ECOFIN AGENCY · ANGOLA · OFFSHORE

Sonangol confirms oil in presalt reservoirs at Burututu-1, Block 5/06 Angola

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Sonangol E&P has confirmed an oil discovery at the Burututu-1 exploration well in offshore Block 5/06 in Angola's Kwanza Basin, with the well encountering a 25-metre hydrocarbon-bearing interval in presalt reservoirs. The result marks the first identification of hydrocarbons in presalt formations within Block 5/06, adding a technically significant dimension to what was initially reported only as a hydrocarbon find without specification of fluid type or reservoir target. Sonangol operates the block with a 100% participating interest, meaning the company bears full exposure to both the upside and the cost of any appraisal programme.

The Burututu-1 well was drilled in 259 metres of water to a total depth of 3,882 metres. The presalt designation is noteworthy: presalt plays have driven transformative discoveries elsewhere in the South Atlantic, most prominently offshore Brazil, and their confirmation in Angolan Kwanza Basin acreage signals that Block 5/06 may hold reservoir potential analogous to plays being pursued in neighbouring basins. That said, Sonangol has not disclosed flow rates, pressure data, or fluid properties beyond the oil confirmation, and additional technical studies remain necessary before any commercial assessment can be made.

The Kwanza Basin has historically been considered underexplored relative to Angola's prolific deepwater acreage in the Lower Congo Basin to the north. A presalt oil result in Block 5/06, even at this early stage, strengthens the geological case for further exploration in the basin and may attract interest from international oil

companies ahead of any future licensing rounds. Angola has been working to sustain and grow upstream output, which has declined from peak production levels over the past decade, and frontier basin results such as this are consistent with the country's strategy to broaden its exploration footprint beyond mature producing areas.

No contract awards, tenders, or development commitments have been announced in connection with the Burututu-1 discovery. Progression toward appraisal drilling, subsea infrastructure, or production facilities depends entirely on the outcome of ongoing technical evaluation. Commercial viability in an offshore Angolan context typically requires substantial volume confirmation well beyond what a single 25-metre interval can demonstrate. The presalt context, however, raises the geological stakes and makes any forthcoming appraisal well announcement a more consequential signal for the basin's longer-term development outlook. Industry observers will watch closely for Sonangol's next move on the block.

Why this matters to partners and clients of Saga

The presalt confirmation raises the geological profile of Block 5/06 beyond a routine shallow find, making early monitoring of appraisal well plans more commercially important for Norwegian service companies. Firms with presalt drilling, well evaluation, and subsea competencies — built in Brazil or deepwater West Africa — are well positioned to engage Sonangol's exploration team in Luanda as studies progress. No procurement activity is expected until an appraisal programme is sanctioned, but the 100% Sonangol operatorship means all future contracting decisions run through a single counterpart.

PARTNER ANGLES

- **Drilling contractors and well services:** Presalt well to 3,882 m TD in 259 m water depth points to requirements for high-specification jack-up or semi-submersible rigs and presalt-capable drilling fluids and cementing services if an appraisal well is sanctioned.
- **Subsea and reservoir evaluation specialists:** Presalt reservoir characterisation will require advanced wireline logging, core analysis, and potentially DST services; early

engagement with Sonangol's E&P technical teams positions suppliers ahead of any appraisal tender.

- **Seismic and geoscience service providers:** A presalt play confirmation typically triggers demand for pre-stack depth migration reprocessing and potentially new 3D acquisition over the block; Sonangol's 100% interest means the geoscience spend is undiluted by partner cost-sharing.

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