

DIPLONEWS

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ANGOLA AND CHINA STRENGTHEN BILATERAL COOPERATION



**PRESIDENT JOÃO LOURENÇO WITNESSES SWEARING IN CEREMONY
OF MADAGASCAR'S HEAD OF STATE**

H.E TÊTE ANTÓNIO

Minister of External Relations

PRESIDENT JOÃO LOURENÇO WITNESSES SWEARING IN CEREMONY OF MADAGASCAR'S HEAD OF STATE



The President of the Republic, **João Lourenço**, attended on **16 December**, the inauguration ceremony of his **Madagascan** counterpart, **Andry Rajoelina**, and was among the guests of honour, in his dual capacity as **Angolan Head of State and SADC Chairperson**.

The event, which took place at the **Barea Stadium** in the centre of **Antananarivo**, was marked by a series of rituals, such as the laying of the representative symbols of power in the hands of the new President of the **Republic of Madagascar**.

Andry Rajoelina, who will serve a new **five-year term**, gave a speech to those attending the ceremony at the stadium and to the entire **Malagasy nation**, in which he defined the central axes of his government action as social development, the industrialisation of the Southern African Island nation and the improvement of its public services.

In addition to Angola, the Presidents of **Zimbabwe, Mozambique, Guinea-Bissau, Mauritius** and the African Union attended the ceremony.

Madagascar is a member state of the Southern African Development Community (SADC).

ANGOLA AND MADAGASCAR STRENGTHEN BILATERAL COOPERATION TIES



The Head of State, **João Lourenço**, on **16 December** in **Antananarivo**, discussed with the President of Madagascar, **Andry Rajoelina**, the need to increase cooperation between the two African countries.

The private meeting took place on the sidelines of the **investiture ceremony for the Malagasy head of state**, who was re-elected for a **third term**.

The conversation between **João Lourenço** and **Andry Rajoelina** took place at the Presidential Palace in Antananarivo, moments after lunch offered by the host to the guests attending the inauguration ceremony.

The Angolan statesman could be the first to make a **state visit to the Southern African Island nation** following the start of his counterpart's new term.

The heads of state of Angola and Madagascar have instructed their Foreign ministers to work on identifying **new areas of cooperation between the two countries**.

This information was disclosed in Antananarivo by External Relations Minister **Tété António** after the private meeting between Presidents **João Lourenço** and **Andry Rajoelina**.

The head of Angolan diplomacy revealed that the two statesmen hoped that both the public and private sectors would be called upon to play this role.

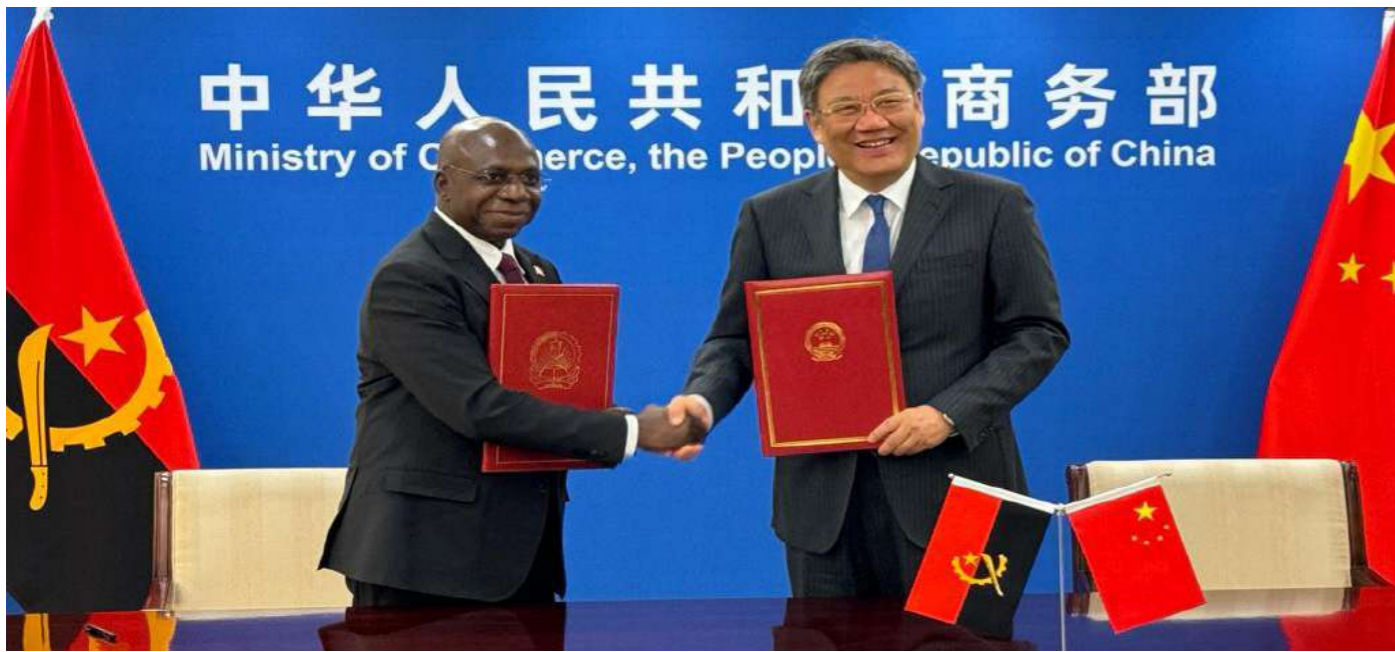
Minister **Tété António** also explained that President **João Lourenço's** attendance at the swearing in ceremony was in response to his counterpart's invitation, not only because of the good relations between the two countries, but also because of his responsibilities as **chairperson of SADC**.

External Relations **Tété António** added that Presidents **João Lourenço** and **Andry Rajoelina** had reviewed relations between Angola and Madagascar, emphasising that "they are excellent from a political point of view," although both heads of state considered it necessary to "**give a little more substance between the two countries**".

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REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA AND PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
REINFORCE BILATERAL COOPERATION



As part of the strengthening of bilateral cooperation between the Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of China, another legal instrument was signed on 6 December in Beijing to deepen exchanges between the two countries.

This is the Agreement on the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (APPRI), signed between Their Excellencies Ambassador Tété António, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola and Wang Wentao, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China.

The agreement aims to promote greater economic cooperation, stimulate the flow of capital and economic development, as well as guaranteeing a stable, transparent and non-discriminatory framework for investment between Angola and China.

The Agreement recognises the importance of providing effective means and procedures to protect investment rights and interests under national law, as well as through international ar-

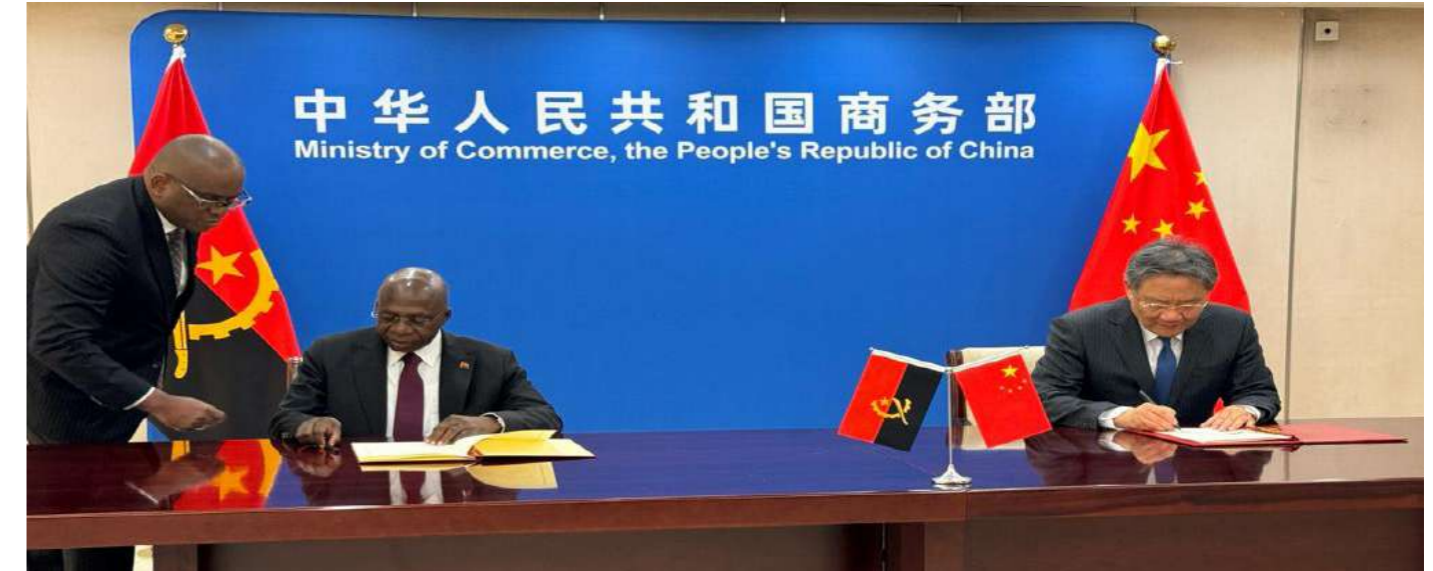
bitration to ensure stability and trust between investors in the two countries.

The APPRI are bilateral agreements whose purpose is to demonstrate to international investors the existence of a legal and security mechanism for holding their investments.

Angola has agreements in this area with South Africa, Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde, in Asia with Qatar, and in Europe with Portugal, Spain, Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, Russia and France.

The architecture of the latest generation of APPRIs must include a limited definition of the investment, clearly defining the assets that must be protected.

Clarification of provisions such as indirect expropriation, fair treatment and most favoured nation, as well as the resolution of investor versus state disputes: transparency in arbitration procedures, open sessions, publication of documents and the public participation of civil society are normally part of the agreements.



Minister Tété António said that the Agreement on the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (APPRI) represents a very important political, economic and commercial gain not only for Angola but also for the Asian nation.

For the head of Angolan diplomacy, who was speaking during a working meeting with His Excellency Wang Wentao, Minister of Commerce of the People's Republic of China, the signing of the APPRI represents the end of 12 years of long negotiations between the two parties, due to various constraints that have now been overcome.

Once all the conditions have been met, the agreement, which has now been signed, provides greater guarantees for investors and stability for investment, and constitutes unequivocal legal support for the two partners to ensure that their mutual business development is always secure.

According to figures released during the 1st Angola-China Business Forum (FONAC), held in July this year in Luanda, the trade bal-

ance between China and Angola in 2022 grew from 23.3% to 27.34 billion US dollars.

These figures reflect the solidification of consecutive and long-standing cooperation with China, which makes Angola the Asian giant's second largest trading partner and the largest supplier of crude oil in Africa.

In recent years, Angola's coffee, beer, granite and other specialities have successively appeared on the Chinese market.

Cooperation between Angola and China has shown significant results, notable through the structuring projects underway, such as: the Caculo Cabaça Hydroelectric Power Plant, the New "António Agostinho Neto" International Airport, recently inaugurated by His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, which is an asset and a factor for progress, the Caio Port in Cabinda, without forgetting other infrastructures that China has helped Angola to build towards the African country's socio-economic development.



ANGOLA AND CHINA HOLD POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS



The capital city of Beijing hosted on 6 December, political consultations between delegations from the Republic of Angola and the People's Republic of China.

The talks were led by Their Excellencies Ambassador **Téte António**, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola and **Wang Yi**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

During the meeting, the two delegations reviewed the level of **bilateral cooperation** relations, focusing on **political, economic and social development, strengthening and deepening** bilateral ties and the legal framework for cooperation between the two countries.

For more than an hour and a half, the two heads of the Sino-Angolan diplomatic portfolios also analysed **Angola and China's** integration process at regional and international level, as well as exchanging views on the current international situation and multilateral issues.

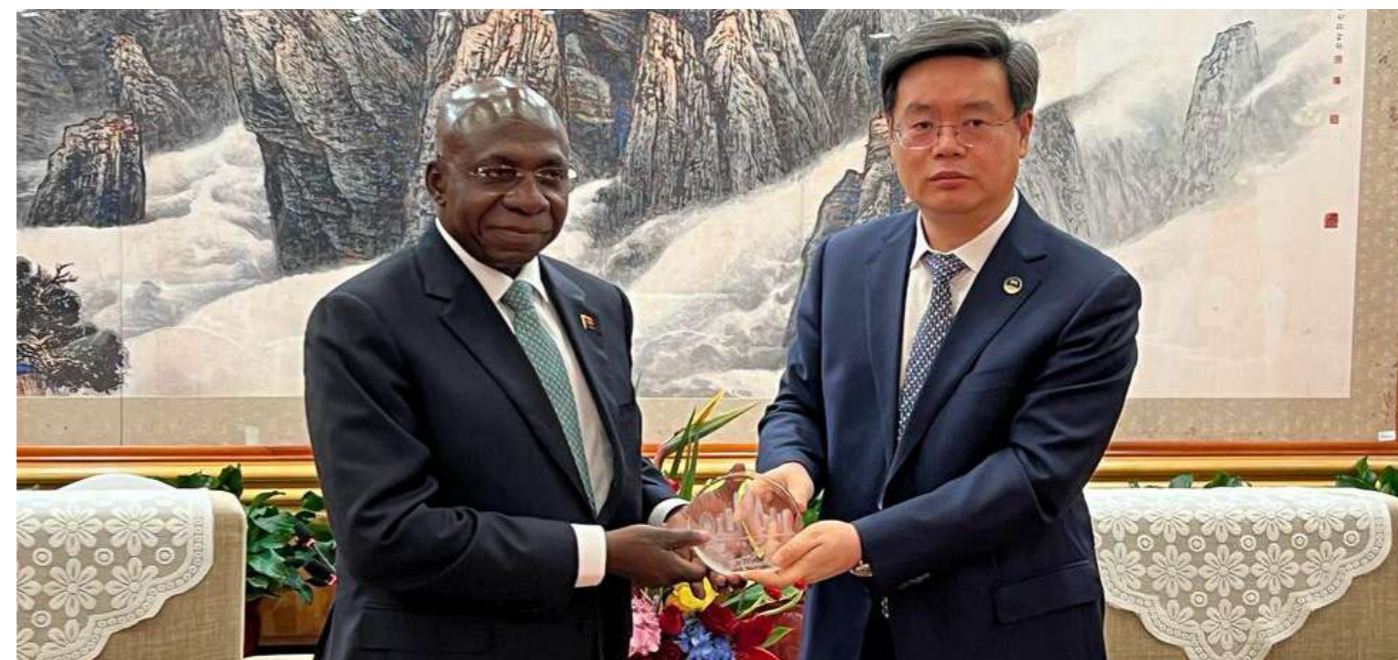
With regard to the political, economic and social development between the two countries, Ministers **Téte António** and **Wang Yi** highlighted the milestone of the establishment of political-diplomatic relations, which on 12 January 2023 culminated in the celebration of its **fortieth anniversary**, they looked at the reforms underway in Angola and praised the efforts of the Angolan Government in the search for conditions for the well-being of the population and the creation of a favourable business environment.

With regard to the international situation and multilateral issues, the parties mentioned the impact of the BRICS' evolution on the global economy, the international repercussions of the conflicts between **Russia and Ukraine** and **Israel and Hamas**, as well as the process of reforming the UN Security Council.

At the end of the meeting, the two entities promised to continue working together to deepen and strengthen cooperation.



MINISTER TÉTÉ ANTÓNIO ENCOURAGES INCREASED CHINESE INVESTMENT IN ANGOLA



His Excellency Ambassador **Téte António**, Minister of External Relations, on 9 December in Shenzhen, People's Republic of China, invited more **Chinese business people** to invest in Angola and make the most of the country's potential.

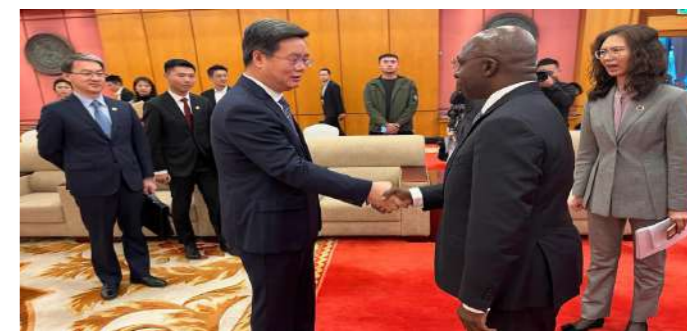
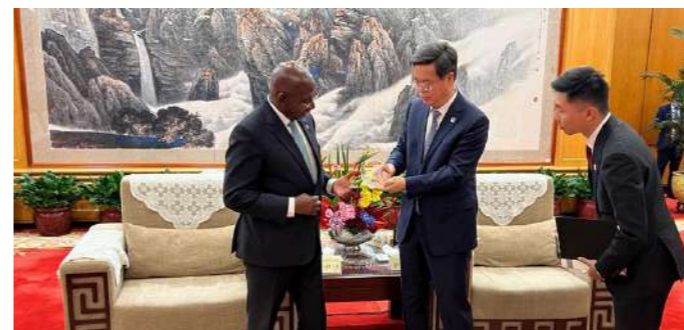
The head of Angolan diplomacy, who was speaking during a meeting with the provincial authorities in Shenzhen, invited the Asian nation's businesspeople to invest in the Southern African country's development centres and to take full advantage of the tax incentives and other facilities provided by the Angolan Government.

Minister **Téte António** explained to the local authorities in Shenzhen that in addition to the legal reforms carried out in the country, the agenda of the Government led by His Excellency **João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço**, President of the Republic of Angola, is to develop actions aimed at increasing and improving the conditions of the roads that link the countryside to the cities and vice versa.

The Angolan diplomat, who is visiting the Asian giant as part of the strengthening of bilateral cooperation, said that the Angolan Government's aim is to develop **agriculture** and the **manufacturing industry**, guaranteeing the flow of national production, taking advantage of the extensive network of transport infrastructures and optimised logistics.

In this context, the Angolan Minister explained that among the various projects already underway are the Industrial Development Hubs and Rural Industrial Parks, which are industrial location infrastructures dedicated to the concentration of industrial units, where entrepreneurs can set up their large, medium and small factories.

These industrial location infrastructures have been much sought after by investors, especially those in the manufacturing industry, with a view to conquering intra-African markets, in the context of regional economic integration, both at the level of the AfCFTA and SADC.



MIREX AWARDS JOSÉ APARECIDO DE OLIVEIRA PRIZE TO YOUTH ASSOCIATION SUPPORTING UNDERPRIVILEGED YOUNG PEOPLE “JUCARENTE”



H.E Tété António,
Minister of External Relations



A Diploma of Merit and 30,000 euros cheque were formally presented on 11 December, to the Youth Association for the Support of Underprivileged Young People “Jucarente”, as a reward for the solidarity and philanthropic actions they have been carrying out in Angolan society.

The aforementioned symbols were handed over to the chairperson of the association, José Gombo, by His Excellency Ambassador Tété António, Minister of External Relations, representing His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola.

The award and the money represent the José Aparecido de Oliveira Award, won by

His Excellency João Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, an honour awarded by the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP) in August this year.

After receiving the prize, the Angolan statesman decided to donate it to the “Jucarente” Youth Association in recognition of the merit of this philanthropic institution for social causes.

Presenting the award to “Jucarente”, Minister Tété António said that His Excellency João Lourenço, in donating the award to “Jucarente,” believes that the best way to correct socio-economic inequalities is through the joint commitment of institutions to minimise the imbalance in society through concrete actions.

The “José Aparecido de Oliveira” prize was awarded to the President of the Republic of Angola by the Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries (CPLP), which decided by acclamation to award the sixth edition to Angolan citizen João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, for his clear commitment and dedication to enhancing and promoting the principles, values and objectives of the community organisation, especially the implementation of the Mobility Agreement, initialled in Luanda by the member states during the two years of Angola’s chairperson.

The Jucarente Youth Association is a philanthropic institution under Angolan law which, for 20 years, has been carrying out various solidarity actions in the most deprived communities in the country’s 18 provinces and abroad.

The José Aparecido de Oliveira award ceremony, held at the Angolan diplomatic headquarters in downtown Luanda, was witnessed by the Minister of State for Social Affairs, Her Excellency Dalva Ringote.

The ceremony was also attended by Her Excellency Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, Minister of Social Action, Family and Woman Promotion, other high-ranking members of the state apparatus, Angola’s Permanent Representative to the CPLP, Ambassador Oliveira Francisco Encoge, the Secretary General of the Union of Portuguese Language Capital Cities (UCCLA), Victor Ramalho, the diplomatic corps accredited to Angola, members of civil society, staff from the Ministry of External Relations and guests.



ANGOLA AND PORTUGAL SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING



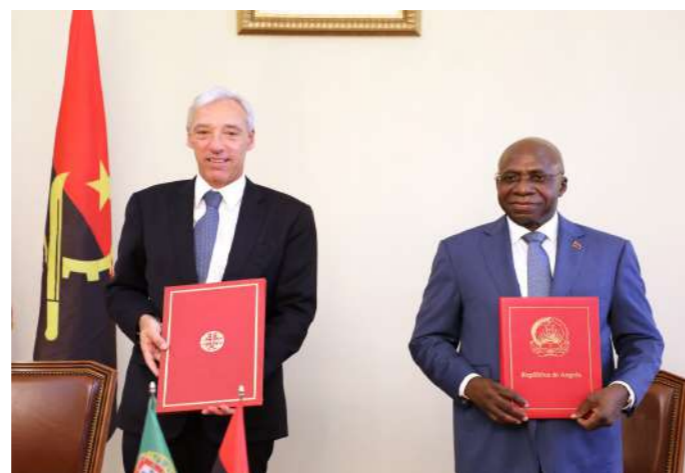
Angola and Portugal signed on 10 December in Luanda, a **Memorandum of Understanding for Direct Support to the General Budget** of the Republic of Angola.

The signatories to this legal instrument were His Excellency **Téte António**, Angolan Minister of External Relations, and His Excellency **João Gomes Cravinho**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic.

The Government of the Portuguese Republic, within the general framework of cooperation policy, undertakes, on an extraordinary basis, to provide **Direct Support to the General Budget of the Re-**

public of Angola, with the aim of supporting the rehabilitation of the **Fortress of S. Francisco do Penedo** and its conversion into the **Museum of the Struggle for the National Liberation of Angola**, taking due account of the priorities defined in the **Long-Term Strategy - Angola 2050**, as well as relevant sectoral strategic programmes.

In this context, the Government of the Portuguese Republic will make available an extraordinary amount of **€34,000,000 (Thirty-Four Million Euros)** for **Direct Support** to the General Budget of the Republic of Angola, disbursed until the end of 2023.



ANGOLA AND EUROPEAN UNION DETERMINED TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL COOPERATION



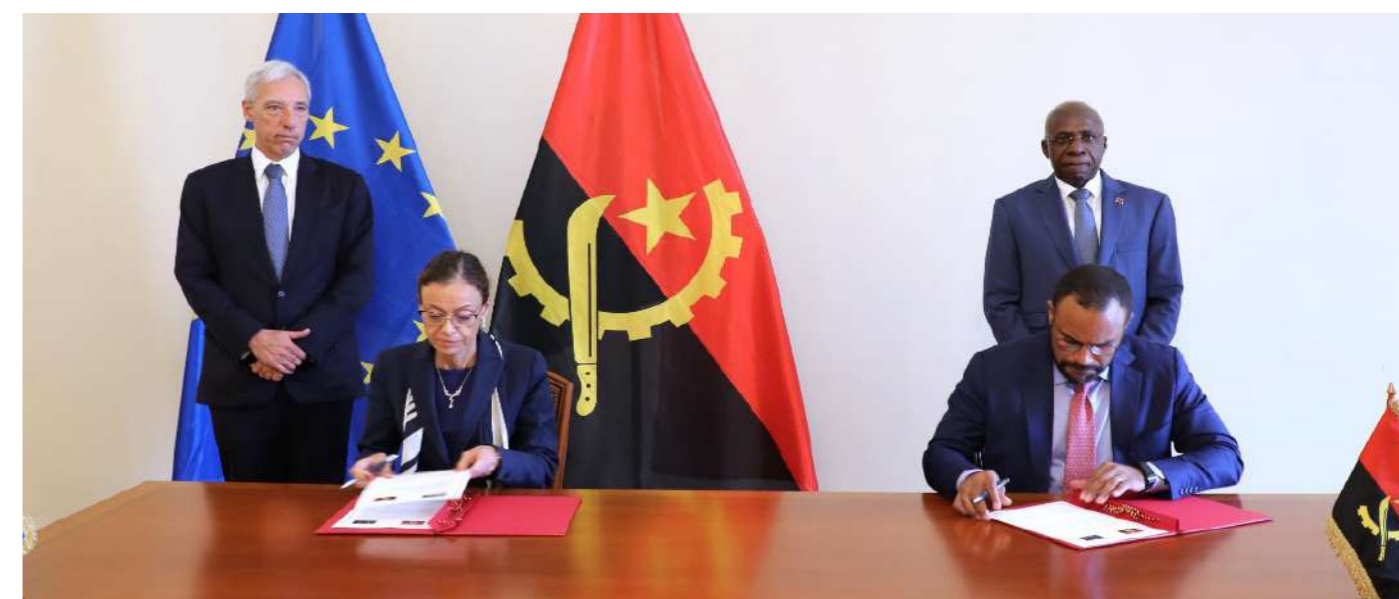
An **Angola-European Union Bilateral Cooperation Agreement**, consisting of the disbursement of the first fixed instalment of **Ten Million Euros**, was signed on **10 December** in Luanda between the Angolan Government and the European Union.

The signatories to this legal instrument were His Excellency **Mário Augusto Caetano João**, Minister of Economy and Planning of the Republic of Angola, and the Honourable **Rosário Bento**

Pais, Head of the European Union Delegation in Angola.

The signing ceremony took place as part of the **6th Ministerial Meeting on the Angola-European Union Joint Pathway**, held at the Angolan diplomatic headquarters in downtown Luanda.

The act was witnessed by Ministers **Téte António** and **João Cravinho**, who led the high-level delegations from Angola and the European Union taking part in the 6th Ministerial Meeting.



ANGOLA AND EUROPEAN UNION HOLD VI MINISTERIAL MEETING ON JOINT PATH



High-level delegations from Angola and the European Union held on **10 December** in Luanda the **6th Ministerial Meeting on the Angola-European Union Joint Pathway**.

The work of this multisectoral cooperation platform was led by Their Excellencies **Téte António**, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, and **João Cravinho**, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Portuguese Republic.

This meeting focused essentially on analysing and discussing relevant aspects of **political, diplomatic, economic-commercial, industrial, cultural, environmental and sustainable development cooperation**, as part of a path that is being traced and followed by the authorities and peoples of Angola and the European Union.

The **Angola-European Union Joint Path** began to be defined in July 2012 and is guided by the principles of **democracy, the rule of law, human rights, good governance, equity, prosperity and joint responsibility**, with a view to promoting dialogue on public policies in mutually advantageous areas.

The **VI Ministerial Meeting**, which Luanda hosted, was attended by senior officials from the Angolan Government and the European Union Delegation, namely the Angolan Minister of Economy and Planning, **Mário Augusto Caetano João**; the Minister of the Environment, **Ana Paula Chantre Luna de Carvalho**; the Head of the European Union Delegation in Angola, **Rosário Bento Pais**; the Director General for Africa, European External Action Service, Rita Laranjinha; and the Portuguese Ambassador accredited to Angola, Francisco Alegre Duarte.



ANGOLA AND ALGERIA BOOST FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION TIES



His Excellency Ambassador **Téte António**, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, held a working meeting in Oran on **18 December** with His Excellency **Ahmed Attaf**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Community Abroad of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria.

The meeting took place in one of Oran's hotels, on the sidelines of the **10th Annual High-Level Seminar on Promoting Peace and Security in Africa**, known as the "**Oran Process**", and served as an opportunity for the two entities to express the importance of further strengthening the bonds of friendship and cooperation between the two African countries.

The agenda included bilateral, continental and international issues.

With regard to the bilateral agenda, both parties reiterated their commitment to continuing to promote dialogue and partnership between the two countries, for the benefit of their peoples and in line with the principles of diplomacy and mutual respect.

His Excellency Ambassador **Téte António** expressed his wish that, within the framework of the strategic partnership between the two countries, Angola could count on Algeria's support in the mandate it will have in 2024 as a member of the African Union's Peace and Security Council.

Minister **Téte António** also expressed Angola's full support for the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria for the North African country's mandate as a **Non-Permanent Member of the United Nations Security Council** in 2024.

With regard to the continental agenda, the parties expressed their concern about the conflicts prevailing on the continent, and reiterated the need to combine efforts for the peaceful resolution of conflicts, with a preference for inclusive dialogue.

In this context, His Excellency **Ahmed Attaf** praised Angola's role in peacemaking in Central Africa, the Great Lakes and Southern Africa, and praised the role that His Excellency **João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço**, President of the Republic of Angola, has played as **Champion for Peace and Reconciliation of the African Union**, recognising in the Angolan Head of State the true qualities of a peacemaker.

The meeting was attended by His Excellencies **Toko Diakenga Serão**, Angola's Ambassador to Algeria, and Ambassadors **Jorge Catarino Cardoso**, Director for Africa, the Middle East and Regional Organisations at MI-REX, **António Luvualu de Carvalho** and **Yema da Silva**, Angola's Deputy Representative Ambassador to the African Union.



ANGOLA AT CENTRAL AFRICAN PEACE, SECURITY MEETING ON POLITICAL TRANSITION IN GABON



The Equatorial Guinean city of Djibloho hosted on 14 December, the Council of Ministers of COPAX (Central African Peace and Security Council) on the political transition in the Gabonese Republic.

Chaired by the President-in-Office of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the meeting was attended by ministers from the organisation's member countries, namely Angola, Burundi, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Congo, DRC, Equatorial Guinea, Rwanda, São Tomé and Príncipe and Chad.

The Republic of Angola was represented at the event by a delegation led by His Excellency Ambassador Tété António, Minister of External Relations, and made up of His Excellencies Ambassador Bertino Matias Matondo, Director General of External Intelligence Services, Jorge Catarino Cardoso, Director of MIREX Africa, Middle East and Regional Organisations, Lizeth Nawanga Pena, Angolan Ambassador to Gabon and José Luís de Matos Agostinho, Angolan Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea.



MINISTER TÊTE ANTÓNIO CHAIRS SADC AMBASSADORS MEETING IN BEIJING



His Excellency Ambassador Tété António, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, met on 7 December in Beijing with the Group of Ambassadors of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), accredited to the People's Republic of China, in his capacity as Chairperson of the SADC Council of Ministers.

The meeting took place at the headquarters of the African Union, located in the Chinese capital, and served to review issues on the regional agenda, with emphasis on Angola's rotating chairpersonship of SADC for the 2023-2024 term.

During the hour-long meeting, Minister Tété António and the group of SADC ambassadors accredited to the Asian nation also discussed the political and security situation in

the Southern African Development Community, with particular emphasis on the conflicts in eastern DRC and Mozambique.

The SADC ambassadors also discussed the forthcoming general elections in the region, mainly in the DRC (December 2023), the Union of the Comoros (February 2024), South Africa (May 2024), Mozambique and Botswana (October 2024), Namibia and Mauritius (November 2024).

Finally, they referred to relations with China's international cooperation partners.

For the ambassadors, the Asian giant is one of the traditional cooperation partners with SADC countries, especially in the field of infrastructure development, with a major impact in the areas of communications and information technology.



MINISTER TÊTE ANTÓNIO RECEIVES US AMBASSADOR TO ANGOLA



His Excellency Ambassador **Tête António**, Minister of External Relations, received on **12 December** in Luanda His Excellency **Tulinabo Mushingi**, Ambassador of the United States of America to the Republic of Angola.

The meeting, held at the headquarters of the **Ministry of External Relations**, served as an opportunity for the two entities to talk about increasing bilateral cooperation in the most varied areas between the two countries, as well as aspects linked to the African continent.

During the audience, the two diplomats discussed the reactions to the **Official Visit** of His Excellency **João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço**, President of the Republic of Angola, to the United States of America, especially the meeting between the **An-**

golan Head of State and his American counterpart **Joseph (Joe) Robinette Biden Jr.**

With regard to the African issue, the two interlocutors discussed the situation in the eastern DRC, focusing on the implementation of the **Luanda** and **Nairobi Processes**, and the deployment of **SADC forces** in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo.

In this regard, His Excellency Ambassador **Tulinabo Mushingi** said that the United States appreciated the efforts made by His Excellency President **João Lourenço** to find a peaceful and lasting solution to the dispute between Rwanda and the DRC.

Finally, the two sides spoke about the elections in the DRC, which took place on **20 December**, and humanitarian issues in the neighbouring country.



ANGOLA AND RUSSIA STRENGTHEN BILATERAL COOPERATION



His Excellency Ambassador **Tête António**, Minister of External Relations, received on **12 December** in Luanda, His Excellency **Vladimir Tararov**, Ambassador of the Russian Confederation to the Republic of Angola.

The meeting took place at the Angolan diplomatic headquarters in Mutamba, downtown Luanda, and served as an opportunity for the two personalities to discuss issues related to increasing bilateral cooperation.

During the meeting, the two figures discussed the need to **exchange visits** at the highest level, as well as the **implementation**

of the Angola-Russia Bilateral Commission and the realisation of the **Technical-Military Cooperation Committee** between the two countries.

Finally, His Excellency **Vladimir Tararov** took the opportunity to invite the Angolan authorities to take part in two important events to be held in the Russian Confederation, namely the **International Youth Forum**, from 1 to 7 March 2024, in Sochi, and the **International Women's Forum**, to be held in St. Petersburg, Russia's second largest city, politically incorporated as an autonomous city.



10TH ANNUAL HIGH-LEVEL SEMINAR ON PROMOTING PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA



The 10th Annual High-Level Seminar on Promoting Peace and Security in Africa, known as the “Oran Process”, took place on 17 December in Oran, People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria.

This ministerial event brought together members of the **Peace and Security Council (PSC)**, officials from the **African Union**, the **United Nations Organisation**, **partners**, **friends** and **guests** of the African Union.

The Republic of Angola was represented by a delegation led by His Excellency Ambassador **Téte António**, Minister of External Relations, and including, among others, Ambassadors **Jorge Cardoso**, Director for Africa, the Middle East and Regional Organisations at MIREX, **Toko Diakenga Serão**, Angolan Ambassador to Algeria and diplomat **António Luvualu de Carvalho**.

The opening ceremony included speeches by His Excellencies Dr. **Mamadou Tangara**, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of the Republic of The Gambia

and Chairperson of the PSC for December, **Ahmed Attaf**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Community and Abroad of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria; Ambassador **Bankole Adeoye**, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the African Union Commission, and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ghana representing Her Excellency **Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey**, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration of the Republic of Ghana and Coordinator of African Member Countries of the Security Council.

The 10th Annual High-Level Seminar on Promoting Peace and Security in Africa is a platform for cooperation and collaboration in the efforts of the African continent and aims to promote, articulate and defend common positions on issues of Peace and Security in Africa, in the decision-making process of the UN Security Council.

It also aims to strengthen collaboration between the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) and the African countries on the UN Security Council.



NIGERIAN AMBASSADOR BIDS FAREWELL TO ANGOLAN AUTHORITIES



Her Excellency **Esmeralda Mendonça**, Secretary of State for External Relations, received on 4 December Her Excellency **Monique Oshame Ekpong**, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, at the end of her mission in Angola.

On the occasion, the **outgoing Head** of the Nigerian Diplomatic Mission expressed her gratitude for all the institutional support she had received during her mission in the Southern African country, and also took the opportunity to analyse issues of **bilateral interest between Angola and Nigeria**.

Ambassador **Monique Oshame Ekpong**,

who returned to her country on 5 December, gave away a book she had written entitled "**Feminist Consciousness**".

Angola and Nigeria have had political and diplomatic relations since the early days of their independence.

Bilateral cooperation between the two countries has been on the rise in recent years, especially in the **political, social, economic, commercial, defence, cultural and air transport fields**.

Both states are members of the **African Union** and the **Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)**.



HIGH-LEVEL SESSION TO MARK 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS



The Secretary of State for External Relations, **Esmeralda Mendonça**, on 11 December in Geneva, Switzerland, reiterated the importance of preserving the legacy of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) and ensuring its implementation in order to meet the challenges facing humanity.

The Secretary of State, **Esmeralda Mendonça**, was speaking at the high-level session as part of the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the UDHR, where she also reiterated Angola's support for **Volker Türk's** mandate at the head of the **United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNCHR)**.

During her speech, the head of the Angolan delegation to the event presented the Government's commitments based on the national human rights strategy.

The agenda, presented by the Secretary of State, is based on five pillars, the first of which has to do with finalising the process of ratification of the **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**, as well as **preparing the visit of the UNCHR working group to Angola**.

Also on the agenda is the need to **strengthen dialogue with the special procedures and treaty bodies ratified by Angola**.

Angola's commitments also include **drawing up and implementing a national policy on education**

for a culture of human rights, as well as the need to strengthen the partnership with civil society organisations and carry out joint actions.

The fifth pillar indicates that Angola will focus on **strengthening national human rights institutions based on the Paris Principles**.

The Paris Principles detail the roles and responsibilities, composition, guarantees of independence and methods of operation for a broad mandate to promote human rights.

Entitled "Initiative 75", the event has more than a hundred participants from various countries, including Heads of State or Government, Foreign Ministers, among other representatives of governments and international organisations, who are in Geneva to reaffirm the strength of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR).

The Angolan delegation to the event also includes the Secretary of State for Human Rights and Citizenship (MINJUSDH), **Ana Celeste Januário**, Angola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations and other International Organisations in Geneva, **Margarida Izata**, and technicians from the Ministries of External Relations, Justice and Human Rights, as well as diplomats from the Angolan Permanent Mission in Geneva.



ANGOLA ATTENDS G20 MEETING IN BRASILIA



The Secretary of State for International Cooperation and Angolan Communities, **Domingos Custódio Vieira Lopes**, led the Angolan delegation to the first G20 meeting, which took place from **11 to 12 December** in Brasilia.

Angola's participation in this important event is the result of an **invitation from the Brazilian chairmanship of the G20** for Angola to take part in the organisation as an observer country.

The meeting's agenda included **providing delegates and participants with information on the G20's administrative and logistical arrangements, summarising working methods, social inclusion and the fight against hunger.**

The meeting, which took place at Itamaraty, also presented the pillars of Brazil's management of the G20, namely the **fight against hunger and poverty, sustainable development (economic, social and environmental) and the reform of global governance.**

The first meeting of Finance Deputies and Central Finance Banks, on the 14th and 15th, was another highlight.

The **G20 is an informal forum** that promotes open and constructive debate between industrialised and emerging countries on key issues related to economic and global stability, which includes **South Africa, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, South Korea, the United States, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, the United Kingdom, Russia, Türkiye** and the **European Union.**



Praia da Caotinha: a truly mystical beauty, starting with its clear waters, fine white sands and the mountains that surround it, located in the province of Benguela, Republic of Angola.



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