

China: Experts discuss paths to bring peace and stability in Africa

Titled as "Humanitarian-Development-Peace: Joint Action towards a Better Future in Africa", the event brought together around 50 experts from the Chinese authorities, African embassies, think tanks, academia, development banks and humanitarian organizations. Building on the momentum of the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), the roundtable seeks to foster in-depth discussions on the pressing security and humanitarian challenges in Africa and to generate broader reflections on how humanitarian and development actors could collaborate more effectively to contribute to peace and stability in the continent. ICRC.

D.R. Congo's mining capital is at the heart of Biden's bid to counter China in Africa

Little about Kolwezi, a small city in southern Democratic Republic of Congo, hints at its global importance. Nondescript and ringed by slag heaps, pits and quarry lakes, the city is home to some of the largest copper and cobalt mines in the world. Now, Kolwezi is at the center of U.S.-Chinese competition over critical minerals. Earlier this year, mining firms began shipping ore along a U.S.-backed railway that terminates in Angola's Atlantic port of Lobito. A massive infrastructure project is focused on this rail line -- which is viewed as a bid to counter China's stranglehold over critical minerals in central Africa. NPR.

Biden Announces \$1 Billion for Africa During Maiden Trip

U.S. President Joe Biden on Tuesday announced more than \$1 billion in humanitarian assistance to Africa during a visit to Angola, where the United States is showcasing a major infrastructure project aimed at countering China's investments on the continent. China Global South Project.

Biden in Angola's Lobito with a railway plan to counter China influence in Africa

The United States has provided a \$550 million loan to support the Lobito venture, which involves refurbishing an existing railway through Angola and extending it into Congo's mining heartland as part of the first phase. No date has been given for its completion yet, while a second phase that would link Lobito to Zambia via a new railway line is still at the preparation stage, with an aim to break ground in 2026 according to Washington. The presidents of Angola, Congo and Zambia and the vice president of Tanzania joined Biden for a summit in Lobito on the last day of his first and only trip to Africa as president. First Post.

M-Pesa Africa, Thunes to enable payments in China

M-Pesa Africa, the mobile money joint venture between Safaricom and Vodacom Group, has partnered with global payment provider Thunes to facilitate payments for mobile money users traveling to China. The initiative will allow customers in Kenya and Tanzania to use their M-Pesa wallets to make payments at Chinese merchants through the M-Pesa Super App. In a post on X, M-Pesa Africa announced that Safaricom customers in Kenya and Vodacom customers in Tanzania will soon be able to scan to pay at Chinese merchants without needing to convert currency. Connecting Africa.

China builds, upgrades about 100,000 km of roads across Africa

China has built and upgraded nearly 100,000 kilometers of roads across Africa as part of the Belt and Road Initiative, aiming to boost trade and industrial and infrastructure development on the continent. In Uganda, the \$217.9-million Masindi-Park Junction and Tangi Junction-Paraa-Buliisa road project is a vital link connecting communities. Most of the road winds through the vast Murchison Falls National Park, reducing travel time and improving travel experience. CGTN.

Kindiki bids farewell to Chinese ambassador Zhou Pingjian

Deputy President Kithure Kindiki has bid farewell to China Ambassador Zhou Pingjian following the end of the latter's four-year tenure in Kenya. During the meeting held at the DP's official residence in Karen, Kindiki said Kenya remains on top of China's diplomatic engagement with Africa. "As Ambassador Pingjian leaves Nairobi following the end of his tour of duty, Kenya looks for more ways of cooperating with China for the prosperity of the people of both countries," he said. The DP noted that during the last 61 years of close ties, the people-to-people and government-to-government friendship have grown in "leaps and bounds". The Star.

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