



Présentation du nouveau drapeau de l'UNION AFRICAINE -14^{ème} sommet de l'Union Africaine - Addis Abeba, 31 janvier 2010



INSIDE THE AFRICA - EUROPEAN UNION PARTNERSHIP



Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union to the African Union

Newsletter Designed by Cactus Communication

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DEAR READER, CHER LECTEUR,

Après un mois de janvier particulièrement chargé, nous prenons dans ce LINK! un peu de recul avec deux contributions majeures. Le Vice-président de la Commission de l'Union Africaine, Erastus Mwencha, présente les réformes en cours dans l'institution. L'objectif étant que l'Afrique puisse jouer pleinement son rôle comme acteur global pour défendre les intérêts du continent et de ses habitants.

He points rightly to the fact that Africa is going through integration experiences and challenges similar to what the EU went through. Hence there are several common lessons to be taken away. We, at the EU Delegation to the AU, see the sharing of this expertise as one of our most important tasks. Therefore, together with colleagues from the AU we envisage organising a seminar in May in Addis, bringing around the table experts in integration from both sides. More news in our next LINK!.

En vue de sa première visite à l'Union Africaine à Addis, nous reprenons ici le discours qu'Andris Piebalgs, le nouveau Commissaire européen chargé du développement, a prononcé devant le Parlement

européen. Il n'est pas étonnant de constater que le point de départ, l'interdépendance dans un monde globalisé, est très proche de la vision du Vice-président Mwencha.

Among Piebalgs' priorities figure first the success of the Millennium Development Goals, of particular relevance for Africa. In spite of a difficult financial environment, the EU will deliver what it has promised and the new Commissioner intends to continue working to increase our aid effectiveness. This is also a matter for partners: aid should be used in a manner that will provide long term economic development. In line with the new partnership between Africa and the EU, Andris Piebalgs stresses the need for policy coherence; ensuring that all EU policies - trade, agriculture, fisheries, etc – have a real development component. His experience as European commissioner for energy under the previous Commission and the partnership build with AU Commissioner Ibrahim at that time shows the way how to achieve this goal.

Enfin, nous présentons quelques informations dans différents domaines de notre partenariat. Notre collègue James Kalilangwe, ambassadeur du Malawi, souligne le besoin pour l'UA d'assurer que les décisions prises soient effectivement suivies d'effet. Ainsi, les priorités fixées par la nouvelle présidence de l'Union Africaine ont déjà trouvé écho lors d'un séminaire informel de réflexion sur le partenariat Afrique-UE qui s'est tenu à Las Palmas, dans le splendide Casa Africa, l'instrument de diplomatie publique au service de l'action extérieure de l'Etat espagnol. D'autres nouvelles abordent notre coopération dans les secteurs paix/sécurité, du changement climatique et de l'énergie.

Let's give the final word again to Commissioner Piebalgs: *I'm determined to make EU citizens proud of what we do in development aid. We provide about 60% of global ODA yet only produce around 22% of the world's GDP. But we should also be proud for the manner in which this is provided. We provide development aid in order to reduce poverty, to help the world's poorest. This is our unique strength.*

Koen Vervaeke

Chef de la Délégation de l'Union Européenne auprès de l'Union Africaine

INTERVIEW of the month

“Under the reforms, Africa through the AU is increasingly beginning to emphasize the common bonds and shared values that bind us together”

Interview with Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E Erastus MWENCHA.

Would you please update us on the reform of the African Union? What are the main achievements? What are the most important remaining challenges?

The AU reforms seek to redefine the emerging role of Africa in the changing political, economic, environmental and security architecture of the world, and to identify ways in which Africa can play a more effective meaningful role as a global partner while protecting the interest of Africa and Africans both at home and in the Diaspora. The main achievements so far have been the evolution of common framework for action in the areas of peace and security, development and infrastructure.

In the area of peace and security, the African Union through its common action platforms and with significant support from the international communities has played and continues to play a very meaningful and productive role in the resolution of the conflicts in Darfur, Somalia and the DRC. The African union working closely with



H.E. Deputy Chairperson H.E Erastus MWENCHA
Photo: African Union

the RECs and the international community has also been very instrumental in resolving conflicts in Liberia, Sierra Leone and Kenya. It is actively also involved in Madagascar, and Niger. For the first time the African architecture for peace and security has been developed to provide the institutional framework for common action in the area of peace and security. Closely linked to the issues of peace and security are the issues of democracy and governance. In this area, the AU has developed the Governance Architecture and is working with individual member states to ensure the upholding of democratic principles and constitutional rule in Africa.

The Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa is a single comprehensive continental infrastructure programme, which will constitute the overall policy and strategic framework, as well as a prioritized and phased infrastructure programme up to 2030 for the development of Transport, Energy, Telecommunications/ICT and Trans-boundary Water sectors. This year, regional and continental Policy and Programme Proposals will be completed. The ultimate purpose is to create the enabling environment for economic growth, equitable distribution of opportunities and wealth and poverty reduction.

The issue of climate change has now become one of, if not the most urgent challenge confronting the very future of our planet. In the ongoing

dialogue in this very critical area, the African Union seeks positively to influence global policy by setting common standards and levels of awareness with the Member States and RECs through common positions on fundamental issues of mitigation and adaptation. There are challenges going forward and Africa will need the continued support and partnership of the international community in more concrete terms than ever before. The African Union as the main interlocutor for Africa seeks therefore to re-evaluate options for developing more strategic and equitable partnerships that will be assessed based on the achievement of concrete results and outcomes in African and global affairs. Such a partnership should entail a shift in paradigm from the current donor-recipient relationship to a genuine partnership based on dialogue and a better appreciation of Africa's role in the emerging world order and achievement of common positions on continental and global issues.

Towards the future, the AUC / ECA see themselves as having clearly defined roles to support Africa's political and economic reorientation. In this regard, the AUC/ECA is seeking the collaboration of its partners to strengthen existing partnerships based on mutual respect and understanding for each other. In this new relationship, the AUC/ECA is looking for a partnership that will be measured more by the quality of its impact as opposed to the volume of financial and technical resources. The cooperation should also be geared towards promoting greater synergy and coherence on the activities of the two institutions working closely with the international community.

Under this process, a critical look into existing cooperation arrangements and partnerships will be undertaken within the framework of the African Union and the Economic Commission for Africa, with a view to determining what form they should take going forward, to achieve the desired results both at the continental levels and for the respective organizations.

So you see, under the reforms, Africa through the AU is increasingly beginning to emphasise the common bonds and shared values that bind us together. The awareness is increasing amongst Africans and people of African Heritage that our survival and indeed the survival of the world will increasingly be influenced by how Africans live and work together to overcome common challenges.

How does the African Union Commission organize its relations with partners and what are your main objectives?

The AUC identifies two main partnerships. Development partners and strategic partners. In recent times, we have initiated processes to transform these relationships in order to make them more meaningful to the emerging role of Africa in the changing political, economic, environmental and security architecture of the world. Our objective is to identify ways in which the AUC can work together with our partners to provide the support required to enable Africa to play a meaningful role as a global partner. In this, we are increasingly emphasizing the need for a paradigm shift in relations from the donor recipient axis to a strategic engagement of equal and mutually beneficial partners focused on recognition of the concrete role Africa can play in the global arena. I am happy to note that our partners like the EU have responded positively and last December a very successful partnership dialogue was held in Addis with very tangible outcomes. In the future, we intend to continue this process of transforming our relationships into mutually beneficial relations with the active support of the partners themselves.

What in your view, do you see as the main added value of the Africa-European Union partnership?

The EU is one of Africa's principal Partners. Africa values EU support as laid down in the EU Africa strategy. The EU is a major supporter to peace and security initiatives on the continent. In Somalia, Darfur and the Congo EU support to African Peace efforts has been critical to the ongoing efforts to resolve the conflicts. In the area of integration, the EU features very significantly in the development of regional infrastructure and is a key supporter of the regional economic communities. In the global dialogue on climate change, the AU and the EU share several common positions and are engaging with each other in areas where there are differences. This is constructive and is of great value to us. Finally, Africa in its integration effort is going through experiences and challenges similar to what the EU went through and there several common lessons that we take away from the EU experience. Taking all this together the relation between Africa and the EU is a very valuable and beneficiary relationship.

DISCOURS DE M. ANDRIS PIEBALGS, COMMISSAIRE EUROPÉEN CHARGÉ DU DÉVELOPPEMENT, PRONONCÉ DEVANT LE PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN LE 11 JANVIER 2010.

C'est un grand honneur pour moi d'être ici aujourd'hui afin de vous présenter mes objectifs et intentions en tant que Commissaire-désigné au Développement. Je suis fier, et enthousiaste, à l'idée de relever la tâche que le Président m'a confiée. Je réalise à quel point les défis auxquels nous sommes confrontés sont plus nombreux et plus importants que jamais.



Le Commissaire Piebalgs au Parlement européen le 11 janvier dernier
Photo: Commission européenne

Les dernières crises mondiales ont montré, une fois de plus, à quel point nous vivons dans un monde globalisé et interdépendant. Ceux qui pensent que nous pourrions, ou que nous devrions, nous isoler des effets de la pauvreté qui frappent d'autres parties du monde font fausse route. Aider les pays en développement à lutter contre la pauvreté et à tirer profit des opportunités offertes par la mondialisation relève de notre responsabilité. Mais c'est aussi dans notre intérêt. Et le meilleur moyen à notre disposition est précisément la politique de développement.

The next 5 years will be a pivotal period for EU development policy. The creation of the post of High Representative and the External Action Service represent a major opportunity, increasing the importance of the EU's delegations across the world, and providing a real prospect to reduce the fragmentation with which we implement our aid. At the same time, however, we must be clear on the

aim of our development policy, which is poverty eradication in the world's disadvantaged countries and regions. We have to take advantage of the synergies and efficiencies that can result from the new arrangements without, however, allowing development policy to be seen in any way as simply a tool to achieve wider political goals for the EU.

This is important not just for the EU, but equally for our partners in developing countries. This is essential to maintain our credibility with them. This view was made clear by President Barroso in his nomination letter to me, where he states his determination "to maintain the EU's role as a champion of the developing world".

The next five years will also be pivotal, because we need to face the challenge of maintaining momentum worldwide to increase development support when we are facing crises on a number of fronts. The focus has to be on "more, better and faster aid". Now allow me to highlight some of the main priorities that I will address if confirmed.

First, the success of the Millennium Development Goals. We have just five years to achieve these essential goals before the 2015 MDG Review. We have to succeed. I know that this will be difficult, but they are serious promises, not just vague aspirations. The current picture does not permit any complacency; on the contrary. Some progress has been made in Asia, Latin America, the Caribbean, and in some African countries. But Sub-Saharan Africa is lagging far behind. The cumulated effects of the recent crises – food, energy, economic and financial – are even endangering the gains obtained so far.

So my second key objective will be to ensure that we deliver what we have promised. Some Member States are reducing ODA budgets as a result of the financial crisis. I know that national budgets are under real stress. But if we do not keep our promises on development aid how can we expect developing countries to take partnerships seriously?

If I am confirmed as Development Commissioner, I will do everything I can to urge Member States to keep the promises that they have made. It is in our most basic interest to do so. I shall not hesitate to identify very clearly those Member States that fail to meet their commitments.

My third key priority concerns aid effectiveness. I will work hard to ensure that our development cooperation programmes allow us to respond to the real situations that our partners are facing on the ground. Equally importantly, the European Consensus for Development has started the process of moving from 28 donors pursuing often overlapping aid policies towards a truly European approach, and from a donor-recipient relationship to real partnerships. We will also continue to work with international organisations provided they have clear added value and good visibility for the European taxpayer. But much, much more needs to be done if we want to reach our objectives. Recent studies have shown that we could gain up to 9 billion Euros of total international aid each year by being more efficient. I want to give new political momentum to this issue. This is a question of credibility and accountability towards our citizens as much as it is towards our partners in the developing world.

Fourthly, aid effectiveness is also an issue for our partners. There is no point in providing aid, and then seeing the country sell its natural resources for generations to come, rather than developing its natural wealth in a measured manner, which will lead to industries, development and jobs. The quest for jobs and growth is as relevant to developing countries as it is for the EU. If confirmed, one of the themes that I will focus on during the next Commission is ensuring that wherever possible the aid that we grant is used in a manner that will provide long term economic development.

My fifth key priority concerns policy coherence for development. I will work hard to make sure that all EU policies really have a development component, whether they are trade, agriculture, fisheries, and many more. I am aware that this will not always be easy, but you can count on my determination.

Sixth, I am determined to make EU citizens proud of what we do in development aid. We provide about 60% of global ODA, yet only produce around 22% of the world's GDP. But we should also be proud for

the manner in which it is provided. Our development policy is based on our European values; such as solidarity, democracy, the respect of fundamental human rights; the right to education, the right to health. We do not focus development aid to support our defence or trade objectives, nor to exploit supplies of raw materials. We provide development aid in order to reduce poverty, to help the world's poorest. This is our unique strength.

Furthermore, I want to continue to focus on the fact that the respect of fundamental human rights, and in particular the rights of women and children, is an integral part of European development aid policy. More generally, the weakest part of society, including the disabled people, will receive my specific attention. We have to make sure that the aid we grant is really effective and leads to poverty eradication, not poverty management. No country can expect to succeed in pulling itself out of poverty when it deprives itself of the effective contribution of half its population.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have not had time to cover all the issues I would have liked to discuss. Indeed, this list is far from exhaustive. I trust that I will be able to address further priorities such as climate change - the need to ensure that efforts to help developing nations are in addition, not instead of, development aid, the benefits of working hand in hand with Civil Society, to name just a few. But I do hope that these short comments will have underlined my determination to uphold the values that the EU has developed in its aim to alleviate global poverty.

I would like to end by commenting on the importance that I place in developing a real partnership between the Commission and Parliament on development policy; working together and discussing policy at its formative stages just as much as in its practical implementation. I count on your support, and I hope to profit from unique expertise of the Members of this Committee.

I should mention that I come from a Member State which is at an early stage in learning how it can contribute to development policy. But as often in life, what might be perceived as a disadvantage can easily be transformed into an advantage provided you have the willingness and necessary commitment.

ANDRIS PIEBALGS

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND 2004 – 2009

European Commissioner for Energy

2004

Head of Cabinet of Commissioner Kalniete
The first Latvian Commissioner Kalniete is working with Commissioner Fischler in the area of agriculture and fisheries

2003 – 2004

Deputy Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia
Responsible for Latvia's relations with the European Union

1998 – 2003

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Latvia to the European Union

1995 – 1997

Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Latvia to the Republic of Estonia

1994 – 1995

Minister of Finance of Latvia

1993 – 1994

Member of Parliament of Latvia, Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee

1990 – 1993

Minister of Education of Latvia

1988 – 1990

Desk officer, Head of Department, Ministry of Education of Latvia

1980 – 1988

Teacher, Headmaster, Secondary School No1, Valmiera

LANGUAGES

Latvian: mother tongue
English, German, French and Russian: thorough knowledge
Estonian: basic knowledge

EDUCATION

Graduate in Physics from the University of Latvia, 17 June 1980

ANDRIS PIEBALGS

Commissioner designate
for Development



Born September 17, 1957, Valmiera, Latvia. Latvian citizen. Married, three children

FOCUS ON THE 14th AFRICAN UNION SUMMIT

Three questions to

HE Mr. James

D. KALILANGWE

Ambassador of Malawi to the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, to the African Union and to the United Nation Economic Commission for Africa.

How do you assess this 14th Summit. What are the main outcomes?

A Number of important decisions were made by the Heads of States during the 14th Ordinary Session but the biggest challenge is to fulfill the decisions and ensure their implementation. It is probably high time that our continental organization set up a credible follow up mechanism on decisions that are made to ensure that such decisions are implemented.

Before the next AU Summit, what are the main Challenges for the AU under the Presidency of your President?

The biggest challenge facing our presidency is indeed to ensure that the vision of the new Chairman, His Excellency Ngwazi Dr Bingu wa Mutharika, President of the Republic of Malawi is fulfilled.

As you may recall, under our Presidency we would like to ensure that the African continent achieves significant progress focusing on the following five priority areas:

1. Agriculture and Food Security
2. Infrastructural development including expansion of transport networks among African countries
3. Development of new technologies including ICT to boost Agricultural output
4. Development of Energy sources including renewable energies
5. Peace and Security



H.E. Mr. James D. KALILANGWE, Ambassador of Malawi
Photo: EU to the AU

We will try our best to work with the AU Commission, the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and other partners including the European Union to accomplish our vision but as it is obviously clear, everything can not be achieved within the one year that we are at the helm of the organization.

In the light of President's inaugural speech at the African Union, what particular impact do you see on the Africa-EU summit in November in Libya?

We are looking forward to the summit with a lot of enthusiasm especially given the fact that the bulk of the vision of new AU Chairman is covered already in the eight areas of cooperation between the EU and Africa. We do hope to build on these existing areas such as Energy, Peace and Security and Climate Change and make a difference from what has been achieved so far.

LATEST NEWS About the Partnership

RÉFLEXIONS AUTOUR DU PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE EUROPE À LAS PALMAS

Neuf mois avant la tenue du prochain sommet Afrique EU, un séminaire informel de réflexion sur le partenariat Afrique-Union Européenne s'est tenu à Las Palmas, capitale de la communauté autonome des îles Canaries, les 15 et 16 février. L'événement était organisé par Casa Africa, l'instrument de diplomatie publique au service de l'action extérieure de l'Etat espagnol.

Le séminaire a réuni une vingtaine de représentants africains et européens : des membres des deux Commissions, les présidences de l'Espagne et du Malawi, les chefs de la délégation de l'UA à Bruxelles et de l'UE à Addis, des Etats membres (Lybie, Royaume Uni, Egypte, Belgique, Kenya, Italie, Sénégal, Allemagne, Ethiopie, ...). Le siège de Casa Africa se situe dans un bâtiment emblématique de Las Palmas soigneusement rénovée dans un style africain.

L'objectif de ce séminaire était triple: clarifier la façon dont les Africains et les Européens perçoivent les défis présentés par le partenariat ; réfléchir au prochain Plan d'Action afin de maximiser le potentiel de la stratégie conjointe ; et enfin identifier les principaux thèmes qui seront abordés lors du prochain sommet Afrique-Europe en Novembre 2010 à Tripoli.

A la lumière du bilan du premier Plan d'Action, les experts ont également réfléchi sur la façon d'obtenir les résultats les plus tangibles dans le cadre du prochain Plan d'Action (2011-2013). L'architecture de mise en œuvre de la stratégie doit-elle évoluer? Comment la modifier pour gagner en efficacité?

Parmi les grands thèmes abordés figuraient notamment la nature de la stratégie elle-même. Qu'est-ce que l'Union Européenne peut en effet apporter à l'Afrique dans un contexte marqué par la présence accrue d'autres acteurs en Afrique, en particulier les puissances émergentes?

Les débats ont ensuite abordé le prochain sommet Afrique-UE prévu à Tripoli en Novembre prochain et les thèmes qui devaient être les siens. Le changement climatique, les questions de paix et de sécurité, le volet économique et développement ainsi que les objectifs de développement du millénaire ont ainsi été mis en avant. La nécessité d'impliquer davantage à la fois le secteur privé et la société civile dans le partenariat a par ailleurs été soulignée.



Le bâtiment casa Africa à Las palmas.
Photo: www.casafrica.es

Le séminaire de Las Palmas- avant tout un "brainstorming informel". Les participants du séminaire ont été sélectionnés sur la base de leurs niveaux d'expertise de la stratégie conjointe et ils ne représentaient pas officiellement leurs pays ou organisations respectifs. Le rapport final permettra de nourrir les réflexions en cours à Addis et Bruxelles et de contribuer à la préparation du prochain dialogue politique de haut niveau entre l'Union Africain et l'Union Européenne, programmé à Luxembourg le 27 avril prochain.

AKOSOMBO – A DYNAMIC PROCESS IS EVOLVING

On 3 February the Joint Coordination Committee meeting of the African Peace Facility (APF-JCC) held its meeting in Addis Ababa, this was within the framework of the Partnership for Peace and Security of the Africa-EU Joint Strategy.

The meeting was a vital stage in the process agreed by a High level meeting between the African Union (AU) the Regional Economic Communities and Mechanisms (RECS/RMs) and the European Union (EU) in Akosombo, Ghana on 10 and 11 December 2009



Akosombo dam, Ghana

What was agreed in the Akosombo Meeting?

At the Akosombo meeting an agreement was reached on the establishment of a reference framework (Roadmap) for the overall EU support to the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) as a major deliverable for the next EU-Africa Summit and a contribution to the Year of Peace and Security in Africa (2010).

The process, aiming at ensuring coherence of EU support to APSA, concerns all relevant EC funding sources available (notably the African Peace Facility - APF, Regional Indicative Programmes and the Instrument for Stability IfS); EU Member States are also expected to align their bilateral support to the Roadmap.

Joint Coordination Meeting in Addis Ababa: a major step in the Akosombo process

For the first time the APF-JCC went beyond matters related to the African Peace Facility and considered APSA and all relevant EC support in a holistic manner.

Overall, the meeting represented a major step forward in the process agreed in Akosombo. The "first set of measures" package, a follow up of ongoing and planned APSA activities has been identified.

The process leading to the APSA assessment, needed for future programming, is also well on track. Both AU and the RECs/RMs are fully involved in the process to achieve jointly the full operationalisation of the APSA.

The meeting allowed also for EU Delegations accredited to RECs to get a good understanding of and to be more involved in the process.

Next steps

The process is well on track. The Steering Committee beginning of March agreed on further steps ahead. The schedule will allow for the establishment of an APSA Roadmap in time for the next EU-Africa Summit.

CLIMDEV AFRICA: CONCRETE PROGRESS ON CONTINENTAL CLIMATE INITIATIVE

Key partners meet at the EU delegation to the AU on two concrete developments of ClimDev: the creation of the Climate change experts' centre and the establishment of the ClimDev Special Fund.



Facing camera, from left to right Mr L. Barrow (AfDB), Dr Abebe (Director AUC), Françoise Villette (Climate Counsellor EU del to AU), Mike McCarthy (DfiD). In foreground facing the right, some of the donors.
Photo: EU to AU

On 25 February, upon request from several partners, the EU delegation decided to gather around the table key partners of the ClimDev initiative. The delegation therefore hosted a coordination meeting as a stocktaking exercise with a briefing from African partners and joint reflection with donors on how to take joint action further.

What is ClimDev Africa?

It is now timely for donors and African partners to put their heads together and gather forces to keep the impetus and interest and make leap progress on this pan-African flagship initiative, also in the framework of the joint Africa-EU Climate change dialogue. The main objective of ClimDev Africa is to devise a pan-African strategy on Climate change with the establishment of a centre of expertise for policy decision-makers, including in the continuous international negotiations' context.

ACPC: a "super helpdesk" on Climate change for Africa

The ACPC (African Climate Policy Centre), THE major coordinated pan-African climate change centre for ClimDev will be up and running in 2 months' time with up to 27 staff to gather data on satellite earth observation, good practice on climate change adaptation and provide wider analytical/advisory role for governments, agriculture associations, etc. The ACPC of ClimDev will be a "super helpdesk" on climate change to integrate climate change in national development strategies all over Africa.

Focus on coordination of actors and on the financing mechanism

Directors from UNECA (UN Economic Commission for Africa) and AUC (African Union Commission) as well as African Development Bank

(AfDB) as "complementary co-owners" of this tripartite initiative gave an update on the progress of ClimDev. Each of the three institutions have an added value: African Union (political), ECA (technical expertise) and AfDB (project and financial management), thus providing a coherent governance mechanism. The Board of AfDB agreed in Dec 09 to establish a ClimDev Special Fund to ensure the operational continuity of the initiative. Several donors (the UK, France, Denmark,

Why is ClimDev relevant to African citizens?

The ultimate beneficiaries will be those rural communities with climate sensitive livelihoods, especially rain-fed farmers, food insecure communities, communities vulnerable to malaria and other climate sensitive diseases, communities dependent on uncertain water and other natural resources, communities at risk of disasters, and



Dr Josué Dioné, Director UNECA gives an update on the creation of the Climate change centre of excellence
Photo: EU to AU

Germany, Spain, Canada, Norway, and Greece) who provided substantial political and financial support for the Initiative also participated and fed in the lively debate. Watch this place for further development on ClimDev establishment!

communities with poor energy access; and urban communities with climate sensitive livelihoods, as health, weather-related disasters, and seasonal employment.

AFRICA-EU ENERGY PARTNERSHIP: 3RD JOINT EXPERT GROUP MEETING, CAIRO, 23-24 FEBRUARY



Group photo

An energy partnership joint expert group (JEG) meeting - the third so far - was held in Cairo on 23-24 February, with an encouragingly broad participation on the African side in particular; the African team counting for 31 out of a total of 47 participants and including experts from African regional power-pools, regional economic communities and specialised institutions/organisations. The Egyptian ministry of energy and electricity was obviously represented in strong numbers in this home play event.

The meeting focussed on the preparation of a forthcoming energy partnership landmark event: a "high level meeting" ("HLM"/ministerial level) to take place on 21 April in Vienna - capital of one of the two EU co-chair countries (the other EU co-chair country being Germany). One of the outcomes of this JEG was a tentative

agreement on a political targets draft document, setting out objectives (horizon 2020) for energy access, energy security, renewable energies and energy efficiency. Ministers at Vienna will be invited to endorse these targets. Next big "stop" in HLM preparation will be the joint Africa-EU "taskforce" meeting in Brussels in about two weeks time (18/19 March).

Also to signal in the "energy" context: a "small" local (Addis) event, yet with regional scope. On 24-26 February, the EU delegation to Ethiopia hosted a DG EuropeAid (AidCo) animated workshop on sustainable and renewable energy and the ACP-EU 2nd energy facility. The workshop delivered inter alia interesting presentations on the technical, economic and social aspects of renewable energies. It gathered public from EU delegations to East African countries and local EU member states development cooperation.

PERSONALIA

Les nouveaux visages de la Délégation de l'Union Européenne auprès de l'Union Africaine



Les nouveaux visages de la délégation de l'Union Européenne auprès de l'Union Africaine
Photo: EU to AU delegation



Otello MICUCCI

En haut (de gauche à droite) : Anne GUION, Nicola BELLOMO, Joan NADAL SASTRE, Georges MUGENZI GANYANA, Thomas PEYKER, John DOONE

En bas (de gauche à droite): Jorge GALLEGO LIZON, Timothy BAINES, Ama ANNAN, Seblewongel BELAY, Meheret GEZAHEGNE, Françoise VILLETTE, Chiara TARDIVO, Wubeshet TAMERAT, Meron FESSEHAYE

Sans oublier ceux qui n'étaient pas disponibles le jour de la photo: Moustapha MAGUMU et Otello MICUCCI



Moustapha MAGUMU

UPCOMING Events

March 2010

- ★ **3-4 mars** Conference "Joining up Africa: regional economic integration in Africa", LONDON
- ★ **5-6 mars** Science, Information Society and Space Africa-EU Partnership: Joint Expert Group meeting, CAIRO
- ★ **12 mars** Climate Change Africa-EU Partnership: Joint Expert Group meeting, ADDIS ABABA
- ★ **15-19 mars** Better Training for Food Safety regional workshop, RABAT
- ★ **18-19 mars** EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, BRUSSELS,
- ★ **23-25 mars** Media & Development in Africa: Expert Meeting, ADDIS ABABA
- ★ **29-31 mars** 2010 Africa-Europe Youth Summit preparation: Southern Africa Sub Regional Seminar on Youth Policies and the African Youth Charter, ANGOLA