



[China's Norinco agrees to buy struggling Congo cobalt miner Chemaf](#)

Cobalt miner Chemaf SA has agreed to sell assets in the Democratic Republic of Congo to Chinese miner Norin Mining to settle debts largely funded by its long-time partner, commodities trader Trafigura, it said on Thursday. Financial details were not disclosed. The new owner, a unit of Chinese state-backed China North Industries Corp (Norinco), has the resources and technical capabilities to complete the expansion of two cobalt and copper projects in Congo, Chemaf said in a statement. China's miners, most of which are state-backed, have become the biggest investors in Congo as the world's second-largest economy aggressively pursues copper and cobalt supplies for its rapidly expanding electric vehicle industry. Congo is the world's No. 1 cobalt supplier, where Norinco already owns the Comica and Lamikal copper and cobalt operations. Chemaf, a family-owned copper and cobalt miner, offered itself for sale last year due to a cash crunch that was stalling the expansion of its Etoile and Mutoshi projects in Congo as cobalt prices slumped. Mining.com.

[United States Strategy toward Sub-Saharan Africa vs Chinese Influence in the Democratic Republic of Congo \(By Jean-Pierre ALUMBA LUKAMBA\)](#)

U.S. policymakers on both sides of the aisle have grown more anxious about Russia and China influence on the African continent as China/Russia-Africa relations have deepened in a variety of areas, including trade and commercial ties, military-security relations, and technology. However, American policymakers across the political spectrum have not prioritized African countries when it comes to U.S. foreign policy plans. Rather, Washington's limited focus on Africa has lacked coordination and now is often unsettled by an ill-defined concept of "Chinese/Russia influence." In August 2022, U.S. President Joe Biden launched U.S. new Strategy toward Sub-Saharan Africa, but it looks also like another U.S. African strategy business as usually because it's not talking to the African people. It's a kind of up – up approach, not as it should be, bottom up approach with more emphasize on American and African people to people solidarity to strengthen the historical ties between the two peoples. Africa.com.

[Seychelles to connect directly to China with new Sichuan Airlines charter flight](#)

Seychelles will connect to Chengdu in China through the first direct and non-stop charter flight operated by Sichuan Airlines in the second half of this year, Tourism Seychelles, the marketing branch of the tourism department, said on Thursday. Tourism Seychelles, the marketing arm of the Department of Tourism, said in a press statement that the flight, which will take around 8 hours and 50 minutes, will mark the beginning of a new chapter in air connectivity between the two destinations. Additional flights are currently under active discussion and consideration. Sherin Francis, principal secretary of the Department of Tourism said, "We are delighted to welcome the charter flight between Seychelles and China. This initial charter flight represents a significant step in diversifying Seychelles' tourism markets and opening our islands to the growing Chinese travel market. We are optimistic about the potential for expanding this route in the near future." Atta Travel.

[All-Weather Friends? South Africa, BRICS, and the Year of Elections](#)

What happens when a card-carrying BRICS member has an election and changes government? Do changes in domestic politics produce changes in policy towards BRICS? South Africa's recent election in which the leading internationalist party – the governing African National Congress – has had to enter into a coalition government for the first time since 1998 stands out as a moment that could produce a foreign policy reappraisal. The Democratic Alliance, its coalition partner, has a record of reaching out to Taiwan authorities, generating speculation in the past that if one day it were to get into power, it would restore recognition of Taipei over that of Beijing. That's not going to happen, but there are areas where South African foreign policy will distance itself from BRICS, or at least the explicitly Russian and implicitly Chinese position on the invasion of Ukraine. Indeed, even before the general election South Africa had begun to shift away from the kind of policy prevarication that led many to think it was unequivocally supporting Moscow. But, while a new skepticism towards BRICS might now enter South Africa's foreign policy vocabulary, the fact is South African international standing is enhanced by membership with the 'alternative' to the West's G7 as it is with its position on the G20. The China Global South Project.

[Chinese Debt and the Anti-Government Revolt in Kenya](#)

Protestors in Kenya this week expressed fury against the government and the IMF but interestingly made no mention of China during an unprecedented uprising in Nairobi. It's notable because the Kenyan Treasury spends more money to service its Chinese loans than any other single creditor. For years, across two administrations, the Kenyan government has pleaded with China to reschedule nearly \$6 billion of outstanding loans, all to no avail. And the cost of servicing that dollar-denominated debt has skyrocketed due to the depreciation of the shilling. The China Global South Project.

[China's E-Vehicle Brand Neta Enters Kenya's Market](#)

Chinese automotive brand Neta announced its entry into the Kenyan market Wednesday, with Moja EV Kenya, a motor dealer, as its distributor. Zhou Jiang, the overseas business general manager at Neta, told journalists in Nairobi, the Kenyan capital, that the firm will initially offer the Neta V model, which will retail for 4 million Kenyan shillings (about 31,000 U.S. dollars) and has a range of about 380 km on a full charge. "The electric vehicle is ideal for the Kenyan market because it offers affordability combined with low operational costs compared to conventional vehicles," Zhou said. Neta chose to establish a presence in Kenya because it is a regional economic hub and will serve as a gateway for exporting e-vehicles to the rest of the African continent, Zhou added. Wang Aiping, chief executive officer of Moja EV Kenya, said they will initially import about 160 vehicles from China over the next month and plan to partner with Kenya's Associated Vehicle Assemblers to assemble 250 e-vehicles every month. Wang also mentioned plans to begin exporting Chinese e-vehicles from Kenya to the rest of Africa by the end of the year. Capital FM.

[Mass Arrests in Uganda, as Hundreds Gather Worldwide Urging China to Halt](#)

Hundreds of people gathered outside Chinese embassies and financial institutions in 10 countries today - with another action expected to take place on the 28th in Washington DC - calling on China to reject financial support for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) and related oil field projects. The demonstrations took place across Africa and Europe in a coordinated day of action organized by Ugandan, Tanzanian and other

StopEACOP campaign members. In Uganda, 30 activists were arrested, underscoring the escalating repression faced by those opposing the EACOP project. In Tanzania, police took the banners protesters were holding and took photographed pictures of the project-affected people shown on the banners with their testimonies, raising concerns that those individuals could face future harassment by security forces. This follows the arrest of 7 activists on May 27th during another protest outside the Chinese embassy in Uganda. Additionally, the recent abduction of Stephen Kwikiriza and the ongoing harassment and intimidation of numerous other defenders highlight the severe and persistent threats faced by those who courageously stand against EACOP. These actions represent a blatant violation of human rights and an attempt to silence the voices of those advocating for environmental justice and the protection of affected communities who have even fewer safe channels to speak up. All Africa.

Burkina Faso receives huge batch of Chinese military equipment

Burkina Faso's military has taken delivery of some 100 new armoured vehicles from China as it continues to expand its armed forces in the face of relentless terror attacks. President Captain Ibrahim Traoré officially took delivery of at least 40 Norinco VP11 and 50 Norinco CS/VP14 armoured vehicles and 17 Caterpillar excavators on 6 June. Burkina Faso's Presidency said the new equipment will be used to combat terrorism, and was acquired for continuous reinforcement of the operational capabilities of the fighting forces on the ground. "Remember that we are in a world of predation and to have peace, we must wage war. So, wage war," Traore told Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs, Brigadier General Kassoum Coulibaly during the handover. Coulibaly said the new equipment is just one of four batches that will be delivered to support the military. The VP11 is based on Norinco's 8M, which was developed just over a decade ago by South African company EWI2 and China North Industries Group Corporation (Norinco). The 8M mine resistant, ambush protected (MRAP) vehicle was unveiled in June 2012. Defence Web.

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