

HEADLINE – PARACETAMOL, A DANGEROUS PRODUCT

Naomie MUSENGA's sad death, the young woman mocked by Starsbourg's EMS, could be due to paracetamol. Indeed, the Prosecutor of the Republic specified that "the young woman's death was due to the consequence of absorbed paracetamol intoxication by self-medication for several days. He adds that "the evolutionary destruction of her liver caused a failure of the entire organs ". Moreover, regular intake of paracetamol carries a risk for the liver, kidneys, and heart. Professor Michel REYNAUD, President of "Fonds Action Addiction" explains that "paracetamol is a very dangerous medicine because its lethal dose is very close to the therapeutic dose." However, paracetamol is the most popular medicine. It's sold without a prescription and is subject to self-medication. It has a false image of a safe remedy.

AGRICULTURE – A RESPONSIBLE APPROACH FOR THE OIL INDUSTRY PLAME IN AFRICA?

Public and private actors of the palm oil sector focused on its sustainability in Africa at a summit last April. If African production today represents only 5% of the world share, the continent could see its exports increase subject to setting up a demanding supply chain, taking advantage of the scandals that stain regularly Indonesia and Malaysia, the two global giants. In January 2018, the Indonesian Government's project to revise Indonesia's Sustainable Palm Oil (ISPO) standards was expected to significantly lower the level of requirements for certain criteria, including conducting independent audits, sparking many criticisms. To this end, it turns out that some companies are also singled out for their lack of transparency on their palm oil supply chain in the various reports. Facing this reversal from Indonesia, if African countries do not look at a responsible approach to production, African forests could be impacted.

POLLUTION – CONSEQUENCES OF THE TOURISM ON THE ENVIRONNEMENT



The summer holidays have started and French's favored destination in this period is the coastline. It offers a multitude of activities for holiday-makers, fishing, sport, hiking or rest. Victim of its success, the French coastline (same thing goes for other countries) known transformations and facilities to accommodate the flows of tourists. The coastline's urbanization through the artificialisation of soils, concreting of the coasts as well as the construction of dikes come to disrupt the natural formation cycle of the coasts and are responsible for the degradation of the coastline. In addition, tourists impact the climate through their behaviour, particularly in terms of transport, housing, activities but also waste generated on the beaches. It is important to understand that when waste is left on the beaches, it will either carried away by the wind and currents in the ocean. The Ellen McArthur Foundation believes that in 2050, there will be more plastic than fish in the oceans. That is, the waste (the bigger) will be picked up by gear that takes with them natural ecosystems (sand, wood, seaweed, crustaceans) serving as natural protection for the beaches against waves, rising waters and erosion.

ENERGY – AIR CONDITIONING AND ELECTRIC OVERCOVER

Air conditioning is becoming more and more common in our buildings. But the phenomenon is much wider if air conditioning is included in the transport sector. In fact, we are talking about a growth phenomenon of only 8% in 2017, about a half million devices installed. This is a significant increase that also leads to an important question: energy consumption.

The problem is about the mode of supply of the air conditioning systems. Indeed, the peaks are so high that it is necessary to resort to other sources energy to produce enough electricity.

At this time, this surplus demand is still coming from fossil sources which leads us to ask ourselves the following question: has the consumption of the future been correctly calculated in the study of the energy transition?

OBLIGATION DE REMISE EN ETAT

CE June, 29 2018, 6ème et 5ème chamber, n°400677

In this case, the company owning the plots which have been exploited to welcome a manufacturing plant synthetic and artificial fibers and a landfill intended to house its waste is formal notice to rehabilitate the plots. This order is finally annulled by the judges who consider that the owner company was not the last operator of the parcels. The Minister for the environment then provides in cassation.

The State Council considers that the obligation of restoration weighs first on the last operator or his right. The owner becomes debtor from that obligation where *"The act by which the owner has acquired the ground of the plate had the effect, had regard to its object and scope, in it transferring all the goods and rights relating to the holding concerned, to substitute it, even without authorization from the Prefectural Office"*.

However, the State Council considers that in this case, the company did not pay the obligation to restore the site as soon as when it was only the owner of parcels in question, no authorization prefectural change of operation of the site did not intervene. In addition, a mail regarding the acquisition of old plots exploited could only be regarded as an act by which the society would have replaced the old operator, and finally the administration does could not avail himself of a contract of private law sale.



Inspection for the Human Environment and the Transport of the Netherlands noted in an official report made public on Monday, July 9, 2018 that "fuels destined for West Africa are mixed as much as possible ". This report of Netherlands's Government concerns the toxicity of fuels exported in Africa. The Dutch environmental police following an investigation concerning the cargo bound for West Africa, highly carcinogenic substances and products petrochemicals banned in most of the world.

This investigation follows the report "Dirty Fuel "published in 2016 by the Swiss NGO Public Eye. This report revealed the high prevalence of sulfur in diesel exported to 8 African countries and pointed to the Netherlands and Belgium as the main exporters. Dutch government investigation highlights removal of toxic substances in fuel are relatively expensive but this is considered crucial in Europe for the health of consumers. Perhaps these West African countries should be brought to reinforce their standards or even better to reinforce global standards for curb this trade.

 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT – BANGLADESH AGREEMENT

5 years ago, on April 24, 2013, Rana Plaza building's fall in Bangladesh led to the signing of a legally binding agreement, the " Bangladesh Agreement on Fire Building Safety ", for a period of five years. This new multi-stakeholder agreement, signed by 222 brands which made significant improvements in buildings in more than 1,600 factories, has come to an end. Since May 2018, a new agreement has took effect to ensure a transition period of 3 additional years. For the union federations and signatory NGOs, this means the continuation of inspections and to the standards of hundreds of workshops. They exhort the companies sourcing from Bangladesh to sign the new agreement. Bangladesh post Twitter Agreement of 19 April 2018 145 companies signatory to the transition of the agreement, covering 1345 textiles factories and around 2 million workers. The question of the post-2021, however, begins to come up. Indeed, at the end of this period of 3 years it is expected that the Bangladeshi government take the relay alone. This raises concerns.

 AGRICULTURE – AGRICULTURAL EXPANSION AS A CAUSE OF DESERTIFICATION

The critical state of the soil, generated by human activities, is the consequence of the growth demographics and the evolution of our consumption patterns. Each year, an area equal to half the area of the European Union is degrading. The economic costs are estimated in billions per year and the most affected areas are Asia and Africa. It is this phenomenon of desertification that will make it more difficult to reduce the effects of climate change. But if land degradation is a global problem, it takes place locally and requires local solutions. It is a fact that the first responsible for this phenomenon is the expansion and especially the growing consumption of meat. The solution may be in stopping the expansion of agricultural land and this would be possible only through a change in our diets and through a struggle food wastage.