



[Republicans may force Africa to choose between US and China](#)

The US' House Ways and Means trade panel is debating more conditions for African beneficiaries of the AGOA duty-free scheme due to the continent cozying up to China. Congressional leaders upset about Africa's growing ties to China are considering a rewrite of US trade policy to force the continent to choose between America and its main rival. The House Ways and Means Committee launched hearings on the future of the African Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA) on 12 June with repeated warnings that countries that challenge US national interests could be expelled. The African Report.

['Meloni wants to present Italy as the new European face in Africa'](#)

Italy's Meloni, whose Africa development plan has drawn criticism, has pushed for the continent to be a central theme at G7. Africa is set to be high on Italy's agenda this year at the Group of Seven (G7) leaders' meeting, as Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni aims to position the country as a key energy hub between Europe and the continent. But whether there is a clear vision and economic resources to do so remains to be seen, experts have warned. A dozen heads of state are expected to attend the three-day forum, which starts Thursday in the southern region of Puglia, to discuss global politics. Africa, climate change and development are up as the first themes of the initial G7 session. Signaling Meloni's outreach ambitions, a relatively high number of guests from the Global South have been invited to this year's forum. Russia's invasion of Ukraine, Israel's war on Gaza, and rising competition with China are expected to dominate talks, but Meloni wants the crown jewel of her foreign policy to feature prominently: the so-called Mattei Plan. Aljazeera.

[China's Xi Congratulates South Africa's Ramaphosa On Re-election: State Media](#)

Chinese President Xi Jinping congratulated South African President Cyril Ramaphosa on his re-election, state media said on Saturday. "Xi Jinping sent a message congratulating Ramaphosa on his re-election as South African president," the official news agency Xinhua said in a brief report. Barron.

[Niger halts oil pipeline exports to China over Benin spat](#)

Niger has shut off oil exports to China via its pipeline to Benin's coast, Oil Minister Mahamane Moustapha Barke Bako said on Thursday, deepening a standoff between the West African neighbors. At the Agadem oilfield in eastern Niger, the minister oversaw the padlocking of a section of the 2,000-km (1,243-mile) pipeline through which exports to China were meant to flow under a memorandum of understanding with state-owned oil giant China National Petroleum Corp (CNPC) worth \$400 million. Reuters.

[Mauritania bolsters military capabilities with Chinese weaponry acquisition](#)

In order to enhance its military prowess, the Mauritanian National Armed Forces have acquired an array of advanced Chinese weaponry, as confirmed by President Mohamed Ould Sheikh al-Ghazouani during his visit to a military base on June 10th. This strategic acquisition includes long-range unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs) and other sophisticated equipment, marking a substantial upgrade to the nation's defense resources. The president's office released a statement highlighting the inclusion of "highly effective reconnaissance and attack drones capable of covering the entire national territory, including territorial waters, around the clock." Mauritanian television provided the public with a glimpse of these UAVs, showcasing their impressive operational radius of 2,000 km, an endurance of 36 hours, and the capacity to carry six guided missiles with a 14 km range. Military Africa.

[Namibia-China relations hold great potential - Zhao](#)

China's ambassador to Namibia, Zhao Weiping, believes there is great potential for the development of relations between China and Namibia. "We can do a lot more by working together. As friends, China and Namibia will continue to help and support each other, and both sides will benefit more from this fruitful partnership," Zhao said during his media engagement on Tuesday. In the areas of trade and economic cooperation, China continues to be the largest source of investment for Namibia, as well as its second-largest trading partner. Ambassador Zhao said in 2023, bilateral trade volumes exceeded USD1.3 billion for the first time. Also, China's direct investment in Namibia accounts for 29.6% of the total foreign direct investment Namibia has received. He said there are currently over 50 Chinese enterprises investing and operating in Namibia, including the Husab and Rössing Uranium mines, which are doing very well. New Era.

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