

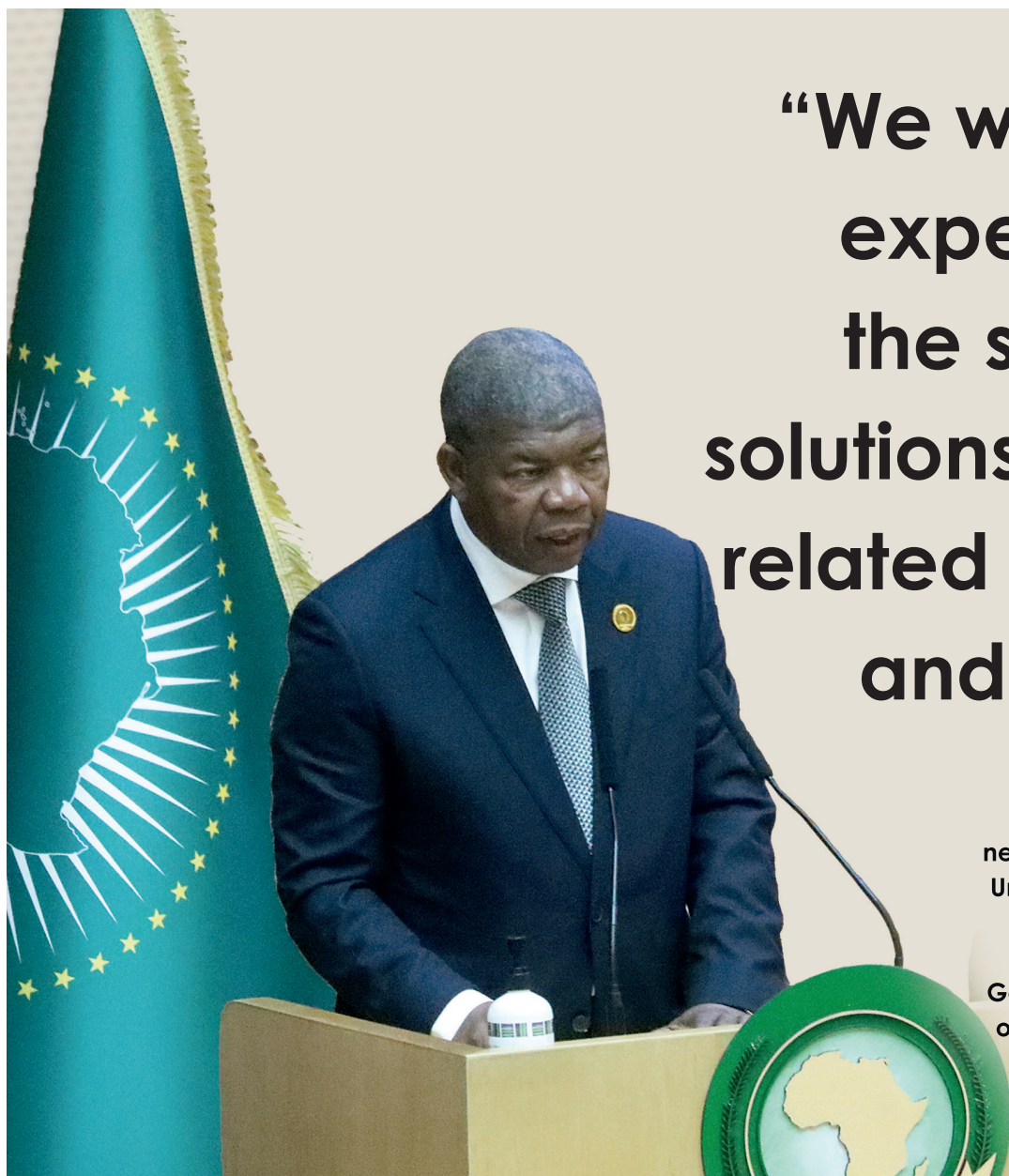
ANGO News

MAGAZINE OF THE EMBASSY
OF ANGOLA IN ABU DHABI - UAE

10TH EDITION • 21 FEBRUARY, 2025

**“We will put our
experience in
the search for
solutions to issues
related to peace
and security”**

João Lourenço during his
acceptance speech as the
new Chairperson of the African
Union during the 38th Ordinary
Session of the Assembly
of Heads of State and
Government of the continental
organisation held on February
15, 2025, in Addis Ababa,
capital of Ethiopia



Companies from the Middle East region are invited to
participate in the ANGOTIC –Angola ICT Forum 2025 in Luanda

Celebrations of 50 years of Independence
mobilise the country and the diaspora

**Ambassador
presents
credentials
in Kuwait and
Pakistan**



HIGHLIGHT

“We assumed the pro tempore presidency of the African Union in this year in which Angola celebrates 50 years of National Independence”

President João Lourenço, who received the symbolic baton of the exercise of continental power from his predecessor, the Head of State of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheik El Ghazouani, expressed his deepest gratitude to all organisation members



The Angolan Head of State, João Lourenço, assumed the rotating presidency of the African Union on February 15, 2025, in Addis Ababa, the capital of Ethiopia, his acceptance speech mainly focused on Africa's main problems and their resolution.

At the 38th Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, the President of Angola said that he would put his experience at the service of the continental organisation to seek solutions to issues

related to Peace and Security and that he would ensure the implementation of economic and social policies that promote the progress and development of the African continent by the member states.

“As everyone knows, this is the first time that the Republic of Angola has taken on this important responsibility of guiding the destinies of our continent over the next twelve months, which will lead me to look closely at Africa's main problems and put our experience at the service of

our organisation to seek solutions to issues relating to Peace and Security and ensure that member states implement economic and social policies that promote the progress and development of our continent.”

President João Lourenço, who received the symbolic baton of the exercise of continental power from his predecessor, the Head of State of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheik El Ghazouani, expressed his deepest gratitude to all organisation members.

“It has a very special meaning for us to assume the pro tempore presidency of the African Union in 2025, the year in which Angola celebrates 50 years of National Independence,” he stated.

During the country’s pro-tempore presidency of the African Union, it is intended to launch, in conjunction with all members of the institution, a vast plan to attract investments and raise significant financial resources from major international partners so that the African Union Commission can establish the bases and define the infrastructure projects to be carried out.

From this perspective, President João Lourenço highlighted the contribution that Angola could make to the development of Africa, making its energy surplus available to mitigate the needs of several countries in this field. Due to its relevance and strategic importance in the context of the transport of various products and also in intra-African trade and trade between Africa and the rest of the world, João Lourenço highlighted the importance of the Lobito Corridor and the Tanzanian TAZARA Railways, which could play an essential role in the interconnection between African countries and in the promotion of trade that is intended to be carried out within the scope of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

“Considering what I have mentioned above, I believe that we must have a well-defined strategy to reap significant benefits from the fact that the African Union is part of the G20, which is an essential achievement, to ensure that our continent is active in global economic decisions.”

MOBILISING FINANCIAL RESOURCES

The Angolan statesman pledged to work during this year of Angola’s presidency in coordination with the African Union Commission to mobilise greater financial resources by increasing the contribution of each Member State so that we can provide ourselves with the necessary resources to carry out pro-



jects and programs at continental level, thus reducing dependence on external financing.

EUROPE AND THE MIDDLE EAST

The Angolan statesman, who will head Africa’s most representative and prestigious political-diplomatic organisation until February 2026, said that we are currently living in an extremely challenging environment, given the harmful effects of the conflicts faced not only in the continent but also in Eastern Europe and the Middle East. Despite this, he is deeply convinced that, by combining efforts and joining forces, we will overcome the great challenges and build the Africa we have dreamed of, with an increasingly active voice in tackling the great problems afflicting humanity.

It is in this context that President João Lourenço believes that we must continue to act as one body so that the UN becomes more inclusive and aligned with today’s challenges and opportunities and that the reform of the Security Council must continue to be a fundamental priority for the continent, ‘wherefore it is important to reiterate our commitment to the Ezulwini Consensus and the 2005 Sirte Declaration, in favour of two Permanent Member

seats with the right of veto and other inherent privileges’.

FINANCING IN SEVILLE

Angola will have the opportunity to address various issues at the 4th International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in Seville (Spain) from 30 June to 4 July 2025.

It will be a historic opportunity to redefine the rules of global financing based on economic justice and inclusion.

For President João Lourenço, commitments made at previous conferences were not always fulfilled, namely the Monterrey Consensus, the Doha Declaration, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the 4th Conference in Seville aims to respond to the persistent challenges in financing for development and to favour the adoption of innovative and effective solutions.

Issues such as fiscal justice, debt relief, climate finance, reforms in global financial institutions, and social inclusion must be addressed so that a common position can be adopted to guarantee that the continent has a stronger influence in global financial governance, a reduction in the costs of indebtedness, and access to the resources needed to achieve sustainable development.



The achievement of these objectives will undoubtedly create synergies that will boost and expand trade, cultural, technical, technological and scientific exchanges and other areas that could produce significant advantages for all parties. 'We believe that in the perspectives we have outlined for our countries as leaders, we have included programmes to be implemented with a high sense of priority.'

These are in the field of fundamental infrastructures, namely roads and railways, ports and airports, power generation plants and the respective transmission and distribution lines, 'which are absolutely indispensable for the industrialisation of our continent and the improvement of populations' living conditions'.

OCEANS IN NICE

In this sense, the Angolan leadership considers it essential to look at the 3rd Oceans Conference, scheduled for this year in Nice, France, as an opportunity to discuss the main concerns that afflict the continent in this area.

With more than thirty coastal countries, the continent's objectives should be to protect marine ecosystems, promote a sustainable blue economy and step up action against illegal fishing, marine pollution and climate change, which 'are gigantic challenges that we have to face constantly'.

João Lourenço expressed his hope that this Conference will contribute

to food security, strengthen coastal resilience and create the conditions for mobilising international funding for sustainable projects within the framework of the blue economy.

AU CHAMPION FOR PEACE

In his report on the actions he has carried out as part of his duties as African Union Champion for Peace and Reconciliation in Africa, the President of Angola presented in more detail the actions he has undertaken to help restore peace to our continent and especially to the eastern region of the DRC. He also spoke of his vision of what it will be essential to carry out in the future to put a definitive end to the conflicts in Africa and to face the challenges that unconstitutional changes of government, terrorism and, more recently, the invasion and occupation of territories in neighbouring countries' pose to us'.

'We still have the challenges of natural disasters resulting from climate change and the outbreaks of Marburg, Ebola, animal pox and cholera, which cyclically affect us and force us to work in unity and solidarity to find collective solutions to overcome them.'

PAN-AFRICAN SPIRIT

Finally, João Lourenço wished the new senior leadership of the African Union Commission every success in performing their new duties and

called for the pan-African spirit and the ideals of the Founding Fathers to continue guiding the continental organisation's future. 'I declare that I accept to exercise the Presidency pro tempore of the African Union from this moment on and consider that the tears we shed today for the loss of the great African leader San Nujoma will be the strength that will allow us to overcome the challenges that lie ahead.'

END OF WORK

The thirty-eighth Conference of Heads of State and Government of the African Union (AU) lasted two days and ended on Sunday evening, 16.02.2025, in Addis Ababa.

The President of the Republic of Angola, João Lourenço, led the high-level meeting after being elected President pro tempore of the continental political organisation.

On the same day, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, i.e., the Secretariat responsible for the day-to-day running of the AU for the next four years, was also elected. Mahmoud Yussuf, a citizen of Djibouti, will be assisted by Algerian Selma Malika Haddadi, the Deputy Chairperson.

The theme for the African Union's action in 2025 is 'Justice for Africans and People of African Descent through Reparations'.

For its presidency, Angola has chosen the motto 'Importance of Investment in Infrastructure as a Factor in Africa's Development'.

FINAL REMARKS

President João Lourenço, as President of the African Union, closed the Summit by thanking everyone for their contribution, 'which made it possible to adopt all the documents submitted for discussion, obviously with the necessary amendments'.

The new leader of the continent's most important political organisation thanked the Union Commission and its commissioners for their work and took the opportunity to congratulate the elected Chairperson (Mahmoud Yussuf) and the Deputy Chairperson (Selma Haddadi).

The First Lady of the Republic of Angola, Ana Dias Lourenço, delivered a speech on 16.02.2025 in Addis Ababa, on the second and final day of the 29th Ordinary General Assembly of the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD), highlighting the importance of female leadership and African solidarity in building a fairer and more equal future.

In her speech, the also Vice President of OAFLAD (who was elected to the post the day before) stressed that it was essential for the continent's women to unite to create a network of support and mobilisation to end conflicts and seek lasting peace as a link that contributes to a harmonious future, progress and the economic and social empowerment of future generations, particularly women and girls.

The First Lady of Angola shared her experiences, emphasising the results achieved with the campaign 'We are all equal' launched in August 2024 under the slogan 'Education for gender equality and the fight against child and youth violence'.

'Six months after the 'We Are All Equal' Campaign Action Plan was released, for the mobilisation of society in general and including important players such as churches, universities, civil society organisations, ministerial

First Lady emphasises female leadership and African solidarity



bodies, as well as United Nations partners resident in Angola, there has been a significant increase in awareness among citizens about reporting cases of abuse and sexual violence against children and

young people, particularly girls, which has consequently reduced stigma and discrimination,' as we had anticipated, explained Ana Dias Lourenço to her colleagues gathered in Addis Ababa.



Angola's major challenges in the AU

'Infrastructure and human capital: key factors for Africa's integral development' is the mandate's motto

Within the scope of the implementation of the motto and based on the guidelines of its Foreign Policy and national strategic interests, the Republic of Angola focuses its mandate on certain axes of action considered relevant to respond to the main continental and global challenges, such as the reinforcement of the ideals/values of pan-Africanism that presided over the creation of the AU, based on unity and solidarity between African peoples; the need to rethink the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), including the Peace and Security Council (PSC), as a resolute guardian of conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa; the statutory contributions of Member States to the AU Budget; bilateral and multilateral partnerships; the demographic issue; climate change; food security; infrastructure and industrialisation.

Angola will have the direct assistance of the executives of the Union Commission, and the strategic lines of Angola's presidency are aligned, in general terms, with the priority actions defined at the continental level as part of the acceleration of the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan for Agenda 2063. This programme covers the period from 2024 to 2033, focusing on Transport and Connectivity Infrastructures, Energy and Natural Resources, Peace and Security, Agriculture and the Blue Economy, Continental Integration and the Free Trade Area, Education and Capacity Building and Strategic Partnerships.

Within this framework of the main lines of action, the issue of Peace and Security is of central importance, as it is one of the main prerequisites for achieving the aspirations contained in the African Union's Agenda 2063, in particular, the programme that establishes 'Silencing the Guns by 2030':



Its purpose is to transform Africa into a peaceful, secure and confident region with a promising future and prosperity for all Africans, determined to put the continent on the road to development.

STRATEGIC PRIORITY LINES 2025-2026

1. Transport Infrastructure and Connectivity
2. Energy and Natural Resources
3. Peace and Security
4. Agriculture and Blue Economy
5. Continental Integration and Free Trade Zone
6. Education and Training
7. Strategic Partnerships.

AU COMMISSION CHAIRPERSON ELECTED

His name is Mahmoud Yussuf. He will serve as Chairperson of the African Union Commission after eight years of the Moussa Faki Mahamat era.

As a key political and diplomatic figure, he will closely support the new President of the African Union, João Lourenço.

The new executive of the AU hierarchy is a Djiboutian national elected on 15.02.2025 at the continental organisation's headquarters in Addis Ababa. He was elected in a close voting process only decided in the seventh round, leaving behind two other candidates representing Kenya and Madagascar.



Meeting of the AU peace and security council dedicated to Sudan and the DRC

On the initiative of President Teodoro Obiang Nguema of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea - the country that presides over the body this February - the Peace and Security Council of the African Union met on February 14 2025, in the Ethiopian capital, to address two specific security situations: Sudan and the DRC.

The high-level meeting brought together several African Heads of State and Government and the Secretary of the United Nations, António Guterres, in the same room.

The debate took place on the eve of the opening of the 38th Ordinary Conference of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, a conclave that consecrated President João Lourenço of Angola as the acting President (for 1 year) of the largest political-diplomatic organisation on the African continent.



President of the African Union Commission, Mahmoud Yussuf

Excerpts from the speech by President João Lourenço as President-in-Office of the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), as African Union Champion for Peace and Reconciliation in Africa and as mediator for the Peace Process in Eastern DRC:



I have put all my efforts into identifying the main problems affecting peace and security in Africa and have made constant efforts to contribute to the resolution of the conflicts that prevail on our continent, with special emphasis on what is unfolding in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the causes of which are directly related to the harmful action carried out in Congolese territory by the forces of the M23, which unfortunately enjoys substantial external support, based on which it feels encouraged to carry out military incursions that culminated in the illegal occupation of the city of Goma, in the province of North Kivu, in the end of January.



It is essential to emphasize that the M23 issue is not objectively and directly mentioned within the scope of the Luanda Process because, from the outset, it was understood that matters relating to the different political forces operating within the DRC should be dealt with within the scope of the Nairobi Process.



Given the current events, which deserve our firm and unequivocal condemnation, I believe that we should not, despite this, throw away the gains obtained so far with much perseverance, patience and hard work. Therefore, I remain fully available so that, within the framework of the efforts to be made later, following the Joint Summit of Heads of State and Government of SADC and the East African Community, held in Dar-es-Salaam on February 8, we can launch initiatives that will lead the parties to sit down again at the negotiating table, so that a definitive end can be put to this conflict through dialogue.



It will only make sense to continue the peace efforts in the East of the DRC if there is serious engagement from the parties and coherence in relation to the commitments made so that time and energy are not wasted on the actions that have been undertaken to restore peace to this attacked brother country.



I must note that this escalation of the conflict was preceded by the failure to hold a summit scheduled for December 15, 2024, due to the absence of His Excellency Paul Kagame, President of the Republic of Rwanda, which was expected to sign a peace agreement between Rwanda and the DRC, built over several months, in meetings held between delegations headed by the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Rwanda and the DRC, assisted by the Angolan mediation.



We cannot ignore the fact that the International Community is paying special attention to the peace process in the Eastern DRC.

The great evidence of what I mentioned is the adoption of UNSC resolution 2746 of August 6, 2024, authorising MONUSCO to support SAMIDRC's mission, which we welcome.

The Angolan President's views conveyed at the African Union Peace and Security Council meeting on the situation in Sudan



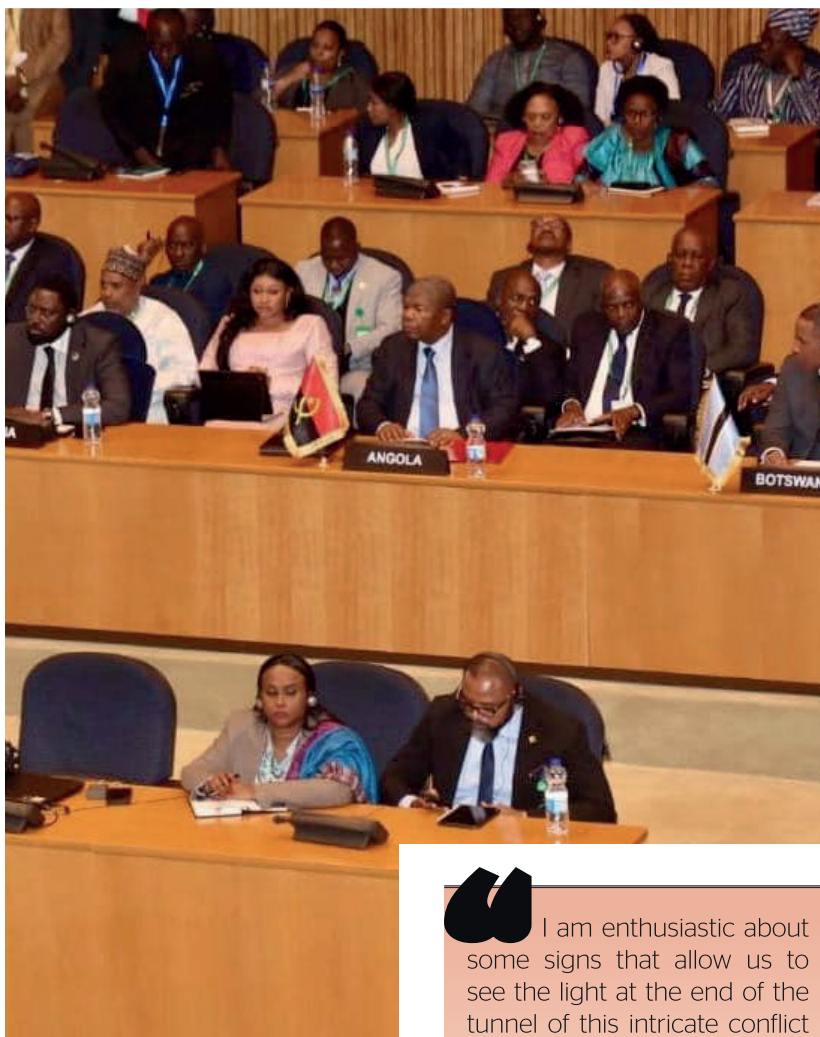
It is difficult to have to recognise that this conflict, which has its causes in internal ethnic tensions, is in fact exacerbated by a set of external factors that have transferred geopolitical disputes and other unacknowledged interests to the Sudanese stage, which make it difficult and conditional to find solutions to this problem.



I would like to take this opportunity to call for the coordinated mobilisation of the Member States of the African Union through its bodies, such as the Peace and Security Council, so that we intensify the efforts to be made by all of us with the United Nations and the different international partners, to activate all possible and necessary means of pressure to achieve the immediate and permanent cessation of hostilities.



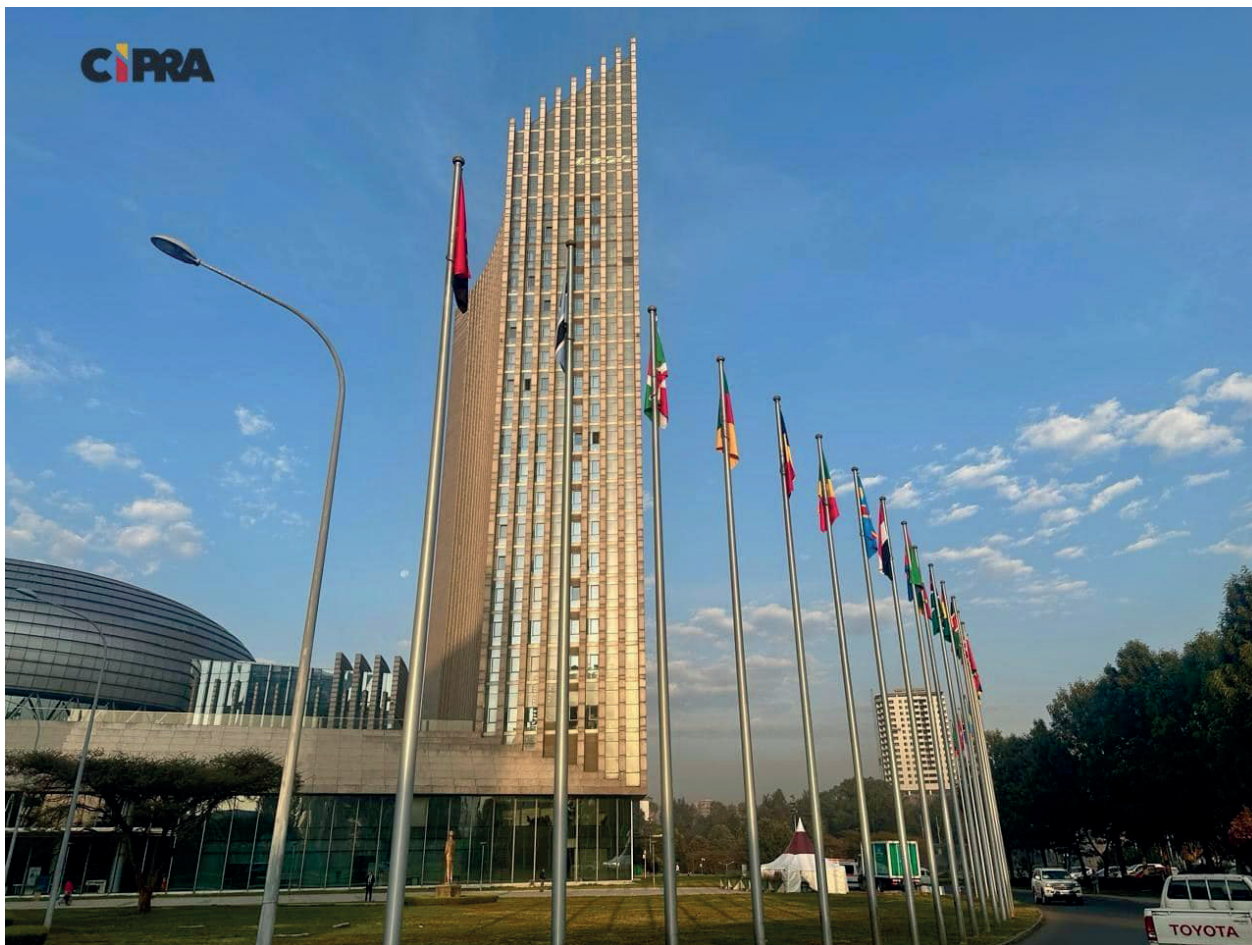
In light of what I have just mentioned, I believe that we must advocate for the effective relaunch of the initiatives undertaken by IGAD and the Presidential Ad-Hoc Committee on Sudan, created under this Peace and Security Council of the African Union.



I am enthusiastic about some signs that allow us to see the light at the end of the tunnel of this intricate conflict and, in this sense, I would particularly like to welcome the constructive attitude of the Sudanese transitional authorities, who, through the detailed Roadmap they adopted on 9 February, are creating the indispensable conditions for the establishment of a frank political dialogue, an inclusive national reconciliation process and the transfer of power to the civilian sphere when the conditions are suited.



I believe that we all have a common vision on this conflict and a convergent position, mainly on the need to act quickly and without hesitation to ensure the protection of civilians, who have been highly vulnerable and unprotected victims of the Sudanese conflict.



AU BACKGROUND

The Organization of African Unity (OAU) was founded on May 25 1963, through the OAU Charter, signed during the Summit of Heads of State and Government of 32 Independent African States, held in Addis Ababa, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, from May 22 to May 25 1963. The OAU's main objectives were to promote a common identity, the unity of the continent and solidarity among its peoples, as well as to eradicate all forms of colonialism and defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of its members.

As the successor to the OAU, the African Union (AU) was established on July 11 2000, with the adoption of its Constitutive Act 1 by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the continental



The African Union, therefore, emerges intending to readjust and align the continental Organization with the global geopolitical and socioeconomic contexts.

organization, held in Lomé, Togolese Republic. This was the materialization of the Declaration of the 4th Extraordinary Session of the Confe-

rence of Heads of State and Government, held in Sirte, Great Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, on September 9, 1999. The Declaration mentioned above called for the creation of an African Union to accelerate the process of implementing the Treaty establishing the African Economic Community, to promote the socioeconomic development of Africa and to face, more effectively, the challenges of globalisation.

The African Union thus emerges to readjust and align the continental organisation with the global geopolitical and socioeconomic contexts, to contribute more effectively and efficiently to consolidating political union and responding to the changes that have occurred in the economic, social, and cultural domains, to promote democracy, good governance, and human rights, and to strengthen Africa's integration into the concert of nations.

INTERVIEW

“We want to effectively contribute to the general objectives of the African Union”

The Minister of External Relations, Tété António, in an interview given on February 10, 2025, to the Angola Press Agency (ANGOP), considered that Angola envisages a presidency of the African Union characterised by a commitment to collaborative governance, peacebuilding and the economic empowerment of the continent



Excellency, the “D” day is approaching for Angola to assume, for the first time, the rotating presidency of the African Union. And the question I ask you is: Does Angola have the machine lubricated and ready to meet the expectations of good performance?

In anticipation of this role, Angola has been working diligently to ensure that its governmental and diplomatic machinery is adjusted to meet and overcome future challenges.

The nation has engaged in extensive preparatory activities, including strategic planning and consultations with key African partners, to ensure that it can effectively contribute to the overall objectives of the African Union during its mandate.

Furthermore, Angola’s presidency coincides with the significant milestone of the 50th anniversary of its independence, adding a layer of historical and emotional significance to this leadership role. This period is seen as an opportunity for Angola to demonstrate its commitment to the African continent and promote sustainable development and peace initiatives.

Therefore, as we look ahead to Angola’s presidency of the African Union, the country is optimistic and ready, underscoring its commitment to meeting the expectations of its fellow African nations.

The country has an enviable trading history. Can you point out any unforgettable moments or highlights of this journey?

Angola's enviable trading history has several unforgettable moments and high points. Some of them include:

The Angolan Civil War Peace Accords: The peace negotiations that ended Angola's decades-long civil war remain a significant milestone. The Bicesse Accords (1991), the Lusaka Protocol (1994) and the final Memorandum of Understanding of 2002 marked crucial steps towards peace, demonstrating Angola's ability to negotiate complex agreements.

Mediation in the Great Lakes Region: Angola has played a key role in mediating conflicts in the Great Lakes region, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo. The country's efforts to facilitate dialogue between the conflicting parties have been commendable.

Angola-Namibia Border Agreement: Angola has successfully negotiated territorial agreements with Namibia, showing diplomatic prowess in peacefully resolving long-standing border disputes.

Involvement in the African Union: Angola's active participation in the African Union, particularly in peace and security initiatives, illustrates the country's commitment to negotiating on behalf of African interests on the international stage.

Oil Sector Negotiations: Angola has also successfully negotiated favourable agreements in the oil sector, ensuring that foreign investments are aligned with national interests. This allowed for substantial economic growth and development.

These cases reflect Angola's strategic negotiating skills and commitment to promoting peace and development within its borders and across Africa.

Your Excellency, how does it feel to see the country leading the continental organization for the first time in its history and, coincidentally, in the year that marks the 50th anniversary of its independence? What significant



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Angola-Namibia Border Agreement: Angola has successfully negotiated territorial agreements with Namibia, showing diplomatic prowess in peacefully resolving long-standing border disputes.

ce does it have for Angola?

The opportunity for Angola to lead the continental organization for the first time, especially in the year that marks the 50th anniversary of its independence, is a profound moment of pride and reflection. This milestone signifies not only a celebration of our independence but also a recognition of the progress and maturity that Angola has achieved over the years.

Leading the continental organization highlights Angola's commitment to promoting African unity and development. This role puts Angola in a position to influence significant decisions and initiatives that will affect the future of the continent, a responsibility that resonates deeply with our national values and aspirations. For Angola, it is a moment to showcase our diplomatic capabilities and dedication to contributing positively to the growth and stability of Africa.

Leading the continental organisation during such a significant anniversary also carries an emotional layer, as it serves as a testament to the country's progress since gaining independence. It provides a platform to demonstrate our commitment to African unity and drive initiatives promoting sustainable development and peace across the continent.

By leading this organisation, Angola hopes to be a beacon of hope and progress, reflecting its unwavering commitment to Africa's future. It is a unique opportunity for Angola to engage in the formation of policies and execution of plans that will benefit not only the nation but the entire continent, ensuring a legacy of leadership that aligns with Angola's historic journey from independence to regional influence.



Angola has established itself as a country concerned with international peace and security, including strong involvement in seeking peaceful solutions to conflicts through negotiation. Can you see Angola as a mediator in other conflicts in Africa, such as those in the Sahel and Horn of Africa regions and the Great Lakes region?

Angola's role in international peace efforts has been multifaceted, involving a combination of diplomatic and strategic initiatives to promote stability within its borders and across the African continent. Historically, Angola has been a beacon of peace in its region due to its active involvement in conflict resolution and peacebuilding processes.

Mediation in Regional Conflicts:

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Participation in African Union initiatives: As a member of the African Union (AU), Angola has advocated for African-led solutions to African problems.

Angola has played a significant role in mediating conflicts within the Great Lakes Region, particularly in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Their efforts to facilitate dialogue between the warring parties have been instrumental in promoting peace and security in this volatile region.

Participation in African Union initiatives: As a member of the African Union (AU), Angola has advocated for African-led solutions to African problems.

Advocacy for Peaceful Negotiation: Angola has consistently advocated the use of dialogue and negotiation over military solutions in resolving disputes. This stance is evident in their support for global peace initiatives and in their work within international organizations such as the United Nations.

Supporting Disarmament Efforts: Angola has been involved in efforts to curb the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Africa, recognizing their role in perpetuating conflict and instability across the continent. Angola aims to reduce violence and increase security by supporting various disarmament campaigns.

Economic and Development Contributions: Through its economic stability and resources, Angola has been able to support regional development initiatives that address the root causes of conflict, such as lack of infrastructure, poverty and unemployment. By investing in infrastructure and social programs, Angola contributes to creating environments that promote peace.

Promotion of Multilateral Cooperation: Angola advocates multilateral cooperation, understanding that Africa's challenges require collective solutions. As such, it has worked closely with international partners and neighboring countries to develop comprehensive strategies for peace and development.

Angola's continued commitment to international peace efforts reflects its broader strategy to promote stability and development in Africa, making it a key player in its future peace and security landscape.

Do you believe that the Presidency of Angola can work towards at least reducing tension in these regions?

Yes, I believe that the Angolan presidency has the capacity to work to reduce tensions in the mentioned regions. Angola has demonstrated a consistent commitment to peace and security, both at regional and continental levels. The country has significant experience in mediation and conflict resolution, which can be instrumental in addressing the complexities of current tensions.

During its presidency, Angola will be able to focus its efforts on strengthening regional cooperation and multilateral diplomacy, promoting dialogue between parties in conflict and encouraging peaceful solutions. Furthermore, Angola's pragmatic approach, combined with its willingness to support economic and social development initiatives, can create a more conducive environment for reducing tensions. This focus on sustainable development and economic inclusion can also help address some of the underlying causes of conflict, creating a stronger foundation for lasting peace.

However, Angola could face significant challenges. Among them is internal and external resistance from political and military actors who may oppose peace initiatives for their own interests. Furthermore, complex regional dynamics, such as historical rivalries and border issues, can complicate mediation efforts. Another challenge is the lack of adequate resources and infrastructure to implement and sustain long-term solutions. Finally, international dynamics and the influence of external powers may further complicate the situation, requiring skilful diplomacy and a solid strategic approach from Angola to overcome these obstacles.

Minister, we would like to know how you view the issue of regional integration on the continent.

Angola can contribute to strengthening regional integration initiatives in several important ways:

Leadership in Regional Organi-



Investing in Regional Projects: Angola can lead by example by investing in regional projects that address shared challenges such as climate change, public health and infrastructure development.

zations: By taking active leadership roles in regional organizations such as the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the African Union (AU), Angola can advocate for policies and initiatives that promote integration and collaboration among member states.

Infrastructure Development: Angola can invest in and develop critical infrastructure, such as roads, railways and ports, facilitating trade and movement between countries. Improved transport links can enhance connectivity and economic collaboration across the region.

Trade Agreements: Angola can

negotiate and implement trade agreements that reduce tariffs and trade barriers, promoting intra-regional trade. Supporting the African Continental Free Trade Area (Af-CFTA) is vital to enhancing African economic integration.

Policy Harmonization: By aligning its national policies with regional standards and regulations, Angola can foster a more cohesive economic environment. This includes harmonizing customs procedures and standards for goods and services.

Promoting Peace and Stability: Angola's commitment to peace and security in the region is crucial. Through diplomatic efforts and conflict mediation, Angola can help stabilize neighbouring countries, creating an environment conducive to economic and social cooperation.

Cultural and Educational Exchanges: Encouraging cultural ties and educational exchanges can strengthen regional ties. Angola can promote initiatives that facilitate student exchanges, cultural festivals and collaborative research projects between African countries.

Investing in Regional Projects: Angola can lead by example by investing in regional projects that address shared challenges such as climate change, public health and infrastructure development.



Private Sector Engagement: Involving the private sector in regional integration efforts can boost economic growth. Angola can create platforms for companies to collaborate on cross-border initiatives and investment opportunities.

By focusing on these strategies, Angola can play a key role in advancing regional integration initiatives, ultimately contributing to economic growth, stability and development across the continent.

Is there any prospect of momentum on the issue of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) during Angola's presidency?

During Angola's presidency of the African Union, several specific initiatives are anticipated to improve the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). These initiatives may include:

Promotion of Trade Agreements: Angola is expected to actively promote the ratification and implementation of trade agreements under the AfCFTA framework, encouraging member states to engage in tariff reductions and trade facilitation measures.

Capacity-building programs: Initiatives aimed at building the capacity of businesses and local governments to participate effectively in the AfCFTA will be prioritized. This includes workshops, training sessions, and resources to help stakeholders understand and navigate the new business landscape.

Infrastructure Improvements: Angola can focus on investing in and promoting infrastructure projects that facilitate trade, such as transportation and logistics networks. This will help improve connectivity between countries and boost intra-African trade. In fact, Angola is already doing this, contributing to the Lobito Corridor.

Support for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs): Initiatives aimed at helping SMEs access new markets created by the AfCFTA are likely to be implemented. These may involve financial assistance, mentoring programs, and fostering



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Angola plans to integrate the Lobito Corridor into the broader framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), focusing on several key initiatives.”

partnerships with larger companies.

Harmonization of Trade Policies: Angola is expected to work towards harmonising trade policies among member states to ensure a more seamless trading experience. This includes aligning customs procedures, standards and regulations.

Public Awareness Campaigns: Angola's initiatives will probably include efforts to raise awareness of the AfCFTA's benefits among the general population and businesses. This may involve outreach programs and

informational resources to encourage participation in the trade zone.

Collaboration with African institutions: Angola can strengthen collaborations with other African institutions to align efforts towards successfully implementing the AfCFTA, working closely with the African Union and regional economic communities.

By focusing on these initiatives, Angola aims to stimulate economic growth, improve trade relations and contribute to the overall success of the AfCFTA.

How does Angola intend to integrate the Lobito Corridor into the push it intends to give, for example, to the issue of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)?

Angola plans to integrate the Lobito Corridor into the broader framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), focusing on several key initiatives. Firstly, the Lobito Corridor is seen as a vital infrastructure project that improves connectivity and trade between Angola and other African countries. By improving transport links, Angola aims to facilitate the movement of goods and services, thereby boosting intra-African trade, a primary objective of the AfCFTA.

Secondly, Angola intends to promote investments in the Lobito Corridor to develop logistics and transport facilities aligned with the AfCFTA's objectives. These investments will increase the efficiency of trade routes, facilitating companies' access to new markets within the free trade zone.

Third, Angola will work to harmonise trade policies and regulations with other AfCFTA member states to ensure smoother trade operations. This harmonisation will help businesses navigate cross-border trade more effectively.

Furthermore, the (Angolan) Government plans to support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in accessing the opportunities created by the AfCFTA through the Lobito Corridor, helping them expand their reach and capacity.

Overall, by leveraging the Lobito Corridor, Angola aims to boost economic growth, enhance trade relations and contribute to the successful implementation of the AfCFTA, positioning itself as a key player in regional integration efforts.

What can Africans expect from Angola's presidency of the African Union?

During Angola's presidency of the African Union (AU), Africans can anticipate a strong focus on several key areas that reflect both the country's aspirations and the challenges facing the continent. First, Angola aims to promote peace and security across Africa by leveraging its historical experience in mediation and conflict resolution. This includes addressing ongoing conflicts in areas such as the Great Lakes, the Sahel and the Horn of Africa, advocating dialogue and negotiation rather than military solutions.

Secondly, Angola plans to prioritize economic development and integration among African nations. The presidency will likely emphasize the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), which aims to boost intra-African trade and economic collaboration. Angola will advocate policies

that support small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and improve infrastructure development, particularly transportation and logistics, to facilitate trade.

Furthermore, given that Angola will lead the AU during the 50th anniversary of its independence, it intends to show its commitment to sustainable development and unity among African nations. This includes initiatives focused on education, health, and poverty reduction, with the aim of improving the quality of life for Africans.

Finally, Angola's presidency is expected to enhance cooperation and

coordination within regional bodies to address shared challenges and promote collective solutions. Overall, Africans can expect a presidency characterised by a commitment to collaborative governance, peacebuilding and economic empowerment while recognising the continent's rich history and potential.

Find the whole interview in:
<https://www.jornaldeangola.ao/#/noticias/7/entrevista/629393/angola-deseja-ser-farol-de-esperanca-e-progresso-durante-a-presidencia-da-ua>





Ambassador of Angola accredited in Kuwait and Pakistan

The credentials presentations took place separately on January 22, 2025, and January 29, 2025, in Kuwait City and Islamabad

The Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Angola to the United Arab Emirates, Júlio Maiato, has been accredited to the State of Kuwait and the Islamic Republic of Pakistan as non-resident. In Kuwait, the accreditation occurred on January 22, 2025, and in Pakistan on January 29, 2025.

In Kuwait City, the Angolan diplomat presented his credentials to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of that Arabian Peninsula country, Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya, in a ceremony where nine foreign diplomats were also accredited.

On this occasion, the Head of Angola's Diplomatic Mission in the UAE expressed, on behalf of the Angolan government, to the Kuwaiti authorities the desire to start a new phase by establishing a legal cooperation framework between the two countries.

FINANCING

Additionally, efforts will be made to create conditions for financing ongoing projects in Angola through various existing Funds in Kuwait.

The Sovereign Fund (Kuwait Investment Authority), the fourth largest in the world, has a capital of \$980 billion. The other Fund of Kuwait for Economic Development was created to financially and technically assist developing countries and has granted 1,056 loans to 120 beneficiary countries, totalling \$22.1 billion. More than 300 grants and technical assistance packages have been provided to 88 countries and institutions, totalling \$318.9 million.

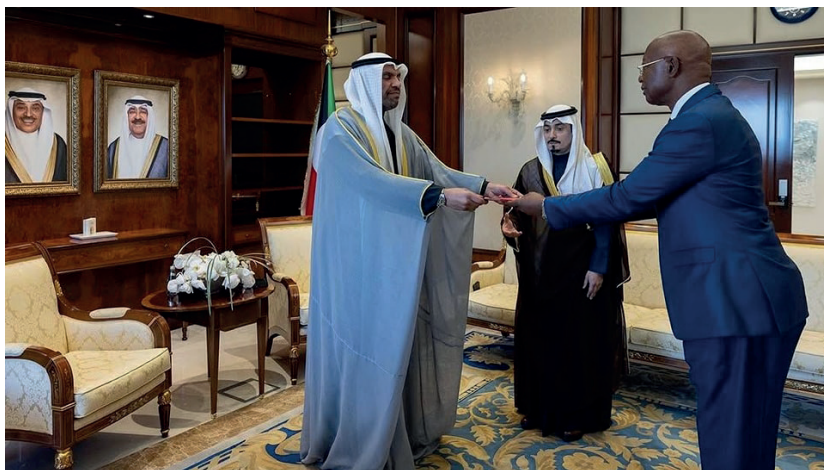
In the business field, the Kuwaiti Chamber of Commerce and Industry, which brings together more than 40,000 firms, will collaborate to cement ties with Angolan companies further.

ANGOLA AND KUWAIT

For his part, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait, Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya, highlighted the excellent relations between Angola and Kuwait and referred to strengthening the bonds of friendship and bilateral cooperation, particularly in the oil sector.

He also expressed great interest from the Kuwaiti side in cooperating with Angola on food security, as it represents one of the main priorities of its government.

To advance investments and boost trade between the two countries, the Kuwaiti official embraced Ambassador Júlio Maiato's recommendations to strengthen ties between the Angolan Diplomatic Mission, various funds, and the local Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



NEW STAGE IN COOPERATION WITH PAKISTAN

Júlio Maiato spoke with Pakistani leader Asif Ali Zardari at the Aiwan-e-Sadr Palace and conveyed messages from the President of the Republic of Angola, João Lourenço, thanking him for the openness shown.

While presenting his credentials to Pakistani authorities at the Aiwan-e-Sadr Palace, Ambassador Júlio Maiato, residing in the United Arab Emirates, conveyed the warmest greetings from President João Lourenço to Pakistani leader Asif Ali Zardari, expressing gratitude for the openness shown to strengthen bilateral cooperation between the two countries.

Angola has maintained political-diplomatic relations with the Islamic Republic of Pakistan since October 20, 1977, mainly focused on fostering bilateral relations in various sectors, including trade, culture and education.

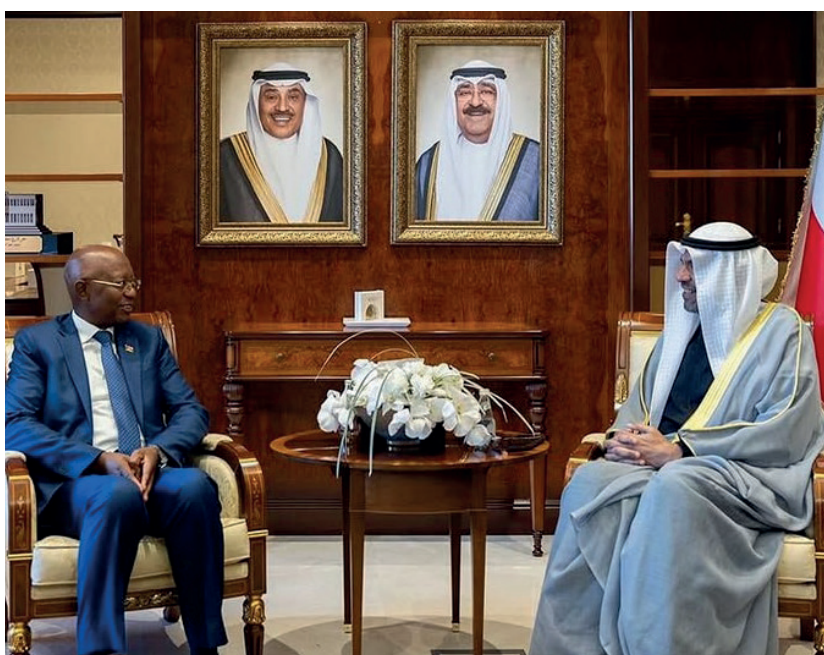
According to Ambassador Júlio Maiato, Angola plans to explore new commercial and economic areas with the country located in South Asia, especially in textiles, pharmaceuticals, clothing, food security and education.

In 2014, the then-ambassador of Angola to China, João Garcia Bires, was accredited in Islamabad as the first non-resident Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Angola to Pakistan.

In March 2022, the Angolan government appointed Junaid Emam as the Honorary Consul of the Republic of Angola in Karachi, with consular jurisdiction in the Sindh province. On June 8, 2022, Murad Baseer was accredited as the Non-Resident Ambassador of Pakistan to Angola.

Pakistan was one of the largest contributors of troops to UN peacekeeping operations in 1995 and participated in the third UN verification mission in Angola (UNAVEM III) until 1997.

“Agriculture today accounts for about 20% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while the services sector represents 53% of GDP, of which 30% refers to wholesale and retail trade.”



AFRICA DIRECTORATE

On the sidelines of the ceremony, Ambassador Júlio Maiato had a brief meeting with Nayef Al-Mudahaf, the Director of the Africa Directorate at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kuwait, where they reviewed the current state of relations between the two countries.

The State of Kuwait, led by Emir Sheikh Mishal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah, has as main partners the United Arab Emirates, China, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, the United States, and Japan.

Kuwait has a well-developed banking system, and several banks in the country date back to the period before oil's discovery.

Current hydrocarbon production

is 2.8 million barrels per day, and reserves are approximately 104 billion barrels, equivalent to about 8% of the world's reserves.

With a GDP growth rate of 5.7%, Kuwait has one of the fastest-growing economies in the Middle East and the Arab world.

In addition to the State of Kuwait, the Angolan Embassy in Abu Dhabi covers the Kingdom of Bahrain, Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, and the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), headquartered in Abu Dhabi.

The Republic of Angola and the State of Kuwait signed the agreement formalizing the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries on November 20, 1997.

POTENTIAL

The Islamic Republic of Pakistan heavily invests in agriculture, industry, and services. The structure of Pakistan's economy has shifted from a predominantly agricultural base to one strongly linked to the services sector.

Today, agriculture accounts for about 20% of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP), while the services sector represents 53%, of which 30% refers to wholesale and retail trade.

Pakistan invests in textile industries, clothing, food processing, pharmaceuticals and surgical products, construction materials, fertilizers, shrimp, and paper products, as well as tourism, which continues to attract about 500,000 foreign tourists annually.

This country, a member of the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), has a GDP of 348.3 billion dollars, a GDP growth rate of 6.5%, and a GDP per capita of 1,505 dollars.

Pakistan is situated along the main maritime and land transit routes, making its location geopolitically strategic. It serves as a bridge between the energy-rich regions of Central Asia and the Middle East and the population centres of South and East Asia. The country also shares borders with strategically important states such as Afghanistan, China, India, and Iran.

With a population of over 200 million, it is the fifth most populous country in the world and has the second-largest Muslim community globally (after Indonesia).

In addition to Angola, Ambassadors of Luxembourg, Jamaica, Uruguay, and Malta also presented their credentials.

VOLUME OF BUSINESS

In 2022, Pakistan exported USD 19.7 million to Angola, mainly clothing, cleaning products, and confectionery sugar.

Over the last 5 years, Pakistan's exports to Angola decreased at an annual rate of 1.62%, from USD 21.3 million in 2017 to USD 19.7 million in 2022.

In the same period (2022), Angola exported USD 63 million to Pakistan, with the main exports being Petroleum, Gas, Densified Wood, and Sawn Timber.



Over the last five years, Angola's exports to Pakistan grew at an annual rate of 142%, from USD 754k in 2017 to USD 63 million in 2022.

The accreditation of the Non-Resident Ambassador of Angola to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, Júlio Maiato, opens doors for Angolans to get to know and better explore the various opportunities available in the country, located south of the Asian continent.

This statement was made by the Apostolic Nuncio in Pakistan, Dom Germano Penemote, who held a courtesy meeting with Ambassador Júlio Maiato in Islamabad on the sidelines of the credential presentation ceremony on January 29, 2025, at the local Presidential Palace.

The Angolan priest of the Catholic Church, who has been living in Pakistan for one year and four months after His Holiness Pope Francis's ordination on June 16, 2023, praised Ambassador Júlio Maiato's openmindedness. He believes this shows great generosity and a sense of state that will allow for greater engagement among Angolans living in Pakistan.

According to Dom Germano Penemote, this was his first direct contact with Angolan compatriots on an official visit. He praised the efforts of Angolan diplomacy in continuing to strengthen ties of friendship and cooperation with less traditional countries.

He revealed that diplomatic relations between the Holy See and Pakistan are excellent and historic. The apostolic delegation was established in 1950, and formal diplomatic relations were established in 1965. Despite being a minority in the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Catholic Church plays a key role in evangelization, education, and health. He noted that Catholic schools have a positive influence and are ranked among the best in the country.

The Apostolic Nunciature's work in Pakistan focuses on encouraging local communities, dioceses, and missionary personnel to continue their work and promote peace and interreligious dialogue in that region of the world.

The Catholic diplomat emphasised that the Pakistani people face widely known challenges but

Apostolic Nuncio: Angolans have open doors to visit Pakistan





possess a sublime value that can enrich other realities. He highlighted the agricultural potential, which should serve as an example to follow.

Dom Germano Penemote, the first Angolan to achieve a position in the Vatican's diplomatic service, was born in Ondobe, Cunene province, Angola, on October 24, 1969. He was ordained a priest on December 6, 1998, in the Diocese of Ondjiva.

He joined the Holy See's diplomatic service in July 2003 and worked in the apostolic nunciatures in Benin, Uruguay, Slovakia, Thailand, Hungary, Peru, and Romania.

He graduated from the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome, holding a degree in *Utrouque Iure* (Canon Law and Civil Law).

MEETINGS WITH BUSINESSMEN

In addition to the meeting with the highest-ranking entity of the Catholic Church in Pakistan, Ambassador Júlio Maiato met with Pakistani business people with interests in Angola, discussing ways to promote collaboration and strengthen bilateral ties between the two countries, particularly in the commercial and business fields.



Notable attendees at the meeting included the Coordinator for the Pakistani Prime Minister on Climate Change, Romina Khurshid Alam, the High Commissioner of Rwanda to Pakistan, Fato Harerimana, the Parliamentary Secretary for Climate Change, Rana Attique,

and the President of Africa House in Pakistan, Rehan Younas.

The ambassador's spouse, Ana Délia Pedro Hevia, along with diplomats Sérgio Congo and Mateus Cavumbo, accompanied Ambassador Júlio Maiato during his visit to Islamabad.

Rotation of Heads of Diplomatic Missions Abroad

Angolan President João Lourenço appointed and swore in seventeen (17) Ambassadors in January and February 2025 in separate ceremonies held in the Presidential Palace's Noble Hall.

Thirteen (13) ambassadors were invested on January 13, 2025, and four more were sworn in on February 11. Among the various invited entities, the Vice President of the Republic, Esperança da Costa, was particularly highlighted

**AMBASSADOR TO
THE UNITED NATIONS
OFFICES AND OTHER
INTERNATIONAL
ORGANISMS
IN GENEVA**



ANA MARIA DE OLIVEIRA

**AMBASSADOR
TO CUBA**



**CARLOS CRUZ DE LEMOS
SARDINHA**

**AMBASSADOR TO THE
KINGDOM OF BELGIUM
AND THE EUROPEAN UNION**



**EDGAR AUGUSTO
BRANDÃO GASPAR
MARTINS**

**AMBASSADOR TO THE
SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF
VIETNAM**



FERNANDO MIGUEL

AMBASSADOR TO TURKEY



**JOÃO SALVADOR
DOS SANTOS NETO**

**AMBASSADOR TO
THE REPUBLIC OF GABON**



**JOAQUIM DO ESPÍRITO
SANTO**

**AMBASSADOR TO THE
UNITED KINGDOM OF
GREAT BRITAIN AND
NORTHERN IRELAND**



**JOSÉ GONÇALVES
MARTINS PATRÍCIO**

**AMBASSADOR TO THE
ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT**



**MANKENTO
SEBASTIÃO LOPES**

**AMBASSADOR
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
EDUCATIONAL,
SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL
ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)**



**MARIA CÂNDIDA
PEREIRA TEIXEIRA**

**AMBASSADOR TO KENYA
AND PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICES
IN NAIROBI**



**MÁRIO DE AZEVEDO
CONSTANTINO**

**AMBASSADOR
TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA**



**SIANGA KIVUILA
SAMUEL ABÍLIO**

AMBASSADOR TO ISRAEL



NELSON MANUEL COSME

**AMBASSADOR TO THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF CHINA**



**DALVA MAURÍCIA
CALOMBO RINGOTE ALLEN**

**AMBASSADOR
TO SPAIN**



**BALBINA MALHEIROS
DA SILVA**

**AMBASSADOR
TO RWANDA**



ALFREDO DOMBE

AMBASSADOR TO ZIMBABWE



**BALTAZAR DIOGO
CRISTÓVÃO**

AMBASSADOR TO THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO



JOSÉ FILIPE



We would like to express our trust in your capacity to strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation between Angola and the countries where you will be accredited.



MULTILATERAL

Angola participated in the 15th Assembly of IRENA in Abu Dhabi

The delegation was led by the Secretary of State for Energy, Arlindo Bota Manuel Carlos, representing the Minister of Energy and Water, João Baptista Borges

The 15th Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) took place from January 11 to 13, 2025, in Abu Dhabi, the political and administrative capital of the United Arab Emirates, under the theme “Accelerating the Transition to Renewable Energy—The Way Forward.” Thus, it marked the first international energy meeting of the year.

As a permanent member of the multilateral organisation, Angola participated with a delegation headed by the Secretary of State for Energy, Ar-

lindo Bota Manuel Carlos, on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Water, João Baptista Borges.

The Ambassador of Angola to the United Arab Emirates, Júlio Maiato, also joined the national delegation as the organisation’s Permanent Representative.

Ongoing discussions focused on how to triple renewable energy capacity by 2030, support transitions in emerging economies, and leverage innovative financial flows in countries in need.

IRENA, with the support of the Uni-

ted Arab Emirates, has a defined plan to capitalise 25 member countries.

Meanwhile, the 15th IRENA Assembly brought together representatives from countries, energy experts, and sector leaders who also discussed the contribution and importance of renewable energies in the energy matrices of member countries and globally.

“Over the past 12 months, Angola has held the vice-presidency of IRENA, representing the group of African countries, passing the mandate of vice-presidency to Namibia.



Slovenia holds the presidency.”

At the event, which saw the participation of over 1,400 delegates from 170 countries, Angola delivered a message focused on the actions being developed for an effective energy transition.

The Secretary of State for Energy’s speech focused on the country’s progress and strategy in adopting renewable energy and combating the effects of climate change in the Energy and Water Sector.

In his address, the official emphasised the need for a fair and balanced energy transition, assuring that Angola approaches the energy transition not only as a response to climate challenges but also as a pathway for economic growth that contributes to the development of technical skills and, through this, the reduction of poverty.

The Secretary of State also ad-

“

Over the past 12 months, Angola has held the vice-presidency of IRENA, representing the group of African countries, passing the mandate of vice-presidency to Namibia. Slovenia holds the presidency.

ressed the financing of countries, highlighting the heterogeneous matrix that characterizes the group of IRENA member countries, an intergovernmental organisation founded in 2009 to promote the use of renewable energies worldwide.

Angola held the vice-presidency of IRENA for the past 12 months, representing the group of African countries, passing the mandate for the vice-presidency to Namibia. Slovenia holds the presidency.

During this mandate, Angola shared its energy transition experience at the 14th Assembly held from April 16 to 18, 2024, recommending that other member countries adopt Angola’s experience in energy transition matters.

The delegation included João Fernandes, an official from MINEA, and officials from the Angolan Embassy in the United Arab Emirates.





Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW) brings together high-level figures

On the sidelines of the 15th IRENA Assembly, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week (ADSW) took place until January 18, 2025, bringing together Heads of State, Ministers, high-level delegates, and experts to accelerate global sustainability efforts.

Angola was among the more than 100 countries that participated in ADSW, which officially opened on January 14 in the capital of the United Arab Emirates.

The event was held under “The Nexus of the Next: Driving Sustainable Progress.”

As part of the 2025 World Future Energy Summit, Abu Dhabi Sustainability Week was organised by Abu Dhabi Future Energy Company – Masdar and promoted by the President of the United Arab Emirates, His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

“

The event was held under the theme ‘The Nexus of the Next: Driving Sustainable Progress.’

Within the framework of the 34 sessions dedicated to the summit, the Secretary of State for Energy, Arlindo Carlos, participated in a high-level roundtable discussion on “The Interaction of Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the Transition to Clean Energy: Opportunities, Challenges, and Policy Strategies.” Invited by the organisers, he highli-

ghed Angola’s efforts to increase renewable energy in the national electricity matrix.

The Angolan government’s commitment focuses on reducing dependence on fossil fuels.

During a panel discussion featuring representatives from other countries, including African nations, as well as the Director-General of IRENA, the Angolan official—accompanied by Angola’s Ambassador to the United Arab Emirates, Júlio Maiato—emphasised national and regional interconnections and operational hydroelectric and photovoltaic projects that contribute to 64% of the country’s electricity production matrix.

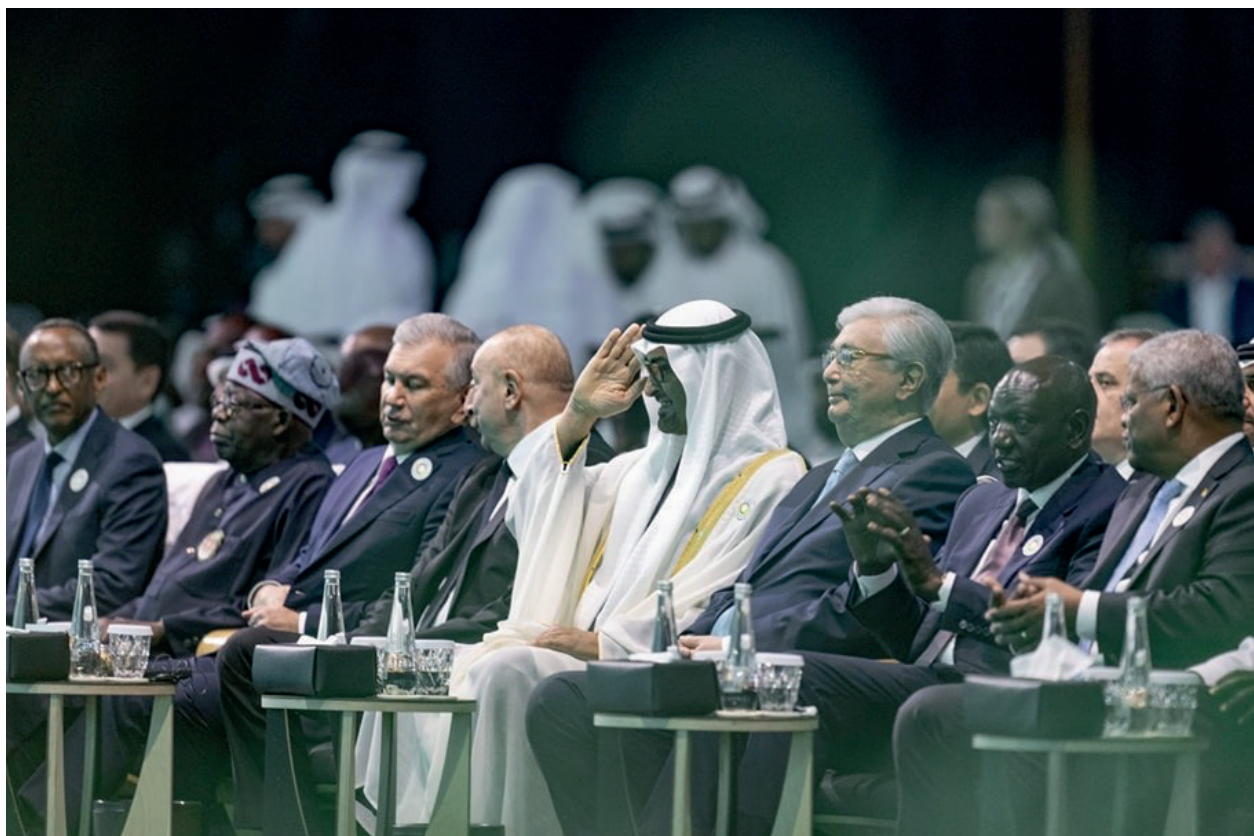
He also mentioned the planned projects to increase production capacity from approximately 6.4 GW to over 9 GW by 2027, with 70% of the increase coming from clean energy sources.

The Secretary of State for Energy called on governments to combine efforts in developing clear cybersecurity strategies and policies to ensure the uninterrupted operation of electricity systems, which, through Artificial Intelligence, become less vulnerable to climate change.

He advocated promoting technical knowledge to enable a better understanding and utilization of artificial intelligence's benefits and a more thorough preparation to mitigate its associated risks.

He stressed that, from the Angolan government's perspective, interconnections between countries or regions should be seen as economic assets with mutual advantages and high sensitivity. He urged the roundtable participants to consider the imperative of protecting these assets at various levels of strategic security discussions.

During the event's opening ceremony, 11 pioneering organisations and high schools worldwide were honoured with the "Zayed Sustainability Prize," an award presented by the leader of the United Arab Emirates.



Training of specialists is a priority in cooperation with IRENA

The multilateral organisation has committed to providing Angola with photovoltaic systems for educational and healthcare infrastructure in remote areas not connected to the national grid, without any financial counterpart

Angola has expressed the need to benefit from specialised training for young engineers under its membership in the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) so they can become more familiar with new electricity production technologies focused on renewable sources.

This request was made by the Secretary of State for Energy, Arlindo Carlos, on January 16, 2025, during a meeting with IRENA's Director-General, the Italian Francesco La Camera.

The Angolan official stated that incorporating artificial intelligence skills into this training would allow for the uninterrupted operation of assets within the public electricity system, especially considering the operational conditions that electrical installations will face with Angola's interconnection to neighbouring countries' systems.

The meeting also addressed the possibility of IRENA, through its partners, providing Angola with photovoltaic systems for educational and healthcare infrastructure in remote areas not connected to the national grid without requiring any financial counterpart.

During the meeting, which was marked by cordiality and mutual interaction, IRENA expressed openness to considering project proposals submitted by the Angolan side, which, with its intervention, could receive attention.

IRENA's Director-General, Francesco La Camera, welcomed the Angolan government's efforts to



provide energy from clean sources and emphasised the importance of Angola, as a signatory of the Paris Agreement, continuing to promote initiatives that support the decarbonisation of the electricity sector.

The meeting between the Ango-

lan delegation and IRENA occurred following the 15th Assembly of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), held from January 11 to 13, 2025, in Abu Dhabi, the political-administrative capital of the United Arab Emirates.

IN FOCUS

The country mobilized for the celebration of 50 years of independence on November 11

The entire diaspora, through Diplomatic and Consular Missions, is involved in the festivities



On November 11, 2025, Angola will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of National Independence, a milestone for reflecting on the country's journey toward freedom, peace and progress.

Under the theme "Angola 50 Years: Preserving and Valuing Achievements, Building a Better Future," the celebrations aim to strengthen national pride and unity

among all Angolans, highlighting historical accomplishments and future challenges. This occasion promotes civic and community engagement, reinforcing every citizen's commitment to Angola's development and prosperity.

All Angolans are invited to participate in events that engage the entire country. The November 11 celebrations mobilised the nation and the diaspora through diploma-

tic and consular missions.

Since 1975, a defining period in Angola's contemporary history, the country has asserted itself in the global community as a sovereign nation capable of making independent decisions regarding managing its resources.

Angola continues to position itself as a dynamic player in foreign policy, actively participating in various international and regional organisations, particularly in the Southern African and Great Lakes regions. This is a direct result of its hard-earned National Independence, achieved after nearly five centuries.

The full exercise of sovereignty results from the extraordinary efforts of brave Angolan fighters, whose legacy is honoured in the country's National Symbols.

The Dipanda (Independence) celebrations have specific objectives, including raising awareness of the significance of November 11 as a landmark event that unites different national perspectives in valuing Angola as a nation. It is also a time to reflect on the immense sacrifices made by the people in pursuit of the nation's greatest achievement—national Independence.

Another key objective is to honour the peoples, political parties, and governments that, during the long and difficult years of the liberation struggle, showed solidarity with the Angolan cause and provided direct and concrete support in achieving crucial goals, such as the birth and consolidation of a sovereign, free, and independent state.

PROGRAM

The Angolan government has outlined a comprehensive program with an international focus. The 50th Independence Anniversary celebrations will take place from November 11, 2024, to December



31, 2025, with decentralised activities across all provinces and Angola's diplomatic missions, ensuring that all Angolans can engage and participate in this historic moment.

COMMEMORATIVE MEDAL

The joint report on the draft law establishing the Commemorative Medal for the 50th Anniversary of Angola's Independence was approved in general terms by the specialised committees of the National Assembly last January.

Initiated by the Executive, the document stipulates that both national and foreign citizens, living or deceased, who made significant contributions to achieving National Independence will be honoured with commemorative medals on November 11 as part of the 50th-anniversary celebrations.

The medals will be awarded in three categories, including the "Honor Class," which will be designated for Heads of State and Government and other signatories who played a relevant role in the independence process.



Embassy works on mobilizing companies for ANGOTIC 2025

Invitations have been extended to institutions and companies in the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Kuwait and Pakistan

The Embassy of the Republic of Angola in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, invites Chambers of Commerce and Industry and various companies in the UAE, Bahrain, Kuwait and Pakistan to participate in ANGOTIC: Angola ICT Forum 2025. With international reach, this high-level innovation platform in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is organised by the Ministry of Telecommunications, Information Technologies, and Social Communication (MINTTICS) on behalf of the Angolan government. It will take place in June in Luanda, the country's capital.

ANGOTIC 2025 – Angola's International Information and Communication Technology Forum will be held from June 12 to 14 at the Talatona Convention Center (CCTA) and the Talatona Convention Hotel (HCTA), under the theme: "50 Years – Communicating, Modernising, and Developing Angola."

In light of the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of Angola's Independence, the event will combine a forum and a global ICT exhibition, showcasing technologies from the earliest to the most modern, facilitating knowledge exchange and serving as a networking hub for government entities, established industry players, emerging mobile service providers, the press, and award ceremonies.

The forum will bring together prominent figures from various sectors, public and private sector leaders, and industry representati-



ves from across the ICT ecosystem, focusing on Angola's technological advancements over its 50 years of independence.

The exhibition will be an international, high-level showcase for companies and organisations to demonstrate industry leadership, present innovative products, technologies, and applications, highlight key projects, and provide unique visibility, networking, and knowledge transfer opportunities.

The event's main objectives include:

- Reflecting on ICT development over Angola's 50 years of independence;

- Showcasing the potential and growth of ICT, as well as new business solutions;

- Presenting new technologies developed by ICT companies that will enhance management, improve service quality, increase productivity, retain customers, and facilitate decision-making;

- Highlighting Angola's market capabilities, with significant impacts on job creation, income generation, and quality of life;

- Showcasing the development and modernisation of Angola's social communication sector.

IN FOCUS

ANGOTIC 2025: Chambers of Commerce and Industry Committed



The Chambers of Commerce and Industry in Angola, namely those of South Africa, Brazil, China, and the United States of America, were informed last January about what ANGOTIC 2025 will entail and the collaboration expected.

During a meeting organised by the Ministry of Telecommunications, Information Technologies, and Social Communication (MINTTICS) in Luanda, MINTTICS presented the general elements of ANGOTIC 2025 and the ways to access and participate in the event. The representatives of the Chambers expressed their commitment to pro-

moting the event among their members and partners, mainly to attract companies and ICT enthusiasts.

In his remarks at the meeting, the Minister of Telecommunications, Information Technologies, and Social Communication, Mário Oliveira, highlighted Angola's remarkable progress in the ICT sector over the past 50 years and the crucial role of ICT in addressing or significantly reducing the country's challenges.

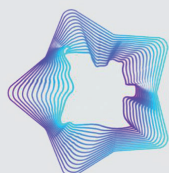
The minister also emphasised Angola's advancements in the sector, which have greatly contributed to the positive transformation of various areas of society. "Today, it is impossible to separate industry and

commerce from technology and telecommunications, as they have become essential for the operation and development of these sectors."

Mário Oliveira further stated that even agriculture, once a communal and rudimentary practice, is now based on science and ICT, given the widespread impact of technology throughout the entire production chain.

ANGOTIC 2025 is expected to highlight young talents' and national companies' creativity and innovation and foster discussions on current and future challenges.

In 2024, more than 10,000 companies participated in ANGOTIC.

ADVERTISING

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COMMUNICATING, MODERNISING AND DEVELOPING ANGOLA

12TH, 13TH AND 14TH JUNE 2025
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On January 30, 2025, the AD Ports Group began managing and developing a major multipurpose terminal and an associated logistics business in Luanda (Angola), strengthening its expansion in Sub-Saharan Africa.

In partnership with Unicargas and Multiparques, the AD Ports Group commenced operations at the Port of Luanda Terminal. The terminal handles approximately 76% of Angola's container and general cargo volumes and provides maritime access to neighbouring landlocked countries, such as the Democratic Republic of Congo and Zambia.

The AD Ports Group holds an 81% stake in the multipurpose terminal joint venture with Unicargas and Multiparques and a 90% stake in the logistics venture with Unicargas.

Under a 20-year concession agreement with the Luanda Port Authority, signed in April 2024, the AD Ports Group committed to investing approximately USD 250 million by 2026 to modernise the terminal and develop Noatum Unicargas Logistics. This joint venture will provide integrated logistics, transportation, and freight forwarding services to local, regional, and international clients.

With the terminal's inauguration, negotiations began for Noatum Unicargas Logistics, which is investing significantly in new trucks and systems. It will fully integrate into the global Noatum Logistics network, enhancing Angola's access to international markets and supporting investment-driven economic growth.

Depending on market demand, the AD Ports Group's total investment could increase to USD 380 million over the concession period, which may be extended for another 10 years.

At the end of 2024, the AD Ports Group signed two agreements with the Angolan Government, granting significant tax and financial benefits to the group's operational subsidiaries.

The investments are expected to

AD Ports group begins port and logistics operations in Luanda



Depending on market demand, the AD Ports Group's total investment could increase to USD 380 million over the concession period, which may be extended for another 10 years.

create thousands of direct and indirect jobs and provide training and skills development. Additionally, the investment plan includes equipment and technological solutions for environmentally sustainable operations, helping reduce carbon emissions.

“Under AD Ports Group's Leadership, Luanda's Port Terminal to Be Significantly Upgraded”

The CEO of AD Ports Group's Regional Operations, Mohamed Eidha Al Menhali, stated that with the planned modernisation of Luanda's multipurpose port terminal and the establishment of an integrated logistics and cargo agency business, leveraging the group's global network and reach, AD Ports Group is positioned to capture the growth in container volumes in Angola, expected to increase by an average of

3.3% annually over the next decade. Al Menhali emphasised that this significant investment by the group and its partners will strengthen the ties between Angola and the United Arab Emirates while creating jobs and economic prosperity for the people of Angola.

MINISTER OF TRANSPORT HIGHLIGHTS THE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Angola's Minister of Transport, Ricardo Viegas de Abreu, highlighted that Luanda Port is the primary maritime gateway to Angola, a crucial hub for regional trade, and a key economic lifeline for the region. The strategic partnership with AD Ports Group is part of a broader effort involving multiple stakeholders and aims to transform Luanda Port into an efficient and high-performing multipurpose facility, enhancing logistics capabilities and driving economic growth throughout Central-Western Africa. The Minister stated, "This collaboration is a significant milestone in our mission to modernise infrastructure and expand access to global trade while ensuring a prosperous future for Angola and its partners."

He added that the Angolan Government is fully committed to its partnership with AD Ports Group and is prepared to do whatever is necessary to ensure that the significant USD 250 million investment in state-of-the-art terminal infrastructure and a regional logistics company brings a steady flow of business opportunities for the partner and lasting economic growth for the people of Angola.

EFFORTS TO IMPROVE TERMINAL OPERATIONS AND SAFETY

The transition and asset transfer have been carried out without interruptions to terminal operations, which are expected to continue seamlessly as AD Ports Group and



The Super Post-Panamax STS cranes are the largest port cranes on the market, capable of reaching 21 rows of containers and a 60-meter outreach.

its partners enhance terminal efficiency and operational performance. The group is also committed to improving health and safety at the terminal and has begun implementing the best Health, Safety, and Environment (HSE) program to manage and control workplace risks, environmental hazards, and the well-being of employees.

UPGRADES TO LUANDA PORT TERMINAL

Under the leadership of AD Ports Group, Luanda Port Terminal will undergo significant upgrades to become a general cargo, container, and roll-on/roll-off (Ro-Ro) terminal. It will be the only terminal at Luanda Port with a 16-meter depth alongside, capable of handling Super Post-Panamax vessels up to 14,000 TEUs (Twenty Foot Equivalent Units). The terminal's 192,000 m² area will be redesigned to support high-density and efficient container handling and equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and modern IT systems.

EXPANSION IN AFRICA AND EQUIPMENT INVESTMENTS

Over the past three years, AD Ports

Group has expanded into Africa, announcing over USD 800 million in planned investments across the maritime, port, and logistics sectors in Egypt, the Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Angola. The decision to enter Angola followed the signing of a 2023 framework agreement between AD Ports Group and the Angolan Government to explore cooperation in transportation and maritime infrastructure.

NEW EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS

New container handling equipment will be installed by Q3 2026, increasing container capacity from 25,000 TEUs to 350,000 TEUs and Ro-Ro volumes to over 40,000 vehicles. On September 11, 2024, AD Ports Group awarded contracts to Shanghai Zhenhua Heavy Industries Co. Ltd. (ZPMC), one of the largest manufacturers of port machinery globally, for the supply of three Super Post-Panamax STS cranes and eight hybrid Rubber-Tired Gantry (RTG) cranes for the Luanda terminal.

The Super Post-Panamax STS cranes are the largest port cranes on the market, capable of reaching 21 rows of containers and a 60-meter outreach. The hybrid RTG cranes can save up to 60% of diesel compared to traditional diesel RTGs, which equals 1 million litres per year and reduces 5,000 metric tons of CO₂ emissions.

LOGISTICS INVESTMENTS AND INTEGRATION

In the Angolan logistics venture, Noatum Unicargas Logistics will invest in new equipment, refrigerated trucks, and platforms. It will update its IT systems to integrate seamlessly with the Noatum Logistics digital ecosystem, providing visibility of end-to-end supply chains and enhancing operational efficiency.

Minister of Transport participates in the international civil aviation organization symposium

On February 13, Angola's Minister of Transport, Ricardo Viegas D'Abreu, attended the 4th Global Symposium of the ICAO (GISS 2025) in Abu Dhabi, one of the most significant international events in the civil aviation sector, organised by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) in partnership with the General Civil Aviation Authority (GCAA) of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The event brought together over 1,500 participants, including representatives from the 193 ICAO member states, ministers, leaders, and experts in transport, aviation, and energy sectors. The agenda featured 150 speakers, including experts, senior government officials, and CEOs of leading companies in these strategic industries.

Ricardo Viegas D'Abreu participated in a Ministerial Roundtable, where he highlighted the importance of aviation for Angola's economic and social development, focusing on three key areas:

1. **Economic Diversification and Growth**—Aviation plays a central role in diversifying Angola's economy, fostering trade, tourism, and investment and contributing to sustainable growth.

2. **Infrastructure Development**—With the inauguration of the Dr António Agostinho Neto International Airport in Luanda and the certification of three more regional airports, Angola strengthens its domestic and international connectivity, solidifying its position as a regional aviation hub.

3. **Human Resources Capacity Building**—In partnership with ICAO, Angola launched a strategic initiative to train the next generation of aviation professionals, focusing on technical qualification, gender equality, and youth opportunities.

Minister Ricardo Viegas D'Abreu stated: "Our strong collaboration with ICAO has been crucial in ensuring the modernisation and safety of the avia-



tion sector in Angola. ICAO's technical support helps us meet the highest international standards, ensuring a more efficient, sustainable, and competitive sector. Aviation is a growth engine for Angola and an essential pillar of our development strategy."

The GISS 2025 focused on two main themes: sustainability and artificial intelligence in aviation, addressing challenges like the production of low-carbon alternative fuels and the safe integration of new technologies into the aviation sector. The event also hosted the Global Sustainable Aviation Market (GSAM 2025), an innovative

exhibition featuring 75 international companies specialising in aviation, energy, and advanced technology.

The event was attended by prominent figures such as Salvatore Sciacchitano, President of the ICAO Council, and Abdulla Bin Touq Al Marri, UAE Minister of Economy and Chairman of the GCAA, along with ministers and leaders from various countries.

Angola's participation in this forum reinforces the country's commitment to progress and innovation in civil aviation, consolidating strategic partnerships for the sector's future.



The United Arab Emirates sends 25 ambulances and medical supplies to Angola

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has sent 25 ambulances, advanced medical equipment, and supplies to Angola as part of the country's continued efforts to enhance the capabilities of developing nations in the healthcare sector, in line with the guidelines of His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the UAE president.

This is part of the UAE's global initiative of USD 220 million to support the healthcare sector in Africa, which was previously announced by His Excellency Sheikh Shakhboub bin Nahyan Al Nahyan, Minister of State and Chairman of the Advisory Committee for International Development Health, during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change COP28 Con-

“
Sheikh Shakhboub added that improving the healthcare sector and elevating health standards is an important part of the UAE's foreign aid programs and a significant priority area.

ference in Dubai.

Sheikh Shakhboub bin Nahyan Al Nahyan emphasised the growing bilateral relations be-

tween the UAE and Angola in several sectors, particularly the health sector, which faces significant challenges in Africa and requires international cooperation due to poor infrastructure and facilities.

Sheikh Shakhboub added that improving the healthcare sector and elevating health standards are important parts of the UAE's foreign aid programs and a significant priority area.

Sultan Mohammed Al Shamsi, Vice President of the UAE Aid Agency, drew attention to the UAE's international commitment to less developed nations, especially in Africa, given the enormous challenges posed by climate change and economic deprivation, which require strong international cooperation and joint efforts.



Community informed about the 50th anniversary of the National Independence program

The Angolan community in Dubai was informed on February 15, 2025, about the general program of activities related to the 50th Anniversary of National Independence, which will be celebrated on November 11 this year.

After meeting with Angolan university students in the United Arab Emirates on February 8, 2025, the Consulate General of Angola in Dubai gathered the community to discuss, among other topics, the preparations for the upcoming celebrations, which are already underway in Angola.

The official launch took place on November 29, 2024, in Luanda by the Minister of State and Chief of the Civil House of the President and Coordinator of the Interministerial Commission for Organizing Commemorative Actions for the 50th Anniversary of National Independence, Adão de Almeida.

The November 11 festivities have mobilised the entire country and the diaspora through the Angolan Diplo-

matic and Consular Missions.

Angolans are called to participate in events that engage the country.

In his speech, the Consul General in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, Bento André “Morgado”, mentioned that he had convened the “III Meeting with the Community” to hear their views on the proposed program by the Consulate regarding the anniversary and also engage them in the actions planned by Angolan diplomatic representations in the UAE.

In this context, various recreational, cultural, and sports activities are planned, with the participation of the community residing in this Arab country. Working groups have been created.

Another topic discussed was the operation of the Angolan Association and Friends in the UAE (AAAE-3AE) and the renewal of its leadership. The current board’s mandate ended in November 2024, and the participants at the meeting recommended calling the General Assembly for the

Renewal of Mandates.

Regarding this issue, Consul-General Bento André “Morgado” assured that the process could proceed in phases.

Approximately 300 Angolans reside in the UAE, mostly concentrated in Dubai.

The meeting also included the participation of Vice-Consuls Balduino Esteves and António Vieira Lopes.

LISTENING TO DIFFICULTIES

The meeting with Angolan university students in the UAE addressed the challenges many face in their academic activities and their integration into Emirati society.

Among the various issues raised by the group of students, which were adequately clarified, there was a call for closer ties between the student community and the Consulate-General to facilitate interaction or intervention in accordance with the Vienna Conventions for Consular Missions and the protection of Angolan communities abroad.

One of the benefits is the opportunity to engage in flexible international programs that allow for intercultural development and the growth of the country of origin without losing sight of its historical past and cultural roots. The global educational experience, independence, language skills, and intercultural learning travel also contribute to enhanced training.

HIGH-LEVEL SKILLS

The Consul General in Dubai and the Northern Emirates, Bento André “Morgado”, emphasised the importance of university education in providing the high-level skills necessary for any labour market and offering an opportunity for access to the most relevant and responsible professions in contemporary societies, particularly in developing African countries like Angola.

During the meeting attended by 15 students out of 17 enrolled in universities in the United Arab Emirates, the Angolan diplomat reassured them, promising greater openness in facilitating interaction to create better synergies between the Consulate General and the student community.

In this regard, Consul Bento André “Morgado” suggested implementing a Student Network to strengthen connections and create a platform to help students enter the job market.

STUDENTS

At the meeting, the students expressed great satisfaction and reiterated the need to participate in issues related to the country, share ideas to build common goals, and increasingly enhance patriotism in a year when Angola celebrates its 50th Anniversary of Independence.

The Angolans are enrolled in undergraduate and master’s degree programs in areas such as Management and Business, Project Management, and Information Systems, as well as courses in Financial Technology, International Trade, Computer Science, Commercial Law, and Mechanical Engineering and Drones.





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FLASH NEWS



The Secretary of State for Finance and Treasury visited the UAE

Francisco Kaluvi, the Counselor of the MD, greeted H.E. Ottoniel dos Santos, the Secretary of State for Finance and Treasury, who visited the UAE from February 12-14, 2025, to participate in a "roadshow" with investors as part of Angola's State Treasury Stabilization Strategies.

The Embassy also participated in the U.S. Independence Day event held on February 4, 2025, in Abu Dhabi, represented by Counselor Francisco Kaluvi on behalf of H.E. Ambassador Júlio Maiato.

New Foreign Mission Officer at the DM

The Angolan Diplomatic Mission in Abu Dhabi, UAE, has a new foreign mission officer. Welwitchia Vidal Lourenço was appointed by the Minister of External Relations, Tête António, on May 16, 2023, to serve as 3rd Secretary at the Embassy.

The official began her duties in December 2024, transferring from the Central Executive Body of the Ministry of External Relations, specifically from the Institute of Angolan Communities Abroad and Consular Services (ICAESC). She will focus on the Consular/Registration and Notary Sector at the diplomatic mission.



Demarte Pena Fights at Warriors 56 at Space 42 in Abu Dhabi

The fight between Angolan Demarte Pena and Moroccan Xavier Alaoui was the main attraction on the night of January 16, 2025, at the Warriors 56 International Tournament in Mixed Martial Arts (MMA) at the Space 42 Arena in Abu Dhabi.

Demarte Pena (170 CM tall), with a record of W 15-L 2 in freestyle wrestling, was defeated by Xavier Alaoui (168 CM tall), who has a record of W 14-L 6, losing by the narrowest margin in the final stages of the contest.

The tournament, which brought together African and Arab athletes, is the largest promotion of mixed martial arts in the Middle East.

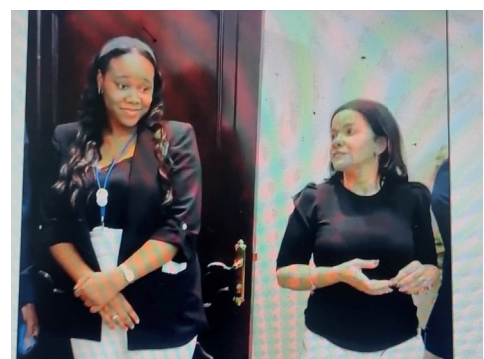
Despite the loss to the Moroccan, Pena is now focused on preparing for the UFC in Las Vegas, USA, the world's largest MMA league, taking place in August, and for a fight in Angola in the first half of this year, as part of the 50th Anniversary of Angola's Independence.

The Dipanda ya Waba International MMA Tournament will feature Demarte Pena and could be held in Luanda and Uíge, organized by the Ministry of Youth and.

PORTRAIT

Gathering at the DM

Embassy staff celebrated the presentation of credentials by the Chief of the Diplomatic Mission to the authorities in Kuwait and Pakistan. The ceremonies took place on January 22, 2025, in Kuwait City and on January 29, 2025, in Islamabad, respectively.





CURIOSITIES

Burj Khalifa

The tallest building in the world

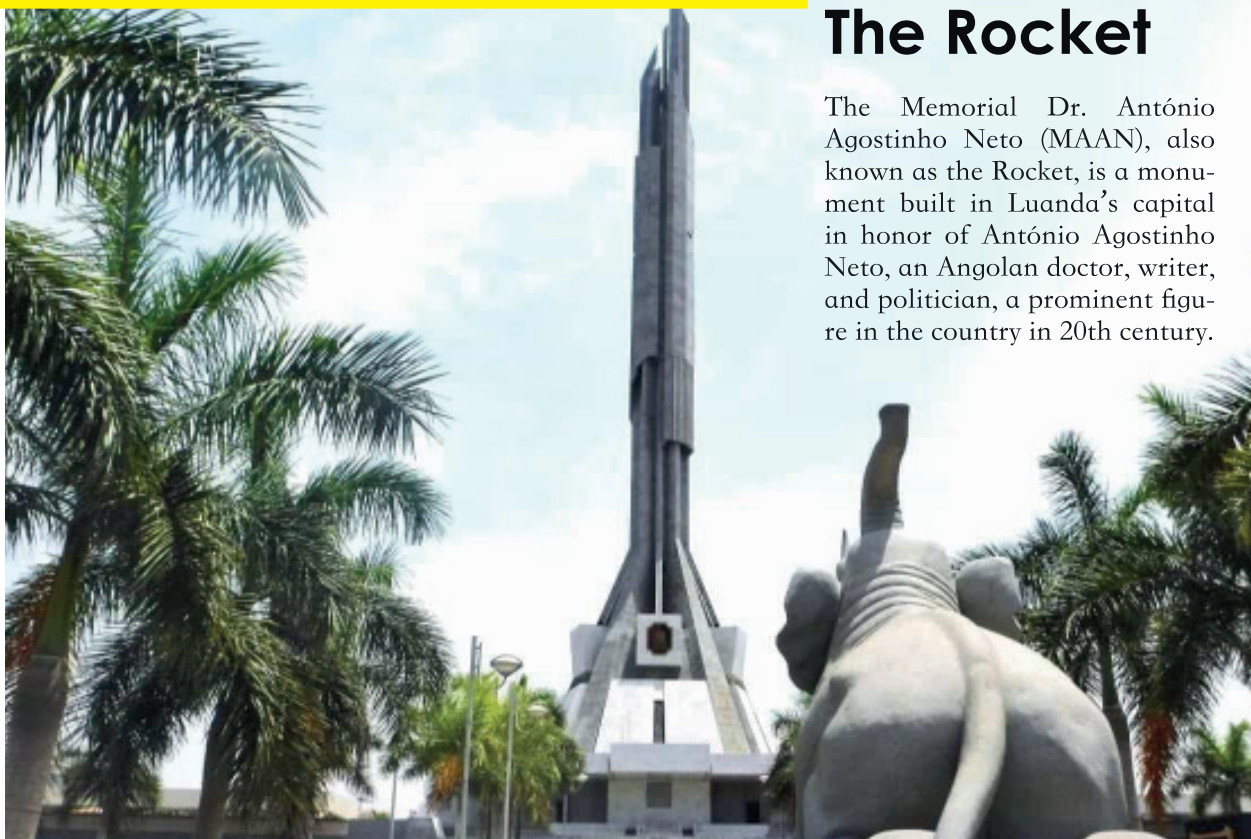
Burj Khalifa Bin Zayid, formerly known as Burj Dubai, is a skyscraper located in Dubai, United Arab Emirates; being the tallest structure and, consequently, the tallest tower ever built by humans, 828 meters tall and 160 floors. Construction began on September 21, 2004, and opened on January 4, 2010. The Burj is more than twice the height of the Empire State Building and nearly three times the

size of the Eiffel Tower.

During the confirmation of the Burj as the tallest building in the world, Guinness World Records also ratified several other lofty achievements for the innovative structure. To name a few, it has the tallest elevator in a building (504 m; 1,654 ft), can boast the Most Floors in a building (163), and has the highest ground-level restaurant (441.3 m; 1,447).



Memorial Dr. António Agostinho Neto



The Rocket

The Memorial Dr. António Agostinho Neto (MAAN), also known as the Rocket, is a monument built in Luanda's capital in honor of António Agostinho Neto, an Angolan doctor, writer, and politician, a prominent figure in the country in 20th century.

DID YOU KNOW?

Angola

The Republic of Angola is a country on the west-central coast of Southern Africa.

It has borders with Namibia in the south, the Democratic Republic of the Congo to the north, Zambia to the east, and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. Angola has an exclave province of Cabinda that borders the Republic of the Congo and the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

It is the second-largest Portuguese-speaking (Lusophone) country in total area and population and Africa's seventh-largest country. At 1,246,700 km², Angola is the world's twenty-second-largest country, with a coastline of 1,650 km.

The country is divided into

21 provinces, divided into municipalities, which are then subdivided into communities, neighbourhoods, and/or settlements.

Official name: Republic of Angola

Demonym: Angolan

National Day: November 11
(Independence Day)

Capital: Luanda

Official language: Portuguese

Main national/regional languages: Umbundu, Kimbundu, Kikongu, Fiote, Tchokwe, N'Ganguela and Kunhama

Currency: Kwanza

Population: 37,290,193
(2023)

Type of Government: Presidential Parliamentary Republic

President: João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço

Vice President: Esperança
Maria Eduardo Francisco

Da Costa

Geographic Coordinates:

12° 30' S, 18° 30'

Timezone: WAT (UTC +1)

Internet code: .ao

Country code: +244

Gross Domestic Product

(GDP): USD 84.82 billion (2023)

GDP per capita: USD
2,308.16 (2023)

Climate: Hot tropical, with a rainy season from October to mid-May. The Southwest is dry, while the Northeast is humid.

Main Natural Resources:

Oil, diamonds, natural gas, copper, phosphate, diamond, zinc, aluminium, gold, iron, and uranium, in addition to a rich diversity of fauna and flora

Predominant religion:

Christianity

Literacy rate:

71.1%



DID YOU KNOW?

United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates is located on the Arabian Peninsula, predominantly along the Persian Gulf. The country is a federation of seven emirates (Abu Dhabi, Dubai, Sharjah, Ajman, Umm al-Quwain, Ras-al-Khaimah and Fujairah).

Capital: Abu Dhabi

Demonym: Emirati

Country code: +971

Currency: Dirham

Continent: Asia

Population: 10.483 million (88% expats) (2023)
World Bank

Type of Government: Federal Constitutional Monarchy

Land area: 83,600 km²

Climate: Arid desert, cooler in the mountains to the east (Winter: warm and sunny / Summer: hot and humid)

Gross Domestic Product (GDP): USD 514.13 billion (2023)

GDP growth rate: 3.6% (2023)

GDP per capita: USD 49,040.7 (2023)

Main Natural Resources: Oil and natural gas

Official language: Arabic

Other spoken languages: English, Farsi, Hindi and Urdu

Religion: Islam (practice of other religious beliefs

are permitted)

Literacy rate: 98.29%

National Day: 2 December, marks the federal unification of the emirates in 1971

Founder and UAE's first

President: The late Sheikh Zayed bin Sultan Al Nahyan

President: Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan (Ruler of Abu Dhabi)

Vice-Presidents: Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid Al Maktoum (Ruler of Dubai) and Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Prime Minister: Sheikh Mohamed bin Rashid Al Maktoum



