



MAIN STORIES

World Bank's Views

Assessment of Economic Policies

President Sacks Security Minister; Senior Officials

Opposition Politics

HIGHLIGHTS

- According to the World Bank, a partial recovery is expected in 2021, with GDP projected to grow by 0.9 percent and accelerating to 3.5 percent in 2022, still slower than population growth. The recovery is conditional on a stronger oil sector, loosening of OPEC+ production quotas and resumption of investments to halt the structural decline in production.
- President João Lourenço's domestic critics point to the government's inability to curb unemployment (which impacts more than 30% of the labour force, according to government data) and poverty. In other words, macroeconomic progress has not translated into improved living conditions and the population's growing discontent has, in turn, fuelled a spike in strikes and demonstrations. The private sector is also sceptical, complaining that many barriers to credit and bureaucratic red tape still remain.
- General Pedro Sebastião was sacked from the position of Minister of State and Head of the Security House of the President of the Republic of Angola. General Francisco Pereira Furtado is his replacement. General João Pereira Massano is the new Head of the Intelligence and Security Service. A number of other senior security personnel were also dismissed, reportedly because of corruption.
- Related to the above, the National Bank of Angola (BNA) has launched an investigation into the amounts seized during operation "Caranguejo", in Angolan currency, to find out under what circumstances the money was made available to third parties.
- In the lead-up to next year's election, the opposition is determined to bring about change and has started to forge an alliance, even seeking support in Germany.
- BP and Eni announced that they had entered into talks to merge their oil and gas operations in Angola to form one of Africa's largest energy companies.
- By 4 June 2021, Angola had registered 35 140 Covid-19 cases, 784 deaths and 28 646 recoveries. More than 581 000 tests had been done.