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August 04 2009  
150th Issue

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## MOZAMBIQUE REVIEW

Mozambican Parliament to receive more than \$8million democracy and good governance funding

Mozambican parliament is set to benefit from a more than US 8 million dollar democracy and good governance funding from the United Kingdom's Westminster Foundation for Democracy, said UK's Mozambique embassy spokesperson Sonia Muchate, in an emailed press statement Wednesday. She said the funding which will be channeled through the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) will also benefit parliaments in Uganda, Ukraine, Georgia and Yemen. The funds will help Mozambican parliament prepare a parliamentary curricula in areas of legislative practice, financial control and access to information. (By Fred Katerere, Club of Mozambique)

New Chairperson for Northern Development Corridor (CDN)

The Northern Development Corridor (CDN), the consortium that manages the Nacala port and rail network in northern Mozambique, will be chaired, as from Monday, by Celso Correia, chairperson of the Insitec group of companies. According to a report in Friday's issue of the independent daily "O Pais" everything is set for a CDN annual general meeting on Maputo, which will formalize the appointment of 30 year old Correia as the new chairperson of the

board. He replaces former Defence Minister Alberto Chipande who becomes chairperson of the board of the general meeting.

Insitec, which started life as a family company, has become a major player in the Mozambican economy. It owns 19 per cent of the country's second largest commercial bank, the Commercial and Investment Bank (BCI), and an Insitec company, Energia Capital, is one of the partners in the project to build a 1,500 megawatt dam at Mepanda Nkuwa on the Zambezi river. It also has interests in cement, construction and real estate.

#### HIV/Aids Activists March to Health Ministry

Hundreds of HIV-positive Mozambicans and their supporters marched through the streets of Maputo on Monday in protests against the decision by Health Minister Ivo Garrido to close the "Day Hospitals" that catered exclusively for HIV/AIDS patients.

They marched for two kilometres down one of Maputo's main thoroughfares, Eduardo Mondlane Avenue, singing and waving placards against the measure, in force since March 2008. The march ended at the Health Ministry, where a message was delivered to Garrido. "We want to express our indignation at the closure", said Cesar Mufaniquice, coordinator of the Movement for Access to Anti-Retroviral Treatment in Mozambique, who read out to the crowd the message delivered to the Minister. (AIM NEWS)

#### GOVERNMENT

##### Zambezi Bridge Inaugurated

Mozambican President Armando Guebuza on Saturday inaugurated the new bridge over the Zambezi river, bearing his name, which links Sofala and Zambezia provinces in the centre of the country. The "Armando Emilio Guebuza Bridge" is part of the main north-south highway and replaces an inefficient ferry service across the river. The only other road bridge over the Zambezi is hundreds of kilometers to the northwest, at Tete city.

The bridge is 2,376 metres long. It is the second longest bridge in the country after the one linking Mozambique Island to the mainland in the northern province of Nampula. Construction began in March 2006, and the building work was done by a consortium of two Portuguese companies, Mota Engil and Soares da Costa. The bridge cost about 80 million euros (113 million US dollars), provided by the European Commission (30 million euros), Italy (20 million), Sweden (18.3 million) and the Mozambican government (13 million). Japan provided nine million euros for complementary activities (including studies and resettlement).

##### UN Appoints Vitória Diogo to Experts Committee

United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon has appointed Mozambique's Minister for the Public Service, Vitoria Diogo, as a member of the UN's Committee of Experts on Public Administration. A United Nations press release received by AIM says that Diogo is to be part of the 24 member committee that is to assist the secretary general in issues related to public administration across the globe and assist the United Nations Economic and Social Council for a four year term of office, starting in January next year. (AIM NEWS)

### Government Meeting Economic Growth Targets

Mozambican Finance Minister Manuel Chang announced on Wednesday that the government believes it will beat its own target of achieving average annual economic growth of above seven per cent for the five years of its term of office (2005-2009), despite the impact of the current international financial crisis. Addressing a meeting of his Ministry's Coordinating Council, held in the southern town of Namaacha, Chang based this optimism on the fact that the average growth rate between 2005 and 2008 was 7.8 per cent, and growth in the first quarter of 2009, compared with the same period in 2008, was five per cent. (AllAfrica.com)

### FINANCE by Jane Grob [jane.grob@scp.co.mz](mailto:jane.grob@scp.co.mz) Swiss Capital Partners [www.scp.co.mz](http://www.scp.co.mz)

Danish shipping company inaugurates direct route between Asia and Mozambique  
Danish shipping company Maersk has launched direct routes between Asia and the port of Maputo in Mozambique, according to today's Notícias newspaper. The first container ship, 194 metres long, docked in Maputo on Tuesday in Maputo with 1,623 containers on board. Port authorities at the Mozambican capital said that the Maersk ships would be stopping weekly in Maputo. The newspaper says that "the opening of the new direct maritime link with the Asian market will attract more cargo to the Port of Maputo, making it more competitive in relation to other ports in the region, in particular Durban and Richards Bay in South Africa." (macauhub)

### New brewery in Nampula, Mozambique, operational by October

Cervejas de Moçambique (CDM)'s new brewery in Nampula will be operational within the next four months, José Madeira, the company's managing director has guaranteed to Notícias newspaper. Construction work on the brewery, representing a US\$54million investment, will enable beer production to begin next October. The new factory will create 200 permanent jobs. With production capacity of 480,000 hectolitres per year, or 7,400 million boxes per year, the brewery will concentrate on CDM's traditional brands such as Manica, 2M and Laurentina. (macauhub)

### DONORS

#### Irish experts to train more eye experts in Mozambique

IRISH EYECARE experts will help save thousands of children from going blind in Mozambique by training local graduates in a groundbreaking new project. Eye-tests and pairs of glasses will be given to 500,000 people over the next five years as part of the initiative between Dublin Institute of Technology (DIT) and Irish Aid. The University of Ulster is also supporting the project along with the International Centre for Eye care Education, the Higher Education Authority and the University of Lurio in Mozambique. Up to 10 optometrists will graduate from new courses at the University of Lurio in 2012 and will go to work in the local public health system in the Nampula province. (Irish Times)

#### WFP in short of funds to feed vulnerable people in Mozambique

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in Mozambique is facing a shortfall of US 10.7 million dollars to provide assistance to 400 000 vulnerable people in the southern African country over the next 12 months. WFP Mozambique spokesperson, Jennifer Constantine, noted in a response to emailed questions that the effects of the global financial crisis were

widespread. "WFP Mozambique is currently facing a shortfall of over US\$ 10.7 million, needed in order for it to successfully provide assistance to over 400,000 beneficiaries and participants, covered by its Protracted Recovery and Relief Operation in the next 12 months," she said. (Mozambican Investor)

Mozambique's debt relating to Cahora Bassa is being settled "in advance"

The debt taken on by Mozambique to pay Portugal the amount resulting from the restructuring of the Cahora Bass Hydroelectric Dam (HCB) is being paid "in advance," said Mozambique's Energy minister Monday. The Mozambique government had to resort to a loan of around US\$700 million from the consortium made up of French bank Calyon and Banco Português de Investimento (BPI) to pay Portugal for the purchase of the 82 percent majority stake it held in HCB, one of the world's biggest hydroelectric power plants. (Macauhub)

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Parliament spent more than US 73 million dollars to approve 338 laws

For the past five years, the national parliament spent more than US 73 million dollars to approve 338 legal instruments defined as 95 law proposals from the central government and civil society 53 from parliament and other 190 small legislative proposals. The Maputo based paper said the august house spent US 73 816 858 during its term spanning between 2005 and 2009. O País said it obtained the figures from document from the national parliament. (O País newspaper)

### TOURISM

Renovations at Cardoso Hotel Completed

Renovations at Cardoso hotel, one of Maputo's most affordable four star hotel, which started in October 2007 are now complete, revealed John Elliot, the hotel's managing director in an interview last Friday. Elliot said renovations which included revamps in the rooms, construction for a new restaurants, conference centre and building a nearby park had a budget of US 5 million dollars. In an interview Elliot said while the renovated hotel could attract visitors coming through the time of the 2010 World Cup soccer games in neighbouring South Africa, the impact would not be massive. He also said renovations to the hotel were not done to improve infrastructure ahead of the 2010 soccer games. "Renovations were coincidental, we were not looking at the (2010 World Cup Soccer) games," said Elliot in the interview. (By Fred Katerere, Club of Mozambique)

Mozambique Airlines (LAM) to start flying between Maputo and Luanda in October  
Mozambique Airlines (LAM) plans to begin weekly flights between Maputo and the Angolan capital, Luanda, as part of the Mozambican company's route network expansion, writes today's Noticias newspaper. LAM's commercial director, Adérito Macaba, said that if the flight didn't start in October this year, it would have to be postponed until April 2010, according to the schedule established by IATA, the International Air Transport Association. (macauhub)

### Extended Hours at Mozambique-Swaziland Border

Operating hours at Goba border post linking Mozambique and the Kingdom of Swaziland have been extended by two hours, reported the daily Noticias citing sources in the Ministry of Home Affairs and the customs department. The Maputo based paper said the border post would be open from 07 00 hours until 22 000 hours and clearing of commercial loads will be until 20 00hrs. Extending operating hours of the border post was a decision taken by the governments of Mozambique and Swaziland "to maximize the use of the border post," said the paper. (By Fred Katerere, Club of Mozambique)

### OVER THE BORDER

South African council workers to extend strike: union

South Africa's council workers union has made progress in "positive" wage negotiations but no agreement has been reached and a strike will continue for a fifth day on Friday.

When asked if the strike would be extended, the general-secretary of council workers' union SAMWU, Mthandeki Nhlapo, said: "Yes". Earlier, a local government official told television that all parties agreed on a wage package. (Reuters)

Cholera epidemic contained, says Madzorera

Zimbabwe's health minister said on Thursday that a cholera epidemic has ended, after more than 4 200 deaths and 100 000 cases since last August, but warned new outbreaks remain a threat. "The nation experienced the worst cholera outbreak between August and June 2009, but the epidemic has successfully been contained and has ended," Health Minister Henry Madzorera said in the official Herald newspaper. "As the pandemic comes to an end, all districts, provinces and cities will... plan forward for future outbreaks, which have a strong likelihood of recurring in view of continued sewerage and water problems," he added.

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DISP.REG°/N°75/GABNFO-DEC/2006

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