



AU CŒUR DU PARTENARIAT AFRIQUE-UNION EUROPÉENNE



INSIDE THE AFRICA - EUROPEAN UNION PARTNERSHIP



Lettre d'information de la Délégation de l'Union Européenne auprès de l'Union Africaine

## Contenu

- 1- DISCOURS DES PRÉSIDENTS PING ET BARROSO (EXTRAITS)
- 2- LE POINT SUR CHAQUE PARTENARIAT
- 3- CONCLUSIONS
- 4- LES MÉDIAS

EDITION  
SPÉCIALE  
RÉUNION  
COLLÈGE-COLLÈGE



Les présidents PING et BARROSO accompagnés des commissaires africains et européens dînent ensemble à la résidence de l'Ambassadeur Koen Vervaete

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## OPENING REMARKS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, JOSE MANUEL BARROSO

Chairperson Ping, Deputy Chairperson Mwencha, Dear Commissioners, representatives of the Regional Economic Communities: it is a great pleasure to be here in Addis Ababa. On behalf of all European Commissioners, I would like to thank you for your warm welcoming.

2007 is remembered as the year the Lisbon Summit took Africa-EU relations up to a new strategic level. Leaving behind old stereotypes, breaking up with the donor-recipient relationship of the past, Europe and Africa moved forward defining the terms of a modern partnership of solidarity and equality.

2010 should be remembered as the year Africa and Europe were able to pool efforts and achieve their ambitious Lisbon commitments.

2010 is the defining moment for both Africa and Europe to measure the achievement of the eight thematic partnerships agreed in Lisbon. We have a collective obligation towards the people of our continents to bring concrete results.

This 4th meeting of our two Commissions constitutes an important milestone in taking this process forward and in preparing the 3rd Africa-EU Summit.

You all know my personal commitment and that of the European Commission towards Africa. In recent times we showed that this commitment is not only about words but also about deeds.

In the last two years the European Commission has adopted a 1 billion euros Food Facility, a 500 million euros Vulnerability FLEX mechanism to mitigate the effects of the economic crisis a 200 million Euros, under the EDF, to help developing countries cope with higher food prices; and committed 150 million euros of fast start financing, up to 2012, as part of the overall European pledge of 7.2 billion euros, to tackle the effects of Climate Change.

In support of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and its eight thematic partnerships, the European Commission alone has committed 24.4 billion euros through its various financial instruments for the period 2007-2013 (16 billion euros of which related to European Development Fund, including regional and national envelopes).

In addition, our Member States (EU15) have provided a total amount of 19 billion euros in Official Development Assistance flows to Africa in 2008.

In my second mandate at the helm of the European Commission, I express my determination to continue our pioneering work with Africa, in particular on achieving the MDGs, and making a real impact on the challenges of food and water security, health and education.

Moreover, the EU's internal growth strategy - the Europe 2020 Strategy - that I have presented in the beginning of this year, also takes into account the need to invest further in our relations with strategic partners, as Africa.

Africa has been through major transformations in the last years, and partly due to the impressive work the African Union has been undertaking. I would like therefore to commend your leadership, Chairperson Jean Ping and Deputy Chairperson Mwencha, in raising the continental and international profile of the African Union Commission.

In areas such as peace and security, the African Union has taken a courageous stance against unconstitutional changes of governments (in Mauritania, Guinea, Niger and Madagascar) and assumed a crucial role in African peacekeeping, particularly in Somalia and Sudan.

Your institution has evolved as a central actor for defending our common principles of democracy and good governance. Today, you are an indispensable partner, both on the African continent and on the international stage.

The European Commission has been assisting you in this path. In the multilateral setting, the European Commission has been strong advocate of the principle of a better representation of the African continent in international fora: the G20/G8, the United Nations and other International Financial Institutions (World Bank, IMF).

I see a special role for African institutions (the African Union in particular) and for African representatives in international fora. In our bilateral relation, the political and institutional ties between our sister institutions have grown stronger in the past few years. You know you can count with us to support your reforms' process. Under the 10th EDF, we have a 55 million euro programme in support to building the capacity of the African Union and its organs.

A strong alliance between the two Commissions has been and will continue to be crucial to drive the continent-to-continent Partnership forward.

I suggest that we work with the following guidance in mind:

Develop further our political and technical cooperation and explore the synergies between the EU's Europe 2020 and the African Union's Strategic Plan for 2009-2012.

Concentrate on results in each of the eight thematic partnerships in the remaining months of the First Action Plan (2008-2010).

Provide guidance to the EU-Africa Summit preparation and identify what should be its main deliverables.

The European Commission is in the early stages of submitting proposals (Communication this autumn) for the future of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. I expect that today's discussions can provide useful inputs and can stimulate our future work.

Three years after Lisbon, and despite the central role that our two organizations play it is clear that just by ourselves will not be able to deliver on the ambitious Lisbon commitments.

Other actors need to do their part. We need the political ownership of our Member States, parliaments, civil society, and the regional economic communities.

I am pleased to see here today representatives of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) associated to our work for the first time. The RECs are essential actors in the implementation of the Joint Strategy, particularly when it comes to fostering peace and security and economic integration in the continent.

Allow me now to conclude with some recommendations that should guide today's discussions in the clusters format:

1. Focus on policy coherence, effective division of labour and track record of implementation of commitments. Where can the two Commissions add value? How can we engage our Member States and mobilise ownership of the Strategy?
2. Treat Africa as One: we should encourage all actors, Member states, the RECs and stakeholders to treat North and Sub-Saharan African as one.
3. Strengthen our institutional cooperation: the European Commission remains ready to assist the AUC to pursue its capacity-building efforts to strengthen its policy-making and implementing capacity at the continental level. The new Memorandum of Understanding which will be signed today will be of essential value in this respect.
4. Seek concrete results in the different thematic areas.

I thank you for your attention and wish us all a successful working day.



Jean Ping, Chairperson of AUC  
Photo: Antony Njuguna

## EXTRAIT DU DISCOURS INTRODUCTIF DU PRESIDENT DE LA COMMISSION DE L'UNION AFRICAINE JEAN PING

(...)Plus de deux ans après l'adoption de la Stratégie commune et du premier Plan d'action, notre rencontre offre également, dans la droite ligne de la 10<sup>e</sup> réunion de notre Task force de mars dernier et de la 14<sup>e</sup> réunion ministérielle organisée au Luxembourg le 26 avril de cette année, l'occasion d'une part d'examiner les progrès accomplis et les défis que nous devons encore relever, en matière de coopération entre nos deux Commissions, et d'autre part de poursuivre la préparation du 3<sup>e</sup> sommet UE-Afrique, au cours duquel sera entre autres, discuté notre deuxième Plan d'action pour la période 2011-2013, ouvrant ainsi de nouvelles perspectives à notre partenariat. Pour l'heure, il s'agit de faire une évaluation objective des performances dans la mise en œuvre des deux premiers documents, afin d'en identifier les points forts ainsi que les faiblesses et de prévoir les solutions qui profiteraient aux populations de nos deux continents.

Je suis heureux pour ma part, de constater qu'après un démarrage quelque peu laborieux, car il a fallu un certain temps pour que l'Afrique et l'UE s'organisent au niveau interne et élaborent de nouvelles méthodes de travail leur permettant

d'atteindre les objectifs définis dans le premier Plan d'action, notre partenariat est désormais bien lancé.

C'est ainsi par exemple qu'au titre de l'élargissement de la coopération administrative entre nos deux Commissions, une étape supplémentaire importante a été franchie, à travers deux nouveaux documents signés en novembre dernier, portant sur un premier accord concernant la mise en œuvre du plan d'action de nos Commissions pour l'échange de fonctionnaires et sur un second accord conjoint pour la coopération administrative (2009-2010).

(...)Aujourd'hui, je me réjouis également de l'implication et de l'association des Communautés Economiques Régionales (CERs), du secteur privé, de la société civile, des Parlements et des autres Parties prenantes dans la mise en œuvre de la stratégie commune et du Plan d'action dans la mesure où cela réalise un engagement des deux Parties : faire de la stratégie commune «une plateforme permanente pour l'information, la participation et la mobilisation d'un large éventail d'acteurs de la société civile». De fait, cela contribuera à l'appropriation de notre partenariat,

par toutes les Parties prenantes à nos sociétés respectives.

Dans ses «Mémoires», Jean Monnet, l'un des Pères de l'Europe affirmait que **« ce qui est important, ce n'est, ni d'être optimiste, ni pessimiste, mais d'être déterminé »**. Devant des incertitudes et des bouleversements d'une ampleur jamais connue par le passé et dans un monde marqué notamment par l'interdépendance, la multipolarité, la globalisation et la nécessité cruciale de la coopération internationale, définie selon certains par le retour de la politique et la loi de la rareté, la Commission de l'Union africaine est plus que jamais, déterminée à apporter sa contribution à la consolidation et à la concrétisation du partenariat stratégique Afrique-UE. C'est dans cet esprit que nous abordons cette rencontre de nos deux Commissions avec les observations ci-après :

1. Le partenariat stratégique Afrique-UE prône une approche du Co-développement qui engage les deux Parties à investir leurs ressources et moyens pour l'intérêt commun. Pour la partie africaine, il doit être arrimé à la vision de l'UA et à sa stratégie de développement aussi solidement que possible, en privilégiant la paix et la sécurité, la sécurité alimentaire, l'intégration régionale et continentale, l'accélération du processus d'industrialisation, le développement des infrastructures et de l'énergie, notamment via les corridors d'autoroutes et de réseaux ferrés Transafricains, la promotion et l'acquisition de la technologie et du savoir-faire et le développement du capital humain, autant d'objectifs présentés dans le Plan Stratégique de la Commission 2009-2012 et le Programme NEPAD de l'Union africaine.
2. La persistance des zones de conflit et de crises, l'accroissement de la pauvreté et des grands fléaux sociaux (VIH/SIDA, le paludisme et la tuberculose), la dégradation de l'environnement, les atteintes à l'état de droit, à la bonne gouvernance, à l'ordre constitutionnel, aux droits de l'homme et à la démocratie, la lutte contre le terrorisme, la piraterie, les trafics en tout genre et le crime organisé transnational, sont autant d'autres défis et de combats dont la plupart dépassent maintenant toutes les frontières et auxquels les deux Parties se doivent de se concerter en vue de trouver rapidement des solutions

globales. Cette concertation pourra être étendue à d'autres questions internationales d'intérêt commun, telles que la situation au Proche-Orient, au problème de la non-prolifération des armes de destruction massive.

3. Le financement des activités et projets dans le cadre du Plan d'Action demeure un problème majeur et la discussion sur la création à moyen et à long terme d'une enveloppe panafricaine ou du Fonds « Africa's integration Facility » devra être accélérée. De même, les deux Parties devront s'engager à identifier à court et à moyen terme, des sources de financement à partir des instruments existants. Il importe par ailleurs de consolider les acquis en poursuivant les appuis précédemment accordés.

(...)A l'heure de la mondialisation, s'il est vrai que l'Europe ne peut plus avoir et n'a plus une relation d'exclusivité ni de monopole avec l'Afrique, en dépit de liens historiques, géopolitiques et culturels qui eux, restent extrêmement forts, le partenariat Afrique-UE établi sur la base de valeurs partagées, d'objectifs communs et de respect, a marqué le début d'une ère nouvelle dans les relations entre nos Institutions respectives qui y ont gagné en termes de perception, de considération, de dialogue et de modes de travail. Je pense que via ce partenariat que nous voyons progresser au regard notamment de l'engagement des deux Parties et des étapes franchies, nous nous acheminons vers une meilleure compréhension mutuelle entre nos peuples, nos continents qui doivent par ailleurs, affronter aussi leurs propres réalités.

Je suis convaincu que les rencontres régulières organisées à différents niveaux dans le cadre de notre partenariat peuvent contribuer à renforcer davantage la dimension humaine des relations entre l'UE et l'UA, créer des liens entre les responsables et instaurer des relations de nature à faciliter notre coopération et nos rapports de travail, favorisant ainsi le partage des expériences de nos Institutions en cours de construction. En effet, comme le disait Monnet toujours, **«les institutions peuvent si elles sont bien construites, accumuler et transmettre la sagesse des générations successives» et si « rien n'est possible sans les hommes, rien n'est durable sans les institutions »**.

## EUROPEAN UNION & AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION COLLEGE TO COLLEGE, JUNE 08, 2010



Photo: Antony Njuguna

Back to front: left to right:

1. Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Development
2. Dacian Cioloș, European Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Development
3. Jean Pierre Onvehoun Ezin, AU Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology
4. Štefan Füle, European Commissioner for Enlargement and the European Neighbourhood Policy
5. Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment
6. Ramtane Lamamra, AU Commissioner for Peace and Security
7. Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Trade
8. Elisabeth Tankeu, AU Commissioner for Trade and Industry
9. Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy
10. Gunther Oettinger, European Commissioner for Energy
11. Antonio Tajani, European Commissioner (Vice President) for Industry and Entrepreneurship
12. Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis
13. José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission
14. Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission
15. Julia Dolly Joiner, AU Commissioner for Political Affairs
16. Bience Philomina Gwanas, AU Commissioner For Social Affairs
17. Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture

## BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING

The College to College meeting between the African Union Commission and the European Commission, the fourth of its kind, is taking place at a critical moment, just a few months before the third Africa-EU Summit and amidst an intense international agenda. The strong partnership between the two Commissions is instrumental to providing further impetus to the preparations for the next Africa-EU Summit and to the implementation of its outcomes which will undoubtedly contribute to shaping the future of Africa-EU relations.

respective priority actions. The discussion also provided us with the opportunity to define common positions on issues of mutual concern in the international arena, as well as to further consolidate our already successful political, technical and administrative cooperation. The participation of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) in this College-to-College meeting is a crucial step towards giving additional impetus to, and enhancing our partnerships, particularly in relation to the Africa-EU Partnerships on Trade, Regional Integration and



Left to right:

- Karel De Gucht, European Commissioner for Trade
- Bience Philomina Gwanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs
- Antonio Tajani, European Commissioner (Vice President) for Industry and Entrepreneurship
- Erastus Jarnalese Onkundi Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission
- José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission

Photo: Antony Njuguna

During this meeting, we shared experiences, learnt from each other and exchanged views on the policy setting agenda of the two institutions. We also discussed how best to implement the Africa/EU Joint Strategy and its Plan of Action and how to address the common contemporary challenges facing the two Commissions. Our discussions have further fostered operational links, stimulated joint strategic thinking and enabled us to explore synergies between our

Infrastructure and on Peace and Security. The linkages between our two institutions have continued to grow stronger and assumed unprecedented importance within the framework of our evolving partnership. Our interactions today were characterised by consensus on our shared vision, values and mutual interest.

Text: From the Joint Declaration

## PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA, EUROPE AND WORLD-WIDE



José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission  
Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Photo: Antony Njuguna



Jean Pierre Onvehoun Ezin, AU Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology  
Stefan Fule, European Commissioner for enlargement and the European Neighborhood Policy  
Ramtane Lamamra, AU Commissioner for Peace and Security.

**W**e will maintain and strengthen our efforts to improve **the global management of crises and to address long-term threats to stability, peace and security in Africa, Europe and world wide.**

We recognise that transnational threats - such as terrorism, trafficking of human beings (especially women and children), the destabilising effects of illegal trafficking of firearms, drugs and Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) materials, and maritime piracy - demand enhanced regional and international cooperation. The partnership on Peace and Security is the appropriate framework for an enhanced cooperation and will be used to make our influence felt. We recognise and welcome Africa's efforts to establish and strengthen the Peace and Security Architecture and appreciate the EU's readiness to continue support to all its components. A roadmap jointly elaborated by AUC and RECs/Regional Mechanisms will pave the way for more progress in the next years, as the basis for coherent and comprehensive EU financial support for its implementation.

Text : From the Joint Declaration

## POLITICAL DIALOGUE AND COOPERATION ON GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS



Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Development

Photo: AU



Julia Dolly Joiner, AU Commissioner For Political Affairs

Photo: AU

**S**upport initiatives by the AUC in enhancing its capacity in governance, conflict prevention and-response, including humanitarian assistance, state building and post conflict reconstruction and development;

- Work within established partnership frameworks and mechanisms to support the AU in the facilitation and implementation of the January 2011 AU Ordinary Summit whose theme is Shared Values.

- Further our dialogue on Human Rights and Governance on priorities identified by the Joint Platform and ongoing Human Rights Dialogue, with a specific and added focus on the rights of the most vulnerable, including Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), Refugees, Returnees, and Persons with Disabilities.

Text: From the Joint Declaration

## REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL INTEGRATION



EAC and COMESA representatives

Photo: AU

**W**e re-affirm our strong commitment to **regional and continental integration**. We also agreed that regional economic integration must play its full role as one of the boosters Africa needs to accelerate sustainable growth and lift its people out of poverty. In this context, we stressed the need for the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) under negotiation to be supportive of

regional and continental integration. We also agreed to explore ways and means of working towards the establishment of an appropriate mechanism on Regional Economic Integration that would allow regular, in-depth discussions between all interested parties and provide leadership and guidance to this Partnership.

Text : From the Joint Declaration



SADC and IGAD representatives

Photo:AU

## REGIONAL AND CONTINENTAL INFRASTRUCTURE



Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission  
José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission

Photo:AU



Antonio Tajani, European Commissioner (Vice President) for Industry and Entrepreneurship

Photo:AU

**W**e acknowledge the critical importance of regional and continental infrastructure within the African development agenda and of the necessity to improve the effectiveness and visibility of the Africa-EU Partnership on Trade,

Regional Integration and Infrastructure. We also reaffirm the need to strengthen our relations in the implementation of the Partnership on Infrastructure and reinforce coherence with national, regional and continental programs.

Text : From the Joint Declaration



Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy

Photo:AU



Antonio Tajani, European Commissioner (Vice President) for Industry and Entrepreneurship  
Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Development  
José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission  
Jean Ping, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Photo:AU

## MILLENIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS (MDGs)

**W**e will work together for the swift adoption of a joint AU-EU political statement on the MDGs in view of the UN High Level Plenary Meeting on the MDGs in September 2010 and beyond. Furthermore, as the AU and the EU have placed **food security** high on their developmental agendas, we will intensify our cooperation within the framework of the Comprehensive Africa Agricultural Development Programme (CAADP). We will also explore new areas of cooperation in agriculture, such as

geographical indications, organic farming, and strengthen farmers organisations in order to exchange best practice and to reinforce local capacity to elaborate effective agricultural policy framework.

We will work together in the field of **health** on key challenges, including the access to essential medicines, sexual and reproductive health and rights, maternal and child health, social protection, and promote a comprehensive and integrated approach to all MDGs in the



Bience P. Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs  
Photo:AU



Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Development  
Photo:AU



Andris Piebalgs, European Commissioner for Development  
Christophe Kamp, Head of Political and Policy Section EU/ AU  
Photo:Antony Njuguna

implementation of all requirements within the framework of the MDG Partnership. In the area of **gender equality**, we will initiate work towards a medium-term strategy of cooperation. In the field of education, we will pursue efforts to ensure the achievement of MDG 2 on universal primary **education** and to enhance the participation of African students in programmes such as Erasmus Mundus or Mwalimu Nyerere which will be launched at the next Africa-EU Summit 2010. We will also seek to better incorporate the **cultural dimension** in our cooperation framework.

Text : From the Joint Declaration

## ENERGY



Elham Mahmoud Ahmed Ibrahim, AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy  
Photo:AU



Gunther Oettinger, European Commissioner for Energy  
Photo:AU

**W**e will strengthen our cooperation in the field of **energy** in order to: (i) promote access to modern and sustainable energy services, hereby contributing to reaching the MDGs; (ii) improve energy security through increases in the capacity of cross border electricity interconnections, both within Africa and between Africa and Europe, iii) increase the use of natural gas in Africa, as well as of gas exports from Africa to Europe; and (iv) increase the use of renewable energy and improve energy efficiency in

Africa, starting with the electricity sector. We will also strengthen our cooperation with the aim to reduce gas flaring and venting in Africa, to promote the efficient local utilisation of currently flared gas, and to support transparency in the extractive industries. This will be done through international initiatives such as the Global Gas Flaring Reduction Partnership and the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative.

Text : From the Joint Declaration

## CLIMATE CHANGE



Janez Potočnik, European Commissioner for the Environment  
Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the African Union Commission

Photo: Antony Njuguna

We will pursue a strong and open **dialogue on climate policy** in order to build a common EU-Africa consensus for a legally binding agreement under the UNFCCC. We recognise the steps taken by Africa to develop a common position on Climate Change which could be further consolidated through the ongoing African Conferences ahead of Cancun. Such Conferences will offer opportunities to discuss cooperation on climate change and to deepen dialogue on issues emerging from Copenhagen. We note that the EU is currently working on the implementation of the fast-start component of the Copenhagen Accord with focus on Africa which takes into account the African Group's proposals presented in Copenhagen. All these efforts will be linked to relevant international initiatives such as the High-Level Advisory Group on Climate Change Financing. Joint cooperation on environmental challenges comprises initiatives such as the Global Climate Change Alliance, the Great Green Wall for the Sahara and Sahel Initiative as well as the Clim-Dev Africa Program. These will be pursued, together with the African initiatives on disaster risk reduction and environmental monitoring such as the Africa Regional Strategy for Disaster Pool and Risk Reduction, as well as AMESD (African Monitoring of the Environment for Sustainable Development).

Text : From the Joint Declaration



Rhoda Peace Tumusiime, AU Commissioner for Rural Economy and Agriculture

Photo: Antony Njuguna

## MIGRATION, MOBILITY AND EMPLOYMENTS

We will continue our fruitful cooperation on **migration, mobility and employment**. Existing priorities, such as further involving diasporas in Africa's development, favouring cheaper, faster and more secure remittances, supporting employment and decent work with a special focus on social protection, fighting trafficking in human beings and preventing the smuggling of migrants within the framework of the Joint EU-Africa Declaration on Migration and Development (Tripoli Declaration); the Continental Policy Framework on Migration and the Ouagadougou Plan of Action on human trafficking, should continue to serve as a basis for EU-Africa cooperation in this area. In this regard, the two Commissions have entered into an **agreement on a 3 Million Euro Project to support the Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment**.

Tertiary level education and mobility, including the proposed WHO Code of ethical recruitment of health workers, should become a more preeminent part of the partnership, in particular in relation to the African brain drain challenge. In addition, taking into account the great number of refugees in Africa and their often precarious situation, more attention should be given to addressing refugee protection issues. Both Commissions welcome the convening of the 1st Steering Committee Meeting of the African Remittances Institute project comprising of the representatives of the AUC, EC, World Bank, IOM and African Development Bank (AfDB) in Brussels from 10 to 11 June to mark the beginning of the implementation of the Project, which will be instrumental to ensure that remittances can better serve the development of receiving countries.

Text : From the Joint Declaration



Julia Dolly Joiner, AU Commissioner For Political Affairs  
Kristalina Georgieva, European Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis

Photo: AU



Bience Philomina Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs

Photo: AU



## SCIENCE, INFORMATION SOCIETY AND SPACE

**W**e will pursue the timely implementation of **Science, Information Society and Space** initiatives approved under the 2008-2010 Action Plan. This is particularly relevant in the area of **Science**, where the launch of a call under the African Research Grants initiative will start to provide the AUC with the requisite experience and management capacity to design a multi-annual African Research Framework.....

..... In the field of **Information Society**, we aim to foster bilateral cooperation by exploiting synergies between the European Digital Agenda which has recently been adopted as the first flagship initiative of the "EU 2020" Strategy and the results of the last AU Summit focused on ICT for African development and the African Regional Action Plan on the Knowledge Economy (ARAPKE). We will continue to address all ICT-related issues in a comprehensive and integrated way, from infrastructure deployment to promoting

the use of e-applications. Further we underscore and acknowledge the achievement made so far in the implementation of the project under information society and the need to expedite the African virtual campus project. In the field of **Space**, We agreed to deploy all necessary efforts to define and finalize the GMES-Africa Action Plan for approval by the next AU-EU Summit in November 2010 and to implement the African geodetic reference framework (AFREF), as a foundation for space applications and investigate together the establishment of the African Space Agency. We intend in particular to set up an AUC-EC policy dialogue addressing all ICT-related issues in a comprehensive and integrated way, from infrastructure deployment to promoting the use of e-applications. In the field of **Space**, we agreed to deploy all necessary efforts to define and finalize the GMES-Africa Action Plan for approval by the next AU-EU Summit in November 2010.

Text : From the Joint Declaration



Jean Pierre Onvehoun Ezin, AU Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology  
Bience Philomina Gawanas, AU Commissioner for Social Affairs

Photo:AU

## ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

**Signature of the Memorandum of Understanding on the partnership between the European Commission and the African Union Commission to foster twinning, exchange and other activities**



Karel De Gucht, EU Commissioner for Trade  
Erastus Mwencha, Deputy Chairperson of the AU Commission

Photo:Antony Njuguna

**The European Commission and the African Union Commission have decided to adopt the present MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING on the Partnership between the EC and the AUC to foster twinning, exchange and other activities.**

1. Having regard to the Constitutive Act of the African Union, which was adopted in 2000 and entered into force in 2001, and the 'Vision, Mission and Strategic Framework' of the African Union adopted in 2004,
2. Having regard to the Memorandum of Understanding on a partnership to foster twinning and exchange (hereinafter "the Partnership") signed on 2006 by the Commission of the European Communities and the African Union Commission with the aim of strengthening the institutional ties between the two Institutions,
3. Having regard to the EU-Africa Strategic Partnership: Joint EU-Africa Strategy and Action Plan adopted in December 2007 at the second EU-Africa summit in Lisbon,
4. Having regard to the addendum signed on the 1st of October 2008 on the establishment of a partnership between the Commission of the European Communities and the African Union Commission to foster twinning and exchange,
5. Having regard to the Decision of the European Commission (November 2008) laying down rules on the secondment of national experts to the European Commission and its Decision on the secondment of Community officials,
6. Having regard to the Agreement on implementation of the European Commission - African Union Commission Action Plan and the Programme for exchange of officials in the area of administrative co-operation, signed on the 6th of November 2009.

## MICHEL BARNIER RENCONTRE LES RESPONSABLES DE L'UNION AFRICAINE

Pour sa deuxième visite de travail en dehors de l'Union Européenne depuis sa prise de fonction, Michel Barnier, après Washington, a choisi de rencontrer les responsables de l'Union Africaine à Addis Abeba, pour évoquer les leçons à tirer de la crise financière. Cette visite fait suite à la réunion des deux Commissions (UA – UE) qui s'est tenue en Ethiopie en présence des Présidents Ping et Barroso, le 8 juin dernier.

Michel Barnier a rencontré le Président Jean Ping, le vice-Président Erastus Mwencha, les Commissaires Tankeu et Lamamra, M. Abdouli Janneh, Secrétaire exécutif de la Commission économique pour l'Afrique des Nations Unies, M. BT. Costantinos, Président du bureau anti-corruption de l'UA.

Pour Michel Barnier, « les leçons de la crise financière, les défis de la supervision et de la gouvernance financière internationale doivent se gérer avec tous les continents et naturellement l'Afrique, qui participe au G20 ».

« Ce continent est particulièrement vulnérable aux mouvements spéculatifs sur les matières premières, et les produits agricoles, dont l'ampleur s'est aggravée au cours des dernières années ». En coopération avec l'Union Africaine, le Commissaire européen a confirmé sa volonté d'obliger à la transparence et à l'encadrement des transactions sur ces marchés de matières premières afin de limiter les mouvements spéculatifs excessifs et leurs conséquences sur la sécurité alimentaire.



Le commissaire Barnier et des officiels de l'Union Africaine.

Photo: UA

Les responsables de l'Union Africaine et Michel Barnier ont décidé de renforcer la coopération des deux Commissions ainsi avec les Communautés économiques régionales (CERs) en Afrique et les Nations Unies, dans les domaines des marchés intérieurs et des services financiers (qualité des normes (standards), marchés publics, propriété intellectuelle, lutte contre le

contrefaçon, criminalité financière et blanchissement d'argent).

Michel Barnier a été invité à présenter l'agenda européen de la régulation et de supervision à l'occasion de la réunion des Ministres des finances qui se déroulera en mars 2011 à Addis Abéba.



Michel Barnier, Commissaire européen pour le marché intérieur et les services et Jean PING, Président de la Commission de l'Union Africaine.

Photo: UA



Réunion de travail entre le Commissaire Barnier, et le Vice-président de la Commission de l'Union Africaine Erastus Mwencha ainsi que des officiels des deux organisations.

Photo: UA

## CONCLUSION



We agree to further strengthen our collaboration to make the **third Africa-EU Summit** a success. We remain determined to deliver tangible results within the framework of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership and on the basis of equality, mutual respect and benefit, and encourage all other stakeholders to share our efforts. Africa and Europe need to work together to address continental and global challenges. We also have to seize new opportunities to shape globalization that will benefit all and to establish an effective and credible alliance that enables both continents to make their voice heard in the international arena.

## COLLEGE TO COLLEGE ON THE MEDIA



Euronews, 8 June

“As the eyes of the world turn to South Africa, I sincerely believe that after the World Cup, the country will go from strength to strength. This legacy will not only see major improvements in the country's infrastructure,” - Jose Manuel Barroso.



8 June

Chairperson of the AU Commission said “what is most important is not to be optimistic or pessimistic, but what matters is the commitment”. Still quoting Mr. Monnet, Mr. Ping added that « well established institutions can accumulate knowledge that is transferred to the next generations successively but just as nothing is possible without men, nothing is durable without institutions”.



College to College on the Media

## Panapress 8 June

“Les difficultés économiques dues au déficit budgétaire et à la dette dans certaines parties de l'Europe ne vont pas affecter la coopération de l'Union européenne avec l'Afrique,” a indiqué mardi le président de la Commission de l'Union européenne (UE), Jose Manuel Barroso.

“Bien au contraire, la crise va créer de nouvelles opportunités aux économies européennes”, a déclaré M. Barroso lors d'une conférence de presse au siège de l'Union africaine à Addis-Abeba, en Ethiopie.

“Cette présente crise est une raison suffisante pour l'Europe de ne pas se recroqueviller sur elle-même et de renforcer le partenariat au développement, surtout avec l'Afrique”, a-t-il lancé au terme de la rencontre de deux jours entre la Commission de l'UE et celle de l'UA, tenue dans la capitale éthiopienne.

D'après lui, “c'est dans l'intérêt à long terme de l'Europe de maintenir une coopération renforcée avec l'Afrique surtout en raison des facteurs démographiques.”

“L'Afrique est en train de devenir le plus important marché au monde grâce à l'augmentation de la population de plus en plus jeune et du fait que l'Europe a besoin de main-d'œuvre”, a souligné M. Barroso.



Xinhua, 9 Juin

M. Barroso a déclaré pour sa part que “l'UE reste prête à aider la Commission de l'UA dans ses efforts de construction de la capacité, notamment celle de déterminer et d'appliquer les politiques au niveau continental”



8 juin

« Je suis heureux pour ma part de constater qu'après un démarrage quelque peu laborieux, car il a fallu un certain temps pour que l'Afrique et l'UE s'organisent

au niveau interne et élaborent de nouvelles méthodes de travail leur permettant d'atteindre les objectifs définis dans le premier plan d'action, notre partenariat est désormais bien lancé » s' est réjoui Jean Ping lors de la séance d' ouverture de la réunion annuelle des commissions de l'UA et de l'UE.

Selon Ping, “le partenariat stratégique Afrique-UE prône une approche du co-développement qui engage les deux parties à investir leurs ressources et moyens pour l'intérêt commun. La partie africaine doit privilégier les questions de paix et de sécurité, l'intégration régionale et continentale, l'accélération du processus d'industrialisation, le développement des infrastructures et de l'énergie, la promotion et l'acquisition de la technologie et du savoir-faire et le développement du capital humain.”

« Cette concertation pourra être étendue à d'autres questions internationales d'intérêt commun, telles que la situation au Proche-Orient et au problème de la non-prolifération des armes de destruction massive », a proposé le président de la CUA.



8 June

M. Barroso a souligné “la nécessité de se concentrer sur les résultats des huit partenariats faisant partie du premier plan d'action Afrique-UE 2008-2010 et d'identifier les principaux objectifs du prochain Sommet entre les deux parties prévu en novembre prochain en Libye.”

Il a également recommandé de mettre l'accent sur la cohérence des politiques, l'efficacité du travail commun et la mise en œuvre des engagements pris, de traiter l'Afrique en tant qu'ensemble en encourageant tous les acteurs, pays africains, communautés économiques régionales (CER) et parties prenantes, à « considérer l'Afrique du Nord et l'Afrique sub-saharienne comme une seule entité ».

Selon lui, “2010 est l'année durant laquelle l'Afrique et l'Europe seront en mesure d'unir leurs efforts et d'atteindre leurs ambitieux engagements pris lors du Sommet de Lisbonne en 2007”



French, 8 Juin

“ Il y a tout à fait intérêt à continuer notre soutien à l'Ethiopie qui est un pays tellement important dans le continent africain, un pays qui a sans doute connu un progrès important et un pays qui a besoin de plus de rapports économiques, plus de coopération avec l'Europe.”

## Afrique en ligne 8 juin

“Africa is becoming the most important market in the world due to a growing number of young population and Europe also needs human power, while at the same time can market its technology and other products to Africa,” Barroso said.