

Angola Business Environment News

Important:

Several Chamber members are now in the process of recruiting English-speaking Angolan nationals from the Angolan diaspora as office and factory workers for their new investments in Angola.

These investments are contributing to the diversification of the Angolan economy.

Interested Angolan nationals are invited to submit their CVs in confidence to the Hon Chief Executive of the South Africa – Angola Chamber of Commerce by email using this address rogerbt@sa-acc.co.za

The investors will contact interested persons direct.

News over the last week:

- President dos Santos paid an official visit to Portugal.
- The ITCZ generated flooding in Southern and Western Angola continues with more economic and human disruption especially in the Cunene River valley.
- Angola and Sonangol are again mentioned in a Global Witness corruption report – this time in a banking context.
- Freedom House's latest report on Freedom in the World again lists Angola as a very poor performer.
- At least 93 children have now died in the rabies outbreak in Greater Luanda.
- Angola has secured another USD 1 billion loan from China – this loan to be used to develop the agriculture sector.
- In a televised and impassioned plea during his visit to Angola the Pope repeated his anti-corruption exhortation to Africans to “stop corruption once and for all”!
- The deaths and injuries accompanying the papal visit are giving renewed cause for concern about Angola's capacity to organize effectively.
- As the new road code comes into force throughout Angola on 1 April 2009 to replace the existing code dating from 1956 no effort is being spared to inform the police and the public alike of the new rules – no use of mobile phones whilst driving, wearing of seatbelts, no alcohol whilst driving, no children under 12 in the front seat, wearing of helmets by motorcyclists and much more – serious penalties! Speed checking technologies are now approved for use to counter speeding. In the context of the civil law presumption of guilt, enforcement of the new road code is bound to give cause for *confusão* to expats and locals alike over the next few months. This code, it is hoped, will reduce the number of accidents on Angolan roads from the present 50 per day.
- Absent from South Africa on election day – registered voters can still vote – for details see [http://www.elections.org.za/Voting_SpecialVoting.asp#d\)_South_African_citizens_temporarily_absent_from_the_Republic_and_want_to_cast_a_special_vote_outside_of_South_Africa](http://www.elections.org.za/Voting_SpecialVoting.asp#d)_South_African_citizens_temporarily_absent_from_the_Republic_and_want_to_cast_a_special_vote_outside_of_South_Africa)
- Civil aviation circles in Angola are abuzz with discussion of the new suite of civil aviation legislation and regulation that has been adopted to meet the demands of the EU for Angolan airlines to be permitted to use EU airspace again – access the documents via <http://www.mintrans.gov.ao/Default.aspx>

Solutions-related events 2009 update:

*Mitigating your human capital risk in a weak institutional, weak organisational and weak integrity environment – date to be advised

*Panel discussion on “Tackling the Worsening Port Congestion Crisis by Road” – date to be advised

Wednesday 28 January 2009

Full day briefing of prospective Johannesburg Chamber of Commerce and Industry participants in 2009 Angola trade mission – Roger Ballard-Tremeer

Tuesday 24 February 2009

Briefing on Angola to clients of South African International Business Linkages

Thursday 26 February 2009

Briefing on Angola to members of the South African Electro-technical Export Council

Tuesday 3 March 2009

Repeat of full day briefing on Angola to JCCI members.

Tuesday 24 / 25 / 26 March

iPAD Infrastructure Conference in Luanda – see details at <http://www.spintelligent-events.com/ipad-angola2009/en/index.php>

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Access the ABEN content since August 2007 on the SA-ACC website, at your convenience.

The content of the ABEN responds to your needs – make your needs known by replying to this message with your input.

ABEN enables you to engage in Angolan time travel – yesterday / today / tomorrow – look through the URLs and savour the experience.

Never rely solely on the English language versions of ANGOP and other translated reports – always refer to the original Portuguese language version for decision-making purposes.

Interpreting and translating – mitigate your legal risk – for compliance purposes only use interpreters and translators that are “sworn” and “accredited”:

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Angola – some “do-it-yourself” news, profiles, blogs and image searches:

http://www.globalwitness.org/media_library_detail.php/735/en/undue_diligence_how_banks_do_business_with_corrupt_regimes

<http://business.iafrica.com/news/1555100.htm>

<http://www.freedomhouse.org/uploads/WoW09/WOW%202009.pdf>

www.sanzalando.blogspot.com
www.blogdangola.blogspot.com
www.carranca.blog.pt
<http://www.mintrans.gov.ao/Default.aspx>
www.sanzalando2.blogspot.com
<http://af.reuters.com/news/country?type=angolaNews>
<http://www.newstin.com/us/luanda>
<http://www.npr.org>
<http://www.macauhub.com.mo/en/countries.php?ID=222>
<http://www.skyscrapercity.com>
<http://www.portalangop.co.ao>
<http://www.angolafieldgroup.com>
<http://archive.wn.com/2008/11/25/1400/angolaenergy/>
<http://www.noruega.ao>
http://article.wn.com/view/2008/11/19/World_Bank_to_loan_Angola_1b/
<http://actsa.msg2u.net/cgi-bin/v.pl?p=2%2E35%2E15%2E19%2E12%2E2008%40a%3A219%2Ec%3A2%2Ee%3A59%2Er%3A4029%2E1%3A0%2Eac%3AVI%2Es%3A168>
<http://www.ipsnews.net>
<https://www.osac.gov/Regions/country.cfm?country=145>
<http://www.panoramio.com/>
http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/africa/country_profiles/1063073.stm
http://www.afrora.com/site/news/index.php?loc=en_US&ctr=ao
http://www.cfr.org/about/newsletters/editorial_detail.html?id=1271
<http://www.jornaldeangola.com/>

Angola-related blogs:

<http://blogsquefalamdeangola.blogspot.com/>

Governance:

Historically, directors, and particularly non-executive directors, had little formal liability when it came to the decisions they made at their companies. Now, however, there is a much more serious fiduciary burden on directors, and they face possible fines or jail time if they fail in their duties... The negligent and / or fraudulent carrying on of business by directors and / or the company officers (including deployed country managers) thereby causing liability to the company may result in the directors and / or the company officers being personally liable at least in terms of delict in common law – in a weak governance environment the risk of negligence escalates considerably – mitigate this cross-border risk using software and gap coaching – contact ABEN

South Africa – Angola Chamber of Commerce – nearly seven years of members doing better business and mitigating their compliance risk by applying this code of conduct in trade with, and investment in, Angola.

Article 1: Extortion and coercion

No one may, directly or indirectly, demand or accept a bribe.

Article 2: Bribery and "Kickbacks"

a.) No Member may, directly or indirectly, offer or give a bribe and any demands for such a bribe must be rejected.

b.) Members should not (i) kick back any portion of a contract payment to employees of the other contracting party, or (ii) utilize other techniques, such as subcontracts, purchase orders or consulting agreements, to channel payments to government officials, to employees of the other contracting party, their relatives or business associates.

Article 3: Agents

Members should take measures reasonably within their power to ensure:

a) that any payment made to any agent represents no more than an appropriate remuneration for legitimate services rendered by such agent;

b) that no part of any such payment is passed on by the agent as a bribe or otherwise in contravention of these Rules of Conduct; and

c) that they maintain a record of the names and terms of employment of all agents who are retained by them in connection with transactions with public bodies or State enterprises. This record should be available for inspection by auditors and, upon specific request, by appropriate, duly authorized governmental authorities under conditions of confidentiality.

Article 4: Financial Recording and Auditing

- a) All financial transactions must be properly and fairly recorded in appropriate books of account available for inspection by boards of directors, if applicable, or a corresponding body, as well as auditors.
- b) There must be no "off the books" or secret accounts, nor may any documents be issued which do not properly and fairly record the transactions to which they relate.
- c) Members should take all necessary measures to establish independent systems of auditing in order to bring to light any transactions which contravene the present Rules of Conduct. Appropriate corrective action must then be taken.

Article 5: Responsibilities of Members

The board of directors or other body with ultimate responsibility for the member should:

- a) take reasonable steps, including the establishment and maintenance of proper systems of control aimed at preventing any payments being made by or on behalf of the member which contravene these Rules of Conduct;
- b) periodically review compliance with these Rules of Conduct and establish procedures for obtaining appropriate reports for the purposes of such review; and
- c) take appropriate action against any director or employee contravening these Rules of Conduct.

Article 6: Political Contributions

Contributions to political parties or committees or to individual politicians may only be made in accordance with the applicable law, and all requirements for public disclosure of such contributions shall be fully complied with. All such contributions must be reported to senior corporate management.

Article 7: Company Codes

These Rules of Conduct being of a general nature, members should, where appropriate, draw up their own codes consistent with the ICC Rules and apply them to the particular circumstances in which their business is carried out. Such codes may usefully include examples and should enjoin employees or agents who find themselves subjected to any form of extortion or bribery immediately to report the same to senior corporate management. Members should develop clear policies, guidelines, and training programmes for implementing and enforcing the provisions of their codes.

With acknowledgement to the ICC <http://www.iccwbo.org/>