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**L'Afrique et les défis du XXIème siècle**  
**Africa and the Challenges of the Twenty First Century**  
**A África e os desafios do Século XXI**

إفريقيا وتحديات القرن الواحد والعشرين

**The New Scramble for Africa: Re-enactment of History  
and Africa's Response in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**

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The world today is characterized by increasing economic and political globalization. It is an age that does not respect artificial barriers, and functions to provide access to factors of production wherever they can be found and profitably exploited. It is therefore not surprising that Africa, the last frontier of natural resource endowments in the globe, is now the battleground of foreign capital and of major/emerging economies seeking access to natural resources. Against the backdrop of the historical experiences of slavery, colonialism and imperialism, the paper examines the New Scramble for Africa's natural resources and suggests ways through which the continent could respond to the present assault. It offers a theoretical explanation of the new scramble and presents the characteristics of this scramble as different from the old. It concludes by suggesting how Africa could effectively engage with this development in a beneficial manner, even as capital manifests in both divisive and collective ways in the continent. The paper opines that if Africa could collectively fashion a sustainable strategy/strategies for engaging with the new scramble, it will avoid becoming a victim to global designs inimical to the welfare of its peoples and the survival of the continent in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.