

# LINK!

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EUROPEAN UNION  
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# Welcome to this new edition of Link!



Gary Quince, EU Head of Delegation to the African Union

**This edition comes just after the seventh College to College (C2C) meeting which took place in Brussels on 22nd April between the European Commission and the African Union Commission, led by President Juncker and Chairperson Dlamini Zuma respectively.**

This meeting took place one year after the Fourth EU-Africa Summit and offered the opportunity to assess progress on the Partnership since the Summit on the five priority areas of the Joint Roadmap 2014-2017: (i) peace and security, (ii) democracy, good governance and human rights, (iii) human development, (iv) sustainable and inclusive development, growth and continental integration, and (v) global and emerging issues.

Following the recent tragedy in the Mediterranean, the plenary session had a particular focus on **Migration**, including cooperating to tackle irregular migration and human trafficking while also recalling our joint work in promoting the benefits of regular migration, as well as the importance of remittances.

**Peace and Security** was discussed in a cluster co-chaired by AU Commissioner Chergui and HRVP Mogherini. It confirmed our broadly-shared analysis of the main security challenges and underlined the close cooperation between Africa and Europe in this area. In the Horn of Africa, Libya, the Sahel and Central Africa, the EU and the AU are working closely together to resolve conflicts and help national reconciliation and state building. We are also working together to strengthen early warning, conflict prevention and early action.

Despite these serious conflicts, Africa has continued to experience impressive economic growth. Much of the C2C discussions focussed on ways to promote **Sustainable and Inclusive Development and Growth** to create jobs for the millions of young people who are coming onto the African job market every year. Discussions centred on trade and investment, continental integration, the private sector, infrastructure and energy, agriculture, research and innovation, as well as promoting gender equality. At the initiative of Dr Dlamini-Zuma, it was agreed that the Partnership would also work more closely on promoting industrialisation across Africa to promote greater value added from the continent's huge natural and human resource potential.

The Partnership being about people, **Human Development** was also high on the agenda. With a growing, increasingly youthful and urbanised population, Africa needs to provide its young people with the skills they need to take advantage of the opportunities created by Africa's growth. We agreed to reinforce our cooperation in higher education, including harmonisation of curricula and encouragement of student mobility, institutional twinning and staff exchanges, as well as the continued development of the Pan-African University and stepping up our cooperation in the area of vocational education and training.

**Democracy, Good Governance and Human Rights** form a key pillar of our Partnership and both Commissions reaffirmed our shared commitment to bringing the African Governance Architecture into full operation. The two Commissions also agreed that the next AU-EU Human Rights Dialogue will be held in the coming months and that we will also strengthen our cooperation in the area of human rights and business.

2015 marks the climax of international negotiations on financing for development, the post 2015 agenda and climate change. **Cooperation on these Global and Emerging Issues** was discussed in detail during the C2C and both sides confirmed their agreement to cooperate in these areas, as well as on tax governance, illicit financial flows and the peaceful use of outer space for development.

## Enhancing Human Rights protection through the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights

**“The vision of the Court is to help create an Africa with a strong and effective human rights culture.”**





**The African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Court) came into being in January 2004 with the ratification by fifteen African Union (AU) Member States of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights. The Court was established in Arusha to ensure the protection of human rights in Africa by making judgments on AU Member States' compliance with the Charter.**

**The Court is starting to make a difference to people's lives by promoting human rights and the rule of law. By October 2014, the Court had received 35 applications on contentious matters and 8 requests for an advisory opinion and it had finalized 24 of the contentious matters and 5 of the requests for advisory opinion.**

### **An ambitious vision**

The vision of the Court is to help create an Africa with a strong and effective human rights culture. The European Union fully supports this laudable and ambitious vision. More than ten years since the court was established, however, much work still needs to be done if African citizens are to benefit fully from the work of the Court.

So far 28 out of 54 AU Member States have ratified the protocol. But just seven countries have made the special declaration<sup>1</sup> allowing citizens and NGOs direct access to the Court. For the Court to discharge its mandate effectively, Africa needs to get fully behind it.

### **Building African leaders' support**

The good news is that political momentum is now beginning to build. In December 2014, the Chairperson of the AU, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma met the President of the Court Honourable Justice Augustino Ramadhani at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. "We are in the process of attracting more African countries to ratify the protocol," stressed the President of the Court. In fact, the Court has made around 20 sensitisation visits to AU Member States, including most recently to Ethiopia and Zambia. To capitalise on the current political momentum, the President of the Court intends to step up the outreach effort by approaching heads of state and governments personally. The EU is supporting the Court in encouraging wider ratification. The Court is there to serve African citizens, therefore it was that agreed that more people must make use of it.

### **EU support for human rights**

he leaders at the 4th EU-Africa Summit in Brussels in April 2014 agreed to identify our cooperation on human rights and governance. "The EU is keen to work and support the human rights work of the Court," confirmed the Head of the European Union Delegation to the AU, Amb. Gary Quince when he met the President of the Court in December 2014. He also assured the President of Europe's readiness to work closely with the Court in implementing its tasks. In addition to being a significant contributor to the Court's budget, the Court has benefitted from EU financed capacity building and technical support. In June 2014 the African Heads of State decided to expand the Court to include criminal jurisdiction, as well as to grant African Heads of State and senior state officials immunity from prosecution for grave human rights violations. The EU consequently made a decision not to support this new protocol until the immunities clause and lack of complementarity with the ICC are addressed. That protocol needs to be ratified by 15 AU Member States; in May 2015 no Member State has yet ratified it.

### **Ongoing challenges**

The Court is composed of 11 judges, nationals of AU Member States, elected in their individual capacity. It faces a range of practical issues, such as a shortage of lawyers and a lack of full-time judges — the only full-time judge in the court is the President, the others work in their national judiciaries and participate four times a year in ordinary sessions. Furthermore the Court does not have permanent premises and documents are not yet produced in the court's five working languages (English, French, Arabic, Portuguese and Kiswahili).

### **Moving forward**

Ultimately, the success of the Court and the positive impact it can have for African citizens will be determined by AU Member States. The EU is committed to supporting this process wherever it can. Looking ahead, the EU is focused on five areas that can strengthen the operation of the Court: the Court's participation in the EU-AU Human Rights Dialogue; an exchange visit to the European Court of Human Rights; judicial dialogue; training for staff; legal aid fund; and preparations for African Human Rights Year 2016.

<sup>1</sup> Article 34(6)

## Three Questions to Mr Guy Tapoko, AU DPA, Democracy and Electoral Assistance Unit

On 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014, in the margins of the EU-AU Summit, the African Union Commission (AUC) and the European External Action Service (EEAS) signed an 'Administrative Arrangement' establishing a staff exchange programme. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to the enhancement of the bilateral relationship between the AUC and EEAS by sharing best practices and training in key areas of the Africa-EU Partnership, such as peace and security, election observation, governance and human rights. The first AU member of staff to benefit from this exchange programme was Mr. Guy Topoko from the AUC Election Unit. Here he reflects.

### LINK: Can you describe your experience of the exchange programme with the European Union in which you have taken part?

It was a very useful and interesting programme although the time was very short. The exchange took place between the 3<sup>rd</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> November 2014. When I reached Brussels, I was lucky enough to attend an ongoing legal electoral analysts training programme given to European potential elections observers.

The aim of this training was to train the EU Core Team from which observers will be selected to be deployed in the EU Elections Observer Missions (EU-EOM). The Core Team deployment is part of the African Union Democracy and Electoral Assistance Unit (DEAU) program to be implemented soon.



My attendance at this particular training gave me the capacity to train future African Union core team observers and translate EU's practice into the Africa context. The rest of the programme was composed of meetings and exchanges with colleagues from different divisions of the EU, precisely in EEAS, DEVCO, FPI and European Parliament.

Thorough discussions on early preparation of Election Observation missions were the core strength of the EU election observation missions. I found the coordination between different departments and the methodology the EU uses very useful to learn.

**LINK: Given that there are 17 elections in Africa this year, at least seven of them classified as "critical" by the AU – how do you see the relevance of the exchange programme in enhancing AU's election observation capacity.**

Let me clarify something at the beginning. At the beginning of 2015 year we had exactly 17 elections to be observed. Now it's decreasing because some countries decided not to have the election this year. The exit of Chad and South Sudan leaves the AU with 15 elections to observe. Seven of the elections are labelled critical because of their background. Although my understanding is all the election should be considered critical, because we have noticed these last five years that elections have become causes of political problems on the Continent. Within the AU Democratic Election Assistance Unit we are in agreement that systematization of early assessment of electoral processes within the continent can resolve lot of problems. These early assessment, called pre-election assessment missions, can facilitate the identification of many problems that could disturb the electoral process. These problems could be addressed through different types of technical assistance, including training, in order to enhance the capacity of EMBs and avoid difficulties before, during and after elections. It is clear this is something I learned at the EU.

A few days ago I received an invitation to attend the transmission of the post-election report of the EU Election Observer Mission (EU-EOM) in Tunisia. Although I could not attend the EU is to be commended for returning to Tunisia to present the whole electoral process report to the government. The report generally has recommendations and their implementation methodology. This is an area where the AU should improve its post election period strategy towards its Members States. After my Brussels experience, I have discussed the adoption of this approach with the colleagues as well as the head of elections

unit. I fully consider this as one of the positive outcomes of my EU programme

**LINK: Are there specific examples where election observation mechanisms are taken from the European Union and its Member States experience.**

Something I deeply appreciated at the EU is its logistics strategy prior of the deployment of an EOM. This is really something AU can copy, can transfer and of course can contextualize. The EU logistics gives the EOM the best chance of success. This includes finance and more importantly security aspects. It was a pleasure to receive a wide overview of this strategy while meeting with the colleague in charge within the FPI. I hope to have the opportunity to present, explain and discuss this strategy with the colleagues in charge of procurement and other relevant aspects of an AU election observer mission. I'm quite sure this will fully enhance the AU's capacity on electoral matters.

My final recommendation is that this exchange programme should be deepened and extended to all common departments of the two institutions. Also the length of the program should be reconsidered from three weeks to one month maximum. There was so much to learn but time was a constraint.





## Partnership is the best way to fight terrorism

**Terrorism has emerged as a major security challenge in Africa and has escalated dramatically since 2013. A wide range of groups — such as Al-Shabaab, Boko Haram, the Lord's Resistance Army and others — are increasingly active. The scale and sophistication of attacks, the ability of terrorist groups to control large areas and to impose their violent rule on thousands of people, along with the increased regionalisation of terrorism demand a more robust and collective response, both at the regional and continental level.**

### A growing terrorist threat for Africa and Europe

While the African Union (AU) is a key player in the area of counter-terrorism, it still faces challenges in seeing its policies converted into national legislation and practices. In the long term the fight against terrorism also has to tackle the conditions that lead to radicalisation and violent extremism, which are influenced by socioeconomic and political factors.

At the 4th Africa-EU Summit in April 2014, African and European heads of state agreed to increase cooperation in addressing conflict and issues such as terrorism, transnational organised crime and related threats, including trafficking in human beings, drugs and arms trafficking.

AU Member States' commitment to fighting terror was highlighted in September 2014 when the AU Heads of State held their first Peace and Security Council on terrorism. The Summit recommended that Member States prioritise the following actions: ratify the 1999 AU Convention for the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa and its Protocol (2004); develop effective criminal justice systems to combat terrorism; invest in counter-terrorism legal frameworks; take advantage of the Model Law on Counter-terrorism (2011) to strengthen and/or update national legislation; improve criminal justice systems so that they adequately sanction and deter the committing of terrorist acts; enhance coordination, cooperation and information sharing among Member States; prevent and suppress the financing of terrorist acts and address their root causes.

### Two continents against terrorism

The European Union is also deeply engaged in counter-terrorism alongside national and regional organisations such as the AU, IGAD and ECOWAS. Activities range from financing the allowances of AMISOM soldiers, to supporting security sector reform through Common Security and Defense Policy police or military missions (EUCAP Niger, EUBAM Libya, EUTM Mali, EUCAP Mali, etc.). It also financially supports the African



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Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) in its evaluation missions and provides training for law enforcement officers to collect forensic evidence in the Sahel.

The Sahel and the Horn of Africa are the regions of primary concern to both continents. An integrated and comprehensive approach, taking into account judicial policy, regional aspects, conditions conducive to terrorism, the security-development nexus and the links between terrorism and transnational organised crime, are at the heart of the EU's action. The activities of the Horn of Africa Working Group of the Global Counter-Terrorism Forum, the African Peace Facility and the new Pan-African Programme, which includes peace and security and good governance aspects, underline this commitment.

### **Addressing the root causes**

The African Union is working extensively on terrorism prevention initiatives. Education, good governance (political, economic, cultural and social), tolerance, rule of law and human rights, justice, the role of the media, reducing marginalisation and exclusion have all been identified as key factors. Furthermore, the creation of economic opportunities for youth, as well as guarantees of minimal living conditions for all populations is also targeted.

When deciding on and implementing development priorities, the EU and Africa have a shared approach of addressing underlying factors together with security, governance and the rule of law. The need to uphold the highest standards of human rights while preventing and combating terrorism is imperative in preserving security.

### **Partnership, the way forward**

The terrorist threat is global. It requires commitment at all levels and enhanced international collaboration to defeat it. Understanding the vulnerabilities as well as the root causes of terrorism is crucial in ensuring a more proactive and holistic approach that enhances the effectiveness of counter-terrorism cooperation efforts across Africa. The European Union has reaffirmed itself as an effective partner as Africa takes steps to overcome this security challenge.



## Joint Field Mission to Mali of the Peace and Security Council of The African Union and the European Union Political and Security Committee



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**“The Mission urged all parties to seize this unique opportunity for dialogue and reconciliation...”**

**The African Union Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) and the European Union Political and Security Committee (EU PSC) undertook a Joint Field Mission to Mali from 11 to 13 February 2015. It was their first Joint Field Mission, and follows the agreement reached at their 7th Annual Joint Consultative Meeting held in Brussels in May 2014. The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission took place within the broad context of the Political Dialogue under the Africa-EU Joint Strategy, in which peace and security is a key pillar. With this Mission, the AUPSC/EUPSC wished to underline their joint engagement in support of Mali in its efforts to overcome its problems in the field of peace, security and development and to reaffirm their commitment to the full restoration of peace, security and development in Mali. The Mission was co-led by Madam Anne Namakau Mutelo, Permanent Representative to the AU and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, Member of the AUPSC, and Ambassador Walter Stevens, Permanent Chair of the EU PSC.**

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission met with the President of the Republic of Mali, H.E. Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, the Prime Minister, Mr. Modibo Keita, and other relevant Ministers, as well as representatives of key political parties, parliamentarians and civil society organizations. The Mission also undertook a field visit to Gao, where it held meetings with representatives of the local community, the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and Operation Barkhane. It also exchanged views with MISAHEL, EUTM Mali and EUCAP Sahel Mali.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission took place at a time when the security situation in northern Mali remained very tense and the 5th round of peace talks in Algiers was taking place. The Mission enabled both PSCs to gather first-hand information on the efforts being made to promote peace and reconciliation in Mali and to express the EU and AU's joint support for these efforts.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission expressed their deep concern about the persisting violence in northern Mali. This poses a threat to the security, stability, territorial integrity and development of the country and the wider Sahel region, and continues to cause massive human suffering. The Mission called on all parties to respect the cease-fire agreement of 23 May 2014 and the Declaration of Cessation of Hostilities of 24

July 2014. It is essential that all armed groups refrain from any kind of violence.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission reaffirmed that the substantive differences between Malian parties can only be settled by peaceful and constructive dialogue in the context of the talks in Algiers. The Mission urged all parties to seize this unique opportunity for dialogue and reconciliation, to participate at a suitably high level, and to show the necessary political will and flexibility to reach an inclusive and durable political solution as swiftly as possible. Without it, all parties, and particularly the people of Mali, will continue to suffer.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission emphasized the need for enhanced coordination among regional and international actors in the implementation of their respective strategies for the Sahel. The Mission acknowledged the efforts to enhance security cooperation and the operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) in the Sahelo - Saharan region, including the Declaration adopted by the Summit held on 18 December 2014, in Nouakchott, Mauritania.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission reiterated their full support to MINUSMA in the implementation of its mandate and its efforts to protect civilians. The Mission strongly condemned the attacks on the UN peacekeepers and civilians and urged all parties involved to refrain from violence and respect their commitments for a peaceful resolution of their differences. Concerning the events of 27 January 2015 in Gao that caused the loss of civilian lives, the Mission welcomed the opening of an enquiry. Furthermore, the Mission noted the readiness expressed by African Troop Contributing Countries to contribute to efforts aiming at enhancing the capacity of MINUSMA to execute its mandate.

The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission also served to take stock of progress and synergies achieved by MINUSMA, MISAHEL and the EU CSDP missions (EUTM Mali and EUCAP Sahel Mali). The AUPSC/EUPSC Joint Field Mission, the first of its kind, was welcomed by members of both PSCs as a most useful way to further enhance political dialogue and cooperation between both bodies.



# The African Union Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards



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**The African Union Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards are intended to promote science as a development tool and to encourage young people to pursue scientific careers. The awards include three levels: national – for young scientists, regional – for women scientists, and continental – for scientists of any age and gender having made major scientific contributions to address Africa's challenges.**

**The link between science and development is well-established and accepted. However, this requires mobilising the full potential of the continent's population. It is thus crucial to attract young people to opt for careers in science and engineering. This has been the motivation behind the establishment of the African Union Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards: to popularize science, to ensure the recognition of researchers and to encourage young people to consider research for their studies and careers.**

**Since the launch of the scientific awards by the African Union in September 2008, the European Union has contributed over €2.3 million in prizes as part of its commitment to support AU initiatives in higher education, science, technology and research.**

### 2014 Regional scientific awards for female African researchers

On 19 December 2014, the 2014 regional scientific awards for female African researchers in the field of "Life and Earth Sciences", and "Basic Science, Technology and Innovation" went to researchers from four African Regions

- Dr. Lydie-Stella Koutika from Congo as the Central Africa Region Laureate for her work in soil organic matter in different ecoecosystems;
- Prof. Fetien Abay Abera from Ethiopia as the Eastern Africa Region Laureate for her work in plant breeding;
- Prof. Salwa K. Abd-El-Hafiz from Egypt as the Northern Africa Region Laureate for her work in computational intelligence and numerical techniques; and
- Prof. Isabella Akyinbah Quakyi from Ghana as the Western Africa Region Laureate for her work in malaria.

Each laureate received a US\$20,000 prize sponsored by the EU. The participation of women in research, their opportunities to contribute fully and their recognition, as well as gender issues in research itself, are an integral part of good research policy. The EU strives for the fullest contribution from women to science, by ensuring gender equality and gender mainstreaming in research because encouraging gender diversity supports scientific excellence.

### 2015 Continental scientific awards

The 2015 Continental African Union Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Awards were presented during the 24th African Union Summit of Heads of State and Government on 31 January 2015. The AU Kwame Nkrumah Scientific Continental Awards recognize top African researchers who engage in pioneering research aimed at contributing to the wellbeing and improved quality of life of Africa's citizens.

This year's continental awards were presented to:

- Prof. Salim Abdool Karim, Centre for the AIDS Programme of Research, South Africa, winner in the field of "*Earth and Life Sciences*" for his work on microbicides for HIV/AIDS prevention, and
- Prof. Timoleon Crepin Kofane, University of Yaoundé, Cameroon, winner in the field of "*Basic Science, Technology and Innovation*" for his work in physics.

These prizes, each worth \$100,000, were introduced by the AU Commission Chairperson Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, who thanked the EU for its support, and presented by newly-appointed Chairperson of the AU, Robert Mugabe. The laureates also thanked the EU for making these prizes possible.

### Background

EU cooperation with Africa in S&T

Since the launch of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy in 2007, the European Union and Africa have been working together to develop a shared policy for science, research and technology and work towards joint actions. But even before this strategy was launched, African scientists have been participating in the EU's framework programmes for research and development. For instance in the 7<sup>th</sup> Framework Programme, which spanned from 2007 to 2013, there were some 600 projects involving African researchers working with their European counterparts, in particular in the areas of health, agriculture & food security and on



environmental issues. These African researchers received some 200 million euro for their work in these research projects. This strong and mutually beneficial collaboration continues in the newly-launched Horizon 2020 programme.

The EU-Africa cooperation on science, technology and innovation was confirmed at the 4th EU-Africa Summit in April 2014 in the EU-Africa Declaration and Roadmap for 2014-2017.

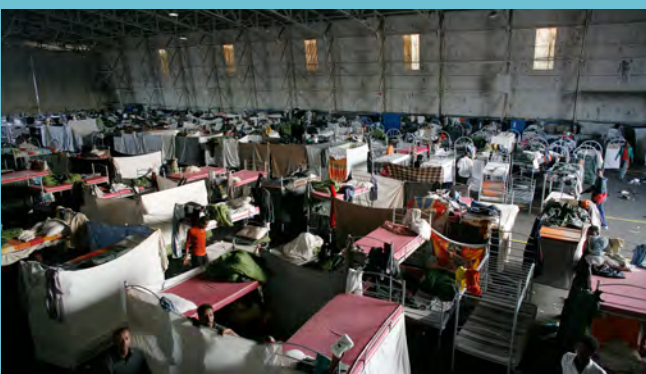
In December 2014, the EU's new Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation – Mr Carlos Moedas – made his first visit outside the EU to the African continent for the launch of the second European and Developing Countries Clinical Trials Partnership (EDCTP2), a 2 billion euro programme to fight infectious diseases in Africa over the next 10 years.

The EU recognizes that investment in research, science, technology and innovation is fundamental to achieve development objectives in particular, and for sustainable development of societies in general.

The EU and Africa agreed to promote human capital development and knowledge and skills-based societies and economies, for example by strengthening the links between education, training, science and innovation.

In this regard the EU is supporting the African Union Research Grants under which 20 projects related to post-harvest and agriculture, renewable and sustainable energy, and water and sanitation are currently being implemented. Discussions are ongoing on the conditions for further support of the AU Research Grants.

## Migration: from, within and to Africa





**Migration dominates the news nowadays, not only in relation to the thousands of migrants from Africa trying to cross the Mediterranean to enter the European Union (EU), tragically with many casualties. Many migrants are also fleeing Yemen and Syria due to the ongoing conflicts. Finally, the xenophobic violence against African migrants in South Africa has caused displacement of thousands of migrants within South Africa and several deaths.**

**Drivers for migration are demographic pressures, jobless growth, growing inequalities between and within countries, fragility of states, conflicts, climate change and global skills shortage.**

**As regular migration may not be an easy option, many migrants turn to irregular migration and very often use smugglers to help them to get to other African countries or to the European Union. However, many migrants end up being trafficked against their will by ruthless networks of traffickers, sometimes being tortured and raped in order to extort money from their families and friends back home for their freedom. Ultimately tackling the root causes of irregular migration means ensuring inclusive and sustainable development in the countries of origin and transit. Yet, it is not easy to achieve this quickly. So what can be done in the meantime?**

### **Actions**

As indicated above, many migration movements are caused by wars and internal conflicts, such as in Syria and Yemen. Finding sustainable solutions for these conflict situations would prevent people being forced to flee their country.

Moreover, the unstable situation in Libya is being used by African migrants – and even more by smugglers of migrants and traffickers in human beings – to move to Europe.

Taking the large number of migrants that died trying to enter the EU by sea, preventing further loss of life at sea is a priority for the EU and its Member States. That is why the EU has set up its Operations Triton and Poseidon to implement coordinated operational activities at the external sea borders of the Eastern and Central Mediterranean region in order to control irregular migration flows towards the territory of the Member States of the EU and to tackle cross-border crime, but also to carry out search and rescue actions.

However, in order to tackle the causes of irregular migration and to combat the smuggling of migrants and the trafficking of human beings, the EU needs to cooperate with Africa - with

countries of origin, transit and with the African Union. Through the Rome Declaration, EU Member States, and selected AU Member States (i.e. Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan and Tunisia), as well as the European Commission, the African Union Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS) launched the EU-Horn of Africa Migration Route Initiative (Khartoum Process) to undertake concrete actions to prevent and tackle the challenges of human trafficking and smuggling of migrants between the Horn of Africa and Europe, in a spirit of partnership, shared responsibility and cooperation.

Despite all these negative sentiments on migration, one should keep in mind that at the same time migration provides opportunities for destination countries, countries of origin and migrants themselves.

### **Labour Migration Governance for Development and Integration**

Most international migration today is related to seeking employment. More than 90% of all international migrants are workers and their families. In 2013, there were 18.6 million migrants in Africa. Half of African migrants stay in Africa. The absence of implementation of free movement protocols by Regional Economic Communities (RECs); limited political will; lack of comprehensive labour migration strategies and policy frameworks across borders exasperate the current migration problem.

Responding to the needs explicitly identified by RECs and social partners as well as those defined in AU regional policy instruments the AU adopted a Joint Labour Migration Programme (JLMP) at the AU Summit in January 2015. The Programme will focus on critical areas of facilitating free movement of workers as a crucial means of advancing regional integration and development in Africa.

The JLMP intends to contribute to the development potential of labour and skills mobility in Africa by supporting effective governance and labour migration and the protection of migrants. In the long-term the Programme aims to extend decent work and social protection to migrant workers and their families, to strengthen regional integration and inclusive development, to encourage productivity, productive investment, and business success, and to enable better social and economic integration of migrants, effective labour and social protection mechanisms, and sustainable labour market systems.

EU is committed to support the Resource mobilization for and implement of the JLMP and resource mobilization.

## EPAs ready to boost trade and regional integration in Africa



**“Thirty-two African countries  
have chosen Economic Partnership  
Agreements.”**



**With the successful conclusion of negotiations on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), an exciting new era in EU-Africa trade relations begins, bringing major opportunities to boost Africa's regional economic integration process.**

### **Tailored agreements**

The EPAs are free trade agreements (FTAs) negotiated between the EU and African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. Flexibility is key to the EPAs as they avoid a 'one size fits all' approach, factoring regional specificities into the agreements, which are designed to promote trade alongside sustainable growth and development. The agreements are development-driven and aim at promoting African economic growth. For example, the EU gives full and immediate access to its market while African countries will liberalise their markets partially and over a long period – in some cases up to 25 years.

### **Africa chooses EPA**

Thirty-two African countries have chosen Economic Partnership Agreements. They see strong potential for growth and greater regional integration within their respective regions and Africa overall. Participating African states selected their own EPAs' regional configurations and determined the level of ambition of the regional negotiations. After years of negotiation, Africa and Europe can now move forward in this new chapter of their trade relations. Strong commitment to full implementation will ensure that EPAs result in increased trade between the two continents with positive spin-offs for intra-African trade and continental integration.

### **More than market access**

The EU's ACP trading partners have already enjoyed duty-free and quota-free access to the EU market under the Cotonou Agreement and Everything But Arms. Yet such unilateral preferential access has not succeeded in boosting local economies and stimulating growth. The EPAs are set to change

this. They will help to create the right conditions for trade and investment and will have direct benefits for the peoples of Africa and Europe. The signatories believe that EPAs will be more effective than unilateral agreements in helping African countries integrate smoothly into the world economy. Why? Because the EPAs look beyond free market access and take a broader approach to tackling trade barriers.

In addition to reducing tariffs and quotas, the new approach seeks to address wider issues that inhibit trade, such as poor infrastructure, inefficient customs and border controls or failure to meet international standards.

### **Promoting regional integration**

EPAs support Africa's regional integration initiatives and can be considered a building block for continental integration efforts. The agreements have improved rules of origin and extended cumulation, making it easier for African companies in export sectors to source inputs from other countries within their region and beyond. In practical terms it means that, to take just one example, textile producers in Kenya can now access a market of over 500 million European consumers even if they source their raw materials from within the Eastern African Community, elsewhere in Africa, or even Asia. EPAs are therefore a tool for boosting regional and continental integration, industrialisation and the creation of stronger regional value chains in Africa.

EPAs build on each country and region's own development strategy and are very respectful of national sovereignty as well as the pace and sequence of domestic reform.

EPAs are flexible tools that can be adapted to evolving situations and so boost Africa's industrialisation ambitions. The inbuilt support to further regional integration makes EPAs invaluable tools that are supportive of continental integration processes such as the Tripartite FTA (SADC, EAC, COMESA) and the African Union's CFTA.



# Accelerating Africa's agricultural transformation

**Agriculture in Africa and, more specifically, agricultural transformation, wealth creation and food security are rising on the political agenda. Developments — such as the June 2014 AU Summit's Malabo Declaration — indicate the impetus to accelerate the process so that the results and benefits are more visible. This article highlights some milestones that have led to the current interest in agricultural development and outlines how more progress can be made.**

## Role of CAADP and JAES

The 2003 African Union (AU) Heads of State Summit in Maputo endorsed the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) with the overall goal of, "helping African countries reach a higher path of economic growth through agriculture-led development, which eliminates hunger, reduces poverty and food insecurity, and enables expansion of exports." It included a commitment to allocating at least 10% of national budgets to agriculture.

CAADP's four pillars were designed to: increase sustainable land management and reliable water control systems; improve rural infrastructure including trade-related capacity; increase food supply; and improve agricultural research, technology dissemination and adoption.

Participatory processes were established in countries, resulting in the signature of 'CAADP Compacts' - investment plans and business meetings to mobilise funding. Coordination at regional and continental level was mainly tasked to the African Union Commission, the NEPAD Planning and Coordinating Agency (NPCA), and the Regional Economic Communities. In 2008 a CAADP Multi-Donor Trust Fund (MDTF) was established at the World Bank to support these institutions in the implementation of CAADP. The European Commission (EC) contributes almost one third of the total budget. Together the EC plus the EU Member States finance the whole MDTF budget, with USAID contributing through a parallel Single Donor Trust Fund.



At the same time, in December 2007, 80 European and African heads of state and government launched the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), marking a turning point in relations between the two continents.

Most European support to agriculture in Africa still takes place at country level, through allocations from the National Indicative Plans. Currently around 34 African countries have chosen agriculture and/or food security as one of their focal sectors of EU cooperation. JAES support to agriculture, on the other hand, addresses continental and regional processes, mostly articulated around CAADP.

### Malabo Declaration on accelerated agricultural growth

In 2012, the new African Union Commission Chairperson, Dr. Dlamini-Zuma, identified food security as one of her main priorities. Momentum built as 2013 marked the 10th anniversary of CAADP, and the AU declared 2014 as the Year of Agriculture and Food Security. The importance of agriculture was further reinforced at the AU Summit in June 2014. The theme of the event was transforming Africa's agriculture and the Summit approved the **Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods**, which renewed the AU's commitment to CAADP principles and values and established ambitious targets to be achieved by 2025, such as ending hunger in Africa, reducing poverty by half and tripling intra-African trade in agricultural products. In addition to reinvigorating the CAADP process, the Malabo Declaration goes beyond the agricultural sector and addresses new challenges for supporting agricultural transformation across the continent.

The higher level coordination structures and support mechanisms can add value if they promote and support national processes which manage to achieve concrete results for the millions of mostly small-scale African farmers who struggle to make a decent living.

There has been some obvious progress. At least 40 countries have signed their CAADP Compacts, 28 have finalised their investment plans and 25 have held business meetings. While this is commendable, the impact in terms of wealth and employment creation as well as increase in agriculture production has yet to be monitored. Furthermore, some have pointed out that CAADP remains too process-focused and that progress at the continental and country levels does not necessarily proceed at the same pace.

### A results-oriented approach

The recent CAADP Partnership Platform, held in Johannesburg in March 2015, emphasised the need to 'walk the talk', in other words, to translate policy and strategic documents into action and results on the ground. The latest CAADP Development Partners Task Team, currently chaired by the EU, delivered a similar message, and proposed that development partners move from process-oriented to result oriented support. This is indeed the biggest challenge for the next phase of CAADP.

The approval of the CAADP Result Framework during 2014 marked a step in the right direction. It replaced the original pillars with a more result-oriented tool setting clear goals that facilitate monitoring and the evaluation of progress. But more steps are needed.

The complexity and multi-level dimension of CAADP also requires a logical distribution of responsibilities, based on principles of subsidiarity. AUC, NEPAD, RECs and Member States should make clear their institutional roles with respect to CAADP, so as to work in synergy and coordination with each other.

### Accelerating positive results

Many need to work together to optimise African agricultural growth. For example, AU Member States should increase their participation in continental and regional CAADP structures, to ensure their voices are heard and their needs accounted for. In this way the continental and regional processes can be shaped so that they maximise their support to countries and avoid disconnection between different levels. States should also honour their commitment to allocating at least 10% of their budgets to agriculture.

Institutions should use existing opportunities to build their capacities sustainably, avoiding event-based short-term measures. Development partners, on the other hand, must ensure that their support to agriculture is fully aligned to CAADP, is transparent and predictable. CAADP is an ambitious framework requiring long-term commitment. Clarity on the institutional set-up will facilitate the best allocation of support.

As we move to a new phase of CAADP implementation, the EU is making efforts to increase the effectiveness of its support, maximising added value, building long-term capacities and ensuring impact on the ground. These actions can only succeed if they fit within a wider commitment and effort exerted by African countries and institutions themselves, in coordination with all other development partners.



## A pivotal year for international cooperation and global development

**The next few months promise to be pivotal for both the post-2015 development agenda and for the international approach to climate change. Africa and Europe are at the heart of the debate and together can help determine the type of world future generations will live in.**

In July, Ethiopia will host the Third International Conference on Financing for Development. The results of the inter-governmental negotiations are expected to constitute an important contribution to the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. The event will be followed by a UN Summit for the Adoption of the Post-2015 Development Agenda, being held in September in New York and where an agreement will be adopted on common objectives and priorities for the whole international community up to 2030. Another series of UN negotiations are underway to develop a new international climate change agreement. The agreement should be adopted at the Paris Climate Conference in December 2015 and implemented as from 2020. Each of these three initiatives is interlinked and the success of one feeds through to the next.

### Climate change

The EU's priority for climate change is to ensure the adoption of a legally-binding agreement that is ambitious and capable

of delivering the internationally-agreed objective of keeping the temperature increase below 2°C. A higher increase could have a catastrophic impact on human development. Even a 2°C increase will have serious consequences. Africa is anticipated to be the most negatively affected continent on the planet due to a combination of severe impacts — extreme weather events including droughts, floods and heat waves that will seriously affect agricultural and fishery productivity — and relatively low adaptive capacity. The estimated cost of adaptation for Africa is \$50 billion per year by 2050, and double that if the temperature increases beyond 2°C.

The EU is encouraging the intended nationally-determined contributions (INDCs) to combating climate change to be prepared well before the Paris Conference and to include targets that represent a progression in ambition from the pledges made in the past.

The EU's INDC was submitted to the UNFCCC secretariat in March 2015. It sets a target of at least a 40% domestic reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 2030, compared to 1990 levels, as well as renewables target of at least 27% and energy savings of 30%. Currently, 35 countries have submitted their INDCs of which Gabon was the first African country to submit





its INDC on 1 April 2015. If a majority of African countries submit their INDCs, it will send a strong signal to other countries, especially major and emerging economies. The EU and its Member States already support emissions reduction in more than 15 African countries. The EU is committed to supporting its vulnerable country partners and will work towards a deal that addresses their concerns.

### Financing for Development

The Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa will focus on assessing the progress made in the implementation of the Monterrey Consensus (2002) and the Doha Declaration (2008), taking into account the evolving development cooperation landscape, the interrelationship of all sources of development finance, the synergies between financing objectives across the three dimensions of sustainable development and the need to support the UN development agenda beyond 2015.

From the European perspective, the agenda should be based on the principle of shared responsibility, mutual accountability and respective capacity. Appropriate and ambitious commitments for all need to take into account the different levels of development, national context and capacities. Europe is also committed to the establishment and implementation of a strong monitoring, accountability and review framework at national, regional and global level, engaging all relevant stakeholders.

### Post 2015 Development Agenda

The post-2015 agenda finds its origins in two major strands, which have converged: the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), which had a target date of 2015; and (2) the follow-up to the Rio+20 Conference on Sustainable Development, which notably launched processes to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In January 2014, Africa adopted a common position on the post-2015 agenda and is in the process of establishing an African group of negotiators to speak with one voice at the summit negotiations. Meanwhile, in February 2015, the European Commission issued a communication focusing on the global partnership for the implementation of the post-2015 agenda.

The outcome of the New York meeting is expected to include: (i) an introductory declaration; (ii) a set of SDGs, targets and indicators; (iii) the means of implementation and a new global partnership; and (iv) a framework for monitoring and review of implementation.

### Interlinked initiatives

The Development Agenda involves a range of topics, including climate change and financing is key. The EU has provided Official Development Assistance (ODA) for climate change related interventions of more than €3.7 billion since 2002 and is committed to scaling up the mobilisation of climate finance in order to contribute its share of the developed countries' goal to jointly mobilise \$100 billion per year by 2020 from a wide variety of sources public and private, bilateral and alternative sources of finance. An array of actions is supported in Africa through different instruments (EDF, EU Budget thematic lines) and at different levels (local, national, regional, continental and even intra-ACP).

### Africa-EU Joint Strategy

In parallel to the global cooperation, the Africa-EU Joint Strategy (JAES) sets out a common vision, values and principles linking Africa and Europe. At the 2014 Africa-EU Summit both continents confirmed that the JAES remains the strategic reference for EU-Africa relations and committed to enhanced cooperation for the years to come. The joint roadmap adopted for the period 2014-2017, outlines the key priorities and areas for joint action at inter-regional, continental or global level in areas where Africa and the EU have mutual interests.

Climate Change and the post-2015 development agenda are identified as crucial areas of cooperation under priority number 5 ('Global and emerging issues') and Africa and the EU have committed to work in partnership in the international negotiations. In this context, a joint EU-Africa ministerial statement on climate change was adopted on the 1 April 2014. In the same way, the EU also tried to encourage the adoption of an Africa-EU Joint Declaration on the post-2015 agenda, but didn't succeed. Instead, an ACP-EU Declaration on the post-2015 development agenda was adopted in June 2014 at the ACP-EU Ministers' Council. Clearly both continents have a major role to play in the current international negotiations and close cooperation between Africa and Europe is necessary in order to reach ambitious agreements that are beneficial to all.

The post-2015 development agenda should be coherent with existing internationally agreed goals and targets, such as those on climate change. Ensuring coherence between the various negotiating tracks — and making sure they are mutually supportive — will be one of the main challenges of 2015.

## ASEOWA: A Ray of Light in Ebola's Dark Legacy

On 2 December 2013 in a small Guinean village called Méliandou, which lies near an intersection of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, two-year old Emile Ouamoundo died from a mysterious illness. He was quickly followed by his sister, mother and grandmother. This local tragedy in rural Guinea began a chain of Ebola transmission

which, at the time of writing, has claimed the lives of over 11,000 people, infecting over 27,000 people in nine countries. The repercussions of this disease on the health services, schools, economy and even social fabric of the most affected countries has been unprecedented, as has the international response.



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“ A key focus initially was the establishment of the necessary infrastructure to treat Ebola patients... ”

Though it is now widely accepted that the international community was late to realise the full extent of the Ebola crisis, it responded all the more robustly once the scale of the outbreak became clear. On 8 August 2014 the WHO declared Ebola a public health emergency of international concern. In September, it was projected that, without the intervention of the international community, up to 1.4 million people could be infected by the end of January 2015, and that Ebola could become endemic among the human population of West Africa. In the face of such projections, the international community quickly mobilised to pledge about \$5 billion USD globally to fight Ebola, of which over €1.4 billion has come from the EU. Two EU Member States, Britain and France, along with the US, launched large-scale operations in Sierra Leone, Guinea and Liberia respectively to help contain the outbreak.

A key focus initially was the establishment of the necessary infrastructure to treat Ebola patients in an infection-free environment, which meant the large-scale construction of specially-designed Ebola Treatment Units (ETUs). Yet who would staff these treatment centres? A clear constraint from the outset was the lack of healthcare personnel to identify cases and to treat the sick and dying. To combat this, the African Union Commission established the African Union Support to the Ebola Outbreak in West Africa (ASEOWA) on 20 August 2014, following a decision by the AU Peace and Security Council to immediately deploy an AU-led military and civilian humanitarian mission to the region. Given the strong EU-Africa partnership, the EU was one of the first to confirm its support for the mission, contributing €5m to the operation thus far. Most of the EU funding has gone towards paying allowances and essential health insurance for volunteers to the mission. In addition to funding, from the very beginning the EU has contributed expertise in planning and upscaling the mission and has provided political support, awareness-raising and advocacy for ASEOWA on the international stage, most recently at a High-Level Conference in Brussels in March 2015.

Since its inception, through strong partnerships and political will, the ASEOWA operation has become a widely-acknowledged success. Though the envisaged number of ASEOWA volunteers was originally set at 100, this soon increased to over 800. ASEOWA teams have been integrated into national response strategies and have carried out important tasks such as managing Ebola Treatment Units, treating infected persons, tracing contacts when cases are reported, liaising with local communities and conducting laboratory testing to confirm

cases. Furthermore, not a single ASEOWA healthcare worker has been infected with the disease.

With the falling number of new Ebola cases, and efforts to 'get to zero' new infections, the focus of the international community is turning towards recovery and reconstruction. It remains to be decided to what extent ASEOWA will engage in the post-Ebola recovery of the three most affected countries, which is likely to be a protracted process requiring considerable resources. As the urgent need for healthcare workers has fallen with the number of Ebola cases, ASEOWA doctors and nurses have turned to supporting the depleted national healthcare systems by providing medical care for vital non-Ebola treatments, which were often neglected in the midst of the Ebola crisis and by training local healthcare staff to treat Ebola and control infections.

With ASEOWA's emergency work coming to an end, what will be the mission's legacy? Firstly of course are the hundreds of men, women and children treated and saved by ASEOWA medical staff, added to the probably larger numbers who were protected from contracting the disease through efficient contact tracing. Then there are the plans for an African Union Rapid Reaction Force of healthcare workers to respond quickly to any future health crises. Also there is the upcoming establishment of the African Centre for Disease Control and Prevention (African CDC), which will help to identify emerging health crises and to help AU Member States to implement the International Health Regulations, designed to prevent such an expansive health crisis from developing in the first place. The European Centre for Disease Control (ECDC) has provided expertise and experience-sharing to ensure the African CDC is as successful in its aims as ASEOWA.

However, ASEOWA's most enduring legacy may well be a renewed spirit of African solidarity. Individual volunteers have come from every corner of Africa. Healthcare workers have been contributed by Nigeria, Ethiopia, South Africa, the Democratic Republic Congo, Kenya and other countries. The AU identified the pressing need for healthcare workers, established a mission to respond to this need, worked with partners such as the EU to mobilise support and coordinated closely with those partners in a dedicated ASEOWA Strategic Task Force. ASEOWA is an embodiment of African solidarity, of developing a continental solution to a shared problem, of gathering African expertise to save African lives in the face of disaster. And that is a worthy legacy indeed.



“No women, no development, no dignity!”

*EU Commissioner Neven Mimica*



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“ Several countries were awarded during the Summit with the WIP Awards 2015 to acknowledge their national efforts to empower women... ”



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**The Women in Parliaments Summit which takes place in Addis Ababa in Ethiopia from 23 to 25 March, is the largest ever. It has brought together over 400 Parliamentarians from around the world to discuss how leaders, both female and male, can work together to address the issue of women's empowerment in politics, gender equality and other global challenges.**

The EU co-financed the Summit and participated with a strong delegation led by Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development, Neven Mimica.

Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini-Zuma Chairperson of the African Union Commission during her opening remarks highlighted, "In Parliaments where we have a critical mass of women, we are beginning to see a difference in the laws and policies that are passed. The key to a lasting betterment of our society lies in achieving greater female leadership,"

Today, only 1 out of 5 members of Parliaments are women. Commissioner Mimica stated the importance of such meeting

to change this statistics. In his opening speech " Our planet in 2030: A women's world?" he asserted EU's and his personal commitment to strive to make women empowerment a reality. All available EU resources will be used to close the gender gap worldwide once and for all as there can be no development without women's empowerment, the Commissioner emphasised. The Summit highlighted the importance of diversity in leadership positions and seeks strategies to increase the number of women in politics.

The WIP Summit 2015 was co-hosted by the African Union Commission featured plenary sessions on the post-2015 development agenda, the redefinition of leadership; regional co-operation, health and education. Working group discussions raised Female Genital Mutilation and provided media training for female Parliamentarians.

Several countries were awarded during the Summit with the WIP Awards 2015 to acknowledge their national efforts to empower women and close the gender gap in politics (based on the World Economic Forum's Global Gender Gap Report).



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# EU-AFRICA PARTNERSHIP

## INVESTING IN PEOPLE PROSPERITY AND PEACE



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