

## The Delegation of the European Union to the Holy See, to the Order of Malta and to the UN Organisations in Rome

### Our Mandate

The Delegation of the European Union in Rome works essentially in the fields of food and agriculture ensuring, since 1993, the liaison between the Headquarters in Brussels, the 27 EU Member States and the three UN Organisations based in Rome : the **Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO)** ; the **World Food Programme (WFP)** and the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**. Since 2006 the Delegation is also accredited to the **Holy See**. In 2007, the accreditation to the **Order of Malta** was added to the Delegation's mandate.

The **Delegation's mandate** covers mainly the following tasks :

- contribution to EU negotiations and positions at the UN organisations ;
- consolidation of the EU positions in Rome through regular meetings of the governing bodies, formal or informal donors' consultations, expert meetings, etc ;
- feedback to the Headquarters on important EC competences such as agriculture, fishery, food safety and trade ;
- coordination with the EU Member States mainly through the AGRI-FAO Council Working Group in Brussels and EU coordination meetings in Rome ;
- cooperation with the Holy See and the Order of Malta in matters of common interest, especially in the field of human rights and aid development.

### The Delegation's staff



#### The Head of Delegation Mr Yves GAZZO

He was appointed to the Delegation in Rome in 2009. Before this appointment, Mr Gazzo was the Head of the EC Representation in Paris. He was also Head of Delegation in Jordan, Yemen, the Philippines and Ethiopia.

To perform the Delegation's mandate, the Head of Delegation is assisted by **two counsellors, one attaché, one official responsible for the administration, four contract agents**, and a seconded **national expert** partly financed by an EU Member State. The Delegation also enrolls a few **trainees**, and has a special agreement with the University of Bologna to receive graduated students twice a year.

### The EU : player n° 1 in international development

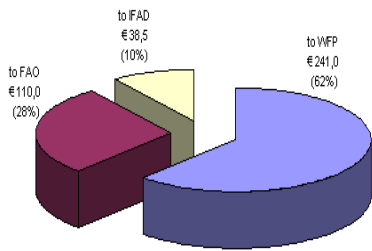
In 2008, the **EU provided 67% of all financial aid** that flows from developed-country governments to developing countries. This amounted to **more than 79.9 billion USD** (67.5 from EU-27 Member-States + 12.4 from the EC), out of a total Official Development Assistance (ODA) of **119,7 billion USD** in 2008. This is more than three times the amount given by the United States (second largest donor with 26 billion USD in 2008). While, globally speaking, official resources earmarked for development have been at a standstill since 2004, the EU's own spending is increasing in accordance with the Millennium Declaration.

In 2008, the EU-ODA figure represents more than 0.40 percent of the European GDP, a figure that aims to increase to **0.70 percent by 2015**, in line with a long-standing UN target that was reiterated in the Millennium Declaration. In cash terms, this will bring **EU annual aid to 90 billion Euro (133 billion USD) in 2015**. Half of the increase will be channelled to **Africa**.

The **European Consensus on Development** (adopted in Dec.2005) and the European Consensus on **Humanitarian Aid** (adopted in 2007) have set out a common EU vision, shared principles and well defined operating rules in the field of development and humanitarian aid. This allows more **coherence, synergies and more effective response** to the increasing challenges of poverty, hunger and humanitarian crisis.

The **European Commission** alone, as a major donor, provided the **3 UN Agencies in Rome** with a total financial support of **389,8 million Euro in 2008**.

In 2008, EC contribution to the 3 Rome based UN Agencies reached **389.8 € Mio**

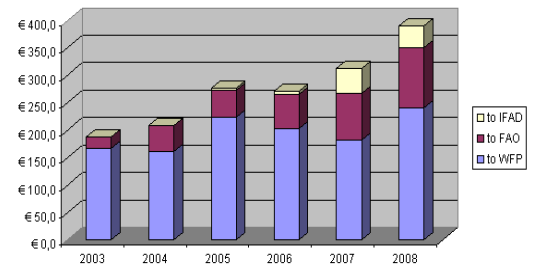


### The annual EC contribution to the 3 UN agencies in Rome shows:

- a continuous **increase** in funding for the 3 UN Roman sisters, from € 187,5 Mio in 2003 to € **389,8 Mio** in 2008
- A **better balance** of the EC support amongst the 3 agencies
- A **shift in the EC financing strategy** from emergency as the priority to agricultural investment and development (WFP absorbed 62% in 2008 whereas it received 90% of the EC contribution in 2003).

Evolution of the annual EC contribution to the 3 Rome based UN Agencies

Evolution of the annual EC contribution to the 3 UN Agencies in Rome



## EC's status and work with the 3 UN organisations in Rome

Rome is considered as the **UN capital for activities in the fields of food and agriculture**. The EU Delegation contributes to the coherence and consistency of the European Community's positions in these fields, in order to reinforce the EU presence and visibility among all stakeholders in Rome.

### Food and Agricultural Organisation

- Established in 1943
- Director General: J.DIOUF
- **Mission:** to raise levels of nutrition by improving agricultural productivity, and to provide a neutral forum for nations to discuss food and agricultural issues.
- The EC is a **Member Organisation**
- The EC **needs to coordinate** with EU-27 before each meeting, so as to define who will speak on behalf of the EU on which subject and on the basis of which statement.
- The EC does not contribute to the FAO's regular budget, but is the **first donor of extra-budgetary resources**.

### World Food Programme

- Established in 1961
- Executive Director: J.SHEERAN
- **Mission:** to use food to meet emergency needs and provide the logistics support so as to deliver it at the right place at the right time.
- The EC is a **Special Observer**
- The EC **consults informally** the EU-27 and other OECD Countries (List-D) for consistency reasons, but speaks on its own at the **Executive Board**.
- The EC is the **second largest donor** (after the US), and the **first cash contributor** to WFP.

### International Fund for Agricultural Development

- Established in 1977
- President : KANAYO F. NWANZE
- **Mission :** to raise funds and finance projects designed to improve food production systems, and life conditions of the rural poorest.
- The EC is an **Observer**
- Due to its limited status, the EC does attend neither the Executive Board, nor the replenishment meetings, but is invited to the **Governing Council**, which takes place once a year.
- The EC supports IFAD on the basis of **specific projects**, without contributing to the IFAD core budget.

## Relations with the Holy See and the Order of Malta

The Head of the EU Delegation in Rome was accredited to the **Holy See in June 2006**, following the EC President Barroso's commitment to establish full diplomatic relations between the EC and the Holy See. The relations (through official ceremonies, visits and meetings) focus on the inter-cultural and religious dialogue, human rights, education, poverty, health as well as climate change and globalization.

In June 2007, the Head of the EU Delegation was also accredited to the **Order of Malta**. The Order has been for many years a valuable partner of the EC, having helped to implement EC programmes and projects in many parts of the World, especially in the fields of emergency relief, medical care, the fight against hunger and extreme poverty, with a special focus on people affected by conflicts. The EC signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Order of Malta on 17th February 2009.



Pope Benedict XVI with Mr Yves Gazzo