Cobalt Supply Chain: Who's Who?

Supply chains for critical minerals like copper and cobalt have emerged as one of the most geopolitically fraught areas in global trade. The tension is driven by the overlap of a rapidly encroaching climate crisis and growing geopolitical tensions between global producers of key technologies like energy storage systems and electric vehicles that depend on these critical minerals. As a result, global powers like the United States, China, and Japan are racing to secure access to mineral resources in countries like the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

However, global conversations about the equitable use of these resources have been hampered by a lack of on-the-ground data about their extraction, the stakeholders involved and how this involvement extends to the logistics corridors crucial to exporting the resulting. China Global South Project.

## Details of Kenya's New Chinese Loan Emerge

Kenya will use a new loan from China to advance work on 16 different road projects, said a senior Treasury official. Kenya signed a new \$279 million loan agreement with China Development Bank on the sidelines of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation in September. John Mbadi, the Cabinet Secretary for the National Treasury, told reporters that the loan is concessional, in contrast to the high interest rates the country is being charged for Eurobond lending. China Global South Project.

### Uganda's exports to China will boost foreign exchange earnings: minister

Two protocols signed between Uganda and China last month that allow the East African country to export dried chilies and wild aquatic products will contribute to the country's foreign exchange earnings, a senior official said Tuesday. Minister of Agriculture Frank Tumwebaze told reporters Tuesday that the two protocols were signed during the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) Summit held in Beijing last month. According to the minister, one of the protocols addressed "the inspection, quarantine and sanitary requirements for wild aquatic products, including Nile perch fillets, headless and gutted Nile perch, fish maw, fish skins, fish scales, and silverfish products to be exported from Uganda to China." "The (second) protocol formalizes an agreement on the export of dried chilies, opening the door to one of the world's largest chili consumer markets," Tumwebaze said. People's Daily Online.

#### Hong Kong China vs Madagascar WXV3 2024 Preview

This will be the first-ever test between HKCR and Madagascar (and the first African team that Hong Kong China faces in their test history), and both sides lost their open fixtures in WXV3 2024, with HKCR falling to Fiji 3-38, but the African side, who were playing their first ever test outside of Africa, were well beaten by Spain 0-83. The Madagascar team qualified for WXV3 after reaching the final of the Rugby Africa Women's Cup 2024, and surprisingly beat Kenya but lost to South Africa in the final. In their only preparation test before arriving in Dubai, the Lady Makis (the Madagascar women's team nickname) were well beaten by a better Kenyan team 19-63. Rugby Asia 247.

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