Guinea’s government has retained the services of Sheila Khama, who heads the extractive resources department of the Accra-based African Center for Economic Transformation (ACET) to represent it in its negotiations with Rio Tinto. The talks are expected to result in an agreement on Guinea’s sale of its 51% stake in the company that builds infrastructure to ship out iron ore from the Simandou mine to Rio Tinto. But Khama will also handle the process to amend an out-of-court settlement between the government and Rio in April, 2011, and which concerns the date production is to begin. The start-up was initially to take place in June, 2015. However, Rio Tinto, whose partners on the Simandou project are Chinalco and IFC, is demanding first of all that Guinea explain how it spent the $700 million it paid in the settlement in 2011. Two working sessions have already taken place in Paris, the first between May 20-22 and the second between June 19-22. Khama previously worked for Anglo American Corporation. She was chief executive of De Beers Botswana from July, 2005 to March, 2010 and acted as a non-executive director of Debswana Diamond Co. She holds an MBA from Edinburgh University Business School and a BA from the University of Botswana. Altogether Khama has 13 years of experience in the mining sector and her vocation now is to give strategic advice to sub-Saharan governments concerning the regulation and management of mineral, oil and gas resources.