

Newsletter of the Embassy of Angola in Hungary 1124 BUDAPEST, SIRALY U. 3.

NEWLETTER N°32 // NOVEMBER 2018

International

JOÃO LOURENÇO PAYS A STATE VISIT TO PORTUGAL

Lisbon | November 22, 2018

Angola wants to increase bilateral cooperation with Portugal



The state visit to Portugal by João Lourenço, which begins on Thursday November 22 and runs until Saturday November 24, "re-establishes the normality of a relationship that is very fruitful for both sides and that must continue and that it is desirable to continue to deepen," the prime minister told Lusa in an interview, pointedly quoting Lourenço on the matter.

The Angolan President will seek to increase the level of bilateral cooperation with Portugal during an official visit to the country, he said in an interview with Portuguese weekly Expresso. "We will not start a new relationship, we will continue with a cooperative relationship that dates back to the first days of independence," (of Angola, 11 November, 1975), said the Angolan President.

João Lourenço said he will try to attract Portuguese private investors to invest their capital in Angola in all possible areas. In addition to meetings and protocol visits, the Angolan President will take part in the Portugal-Angola economic seminar, which will bring together business people from both countries in the city of Porto, in the north of Portugal.



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Official figures show that, in the first quarter of 2018, Portuguese exports to Angola reached 348.7 million euros, or a 22.35% drop compared with the same period of 2017 (449.1 million euros). Portuguese imports of goods from Angola almost doubled on year between January and March, rising from 62.5 million euros in 2017 to 124.9 million euros in 2018.

The Portuguese prime minister announced an increase in the export credit line from 1 billion euros to 1.5 billion euros, which is a sign of the political will to reverse the slowdown in trade.

Angolan Head of State delivers a speech at Portuguese Republic Assembly

João Lourenço will received welcoming greetings at Praça do Império (Império Square), from the Portuguese President and participated in a meeting between the delegations of the two countries. The Angolan Head of State, João Lourenço, last Thursday in Lisbon, Portugal, said that the present time demands from Angola a focus on the new challenges, for a country that has been experiencing effective peace in the past sixteen years.

João Lourenço was delivering as speech in the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic (Parliament), having also stressed that the "new Angola of transparency" considers Portugal an important partner.



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This is a partnership based on a solid and lasting relationship and that needs to be reiterated and nurtured with gestures and attitudes from both sides.



On his intervention in the Portuguese Assembly of the Republic, the Angolan President explained the objectives of the economic diversification process happening in Angola.

João Lourenço said the aim is to develop the non-oil sector, reduce imports of essential goods and increase the amount and supply of goods produced in Angola.

He went on to explain that the Angolan government also intends to boost exports, the yielding of foreign exchanges and employment offer. In the area of socio-political moralisation, the Head of State said corruption is a cancer that corrodes any society, reason why his Executive has been implementing measures to tackle the issue and strengthen state institutions, so as to make the country safer and more attractive for tourism and private investment, among other aims.

President Lourenço also spoke about the challenge of implementing in Angola, for the first time, the local governments, whose legislative package (draft-laws) is already being analysed by the National Assembly (Angolan Parliament).

As regards the bilateral co-operation, the Angolan Head of State stressed that the ties that connect Angola and Portugal, as well as the respective peoples, have been strengthened on the basis of respect for the sovereignty and independence of both countries and in the interest of a mutually advantageous co-operation.



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POLITICS

Angola commemorates the forty-third anniversary of its independence



Luanda, | November 11, 2018

The minister of State for Economic and Social Development, Manuel José Nunes Júnior, went in southern Cunene Province to chair the main act in the celebrations of 11 November, National Independence Day.

The Minister of State for Economic and Social Development, Manuel Nunes Júnior, said on Sunday in the province of Cunene that the ongoing public reforms are giving greater credibility to the country, facilitating the promotion and attraction of foreign investment. Manuel Nunes Júnior was speaking at the central event, which this year marked the 43rd anniversary of Angolan national independence proclaimed on November 11, 1975.

In this regard, the minister said that the motto of the ephemeris "Unite to build a better Angola" underscores the ongoing reform spirit in the country since the elections of August 2017, with the choice of João Loureço to lead the destiny from the country. The official said that under the motto of João Lourenço's governance program "Improving what is right and correcting what is wrong", steps were taken to combat unhealthy practices such as repeated acts of impunity.

On the occasion the Minister gave an overview of the historical process leading to national independence, highlighting the 4 February 1961, with the beginning of the national liberation struggle culminating in the achievement of peace in 2002.



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POLITICS

Forty-third anniversary of independence commemorated in Hungary

Budapest | November 13, 2018



In Hungary, the commemoration of Independence Day was marked by a diplomatic reception. Hundreds of personalities from diverse backgrounds responded favourably to the invitation of the Angolan Embassy in Hungary.

The Hungarian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade was represented by Mr. Márk Horváth, Africa Department Head and the guests included many ambassadors, diplomats, honorary consuls, directors of Hungarian and international business societies, university professors and teachers, members of the Angolan community and Angolan students studying in Hungary as well as Hungarian and foreign friends of Angola.

In her National Day welcome speech H.E. Lizeth Pena stressed the arduous efforts of the Angolan Government for the socio-economic stabilization of Angola. She also pointed out the excellence of the bilateral relations between Angola and Hungary, culminated in the visit of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, H.E. Peter Szijjártó to Angola last February, highlighted by the re-opening of the Hungarian Embassy in Luanda and the agreements signed by both governments.



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As a next step in the commemoration activities, under the motto "United to build a better Angola" a photo exhibition on the Angolan culture was inaugurated. On November 13, 2018 the Library and Info Center of the Hungarian Academy of Science organized a Bicentennial Conference on the life and work of László Magyar, a Hungarian explorer who lived in Angola in the 19th century. At this conference the Head of our Mission presented a film on the developments in Angola today.





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A high-level delegation from the Higher Institute of International Relations of Angola visits Hungary

Budapest | October 17, 2018

Cooperation



The completion of this visit is part of the implementation of the multidisciplinary agreements signed by The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, HE Péter Szijjártó, during his official visit to Angola on 28 February 2018.

He signed in particular the Memorandum Agreement between the Higher Institute of International Relations of the Republic of Angola and the Institute of International Relations and Trade of Hungary.

The delegation of the Angolan Higher Institute for International Relations (Instituto Superior de Relações Internacionais, ISRI) had a round of meetings at the Institute for Foreign Affairs and Trade on October 17.

Matias Pires, the scientific director of the Angolan partner institute, led the delegation. The teams of ISRI and IFAT had exchanges on their respective practices of managing an institute dedicated to the research of foreign affairs, as well as several topics related to current events on the international agenda,



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Dr. Amaral da Silva Lala, assistant professor at the ISRI, held a public lecture on the role of Angola in the crisis prevention, resolution and peacekeeping in Africa. In particular, he highlighted the stakes of the cold war in Africa as well as the historical role of Angola, in the region of Southern and Central Africa.

Professor Lala talked about the historical aspects of Angola's role in today's challenges, and its vested interest in spreading the culture of peace. He emphasised the achievements of his country regarding the implementation of peace on the regional level.

The Professor mentioned concrete actions, like the work within the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, the organisation of elections or the promotion of dialogues, which help the neighbouring countries on their way to political stability. He highlighted that the priorities of Angola's new president are, besides the implementation of peace, the economic diversity and development of the country.



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Answering questions from the audience, the Professor expressed Angola's desire to consolidate the conflict in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, while emphasizing that highest priority for Angola remains the maintenance of peace for its people. He also touched upon the topic of refugees, regarding which Angola tries to find the perfect balance between solidarity and security.



Angola is a member of several international organisations, including the AU, OPEC, the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) and the UN. Since the end of the civil war in 2002, Angola has actively and successfully diversified its international partners, engaged with them as an equal partner and has avoided placing itself in a position of weakness.

Beyond active international engagement, Angola is also looking to consolidate itself as a regional power. It is an active member of three regional economic organisations: SADC, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Gulf of Guinea Commission (GoGC). It has played on a dominant role in SADC and the GoGC headquarters have been established in Luanda since 2007. It has increased its diplomatic presence in the Gulf of Guinea states (West Africa) as well as actively engaging diplomatically in Guinea-Bissau and the DRC. The Gulf of Guinea has tremendous oil potential, and is of interest to Angola.



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Industry

United Shine Consortium selected to build a refinery in Cabinda

Luanda | November 12, 2018



The construction of the Cabinda Refinery was awarded to the United Shine consortium in partnership with Angola's national oil and gas company, Sonangol, the state-owned company said in a statement on Friday. The statement also said that the consortium will have a 90% stake in this project, and Sonangol Refinação – Sonaref, will own the remaining 10%. The Angolan government launched an international tender for the construction of the Cabinda and Lobito refineries in 2017, under the strategy of developing the crude oil refining business in the country, and received 68 expressions of interest.

Of the sixty-eight entities that initially expressed an interest in participating in the construction of a refinery in Cabinda and another in Lobito, twenty-eight were cleared for Phase One, seven of which were selected in Phase Two to compete for the construction project of the refinery in Cabinda, which should have a processing capacity of no more than 60,000 barrels of oil per day. In the second phase, the selected entities were subject to an assessment of their legal-legal status, technical and financial skills, and the Cabinda process has now reached its end. The statement gave no details about the companies that make up the United Shine consortium. Sonangol announced in February it had received 63 investment proposals targeting its refining sector. The company plans to build refineries in Lobito and Cabinda, among other projects designed to reduce its dependence on imports of refined products.



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Total's Kaombo offshore project officially inaugurated

Luanda | November 10, 2018



The Angolan State Minister for Economic and Social Development, Manuel Nunes Junior, the Chairman and CEO of Total, Patrick Pouyanné, and the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Sonangol, Carlos Saturnino, inaugurated the Kaombo offshore project on Monday. Kaombo project is loocated 260 kilometers off the coast of Luanda, on Block 32, in water depth of around 2,000 meters, Kaombo is the biggest offshore development in Angola. It came on stream in July.

The first FPSO, Kaombo Norte, came on stream in July 2018, with a production capacity of 115,000 bopd. The start-up of the second FPSO of similar capacity, Kaombo Sul, is expected next year. The overall production will reach an estimated 230,000 bopd at peak and the associated gas will be exported to the Angola LNG plant.

Total on Monday also announced the continuation of its development program in Angola, following on from the launch of the Zinia 2 project in May. "The Group, along with its partners, has notably taken two investment decisions on Block 17, located deep offshore 150 kilometers off the coast of Angola, to develop satellite fields that will be tied back to existing infrastructures and will quickly bring additional production," Total said.



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In Angola, Total plans to bring first oil from it CLOV phase 2 project in 2020, with a production plateau expected at of 40,000 barrels of oil per day (bopd). Also, the Dalia phase 3 project, which is expected to come on stream in 2021 with a production plateau expected at of 30,000 bopd. "Zinia 2, CLOV 2 and Dalia 3 will develop 150 million barrels of additional resources to maintain the Block 17 production plateau above 400,000 bopd until 2023, and further extend the profitability of this prolific block, with over 2.6 billion barrels already produced," Total said. "As Angola's principal oil partner, Total is proud to inaugurate such a major deep offshore project as Kaombo, which started up production in July and marked a new milestone of our history in the country," stated Patrick Pouyanné, Chairman and CEO of Total.

He added: "I would like to recognize the leadership shown by the Angolan President, João Lourenço, and the joint efforts of the authorities, Sonangol and the industry to enhance contractual framework, which is an essential step towards developing new projects. The sanction of these new projects today demonstrates Total's ongoing commitment to Angola and to the continued development of oil and gas resources in the country.