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STELLENBOSCH · SOUTH AFRICA

## The Weekly China Briefing

9 December 2016

### China to construct modern international road transport system along the Belt and Road



In 2013, China proposed the Belt and Road initiative as a trade network which will connect Asia with Europe and Africa along five designated routes. Recently, Chinese officials announced that the government plans to advance transport infrastructure along the Belt and Road by building a more modern and efficient road system by 2020, reports [All Africa](#) (South Africa). The infrastructure project is aimed at developing economic corridors for regions along the Belt and Road by strengthening connectivity and improving customs clearance efficiency and emergency rescue capabilities, according to [African Brains](#) (UK).

### China sends peacekeepers to South Sudan



China has sent the first 120 troops of a 700 member United Nations (UN) peacekeeping force to Juba, the capital of South Sudan. As the result of the 2013 civil war outbreak between government and rebel forces, South Sudan has experienced renewed violence this year. The peacekeeping forces will not engage in battle and are assigned to safeguarding local security, providing humanitarian relief and supporting post-war reconstruction, according to [Global Times](#) (China). Among the five permanent members of the UN Security Council, China is the biggest contributor of peacekeepers, with 2,639 currently deployed, reports [Sudan Tribune](#) (Sudan).

### Nigeria and China to boost agricultural production



During the “Zero Hunger by 2030” meeting, China announced its commitment to partner with Nigeria in order to improve food production. China's Development Bank will assist the African Development Bank (AFDB) in providing loans to finance small and medium farmers, reports [China Topix](#) (China). The five-year project will begin in 2017 and is expected to benefit four states in Nigeria: Benue, Ebonyi, Sokoto and Ogun and eventually all 36 states. According to [The Guardian](#) (Nigeria), Nigeria aims to assist these states in achieving self-sufficiency in food crops that are currently not meeting the country's demand.

### Chinese company establish railway training institution in Kenya



The Chinese infrastructure company, China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), has established and funded the CRBC Technology Transfer Competence Training Centre at the site of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) project. The institute is part the company's plan to hand over future operations to Kenya after five years, according to [China Daily](#) (China). Experts from China work along with Kenyan lecturers to focus on railway engineering and work on different posts along the Mombasa-Nairobi Railway. According to the Vice President of CRBC, Sun Ziyu, “integration and localisation have become very important” in serving the railway networks across Africa, reports [CCTV](#) (US).

### Michael Jordan wins trademark dispute in China's high court



Retired professional basketball player, Michael Jordan, has won a trademark dispute with Chinese sports-wear maker, Qiadon Sports Co, over the unauthorised use of his name and identity being promoted in Chinese characters on some of their products. Mr Jordan has won legal protection of his name in China, according to [Crienglish](#) (China). [Bloomberg](#) (US) reports, Mr Jordan's victory could set precedence for other international companies to gain the upper hand in seeking to protect their global brands from imitations in the Chinese market by taking legal action in protecting their intellectual property rights.

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#### About Us

The Centre for Chinese Studies (CCS) at Stellenbosch University is the leading African research institution for innovative and policy relevant analysis of the relations between China and Africa.