CMA CGM ENHANCES REUNION ISLAND HUB
STRENGTHENS MARITIME SERVICES & DOUBLES OFFICE SUPPORT
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Zimbabwe: Full Implementation Of CBCA Programme / Zimbabwe To Tax Imported Food Commodities
Western Briefs

COTE D’IVOIRE
- Félix Houphouet-Boigny International Airport in Abidjan to get US$67m makeover and to build an extension to the terminal that would more than triple capacity.

DRC
- A new mineral resource estimate for Ivanhoe Mines’ Kipushi mine has shown measured and indicated mineral resources in the big zinc zone of 10.2-million tonnes.

GHANA
- Construction of the Sankofa-Gye Nyame oil and gas field is on course and is expected to produce 180m cubic feet of gas daily to generate approximately 1,100mw. 30,000 barrels of oil will be produced from August 2017 and supply of first gas will begin in February 2018.

GUINEA
- French telecoms tycoon Xavier Niel’s NJJ Capital has acquired a minority stake in Alliance Miniere Responsable, a Paris-based company developing bauxite reserves in Guinea.

NIGER
- Niger has granted Canadian explorer GoviEx Uranium a permit to exploit the Madaouela project in the Agadez region, for investments worth $676-million.

SENEGAL
- Kosmos Energy announced that its Guembeul-1 exploration well, located in the northern part of the St. Louis Offshore Profond license area in Senegal, has made a significant gas discovery.

News Briefs

Eastern Briefs

ETHIOPIA
- Qatari real estate firm Ezdan Holding Group wants to enter the Ethiopian market with a proposed mega tourist project a proposed 150,000m² resort construction.

KENYA
- Kenya National Highways Authority has confirmed that the construction of a major highway at Kenya’s Coast is set to begin later this year. The Garsen-Witu-Lamu road in Kenya is expected to boost business and economic growth in the area once complete.

MOZAMBIQUE
- The milling industry expects to import at least 120,000 T maize per month through Mozambique from Brazil, Argentina, Mexico, S. Africa to alleviate food shortages.

SOUTH AFRICA
- Coal of Africa Limited is still planning for construction at its Makhado coking coal project, in Limpopo, to start in the second half of this year. This was despite a 2014 interim court interdict, which sought to halt any mining or construction activity.

SUDAN
- Banana production is expected to increase as the Sudanese Center for Exports Sterilization has revealed plans for a banana packing centre for export, to be opened March with a daily capacity of 100T in in Sabonaby Village, Sennar State.

UGANDA
- Mayuge Sugar Industries will soon begin the construction of $63.6m sugarcane waste power generation plant.

Events Diary

February 2016

17-23  Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) - IPHEX Africa (Nigeria)
http://www.iphex-india.com/

24-25  Africa Pharmaceutical Summit (APS) 2016 (Nairobi, Kenya)
http://africapharmasummit.com/

25-27  4th Annual African Railway Summit (Johannesburg, South Africa)
http://fleming.events/er/events/landing-page/logistic-transport/africa-railway-summit

25-28  Ethiopia Trade Expo 2016 (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia)
http://www.inexpo.ae/
CMA CGM Enhances Reunion Island Hub

Strengthen Maritime Services & Doubles Office Support

CMA CGM Group has strengthened its maritime services linking the Reunion Island during the inauguration of the Group’s new offices on 26th January. The following day the Grand Port Maritime of La Reunion [Port de la Pointe des Galets] inaugurated its new facilities following the extension and modernization of the East Port.

The Reunion Island now becomes CMA CGM Group’s maritime hub in the Indian Ocean. CMA CGM has been present on the Reunion Island since 2003. Our new office area has been doubled to support the increased activity generated by the new hub.

CMA CGM positions the Reunion Island as a strategic hub in the Indian Ocean: by offering 5 weekly calls at Pointe des Galets port compared to 3 previously, the Group links Reunion Island with Europe, Australia, Asia, India, East Africa, West Africa and South Africa.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MIDAS</td>
<td>Only service linking Reunion Island to East Africa, South Africa, West Africa, Arabian Peninsula and India with 2 weekly calls.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MASCAREIGNES Express</td>
<td>Weekly service between Reunion Island, Mauritius, and Madagascar. By connecting with other Group’s services all locations within the Indian Ocean are served.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOZEX [Asia Mozambique Express]</td>
<td>Weekly direct connection between the Indian Ocean and Asia via CMA CGM’s Port Kelang hub in Malaysia.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEMO [New North Europe Med Oceania]</td>
<td>Fixed day weekly service calling every Wednesday offering direct links between Europe, the Reunion Island and Australia. Provides one of the best transit times on the market 16 days from Fos / 21 days from Le Havre.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thanks to these new service offers, the Reunion Island will be served every Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. CMA CGM offers unprecedented export solutions to Reunion Island producers and new sourcing opportunities for local importers.

This new reinforced service offer is the finalization of a process initiated in August 2014 with Vice-Chairman Rodolphe Saadé signing a Memorandum of Understanding aimed at making the Reunion Island the Group’s strategic maritime hub in the Indian Ocean, in presence of French President François Hollande.
The Reunion Island becomes today CMA CGM’s maritime hub in the Indian Ocean. The Group restores its position as the maritime crossroads between Europe, Asia and Africa thanks to our new strengthened service offer. CMA CGM contributes to the economic growth of the Reunion Island with new sourcing and export opportunities, and the increased maritime activity generated.

Rodolphe Saadé, CMA CGM Vice-Chairman
CMA CGM Offers Used Containers For Sale

Available Throughout Africa For Industrial, Commercial & Domestic Use

CMA CGM have a wide variety of shipping containers for sale. Whether you require a unit for storage or for converting we can work with you to offer the best solution, with a small team of trusted hauliers for efficient delivery up to site. We also offer a last voyage purchase option. As such the container from a booking originating from the Port of Load (POL) can be purchased by the local consignee.

The basic modular design and robust structure of a shipping container makes it a popular choice for converting into retail space or for industrial use. Containers are suitable to be used as a permanent structure or as a temporary solution. With minimal conversion shipping containers can also be fabricated into a much larger structures for any urban or industrial environment. What’s more we can also offer refrigerated *reefer *containers ideal for cold storage use.

Our containers are...
- Strong high tensile steel
- Anti-vandal structure
- Easily converted
- Cost-effective
- Weatherproof - stored items will remain dry and secure
- Have heavy duty flooring as standard
- Are intermodal and easily moveable
- Quick and easy to site
- Have an internal and external structure that can easily be adapted
- Are easily stacked and linked to make larger, modular units
- Eco friendly

Container specifications...
- Container sizes come in 3 sizes: 20ft / 40ft / 40ft High Cube
- Reefer containers available in 2 sizes: 20ft /40ft High Cube – perfect for cold storage
- 8ft wide as standard in order to meet ISO (International Shipping) regulations
- Clean, dry, secure equipment
- Either marine ply or bamboo floors as standard
- Usually have four small vents for air circulation
- Structurally sound
- Weather proof
- Available on finance
- Versatile uses are limitless

For further information regarding cost and delivery please contact your local African agency office or the CMA CGM Container Sales department on +33 (0) 4.88.91.97.79 or E-mail: ho.Vitte@cma-cgm.com
eBusiness

New Online Invoice Dashboard

Launched on 26th January, 2016, our new interactive invoice dashboard now provides you with a 360° view on your invoices. The service also features visibility and access to freight, detention & demurrage and deposit invoices.

ONLINE INVOICE BENEFITS
- All eInvoices in a single dashboard
- Visibility on whole invoice lifecycle
- Sorting, filtering & grouping via customizable views
- Invoice information placed in context of its related shipment
- Payment status information available
- Access to 2 years invoice history
- Notifications received by e-mail or in the Notification Center
- Mass printing of invoices
- Export to PDF/XLS

To discover our Online Business Center visit http://www.cma-cgm.com/news/998/cma-cgm-group-ebusiness-our-online-business-centre-

Agency News

New Angolan Sales & Commercial Manager For Luanda Office

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Jesus Valverde Duran as our new Sales & Commercial Manager for Angola, Luanda replacing Claudio Vasconcelos who has left the Group. CMA CGM offers several connections with Luanda on our EURAF 5, ASAF, SAMWAF and MIDAS services.

New CMA CGM Agency In Berbera, Somaliland

CMA CGM has appointed the ‘Red Sea Service Agency’ [RSSA] as its new agent in Berbera, the commercial capital of the autonomous Somaliland.

Through the CMA-CGM network freight bookings are available from any port in the world to Berbera Port with direct shipment from Jebel Ali, Khor Fakhan and Sallalah.

RSSA can provide logistic services in Berbera Port, taking care of custom clearance as well as the delivery of your goods over Somaliland.

Somaliland has a steadily increasing middle-class whose income is growing and their desire to buy consumer goods is equally growing. Reliance on livestock exports, the largest in the region, is matched by levels of imported food and consumer goods. For bookings or a quotation contact:

RED SEA SERVICE AGENCY
Darole, Next to Masjiid Jamac
Berbera, Somaliland
Tel: 00 252 741 057

RESOURCES
Red Sea Service Agency: www.rssa.so
Somaliland Ministry of Trade & Investment: www.somalilandtrade.net
AfDB Hosts Expert Group Meeting On Continental Free Trade Area [CFTA]

The African Development Bank hosted a 2-day Expert Group Meeting from February 2-3, 2016, in Abidjan. The event, organized in collaboration with the African Union [AU] and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa [ECA], is part of a series of preparatory activities for the formal launch of the Continental Free Trade Area [CFTA] Negotiations. The CFTA is tasked with fostering freer and improved intra-African trade performance and deepening integration on the continent. The CFTA is one of the fast-track initiatives and a key milestone under the AU Agenda 2063.

TIMELINE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>January 2012</td>
<td>AU Summit: African leaders adopted the decisions on &quot;Boosting Intra-African Trade [BIAT]&quot; and &quot;the establishment of the CFTA&quot;. Decisions were taken against the backdrop of concerns over the poor trade performance within the continent and the urgent need to develop modalities to fast-track the creation of a free-trade area.</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 2015</td>
<td>CFTA Summit: Following a flurry of preparatory activities under the guidance of the Continental Task Force on the CFTA, the Heads of State at their Summit in Johannesburg, formally launched negotiations on the CFTA.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2016</td>
<td>Formal negotiations commence with the Expert Group tasked with preparing a preliminary draft of the CFTA Agreement to serve as the framework for negotiations. The idea is for negotiators to work on a single draft to avoid delays that could arise if the member-states are obliged to deal with multiple texts on the subject. This would accelerate the negotiations. A detailed plan and timeline for the development of a full draft agreement and Terms of Reference to guide the preparation of respective sections [e.g., Goods, Services, Intellectual Property] of the agreement will also be produced.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>Provisional time frame to conclude the negotiations.</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Malaysia-Africa Bilateral Trade To Grow 4-5% In 2016

Bilateral trade between Malaysia and Africa is expected to grow 4-5% this year. The Malaysia External Trade Development Corp [MATRADE - www.matrade.gov.my] is confident that the growth could be achieved. In the first 11 months of 2015, Malaysia’s trade with Africa rose by 3.2% y-o-y to RM27.5 billion [US$8.45 billion] from RM26.6 billion [US$6.2 billion] previously. Total bilateral trade between the 2-countries amounted to RM29.4 billion [US$6.88 billion] in 2014 against RM26.6 billion [US$6.2 billion] in 2013.

In terms of exports, as of November 2015, Malaysia’s exports to Africa grew by 6.7% to RM18.9 billion [US$4.4 billion] compared to the corresponding period in 2014. Total exports to Africa increased by 11% y-o-y to RM19.5 billion [US$4.56 billion] in 2014. Palm oil and palm-based products accounted for the biggest export share at 32.2% of total exports to Africa for the January-November 2015 period followed by petroleum products [24.4%], chemical and chemical products [7.4%] and processed food [7.1%].

To facilitate business networking between Malaysian and African entrepreneurs, MATRADE will organise a series of seminars, forums and exhibitions this year to provide platforms to industry players to better understand the opportunities there. Additionally, to trade enhance links, a delegation from Senegal was in Kuala Lumpur on 22nd January.
China-Africa Industrial Cooperation Fund Launched

January saw the official launch of the US$10 billion China-Africa Industrial Cooperation Fund to assist Africa’s development. The fund was jointly founded by the China Foreign Exchange Reserves and Export-Import Bank of China. It will be managed by the newly-registered China-Africa Industrial Capacity Cooperation Fund Company Limited [CAICCF].

Africa has been lagging behind in industrial production output. Its total share of global manufacturing has decreased and currently stands at 4%. The manufacturing value of African nations Gross Domestic Product [GDP] fell under 11% in 2014. Africa is also mostly excluded from global value chains and important industrial sectors are still on the decline. Chinese investment would revitalize the industrial sector and help African economies move away from their current commodity dependencies.

The Fund is part of announcements made at Decembers Forum on China-Africa Cooperation [FOCAC]. The larger package also includes US$5 billion of free aid and interest-free loans, US$35 billion of preferential loans and favourable-terms export credit, US$5 billion of additional capital for the China-Africa Development Fund, and Special Development Loan for small and medium size enterprises. The fund will bring mid to long-term investments in sectors, such as manufacturing, agriculture, hi-tech, energy, minerals, technology, infrastructure, and finance.

China’s Zhejiang Province Increases Trade With Africa

Imports and exports between African countries and the eastern Chinese city of Yiwu, known for its small commodities trade, both grew substantially in 2015. Yiwu exported Y49.2 billion [US$7.46 billion] worth of petty commodities to Africa in 2015, an increase of 50.9% y-o-y. Goods including clothes, shoes, toys and electromechanical equipment were shipped to more than 50 African countries. Yiwu imported Y610 million of goods including tea, diamonds, wood carvings and horn decorations from Africa, up 65.3% y-o-y. More than 3,000 African merchants are stationed in Yiwu for business with Africans making some 80,000 trips to Zhejiang every year, according to Customs.

2nd U.S.-Africa Business Forum

During the week of September 19th, 2016, on the occasion of the 71st Session of the UN General Assembly, Bloomberg Philanthropies and the U.S. Department of Commerce will co-host the 2nd U.S.-Africa Business Forum, a day focused on increased trade and investment between the U.S. and African nations. The forum will build on the progress of the inaugural Forum, held during the 2014 U.S.-Africa Leaders’ Summit with the participation of nearly 50 heads of state or government and more than 150 global CEOs. Held in New York City, the event will focus on U.S. private sector engagement in Africa in sectors like finance and capital investment, infrastructure, power and energy, agriculture, consumer goods, health care, and information communication technology.
Regional

African Shippers Council Meeting Takes Place In Ghana

The 10th General Assembly of the Union of African Shippers’ Councils [UASC - uasc.fifthlightmedia.com] was held 27-30th January in Accra, Ghana, hosted by the Ghana Shippers’ Authority [GSA]. The event assessed the Council’s performance over the last 2-years and set new targets for the next 2 years.

The UASC is made up of 18 member Shippers Organizations in the West and Central African sub-region and headquartered in Douala, Cameroun. It is one of the organs of the Maritime Organization for West and Central Africa [MOWCA] and also a member of the Global Shippers’ Forum.

One of the major topics discussed was the International Maritime Organization’s [IMO] Safety of Life at Sea Convention [SOLAS] requirements regarding the verification of the gross mass of packed containers. Effective July 1st this year, all packed containers are required to have a verified gross weight declared by shippers. The move is to check overweight containers that cause accident on the sea.

The event also presented the business model of the Blue Economy, its value with respect to the Ocean governance, including the key role of ports, shipping lines and logistics companies as well as issues of piracy and the 2050 AIM Strategy of the African Union. During the meeting Kwesi Bekoe Amissah-Arthur the Vice President of Ghana urged the Union to develop a blueprint for increasing intra-African trade by removing obstacles and improving the competitiveness of shippers in the sub-region.

ECOWAS / China’s CGCOC Sign MOU On Development Projects

The ECOWAS Commission has signed 5-Memoranda of Understanding [MoUs] relating to various development projects with Chinese conglomerate CGC Overseas Construction Group [CGCOC] at the latter’s new headquarters in Abuja, Nigeria.

The agreements cover the Trans-West African Railway and the Trans-West African Coastal Highway. Others include the West African Telecommunication Infrastructure Facilities, the West African Regional Aviation Field and Construction of New ECOWAS Headquarters and related facilities in Abuja, Nigeria.

Following the visit of an ECOWAS delegation to China, a high level report was compiled and presented by CGCOC to the President of China and the Chinese Foreign Ministry on how best to partner with West Africa for growth and development. The President of ECOWAS, Mr. Kadre Desire Ouedraogo led a high level delegation to China in 2015, as part of ECOWAS developmental drive with the aim of building strong partnership with the international community.

Germany Finances 2-Year Project On Transparent Trade Procedures

Late November UNCTAD and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development [BMZ] represented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit [GIZ] signed an agreement committing €960,000 for the Transparent Trade Procedures project covering the ECOWAS region. The project aims at creating and making operational online trade portals that will clearly describe export, import and transit procedures 3-priority countries of Nigeria, Mali and Benin all of which are WTO Members.

Main benefits include transparency and simplification of international trade procedures and promotion of public awareness of trade-related rules and procedures, as well as creation of an online regional Trade Facilitation Index as a source for benchmarking procedures and highlighting regional best practices. The project is planned to run for over a 2-year period with the implementation phase starting in early 2016.

Union of African Shippers’ Councils Members
- Angola National Shippers’ Council (CNC)
- Benin National Shippers’ Council (CNBC)
- Burkinafaso Shippers’ Council (CBC)
- Cameroon National Shippers’ Council (CNSC)
- Congo Shippers’ Council (CCC)
- Ivorian Shippers’ Council (IOC)
- Gabon Shippers’ Council (BSC)
- Ghana Shippers’ Authority (GSA)
- Guinea Shippers’ Council (CGG)
- Guinea Bissau Shippers’ Council (CNS)
- Mali Shippers’ Council (CMC)
- Niger Council of Public Transport Users (CNUT)
- Senegal Shippers’ Council (COSEC)
- Togo National Shippers’ Council (CNT)
- Chad Shippers’
- Nigerian Shippers’ Council (NSC)
- Republic of Central Africa’s Shippers’ Council (CCAC)
- Democratic Republic of Congo Shippers’ Council (OGEFREM)
Ghana

Trade With India Hits US$2 Billion

According to the Indian High Commission in Ghana, Ghana’s trade with India has for the first time touched US$2 billion in favour of Ghana. Indian investments into Ghana have reached US$1-billion. Between 2009-10 total bilateral trade amounted to US$537.5 million and has steadily rose to US$1.2 billion in 2013-14. While India exports to Ghana amounted to US$830 million in 2014, Ghana exports to India amounted to US$370 million. Indian exports to Ghana include capital goods, pharmaceuticals products, cotton yarn, fabrics, machinery and instruments. They also comprise of sugar, glass and glassware, ceramics, transport equipment, paper and wood products. Ghana however exports gold, cocoa, bauxite, manganese ore, diamonds, timber [mainly teak], cashew, fruits and nuts, metal ores and scrap.

With an estimated growth rate of 7.3% India is poised to become the fastest growing large economy in 2016. In 2014 it launched the “make-in-India’ campaign. The initiative has boosted manufacturing facilitating easy conduct of business and improving the competitiveness of domestic industry.

/Ghanaweb 30/01/16/

GUTA & Exporters And Importers Association Of Ghana Calling For Suspension Of CET

The ECOWAS Common External Tariff [CET] which came into effect February 1, 2016 is already facing resistance by the Ghana Union of Traders Association [GUTA] and the Exporters and Importers Association of Ghana. The 2-bodies are calling on the Ghana Revenue Authority [GRA] to suspend the implementation of the CET or protests will be held if the scheme is not put on hold.

/Pulse 04/02/16/

FACTBOX: ECOWAS Common External Tariff [CET]
- CET is an instruments to harmonize ECOWAS Member States and strengthening its Common Market.
- The law is composed of 4-tariff rates of custom duty, namely:
  - 0 % for Essential Social Goods
  - 5% for Goods of Primary Necessity, Raw Materials and Specific Inputs
  - 10% for Intermediate Goods
  - 20% for Final Consumption Goods
- The law came into effect following the passage of the Customs (Amendment) Act, 2015 (Act 905), by the Ghana Revenue Authority [GRA].
- The CET establishes a system where goods coming into any of the ECOWAS countries will be paid in the country of first entry within the ECOWAS region and the importer would no longer be required to pay in the country of final destination.
Nigeria

NEPC Identifies 13 National Strategic Export Products / Sets Up NDEX

The Nigerian Export Promotion Council [NEPC] has identified 13 National Strategic Export Products [NSEPs] targeted at replacing crude oil. The products were grouped into 3-categories: agro industrial, mining related products and oil and gas industrial products namely: palm oil, cocoa, sugar, rice and cashew, cement, iron ore/metals, auto parts/cars and aluminium. Oil and gas industrial products include petroleum products, fertiliser/urea, petrochemical and menthol.

The introduction of One-State-One-Product initiative will enable each state to choose a product for development along its entire value chain for promotion into a brand for export market. The NEPC will spearhead advocacy by promoting choice of products, market specialisation, improvement on quality, increase in quantity produced and market segmentation. The council has also developed the Nigeria Diaspora Export Programme [NDEX]. The programme has 3-platforms:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Heritage City</th>
<th>Establishment of heritage city: a cultural enclave that will warehouse goods of Nigerian origin.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cuisine Beyond Borders</td>
<td>Restaurants will showcase Nigerian food and formalisation of trade in Nigerian diaspora products by encouraging interested Nigerians resident abroad to invest in export business.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>AGOA</td>
<td>Renewal of the US African Growth Opportunity Act [AGOA] for another 10 years. An AGOA resource centre is operating at the council’s Apapa office in Lagos, providing sensitisation workshops and seminars to offer advisory roles and build capacity for products intended for the US market. NEPC is also in partnership with the US government’s West Africa Trade Hub to increase Nigeria’s chances of positioning better for AGOA.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

China Trade Volume Exceeds US$13 Billion In 2015

China and Nigeria have celebrated 45-years of exchanges this month. Chinese trade volumes with Nigeria exceeded US$13 billion in 2015 up from US$10 million in 1971. Nigeria is the second largest export market of China in Africa and the third biggest trading partner and major investment destination in Africa. Cooperative projects such as the launch of satellite, construction of railroad and the fast development of Lekki and Ogun free trade zones are the true story of China-Nigeria pragmatic cooperation.

Polish-Africa Economic Forum

Speaking during Polish-Africa Economic Forum [POLAFRO - www.polafro.com] in Abuja, the Ambassador of Poland to Nigeria Andrzej Dycha noted Poland is set to partner with Nigeria through investments in developmental areas bordering on agriculture, energy, construction, and pharmaceuticals.

Finland to Strengthen Trade With Nigeria

In a bid to sustaining the bi-lateral relationship shared with Nigeria, the Finnish government has sent high-level business delegation led by Finland Deputy Minister for External Economic Relations, Mr Matti Anttonen, to explore ways to promote trade.

RESOURCES
- Embassy of Finland: http://www.finlandnigeria.org/Public/Default.aspx
- Finland Trade Center: http://www.finpro.fi/etusivu
Senegal

India’s Trade Hits US$700 Million

Trade between India and Senegal totalled over US$700 million in the 2014-15 financial year. Trade has grown steadily from 2010-11, when the total volume stood at US$425.48 million growing at about 25% annually. India’s exports to Senegal during the financial year 2014-15 were valued at US$518.72 million whilst India’s imports stood at US$208.13 million. Main exports from India to Senegal include rice, textiles, food items, automobiles and pharmaceuticals. Major imports from Senegal are phosphoric acid, phosphate ore and raw cashew. There are about 300 Indians in Senegal working with Indian companies, including those executing development projects under lines of credit extended by India under bilateral and multilateral schemes. The rest run their own businesses.

[New Kerala 04/02/16]
Angola

Namibe Port Obtains Second Phase Of Rehabilitation Financing From Japan

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Embassy in Angola signed in Luanda an Exchange of Notes [EoN] of agreement estimated at Y2.1 billion, for the second phase of rehabilitation of the Namibe. According to the Japanese embassy, the EoN comprises a grant from the Japanese Government to Angola and will be signed by the Secretary of State for Cooperation, Ângela Bragança and the Japanese ambassador to Angola, Kuniaki ITO. Namibe Port, one of the three most important in Angola, is a strategic point for the southern region of Angola and should be in the near future the major logistics centre in the Southern Africa, through the Moçâmedes corridor.

The first phase of the rehabilitation was carried out in 2010. The Japanese Bank for International Cooperation [JBIC] carried out the technical and financial cooperation on the new phases of rehabilitation and modernization of the commercial port. Japan’s Toa Corp carried out the work that total funding was estimated at US$25 million paid by Japan.

The first phase refurbishment of the port, which took a year, made it possible to rebuild and modernize the 240m-long dock, the container terminal, a lighting system, with 30m high towers, and water pumping, compatible with the port’s needs. The dock will be extended to 600m in the present second phase.
Cameroon

Firms Win FCFA1.5 Billion Contract For Kribi Industrial And Port Complex

A consortium including European engineering firms Seamar Engineering and SGI International, Cameroonian ERE Development and international accounting firm PwC has won a FCFA1.5 billion contract to assist with the project management of the Kribi industrial and port complex.

Apart from the deep sea Kribi port, of which two terminals [container and multipurpose] have already been built and awaiting their commissioning in 2016, the Kribi industrial and port complex will have a second container terminal, an ore terminal and a hydrocarbons terminal amongst others. The award opens the way for the construction works of Phase-2 expected to come on stream around 2020.

Meanwhile Chinese state-owned Eximbank this month approved a prime rate loan to develop the port. Totalling at XAF 370bn [US$616m], the loan will fund the development of Phase-2 of the Kribi Project.

Cape Verde

Management Of Cape Verde’s Ports

Enapor – Portos de Cabo Verde is negotiating to hand over the management of the main ports of Cape Verde on a sub-contractor basis. On February 3rd the Cape Verdean Official Bulletin published the government authorisation for Enapor to proceed with the sub-concession on the ports of Praia, Porto Grande, Sal-Rei and Palmeira.

According to local media only one interested party remains in the international tender as all other companies that initially expressed interest have dropped out. In October 2015 Enapor had received expressions of interest from 11 companies in Europe and Asia, with more than half meeting the technical requirements to proceed to the second stage of the tender. The list had interested companies based in Portugal, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Philippines, Turkey, China and Singapore.
ICTSI’s Matadi Terminal To Open Mid-2016

International Container Terminal Services Inc. [ICTSI’s] new US$100 million terminal, located at Matadi on the Congo River, Democratic Republic of the Congo [DRC], is on schedule to open for business in August 2016. The new terminal will deliver purpose-designed container handling capacity coupled with modern general cargo handling and storage facilities. The ICTSI DR Congo Terminal is a joint venture company between, ICTSI, The Ledya Group and SCTP SA.

Matadi is the chief sea port of DRC and the capital of the Kongo-Central province. It is situated on the left bank of the Congo River 148 km from the mouth and 8 km below the last navigable point before rapids make the river impassable. The port serves an extensive hinterland including the capital city of Kinshasa, the largest city in Central Africa.

The ICTSI DR Congo Terminal will initially commence operations in August 2016, with 1-berth. Full delivery of Phase One, incorporating a second berth and total quay line of 350m will be by November 2016. Container handling capacity will be 175,000TEU/yr with a 9-ha terminal area incorporating a yard area of 6-ha. Depth alongside the quay will be 12m at all times, offering the ability to serve Panamax, Handymax and Wafmax vessels.

As part of the overall development plan, ICTSI is also actively investigating the impact and opportunities for dredging the river in steps from 7.3m to 9.1m, 11m and eventually possibly even 12m. With the material to be dredged mainly sand there is considered to be real scope to achieve this and the delivery of wide economic benefits. Handling operations along the 350m quay will be via heavy duty mobile cranes with reach stackers in the yard area for container handling. The Terminal Operating System will be Navis N4, incorporating value-added functions such as integrated billing, etc. Construction activity to date at the terminal site, which is located south west of Pont Marechal and the existing public port, has seen the completion of the access road, commencement of piling for the quay and the start of works on the yard area and terminal building and gates.

Based on demand, ICTSI also has the option to immediately implement a Phase Two development providing an additional 350m of quay line and supporting yard area.

[ICTSI Website 20/01/16]
Nigeria
Forex Restrictions Sees Lagos Cargo Routed Through Benin

The Lagos State Shippers Association noted 50% of cargoes meant for Nigerian ports were being diverted to Cotonou port as a result of the Central Bank’s forex restriction on some imported items. The President of the association, Mr Jonathan Nicol made the disclosure saying that many Nigerian shippers had diverted their cargoes to the ports in the Republic of Benin since the policy started, adding that there were less restrictions on imports in the West African country.

[Ghana]
Takoradi Port Gets US174.4 Million Backing

Five European banks have teamed together to fund a US174.4 million ECA-backed loan agreement with Ghana Ports and Harbours Authority [GPHA] to fund the second, and final, expansion of the Takoradi port. Development of the port has been a government priority following the discovery of the Jubilee oil fields in 2007 off the coast of Ghana. But the second phase of the project has been delayed, in part, due to currency volatility around the Ghanaian cedi.

According to a deal source the project financing was held up, by negotiations between the International Money Fund [IMF] and Ghana in 2014. Ghana received US$918 million from the IMF last year after the cedi plunged approximately 40% against the US dollar in 2014 as well as over IMF Ghana talks about sustainability which were going on at the time. Reportedly the GPHA originally requested US$656 million to develop the port in 2012 but drastically reduced this figure after banks stated the financing requirement was too high. In the end banks have funded US$390 million towards the project, split between 2-loans.

The first loan, a US$215 million financing back in September 2012; was for the first phase of the redevelopment of the Takoradi port. This included basic upgrades to the port infrastructure to accommodate larger cargo ships. This was then followed by the second loan signed on 17 December 2015 which was funded by the same group of banks. The new club deal, was financed by ING Bank, KBC, Deutsche Bank, BNP Paribas and Belfius Bank in collaboration with Belgian’s export credit agency National du Dueroire/DelcredereDucoio [ONDD], which covered 98% of the loan. The buyer’s credit facility has a tenor of 14-years with a 4-year grace period, and a 10-year repayment period. Law firm Allen and Overy advised the lenders on the deal.

Under the latest deal Belgian contractors will redevelop the port by reclaiming additional land, further dredging, and by building a quay wall and a break-water construction.

[Trade & Export Finance 15/01/16]
Sierra Leone

Parliament Ratifies US$750,000 Port Master Plan Agreement

Parliament unanimously ratified a US$750,000 grant agreement between Sierra Leone and the African Development Bank [AfDB] on February 4th to fund a Port Development Master Plan. The move will consist of an infrastructural development Master Plan and a Ports Investment Plan. The study, over 9 months, will be managed by the Sierra Leone Port Authority [SLPA].

The project will undertake a comprehensive analysis and forecasting of export and import demand, assessment of existing facilities and equipment within the Port, assessment of the institutional and regulatory framework, preparation of Base map for Freetown port, development of identified potential port location and recommendation of preliminary development plans into the Master Plan, carry out a strategic environment and social assessment that will inform on the potential impact of port development.

[Bawoko 05/02/16]

Bollore To Build US$120 Million Berth At Water Quay

Parliament has ratified a new agreement on 2nd February between the Government of Sierra Leone (GOSL) and Bollore Freetown Terminal limited (FTL) resulting in the Government owning 20% shares of the company [at a nominal value priced at Le.413,000 per share for an estimated 2600 shares amounting to Le.1.074bn]. Reportedly in return Bollore FTL will receive 50% exemption on its income tax liabilities for 10 years. As part of the agreement, Bollore FTL will build a new 270m berth and add new equipment costing US$120 million. Another US$87 million will be spent on civil works and equipment.

Both parties anticipate that the volume of exports and imports handled at the ports of Freetown will increase with the construction of the new berth. The new berth will be built on the west side of the quay.

The Government will have two seats on the board of FTL while Bollore will hold five seats. The position of Public Relations and Marketing will be awarded to a Sierra Leonean to comply with the 90% indigenous work force currently working for FTL.

[Bawoko 08/02/16]
Djibouti’s president has signed agreements with China to set up a trade zone and establishing a legal framework to let Chinese banks operate, the latest move to deepen ties with Beijing. In 2015 China’s military was in talks to build logistics facilities in Djibouti, which wants to build up its role as an international port and already hosts U.S. and French military bases. The free zone for trade and business would cover an area of 48 km². The first phase, covering 1.5 km², is expected to be operational before the end of 2016. Another agreement aims to expand Djibouti’s role for transhipment of goods in trade between China and the world whilst another is for the implementation of a legal framework for Chinese banks to operate in Djibouti. It gave few further details about the role those banks would play or when such banks would operate.
Kenya

Kenya And Uganda Plan Electronic Platform To Monitor Goods

Kenya and Uganda signed a Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] to set up an electric platform that will see them jointly monitor consignments on transit from Mombasa port.

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) and the Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) signed the agreement on 7th February to facilitate the establishment of a regional Electronic Cargo Tracking System (ECTS). The system is expected to reduce the cost of transporting cargo and result in higher tax collections by resolving suspected under-declaration of the value of exports. The system will also ensure faster clearance of cargo from the Kilindini port, minimise transit diversion and expedite the seamless movement of goods.

The integrated regional ECTS would also help safeguard national security with real-time tracking of goods. The tracking system comprises satellites, a central 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.

The agreement comes barely a month after the 2-countries and Rwanda agreed to establish joint enforcement teams to police transit cargo operations, besides other actions including the centralisation of transit cargo clearance at Kilindini port.  

Mauritius

China Expresses Interests for Mauritius to Be Part of Maritime Silk Road

The President of the People’s Republic of China, Mr Xi Jinping, has expressed interests for Mauritius to be part of the 21st Century new Maritime Silk Road owing to the country’s strategic location which position Mauritius as a natural extension of the said Silk Road. This was at the fore of discussions by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China, H.E Mr Wang Yi, during a courtesy call. Minister Wang Yi spoke of the possibilities evoked by the President of the People’s Republic of China, on how Mauritius can extend cooperation in the historic process of rejuvenating that Silk Road. Discussions also focused on strengthening further the relations between China and Mauritius while using Mauritius as gateway for Chinese enterprises to access the African Continent.

Tanzania

Standards Regulator Cracks Down

The Tanzania Bureau of Standards [TBS - www.tbs.go.tz] has started a crackdown to rid substandard products in the local market. The crackdown includes targeting local and foreign shipments before they reach the market. Shipments targeted comprise mainly petroleum, petroleum products, used tyres and 2nd hand clothing. Defaulters may be subjected to a fine of Tsh.50 million [US$22,727] or face a 3-year jail term.
Kenya

Mombasa Port Gets Boost As Sh3.1billion Road Project Kicks Off

Kenya’s quest to be the largest trade hub in the region has inched closer following the launch of the Port Reitz road project worth Sh3.1 billion in Mombasa. The project is expected to boost trade after a link is constructed to the second container terminal at the Mombasa Port to the Northern Corridor and the East and Central Africa. The government is also constructing the access road to the Moi International Airport. Funded by the United Kingdom Department for International Development [DFID] and the government to a tune of Sh3.1 billion [US$31 million], the Port Reitz road project is crucial to the newly constructed second container terminal at Mombasa Port.

Uganda And Rwanda Importers Threaten To Ditch Mombasa Port

Traders from Uganda and Rwanda who use Mombasa Port have threatened to shift to Dar es Salaam Port in Tanzania. The traders accuse the Kenya Revenue Authority [KRA] of subjecting their goods to verification of cargo at the Container Freight Stations [CFS]. They want verification done at the port instead of transferring the burden to the CFS, such as Portside Container Terminal where KRA has ordered a 100% physical inspection of all cargo. The traders say they do not understand why customs officials cannot inspect the goods inside the port using scanning machines to avoid delays.

Construction Of Second Container Terminal At Mombasa Port Hit By Court Cases

Construction of the second container terminal at Mombasa port could be delayed following a port management firm filing a petition challenging its disqualification from the multimillion tender. International Container Terminal Services Incorporated [ICTSI] has gone to court to challenge the Public Private Partnerships Petition Committee and the Kenya Airports Authority for the disqualification they have received twice in the re-evaluation of the tender that has attracted bids from top global conglomerates. Apart from ICTSI, Cosco Pacific Limited with Paramount Bank Consortium also moved to court over the same claims. The Second Container Terminal Port of Mombasa tender was advertised on December 12, 2014 with 19 bids but only 12 were shortlisted.
Mozambique

Maputo Cargo Down 19% In 2015

Cargo handled at Maputo port in 2015 reached 15.6 million tons a contraction of 19.17% compared to 19.3 million tons processed in 2014. The Maputo Port Development Corporation [MPDC] explained the fall by difficult conditions experienced across international markets, following a sharp decline in commodity prices compared to previous years. The largest declines in tonnage were seen in loading of coal and magnetite, as well as in automotive and sugar industries.

The MPDC gave assurances it would continue with investments planned for 2016 as part of the master plan set out for the port of Maputo, despite the downturn in international markets. The main project will increase the depth of the port’s access channel to 14.2m. The MPDC is a private company, which is a partnership between state port and rail management company CFM, South African group Grindrod, DP World of Dubai and Mozambique Gestores.

Lack Of Port Safety Raises Price Of Goods

The lack of safety across Mozambique’s rail and port system has a negative impact that is directly reflected in the final price of products and services. According to the Minister of Transport and Communications this affects shipping companies as well as insurance premiums of goods and, in the event of disaster, may result in loss of life and infrastructure. A solution requires coordinated action between the government, exporters and other stakeholders to ensure the movement of cargo, circulation and parking of vehicles. The minister announced a 600 trucks parking lot built by state port and rail company CFM is almost complete.

Somalia

Government Recaptures Merka Port From Shebab

Somali government troops backed by African Union peacekeepers [AMISOM] on 6th February recaptured the key port of Merka from Shebab insurgents, just a day after the Islamists swept into the city. Somali forces and AMISOM peacekeepers have secured Merka again and now the situation has returned to normal. The port, located 100km south of the capital Mogadishu, was captured in August 2012 by African Union troops after 4-years under Islamist control. The Shebab are fighting to overthrow the internationally-backed government in Mogadishu, which is protected by 22,000 AU troops.

Tanzania

Port Authority Management Reshuffle

The government has removed 3-heads of department at Tanzania Ports Authority [TPA]: Peter Gawile, Human Resources [HR]; Kilian Chale, Acting Director of Information and Communication Technology [ICT], and Mashaka Kasanza, Acting Director for Procurement. They will be replaced by Antony Mbiliyli, HR Manager from Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority [TCRA]; Benito Kalinga, a Procurement Officer from TCRA, and Abrahman Mbawa, Head of ICT from TCRA. Since the 5th phase government was formed it has embarked in a clean-up drive at TPA. The first step was to remove almost the entire top management at TPA due to the loss of over 300 containers at Dar es Salaam port and billions lost in tax evasion. The clean-up also involved the dissolution of TPA board over scandals.

[Macauhub/MZ 03/02/15]

[Macauhub/MZ 14/01/16]

[Middlle East Online 06/02/16]

[Guardian 16/01/16]
Namibia

Zambia Expects Walvis Bay Exports To Increase

Zambia’s current industrialisation drive is likely to increase exports through the Walvis Bay Corridor. Walvis Bay Corridor Group [WBCG] noted although volumes of cargo transported to and from Zambia via the corridor have increased by over 400% over the past 5-years due to improved marketing strategies, the industrialisation drive is vital in pushing exports upwards. About 25,000T of cargo was transported monthly via the route in 2015 up from 5,000-7,000T in 2010. Walvis Bay Corridor is one of the fastest routes to the trans-Atlantic market. Of the total cargo transported through the corridor, about 75% were imports into the country while 25% were exports. Such trade imbalance unfortunately increases the cost of transportation and goods landed on the Zambian market. During the period under review, the country exported copper and non-traditional exports, including timber and traditional foods and fish while it imported motor vehicles, industrial equipment and chemicals. Looking at the geographical location of Walvis Bay, the area will be an important trade route for the Zambian market. When looking at import patterns, Zambia imports from the Far East, European and American markets. Walvis Bay, being on the western coast, is the shortest gateway.

[Daily Mail 15/01/16]

South Africa

Marine Research & Exploration Forum Established

On 29th January, the Department of Science and Technology and the Offshore Petroleum Association of South Africa signed a Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] in which the South African Marine Research and Exploration Forum [SAMREF] was established. The launch of SAMREF is a part of Operation Phakisa B3. Operation Phakisa is an intergovernmental initiative focused on promoting the development of South Africa’s ocean economy, with oil and gas exploration as one of its major objectives.

[Lexology 03/02/16]
South Africa

Green Light For Durban Logistics Park

Fortress Income Fund has cleared a significant hurdle in its bid to create a logistics mega park on the last developable flat land in south Durban. Its amended environmental impact assessment report for its planned R3.5bn Clairwood Logistics Park project at the former Clairwood Race Course had been accepted after residents’ association groups had initially opposed the development. Capital Property Fund purchased the race course in 2012 for R430m. It is less than 5km from Durban’s planned port.

In last year’s biggest listed property deal, Fortress bought Capital Property Fund, creating a company valued at around R47bn. The Clairwood Logistics Park site is the last remaining flat land available for development in Durban south. It is 11.2km from the existing container terminal entrance and 3.5km from the site set aside for the planned Durban Dig-Out port.

Transnet Appoints New CFO

Garry Jason Pita was announced as the new CFO for Transnet Port Terminals, effective February 1st. With over 10 years of service he has led key strategic aspects of Transnet’s financial function. Pita will oversee the company’s funding and capital investment programmes, managing procurement and adhere to governance and internal controls.

Summit Highlights Need For Durban To Become A Smart Port City

The first annual Durban Maritime Summit Transnet Port Terminals [TPT] was launched in February. With more efficient logistics system providing the backbone for a more competitive economy, the maritime sector, supported by the logistics and transport sectors, is becoming the biggest growth area for the local economy. The 3-day meeting reviewed how ports can be used to position South Africa in terms of global competitiveness. The summit, hosted by the eThekwini Maritime Cluster [EMC], brought together stakeholders in the public and private sectors in an attempt to create a roadmap for Durban to become a smart port city.

It was important for the port and the city, as well as for all the different businesses within the maritime sector, to work together. It is only once terminal operators and city management start working more closely together that solutions would be found. A shift in freight transport from road to rail was noted.

FACTBOX

Durban Port

Durban port is South Africa’s largest, both in terms of the value of cargo handled and the number of vessel arrivals a year, contributing more than 20% of Durban’s Gross Domestic Product [GDP]. Durban accounts for about 55% of KwaZulu-Natal’s GDP which, in turn, is about 15% of South Africa’s GDP. The port also contributes between R25-billion and R35-billion to the city’s yearly GDP.

eThekwini Maritime Cluster [EMC]

The EMC was established in 2009 as a non-profit organisation aimed to provide a platform for collaborative engagement between different levels of government, State-owned enterprises and the maritime community to implement programmes that support growth, as well as improve the performance and global competitiveness of the maritime industry. The cluster is a series of interlinked industries and subindustries that operate co-dependently to realise economic return. It promotes reliability, knowledge dissemination, technological competency and innovation and provides clear solutions for issues such as labour, infrastructure constraints and logistics costs.
Zimbabwe

Full Implementation Of CBCA Programme

The Government of Zimbabwe has just released a notice to importers to announce the full implementation of the Consignment-Based Conformity [CBCA] programme in Zimbabwe. The transitional phase will end on February 29th 2016 until which the transitional Certificate could still be accepted. However, as from March 1st, 2016, the fully compliant Certificate of Conformity will be required for the clearance of goods that depart the country of export.

RESOURCES

The Zimbabwe Government has signed on 16/03/15 a 4-year Consignment-Based Conformity [CBCA] contract with a French global company, Bureau Veritas. The contract is for the provision of pre-shipment services of the listed products in the country of export and issuance of certificates of conformity based on the national and international quality, safety, health and environment standards in line with the World Trade Organisation [WTO] agreements.

For further information related to the CBCA programme in Zimbabwe:

Bureau Veritas:

For the detailed list of products visit the ministry website www.mic.gov.zw and for further enquires email to mic@mic.gov.zw

Zimbabwe To Tax Imported Food Commodities

The Zimbabwean government has widened its tax bracket to include Value Added Tax [VAT] on nearly 40 imported basic food commodities as the country’s revenue performance continues to disappoint. In a recent Government Gazette of January 22, Finance Minister Patrick Chinamasa, amended Section 78 of the VAT Act by repealing clauses that until now allowed the imported food commodities to be taxed at zero rate. The tax is effective from February 1st.

[News 24 04/02/16]