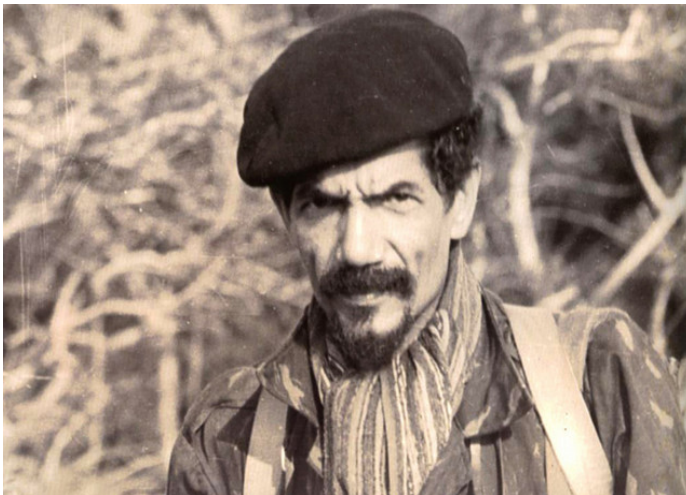


POLITIC

ANGOLAN POLITICIANS AND DIPLOMATS REGRET THE DEATH OF LÚCIO LARA



The nationalist Lucio Rodrigo Leite Barreto de Lara

Roberto de Almeida, vice president of the ruling party, MPLA, declared:

“Lúcio Lara was an icon of the national liberation struggle for independence and self-determination of the Angolan people. Roberto de Almeida highlighted that Lúcio Lara was a reference of humility and modesty, not only for his way being, but also for his commitment to the cause of the people, love of the country and the values he pursued in his life with undoubted verticality and determination”.

The Angolan Ambassadors to Italy, France, Germany, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Mozambique and China stressed on Tuesday March 2, the figure of the nationalist Lúcio Lara, who died on February 27, due to illness.

In a note of condolence addressed to Angop, the Embassy of Angola in Italy reports that the nationalist was great freedom fighter of the Angolan people and one of the biggest leaders of the MPLA, along with the first President of Angola, Agostinho Neto.

On its turn, the Embassy of Angola in the DRC notes that the politician, along with other nationalists, dedicated his life fighting against Portuguese colonialism to self-determination of the Angolan people.

The Diplomatic Mission in China describes Lúcio Lara as singular, a revolutionary convinced figure, a man of action, an intellectual and tireless fighter, while the Embassy of Angola in Mozambique and Germany underline the contribution of Lúcio Lara to the fight for the national liberation.

The diplomats and employees of the Embassy of Angola in the United States of America in Washington, DC, Consulates General of Angola in New York, Houston, Los Angeles, Commercial Representation and Defence Chancellery recognize the commitment and dedication of nationalist Lúcio Lara, from the beginning of the liberation struggle for the independence of Angola. In a note sent to the Politburo of the MPLA Central Committee, present the most heartfelt condolences to the mourning family. "It was with deep pain and consternation that we learnt of the death of the Angolan nationalist, Lúcio Lara, on Saturday, February 27, 2016, in Luanda, due to illness", reads the document signed by the ambassador Agostinho Tavares .

Lucio Rodrigo Leite Barreto de Lara, also known as Tchiveka, married, was the son of Lúcio Barreto Lara Gouveia and Clementina Lara Leite, he was born on April 9, 1929, in Caála municipality in central Huambo Province.

IMF/FINANCE

ANGOLA OUT OF MONEY LAUNDERING MONITORING PROCESS

FEBRUARY 23RD, 2016



ARMANDO MANUEL - MINISTER OF FINANCE

The National Bank of Angola (BNA) is no subject to the inspection process for money laundering and financing of terrorism (AML/CFT), according to a recent report by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), the bank said.

The information is contained in the report recently released by the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering.

According to a BNA press release, the decision was taken following measures taken by the government, which implemented a wide ranging governance program and of compliance with internal and external regulations, to ensure that the Angolan financial system is aligned to international and regional requirements.

The Angolan central bank also said a FATF mission had visited Angola in January 2016 to monitor the process of implementation of reforms and actions to improve the areas identified in 2010 and identified key points where the BNA has made significant progress.

These key points include the creation of an appropriate legal framework, introduction of automated surveillance procedures of customers and approval of legislation, which provides for international cooperation in criminal matters, including the fight against money laundering and financing of terrorism.

ECONOMY

ANGOLA ADOPTS MEASURES TO MINIMISE DROP IN OIL PRICES

FEBRUARY 15TH, 2016



ABRÃO GOURGEL, MINISTER OF ECONOMY

The government of Angola will adopt a set of measures on taxation, monetary policy, foreign trade and the productive sector of the economy to respond to the crisis resulting from the sharp drop in oil prices, state newspaper *Jornal de Angola* reported.

The newspaper noted that the price per barrel of oil currently stood at between US\$27 and US\$30 and because the State Budget for 2016 was prepared on the basis of a price per barrel of US\$45 it is urgent to adopt measures to replace oil as the main source of revenues, control the expansion of the deficit and debt and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of private investment.

The measures are contained in a memorandum that was presented at the joint meeting of the Economic Commissions and Real Economy of the Council of Ministers.

The document, which must still be approved by a Council of Ministers meeting, includes a series of measures to be taken to increase domestic production, promote the export of goods and services in the short term, increase non-oil tax revenue, optimize public expenditure and streamline the import of goods and services.

ECONOMY

US EXIM BANK IN ANGOLA TO PROMOTE US PRODUCTS



United States Export-Import Bank

A representative of the United States Export-Import Bank (ExIm) of the United States will meet with major banks operating in Angola and with government officials to provide information about its funding programs, the bank said in a statement.

Cited by Angolan news agency Angop, the statement said that the Director of Global Business Development for Africa, Rick Angiuoni, would provide information concerning the financing mechanisms to support trade between the United States and other countries, including Angola.

In 2014 the US ExIm Bank signed a memorandum of understanding with the government of Angola to finance trade and infrastructure, using the financing tools at its disposal.

This memo identified several economic sectors, including energy, infrastructure, railways, roads, mining, telecommunications, agriculture and supply of construction equipment, the environment and, water and sanitation projects.

Since the memorandum was signed, the Exim Bank has provided financial support to Angola for the purchase of Boeing aircraft by Angola's airline TAAG and the acquisition by the country's national aviation company ENANA of two fire trucks manufactured by US company Oshkosh Corp.

FINANCE

IMF DELEGATION TO VISIT CAPITALS MARKET COMMISSION



IMF MISSION GETS AQUAINTED WITH CMC PROGRESS

A delegation of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) is visiting Monday the headquarters of the Capitals Market Commission (CMC) to learn about its development.

According to a CMC press release that reached Angop, the visit of the IMF team is part of the world financial institution's effort to learn of the performance of the Angolan economy and its regular visits to all its members.

During the CMC headquarters visit, the IMF delegation will be briefed on the country's strategy to implement the market of capitals.

The IMF team will also learn about the latest developments regarding regulation, supervision and boosting of the market, particularly the behaviour of the Public Debt Market and the ongoing preparation of the Stocks Market.

In addition to the CMC visit, the IMF officials who are in Luanda since last week, is holding contacts with several local economic operators like the Reserve Bank, Sovereign Fund, Oil Company (Sonangol), ministries and commercial banks.

MINING DISCOVERIES

GIANT DIAMOND FOUND IN ANGOLA BY LUCAPA DIAMOND COMPANY.

FEBRUARY 16TH, 2016



The largest diamond ever discovered in Angola

Australia's Lucapa Diamond Company has discovered a 404-carat diamond (80.8 grams) in Angola, the largest ever found in the country and the 27th globally, the company said in a statement released Monday.

The gem was recovered from alluvial mining at the company's mining block 8, where it has already recovered 60 large special diamonds since mining commenced in August last year. The previous record for Angola's biggest diamond is a diamond called "Angolan Star", a 217.4-carat gem recovered from the Luarica mine in 2007.

Lucapa Diamond Company chief executive Stephen Wetherall said "We have always emphasised the very special nature of the Lulo diamond field and this recovery - together with the other 100 carat-plus diamonds recovered this year alone - is further evidence of that. And while we continue mining these exceptional alluvial gems from mining blocks 6 and 8 at Lulo, we are also continuing to advance our systematic exploration program to find the kimberlite source of these diamonds." The Lulo project is a partnership with Endiama and Rosas & Pétalas.

The largest diamond ever discovered, "Cullinan", was 3,106 carats (621.2 grams) and was found in South Africa in 1905 and was later embedded in the royal sceptre of the British Crown. The Lulo concession area is 150 kilometres from the Catoca diamond mine, which has the largest kimberlite in Angola and the fourth largest in the world, both of which are located in the same geological area.

OIL & GAS

ANGOLA PRODUCES MORE OIL IN 2015 BUT REVENUES FALL 34%



Sonangol's Oil Plattform

Oil net growth of daily production

2015 Angola produced over 649 million barrels of oil, a 6 percent increase year on year and a daily average of 1.779 million barrels, Angolan state oil company Sonangol said Thursday in a statement.

Natural gas production in turn fell 8 percent to 507,000 tons, in a year in which the natural gas processing plant in Soyo, in the north, remained at a standstill.

Sonangol posted income of 2.29 trillion kwanzas (US\$14.38 billion), "lower by about 34 percent against total revenue in 2014," a drop that was partially offset by higher income from refining operations, distribution and sale of fuels. "The increase in fuel prices in January and April 2015 was decisive for this partial equilibrium in the company's revenue," the statement said.

EBITDA (earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortization) registered by Sonangol in 2015 fell 45 percent to 1.24 trillion kwanzas (US\$7.08 billion) and net profit fell 68.27 percent to 44.148 billion kwanzas (US\$276 million).

Sonangol said that the main factors that negatively affected net income were the reduction in oil prices, as well as impairment charges on oil assets in production, dry wells and no commercial discoveries.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

ANGOLA'S FIRST SATELLITE COSTS US\$300 MILLION

FEBRUARY 22ND, 2016



Angolan satellite, Angosat-1

The project to design and build the first Angolan satellite, Angosat-1, has an estimated cost of US\$300 million, said Saturday in Luanda the minister of Telecommunications and Information Technology.

José Carvalho da Rocha also said that the funding involves several additional contracts related to the project, such as the contract to build the Mission Control Centre and the management of the satellite's orbital position. The minister was speaking at the end of an assessment and evaluation visit of the infrastructure that will ensure operation of the first Angolan satellite, in Funda commune, Cacuaco district, in Luanda, which is scheduled for completion in the first quarter of 2017.

The Mission Control Centre, whose three-floor building took about six months to build, occupies a plot of land of 6,600 square metres and will be responsible for monitoring, tracking and processing the telemetry data sent by Angosat-1. Angosat-1 will have a primary mission control centre in Angola and a secondary one in Russia.

The Russian consortium that builds and finances the satellite is part of the SP Korolev Rocket and Space Corporation Energia companies (RSC Energia), Telecom-Projecto 5 and Rosoboronexport, which heads the group.