CMA CGM TARGETS SERVICES ADDING:
- La Reunion Call On Asia-West Africa ASAF
- Second Vessel On Indian Ocean Feeder Service
- Improved Europe-West Africa Transits On EURAF2

Full Story On Page 3
Contents

03 | African Group News

African Group News

09 | Pan Africa

Pan Africa

11 | Western Africa

Regional: USAID Supports ATRCs To Boost Trade
Angola: China, Angola Chamber Of Commerce Opens
Gambia: Gambia Commissions Cargo Handling Equipment Worth €1.8 Million
Ghana: Ready for July 1 IMO Requirement
Guinea: New Cranes Inaugurated At Conakry Port
Liberia: NPA Sign Contract
Morocco: Nador West Med Port Development / Tangiers To Get First Automated Terminal
Nigeria: Workshops Address Transport Costs & Container Weight / Ship Owners Join Forces To Form One Body / President Appoints New NIMASA Boss / Four Foreign Companies Interested In Bakassi Deep Seaport / Baro Port Nears Completion / Ports Authority Seeks Tripartite Panel On Ikorodu
Togo: ETCN Billing In The Business Single Window [GUCE]

17 | Eastern Africa

East Africa: China Seeks Free Trade Pact With East Africa
Kenya/Uganda/Rwanda: Joint Electronic Cargo Tracking Starts June
Kenya: China Imports Jump 29% / Kenya Eyes US$1 Billion Bilateral Trade With Pakistan / Kenya To Construct A Crude Oil And Refined Fuel Jetty / Trial ECTN Implemented By SCEA / Testing Laboratory For Mombasa
La Reunion: Terminal Upgrade On Home Stretch
Mauritius: Logistics & Transport Forum Promotes Growth
Sudan: Stock Market Goes On-Line / Sudan To Develop Port Sudan And Simplify Procedures
Tanzania: Berths 13, 14 Construction Kicks Off Next Year / Dar es Salaam Port Sees Transit Traffic Slump

25 | Southern Africa

Namibia: N$3 Billion Port Expansion 50% Complete
South Africa: President Obama Lifts AGOA Ban / Future US Trade Opportunities With South Africa / UAE Visit Cements Strong Relations / Rand Takes Bite Out Of Container Trade / Zuma Launches Operation Phakisa / 45 Reach Stackers For Transnet / Mvezo Makes A Splash At Durban Harbour
**Events Diary**

**April 2016**

20-21  7th Ghana Summit – Oil, Gas & Power (Accra, Ghana)
http://www.owghana.com/

24-26  International Beauty Show, Afric Beauty Expo 2016 (Dakar, Senegal)
http://africbeautyexpo.com/?lang=en

26-30  Zimbabwe International Trade Fair Company (ZITF) (Bulawayo, Zimbabwe)
http://www.zitf.net/

27-28  5th Mozambique Mining, Energy and Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition (Maputo, Mozambique)
http://www.mozmec.com/

**News Briefs**

**Western Africa**

**BURKINA FASO**
- Vancouver’s Endeavour Mining has commenced construction at its US$328m Hounde project in Burkina.

**CAMEROON**
- Ngoulémakong is to host a FCfa 441.4 million processing unit to turn cassava into starch and others derivatives financed by the Investment and Development Project for Agricultural Markets (PIDMA) & the World Bank.

**COTE D’IVOIRE**
- Dangote Cement commenced construction of a new cement grinding plant to produce 3 million MT/yr.

**GABON**
- The Africa Finance Corporation to invest up to US$140m in the Gabon Special Economic Zone, a JV between agriculture company Olam and the Gabon government.

**GUINEA BISSAU**
- The China Machinery Engineering Corporation (CMEC) signed a MoU to build a new international airport. CMEC will also build 2-fishing ports in Biombo and Buba and a power transmission line in Saltinho in the south.

**NIGERIA**
- China has offered a loan worth US$6 billion to fund infrastructure projects. The announcement came as countries signed a currency swap deal to boost trade, shore up the Naira & help fund deficit.
- Nigeria plans to split state oil company NNPC into two to ease a planned stake sale and wants to sell at least 40% of a newly created National Petroleum Co (NPC) in coming years.

**Eastern & Southern Africa**

**BOTSWANA**
- Firestone Diamonds has agreed to an extension for the $8m sale of its Botswana operations to allow buyer Tango Mining time to finalise a proposed $30m loan.

**RWANDA**
- Members of Parliament from both chambers welcomed a 3-year plan to phase out the commercialisation of second-hand clothes known as ‘caguwa.’

**SOUTH AFRICA**
- US car maker Ford to invest R2.5-billion to build the new Everest sports-utility vehicle at its Silverton assembly plant in Pretoria boosting output from 74,000 units a year to 93,000 units by 2017 - a 25% increase.
- Illovo Sugar said its largest shareholder, Associated British Foods, has agreed to buy the remaining stake in the company for US$370m.
- Transport giant Alstom acquired 51% share in Commuter Transport and Locomotive Engineering.

**UGANDA**
- Explorer Black Mountain Resources signed documentation to acquire Namakera Mining Company, which holds 2-mining projects in Uganda [Namakera vermiculite mine/ Busumbu phosphate project] & commits to investing US$2.5m in new capital over next 2-years.

**ZIMBABWE**
- Zimbabwe is probing Rio Tinto’s disposal of its stake in 2-mines: its 78% stake in the Murowa diamond mine and also sold off its 50% interest in the Sengwa coal mine.
CMA CGM Targets EURAF 2 Services
Offers Improved Europe-West Africa Transits

CMA CGM’s EURAF 2 service which connects the markets of Europe with West Africa will see improved transit times from 3-European ports of Antwerp, Le Havre and Lisbon. This weekly service is operated with 4 vessels up to 3,400 TEU connecting the Nigerian ports of Lagos Tin Can and Apapa and Tema, Ghana. Inland connections are offered to Ouagadougou in Burkina Faso via Tema.

CMA CGM Targets Asia-West Africa
ASAF Service Offers New Direct Call At La Reunion

CMA CGM has added a new call at Pointe des Galets, La Reunion on its ASAF service, connecting Asia to West Africa. This service is operated with 13 vessels of 9,400 TEU. La Reunion is served in just 20 days from Shanghai, 16 days from Nansha and 9 days from South-East Asia. Via La Reunion we offer a fortnightly fixed-day service to Longoni, Mayotte connecting to Shanghai in 30 days. Customers in Comoros and North Madagascar will benefit from a developed Reefer product.

Rotation: Tianjin/Xingang, Qingdao, Ningbo, Shanghai, Chiwan, Nansha, Singapore, Tanjung Pelepas, Port Kelang, Pointe des Galets [hub to Mayotte, Comoros, North Madagascar], Coega, Cape Town, Pointe Noire, Luanda, Cape Town, Coega, Port Kelang, Tanjung Pelepas, Singapore, Tianjin/Xingang.
CMA CGM Upgrades Indian Ocean Feeder Service Adds Second Vessel & Call At Reunion Island Hub

CMA CGM has upgraded its Indian Ocean North Feeder by adding a second 700 TEU vessel to the service. Furthermore the Group’s development in the Indian Ocean is further strengthened by an additional call at Pointe des Galets at our Reunion Island hub. The move facilitates commercial exchanges and reefer development between Reunion – Mauritius – Mayotte - Comores and Northern Madagascar.


Rotation: Pointe des Galets, Port Louis, Longoni, Moroni, Mutsamudu, Majunga, Diego Suarez, Nossi Be, Vohemar, Pointe des Galets.

CMA CGM Angolan Agencies Get New Managers

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Joaquim Canivete as Office Manager of our agency branch in Cabinda. Joaquim replaces Carmel Sounda who has been appointed as Office Manager of our Lobito branch.

Joaquim CANIVETE
Mobile: +244 923 618 597
Email: cab.jcanivete@cma-cgm.com
Website

eBusiness Menu Rationalised

The eBusiness menu has been rationalized to improve clarity and offer easy access to essential functions of our eBusiness Platform. The new menu has decreased from 8 to 6 sub categories:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>eBusiness</th>
<th>Local Offices</th>
<th>Help</th>
<th>News &amp; Media</th>
<th>Finance</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our Offer</td>
<td>Schedules</td>
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<td>Shipment Visibility</td>
<td>Routing Finder</td>
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<td>Voyage Finder</td>
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<td>Port Schedules</td>
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<td>Tariffs Finder</td>
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<td>Carrier Charge Finder</td>
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<td>Detention - Demurrages</td>
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<td>Quotation Request</td>
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<td>Booking / Shipping Instructions</td>
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<td>Request Booking</td>
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<td>Booking Dashboard</td>
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<td>Submit SI</td>
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<td>SI Dashboard</td>
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<td>Documents</td>
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<td>Document Dashboard</td>
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<td>Draft to be Reviewed</td>
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<td>Original Available</td>
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<td>Invoice Dashboard</td>
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</table>

eBusiness Booking Request Navigation Improved

The booking request area has been simplified with easier navigation. When modifying a booking, updating a draft or using a template, you can now navigate back and forth between the various steps of the booking process without having to validate intermediate steps.

Booking Request - Container & Cargo

![Booking Request - Container & Cargo Diagram]
eBusiness Event Notifications Added

Notifications are the most efficient way to monitor the status of your shipments. 3-new alerts listed below have been added. Improved ergonomics and updated design enable you to use the function as easily on your smartphone as you do on your PC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Alert Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cut-off Date Change At Port of Loading</td>
<td>Alerts you if we modify the deadline date when the container has to be brought to the terminal.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Missing Container At Port of Loading</td>
<td>Alerts you if your container hasn’t yet been brought to the loading terminal 2 days prior to cut-off date.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Container Available At Depot</td>
<td>Alerts you that your empty container is available for pick up at the depot.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

eBusiness Draft B/L Review Improved

The Bill of Lading [B/L] is always subject to exchanges between you and your agent. The draft online review is designed to ease this process. To guarantee that the B/L will be drawn up exactly as you want it we have enhanced our review tool by providing you with a “What You See Is What You Get – WYSIWYG” visualization of the modification you requested.

CMA CGM Online Business Centre - Our Offer

Business at Convenience
Place your booking or Shipping Instructions any day, any time. (Real time connectivity to receive your BKG / SI). Traceability of Requests.

Ease of Use
Same Login and password for customers to access websites of CMA CGM Group Carriers. Improved navigation experience Support 5 languages.

24/7 Customer Support
Dedicated Customer Service force to support customer engagements. Qualified response streams and compatible support environment.

Multi-Carrier
Unique and standard online tools and services for all CMA CGM group carriers: CMA CGM, ANL, US LINES, CNC.

Innovative Services
Improved quality of documents. Comprehensive business solutions. Active business, streaming transaction updates to customers.

Visibility
24/7 shipments follow-up. Saves time by accessing all shipping documents online. Personalized shipment dashboards and real time notifications.

Register now: http://www.cma-cgm.com/ebusiness/our-offer
New Local Agency Websites Launched

Our local agencies in Mozambique, Ethiopia and Djibouti have each launched new local web areas to keep pace with the requirements of their customers.

http://www.cma-cgm.com/local/djibouti

http://www.cma-cgm.com/local/ethiopia

http://www.cma-cgm.com/local/mozambique
The Africa Regional Integration Index [ARII] Report

The Africa Regional Integration Index [ARII] Report – Africa’s first effort to measure progress on regional integration – was launched Saturday, April 2 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, during the African Development Week. Out of all the Regional Economic Communities, the report cites the East African Community [EAC] as the most integrated region.

The ARII is a collaborative effort between the African Development Bank [AfDB], the African Union Commission [AUC] and the Economic Commission for Africa [ECA]. It seeks to collect data on the impacts of regional integration.

Although regional integration is often quoted as a key component of economic transformation, up until now, no mechanisms existed to systematically measure how different African countries and regions fared. This flagship report assesses the current situation on the continent and highlights gaps and best practices.

The ARII looks at 16 indicators across 5-dimensions: trade integration, productive integration, regional infrastructure, free movement of people, and financial integration. The indicators measure important aspects such as share of intra-regional trade as a percentage of total trade, and proportion of intra-regional flights, amongst others.

Countries that scored highly in a number of dimensions include Kenya, South Africa, Côte d’Ivoire and Cameroon.

More information on the Index, including detailed explanations about the methodology, dimensions, indicators as well as detailed country profiles and rankings can be obtained at the following link: www.integrate-africa.org.

World Bank Notes Commodity Shock Knocks Africa’s Growth Prospects

The World Bank has lowered its 2016 growth forecast for Africa to 3.3%, from 4.2% previously, after the continent expanded by only 3% in 2015; the slowest pace of growth since the 2009 global financial crisis and well below the 6.8% levels experienced by the continent between 2003-8.

The bank’s latest ‘Africa’s Pulse’ publication, released on 11th April, indicated that the weak 2015 performance, as well as the 2016 downward revision, could be attributed largely to the plunge in commodity prices, which had dramatically lowered the terms of trade for the continent’s oil and minerals exporters. Commodities represent more than 60% of the region’s exports compared with 16% for manufactured goods and 10% for agricultural products. Commodity price drops will also lower Africa’s terms of trade in 2016 by an estimated 16% and the impact of this shock is expected to lower economic activity by 0.5% from the baseline, and to weaken the current account and fiscal balance by about 4 and 2 percentage points below the baseline, respectively.

Growth expectations for 2017 had also been reined in to 4.5%, from 4.7% previously, and the bank argued that commodity exporters across the region would need to adjust to a new, lower level of commodity prices. The region will need to focus on developing new sources of growth.
Opening Doors To Private Sector Investments In Africa

Public and private sector representatives and state leaders recently met in Egypt to try and find ways to open the doors to private sector investments. The forum “Africa 2016” focused on trade and investment as engines of growth. Participants were unanimous that governments need to put in place a business climate that will attract investors; they need to combat corruption and eliminate bureaucratic obstacles as well as reform financial systems to facilitate inward and outward flows of money.

The Africa 2016 Forum marked a step further towards the implementation of the goals adopted during the January 2012 African Union Summit which focused on the theme of “Boosting Intra-Africa Trade”, as part of the heads of state and government decision to establish a Continental Free Trade Area. To boost trade the African Union identified 6-pillars upon which this will depend.

Intra-African Trade To Hit US$250 Billion By 2021

The African Export-Import Bank [Afreximbank] is to implement a new strategy aimed at driving industrialisation across Africa and increasing intra-African trade by, at least, 50% in the next 5-years. The Afreximbank Intra-African Trade Strategy, approved by the Board of Directors at its quarterly meeting in Johannesburg, will see the Bank work with partners to ramp up trade among African countries to US$250 billion from its current level of about US$170 billion by 2021.

The strategy will involve expanding existing trading activities within Africa’s regional economic communities, integrating informal trade into formal frameworks, reducing trade barriers and minimising the foreign exchange costs of intra-African trade. It would also allow for the expansion of domestic trade value chains, thereby strengthening the capacity of African economies to resist economic shocks.

Afreximbank intends to play a significant role in reducing these barriers, by promoting the emergence of export trading companies and by helping to resolve regulatory and policy issues through a deepening of partnerships and bilateral trade arrangements. The strategy will be centered on 3-core pillars: Create, Connect and Deliver.

Create
The Bank will support the expansion of the production, processing and export capabilities of African economies with trade finance instruments, for import of investment goods, project finance, lines of credit, export development finance and guarantees, and will provide project financing to construct infrastructure for the services sectors and for the development of industrial parks.

Connect
Initiatives to provide a facilitative environment to increase the flow of goods and services, including links with public and private entities, institutions, agents and entrepreneurs along the trade value chain. Also involve support for export trading companies the launch of an Intra-African trade payment platform using a clearing arrangement operated by the Bank that will reduce foreign currency costs of the trade

Deliver
Afreximbank will deepen access of traders to African markets by creating effective and cost-efficient distribution mechanisms through the financing of transport logistics and storage infrastructure.

To support the Intra-African Trade Strategy, the Board of Directors also approved a revised local currency programme that will allow the development of yield curves via African currencies, which will encourage greater use of local currencies, thereby further reducing the foreign exchange cost of intra-African trade transactions.

Afreximbank plans to hold a formal unveiling of the Intra-African Trade Strategy during an Intra-African Trade Forum scheduled to hold in Abidjan in May.
Regional

USAID Supports ATRCs To Boost Trade

The USAID West Africa Trade and Investment Hub will train coordinators from 7 West African countries to assist businesses with the processes and documentation required for exporting to the United States under the African Growth and Opportunity Act [AGOA].

Coordinators from AGOA Trade Resource Centers [ATRCs] in Ghana as well as Benin, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Côte d’Ivoire, Nigeria and Senegal will convene for training on how to deliver services in trade intelligence, export development, business promotion and trade facilitation to existing and potential exporters.

[News Ghana 12/04/16]

Angola

China / Angola Chamber Of Commerce Opens

The China Angola Chamber of Commerce [CAC] was officially opened on 17th March. The CAC will be led by Angola’s Manuel Arnaldo Calado. The CAC is intended to promote and support cooperation between businesspeople, Angolan investment in China and Chinese investment in Angola, respectively, promoting trade and technological exchanges.

[Macauhub/AO/CN 15/03/16]

Ghana

Ghana Ready for July 1 IMO Requirement

The Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority [GPHA], has indicated Ghana’s readiness to comply with the July 1, 2016, International Maritime Organization’s [IMO] obligation of verification of container weight. The IMO legal binding requirement is expected to see an exporter obtaining accurate gross weight of packed container so that vessels and terminal operators can prepare vessel stowage plans prior to loading cargo ships.

[Chronicle 11/04/16]
Nigeria

Workshops Address Transport Costs & Container Weight

As part of efforts to address poor connectivity and high transport costs, stakeholders recently converged on Abuja for a sub-regional workshop on “Minimising Transport Costs and Improving Connectivity of West and Central African Countries: A Panacea for Economic Development of the Sub-region”. The two-day workshop was jointly organised by the Union of African Shippers’ Councils [UASC], the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development [UNCTAD] and Global Shippers’ Forum [GSF]. The workshop was hosted by the Nigerian Shippers’ Council [NSC] under the aegis of the Federal Ministry of Transportation [FMOT]. The focus of the workshop was also on “New International Maritime Organisation’s [IMO] Rule on Container Weighing and its Implications for Nigerian Maritime Trade”. [Naija News 30/03/16]

Ship Owners Join Forces To Form One Body

The Nigerian Ship Owners Association [NISA] and the Ship Owners Association of Nigeria [SOAN] have joined forces to form one forum. The move is a concerted effort to speak with one voice and move the shipping sector of the economy forward. [This Day 14/03/16]

President Appoints New NIMASA Boss

President Buhari appointed Dakuku Peterside as the Director General of Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency [NIMASA] with immediate effect. [NAN 10/03/16]
**Gambia**

**Gambia Commissions Cargo Handling Equipment Worth €1.8 Million**

The Gambia Ports Authority [GPA] commissioned newly-procured cargo handling equipment worth €1.87 million. The equipment includes 2-Kalmar Reach Stackers, 3-MAFI tractors trailers and 3-forklifts of 5 tonnes, 3 tonnes and 2.5 tonnes. The move will achieve greater productivity in ship handling and cargo deliveries at the port. The GPA is also looking to expand Banjul Port terminal by 18,000 m2 to improve the efficiency of cargo handling. Further equipment is yet to arrive from Germany.

Meanwhile the GPA in collaboration with the office of the PFSO, held a 5-day in-house training of security personnel on maritime safety at the GPA headquarters in Banjul.

**Guinea**

**New Cranes Inaugurated At Conakry Port**

The Conakry port in Guinea has inaugurated 2-large ship-to-shore [S2S] container cranes. Operating at the TCC [Terminal a Conteneurs de Conakry], a facility run by Bolloré Africa Logistics [BAL], the new cranes are the first-ever container gantries installed in Guinea. So far, the port only featured 2-conventional mobile cranes and it otherwise relied on self-sustained geared tonnage.

The over-panamax container gantries were manufactured in China by ZPMC and shipped to Conakry aboard the specialist transporter vessel ZHEN HUA 10. They were delivered to the TCC terminal in November 2015 and they became operational in February. The cranes have a lift capacity of 62 MT acquired for a reported US$ 17.2 million.

Conakry’s new container gantries are part of an upgrade program aimed at increasing the capacity and capability of the TCC. Late in 2014, the terminal opened a pier extension that increased berth length from 200m to just over 500m. The expanded pier has a depth of 13m and has been designed to accommodate 2- ‘Wafmax’ vessels, small overpanamax units of 4,500 teu, simultaneously. About a year after the berth extension, the terminal storage yard was enlarged from 7 to 20 ha, by means of paving an area claimed from the sea in the years before. Last year Conakry port handled 166,000 TEU.
Liberia

NPA Sign Contract

The Management of the National Port Authority [NPA] has signed a contract valued at US$6 million with Smit Lamnalco for the supply of marine crafts to include 2-Tug Boats (Lamnalco waxbill and Lamnalco wagtail). As well as a patrol boat, Smit Qasim and Pilot boat, Smit Oloma for use at the Port of Greenville in Sinoe County.

[The News 29/03/16]

Morocco

Nador West Med Port Development

The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development [EBRD] is to fund the Nador West Med port development in eastern Morocco, investing €200m to finance the basic infrastructure, including the construction of a breakwater, quays, dredging and related works, for a major new port and free zone. The development is in the Bay of Betoya. Nador West is one of at least 5-new ports under construction as part of Morocco’s National Port Strategy 2030. The vision is not only to build ports but to develop specialist port clusters for energy, industry and logistic.

As well as Nador West, the major new ports are at Kenitra, Safi, Jorf Lasfar [a new LNG port which will also serve the hydrocarbon import/export needs of a prospective new refinery] and Dakhla, while major extensions are planned at Mohammedia, Casablanca, the existing port of Jorf Lasfar, Agadir and Tarfaya.

[Port Strategy 26/03/16]

Tangiers To Get First Automated Terminal

APM Terminals has been awarded a 30-year concession to operate Container Terminal 4 at Tanger Med II. APM Terminals announced that it will fund and construct the first ever automated terminal in the port – in fact the first automated terminal in Africa. The port, which will be operational by 2019, will quadruple the company’s current annual capacity in Tangier by 5-million additional TEU. Tangier port handled 1.7 million TEUs in 2015.

The new facility will be the 3rd container terminal at Tanger Med and the second APMT-controlled one. As APMT already operates a terminal at the port, called APMT Tangier, the new terminal will be named APM Terminals MedPort Tangier. APM is looking into starting the project in few weeks’ time.

The project which is expected to cost US$859 million [€758 million] will allow it to become the operator of the Tanger Med 2 port complex in a 30-year concession, paving the way for the instalment of new equipment. It will include 1,600 m of quay, a 76-ha container platform and offers an estimated annual design capacity of 3 million TEU with a later expansion modules increasing this to 5 million TEU.

[CM 31/03/16]

RESOURCES
You can see a satellite view of the future site of APMT Tanger Med 2 at: https://www.google.de/maps/@35.862468,-5.5358001,899m/data=!3m1!1e3
Nigeria

Four Foreign Companies Interested In Bakassi Deep Seaport

Four international companies with expertise in deep seaport development have indicated their interest to invest in the Bakassi Deep Seaport. The project is proposed as a Public Private Partnership [PPP] with the Private sector driving the project.

Baro Port Nears Completion

Construction work at the inland Baro Port in Niger State is almost complete, with dredging work from Baro to Lokoja already finished. The installation of cranes and perimeter fencing remains to be completed, while the construction contract for the port access road has not yet been awarded.

Ports Authority Seeks Tripartite Panel On Ikorodu

The Nigerian Ports Authority [NPA] has called for the establishment of a tripartite committee to create a framework which will ensure the effective utilization of the Ikorodu terminal in Lagos State. The suggested committee would consist of the Nigerian Ports Authority [NPA], Nigeria Customs Service [NCS] and the Federal Ministry of Transport.
ETCN Billing In The Business Single Window [GUCE]

Antaser Togo has announced the billing of the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note [ECTN] in the Business Single Window known as GUCE from 14th March 2016. The ECTN must be issued and validated at the Port of Load [POL] and is essential for import custom clearance upon arrival. Cargoes not covered by a valid ECTN will not be cleared through Customs until presentation of the final ECTN. Non presentation may attract fines and penalties. TOGO ECTN is required even for cargo in transit. The ECTN number should always be mentioned on the Bill of Lading [B/L] and the cargo manifest. Consignees cannot proceed to deliver formalities without the TOGO ECTN.

Since 08/04/2015, the Togolese Government has appointed ANTASER as agent for the issue of TOGO ECTN replacing PHEONIX. Responsibility in case of any lack, error, omission or discrepancies with regard to Togo ECTN/BESC remains with the merchant/importer.

GUCE
The creation of the Single Window, managed by the Société d’Exploitation du Guichet Unique pour le Commerce Extérieur au Togo [SEGUCE TOGO], is one of the structural reforms put in place by the Togolese Government to enhance the competitiveness of its economy. The GUCE is an electronic platform open to all operators and users involved in the operation of foreign trade [import, export, transit and transhipment] performed in Togo. It serves as a unique support to all procedures and formalities for clearance and removal of goods at all points of entry and exit from the territory [Lomé port, border crossings and airport].

Contacts
Société d’Exploitation du Guichet Unique pour le Commerce Extérieur au Togo [SEGUCE TOGO]
Quartier Abilogame, Rue Gbaga, Lomé
Tel: +228 22 23 90 00 / 22 20 69 20
E-mail: support@segucetogo.tg
www.segucetogo.tg
China Seeks Free Trade Pact With East Africa

Following the signing of cooperation agreements on trade with the US and the EU, China has begun negotiations for the creation of a comprehensive free trade agreement with EAC, requesting a joint feasibility study on the proposal to be known as EAC-China FTA. However, the East African Business Council has cautioned that free trade with China would hinder EAC industrialization and has noted the EAC needs to protect its investors in the manufacturing industry rather than expose them to unfair competition.

The EAC has already signed co-operation agreements on trade with the US and the EU. China plans to develop free trade areas with African countries to increase its exports.
Kenya/Uganda/Rwanda

Joint Electronic Cargo Tracking Starts June

A joint real-time transit cargo monitoring scheme by Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda will kick off by June to help curb dumping and theft of goods. Goods moving along the northern corridor [Mombasa-Kigali & Kampala] will be monitored.

The Electronic Cargo Tracking System [ECTS] comprises satellites, a monitoring centre and special electronic seals fitted on cargo containers and trucks, which give the precise location of goods in real time. The system triggers an alarm whenever there is diversion from the designated route, an unusually long stopover or when someone attempts to open a container. Besides curbing theft of cargo, the system also helps to seal loopholes that cause the states losses in revenue through suspected under-declaration of the value of exports.

The new system’s key strength is that unlike presently, the three northern corridor countries, shall use one system and one platform, with seamless visibility from Mombasa to Kigali and eventually Juba.

John Njiraini, Commissioner-General, Kenya Revenue Authority [KRA]

Kenya and Uganda have successfully piloted the ECTS while Rwanda has commenced trials and targets to fully adopt the system by mid this year. South Sudan is also expected to come on board soon following in the wake of its recent admission as the sixth member of the East African Community [EAC]. The southern corridor [Dar-es-Salaam-Bujumbura] is expected to be monitored by a similar system.

Kenya introduced ECTS in July 2009 as it intensified its purge against dumping of transit goods in the local market. The country is a key gateway to the region in that the Mombasa port handles imports such as fuel and consumer goods for Uganda, Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo [DRC] and Somalia and exports of tea and coffee from the region.

All importers, exporters, clearing agents and transporters conveying goods under customs control are required to install the ECTS, phasing out tamper-prone seals.

In addition to customs, the system will also provide real time information on the location and status of the cargo to transporters and cargo owners or their agents as the goods are transported along the northern corridor.

Trade in East Africa has become increasingly seamless following the adoption of a Single Customs Territory [SCT] system. Under the SCT deal that came into effect in 2014, clearing agents within the EAC have been granted rights to relocate and carry out their duties in any of the partner states as part of a strategy to improve flow of goods and curb dumping. Kenya, Rwanda and Uganda were the first to take up the SCT arrangement starting April 1, 2014 with Tanzania joining the scheme 2-months later. Statistics by the Kenya Ports Authority [KPA] showed that transit cargo traffic to the Mombasa port’s vast hinterland of East African region significantly increased from 7.19 million tonnes in 2014 to 7.66 million tonnes in 2015 reflecting an 8.2% growth.

[Geeska 16/03/16]
Kenya

China Imports Jump 29%

China has become the first country to cross the Sh300 billion mark in exports to Kenya, underlining its economic significance. The Asian nation’s exports to Kenya jumped 29% to Sh320 billion last year compared to Sh248 billion a year earlier, according to Kenya National Bureau of Statistics [KNBS] data. This saw Beijing overtake India as Nairobi’s largest source of goods, opening a Sh67 billion lead in sales over New Delhi, largely on account of import for Standard Gauge Railway [SGR] that will connect Mombasa port city to capital Nairobi by mid-2017. Other imports included mobile phones and household goods.

In return Nairobi earned less than Sh5 billion from its exports to Beijing. The World Bank has warned that cheap Chinese imports may hurt Kenya’s bid to join the club of industrialised nations as projected in its Vision 2030 economic blueprint. Kenya’s fledgling manufacturing sector has stagnated at an average of 11% to the Gross Domestic Product [GDP] in the past 10 years. This has created room for imports of goods that cannot be manufactured locally, pushing up the country’s import bill, which towers above exports, and piling pressure on the shilling. In 2015, Kenya’s manufactured exports fell 20.3% while chemical sales abroad shrunk 7.9%.

Kenya last September launched a grand industrialisation roadmap for the creation of agro-processing hubs, industrial parks and special economic zones, in efforts to shore up its basket of finished products, crucial for improving trade balance. Imports from India were down by Sh11 billion to Sh253 billion while America’s was down by Sh42 billion to Sh125 billion last year.

[Daily Nation 05/04/16]

Kenya Eyes US$1 Billion Bilateral Trade With Pakistan

Kenya’s High Commissioner, Prof Julius Kibet Bitkok, addressing the Islamabad Chamber of Commerce and Industry [ICCI] noted bilateral trade between Kenya and Pakistan is currently US$600 million. This figure is expected to rise to US$1 billion with aggressive efforts from both countries focusing on diversification away from tea and rice. Kenya is interested in Pakistani products including pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs and farm machinery. Similarly Kenya could export its leather products, flowers and many other goods to Pakistan.

The Commerce Minister of Kenya is to visit Pakistan in August to take part in Joint Ministerial Commission [JMC] negotiations and asked the business community of Pakistan to prepare a draft of preferential trade agreement which could be discussed during the JMC. He noted the ICCI should plan a trade mission for Kenya to explore potential areas of trade promotion.

[Pakistan Today 15/03/16]
Mauritius

Logistics & Transport Forum Promotes Growth

The Mauritian Government aims to accelerate development in the logistics and transport sectors to transform Mauritius into a regional logistics and transport hub. To this end a 2-day Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport (CILT) Africa Forum 2016 was held in March organised at the joint initiative of CILT Mauritius and CILT UK.

Over 150 high profile transport and logistics delegates, from across the Africa region, attended. The theme of the forum was ‘Exploring Africa Hub-Logistics and Transport as Growth Drivers’ and focused on Mauritius as well as other potential hubs for the various modes of transport, providing opportunities to enable economic growth through increasing logistics and transport professionalism.

[Sudan Government 09/03/16]

Sudan

Stock Market Goes On-Line

The Sudanese Government inaugurated an online trading system of its stock market on 24th March in Khartoum. Financed by the African development Bank (AfDB) as part of its Public Financial and Macroeconomic Management (PFM) project, the e-trading system will be instrumental in promoting rapid development of the Khartoum Stock Exchange Market.

[AfDB 30/03/16]
La Reunion

Terminal Upgrade On Home Stretch

The port of Le Port, La Reunion, has completed a 2-year modernization program aimed at increasing the capacity and capability of its container terminal. With the help of EU co-funding, Le Port has invested over €80 million to extend the container pier by 160m to 640m and increase the depth alongside by 1-mr to 15.50m.

The upgrade package included the acquisition of 3-new ULCS gantry cranes. While the enlarged terminal was designed to accommodate ships of 9,000 teu, the new gantries can work one vessels with widths of up to 21 rows. Two of these 3-new cranes are already in service and a third one will be received in mid-2016. With its upgraded terminal, Le Port aims to become a transhipment hub - though in modest dimensions - and handle up to 100,000 teu of transhipment containers by 2018.
Kenya

Kenya To Construct A Crude Oil And Refined Fuel Jetty

Kenya is to commence construction of a new offshore crude oil and refined fuel jetty in October this year. The Kenya Ports Authority [KPA] has announced the jetty will increase efficiency in delivery of refined fuel imported for domestic use and exported to Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and eastern Democratic Republic of Congo [DRC]. Denmark-based Niras will supervise the construction of the terminal that will replace the existing facility near berth #19.

KPA will construct the jetty near Dongo Kundu for completion December 2019. The facility will be able to handle bigger tankers and hence relocate the existing Kipevu Oil Terminal from Port Reitz. Relocation from Port Reitz to an offshore site will allow offloading of tankers with a capacity of 170,000T and this will improve the efficiency of the port. The new island terminal will be advantageous since it will have 4-berths capable of facilitating import and export of crude oil, heavy fuel oil, dual purpose kerosene, diesel and petrol and is projected to make Mombasa Sea port a major trading hub. The terminal will also comprise of a crude oil pipeline that will connect it to the Changamwe-based Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd [KPRL].

[Sudan News Agency 29/04/16]

Sudan

Sudan To Develop Port Sudan And Simplify Procedures

The Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning has reiterated government’s commitment to develop Port Sudan Port and to simplify its procedures. An agreement has been reached on commitment to a one-door system including customs, taxes, standards and health quarantine to promote coordination and speed up procedures. It was also agreed to computerize financial operations and procedures, to develop handling service and modernize transactions.

[Sudan News Agency 29/04/16]
Tanzania

Berths 13/14 Construction Kicks Off Next Year

Tanzania Ports Authority [TPA] has secured funds for construction of berths #13 and #14 which have been on the drawing board for almost 5-years. The US$690 million fund put together by the World Bank, DFID and TPA, will enable the much awaited project to take off in 2016/17. The project also involves the construction of berth 12 after relocating Kurasini Oil Jetty to Mbwamaji in Kigamboni. A German consultant is on site producing designs and will also propose suitable Public Private Partnership [PPP] options for development and operation of berths 13 and 14. The project falls under Dar es Salaam Maritime Gateway which will also see the expansion of berths 1-7.

[Daily News 04/04/16]

Dar es Salaam Port Sees Transit Traffic Slump

Although Dar Es Salaam Port has been investing in infrastructure to enhance its efficiency the facility has been experiencing a decline in transit cargo traffic in recent months. The reasons for the decline range from the country’s introduction of Value Added Tax [VAT] on transit goods, its dilapidated railway infrastructure and the depreciation of the South African Rand.

Although the VAT is yet to be enforced, it has scared importers to the extent they are using alternative ports in the region. And the Rand’s depreciation has enabled port users to use fewer dollars when purchasing rand thus lowering their business costs, hence the attraction of importing through Durban port in South Africa.

[Daily News 03/04/16]
Kenya

Trial ECTN Implemented By SCEA

The Shippers Council of Eastern Africa (SCEA), eager to enhance the efficiency of the logistics value chain and to reduce detention, demurrage and storage charges for imported cargoes, is introducing the Electronic Cargo Tracking Note (ECTN) system in Kenya on a trial basis with a view to ascertain its potential to reach these objectives. The anticipated availability of shipment information, provided by the ECTN, will allow Kenyan importers to effect pre-clearance subject to ongoing discussions with local stakeholders. The trial period will come to an end on May 18th 2016.

RESOURCES

Testing Laboratory For Mombasa

The Kenya Bureau of Standards (KEBS - www.kebs.org) is to establish a testing laboratory in Mombasa to supplement those in Nairobi.

The facility is expected to start operations in a year’s time. It is expected to increase the speed of testing on imported products which in turn helps businessmen cut on demurrage costs due to delays in sampling that has to be sent to Nairobi for testing. Land has already been acquired.

The lab will tighten the noose on traders importing substandard goods. A 2015 report by Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM) indicated that local industries lose more than 30 billion shillings each year due to the counterfeit trade.

Meanwhile the KEBS Chairman has asked importers to conform to the new Import Standardization Mark (ISM) before the July 1st deadline for compliance.

[Standard Media 11/03/16]

ISM MARK OF QUALITY
KEBS has developed and implemented secure Quality Marks/ stickers complete with Track and Trace software. The objective of the project is to deal with rampant taking of KEBS Quality Marks and provide a platform through which KEBS will be able to carry out on-field real-time validation and verification of goods bearing its Quality Marks. The system will also provide an online platform for consumers to directly authentic the validity of certification of goods before purchase.

Import Standardization Mark Guidelines:

New ISM Application Form

Frequently Asked Questions on the New ISM
South Africa

President Obama Lifts AGOA Ban

On 14th March US President Barack Obama officially revoked any potential limitations imposed on South Africa under the African Growth and Opportunity Act [AGOA] as South Africa “came into compliance” after lengthy negotiations that threatened South Africa’s duty-free trade benefits with the Western powerhouse.

10,000 165

| Tariff lines under AGOA | Tariff lines are currently used |

This followed the Department of Trade and Industry’s confirmation of the first shipment of 16T of frozen chicken legs arriving at the Port of Durban on February 26th, with the US poultry set to be available on retail shelves ahead of the March 15 deadline set by Obama in January.

"Based on actions that the government of South Africa has taken to come into compliance with the requirements, I have determined that suspending the application of duty-free treatment to certain goods is no longer necessary to promote compliance by South Africa with such requirements."

US President Barack Obama, Presidential Proclamation March 14th

South Africa and the US agreed to a quota arrangement, whereby South Africa would accept 65,000 T/y of bone-in chicken from the US and these imports would not be subject to antidumping duties that had been applied to US poultry since 2000.

In January, a 60-day deadline for the actual arrival of US chicken into the South African market was set, with an indication that failure to meet the timeframe would result in South Africa losing some of its duty-free AGOA benefits for specified farm products.

[Engineering News 16/03/16]
Future US Trade Opportunities With South Africa

The US Congress has mandated its embassy in Pretoria to determine what the trade relationship between South African and the US will be once the African Growth and Opportunity Act [AGOA] comes to an end in 2025. It is fairly clear that AGOA will not be renewed after 2025; however, the US is open to hearing what South Africa wants from its bilateral trade relationship with the US. There are 9-years to talk about future relationship between the countries. Last year, South Africa exported US$7.44-billion worth of goods to the US. The US is currently South Africa’s third-largest trading partner. Automobiles were South Africa’s biggest export with US$1.3-billion of vehicles exported in 2015. Agriculture is another large export with macadamia nuts, oranges and wine being the biggest agricultural exports through AGOA - US$131-million of agricultural products were exported in 2015. Clothing, chemicals and car parts were also shipped to the US under AGOA last year.

UAE Visit Cements Strong Relations

A recent visit by President Zuma to the United Arab Emirates [UAE] has cemented strategic bilateral relations between the 2-countries. Zuma held official talks with the Prime Minister of UAE and Ruler of Dubai Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum. The meeting focused on the promotion of the country’s infrastructure development priorities in accordance with the National Development Plan [NDP] and UAE involvement in this respect. Both leaders agreed to work towards considering South Africa as a strategic partner on the African continent and a preferred investment destination and primary trade partner. President Zuma also met with business leaders in Dubai where he emphasised the importance of creating a platform to enhance Business-to-Business cooperation in order to increase South African exports to the UAE market and attract UAE investors to South Africa. Total trade rose from R13 billion in 2011 to R27 billion in 2015. By 2015, a total of 14 FDI projects from the UAE were recorded representing almost R3 billion.

Rand Takes Bite Out Of Container Trade

The South African container trade started off with a bang in 2015, with the market growing by 7% during H1 compared with the same period in 2014, however H2 2015 saw a significant slowdown, with a 1% decline. In Q4 2015, the market contracted by 5% with container imports declining by 4% and container exports by 6%. The Asian import market, in particular, was down which is a sign that the weaker rand and lower consumer confidence are weakening import demand. Asia represents half of South Africa’s total container import market, and includes retail, electronics and consumer goods.
Namibia

N$3 Billion Port Expansion 50% Complete

About 50% of construction of the new container terminal at the port of Walvis Bay on 40-ha of reclaimed land has been completed. CEO of Namport, Bisey Uirab, noted the N$3 billion port expansion, once completed, will enable Namport to accommodate larger and longer container vessels as well as efficient ship-to-shore cranes.

The container terminal project includes the construction of a modern container terminal, adding 600m of quay length to the existing 1500m and 650,000 TEU per annum capacity to the existing 350,000 TEUs. The terminal will have 2-berths of 600m in length, have a -16.0 CD water depth, accommodate container vessels of 8,000 TEUs and handle 750,000 TEUs per annum.

According to Uirab the project is well on track and will be commissioned in early 2018. Once the new container terminal comes on stream, the current container terminal will be utilized for multi-purpose cargo which will create the opportunity for increased bulk and break bulk business in that larger cargo vessels can be accommodated at the existing container terminal berths. The 1,330-ha development will be the key spoke in the Namibia logistics hub and will be a major port gateway serving the SADC countries.
South Africa

Zuma Launches Operation Phakisa

President Jacob Zuma has launched the first phase of Operation Phakisa, which aims to boost economic growth by tapping into the country’s ocean resources. It is expected to add nearly R2-billion to the economy by 2033. The Ocean Economy programme under Operation Phakisa focuses on sectors such as marine transport, offshore oil and marine tourism.

As part of the programme, the Transnet National Ports Authority has allocated about R7-billion to improve ports. Nine tugboats being built by South African Shipyards in Durban, and Durban’s dry dock is now open for business after an investment of R43-million. R3.6-billion has been allocated to be used in boatbuilding and a fuel storage facility in Cape Town’s port. In a bid to develop rural economies, coastal and marine tourism, small harbour development and, twelve new aquaculture projects have also been selected for various provinces, including those inland - Mpumalanga and Gauteng. Three new harbours will be built in the Northern Cape, Eastern Cape and KwaZulu-Natal to provide opportunities for local and rural economic development.

45 Reach Stackers For Transnet

Kalmar has completed the delivery of 45 reachstackers to South African dealer Shumani Industrial Equipment part of the Goscor group which also rents and distributes Genie and custom equipment. The delivery, said to be the largest of its kind in South Africa, is valued at €13 million and includes 37 DRT450 45 tonne reachstackers and 8-DCT90, 9-Tonne empty container handlers. The units will be distributed across 15 Transnet container terminals including inland dry port terminals operated by Transnet Freight Rail.

Mvezo Makes A Splash At Durban Harbour

The arrival of the first of 2-new, powerful tugboats bound for the Port of Port Elizabeth marked the first milestone in a R1.4-billion 9-tugboat contract to bolster the efficiency of the ports’ marine operations. Transnet National Ports Authority [TNPA] took delivery of ‘Mvezo’ from the contractor Southern African Shipyard. The move formed part of a 42-month tug building project, which kicked off in August 2014. Despite having 29 tugs in service nationally, there was a growing need for bigger, stronger tugboat fleets to service the increasingly frequent docking of larger commercial vessels at South African ports.