AFRICAN ENERGY CHAMBER · REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO · LNG

AEC Targets Congo Upstream Talks, LNG Expansion

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African Energy Chamber (AEC) Executive Chairman NJ Ayuk is set to meet with the Republic of the Congo's Ministry of Hydrocarbons in Brazzaville, with discussions centred on upstream investment opportunities, oil production growth, and the country's LNG expansion ambitions. The engagement also encompasses the strategic development of state oil company SNPC (Société Nationale des Pétroles du Congo).

The Republic of the Congo has been actively seeking to attract fresh capital into its hydrocarbons sector as it works to sustain and grow crude oil output while simultaneously advancing LNG as a revenue-diversifying stream. SNPC, as the national operator and partner of record on most upstream licenses in the country, sits at the centre of these ambitions, and its institutional development is understood to be a key agenda item in the Brazzaville engagement.

LNG has emerged as a priority vector for Brazzaville, reflecting both the country's gas resource base and broader continental momentum toward monetising gas reserves that have historically been flared or left undeveloped. The Ministry of Hydrocarbons has signalled intent to position Congo as a credible LNG exporter, and AEC's advocacy role in connecting African governments with international investors and service providers makes the Ayuk visit strategically significant for the sector.

The meeting reflects a wider pattern of AEC-facilitated dialogue between African energy ministries and the international investment community. For Congo, which relies heavily on oil revenues to fund public expenditure, maintaining upstream activity levels and unlocking new project cycles is an economic imperative. Any

acceleration in licensing, SNPC partnership structures, or LNG project development frameworks that emerges from these talks could shape procurement and contracting timelines in the medium term.

No specific agreements, contract awards, or licensing decisions have been announced in connection with this engagement. The visit at this stage represents a ministerial-level policy dialogue, with commercial outcomes, if any, to follow through subsequent project development and tendering processes.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

This engagement is at the ministerial dialogue stage — no contracts, tenders, or FIDs have been announced. Norwegian service companies with LNG, upstream, or FPSO capabilities should monitor developments in Congo's licensing and SNPC partnership frameworks and consider early relationship-building with SNPC and relevant EPCs active in-country. Outreach to procurement is premature until concrete project mandates or tenders emerge.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **LNG:** Track Congo's LNG project development framework closely; early positioning with SNPC and potential LNG developers could be advantageous once project structures are formalised.
- **Subsea/FPSO:** Monitor any upstream licensing activity or SNPC partnership announcements that may follow the Brazzaville talks, as new field development cycles would require subsea and floating production assets.
- **Drilling:** Congo's stated goal of growing oil production implies a need for sustained drilling programmes; watch for rig tender activity linked to SNPC-operated or partnered blocks.
- **Service:** Well services and production-enhancement providers should map existing SNPC and IOC operations in Congo to identify incumbent relationships and future contract opportunities as activity potentially scales up.

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