

STATE-OF-THE-ART NEW OWENDO INTERNATIONAL PORT INAUGURATED giving SIGNIFICANT BOOST TO REGION'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECONOMY

Libreville, Gabon - 14 October 2017 - The Gabon Special Economic Zone (GSEZ) officially inaugurated today Central Africa's first state-of-the-art port facility, the New Owendo International Port (NOIP). Already on its way to becoming the region's leading export-import thoroughfare, the NOIP inauguration was attended by distinguished guests representing many of the region's major economic players.

This multipurpose port has been operational since June 2017 and is among the most efficient ports in Africa. Built in a record time of 18 months, the port has 2 berths (420m long, 13m deep) and extends over an area of 14 hectares. It can accommodate Panamax vessels carrying up to 3'500 TEU or 50'000 MT DWT bulk cargo and handle the loading and unloading of several ships simultaneously. In total, the NOIP has the capacity to handle 4m MT general cargo and 310'000 TEUs.

NOIP was developed by GSEZ, a Public Private Partnership between leading agri commodities firm Olam International Ltd, the Republic of Gabon and multilateral financial institution Africa Finance Corporation (AFC).

NOIP provides four main services:

- Containers handling
- Bulk handling: dry and liquid bulk, palm oil tanks, fuel storage and grain silos
- General cargo handling
- Logistics including trucking Container-Freight-Station, clearing and freight-forwarding

To optimise the development and operation of this multipurpose port, GSEZ Ports, a subsidiary of GSEZ, and STCG, a subsidiary of global logistics player Bolloré Group, have entered into a strategic partnership. Under the partnership, STCG, which already holds the concession for the existing container terminal, operates container activities at the new port, while GSEZ Ports handles general cargo, solid and liquid bulk and provides efficient logistics services.

In just a few months of operation, the port has already helped to reduce the handling tariffs usually levied in Gabon, increase port capacity, speed up traffic and improve Gabon's competitiveness for import and export activities overall.

ABOUT GSEZ

Gabon Special Economic Zone (GSEZ) is a joint-venture incorporated in Gabon in 2010 with three strong shareholders: The Gabonese Republic (38.5%), Olam International (40.5%) and Africa Finance Corporation (21%).

Initially created to develop Nkok Special Economic Zone, GSEZ has consistently developed world-class infrastructure projects in record time. Nkok is now a vibrant industrial zone with 75 industries having booked plots, of which 44 have started operations and 21 currently setting up their operations. In total, industries have committed to invest up to US\$1.7b in Gabon.

Capitalising on this success, GSEZ was entrusted with the development of additional critical infrastructure for the country. GSEZ hence developed the new Mineral and Specialised Bulk terminal in Owendo, to support the development of the mining industry. This terminal (up to 5m MT capacity) was developed in less than 2 years and was inaugurated in 2016. It has successfully handled more than 1m MT since the beginning of the year.

GSEZ is also currently building electrical lines across Gabon to develop a comprehensive electricity network for the country. This involves the construction of 490 km HV lines and 170 km LV lines and will eventually electrify 121 villages. With a fully mobilised team on the ground, construction is due for completion by end 2018.

www.gsez.com

CHIFFRES CLES ET EQUIPEMENTS /KEY FIGURES AND EQUIPMENT



330
millions de dollars
investis

330
million US dollars
invested



Capacité de
3 000 000
tonnes par an

Capacity of
3 000 000
tons per year



Quai de 690 m
avec deux positions
d'amarrage pour
porte-conteneurs
de type Panamax.
690 meters quay
with two berths
for Panamax type
vessels.



4 grues
pour
le chargement et
le déchargement
des navires.
**2 mobile harbor
cranes**
for loading
and unloading
containers.



Deux silos à grain
d'une capacité
de 10 000 tonnes
et deux autres silos
de 5000 tonnes
chacun en projet.
2 grain silos
[wheat, malt]
with a capacity
of 10 000 tons each.
(2 extra 5000 tons
silos will be added
soon)



Sept citernes
d'une capacité
totale de 10 500
tonnes pour le
stockage de l'huile
de palme brute
(CPO).
7 storage tanks
for CPO
(Crude Palm Oil)
with an overall
capacity of
10 500 tons



4 grues-portiques
sur pneus de type
RTG
4 RTG
(Rubber Tired
Gantry) cranes

Gagan Gupta, CEO of Gabon Special Economic Zone

“We are excited that the opening of the New Owendo International Port will positively impact Gabon and Central Africa at large. Ultimately, by increasing Gabon’s handling capacity by 310’000 TEUs, it will bring significant benefits for the entire economy and create 1 500 direct and indirect jobs by 2020. The success of this project is the result of the outstanding work of hundreds of colleagues who ensured construction was completed in industry record time. I am particularly proud that the entire project has been developed with due care for communities and the environment. We look forward to kicking this up a notch and delivering on the potential the port represents for the country.”

Emmanuel Issoze Ngondet, Prime Minister of the Gabonese Republic

“The New Owendo International Port is a milestone in the implementation of Gabon Emergent strategy. This new port will radically improve Gabon’s infrastructure and logistical capabilities, thereby supporting our national agenda to improve the lives of our citizens by drastically decreasing the cost of imported goods and increasing the competitiveness of our industries. The rapid execution of this project, as well as others we have in the pipeline, will help us deliver on our promise and goal to transform Gabon [into a high-income nation/ to diversify away from our reliance on oil exports] quickly and effectively.”