

Number 2

Africa-Europe: 80 countries, two continents in partnership for a better future

This week the European Commission presented its proposals for a consolidation of the Africa-EU relations (English / français).



High Representative and Vice President of the European Commission, **Catherine Ashton** said: "Africa is not just a beneficiary of the EU, but it is an important partner on a number of major regional and international issues of common interest such as regional security - where we work together in the fight against piracy and cooperate in bringing peace and stability to the region and global governance such as climate change."

"Three years after the launch of a unique Partnership, it is time to consolidate EU-Africa relations, offering the prospect of a better more prosperous future for 1.5 billion people in 80 countries" said **Andris Piebalgs**, EU Commissioner for Development.



H.E. Dr. Jean PING, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, stated:



"Africa and Europe are bound together by history. This relationship was cemented by the historic Lisbon Summit in 2007 where both parties agreed to strengthen their partnership by adopting a joint strategy and plan of action based on eight areas of cooperation. Some progress has been made in the implementation of this joint strategy. However, more still needs to be done, particularly with regard to the full engagement of our people to ensure ownership of the process that will not only improve their living conditions, but also enhance the socio-economic

development of the two continents. Both sides have developed political strategies and policy documents to guide cooperation. The African Union considers this partnership as an opportunity for Africa to further its integration agenda and address the many challenges of globalization. The African Union Commission is, therefore, more committed than ever, to work very closely with its European counterpart in order to ensure the successful implementation of the Joint Strategy and its Action Plan".



Interview with...



In the wake of the UN Summit on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), common African position on the MDGs' has been released. It indicates that Africa has made consistent progress and that African

countries have put in place 'bold and innovative policies'. Link! Newsletter team from EU delegation to Addis Ababa, has interviewed Dr. Bience Philomina GAWANAS, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs.

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Second Action Plan on table

The Second Action Plan (2011-2013), due to be adopted at the Summit, is designed to meet a series of new challenges and govern future cooperation. Director Klaus Rudischhauser, DG Development of



the European Commission shares his views about achievements so far. Video extract with expectations from African Union side by Ambassador John Kayode Shinkaiye, Chief of Staff in the Bureau of the AU Commission Chairperson.

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Safer food for better trade



As preparations get underway for the high level conference on the Better Training for Safer Food (BTSF) programme on 18-19

Putting people first – empowering civil society

To give all sectors of society a chance to have their say on how policies affect them, the partners

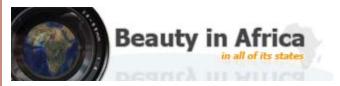


November in Brussels, we speak to two key contributors on what this programme means for Africa. Sharing with us their views and hopes for the future are Mr Moustapha Magumu from the EU delegation to the AU and Dr Sarah Olembo from the Department of Rural Economy and Agriculture of the African Union.

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are seeking ways to help them make their voice heard. Involving civil society at all levels of the partnership between Africa and the EU is crucial to ensure that all interests are taken into account.

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Launch of a photo competition for professional photographers residing in Africa, which is not limited to what is commonly beautiful (nature, people), but as far as possible to provide an original angle and illustrate a modern Africa.

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Debate to change gears

The European Commission launched a public consultation on the future of EU Development policy. The EU is accounting of more than 50% of global aid and with this consultation seeks to launch a debate on how



best to adapt EU development policy to the needs of developing countries and to the added value of EU action

Take part in the consultation... / Participez a la consultation...

Success story: Boosting agriculture, eliminating hunger



Agricultural development in Africa is key to relieving poverty and ending hunger: agriculture is still the main economic base for the continent's poor and accounts for around a third of GDP. The

Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was put in place to achieve agriculture-led development on the African continent, with an aim to achieve an average annual growth rate of 6 % in agriculture in order to reduce rural poverty.

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Success story: A boost for African university students – the Nyerere programme

A third phase of the scheme to help African graduates, post graduates and teaching staff move freely between universities on the continent is receiving EU backing of €45 million, under the tenth European Development Fund.



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More information about the Joint Africa - EU partnership: http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/ More information about African Union: http://www.africa-union.org/ More information about EU Development policy: http://ec.europa.eu/development/

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