

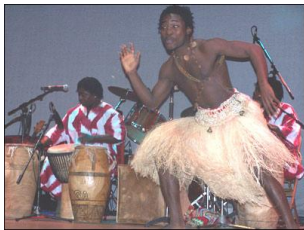


Weekly China Briefing

24th October 2008

The Weekly China Briefing is compiled by the Centre for Chinese Studies at Stellenbosch University, South Africa. It tracks China business news with a special focus on China and Africa.

China-Africa forum emphasises revival of Chinese projects in Africa The China-Africa Cooperation Forum has stressed the importance of reviving the Chinese projects in Africa in the field of agriculture, food security and infrastructure development. The two-day meeting of senior officials of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum was attended by representatives from China and 49 African countries. [Read More](#)



African cultural event kicks off in South China city

A major Chinese-African cultural exchange program -- *African Culture in Focus 2008* -- kicked

off in Shenzhen last week. The program brought together 147 artists, performers and cultural officials from 25 African countries for 11 days of dance performance, exhibitions and conferences on cultural exchanges in the southern Guangdong Province city that borders Hong Kong. [Read More](#)

China's Economy Expands by 9 % China's economy expanded by 9.9 percent in the first three quarters of this year, as reported by the National Bureau of Statistics, marking the first time in five years that China's quarterly GDP growth has fallen below 10 percent. The drop is attributed to decreasing exports, a slowing real estate market and restrictions implemented during the Olympics that forced many factories in Beijing to temporarily close. [Read More](#)

China-aided agricultural technology center in Togo starts construction

Construction began on a China-aided agricultural technology centre aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation in agricultural fields. Chinese Ambassador to Togo Yang Min and other officials of both countries



attended the ground breaking ceremony. Yang highlighted the boost in Sino-Togo cooperation since the Beijing summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation

in 2006. [Read More](#)

Copper the key in Chinese strategic moves on Zambian economy

Chinese companies have, for their part, promised to invest US\$ 900 million in manufacturing copper products in an economic zone built for them. Analysts report that China is making inroads into Zambia and other African countries because of its loans and grants which come without the stringent conditions attached to funds from the West. [Read More](#)

China ranked 167th for press freedom China was just ahead of Vietnam, Cuba, Burma, and Turkmenistan, but behind Iran, which was 166th on the World Press Freedom Index published annually by Reporters Sans Frontières. Rival emerging superpower India came in at 118th. Iceland, Luxembourg and Norway were joint top of the index, while China was seventh from the bottom of the list at 167th. [Read More](#)

ABOUT US

The Centre for Chinese Studies is devoted to the study of China-Africa relations. The CCS promotes the exchange of knowledge, ideas and experiences between China and Africa.

Based at Stellenbosch University, the Centre is active in research, corporate advisory, executive education, teaching, training, and culture.

The CCS is also home to the Confucius Institute that is active in promoting Chinese language and culture to the African continent.

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