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# **UN** ***Angola*** **NEWS**



## **AU CHAIRPERSON REITERATES COMMITMENT TO WORKING FOR PEACE IN AFRICA**

*His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the  
Republic of Angola and current Chairperson of the African Union (AU)*



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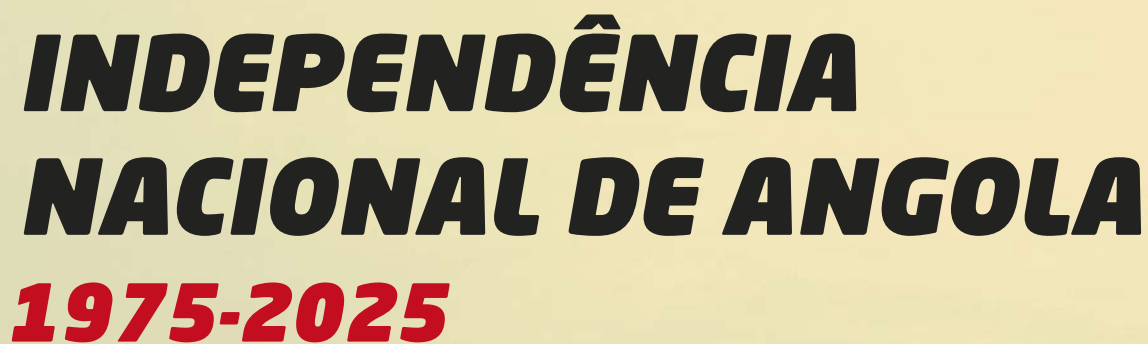
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# AU CHAIRPERSON REITERATES COMMITMENT TO WORKING FOR PEACE IN AFRICA

On February 15, 2025, in Addis Ababa, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, during the 38th AU Summit of Heads of State and Government, the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, assumed the rotating leadership of the African Union and reiterated his commitment to working for peace and security on the continent.

Upon receiving the gavel, a symbol of the exercise of continental power, from his predecessor, the Head of State of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Cheik El Ghazouani, João Lourenço addressed the issue of reparations and the importance of foreign investment in the continent in his speech accepting the pro tempore presidency of the African Union.

Under the slogan **“Justice for Africans and people of African descent through reparations”, the Angolan presidency will highlight the “importance of investment in infrastructure as a factor in Africa’s development”.**

João Lourenço warned that the “immense problems linked to peace and security” in Africa “constitute

a blocking factor” to the continent’s development, with emphasis on the situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Sudan.

The AU Chairperson assured that he will work to find solutions for peace, considering it a central objective to implement economic and social policies that open doors for African progress.

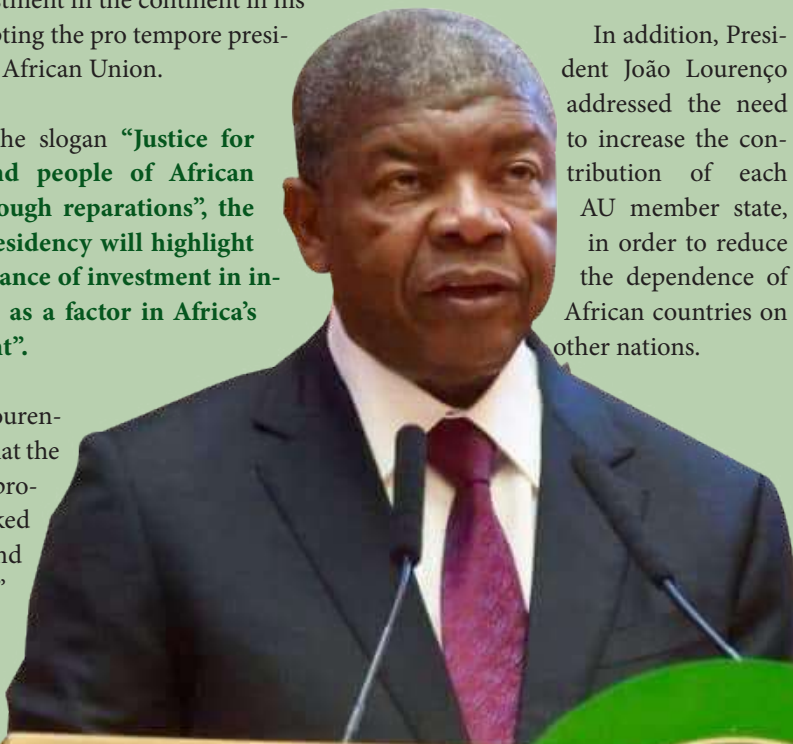
In the statesman’s view, the goal is to create “a vast plan to attract investment and significant financial resources” from outside the continent and to increase investment in infrastructure.

In addition, President João Lourenço addressed the need to increase the contribution of each AU member state, in order to reduce the dependence of African countries on other nations.

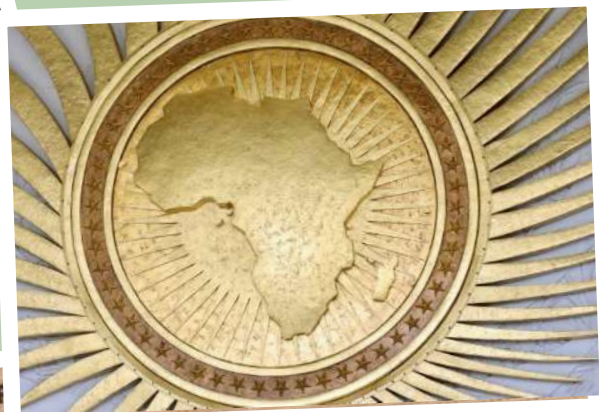
With regard to investment, he considered it crucial that the AU’s objectives be met, namely reducing poverty, hunger and unemployment, “mitigating the likelihood of armed conflicts and illegal immigrants near its borders”.

João Lourenço highlighted the contribution that Angola could make to Africa’s development, by making its energy surplus available to mitigate the needs of various countries in this area, also highlighting the importance of the Lobito Corridor and the Tanzanian TAZARA Railways in intra-African and international trade.

“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 ensure that the continent strengthens its influence in global financial governance, reduces the costs of indebtedness and has access to the resources needed to achieve sustainable development,” said the President of the Republic.









# UN LOOKING FORWARD TO STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIP WITH THE AFRICAN UNION

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, said in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, that he looked forward to working with the new President of the African Union, Angolan statesman João Lourenço.

Speaking at the 38th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, Guterres stressed that the partnership between the AU and the UN has never been stronger:

**“Together we see an Africa that is growing with hope and possibility, because it has a population of entrepreneurs that is growing, including the largest number of young people in the world.”**

According to the UN Secretary-General, the world must never forget that Africa was the victim of two colossal injustices - the deep impact of colonialism and transatlantic slavery, the roots of which ran out centuries ago, but the fruit of which continues to affect

Africans and people of African descent to this day.

António Guterres acknowledged that decolonization in itself was not a remedy, as political independence did not free countries from structures based on exploitation and decades of economic, social and institutional invest-

ment.

That's why he felt it was time for reparatory justice to take hold, because Africa was under colonial domination when today's multilateral system was created and that injustice continues.

For António Guterres, there are many solutions to

these situations, pointing out that last year Africa helped the United Nations approve the Pact for the Future (to support the reform of international architecture to reflect today's economy, guaranteeing fair reparations).



H.E. António Guterres, Secretary-General of the United Nations

# ANGOLA AND UN EVALUATE ACTIONS FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

As part of her official visit to Angola from May 15 to 18, the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed, held high-level meetings with the Angolan authorities, in particular the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, with whom she met on the 15th.

Africa's sustainable development, the humanitarian crisis and global tensions were at the center of the meeting that the President of the Republic and of the African Union, João Lourenço, held with the Deputy Secretary-General of the United

Nations, Amina Mohammed.

At the end of the audience at the Palácio da Cidade Alta, Amina Mohammed said that the meeting with the Head of State on peace and security issues was the result of collective concern about the troubled situations the world is experiencing at the moment.

Among the topics discussed, the UN official stressed that the way in which the United Nations can advance the development of the cradle continent was analyzed, taking into account the goals and visions of each African country.

Speaking to the press, Amina Mohammed said that she had shared with President João Lourenço concerns related to human development, social inequalities, gender and others about the pacification of the continent, all of which were considered pressing.

During her stay in Angola, she led the Annual Regional Retreat of the United Nations Resident Coordinators (RCs) in Africa and traveled to the Province



# ACHIEVING SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IS ONLY POSSIBLE WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN

The construction of peace in Africa and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) will only be achieved with the inclusion and participation of women, the Vice-President of the Republic, Esperança da Costa, pointed out in Luanda.



H.E. Esperança da Costa, Vice-President of the Republic

Speaking at the opening of UN Assistant Secretary-General Amina Mohammed's Annual Meeting with the Resident Coordinators of the UN System in Africa on 17 May, Esperança da Costa said that women have an undeniable role to play in building peace.

According to the Vice-President, women promote family cohesion and, consequently, in those united nations, women have the power to dialogue and reconcile, as well as to strengthen food systems, manage water sustainably and preserve ecosystems.

She pointed out that the meeting with the UN Resident Coordinators in Africa was taking place in a particularly challenging global context, with conflicts and tensions, as well as notable

extreme weather events that aggravate forced migrations of entire populations, causing geopolitical challenges.

The new African geopolitical context, Esperança da Costa warned, should in no way be ignored in the name of stability and international co-operation, where the ability to adapt and diplomatic flexibility in the search for multilateral solutions are crucial to facing and overcoming the current challenges.

The holding of the meeting in Luanda, the Vice-President of the Republic emphasised, demonstrates this,

clearly recognising the constructive role that Angola has played in promoting peace, sustainable development and regional integration.



# AMINA MOHAMMED CALLS ON STATES TO CONSIDER DEVELOPMENT AN ISSUE OF EMERGENCY

In Luanda, UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed encouraged African member states to consider sustainable development an emergency issue.

The challenge was expressed during the Annual Meeting of UN Resident Coordinators for Africa, which was opened by the Vice-President of the Republic, Esperança da Costa.

“We have to see development as a matter of emergency. We have a framework that should help us work across

borders, bringing together the main players, namely civil society, political decision-makers, academics, among others,” she said, stressing that the UN is working with the continent in favor of multilateralism.

On the occasion, the UN Deputy Secretary-General praised Angola’s efforts to materialize the UN’s Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), aligned with the African Union’s Development Agenda 2063.

Highlighting the importance of these efforts, Amina Mohammed said that the

Angolan Executive, through its National Development Plan (PDN) 2023-2027, demonstrates the country’s capacity to deal with development and diversification issues.

The UN Deputy Secretary-General also highlighted the active participation of women and young people in the decision-making process in Angola, emphasizing the position held by the Vice-President of the Republic.



H.E. Amina Mohammed, UN Deputy Secretary-General

# UN DEPUTY SECRETARY-GENERAL HIGHLIGHTS LOBITO CORRIDOR OPPORTUNITIES FOR AFRICA

The Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations, Amina Mohammed, considered the railway infrastructure of the Lobito Corridor to be a unique opportunity for the people of Angola and Africa in general.



At the end of a few hours' visit to Benguela on May 17, where she saw the potential of the Lobito Corridor and some health facilities, Amina Mohammed praised the government's efforts, with

emphasis on the Port of Lobito and other areas, with a view to economic diversification.

"I was extremely pleased to see the infrastructure of the Lobito Corridor, a positive inspiration for the Angolan people, but also for the conti-

nent, because you can see that there are positive changes, which shows the sure steps that Angola is taking towards industrialization, with the use of natural resources and opportunities being provided," she said.

These are steps that stimulate intra-African trade, in accordance with the African Union's Agenda 2063 and in line with the Sustainable Development Goals, said Amina Mohammed.



# ANGOLA AT THE HIGH-LEVEL SEGMENT OF THE 79TH SESSION OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The President of the Republic, João Lourenço, led the Angolan delegation that took part, from September 20 to 26, in the High Level Segment of the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly, in New York.

The presidential delegation included, among others, Ministers José de Lima Massano (of State for Economic Coordination), Tête António (Minister of External Relations), Vera Daves de Sousa (Finance), Ana Paula de Carvalho (Environment), Mário Oliveira (Telecommunications, Information Technology and Social Communication) and the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz.



His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic



Angolan delegation to the Summit of the Future

# SUMMIT OF THE FUTURE

The general debate of the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly was preceded by the Summit of the Future, which took place on September 22 and 23, bringing together dozens of world leaders to adopt the Pact for the Future.



João Lourenço called for joint efforts to build a new peace architecture that always puts the defense of human rights, gender equality and the “imperative of leaving no one behind” at the heart of its approaches.

**T**he agreement is the result of years of negotiations and seeks to modernize international co-operation in the face of contemporary and future challenges.

The Head of State was the first speaker on the second day of the Summit of the Future, on September 23, and defended the need to put the poorest and most vulnerable people at the center of actions.

According to the Angolan President, the main focus must be on building a sustainable future for all, stepping up the fight to eradicate poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, which he considered to be the greatest global challenge of our times and the indispensable requirement for achieving sustainable development, food security, access to energy, digital connectivity, education, employment and

social protection.

“We cannot realize our common ambitions for the future and face this great challenge without putting the poorest and most vulnerable people at the heart of our actions and thus ensuring that no human being or country is left behind,” he stressed.

João Lourenço reaffirmed the need to move towards an architecture of peace in which the principle of shared security is defended and protected by all, so that no citizen, state, region or geographical area feels protected at the expense of the insecurity of others.

The Republic of Angola, according to the Head of State, argues that it is not possible to build a balanced, secure and sustainable world in which dignity and access to opportunities are the exclusive benefit of a small group of privileged

people to the detriment of the majority of the world’s population.

With regard to global financial hegemony, the Angolan President considered it necessary to reach consensus on reforming this architecture and the world’s sovereign debt, and that a fairer international financial system capable of serving the interests of developing countries was crucial to this.

João Lourenço recalled that Angola had recently made a decisive and responsible commitment to the issue of transitioning the economy towards digitalization of all the processes that involve it.

**“We are convinced that by taking this step, we will bring our populations and institutions closer and more closely linked to the most modern mechanisms of global interconnection of the economy and trade, thus reducing the geographical barriers that the traditional economy imposes.”**





# PACT FOR THE FUTURE

**It is the culmination of years of negotiations to adapt international cooperation to the realities of today and the challenges of tomorrow.**

**T**he adoption of the Pact for the Future demonstrates that countries are committed to an international system with the United Nations at the center. Leaders set out a clear vision of a multilateralism that can deliver on promises, is more representative of today's world and harnesses the involvement and expertise of governments, civil society and other key partners.

It is one of the most far-reaching international commitments of recent de-

cadec, addressing new areas and issues that for years have remained without consensus. The main objective is to ensure that international institutions can fulfill their functions in a world that has changed dramatically since their creation.

The Pact for the Future represents a strong statement of commitment by countries to the United Nations, the international system and international law to accelerate the

achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals. The leaders set out a clear vision of an international system that is more representative of today's world, capable of delivering on promises and integrating the experience of governments, civil society and other important partners.

According to Philemon Yang, president of the 79th UN General Assembly, the Pact would "lay the foundations for a sustainable, just and peaceful global order for all peoples and nations".

The document addresses issues such as peace and security, sustainable development, climate change, digital cooperation, human rights, gender equality, youth and global governance.

In the area of peace and security, it brings the most significant commitment to re-

forming the Security Council since the 1960s, seeking to increase its effectiveness and representativeness, with priority given to correcting the historic under-representation of Africa. It also establishes the first multilateral commitment to nuclear disarmament in over a decade and strengthens governance over outer space, preventing an arms race and ensuring safe and sustainable exploration.

The document proposes measures to prevent the misuse of new technologies, such as lethal autonomous weapons.

In the field of sustainable development, climate and finance, the Pact for the Future strengthens the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and advocates a reform of the international financial architecture so that it better serves developing countries.

**“We cannot create a future fit for our grandchildren with systems built for our grandparents.”**





# GENERAL DEBATE

The President of the Republic intervened in the general debate on 24 September, addressing the reform of the Security Council, Angola's role in the search for solutions to conflicts in Africa, with emphasis on the country's engagement in mediating the conflict in the East of the Democratic Republic of Congo, the situation in the Sahel and in South Sudan.

The conflict between Russia and Ukraine and the situation in the Middle East were also addressed.

## ROLE OF THE UNITED NATIONS

Since the creation of the United Nations, after the end of the Second World War, the peoples of our planet have longed for peaceful coexistence at a global level, believing that any episodes that could jeopardize harmony, peace and universal security would be the object of careful attention and preventive measures taken within the framework of our organization, so that they would not degenerate into conflicts and wars that would bring back to life the distressing moments experienced during the period from 1939 to 1945.

Almost eight decades on, the objective observation we can make today is that not only has this perspective not been realized, but we seem to be moving away from the founding purposes of the United Nations.

Faced with this reality, we need to consider where we have failed and what collective measures we should take to make the United Nations' intervention more active in the search for solutions that contribute to conflict prevention, the strengthening of world peace and security, the strengthening of trade and international cooperation, to ensure the prosperity of nations and the well being of the peoples of our planet.

Today we are witnessing an attempt to undermine, ignore or even replace the role and importance of the United Nations in resolving the major issues that afflict humanity, particularly those that have to do with universal peace and security.

## REFORM OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

In this context, there is no more appropriate stage than this Magna Assembly to reverse this reality and assume the urgent need to reform this institution, placing special emphasis on adapting the Security Council to the realities of the contemporary world.

Its current format and composition still reflect the reality of the post-war period, far outstripped by the time and development of other regions of the planet, many of them colonized countries that are now independent members of the United Nations.

The reform of the United Nations Se-

curity Council and of the international financial institutions that emerged from Breton Woods is urgent and necessary in order to give a voice to the countries of the global south, namely Africa, Latin America, the Middle East and the Indian sub-continent.

The imperative of multilateralism must prevail as the only framework truly capable of safeguarding the common interests of all humanity, within which we must reaffirm our resolute commitment to diplomacy, inclusive dialogue and the use of peaceful means to resolve conflicts.

## LUANDA PROCESS

It is in this spirit that the Republic of Angola is deeply committed to the process of finding solutions to conflicts in Africa, noting that the greatest effort at the moment is focused on the conflict developing in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo, without neglecting those taking place in Sudan and the Sahel region.

As part of the Luanda process, a ceasefire was reached in the east of the DRC, which came into force on August 4 this year.

In order to consolidate the gains made, a proposal for a peace agreement has been put on the table by the Republic of Angola, involving the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda, the terms of which are being discussed by the parties at ministerial level, with the prospect of them reaching an understanding with each other that will justify the convene of a summit meeting to seal the signing of the definitive peace agreement and the re establishment of relations between the DRC and Rwanda.

## SITUATION IN SOUTH SUDAN

We are very seriously concerned about the situation in Sudan, where a violent war is raging with humanitarian consequences of dramatic proportions in the face of a certain apathy on the part of the international community, which must seek to converge its efforts and act in co-



H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic

ordination with the African Union in order to promote and achieve lasting peace.

We are putting to the benefit of peace in Africa the experience gained by Angola in resolving its internal conflict, which after several decades was definitively resolved

problem.

Although increasingly sophisticated military and other means are being deployed in the theater of operations, no military victory is in sight in this war, which has a tendency to spread to the rest of Eu-

ropes of a state, it should do everything it can to prevent the genocide that the world is witnessing live in the Gaza Strip and the attacks by settlers and the expansion of settlements in the West Bank.

In this conflict, the main victims are

defenceless and vulnerable human beings, namely children, women, the elderly and the sick, killed indiscriminately not only by aviation and artillery bombs, but also because they are prevented by the force of arms from accessing and enjoying the most basic rights, ac-



cess to food, drinking water, medicines, housing and medical and medication assistance, by the destruction of the main school, hospital, housing, energy and other infrastructures.

ved through an inclusive dialogue between the warring parties.

We have learned from our own conflict that there is no peace without dialogue and no peace without concessions on both sides. This is a path that cannot be neglected in the context of all efforts to resolve the serious security crises facing the world today.

## RUSSIA/UKRAINE CONFLICT

Russia's war against Ukraine has seriously and profoundly shaken stability and security in Europe, with strong repercussions for the rest of the world in terms of economic stability and food and energy security.

We have witnessed a continuous escalation of this conflict, which has been escalating in a disturbing way, with devastating effects on the internal situation of the contending countries, through the use of increasingly lethal weapons, without any prospect of a solution to this intricate

rope, unless a negotiated solution is found, based on respect for the principles of the United Nations, which safeguard the sovereignty of states and the indivisibility and territorial integrity of countries.

Non-compliance with the principles of the United Nations Charter is at the root of many of the problems and tensions that proliferate all over our planet, where particular geopolitical interests and ambitions, contrary to the values defended by the international community, often affect the security and stability of entire regions of our planet.

## MIDDLE EAST

In the Middle East, we witnessed and condemned the killing and kidnapping of defenseless Israeli civilians on October 7 last year.

As a result, although Israel has the right to protect its territory, to guarantee the safety of its citizens and to try to rescue hostages whose whereabouts are still uncertain, because it has the responsi-

bilities of a state, it should do everything it can to prevent the genocide that the world is witnessing live in the Gaza Strip and the attacks by settlers and the expansion of settlements in the West Bank.

We are witnessing the deaths in alarming numbers of journalists from international networks, United Nations officials and workers from international humanitarian organizations, which is unacceptable and reprehensible.

It can no longer be allowed that in just 11 months, in a small territory with no escape, nearly 43,000 people are killed and that the perpetrators are not held accountable by the international community.

The international community cannot remain indifferent to this situation that threatens the existence of the Palestinian people, who have the same right to live in peace and security in the territory of their ancestors as the Jewish people do.

We are concerned about the escalation of this conflict to other countries, because it threatens peace and security throughout the Middle East and opens up the dangerous possibility of the direct involvement of the major world powers and



thus the internationalization of the conflict with all the possible consequences on a global scale.

This is a fact that once again highlights the role of the United Nations, its decisions and resolutions, which, if strictly and rigorously observed, will resolve the impasse surrounding the creation of the State of Palestine, the only way to put a definitive end to the problem that the Middle East has been facing for decades.

### APPEAL FOR EMBARGOES AGAINST CUBA AND ZIMBABWE

I would like to take this opportunity to call once again for an end to the embargo against Cuba and the sanctions against Zimbabwe, the current President-in Office of our regional economic community, SADC, because they are unfair and inhumane, because they increase the suffering of their peoples and greatly hinder the economic and social development of those countries.

### PEACE OPERATIONS

As part of the collective effort undertaken by the nations of our planet to consolidate peace, African countries have sought to make an increasingly effective contribution to United Nations missions aimed at stabilizing countries and regions in conflict.

Often, these peace operations are not carried out as often and as effectively as they should be due to the financial constraints of the countries willing to take part.

Fortunately, this constraint seems to have finally been overcome at the Security Council level, which represents a decisive step in strengthening the operationality and effectiveness of the peace and stability missions led by the African Union, which now has a more appropriate funding mechanism for its operations.

I warmly welcome these developments, especially since Africa wants to be increasingly present not only in the approach, but also in the decision-making and resolution processes regarding the world's major issues.

### NEW GLOBAL FINANCIAL ARCHITECTURE

We want to be part of the construc-

tion of a new international financial architecture, in which closer cooperation between states is needed, with a view to effectively combating the illicit flow of capital and recovering assets, which is often incomprehensibly hampered by the countries that hold the funds under their control.

It is important to note that the resources that come from asset recovery have a direct effect on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and therefore on improving the general living conditions of the population.

Angola has made important progress in the fight against corruption, with concrete cases of citizens tried and convicted who have seen their assets recovered in favor of the state, by virtue of the sentences handed down in court and confirmed by the competent court of appeal.

As far as asset recovery is concerned, we have had two success stories, in which we can count on a very responsible attitude and respect for our sovereignty on the part of the UK authorities, who returned to Angola 2.5 billion US dollars that were in a bank in London, and it is only fair to publicly acknowledge this from this world stage.

The Republic of Angola advocates the urgent implementation of reforms that lead to a fairer representation of African countries within the main international financial institutions, in order to defend decision-making and policy-making that impacts on the daily lives of the populations of the countries they target.

We are firmly committed to "leaving no one behind, acting in a position to promote peace, sustainable development and human dignity for present and future generations."

Around this motto of the 79th Session, we must mobilize efforts, capacities and all the resources at our disposal to promote policies, measures and programs that make it possible to achieve the intentions it contains.

### ANGOLA ON THE ROAD TO PROGRESS

The Republic of Angola is making a great effort to put the country on the road to progress and development, on the basis of policies that establish priorities contained in the National Development Plan, which has as its main axes the diversification of the economy, the reduction of public debt, the mobilization of domestic

revenue, the optimization of public spending in the priority areas of health and education and the implementation of specific social protection programmes.

The tasks we have set ourselves in the areas I have mentioned are complex, require time and sufficiently skilled human resources to carry them out successfully, but despite this framework, we are making encouraging progress, the benefits of which will be felt over time.

The construction of water transfer systems for areas heavily affected by drought in southern Angola, where poverty and misery are making way for the prospect of prosperity and a more dignified life for the people, who can now count on having enough water available to transform arid areas into areas for agricultural production and animal husbandry, without the previous risks that jeopardized human and animal survival.

As part of the Angolan government's actions to improve the national social framework and create factors that boost the development of industry and agriculture, we have embarked on the path of electrifying the country in all its latitudes, we have invested in clean energy production with the construction of large hydroelectric dams and photovoltaic parks, making 67% of the country's energy matrix already from clean sources and with a tendency for the thermal power stations still in operation to be phased out in the next three years.

In terms of clean energy production, in addition to the more than 6,500 Megawatts we produce today, we are building the Caculo Cabaça hydroelectric dam, which will produce more than 2,000 Megawatts, and we will soon begin construction of the country's largest photovoltaic park, with funding of 1.5 billion US dollars from the American EXIMBANK, to supply off-grid power to a considerable number of towns in the provinces of Huíla, Cunene, Namibe and Cuando Cubango.

With these additional energy production projects underway, our main focus at the moment is on public investment or public-private partnerships to build high- and medium-voltage transmission lines to the east and south of the country, with a view to interconnecting with the SADC network to the east via Zambia and to the south via Namibia.

We currently have a considerable su-

ply of electricity production, which lacks transport and distribution networks to take it to potential beneficiaries in all parts of the country and also to the countries of southern Africa, which need this resource for their development.

**Interested investors now have the opportunity to sell electricity produced in Angola to customers in the mining areas of the DRC and Zambia, as well as to SADC countries in general, with South Africa being the largest industrial and domestic consumer.**

Angola is developing a series of initiatives that are part of the effort to ensure

the implementation of the international climate agenda, highlighting measures aimed at mitigating and adapting to climate change, always taking care to exploit our fossil resources responsibly in order to guarantee the development and well-being of our populations.

It is important to highlight the great public investment that Angola has been making in the health sector throughout the country, with the rapid construction of well-equipped hospital infrastructures at all three levels of care and with an ambitious program for training and recruiting health professionals for our national health system.

## AFRICA'S PRIORITIES

Nowadays, one of the main priorities for the African continent is development based on promoting and intensifying trade, for which it is essential to build infrastructures that guarantee connectivity between African countries, the mobility of economic operators and encourage free trade between them, within the framework of the African Continental Free Trade Area.

With this in mind, the Republic of Angola has established partnerships at international level to ensure the operation of the Benguela Railway and the Lobito mineral and commercial ports as part of the major transnational

transport and logistics project of the Lobito Corridor, which will ensure the faster, safer and more competitively priced transport of minerals, agricultural and industrial products produced in the Republic of Zambia, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Angola across the Atlantic Ocean to the rest of the world.

This is a catalyzing project that will change the economic landscape in Angola and southern Africa, allowing for the emergence of a number of ventures along the Lobito Corridor, with a direct impact on the economies of the southern sub region of Africa and others on our continent.

## ANGOLA, A HOSPITABLE COUNTRY

The Republic of Angola is a hospitable country, open to the world and always available to act as a proactive partner to help increase global cooperation, in favor of development and the implementation of joint and com-

plementary actions that help meet the permanent challenges of combating international terrorism and other threats to peace, world security and sustainable development.

With the improvement in the business environment in recent years, we are open to tourism and direct private investment in practically every branch of our economy that is of interest to investors.

Welcome to Angola!

**His Excellency João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço,  
President of the Republic**





# OACPS' FINANCIAL CHALLENGES MAY AFFECT ABILITY TO SERVE PEOPLES' INTERESTS

**“If they (the financial challenges) are not resolved, they risk undermining the organization’s ability to effectively serve the interests of our peoples and defend the aspirations that united the 79 member states,”** said the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, during a meeting of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States (OACPS), on the side- lines of the general

debate of the 79th Session of the General Assembly,” one of the pressing issues addressed was the situation in Haiti, a Caribbean country experiencing serious political instability and a deteriorating security environment.

In this regard, the meeting adopted a Declaration expressing broad solidarity with the Haitian people, “who deserve tangible support and to have everyone on their side in this time of need”, stressed the

acting leader of the OACPS, João Lourenço.

The Angolan President said that the seriousness of the crisis requires immediate and coordinated action, not just words.

During the meeting, at the proposal of the organization’s President pro tempore, it was agreed that Botswana’s Head of State Mokgweetsi Masisi would act as “champion” of the process of raising financial resources for the OACPS.



H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic



H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic



Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States ( OACPS )



Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific States ( OACPS )

# AMERICAN BUSINESSMEN INVITED TO INVEST IN ANGOLA

The invitation was made by the President of the Republic, João Lourenço, in New York, at a meeting with senior US executives, during which business opportunities in Angola were presented.

The meeting, on the sidelines of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly, also gave the Head of State the opportunity to interact with businesspeople with knowledge of the Angolan market, including the leaders of Africell and Sun Africa, as well as others wishing to invest in the country.

The Angolan President highlighted the success of US companies already present in Angola, in the Telecommunications and Renewable Energy sectors, as testimony to the potential of the Angolan market. He also expressed his desire to at-

tract more US companies to various sectors of the economy, including Agriculture, Industry, Infrastructure and Energy.

**“American private investment in Angola is welcome in practically all sectors of our economy, namely in Telecommunications, Railway, Port and Airport Infrastructure, the Pharmaceutical Industry, the Manufacturing Industry and the Mining Industry,”**

he emphasized, stressing that American investors can invest in anything that is of interest.

João Lourenço stressed the importance of food security for the country and announced his intention to continue attracting private investment to the agricultural and agro-industrial sector. He acknowledged the challenges faced in the past with large state farms and defended the need to continue privatizing and attracting private investment to this sector.



H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic



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Vice President,  
United Republic of Tanzania



## THE HALO TRUST HONORS ANGOLA FOR LEADERSHIP IN LANDMINE REMOVAL

Ambassador Tété António, Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, praised in New York the support provided by the Non-Governmental Organization The HALO Trust in the country's demining efforts.

Speaking at an event honoring Angola's leadership in landmine removal, the Angolan Minister of External Relations, representing the President of the Republic, highlighted the \$60 million investment that helped catalyze significant investments from the private sector and other partners, notably the Government of the United States of America.

On the occasion, he emphasized that landmines continue to restrict access to agricultural land, complicating "the ability to develop large areas of the country and discouraging ecotourists from visiting them."

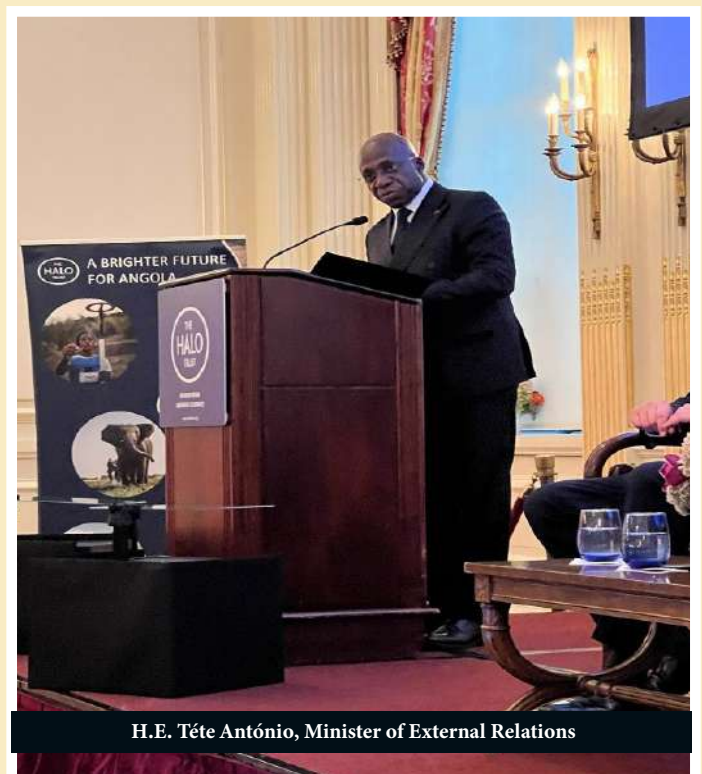
The event was held on the margins of the 79th Session of

the United Nations General Assembly, under the theme

**Celebrating Angola's Success in Promoting Economic Opportunities, Conservation, and Multilateralism for a Better Future.**

The initiative aimed to draw the attention of the global press, inspire other landmine-affected countries, and encourage donor nations and the private sector to invest in the future of southeastern Angola.

Prince Harry, the Duke of Sussex, therefore highlighted



H.E. Tété António, Minister of External Relations



the leadership of João Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, in the country's demining process, which in recent years has resulted in thousands of hectares being cleared, allowing agriculture and tourism to return to previously inaccessible areas.

During the event, the role of Angolan deminers was praised, noting that more than half of them are women, who have been leaders in the post-conflict recovery process.

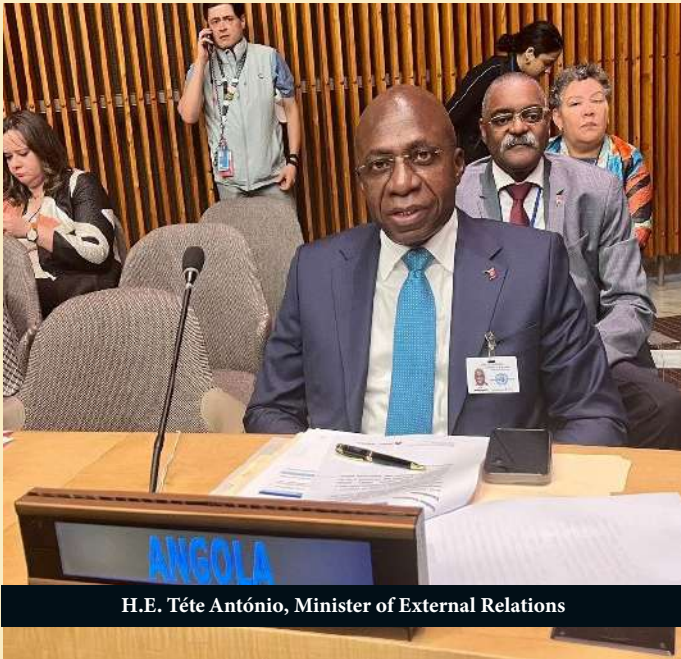
In 2024, the 30th anniversary of HALO Trust's assistance to Angola was marked.





## HIGH-LEVEL MEETINGS

## INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE: STRENGTHENING MULTILATERALISM FOR PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY



H.E. Tété António, Minister of External Relations

“Angola reiterates its commitment to continue playing a strategic role in the prevention, management, and resolution of conflicts to strengthen peace and democracy in Africa, particularly in the

Great Lakes Region, through diplomatic initiatives to promote political dialogue, build mutual trust, and enhance cooperation among States.”

## HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON SEA LEVEL RISE



H.E. Ana Paula de Carvalho, Minister of the Environment

“Angola is characterized by its vast coastline, which stretches for over 1,600 kilometers. While this geographic feature brings great commercial and tourism benefits, it

also makes the country vulnerable to the threats of rising sea levels and intensified cyclonic activity driven by climate change.”

## HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE (AMR)



H.E. Sílvia Lutucuta, Minister of Health

“To continue advancing and becoming more efficient and effective in the fight against AMR, Angola is strengthening the Health Sector through coordinated actions, including:

- Well-equipped microbiology laboratories to accurately detect, monitor, and report AMR;
- Strengthening the surveillance system to monitor resistant infections and antibiotic use, as well as establishing standardized protocols and data-sharing networks;

- Expanding veterinary and laboratory services in agriculture and livestock to monitor antibiotic use and resistance in animals;
- Developing and enforcing regulations to reduce the use of antibiotics and promote vaccination for disease prevention in animals, thereby minimizing the emergence of AMR;
- Investing in the Environmental Sector in waste management and water sanitation, with infrastructure to reduce the spread of AMR in the environment.”



# INTERACTIVE DIALOGUE: TOWARDS A SHARED DIGITAL FUTURE - STRENGTHENING INCLUSIVE INNOVATION

The Minister of Telecommunications, Information Technologies, and Social Communication, Mário Oliveira, participated in the event that analyzed ways to harness the potential of science, technology, and innovation for the benefit of humanity.

It was evident that technologies and digital innovation can help accelerate progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

However, the widening global digital divide remains a significant challenge, with over a third of the world's population

still without Internet access, at risk of missing out on the benefits and opportunities of digitalization — especially in developing countries — thereby reinforcing inequality and exclusion.



## HIGH-LEVEL MEETING ON THE INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE TOTAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

“The world cannot continue to live under the imminent threat of the use of nuclear weapons, regardless of the justifications. For this reason, all initiatives for their elimination must be embraced by all of us — States, International Organizations, and Civil Society.”



# ANGOLA SERVES AS VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE 79TH SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

This milestone has enabled the country to support the President of the 79th UN General Assembly, Philémon Yang, in leading the work of the UN's most representative body.



H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, Permanent Representative of Angola to the UN

During this period, Angola's Permanent Representative, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, led, among others, debates on sensitive issues, such as the resumed Eleventh Emergency Special Session of the UN General Assembly on the situation in Ukraine and the plenary discussion on the Human Rights Council's report.

The Angolan diplomat presided over part of the general debate during the High-Level Week of the 79th General Assembly, as well as part of the 10th Resumed Emergency Special Session, which analyzed the "Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the Legal Consequences of Israel's Policies and Practices in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Including East



H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, Permanent Representative of Angola to the UN

Jerusalem, and the Illegality of Israel's Continued Presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory."

## HIGHLIGHTING THE ROLE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

The Permanent Representative of Angola, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, highlighted the role of the Human Rights Council in an increasingly challenging geopolitical context, in which respect for human rights is declining and discrimination and inequality are on the rise.

The Angolan diplomat spoke on behalf of the President of the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly, Philémon Yang, at the opening of the plenary meeting, held on November 1, 2024, which analyzed the Human Rights Council Report.

At the time, he mentioned that the debate on human rights was taking place at a time when civilians are being killed daily in conflicts around the world.

"International law, including international human rights law, is being used as a weapon to obtain political advantages and not as a shield to protect those on the front lines of crises," he stressed.

In this context, he considered the role of the Human Rights Council to be fundamental in safeguarding and defending the rights and dignity of all members of the human family.

According to Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, human rights constitute one of the three pillars of the United Nations, being essential to the global mission of guaranteeing a fair, safe and equitable world.



Angolan Delegation



# SECURITY COUNCIL

Angola has maintained an increasingly active participation in Security Council debates on issues related to peace and security in the Great Lakes Region, particularly the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

In May 2022, the African Union (AU) mandated João Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, in his capacity as Chair of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), to mediate the political crisis between the DRC and Rwanda.

Angola's contribution to the Security Council debates was evident while the country was actively engaged in mediating

the conflict in eastern DRC. João Lourenço, President of the Republic and current Chairperson of the African Union, undertook several initiatives whose efforts have been repeatedly recognized by the international community, including the United Nations Security Council.

The progress achieved under the Luanda Process includes:

- Declaration of a ceasefire on August 4, 2024;

- Adoption of the Harmonized Plan for the Neutralization of the FDLR and the Disengagement of Forces/ Lifting of Defensive Security Measures by Rwanda;

- Operationalization of the Ad hoc Reinforced Verification Mechanism (RAVM) on November 5, 2024;

- Adoption of the Concept of Operations (CONOP);

- Signing of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Angola and MONUSCO on November 23, 2024, to support RAVM ground operations.

Following the conclusion of his mediation role due to his assumption of office as Chairperson of the African Union on February 15, 2025, the Angolan Head of State has remained attentive to peace and security issues in Africa, as he affirmed in his acceptance speech.





H.E. Tête António, Minister of External Relations

## DETERIORATION OF SECURITY IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION CONCERNS ANGOLA

The Minister of External Relations, Ambassador Tête António, expressed Angola's concern over the deteriorating security situation in some countries of the Great Lakes Region, which represents a setback to the collective efforts for peace in Africa.

The head of Angolan diplomacy spoke on April 17 via videoconference from Luanda during the United Nations Security Council debate that analyzed recent developments in the Great Lakes Region.

On the occasion, Minister Tête António highlighted the initiatives undertaken by regional leaders through high-level political engagements aimed at restoring trust and promoting peace and stability in the region.

Regarding the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), he expressed deep concern over the continued deterioration of the security and humanitarian situation in the eastern part of the country.



He noted that the occupation of key cities such as Goma and Bukavu by the M23 group, along with the further ad-

vancement of their forces into new territories, not only escalates the conflict but also threatens the DRC's territorial integrity, worsens the humanitarian situation for affected populations, and undermines diplomatic efforts underway through existing mediation processes.

The Minister praised all efforts made toward achieving regional peace and stability, particularly the coordinated actions taken by the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC) in the search for peace in eastern DRC, as well as contributions from other international actors.

Minister Tête António referenced the joint SADC/EAC summit held on February 8, 2025, in Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania, which not only called for a ceasefire but also reiterated the

need for the resumption of direct negotiations and dialogue with all state and non-state actors, including the M23 group.



He informed the UN Security Council about the African Union Peace and Security Council meeting held at the level of Heads of State and Government on February 14, 2025, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, which urged the parties to build on the progress made under the Luanda Process.

Minister Tété António recalled the advances made through the Luanda Process, including the agreements reached between the DRC and Rwanda regarding the neutralization of the FDLR and the withdrawal of Rwandan Defense Forces from Congolese territory.

He emphasized that on March 24, 2025, President João Lourenço decided to focus more on his duties as Chairperson of the African Union (AU) and step down from the role of mediator, which was subsequently assigned by AU consensus to Fauré Gnassingbé, President of Togo, as the new mediator of the continental organization.

Regarding the Central African Republic, the Minister acknowledged the progress made toward stabilization following the implementation of the joint peace roadmap adopted at the third mini-summit of ICGLR Heads of State and Government, held in Luanda on September 16, 2021.

As for the situation in South Sudan, he called for increased attention, noting that recent developments risk jeopardizing the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict.

Minister Tété António reiterated that, in light of the impact of conflicts across Africa, the Angolan presidency of the African Union proposes the convening of a conference on conflicts in Africa to help find motivating solutions to the multifaceted challenges faced by the continent.



H.E. Bintou Keita, Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in the DRC and Head of MONUSCO, exchanging views with the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, following a Security Council meeting on the situation in the DRC.

# “TERRORISM IS A MAJOR CHALLENGE TO INTERNATIONAL PEACE AND SECURITY” – MINISTER TÊTE ANTÓNIO

This statement was made by the Minister of External Relations of the Republic of Angola, Ambassador Tête António, during his intervention at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate held on January 21 at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Held under the theme **“Africa-led Counterterrorism and Development-Focused Approach: Strengthening African Leadership and the Implementation of Counterterrorism Initiatives,”** the debate formed part of Algeria’s Security Council work program during its January

presidency.

On the occasion, Angola’s top diplomat expressed serious concern about the spread of terrorism and extreme violence in various regions around the world, which undermines the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union’s Agenda 2063.

According to the Minister, “There is consensus today that terrorism is a complex phenomenon affecting all regions of the world and constitutes the most serious threat to global peace and security. It undermines the fundamental values and principles of the 21st century, including sustainable development, democra-

cy, human rights, and fundamental freedoms.”

He reaffirmed Angola’s strong support for the implementation of the decisions adopted at the 16th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government, held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea, on May 28, 2022, at the initiative of President João Lourenço of Angola. The session examined root causes and adopted measures to prevent and combat these two scourges across the continent.





# SECURITY COUNCIL COMMENDS PRESIDENT JOÃO LOURENÇO'S MEDIATION EFFORTS

On March 27 of this year, the United Nations Security Council praised President João Lourenço's mediation efforts and the significant progress achieved towards peace and stability in eastern Democratic

Republic of the Congo (DRC).

During an open session focused on the situation in the DRC, including the quarterly report of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the

Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the Council also commended the Nairobi Process led by former President of Kenya, Uhuru Kenyatta.

While presenting MONUSCO's report, the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative in the DRC, Bintou Keita, described the current political and security context as "highly tense" and called on all parties to honor their commitments to silence the guns and seek peace.

Angola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, expressed deep concern over the situation in eastern DRC, including the continued advance and territorial occupation by M23 forces.

He emphasized that these actions persist despite ongoing regional and international efforts to reach a political and negotiated solution to the conflict. This threatens peace and stability, worsens the humanitarian situation, and endangers security in the Great Lakes Region and the continent as a whole.





## ESCALATION OF CONFLICT IN SUDAN WORRIES ANGOLA



**T**his position was conveyed by Angola's Permanent Representative, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, during a Security Council meeting on the situation in the Republic of the Sudan, held on February 26, 2025.

The Angolan diplomat focused his

of humanitarian assistance and an increasing risk of famine in certain parts of the country.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz stressed that the internally displaced population—over 12 million people—is placing severe pressure on sanitation and healthcare systems, contributing to the ra-

intervention on three key areas: the humanitarian situation, the political and security landscape, and international efforts to promote a peaceful resolution.

Regarding the humanitarian situation, he described it as extremely serious, with over 60% of the population in urgent need

pid and dangerous spread of preventable diseases.

He therefore appealed to the warring parties to cooperate with the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and to continue opening safe and unimpeded humanitarian corridors to ensure timely and sustained assistance to those in need.

In this context, he welcomed the Sudanese Government's February 17 decision to extend the humanitarian corridor at the Chad-Sudan border for an additional three months.

On the political and security front, the ambassador acknowledged that although the root causes of the conflict lie in internal ethnic tensions, it has been exacerbated by external factors, including geopolitical rivalries and undeclared interests.

He warned that the intensifying combat has further deepened divisions, undermined peace efforts, and increased the risks to regional peace and stability.



# LACK OF AFRICA PERMANENT SEAT IN THE SECURITY COUNCIL HARMS THE CONTINENT'S PARTICIPATION

**A**ngola underscored that the absence of Africa among the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council impairs the continent's full participation in decision-making on international peace and security matters.

This view was expressed by Angola's Permanent Representative, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, during the Security Council open debate on "Maintaining International Peace and Security: Advancing Adaptability in Peacekeeping Operations – Responding to New Realities," held on March 25, 2025.

The Angolan diplomat argued that the historical injustice of Africa's underrepresentation as a permanent member contradicts the values of multilateralism and inclusivity championed by the UN.

He further observed that the Security Council is becoming increasingly divided due to rising geopolitical tensions among major powers, further complicating decision-making on complex peace and security issues.

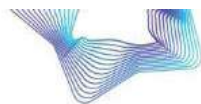
Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz stated that the lack of consensus is undermining the effectiveness of the organization and creating operational constraints for peacekeeping missions in conflict areas, without the guarantee of full and consistent political support to enable them to fulfill their mandates more effectively. He noted that Africa has long advocated for a comprehensive reform of the Security Council, including addressing historical injustices and ensuring its fair representation.

Regarding the mandate of peacekeeping operations, he said that there are growing gaps that hinder the full fulfill-

ment of missions in the field, and stressed the need to review the peacebuilding architecture to transform the potential of peacekeeping operations into a more comprehensive and comprehensive agenda.

He advocated the need to strengthen the political and consultative role of the Peacebuilding Commission, especially in relation to the Security Council, and also addressed the financing of peacekeeping operations, stressing that local actors need to be at the center of efforts to prevent or end violent conflicts and sustain peace, reinforcing the need to strengthen financial and logistical support for regional initiatives.





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# ANGOLA REAFFIRMS SUPPORT FOR SELF-DETERMINATION OF THE SAHRAWI PEOPLE

Angola's position was presented by its Permanent Representative to the UN, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, during the 2nd Plenary Meeting of the Special Political and Decolonization Committee, held on October 4, 2024.



H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, Permanent Representative of Angola to the UN

According to the diplomat, “All peoples have the right to freely determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social, and cultural development. Each state has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.”

He reiterated Angola's support for the efforts of the UN Secretary-General and

his Personal Envoy, Staffan de Mistura, in advancing the political process and implementing the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, as well as decisions of the African Union, concerning the last remaining colony on the African continent.

In this regard, he called on all interested parties to resume negotiations under UN and African Union auspices without

further delay or preconditions, demonstrating renewed political will, greater commitment, and good faith to reach a just, lasting, and mutually acceptable political solution that enables the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara.

Ambassador da Cruz noted that people in Non-Self-Governing Territories are being left behind in the realization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



pment and, moving forward, the Pact for the Future.

He also stated that the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples requires immediate action for its full and unconditional implementation. He used the opportunity to urge administering powers to take necessary steps to achieve the rapid decolonization of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

He encouraged the ongoing work of the UN Special Committee on Decolonization and its continued coordination

with Member States and Non-Self-Governing Territories to advance the decolonization agenda.

On another note, Angola's head of mission at the UN welcomed the recent historic agreement between Mauritius and the United Kingdom recognizing Mauritius's sovereignty over the Chagos Archipelago, including Diego Garcia.

He praised both countries for their unwavering commitment to pursuing and concluding a lasting political solution

grounded in the rule of law and justice, following the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice.

Regarding the question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Ambassador da Cruz reiterated the call for Argentina and the United Kingdom to resume bilateral negotiations in line with the principles and objectives of the UN Charter and relevant General Assembly resolutions, with a view to achieving a peaceful and lasting settlement of the sovereignty dispute over the Falkland Islands as soon as possible.



# ANGOLA SIGNS AGREEMENT ON CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT OF MARINE BIODIVERSITY

On January 22, 2025, at the UN Headquarters in New York, Angola's Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources, Carmen do Sacramento Neto dos Santos, signed the Agreement on the Conservation and Management of Marine Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ), reaffirming the country's commitment to ocean preservation and the protection of

Agreement.

The signing ceremony of the BBNJ Agreement was honored by the presence of the Minister of External Relations, Ambassador Tête António, and witnessed by the Director of Multilateral Affairs of Mirex, Ambassador Sara Silva, the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, along with senior officials of the Permanent Mission and staff from the Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources.

The BBNJ Agreement aims to establish a legal framework for the protection of marine biological diversity and promotes the creation of marine protected areas, as well as the conduct of environmental

The Republic of Angola, with its coastline and rich maritime heritage, recognizes the urgent need to adopt effective measures to preserve biodiversity and marine resources.

The signing of the Agreement reflects Angola's ongoing efforts to actively participate in ocean governance and contribute to the development of policies that promote the conservation and sustainable use of marine resources.

According to Minister Carmen do Sacramento Neto dos Santos, following ratification, the Agreement is expected to provide an opportunity to enhance knowledge about the deep sea, particularly regarding biodiversity and geological components.



H.E. Carmen do Sacramento Neto dos Santos, Minister of Fisheries and Marine Resources

marine biodiversity. Angola thus became the 107th UN member state to sign the

Agreement. The BBNJ Agreement aims to establish a legal framework for the protection of marine biological diversity and promotes the creation of marine protected areas, as well as the conduct of environmental





69TH SESSION OF THE COMMISSION ON THE STATUS OF WOMEN

# ANGOLA PRESENTS NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR WOMEN'S INCLUSION



H.E. Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, Minister of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women (first from right to left)

On March 12, at the UN Headquarters in New York, the Minister of Social Action, Family, and Promotion of Women, Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, highlighted the National Strategy to promote the inclusion of women at all levels of the peacebuilding and sustainable development process, emphasizing that it is comprehensive and inclusive.

The minister spoke during the general debate of the 69th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women and explained that this strategy is embodied in the implementation of a National Ac-

tion Plan on Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace, and Security, monitored through a National Observatory tasked with overseeing and following up on public policies focused on women.

In the field of prevention of Gender-Based Violence (GBV), the Minister noted that the Angolan government has established Victim Support Centers that provide legal, psychological, and social assistance to victims of gender violence and offer anonymous reporting hotlines.

In this context, the Minister highlighted the promotion of National Awareness and Sensitization Campaigns on Gender-

-Based Violence aimed at defending an agenda of equity and combating all forms of discrimination.

According to Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, one of the Angolan government's major strategic priorities is the Integrated Local Development and Poverty Reduction Program.

In particular, she referred to social inclusion policies through the Social Cash Transfer Program directed at vulnerable households, which are strengthening women's economic empowerment, especially in rural areas.





# NATIONAL MECHANISMS FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND WOMEN AND GIRLS' EMPOWERMENT

At another moment, Minister Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto participated in a ministerial roundtable discussing National Mechanisms for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls: Renewing Commitment, Resourcing, and Accelerating the Implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action, also with the goal of achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

On this occasion, she stated that Angola has made significant progress in creating a legal, political, and programmatic framework for gender equality, which has enabled strong and coordinated engagement with public and private entities and institutions, as well as civil society organizations, to address gen-

der inequalities and advance women's development.

To accelerate the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action and contribute to achieving the SDGs, Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto outlined four essential pillars. The first is investing in education, training, science, and technology for women and girls

to promote their equal access to employment and eliminate occupational segregation.

Secondly, the Minister advocated improving and expanding social protection systems, access to public and health services, and sustainable infrastructure for gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls.

Subsequent actions identified by the Minister include eliminating all forms of discrimination and violence against women and girls, and investing in meaningful participation of women and girls in productive sectors—particularly agribusiness and agricultural value chains—to increase wealth and reduce poverty.



# AFRICAN FIRST LADIES CALL FOR ACTION TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



Representing the First Lady, Ana Dias Lourenço, Minister Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto participated on behalf of Angola in the High-Level Dialogue on the Ratification of the African Union Convention on the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls: A Call to Action.

On this occasion, she pointed out that violence against women and girls remains a global challenge affecting all regions, cultures, and socio-economic contexts.

The Minister stated that in Africa, this phenomenon constitutes one of the most serious human rights violations, making it essential to adopt the instrument as a continental legal commitment to ensure

accountability of perpetrators and improve protection for victims.

Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto reiterated that gender issues and women's empowerment are a priority for the government in promoting human rights and equal opportunities.

The Minister recalled that, in June 2023, OAFLAD launched the campaign "We Are All Equal" in Angola, aimed at promoting equity and eliminating gender disparities in Africa.

In Angola, the campaign was presented in August 2024, under the leadership of the First Lady of the Republic, Ana Dias Lourenço, along with the approval of the 2024-2025 Action Plan to strengthen

gender equality policies and protection against violence.

The event took place at the Permanent Observer Mission of the African Union and was promoted by the Organization of African First Ladies for Development (OAFLAD), in partnership with the African Union Commission and UN Women. It aimed to raise the visibility of the convention, define the responsibilities of stakeholders, and mobilize collective actions to accelerate ratification and entry into force.





### **Miradouro da Lua / Luanda / Angola**

**The Miradouro da Lua is a set of cliffs located 40 km south of Luanda, in the Belas municipality of Angola.**

**Over time, erosion caused by wind and rain has shaped the lunar-like landscape seen today. Miradouro da Lua is a must-see tourist spot for those traveling from Luanda to Barra do Cuanza or the beaches of Cabo Ledo.**



**Angola Today**



# UNAIDS PLEDGES SUPPORT TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE AFRICAN UNION

This commitment was expressed by the Deputy Executive Director of UNAIDS for Policy, Advocacy and Knowledge, Christine Stegling, on March 10 in New York, on the sidelines of the 69th Session of the Com-

mission on the Status of Women.

During the meeting with Minister Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, both parties discussed joint efforts to sustain and promote progress toward ending AIDS, as outlined in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Christine Stegling provided information about organizational changes at UNAIDS, including significant cuts in funding for ongoing projects, especially in African countries.



Angolan delegation at CSW 25



# ANGOLA PROPOSES REGIONAL MECHANISM TO MONITOR GENDER EQUALITY

According to the Minister of Social Action, Family and Promotion of Women, Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto, the initiative aims to ensure that SADC member states have a unified voice in global forums such as the CSW and to develop a Program for Exchange and Capacity Building for Women Leaders.

The purpose is to create training opportunities and experience sharing among women entrepreneurs, promote the exchange of best practices, and mobilize funding for gender equality programs.

On the occasion, the Minister reiterated Angola's willingness to work closely with countries in the region, sharing experiences and strengthening partnerships that guarantee real and meaningful progress in promoting women's rights.

Minister Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto observed that the various challenges still persisting in the SADC region require renewed commitment and coordinated actions among member states.

She emphasized Angola's support for establishing joint monitoring and evaluation mechanisms for public policies focused on gender equity, as well as strengthening strategies to ensure sustainable financing for initiatives promoting women's socio-economic inclusion.

Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto reaffirmed the country's unwavering commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment, which are essential pillars for sustainable and inclusive development.

The meeting of SADC Ministers and Gender Affairs officials was chaired by the Minister of Women's Affairs, Community, and Small and Medium Enterprise Development, Monica Mutsवान्गwa, who presented a brief report on the status of women in Southern Africa, highlighting progress in political empowerment.

Ana Paula do Sacramento Neto pointed out that critical challenges remain regarding women's economic empowerment, funding for gender equality, human rights, poverty reduction, and peace and security.

Regarding peace and security, she deplored the situation of women in conflict zones in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and called on member states to show solidarity with women victims of the conflict in that country.

The SADC Ministers and Gender Affairs Officials met on the sidelines of the Commission on the Status of Women to reinforce a unified stance on key issues, aiming to increase their influence in CSW discussions.



# ANGOLA ADVOCATES FOR GLOBAL PACT ON YOUTH AND WORK

On April 17, at the United Nations headquarters in New York, the Secretary of State for Youth, Danila Bragança, called for a new global pact on youth and work within the framework of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FfD4), placing youth leadership and inclusion at the center of decision-making.

Speaking on the panel dedicated to SDG 8: **“Decent Work and Economic Opportunities for Youth,”** Danila Bragança highlighted FUNEA – the National Employment Fund, established in 2023, which has supported projects such as JOBE – Youth and Good Employment Opportunities, focused on vocational training, entrepreneurship, and youth self-employment.

She stated that the platform has provided thousands of young people with opportunities for technical training and professional kits, enabling them to generate sustainable income in their communities.

At the same time, initiatives are being promoted in the agricultural and energy sectors to integrate youth into productive value chains and emerging green and digital markets. She emphasized that these actions, incorporated in the Youth Development Plan (2025-2027), demonstrate that with political will and effective partnerships, it is possible to create decent, inclusive, and sustainable jobs for youth.

The Youth Forum, held from April 15 to 17, offered a platform for dialogue among youth, member states, and other relevant actors, promoting the sharing of concerns, aspirations, and concrete proposals aimed at building a fairer, greener, and more sustainable world, in line with the 2030 Agenda and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).





# DANILA BRAGANÇA SEEKS TO DEEPEN COOPERATION WITH THE UN

The Secretary of State for Youth expressed the desire to deepen cooperation with the Office of the UN Assistant Secretary-General for Youth Affairs. Danila Bragança requested technical support for the implementation of the National Youth Policy, as well as capacity-building programs and exchanges with the United Nations and youth organizations from other countries.

Strengthening youth involvement in

Climate Action and Sustainability policies is another area targeted for expanded cooperation with the UN. Regarding multi-lateral engagement and youth platforms, Angola aims to increase participation in international platforms such as the ECO-SOC Youth Forum and Youth4Climate.

Danila Bragança proposed organizing joint technical sessions with Angolan youth, in partnership with the UN Resident Coordinators System, to foster direct

dialogue. She took the opportunity to provide information about the organization of the National Youth Festival to be held in Angola in August.

The Secretary of State said the event will celebrate the transformative potential of Angolan youth, as well as promote intergenerational dialogue, innovation, and civic engagement.



# AMBASSADOR CALLS FOR PARTICIPATION IN THE UN YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM



The appeal was made via a video message during a side event on UN Careers, held under the motto “Rejuvenating the United Nations Workforce” on the Day 1 of Action of the Summit of the Future.

Addressing young diplomats and others from various

parts of the world, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz encouraged them to see the United Nations as a platform where ideas can flourish and innovations can generate global impact.

“I am truly inspired by the incredible potential of youth worldwide, especially in Africa, the youngest continent on

earth. Our continent, with its vibrant and dynamic young population, is an inexhaustible source of innovation,” emphasized Angola’s Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz further noted that Angola is one of the under-represented countries in the UN workforce, highligh-

ting that the initiative aims not only to increase numbers but also to enhance the organization’s capacity to respond to global challenges with agility and creativity.

The diplomat stressed that African youth are uniquely positioned to contribute to this mission with their innovative approaches and problem-solving skills.





# SECRETARY OF STATE HIGHLIGHTS PROGRESS IN THE SOCIAL SECTOR



H.E. Ambassador Esmeralda Mendonça, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

“Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages” was the theme guiding the 58th Session of the Commission on Population and Development, held from April 7 to 11, 2025. Here, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Esmeralda Mendonça, emphasized the remarkable progress made in the health sector, highlighting the reduction of the neonatal mortality rate from 24 to 16 per thousand live births between 2016 and 2024.

Esmeralda Mendonça added that during this period, the maternal mortality rate decreased by approximately 29%, as a result of improved access to maternal and child health services, the expansion of the vaccination program, and the strengthening of sexual and reproductive health services.

Throughout her speech, the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs pointed out that Angola’s demographic structure—as

a young country with about 66% of the population under 25 years old—represents both great opportunities and significant challenges.

In this context, Esmeralda Mendonça reaffirmed the Angolan Government’s commitment to transforming this potential into progress through strong investments in education, health, employment, and the empowerment of youth and women.

The official stressed that the 2023–2027 National Development Plan places human capital development and food security at the core of national priorities, aiming, among other objectives, to reduce infant mortality to less than 50 per thousand live births.

Other targets include raising the literacy rate to over 80% and expanding access to information on sexual and reproductive health—especially for adolescents and young people.

To ensure the sustainability of this progress, Esmeralda Mendonça stated that Angola is adopting a multisectoral approach integrating health, education, social protection, gender, and youth policies, with the support of international partners.

She acknowledged that despite the social sector advances, challenges persist, including disparities between urban and rural areas, as well as a shortage of specialized professionals in remote regions, since strengthening data systems for decision-making remains a priority.

# AMBASSADOR PRESENTS NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR CONSERVATION AND SUSTAINABLE USE OF WATER



Four key points with the potential to accelerate water conservation and sustainable use—highlighting increased concessional financing and Official Development Assistance (ODA) for water projects—were underscored by Angola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations.

During the preparatory session for the United Nations Water Conference on March 3, Francisco José da Cruz also emphasized the importance of supporting technology transfer initiatives and capacity building, strengthening transboundary water cooperation to ensure equitable ac-

cess to shared water resources, and expanding private sector involvement in water infrastructure projects.

Furthermore, the Angolan diplomat addressed the situation in the southern part of the country, which has been facing severe droughts, particularly in the provinces of Cunene, Namibe, Cuando Cubango, affecting more than 2.3 million people.

Angola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations observed that rapid urbanization, desertification, and climate change have further strained national water resources.

To reverse this situation, he praised the partnership with international actors that has enabled progress in water management and sustainability for present and future generations through decisive measures such as the expansion of water access programs in rural areas.

Actions also include the implementation of a Program to Combat the Effects of Drought in the South of the country, which will benefit an estimated population of 3.5 million people, and the development of infrastructure to supply water to the most affected areas.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz presented as a result of these actions the Cafu Canal, which consists of a system for capturing and transferring water from the Cunene River to several cities through a 160 km long pipeline.

He said this project benefits 235,000 inhabitants and irrigates five thousand hectares of agricultural land.

The United Nations Conference on Water is scheduled to take place from December 2 to 4, 2026, in the United Arab Emirates.

Co-organized by the United Arab Emirates and Senegal, the event aims to accelerate the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.





# ANGOLA ADVOCATES FOR FAIR CLIMATE FINANCING



H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, Permanent Representative of Angola to the UN

Angola has advocated the need for fair and predictable climate financing, calling on developed countries to fulfill their commitment to mobilize USD 100 billion annually to advance the operationalization of the New Collective Quantified Goal on Climate Finance.

At the UN General Assembly plenary meeting on priorities and preparations for the 2025 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 30), Angola's Permanent Representative to the UN reiterated the country's position on establishing accessible and direct financial mechanisms for African nations, ensuring funds reach the most affected communities.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz emphasized that developed countries

must continue supporting developing nations for long-term financial sustainability, in order to protect vulnerable areas and establish an effective monitoring and oversight system.

The Angolan diplomat also advocated for a just and inclusive energy transition, reaffirming the need for an energy transition that considers Africa's realities.

"We advocate for solutions that combine the development of renewable energies with the sustainable use of our natural resources, avoiding restrictions that could hinder economic growth and energy access for millions of Africans," he stressed.

Throughout his speech, Francisco José da Cruz highlighted that COP28 made progress in establishing the Loss and Damage Fund but stressed the importance of ensuring it has adequate and

easily accessible resources.

According to the Ambassador, the "polluter pays" principle should guide developed countries' contributions to this mechanism, ensuring fair compensation for vulnerable nations.

Finally, he addressed Climate Justice, reiterating that developing countries and vulnerable communities are the least responsible for the current climate crisis "but are disproportionately impacted by its adverse effects."

The 2025 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 30) will take place from November 10 to 21, 2025, in Belém, Brazil.

# PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE AT THE FORUM ON THE FUTURE OF LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Angola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, moderated one of six panels at the Forum on the Future of Least Developed Countries (LDCs).

The event gathered, among others, Fatima Rabab, UN Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for LDCs, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States (UN-OHRLS).

Haikande Hichilema, President of the Republic of Zambia, delivered the opening speech at the Forum, which aimed to share concrete innovative solutions and practical policy recommendations to strengthen the resilience of LDCs.

In his intervention during the interactive panel on **“Innovative Solutions to Strengthen the Resilience of Least Developed Countries,”** Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz explained how Angola is leveraging oil revenues to improve climate resilience.

He highlighted that the United States Export-Import Bank (US Ex-Im) is finan-

cing over USD 2 billion for the expansion of renewable energy in Angola—one of its most significant commitments to date in Africa.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz said Angola is currently developing the largest solar energy project in Africa, totaling over 1.3 gigawatts (GW) of installed capacity, emphasizing that this involves the construction of more than 120 mini-grids in various provinces to provide energy access in rural areas.

According to the diplomat, this government initiati-

ve aims to significantly reduce Angola's dependence on diesel oil, lowering emissions and improving electricity access in off-grid and underserved areas.

Regarding Transboundary Water Cooperation, he reported that the Angolan government supports regional structures such as the SADC protocols on shared watercourses and is aligned with the African Union's Agenda 2063 and Africa's Water Vision 2025.

In this regard, he mentioned that Angola, along with

Namibia and Botswana, is a member of OKACOM (Permanent Okavango River Basin Water Commission), a commission promoting coordinated, sustainable, and equitable use of shared water resources.

The 3rd Forum on the Future of LDCs, held from April 1 to 3 in Lusaka, Zambia, was themed “Increasing Resilience: Innovative Solutions to Strengthen the Resilience of LDCs to Systemic Shocks.”







# AMBASSADOR REAFFIRMS COMMITMENT TO PROMOTING PEACE AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

**A**ngola's Permanent Representative to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, participated in the 10th Global Forum of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC), held from November 25 to 27, 2024, in Cascais, Portugal, under the theme

***"United in Peace: Restoring Trust, Reshaping the Future, Reflecting on Two Decades of Dialogue for Humanity."***

Speaking at the event on behalf of Tête António, Minister of External Relations, the Angolan diplomat emphasized the importance of holding the Forum and underlined Angola's firm commitment to promoting peace and intercultural dialogue.

Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz stressed that UNAOC's work has facilitated debate on the challenges and opportu-

nities of living in a diverse world, helping to prevent intercultural tensions and crises, combating stereotypes, misconceptions, discrimination, and xenophobia.

The Permanent Representative added that the Forum contributes to dialogue, mutual respect, and cross-border cooperation towards achieving a better world marked by harmony and peaceful coexistence.

The Ambassador observed that in the current global context, peace, stability, and development are continuously at risk and require "the attention and defense of all."

He considered the pillars of the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations—namely youth, education, media, migration, and women—as foundational for the development and implementation of various programs and initiatives aimed at dialogue between cultures and religions, strengthening solidarity, and building bridges between communities to intensify international cooperation.

For the diplomat, it is necessary to promote conditions so that people of di-

fferent identities, beliefs, and cultures can live in harmony, with mutual respect, enjoying fundamental freedoms while avoiding all forms of discrimination, xenophobia, and religious intolerance.

According to Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, the rise in political conflicts, religious, ethnic and cultural intolerance, violent extremism, and terrorism witnessed in several parts of Africa justifies, now more than ever, the need to find pragmatic and complementary solutions in favor of peace and stability.

In this context, he highlighted the diplomatic agenda of João Lourenço, President of the Republic, as the "African Union Champion for Peace and Reconciliation in Africa," which prioritized the promotion and dissemination of initiatives leading to peace and security in Africa.







# RENEWED SUPPORT FOR WOMEN'S PARTICIPATION IN CONFLICT RESOLUTION

On May 10, at the United Nations headquarters in New York, Angola reaffirmed its support for the initiative of the UN Secretary-General, António Guterres, considering it a strategic imperative to ensure the sustainability of peace processes through the involvement of women in all phases of conflict resolution.



This position was expressed by the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, who added the strengths of community involvement for long-term stability to the initiative.

During a side event on the “**Common Commitment to the Full, Equal, and Meanin-**

**gful Participation of Women in Peace Processes,”** co-chaired by Angola and Switzerland, the diplomat praised the event’s organization at a time when the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (1995) and the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women, Peace, and Security (WPS) are being celebrated.

According to Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, the role of women in peacebuilding is an undeniable reality, and their involvement is essential due to their relevance in community dynamics, direct experience with the impact of conflicts, and ability to promote dialogue and reconciliation.

He noted that Angola’s National Action Plan on Wo-

men, Peace, and Security has increased women’s participation in decision-making processes and their full involvement in all efforts to maintain and promote peace and stability in the country and across Africa.

“Our experience in national reconciliation after a long internal conflict taught us the importance of involving women in all phases of peace processes,” Francisco José da Cruz emphasized.

The diplomat also recalled that in October 2024, Angola hosted the High-Level Women’s Forum of the Great Lakes Region to discuss ways to strengthen women’s participation, their dialogue power, collaboration, and firm determination to build a more peaceful and prosperous future for the African continent.

He mentioned that, as Chair of the African Union (AU), the country considers the role of women in conflict resolution fundamental and encourages member states to ensure more equitable representation of women in all aspects of peace processes, including conception and implementation phases.



# ANGOLA SHARES EXPERIENCE TO ELIMINATE VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS



Deputy Permanent Representative, Ambassador Mateus Luemba

During the intervention at the High-Level Meeting commemorating the 25th anniversary of the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Deputy Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, Ambassador Mateus Luemba, highlighted the country's comprehensive efforts, including legislative measures, aimed at eliminating discrimination, preventing violence against women, and promoting gender equality.

As examples, he emphasized the Domestic Violence Law, the National Policy on Gender Equality and Equity, and the National Action Plan for the Implementation of UN Security Council Resolution

1325 on Women, Peace, and Security.

Ambassador Mateus Luemba stressed that despite legislative reforms and progress made, women in Angola continue to face daily struggles against various forms of violence. To address these challenges, measures such as the creation of Victim Assistance Centers and an anonymous SOS hotline providing free legal, psychological, and social support nationwide were implemented.

He also underlined the existence of specialized departments to assist victims of violence, as well as specialized sections within the judiciary and courts to handle trials and procedures related to domestic violence against women.

During his intervention, the Angolan diplomat also discussed the Empowerment and Learning Program for All Girls (PAT II), aimed at empowering girls and improving their learning environment.

Ambassador Mateus Luemba reaffirmed "the country's commitment to promoting and protecting the rights of women and girls," noting the increased female participation at all decision-making levels.

# ANGOLA DEBATES DEVELOPMENT OF EFFECTIVE NATIONAL STRATEGIES TO COMBAT TERRORISM

A delegation from the Permanent Mission participated from March 12 to 13 in Malta, at the United Nations Conference on National and Regional Strategies to Combat Terrorism.

On this occasion, Angola shared its experience of inclusive involvement of all societal sectors in the comprehensive and holistic development of the National Strategy to Combat Terrorism during a panel dedicated to lessons learned on government engagement with civil society partners in developing effective national counter-terrorism strategies.

The head of the Angolan delegation to the event, Deputy Permanent Repre-

sentative Ambassador Mateus Luemba, stressed the country's deep concern about the spread of terrorism and violent extremism in Africa and worldwide.

He pointed out that the global expansion of terrorism has many underlying causes such as self-financing, border characteristics, and the availability of foreign terrorist fighters, exacerbated by the trafficking of small arms and light weapons.

Additionally, he referred to the

growing use of modern military equipment and emerging new technologies, which "constitute a major concern."

At the conclusion of his intervention, Ambassador Mateus Luemba highlighted three priority areas that require continued attention:

01

Prevention – to mitigate the risk of terrorism and violent extremism by promoting good governance, combating corruption, strengthening state institutions, and establishing early warning systems;

02

Strong Funding – providing adequate, sustainable, and predictable financing for counter-terrorism efforts;

03

Budget Allocation – supporting regional initiatives and national programs to combat and prevent terrorism and violent extremism.

The Angolan delegation included Counselors João Felizardo and Martins Soares.





# AMBASSADOR MAKIESE AUGUSTO STARTS TERM AT JIU IN 2026

The diplomat was elected on November 13, 2024.



Senior Angolan diplomat Makiese Augusto, elected on November 13, 2024, as a member of the United Nations Joint Inspection Unit (JIU), will start his duties in January 2026 for a four-year term.

Ambassador Makiese Au-

gusto competed against the representative from Eritrea for the seat allocated to African states, securing 120 votes against 70 from his opponent.

According to Makiese Augusto, "The election represents a victory for Angolan diplomacy at the internatio-

nal level, especially within the United Nations, and marks the culmination of years of diplomatic efforts to integrate Angolan professionals into the UN system."

For the Permanent Representative of Angola to the United Nations, Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz,

the election of the Angolan candidate is the result of an intense diplomatic campaign and aligns with President João Lourenço's strategy to promote the integration of Angolan personnel in international organizations.

Makiese Augusto is a senior diplomat with over two decades of experience and extensive knowledge of administrative, financial, and budgetary issues, gained notably during his six-year tenure

as a member of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (ACABQ).

Among other roles, he also served in the UN Secretariat as senior advisor to the

presidency of the Human Rights Council and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights in Geneva from 2012 to 2015.

He holds a postgraduate degree in Management and

Leadership and is fluent in Portuguese, French, Spanish, and English. Makiese Augusto is the first Angolan elected member of the UN Joint Inspection Unit since its creation in 1976.





# ANGOLA'S OFFICIAL RESIDENCE HOSTS EVENT FOR AFRICAN AMBASSADORS' SPOUSES

On May 2, Angola's official residence in New York hosted a meeting of the Group of Spouses of African Ambassadors accredited to the United Nations (UN) headquarters, at a gala dinner in recognition of the diplomatic work carried out by their spouses to advance Africa's agenda in this international organization.

The event, hosted by the wife of the Angolan Ambassador, Graça da Cruz, was attended by more than thirty guests representing 17 countries. Among the guests was the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Ambassador Fatima Kyari Mohammed.

The occasion served to reinforce unity among African diplomats, who socialized and enjoyed typical dishes from various African regions.

The Spouses Group is an association that provides social support to its members and develops charitable and solidarity actions.









# MEETINGS OF THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE

As part of his diplomatic activity, the Permanent Representative of Angola, H.E. Ambassador Francisco José da Cruz, has developed a dynamic agenda of engagement and interaction with a wide range of entities.

In this edition we highlight some of his meetings.



## With the UN Deputy Secretary-General, H.E. Amina Mohammed.

The meeting took place within the preparation framework for the working visit that H.E. Amina Mohammed made to Angola from May 15 to 18, 2025.



## With the President of the 76th Session of the UN General Assembly, H.E. Ambassador Abdulla Shahid.

Currently Ambassador of the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC), H.E. Abdulla Shahid met with the Head of Angola's Mission to the UN to share information about the work of the OIC and to request Angola's support as a country committed to international peace, stability, and security.



With H.E. Ambassador Jang De Smedt, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Belgium to the United Nations.

Recently accredited, the diplomat requested a courtesy meeting for her introduction and to exchange views on the UN agenda for the current session



With H.E. Ambassador Carstein Staur, Chair of the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), with whom he discussed preparations for the 4th United Nations Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) and Angola's role in preparing the Forum, following the leadership of the African Union (AU).



With H.E. Huang Xia, Special Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region, within the framework of bilateral consultations on the situation in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).



With the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Sudan, H.E. Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra.

The meeting addressed matters related to the situation in Sudan.



With the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on Violence against Children, Dr. Najat Maalla, as part of an official visit that she intends to pay to Angola, from 20 to 26 June of this year.





With the Chargé d'Affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Croatia, Hrvoje Curic Hrvatinic.



With the Director-General for International Partnerships of the European Union, Mr. Antti Karhunen, with whom he discussed the importance of the 4th United Nations Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4) and Angola's presidency of the African Union for the current year.



With Ms. Penelope Hawkins, Senior Consultant of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD).

She expressed UNCTAD's willingness to cooperate with Angola and the African Union on matters related to promoting international trade as an engine for sustainable development.



With the Director of the European Public Law Organization (EPLO), Professor Spyridon Flogaitis.

The distinguished visitor met with the Head of Angola's Diplomatic Mission to the UN to present the projects of the institution he leads and to express interest in being present in Angola.





With his counterpart from Moldova, H.E. Ambassador Gheorghe Leucă.

The two diplomats reviewed matters of common interest within the framework of the United Nations agenda.



With H.E. Ambassador Martha Pobee, Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations for Africa.

The occasion served to discuss the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and to congratulate Angola on assuming the presidency of the African Union (AU).



With the UNESCO representative in New York, H.E. Eliot Minchenberg.

During the meeting, the UNESCO representative praised Angola's work in organizing and promoting the Culture of Peace, particularly the Luanda Biennial, highlighting the quality of the program and debates at the event.



With the Secretary of State for Youth, H.E. Danila Bragança.

She participated in the Youth Forum held from April 15 to 17 of the current year at the UN headquarters.





With the new Permanent Representative of Mozambique, H.E. Ambassador Domingos Estevão Fernandes.

The meeting provided an opportunity to exchange views on the United Nations agenda, particularly regarding peace and security, development, human rights, the promotion of gender equality, and youth.



With his French counterpart, H.E. Ambassador Jérôme Bonnafont.

The diplomats discussed the Intergovernmental Negotiations (IGN) on various models for a reformed and more representative United Nations Security Council to address the current historical injustice against Africa.



With his counterpart from Portugal, H.E. Ambassador Rui Vinhas, with whom he discussed matters of common interest within the framework of the United Nations agenda.



With the Secretary of State for Planning, H.E. Luís Epalanga, within the framework of preparing Angola's 2nd Voluntary National Review on progress in implementing the SDGs.



With Dr. Pedro Rodrigo Gonçalves de Castro e Silva, Executive Director of the African Group 1 (AfG1) at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

They took the opportunity to exchange views on the 4th Conference on Financing for Development, scheduled to take place in Seville, Spain, from June 30 to July 3 of the current year.



With the Permanent Representative of Latvia, H.E. Ambassador Sanita Pavļuta-Deslandes.

The occasion served to exchange views on the United Nations agenda and the priorities of their respective countries for the 79th Session of the UN General Assembly.



With the representative of the SOS Children's Villages organization to the United Nations, Ms. Sofia Garcia, for the presentation of the program of the 4th International Forum on Alternative Care, to be held in Luanda, Angola, from June 17 to 19 of the current year.



With his counterpart from the Kingdom of Jordan, H.E. Ambassador Mahmoud Daifallah Hmoud, candidate for judge at the International Court of Justice.





## *Luanda/ Angola*



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# PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ANGOLA TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK

