



[China tightens its grip on rare earths and gives Africa an opportunity](#)

China tops the list of countries when measured by the volume of production of REMs, producing in 2023 more than two thirds of the global rare earth mine output. Last week Beijing declared that rare earth metals (REM) in China are the property of the state, warning that “no organisation or person may encroach on or destroy rare-earth resources”. The country’s State Council also announced that from 1 October the government would operate a traceability database to ensure that it has full control over the extraction, use and export of the metals. Why? First of all, remember that this move follows a growing row between China and the US over the increasing numbers of cheap Chinese electric vehicles starting to flood the market. Last month the European Union announced tariffs of up to 48% on EVs made in China, including those manufactured by MG, Volvo and BYD, in a row over what the EU claims are unfair subsidies from Beijing. The Sunday Guardian.

[‘It is my honour to serve’: New Chinese Ambassador Wu Peng reveals his big plans for China-South Africa relations](#)

President of the People’s Republic of China Xi Jinping has unleashed one of the Asian giant’s diplomatic heavyweights to South Africa as ambassador plenipotentiary, with a mission to escalate the unparalleled trade, economic and political ties, improve people-to-people relations and contribute to Pretoria’s extensive job creation drive. IOL was granted the opportunity to sit down with the affable Ambassador Wu Peng, former director-general of China’s Department of African Affairs in the Foreign Ministry, just days after he took the reins at the Embassy of China in South Africa. “I arrived here in the middle of South Africa’s beautiful winter. I have to say, winter in South Africa is much warmer and more pleasant than in Beijing. More importantly, the people here are so kind and hospitable. I feel even warmer because of their friendship,” Wu remarked at the beginning of the wide-ranging interview. IOL.

[72 Nigerian railway engineers trained in China return](#)

The Federal Government has received 72 Nigerian graduates trained in China by the China Civil Engineering Construction Company. The graduates were sponsored by CCECC as part of their corporate social responsibility to study Railway Engineering and other transportation-related courses. The Director, Press and Public Relations, Transport Ministry, Olujimi Oyetomi, said this in a statement on Saturday. At the reception, the Honourable Minister of Transportation, Senator Said Alkali, highlighted the government’s commitment to Indigenous participation in the railway industry, emphasizing the significance of the National Local Content Policy for Railway, developed in 2018. He further explained that the Ministry of Transportation supports the policy by engaging them as engineers and technicians through “On the job training programmes.” Representing the Vice President, Ibrahim Hadeja, commended the graduates for their good behaviour and thanked CCECC for their role in developing Nigeria’s infrastructure and manpower. Punch Newspaper.

[Need for Strengthening Ties between Ethiopia, China through Cultural Ties Underscored](#)

Strengthening the ties between Ethiopia and China in civilization, culture, and people-to-people relations would be highly beneficial for both countries, Chinese NGO Network for International Exchange Vice President Li Jun said. In a move to deepen cultural ties and mutual understanding, a high-level forum was held in Addis Ababa as part of the Civilization Lecture Series today. The forum emphasized the ancient roots of both civilizations, with speakers highlighting Ethiopia's 3,000-year history and China's 5,000-year legacy. It was highlighted at the forum that the relationship between Ethiopia and China has reached an all-weather, comprehensive strategic partnership level due to the relentless efforts of both countries. Moreover, it was stated that this comprehensive and strong cooperation that the two countries have achieved effective work in sustainable development, civilization, and cultural exchange by further strengthening it. ENA.

[Is the 'Angola model' over as China buys more crude oil from Gulf and Russia than Africa?](#)

Major African oil suppliers, including Angola and South Sudan, are struggling with declining production and exports to China as it finds other markets. More than a decade ago, Angola was China's No 2 source of crude oil. But it has been bumped down the list as Beijing increasingly turns to the Arab states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, Russia, and other Asian countries. According to a report from the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace: "In 2010, Angola was the world's second-largest exporter of oil to China, after Saudi Arabia. By 2023, Angola had been bumped to number eight on this ranking of oil suppliers to China." South China Morning Post.

[The Government of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, the WFP Centre of Excellence in China, and the WFP offices in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea Collaborate to Strengthen the Rice Value Chain](#)

On July 4th and 5th, 2024, the government of Côte d'Ivoire, through the Regional Centre of Excellence against Hunger and Malnutrition (CERFAM), in collaboration with the World Food Programme (WFP) Centre of Excellence for Rural Transformation in China (WFP CoE) and the WFP offices in Côte d'Ivoire and Guinea, organize a regional seminar on policies and solutions to support the development of the rice value chain in West Africa. This event aims to assess the current state of rice farming, share good practices, and identify concrete solutions to improve rice production, processing, distribution, and marketing to enhance food security and boost the local economy. It is part of the rice value chain development project initiated in 2021 by the two Centres of Excellence and their partners, with the support of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Relief Web.

[Xiang Lingyun was awarded the title of "Envoys of Friendly Exchanges Between China and Côte d'Ivoire" by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire](#)

On June 28, 2024, the Embassy of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire in China announced that Professor Xiang Lingyun, an economist residing in the United States, was awarded the title of "Envoys of Friendly Exchanges Between China and Côte d'Ivoire" by the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. The Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (La République de Côte d'Ivoire) is a country in West Africa, bordered by Ghana, Liberia, Guinea, Mali, and Burkina Faso. It has a coastline of about 500 kilometers, a land area of 322,463 square kilometers, and a population of 28.1 million. The capital is Yamoussoukro. Côte d'Ivoire is a member of numerous international organizations including the United Nations, the World Trade Organization, the Non-Aligned Movement, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, the Organization of la Francophonie, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the

West African Economic and Monetary Union, and the Mano River Union. In 2022, Côte d'Ivoire's gross domestic product (GDP) was US\$65.1 billion, with a per capita GDP of US\$2,200 and a GDP growth rate of 6.5%. Yahoo Finance.

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