Pinsent Masons

Africa Monthly

October 2015

Contents

1 Editorial

2 Mining

3 TMT

4 Infrastructure

4 Power

5 Renewables

6 Water

7 Oil and Gas

8 China and Africa

Editorial

Bridging the Gap: Tackling Africa's infrastructure deficit through strategic focus on public private partnerships (PPPs)

Investment in infrastructure remains critical to sustaining economic growth in Africa. Over the years, there has been rapid progress across the continent with over 800 active infrastructure projects across different sectors, with an estimated combined value in excess of $700bn (EY, Africa Attractiveness Survey, 2012).

Increasingly, governments are turning to public-private partnerships (PPPs) to deliver essential infrastructure. PPPs have huge potential and can be of great advantage to governments and public authorities as such partnerships mean that the private sector can share the risk, mobilise finances and provide expertise in specific areas of construction and operations. However, the implementation of PPPs is highly complex requiring structured financial planning, legal and commercial expertise, and long-term risk management. The government or public authority also has the onerous responsibility of selecting appropriate projects, issuing tenders and ensuring the whole process is executed properly and with transparency. It is vital for policy-makers in emerging countries to remain aware of the fiscal and operational commitments that come with implementing PPPs.

Legal and Regulatory Frameworks

There appears to be great scope and political backing for PPPs in many African countries but most face shortcomings in the institutional and operational implementation of such projects (The Economist Intelligence Unit, Infrascope 2015). Some countries, such as South Africa, have moved to establish PPP frameworks while others are still considered to be emerging environments with few or no operational, legal or regulatory frameworks.

One of the key challenges appears to be the pace at which PPP legislation is being passed and implemented. Governments actively looking to engage in PPPs need to focus on passing strong laws and implementing them at all levels (national and federal); they must also bring in reforms to the judicial process so that delays at project level, such as resolving disputes for payment of contractors or procedural matters, can be tackled efficiently. There is no "one fits all approach" and each country will need to continuously develop frameworks and bring in reforms which provide adequate structuring and careful management of PPPs.

Funding PPPs

It is estimated that an annual spend of $93bn will be required over the next 10 years in order to close Africa's infrastructure gap with the rest of the world (World Bank, Africa Infrastructure Country Diagnostic, 2009). In the six years since the study, there has been a great appetite from private investors to do business in Africa, prompting a surge in project financing and investment. In spite of this, there remains a funding shortfall of over $50bn per annum (African Development Bank Group), even though most African countries are still undergoing rapid growth with some significant improvements to infrastructure.

In terms of securing structured funding for PPPs, only a few countries such as South Africa, Kenya and Morocco have sufficiently well-regulated and reliable financial markets to encourage investment from the developed world (The Economist Intelligence Unit, Infrascope 2015). Progress is being made in emerging countries: for example, Ghana has set up the Ghana Infrastructure Investment Fund via national legislation, and Nigeria has announced reforms to pension funds in a bid to channel funds into infrastructure development.

Policy-makers keen to engage in PPPs will need to pick up the momentum by putting in place robust financial reforms in order to make their capital markets more attractive. Both the private and public sectors need to ensure that equal focus is placed on mobilising funding as well as project planning and undertaking the usual cost-benefit analysis.

Conclusion

With growing demands in sectors such as energy, water, telecommunications and transport, governments and public authorities are looking beyond aid and focusing on different ways to finance infrastructure development. Many emerging African countries are slowly implementing reforms in areas such as pension funds, sovereign wealth funds and PPP legal and regulatory frameworks in order to channel funds to infrastructure development. As well as securing funding, policy-makers need to focus on creating favourable environments and robust legal frameworks in order to attract international investors and expertise for infrastructure development.

Africa Update

Mining

News

South Africa's mining success or failure?

There are prominent fears that South Africa's mining industry will succumb to the reduction in volume of production, despite it being estimated that there are $2.5 trillion of metals and minerals still to be extracted. Concerns centralise around the increased nationalisation of the industry, which has proved detrimental on neighbouring Zambia's copper industry.

Capital is difficult to attract and the country has failed to build any green field mines despite the country's abundance of minerals. Industry experts suggest that in order for the country to ride out the storm and succeed in the current economic climate, the coal industry needs to free itself from government intrusion and collaborate with stakeholders instead. (Mining Weekly)

Is technology a game changer for deep level mining in South Africa?

South Africa's deep level gold and platinum mines are unprofitable as energy and labour costs exceed inflation, the infrastructure is mature and mining is expensive. As commodity prices cannot be controlled, productivity needs to be increased.

Technology has led the way forward in other major industries; however there are technical difficulties associated with using mechanisation to facilitate deep level mining. Rock cutting is uneconomical, due to the dense nature of the rock, and conventional drill and blast mining prove challenging. However mining is worth 15% of South Africa's GDP and mechanisation will need to be utilised in deep mines to continue their contribution. (Mineweb)

Rangold Resources expects to exceed its production target for the year from its Kilbali Mine

Randgold Resources anticipates that it will exceed its production target of 600,000 ounces of gold for the year at its Democratic Republic of Congo mine. The country has an abundance of natural resources, with an estimated $25 trillion of mineral deposits still to be extracted. The recent proposals to change the regulations will facilitate the exploitation of the country's mines. (Mining.com)

8398

Opportunities

India interested in buying coal mines in South Africa

India is interested in purchasing coal mines in South Africa to further its expansion (output of coal reached 492.2 million tonnes last year), and to reduce the country's reliance on importing coal (80-90 million tonnes were imported last year.) Although India aims to increase its steelmaking capacity to 300 million tonnes by 2025 and to double its total coal output to 1.5 billion tonnes by 2020, the country lacks reserves of coking or steelmaking coal. (Reuters)

TMT

News

South Africa's new Cybercrimes and Cybersecurity Bill

Local authorities in South Africa have published the 128-page draft, Cybercrimes and Cybersecurity Bill, which includes 20 new cybercrime offences, for public comment by Monday 30 November 2015. The Bill is part of a set of laws and policy initiatives in South Africa that aim to regulate the ever-expanding online economy, and the surge in cyber-related crimes from a South African (and global) perspective. The current legal framework to combat cybercrime is a hybrid of legislation and common law which has not kept pace with the dynamic nature of the offence.

The Bill is a product of calls by various stakeholders for the government to enact specialised legislation and to align South Africa with international practices. If passed, it will codify numerous offences or cybercrimes and their related penalties. (IT News Africa)

South Africa's Jumo launches Microcredit Borrower Assessment Technology based on mobile telephone usage data

Jumo, the microfinance unit and 'mobile money marketplace' of AFB, a financial services company based in Cape Town, recently launched a new borrower assessment service in Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, Rwanda, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. The credit assessment is based on individuals' mobile telephone usage data including calling records, airtime usage, data purchases and mobile money transactions. Jumo focuses on micro-entrepreneurs to support business ventures. (Micro Capital)

AfDB to Spend $80m on Technological Development

The African Development Bank (the "AfDB") has earmarked $80m for technological development across Africa, the bank's Country Director in Nigeria has said. Speaking in Abuja at a science and technology symposium organised by the African University of Science and Technology, Mr Ousmane Toure revealed that AfDB would increase its funding on education because "it believes that Africa can only develop when the youths are properly educated especially in science and technology". (All Africa)

How Digital Mobile Technology will impact Africa's economy

The CEO of Diamond Bank, Uzoma Dozie, has stated that "the growth and sustainability of economies in the Africa region have been hinged on the proper use of Information Technology". According to him, the internet has shrunk the world to a global business village, thereby altering the way businesses are transacted across continents. For African countries to catch up with the rest of the world, there is an urgent need to incorporate and optimise mobile technologies in the respective countries' daily economic activities. (All Africa)

Opportunities

Rwanda hosts Transform Africa Summit 2015

From Monday 19 to Wednesday 21 October 2015, Rwanda is hosting the second edition of Transform Africa Summit. Themed "Accelerating Digital Innovation," the Summit brings together over 2,500 participants including: Heads of State from Smart Africa member countries, members of the UN broadband commission on Digital Innovation, top academics on the different summit topics, policy makers, and CEOs of leading technology companies worldwide. Throughout the three days, participants will share experiences and renew their commitment towards accelerating and sustaining Africa's on-going digital innovation. The Summit will feature a number of key events: Leaders' Summit, Smart Africa Conference, High-level policy dialogue, Smart Africa board and Steering Committee Meetings, YouthConnekt Africa, and an International ICT Exhibition, centring on tracking the progress of Smart Africa. (The Guardian Nigeria)

Why Uganda is an up-and-coming IT outsourcing option

Strong English language capabilities, low costs and attrition, and a stable and supportive government give Uganda potential as the latest offshore outsourcing alternative in Africa. Examples include South Africa which is a "highly credible destination" for web services, application development and applications maintenance, according to outsourcing consultancy firm, Pace Harmon, with Johannesburg ranked number 21 on Tholon's 2014 Top 100 Outsourcing Destinations list. Similarly, in Kenya, IBM have set up shop in Nairobi, and in Morocco, suppliers such as CapGemini and Atos have service centres in Casablanca. (CIO)

Infrastructure

News

Nigeria: Multi-million dollar road project funded by Oando, a leading supplier and distributor of refined petroleum products

Oando Marketing Plc, one of Nigeria's leading suppliers and distributors of refined petroleum products has invested in a multi-million dollar road project in Apapa, Lagos. The company, which moved back to Apapa in 2013, has previously invested billions of dollars to regenerate the area in order to ensure the continuity of business, job creation and improvement in the welfare of the community in the area. The company also previously invested in building a jetty, which will be inaugurated within the next few months. The new jetty aims to reduce congestion and create capacity for larger vessels to be brought to the area. (All Africa)

Sao Tome: Memorandum to build deep-sea port signed with China

The government of Sao Tome and Principe has signed a memorandum of understanding with Chinese state-owned China Harbour Engineering Co for the construction of an $800m deep-sea port. The company will invest in the project and take responsibility for the design, engineering and construction of the port. The construction of the deep-sea trans-shipment port will be done as a public-private partnership with phase one of the construction set to be completed by 2018. The government of the island expects that the port will be operational in 2019. (Reuters UK)

New pipeline linking Ethiopia and Djibouti to be constructed

At present, oil products from the Damerjog port in Djibouti are transported by road and across mountainous terrain for over 800km before reaching Ethiopia. The two countries have entered into an agreement to build a refined petroleum products pipeline worth $1.55bn. The new pipeline will link the two countries and increase the safety and efficiency of Ethiopia's supply chain by reducing transport costs while allowing increased oil products imports. The companies building the pipeline, Black Rhinos and MOGS a subsidiary of Royal Bafokeng Holdings, each own a 50% stake in the pipeline and the companies are planning to raise at least $1bn of senior debt to finance the project. (All Africa)

Opportunities

Conference on South-South Co-operation and the development of transport infrastructure in Africa

From 22 to 24 October, the 8th Forum of African Infrastructure (FAI 2015) will be taking place in Marrakesh, Morocco. The main topic for discussion at the forum will focus on the challenges relating to infrastructure development of roads, ports and airports. The conference organisers expect 10 African ministers and over 500 infrastructure experts from Africa and around the world to be in attendance. There will be around 30 speakers covering a broad range of topics, including the role of public-private partnerships, funding issues, the development of adequate institutional frameworks and strategies to improve infrastructure development. (Footprint to Africa)

Nigeria: Pension funds to play key role in economic development through infrastructure investment

The Nigerian National Pension Commission (PemCom) will be focusing on pension reforms to boost economic development in the country through infrastructure investment. Reforms in the pension sector started in 2014 and since then pension funds have been slowly growing. PemCom plans to bring in stronger regulations in respect of investments that pension funds are allowed to participate in and stronger economic reforms in a bid to expand the source of funds to meet Nigeria's infrastructure needs. (Financial Times)

Power

News

Sunbird Energy is supplying indigenous gas to Eskom Power Station

Sunbird Energy has signed a gas sales agreement with Eskom to supply indigenous gas to Ankerlig power station, located in Western Cape. The gas will be supplied from the Ibhubesi Gas Field, which is South Africa's largest undeveloped gas field containing an estimated 540 cubic feet of gas. The deal marks a transformation for Ankerlig power station which traditionally uses diesel to generate electricity. Sunbird energy will supply 30 billion cubic feet of gas per year for around 15 years. (All Africa)

South Africa to spend $16bn to upgrade power grid

South Africa is investing $16bn over the next decade to upgrade its electricity transmission grid to help deal with increasing energy production and demand. As the power grid is mature, there have been power shortages and difficulties feeding more electricity into the system. The investment will increase the capacity of the grid and will construct infrastructure to connect the increasing number of renewable projects. (Reuters)

Africa depending on Nuclear Power

Electricity shortages are restraining the continent's economic development, with recent shortages in Ghana and Tanzania costing businesses 15% of their annual sales target. The Africa Progress Report states that at the current pace of electrification, the continent will not achieve universal access until 2080. $55bn will be needed to speed up

8398

the pace and achieve universal access to electricity by 2030. Larger economies such as South Africa, Kenya and Nigeria have expressed their interest in nuclear power, with South Africa leading the way with plans to develop 9.6GW by 2030. (Oil Price)

Opportunities

An International Commitment to Power Africa

The President of the United States, Barack Obama, and the President of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina, have committed to work together to move Africa into a new level of energy sufficiency. Americas 'Power Africa' initiative aims to double access to electricity in Sub-Saharan Africa, whereas Adesina's 'New Deal on Energy for Africa' plan has the main priority of bringing all of Africa's 54 nations fully online. (All Africa)

Renewables

News

OPIC formalises $400m financing for South African solar project

On Tuesday 20 October 2015, the Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) signed a formal contract to provide SolarReserve's 100MW Redstone concentrating solar power (CSP) project in South Africa with $400m of debt financing. California-based SolarReserve and Saudi co-sponsor ACWA power both developed the solar thermal power facility. The project will use a tower configuration which is similar to SolarReserve's 110-MW Crescent Dunes Plant in Nevada, US. At the beginning of 2015, the South Africa Department of Energy chose the Redstone project to be a part of the Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement Programme's (REIPPPP) third round. SolarReserve's CEO Kevin Smith claims that the price of Redstone's delivered electricity will be the lowest of any CSP project in South Africa to date (See News – Renewables).

Google Purchases Stake in Africa's Largest Wind Farm

Internet giant Google is purchasing a 12.5% stake in Kenya's Lake Turkana project. The company has agreed to purchase the stake in Africa's largest wind farm project from Vestas, Lake Turkana's largest investor, when the project becomes operational in around 2018. It is projected that Lake Turkana will power 310MW of energy, which will be enough to power 2 million households or 15% of the country's energy needs. While Google has not announced how much it will be investing, it is thought to be tens of millions of dollars. The company sees a big opportunity in fast-growing markets with rich renewable energy sources and has invested more than $2bn in 22 clean energy projects, including Lake Turkana. (The Telegraph)

African Renewable Energy Fund meets $200m target

The African Development Bank (AfDB) has announced that at its final close, the African Renewable Energy Fund met its target of $200m of committed capital. The fund, which is based in Nairobi and is focused on sub-Saharan Africa, is to be invested in small-medium-scale electricity generating projects. It is managed by Berkeley Energy, which was founded in 2007 and has a focus on developing and investing in renewable energy projects in emerging markets. The fund's lead sponsors are AfDB and its Sustainable Energy Fund for Africa (SEFA) which have invested $25m and $25.5m, respectively. Further investment of $4.5m came from the Global Environment Facility, which was supported by multilateral finance from institutions including the AfDB, the Asian Development Bank and the World Bank Group. Additionally, SEFA has put $10m into the fund as a 'project support facility' to be used during the early stages to structure bankable deals. It is thought that the total AfDB package of $65m has provided a solid foundation for attracting capital from commercial and institutional investors to the renewable energy sectors in Africa. (Out-Law)

Opportunities

Africa's has potential to quadruple share of renewable energy by 2030

A new report from the International Renewable Energy Agency (Irena) has found that modern renewable technology could help Africa meet 22% of its energy needs by 2030. Through its use of modern renewables Africa could help bring electricity to rural villages and prevent power shortages, aiding industrial growth and helping to increase prosperity throughout the continent. Irena director-general Adnan Z Amin said that Africa holds some of the best renewable energy sources in the world by way of biomass, geothermal, hydropower, solar and wind. This, alongside the steep drop in renewable energy technology costs, creates a huge opportunity for African countries to both improve and grow their energy systems while providing a route for low-carbon economic growth. While solar and wind projects are already producing electricity at 'record-low' prices, a move towards modern renewable energy solutions could save about $20bn to $30bn annually by lowering the number of health complications from poor indoor air quality. The next move for the African government will be to help accelerate the use of renewable technologies, says Amin. The report set out 14 recommendations for governments to accelerate their uptake, including use of a regulatory framework to increase socio-economic benefits and attract investment. (The Week)

Water

News

$294m funds emergency repairs at 1,830-MW Kariba hydroelectric facility

The European Union, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the Swedish government will fund repairs to the Kariba hydroelectricity facility after reaching an agreement with the Zimbabwean and Zambian governments. The 1,830MW facility, which is located on the Zambezi River and been central to securing the economic and energy needs of the region, impounds the world's largest man-made reservoir and the $294m will go towards emergency reshaping of the plunge pool and the refurbishing of the spillway and associated infrastructure to improve the dam's operational stability. If the dam were to fail, the resulting cascade of water would have extensive consequences and would likely destroy the dam at the 2,075MW Cahora Bassa hydroelectric project downstream in Central Mozambique. (Hydroworld)

Power generation begins at 1,870-MW Gibe III hydroelectric project in Ethiopia

The 1,870MW Gibe III facility, built at a cost of $1.8bn, is downstream of the powerhouse for the 420MW Gilgel Gibe II hydroelectric project and is the third plant on the Gibe-Omo hydroelectric cascade to begin generating electricity. The Ethiopian government however has plans to extend this network with a further two additional facilities along the Omo River. Gibe III is expected to supply about half of its electricity to Ethiopia, with 500MW being exported to Kenya, 200MW to Sudan and 200MW to Djibouti. The facility will increase Ethiopia's power generation capacity by 234%, it is claimed. (Hydroworld)

Guinea increases generating capacity with $526m 240MW Kaleta hydroelectric facility

Chinese state-owned China International Water & Electric Corp. has completed construction, with financial input from the Guinean government and the China Exim Bank, on the 240MW Kaleta hydroelectric facility nearly a year ahead of schedule. This is the largest hydropower project developed in cooperation between China and Guinea and aims to tackle the rolling blackouts which are a common occurrence. The project will also produce around 30% of its output for neighbouring Gambia, Guinea-Bissau and Senegal. Guinea is in the process of increasing its hydroelectric generation capabilities to 1,008MW as the government plans on building the 90MW Fomi hydroelectric project and the 550MW Souapiti hydropower scheme, also on the Konkoure River, in coming years. (Hydroworld)

Zimbabwe: AfDB Approves $17m Zim Grant

The second phase of Zimbabwe's Urgent Water Supply and Sanitation Rehabilitation Project is to be financed by a $17m grant from the Zim-Fund; this trust fund was created to support priority recovery activities of the Zimbabwean government and is managed by the AfDB on behalf of the parties involved. The phase will be implemented in Harare, Chitungwiza, Ruwa and Redcliff with an estimated 1.9 million of the population set to benefit from the fund which has as its main focus infrastructure investments in water and sanitation, and energy. (All Africa)

Opportunities

Guinea considering Chinese partner to build 550MW Souapiti hydro

The 550MW Souapiti hydro project provides an ideal opportunity for investment with the Guinean government looking to partner with a Chinese company in the potential $2bn project. Such an undertaking looks to double Guinea's current energy output. The Guinean energy minister is reportedly interested in working with China International Water & Electric Corp. (CWE) although they are yet to comment on this. CWE also developed the 240MW Kaleta Dam project in Guinea. Guinea's Ministry of Energy and Hydraulics claim the country has the largest hydropower potential in West Africa, with capacity estimated at 6,000MW and the development of a pipeline of small hydro plants across Africa, including in Guinea, by Hydroneo Afrique and African Infrastructure Investment Managers, will further seek to harness this potential. (Hydroworld)

Zambia: Chambeshi Cries out for $120m

Investment to upgrade the water reticulation system in Chambeshi is being sought by the Chambeshi Water and Sewerage Company (CHWSC) in a bid to improve the provision of a safe water supply as well as to develop the overall economic situation in the area. The CHWSC hopes to attract around $120m to overhaul the infrastructure and operational capacity of the current system. Various other water infrastructure projects received continued support from the Devolution Trust Fund (DTF) such as the building of water kiosks and expansion of several local water networks and CHWSC will be looking to build on this platform to continue developing a safe and reliable water supply for local inhabitants. (All Africa)

Oil and Gas

News

Oil downturn prompts FIRS to adopt tax as an alternative source of revenue for Nigeria

The global downturn of crude oil prices has led the Nigerian Federal Inland Revenue Service (FIRS) to advise that revenue for Nigeria should be generated through taxation going forward. Such a move would replace the government's current dependence on oil as a source of income to fuel the country's budget. If the oil boom in Nigeria is indeed over as suggested by the FIRS, tax legislation would need to be revised to ensure that every citizen or organisation earning an income or making a profit pays tax. Mr. Babatunde Fowler, the acting chairman of the FIRS, although not in favour of the move, confirmed that the FIRS would work collaboratively with the Chartered Institute of Taxation in Nigeria and establish a committee to consider the changes necessary and prepare a Charter of Tax Demands to present to President Muhammadu Buhari. (All Africa)

French ambassador warns Nigeria must do more to stop gas flaring by oil companies

The French Ambassador for Climate Change, Stephane Gompertz, has issued a warning to Nigeria that the country must cut its carbon emissions by reducing gas flaring and increasing investment in renewable energy. The Ambassador highlighted the real need for oil companies to minimise gas flaring, which is a waste of energy and money as well as a being damaging to the atmosphere. Additional regulation in the oil and gas sector, such as introducing a fine for companies that continue to use gas flaring, may be one solution to ensure wider cooperation. Such a move may also encourage the use of gas instead of firewood, and reduce deforestation, another important source of carbon emissions. As a future emerging power, the Ambassador stressed that Nigeria's greenhouse gas emissions would increase in step with the growth of its population and it was therefore crucial for the government to invest in a greener projects going forward. (All Africa)

Possible change in pipeline plans may prevent Kenya from outsourcing its oil

In August 2015, Kenya and Uganda announced the location of the long-awaited world's longest heated pipeline, estimated to export crude oil in the amount of 1 billion barrels from Kenya and 6.5 billion barrels from Uganda. Kenya and Uganda were due to share the cost of the pipeline, which was to be inordinately expensive due to the waxy nature of the oil and its tendency to harden if not constantly heated.

However, Uganda has since instead publicised a possible agreement with Tanzania and Total, to build a pipeline through Tanzania, bypassing Kenya altogether and effectively barring the country from outsourcing its crude oil. If confirmed, Kenya's major oil companies, Tullow and Africa Oil, would be on the line to pay exclusively for the initial project at an estimated cost of $4.5bn. Uganda's decision would also threaten the rest of the Lamu Port South Sudan Ethiopia Transport Corridor, which would include a new road network in the North of the country and coal-fired power plant. (Quartz Africa)

Opportunities

Cape Town, South Africa to host Africa Oil Week and Africa Upstream Conference

Africa Oil Week and Africa Upstream Conference is taking place in Cape Town between 26 and 30 October 2015. The event will see more than 1,000 government officials and senior executives of large oil & gas companies come together to hear updates from over 120 speakers on oil & gas opportunities across Africa. The event will also feature over 160 exhibitions and significant networking opportunities. (Energy Asia)

China and Africa

News

The West should not fear Chinese aid in Africa

Chinese aid in Africa is often presented under the narrative that China provides aid to the continent in order to secure African governments' loyalty and maintain access to the continent's natural resources. However, according to the open source database of Chinese development funding created by AidData, a research body, a sharp distinction should be drawn between 'aid' and 'financing'.

Chinese aid focuses on poorer African countries and considers humanitarian as well as socio-economic needs before allocating funds. Chinese financing, however, is geared towards richer countries, providing funds with higher interest rates. Given the similarity in China's approach to providing aid, Western countries should seek to work together to ensure that the distribution of aid is coordinated to support the countries that really need it. (Washington Post)

Chinese cooperation with Namibia sees the country flourish

The Chinese Ambassador to Namibia, Xin Shunkang, praised the country for the continued development it had achieved since declaring independence in 1990 at the official opening of the China-Africa Development Models seminar in Windhoek on 14 October 2015. The Ambassador, highlighting Namibia's progress in areas such as politics, economy, environment, health and culture, pointed to the country as a model in Southern Africa.

Cooperation between China and Namibia has provided opportunities for greater exchange between the two countries, especially in terms of sharing research, expertise and teaching. Chinese investment up until the end of 2014 amounted to $4.6bn since Namibian independence and included the creation of more that 40 Chinese companies, boosting employment to over 4,000 Namibians. (The Namibian)

African companies to learn from Chinese experience

Ibrahim Mayaki, former prime minister of Niger and CEO of the African Union's New Partnership for Africa Development, highlighted the need for Chinese companies to use their experience within the African private sector to focus on developing small African businesses. Mayaki considered such an investment necessary to ensure Africa moves towards more value-added industries and pointed to countries like Ethiopia and Kenya, where Chinese companies are already investing in specific industries and training staff.

Small businesses play a vital role in African economies and the private sector will increasingly be providing jobs in step with population growth. African governments should be investing in smallholder farmers and entrepreneurs by providing training in areas such as management, climate change awareness and market access. In addition, Mayaki stressed that governments should also be seeking to formalise the thriving informal economy by focusing on financial literacy, managerial capacities and tax services to ensure continued growth on the continent. (All Africa)

Opportunities

India-Africa Forum Summit in New Delhi, India

A four day India-Africa Forum Summit will take place in New Delhi between 26 and 29 October 2015, where representatives of 54 African nations will be present to meet with Indian delegates. This event, seen as India's attempt to counteract increasing Chinese involvement in Africa, will aim to enhance trade ties, particularly in the oil and gas sector, as well as spark discussions of maritime cooperation, Indian welfare projects in Africa, and the growing threat of terrorism. The main forum will be attended by the Indian Prime Minister, senior cabinet ministers, African heads of state and the Presidents of Egypt, South Africa and Zimbabwe. (Asian Age)

For any enquiries please contact the Pinsent Masons Africa Team at africadesk@pinsentmasons.com.

8398

Our offices worldwide

London
30 Crown Place (Headquarters)
Earl Street
London
EC2A 4ES
UK
T: +44 (0)20 7418 7000
F: +44 (0)20 7418 7050

Aberdeen
13 Queen's Road
Aberdeen
AB15 4YL
UK
T: +44 (0)1224 377 900
F: +44 (0)1224 377 901

Beijing
10th Floor
Beijing China Resources Building
No 8 Jianguo Menbei Avenue
Beijing 100005
PRC
T: +86 10 8519 0011
F: +86 10 8519 0022

Belfast
The Soloist Building
1 Lanyon Place
Belfast
BT1 3LP
UK
T: +44 (0)28 9089 4800
F: +44 (0)28 9089 4801

Birmingham
3 Colmore Circus
Birmingham
B4 6BH
UK
T: +44 (0)121 200 1050
F: +44 (0)121 626 1040

Brussels*
Office 15
4 rue de la Presse
1000 Brussels
Belgium
T: +44 20 7418 7000
F: +44 20 7418 7050

Doha
PO Box 22758
Tornado Tower
West Bay
Doha
State of Qatar
T: +974 4426 9200
F: +974 4426 9201

Dubai
Level 8
The H Hotel, Office Tower
(formerly known as The
Monarch Office Tower)
One Sheikh Zayed Road
PO Box 115580
Dubai
United Arab Emirates
T: +971 (0)4 373 9700
F: +971 (0)4 373 9701

Edinburgh
Princes Exchange
1 Earl Grey Street
Edinburgh
EH3 9AQ
UK
T: +44 (0)131 777 7000
F: +44 (0)131 777 7003

Third Floor Quay 2
139 Fountainbridge
Edinburgh
EH3 9QG
UK
T: +44 (0)131 225 0000
F: +44 (0)131 225 0099

Falkland Islands
56 John Street
PO Box 21
Stanley
Falkland Islands
T: +500 22690
F: +500 22689

Glasgow
141 Bothwell Street
Glasgow
G2 7EQ
UK
T: +44 (0)141 567 8400
F: +44 (0)141 567 8401

123 St Vincent Street
Glasgow
G2 5EA
UK
T: +44 (0)141 248 4858
F: +44 (0)141 248 6655

Hong Kong
50th Floor
Central Plaza
18 Harbour Road
Wan Chai
Hong Kong
T: +852 2521 5621
F: +852 2845 2956

Istanbul
Büyükdere Caddesi No 127,
Astoria B Kule,
Kat 5, No 13-14-15-16
Esentepe 34394 Şişli
Istanbul
Turkey
T: +90 212 336 6050
F: +90 212 336 6051

Leeds
1 Park Row
Leeds
LS1 5AB
UK
T: +44 (0)113 244 5000
F: +44 (0)113 244 8000

Manchester
3 Hardman Street
Manchester
M3 3AU
UK
T: +44 (0)161 234 8234
F: +44 (0)161 234 8235

Melbourne
Level 23
360 Collins Street
Melbourne
VIC 3000
Australia
T: +61 3 9909 2500
F: +61 3 9909 2501

Munich
Ottostrasse 21
80333 Munich
Germany
T: +49 (0)89 203043 500
F: +49 (0)89 203043 501

Paris
21 – 23, rue Balzac
75008 Paris
France
T: +33 1 53 53 02 80
F: +33 1 53 53 02 81

Shanghai
Room 4605
Park Place
1601 Nanjing West Road
Shanghai 200040
PRC
T: +8621 6321 1166
F: +8621 6329 2696

Singapore
16 Collyer Quay #22-00
Singapore 049318
T: +65 (0)63 050 929
F: +65 (0)65 343 412

Sydney
Level 5
2 Bulletin Place
Sydney
NSW 2000
Australia
T: +61 2 8024 2800
F: +61 2 8024 2801

Correct as of 10 August 2015. *Representative office

8398

Pinsent Masons

For a full list of our locations around the globe please visit our websites:

www.pinsentmasons.com

www.Out-Law.com

8398