



## PRESS RELEASE

### New analyses & data open up further perspectives on Swiss-African Business Relations / Status Quo 2021

*Bern, 21 June 2021* – The Swiss-African Business Circle has just published the third edition of its *Swiss-African Business Relations Status Quo* which prioritizes Swiss-African trade and investment data from 2020 over figures which are only captured up to 2019 due to the enormous impact of the global COVID-19 pandemic during that year.

*“Launching a third edition of the Swiss-African Business Relations Status Quo 2021 with additional angles for analysis means that we can start to track trends and keep building a solid Swiss-African trade and investment relations knowledge base,”* highlights Verena Utzinger, President, Swiss-African Business Circle.

Some key findings in the 2021 report include:

- COVID-19 has had an impact across data sets (trade in goods, services & transit trade).
- The global COVID-19 pandemic saw a significant drop in value of Swiss-African M&A investment projects between 2019 and 2020.
- Medicaments (medical/pharmaceutical products) dominate Swiss exports to African markets at 48%.
- Crude oil makes up 34% of all imports from African countries into Switzerland.
- The top 6 trading partners on the African continent including Egypt, South Africa, Morocco, Nigeria, Tunisia and Algeria were responsible for 73% of all Swiss-African trade in goods in 2020.
- Switzerland maintains its ranking within the group of top 15 investors in Africa.

What’s new in the 2021 report:

- The Swiss National Bank now has a standard report on investment incomes from Swiss Foreign Direct Investments abroad, including more operational data about subsidiaries based in Africa.
- This year’s annual publication provides a comparative analysis of the top 15 investors on the African continent over the last 10 years.
- The Swiss-African Business Relations Status Quo 2021 includes more detail on imports/exports on a product group basis.
- A joint analysis was conducted together with KPMG Switzerland, analyzing some 31 cross-border M&A transactions.

*“While the 2020, released in April 2020, touched on the potential consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic, this year’s report gives a much better understanding of what has changed in terms of Swiss-African trade during 2020 compared with previous years. As we continue to track Swiss-African trade trends, we will also start to understand more about the impact of African regional integration on Swiss-African trade relations as the African Continental Free Trade Area AfCFTA takes shape,”* says Michael Rheinegger, Managing Director, Swiss-African Business Circle.

### About SABC

The Swiss-African Business Circle (SABC) is the leading independent association promoting business contacts and links between Switzerland and Africa. It provides its members with an influential network and a unique platform dedicated to the exchange of expertise, experience, projects and ideas, thereby fostering partnerships and opening new business perspectives. In doing so, the association advocates for Africa as an important business destination amongst the Swiss business community.

More information is available at: [www.sabc.ch](http://www.sabc.ch). For any further enquiries please contact:

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