

### China's African diplomacy: Tradition rooted in strategy

As the calendar flipped to 2025, Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi embarked on a week-long visit to Africa, upholding a 35-year tradition for Chinese foreign ministers to kick off the new year with diplomatic visits to African nations. This year, the itinerary included Namibia, the Republic of the Congo, Chad and Nigeria where Wang reaffirmed the strategic partnerships and community of a shared future in the new era with the African leaders. Beyond emphasising the visits' symbolism, they underscored China's long-term commitment to positioning itself as Africa's most reliable partner in an increasingly multipolar world amid heightening global power rivalries. SPH Media Limited.

## Guinea-Bissau seeks stronger media cooperation with China: national television chief

Guinea-Bissau looks forward to deepening cooperation with China to advance its media industry and amplify its voice on the global stage, Amadu Djamanca, director general of Guinea-Bissau National Television, has said. China actively promotes African voices on the global landscape, providing African media outlets with opportunities to share their narratives, Djamanca said in a recent, exclusive interview with Xinhua in the capital, Bissau. He expressed the hope to strengthen bilateral cooperation through content-sharing and personnel training, leveraging China's experience to boost the capacity of Guinea-Bissau's media professionals. Xinhua.

## Trump's departure from WHO hands China golden opportunity

Over the years, African countries have relied heavily on American support to strengthen their health systems. The US decision to withdraw from the World Health Organization means these countries are facing a significant challenge. Without alternative sources of funding, African nations risk suffering from the loss of crucial health assistance. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairman of the African Union Commission, has acknowledged the potential impact of the US decision on the continent. He urged US President Donald Trump to reconsider, warning that the withdrawal would disrupt vital programmes, such as the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The Star.

## Taiwan says South Africa gives March deadline to move office from Pretoria

The South African government has given Taiwan a deadline of the end of March to relocate the island's de facto embassy outside of the capital city Pretoria, the Taiwanese Foreign Ministry said, blaming Chinese pressure for the move. South Africa severed official diplomatic ties with Taiwan in 1997 and only maintains formal - and very close - relations with China, which views the democratically governed island as Chinese territory with no right to the trappings of a state. In a statement late on Sunday, Taiwan's Foreign Ministry said South Africa's government had sent a letter in late January demanding the de facto Taiwanese embassy leave Pretoria before the end of March and "even be renamed as a trade office". Reuters.

# Chinese experts help Guinea-Bissau farmers harvest high-quality rice

As China is marking the Spring Festival -- The Year of the Snake, a team of Chinese rice-planting experts is observing the holiday with a unique mission in central Guinea-Bissau. The Geba River meanders through Bafata region, its banks lined with lush green trees. Bafata is currently in the dry season. Yet, even during periods of drought, its tranquil waters sustain fertile lands, creating more than 25,000 hectares of irrigated rice fields. This region is often hailed as Guinea-Bissau's "rice granary." During a visit to a local farm, a Xinhua correspondent saw villagers sowing rice with the guidance of Chinese experts. Some bent over to plant sprouted seeds, while others carefully arranged the young rice shoots. Not far away, a tractor was rumbling between the plots. Xinhua.

## Chinese road constructor bridges cultures in Namibia while celebrating Chinese Spring festival

Chinese workers and their local counterparts with Zhong Mei Engineering Group, the Chinese company that had contracted to construct the Phase 2B project of a freeway connecting Windhoek, the Namibian capital, to Hosea Kutako International Airport to the east of Windhoek, on Saturday celebrated the Chinese Spring Festival with style. The Chinese Spring Festival, marking the start of the new year on the lunar Chinese calendar, is the most important cultural holiday for people of Chinese origin. It fell on Jan. 29 this year. Zhong Mei Engineering Group is involved in various rehabilitation works and is often highlighted as a key player in upgrading Namibia's road networks. People's Daily Online.

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