

#### China-Africa policy termed emancipatory

As China and Africa embark on the implementation of the outcomes of the 2024 Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, a new report by the Africa Policy Institute in Kenya described the China-Africa policy as nuanced, long-term and, ultimately, emancipatory, as evidenced by the Beijing summit outcomes. This contradicts some Western countries' framing of the outcomes within the narrow context of a rising China in global geopolitics. The West cast China's development package to Africa — and more broadly, China's policy toward the continent — as part of Beijing's global strategy to "create dependencies and interdependencies" that make developing countries and regions beholden to it, according to the report. China Daily.

# Africa-China cooperation key to addressing current challenges, says former South African diplomat

Africa-China cooperation is critical to tackling the pressing challenges facing the world today, former South African diplomat Gert Grobler has said. "We are currently living in an increasingly unstable and complex world," Grobler said in a recent interview with Xinhua as the African Union convened its 38th Summit in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia. "What we need and what is happening, given the growing relationship between Africa and China, is the need to build cooperation, not only Africa-China, but also in the Global South." Xinhua.

#### Chinese heavy machinery maker opens E.Africa hub in Syokimau

The new facility will serve as the headquarters for LiuGong Machinery East Africa Limited, a subsidiary of the LiuGong Group based in China. The company manufactures machinery, including excavators, dozers, motor graders, air compressors, forklifts, cranes, concrete mixers, and road rollers. The company aims to serve the eight-member states of the East African Community (EAC), which collectively boast a GDP of \$295 billion and a rapidly growing population of 350 million. Speaking at the unveiling event, LiuGong Group CEO Guangan Zeng noted that the Hub was not for business purposes only but also to support technology in the country. Capital Digital Media.

# China-Africa Energy Investment and Cooperation to be Showcased at Investor Forum in Shanghai

The African Energy Chamber (AEC) – serving as the voice of the African energy sector – will host the Invest in African Energies investor forum in Shanghai on March 13, 2025. The forum will focus on building stronger China-Africa relations, while opening new avenues for Chinese producers, investors and equipment suppliers to expand their footprint across the continent. Taking place at the Westin Bund Center in Shanghai, the investor forum builds on a series of impactful investor forums hosted globally. The forum will highlight emerging investment opportunities in Africa, while highlighting the role Chinese firms can play in driving projects forward. African Energy Chamber.

# China-Nigeria Trade Milestone: First Direct Cargo Ship Docks in Nigeria

The MV Great Cotonou, operated by the Grimaldi Group, has become the first direct vessel to sail from Shanghai to Lagos, cutting transit time to just 27 days by eliminating transshipment stops. With a capacity of 4,700 linear meters for rolling freight and 2,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU), it consolidates multiple cargo types—containerized goods, vehicles, and project cargo—on a single voyage. This efficiency reduces handling costs and benefits Nigerian importers by streamlining supply chains. Terminal operator PTML lauds the service as a significant leap in maritime logistics, predicting new growth opportunities for both local businesses and the community. The arrival follows other successes, such as APM Terminals' historic handling of the EA Centaurus – the largest container vessel ever docked at the Lagos Port Complex. Overall, the MV Great Cotonou's direct route signals a transformative shift in Nigeria's trade relations, fostering quicker, more cost-effective operations. Africa.com.

#### In Ethiopia's \$2bn cement market, Dangote faces Chinese competition

Dangote Cement aims to double its production at its Mugher cement plant in Ethiopia to stay ahead of newly arrived Chinese firms, including West China Cement. The founder and CEO of Dangote Industries, Nigeria's Aliko Dangote, says his company will build a second production line at its Mugher cement plant in Ethiopia, with a capacity of 2.5 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) and a 3mtpa greenfield grinding unit. The Africa Report.

# BRICS partnership opens up 'greater horizons' for Egypt

Egypt's membership in BRICS has opened up "greater horizons", expanding opportunities to benefit from China's "inspiring" experience in high-quality development and modernisation, Egyptian Finance Minister Ahmed Kouchouk has said. "We are very happy with our accession to BRICS and with the cooperation in all areas of joint work, including the economic or political tracks," Kouchouk told Xinhua in a recent interview. Egypt officially joined BRICS in early 2024, a significant step in enhancing its global economic position. He emphasised BRICS' importance as a forum for emerging economies to discuss priorities and policies and coordinate efforts to exchange expertise to enhance trade, economic and investment relations. Borneo Bulletin Online.

# South Africa Seeks US Response on Aid Cut as China Pledges Support

South Africa's foreign minister Ronald Lamola said on Monday the US has not responded to attempts to discuss President Donald Trump's executive order cutting off \$440 million in aid over land reform policies and the Gaza genocide case. The recently signed Expropriation Act allows land redistribution to address apartheid-era inequities. Black South Africans own 4% of private land despite making up 81% of the population. South African-born billionaire Elon Musk has accused the government of having "openly racist ownership laws," joining Trump's criticism. AgriSA, the country's main farming organization, called claims of land seizures "disinformation," saying no expropriations have occurred under the law. The Deep Dive.

# Chinese Ambassador to Zimbabwe Zhou Ding Meets with the First Lady of Zimbabwe

On 11 February, Chinese Ambassador to Zimbabwe Zhou Ding met with the First Lady of Zimbabwe Auxillia Mnangagwa. The two sides exchanged views on strengthening cooperation to improve people's livelihood in Zimbabwe . Ambassador Zhou expressed gratitude to the First Lady for her staunch support for the development of China-Zimbabwe relations, and commended her dedication to the cause of

women, children and charity, and her contribution to the improvement of people's livelihood through the Angel of Hope Foundation. Forum on China-Africa Cooperation.

# Ministry of Home Affairs clarifies details of Namibia-China visa exemption

THE Ministry of Home Affairs, Immigration, Safety and Security has emphasised that the mutual visa exemption agreement between Namibia and China applies exclusively to holders of diplomatic and official/service passports. "This exemption is bilateral, meaning it applies equally to both Namibia and China, and only extends to nationals holding these specific types of passports," the Ministry's executive director, Etienne Maritz, said. He highlighted that Namibia has previously entered into similar visa exemption agreements with several other countries, all of which adhere to the same principles as the Namibia-China agreement. He further pointed out that, like the current arrangement, these agreements apply only to holders of diplomatic and official/service passports. Informante.

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