



## Weekly China Briefing

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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 signs to lend Gabon US\$ 83 mln for hydro dam** Gabon will receive US\$ 83 million on concessionary terms to part-fund a hydroelectric dam scheme. The 'Grand Poubara' hydro scheme is linked to a US\$ 3 billion Chinese-led mining project at Belinga. The loan deal was signed by Gabonese Finance Minister Paul Toungui and China's ambassador to Gabon. [Read More](#)

**China now Zimbabwe's top investor** China has become the largest single investor in Zimbabwe with an investment portfolio of more than US\$ 600 million from more than 35 companies. "It is heartening to know that China is now the largest investor in Zimbabwe and her investment now stands at over US\$ 600 million", speaker of the House of Assembly Cde John Nkomo has said. [Read More](#)



**China formally opens embassy in new ally Malawi** A new Chinese embassy was opened in Malawi, after this Southern African nation switched diplomatic allegiance to Beijing late last year. "We have officially established diplomatic relations to serve the common aspirations of the people of the two countries," Zhai Ju, assistant foreign minister and special envoy to Chinese President Hu Jintao, said. [Read More](#)



**China donates US\$300,000 to Kenya** The Chinese government donated US\$ 300 000 of humanitarian aid to the Kenyan Red Cross Society. "During the current difficult time, the Chinese government and its people are highly concerned about the humanitarian situation in Kenya, and that's why we made donations one after another", said Chinese Ambassador to Kenya Zhang Ming. [Read More](#)

**China takes a stake in Rio Tinto** China's Aluminium Corp (Chinalco) formed a joint venture with US company Alcoa to buy a 12 % stake in Brazilian owned Rio Tinto. The two companies paid a total of US\$ 14.05bn for the holding with Alcoa contributing up to \$1.2bn. [Read More](#)



**China to receive copper, cobalt in Congo loan deal** In return for a multibillion dollar loan agreement signed between China and the Congo, Chinese companies will receive mining rights to copper and cobalt. The approximate US\$ 5 billion from China will be utilised for roads and railway construction. [Read More](#)

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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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