



EU TANZANIA NEWS



A quarterly newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union in Tanzania

JANUARY 2012

Message from EU Ambassador



Dear reader,

After a month as new EU Ambassador/Head of Delegation to Tanzania, I wish to acknowledge the excellent welcome I had from the Tanzanian authorities and people, as well as from the members of the diplomatic corps in Dar Es Salaam. I was impressed by all of them, by their professionalism, commitment, and friendly attitude. I definitely feel very lucky to be in Tanzania.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs Hon. B. Membe and H.E. President J.K. Kikwete honoured me by welcoming me officially to Tanzania shortly after my arrival, which I took as a sign of the consideration the EU enjoys from the highest authorities of the country. I attribute it to the important role the EU is playing globally and in Africa, but certainly also to the excellent work performed by my predecessor Ambassador Tim Clarke, to whom I pay a warm tribute.

Having served as EU Ambassador to Ghana, I like to refer to the commonalities that exist between Tanzania and this country: both are considered role model countries for their stability and peaceful approach to consolidating democracy. It is a rare quality these days and I am pleased to remind that Tanzania's government has earned global respect for the leadership it has shown in dealing with a number of African crises, as well as with the naturalisation of a high number of refugees hosted on its territory.

This said I know I have been appointed to Tanzania by the EU High Representative for Foreign and Security Policy and Vice President of the European Commission, Baroness C. Ashton, to do some serious business, not just to play pleasant rhetoric. Among my mandates I would like to mention three at least:

- Forging alliances to strengthen the fight against piracy - a threat to the entire Horn

of Africa and East African Coast, with possible devastating effects on security and economic development.

- Putting in place the EU's new development cooperation policy – the "Agenda for Change"- where more visible results and more financial accountability are the necessary response to an even increased flow of resources to the poorest countries, in time of hard economic crisis in Europe.
- Promoting regional integration as the main vehicle to opening the economies of the region and of the continent and to trigger trade, investments and economic growth through, among other things, the conclusion of an Economic Partnership Agreement with the EAC.

Of course, all of this can not be achieved by my Delegation in isolation. Here the team work with the eleven EU Member



Baroness C. Ashton

States' Diplomatic Missions to Tanzania is crucial. The EU architecture put in place with the Lisbon Treaty provides me with a new legitimacy as the "voice" of the EU group in Tanzania, but it is only with their support and building on the value of their historical ties with the country that I can attain to achieve tangible results.

Let me conclude with a warm thanks to the highly professional and dedicated staff of the EU Delegation in Tanzania, whose tireless work has already resulted in many positive contributions to the development of Tanzania and to the consolidation of the EU-Tanzania relations.

Enjoy your reading.

Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi

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The views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the European Union



"The campaign is so timely and I urge all road users to take its messages seriously"



EU, government launch road safety campaign in Dar

THE European Union (EU) in collaboration with the Ministry of Works in October last year launched a three-month road safety media campaign aimed to explore ways for increasing public awareness on risks associated with vehicles and travel in Tanzania.

The launch coincided with the celebrations to mark the 2011 Road Safety Week. The EU funded the

campaign whose cost was Tshs. 250 million.

A number of key safety related challenges were addressed and messages for motivating changes in attitude and the adoption of safer behaviour amongst the travelling public were delivered.

The two-month pilot project was first confined to Dar es Salaam area, focusing on the safety of drivers, pedes-

trians, cyclists and children, who constitute the group at highest risk of being involved in a road crash.

It used TV and radio spots, roadside billboards located on the busiest roads of the city, posters, leaflets and other communication channels to ensure maximum outreach and impact.

Speaking at the launch, the former Head of Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania, Tim Clarke and the Kinondoni District Commissioner, Jordan Rugimbana called for stern measures against offenders of traffic regulations.

"The impact of the campaign will be carefully evaluated and it will provide a basis for further actions supporting the implementation of the country's road safety strategy," said Amb. Clarke.

On his part, Mr. Rugimbana appreciated the support by EU in ensuring road safety in the country and asked for additional support from all road users to make the campaign successful.

"We have all witnessed how road accidents have become a big problem in our country; Dar es Salaam being among the leading regions with many accidents," he noted adding:

"The campaign is so timely and I urge all road users to take its messages seriously. Traffic police officers should take serious measures against anyone violating road safety laws".



Mr. Rugimbana (left) and Ambassador Clarke congratulating each other after launching the campaign in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Emmanuel Kihale



'EU is committed to support Tanzania in bringing about development to its people'

Ambassador Sebregondi discussing with President Kikwete after presenting his credentials Photos: State House

THE new Head of Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania, Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi, presented his letters of credence to President Jakaya Kikwete at a function that was held at the State House in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday January 10, 2012.

Ambassador Sebregondi is also the European Union Ambassador to the East African Community which is comprised of Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda and Burundi.

His mandate covers overall representation of the EU and leading Member States on EU matters; political dialogue with Tanzania and EAC authorities; management of development assistance; trade relations; and public diplomacy with the host country.

In the margins of the ceremony, Ambassador Sebregondi discussed the state of the relations between the EU and Tanzania with President Kikwete.

During the discussion President Kikwete stressed the importance of the

partnership and the excellent working relations between Tanzania and the EU. He highlighted EU's contribution to Tanzania development referring also to the political profile of the relation with the EU.

Ambassador Sebregondi assured the President of the European Union's commitment to continue to support the country in

bringing about development to its people.

He told him that the EU and its leadership recognize the positive role played by Tanzania towards stabilisation and democratic consolidation in Africa, as well as statesmanship in the continent.



Ambassador Sebregondi (centre) and his wife Flavia (left) chatting with President Kikwete on the sidelines of the function. Looking on is the Head of Cooperation of the Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania, Enrico Strampelli (2nd left)

EU Heads of Missions visit Dar es Salaam Port



The Dar es Salaam Port General Manager, Cassian Ngamilo (left) explaining to the EU diplomats about different operations at the port.

ON October 25 a delegation of European Union Heads of Missions in Tanzania visited the Dar es Salaam Port at the invitation of Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) Director General, Mr. Ephraim Mgawe.

The diplomats, who were led by the then Head of the Delegation of the European Union to Tanzania Ambassador Tim Clarke, were also accompanied by representatives from European business community and commercial attaches from the EU Member States' missions.

Other Heads of Missions who were part of the delegation included the British High Commissioner Diane Corner, Ambassador of Denmark Bjarne Henneberg Sørensen, Ambassador of Germany Klaus-Peter Brandes, Ambassador of Italy Pierluigi Velardi, Dutch Ambassador Dr. Ad Koekkoek, Ambassador of Spain Juan Manuel Gonzalez de Linares Palou and Ambassador of Sweden Lennarth Hjelmaker.

One of the objectives of the visit was to hear about and visualize the Port's problems, challenges and potential, as well as to understand the decongestion efforts undertaken by the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and support from development



The Ambassador of Sweden Lennarth Hjelmaker (left) explaining a point during a questions and answers session as part of the visit to the Dar es Salaam Port. Photos: Emmanuel Kihaule

partners. It also aimed at conveying messages from EU business community and seeking clarity on concerns they expressed over cargo handling at the Port.

While briefing the diplomats, the TPA Acting Director General Julius Mfuko, said that his authority has taken a number of measures to increase efficiency in handling cargo at the Port through close involvement of all stakeholders.

"There are a lot of improvements in clearing cargo and now the average time has come down to 11 days and sometime clearance of a cargo can take 4 to five days only, down from 30 days. This has only been possible through joint efforts and cooperation with all stakeholders," he said adding; "We've follow-up meetings with all the major players at the Port fortnightly to make sure that nothing causes unnecessary delays."



Touring the port

Dar es Salaam Port General Manager, Cassian Ngamilo, informed the delegation that plans were underway to expand the Port by adding more berths, expanding and increasing the width and depth of the existing wharves to allow bigger ships to load and offload cargo.

He also said that TPA was planning to have an inland container depot at Kisarawe to ease congestion at the Dar es Salaam Port.

According to him, Kisarawe being 25 kilometres from Dar es Salaam is strategically placed between the Tanzania Railway Company Limited and Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority to enable easy shipping of cargo to and from across the country and neighbouring countries.

'There are a lot of improvements in clearing cargo'

On his part, Ambassador Clarke said after the visit that the EU and its member states were ready for a dialogue with the TPA and the Government in general to see to it that the Port operates with the highest efficiency and therefore boosts the country's economy.

"Efficient management of the Port is critical to the growth of Tanzania's economy and efforts to develop regional trade and integration. The EU Ambassadors' visit this morning was designed to raise awareness and to develop a genuine and deep dialogue on how we can partner with TPA and contribute to addressing the challenges," he said.



Tanzania Gives Back celebrates unsung volunteers

NOVEMBER 17 was the long awaited day for awarding Tanzania's unsung heroes through the *Tanzania Gives Back* (TGB) initiative.

Several Tanzanians from across the country were awarded after their different volunteering projects were voted the best by a panel of experienced judges at an award gala that was graced by Deputy Minister for Information, Culture, Youth and Sports, Dr. Fenella Mukangara on behalf of President Jakaya Kikwete.

The President had shown much interest in attending the award gala but due to an emergency meeting at State House he could not make it.

The TGB, which was organised by Tanzania House of Talent, was launched on May 9 during the EU Day reception.

TGB was an idea inspired by the celebrations to mark the European Year of Volunteering 2011 whose theme was *Volunteer: Make a Difference*.

The EU and the Sumaria Group of Companies were the main TGB sponsors.

Awards included cash prizes, trophies and certificates.

The initiative aimed to provide a platform for highlighting and giving recognition to outstanding, special people



Some of the winners in a group photo with TGB partners while displaying their certificates. Photos: Emmanuel Kihaule

who give back to their community for free for the benefit of those in need within the wider Tanzanian society.

The target people were those volunteering heroes who have been giving their services for free without fanfare or publicity to encourage other Tanzanians to adopt the noble cause.

Over three hundred volunteers were nominated from across the country with only ten of them reaching the finals after thorough scrutiny of the judges.

It covered categories of Health and Physi-

cal Disability, Education, Children and Youth, Environment and Poverty Reduction.

In her speech, Dr. Mukangara commended the TGB initiative and called upon Tanzanians to cherish volunteerism in order to help the needy in the society.

"Everyone can make a difference. Volunteering your time, volunteering your energy and vitality, volunteering your skills and knowledge. Giving this for free, to help others – there can be no nobler cause," said Ambassador Clarke.



Deputy Minister for Information, Culture, Youth and Sports, Dr. Mukangara addressing the audience



Artists from the Tanzania House of Talent entertaining during the award gala

GBS donors ask for dialogue, more transparent public spending

"Discussions around this year's budget have been complicated and perhaps not as transparent as we would have liked,"



Officials from GBS partners' group on the sidelines of the meeting

"GBS is the government's preferred modality of providing official development assistance to Tanzania"



Prof. Mkulo speaking at the review meeting. Looking on is the Ministry of Finance Deputy Permanent Secretary, Dr. Servacius Likwelile and the former EU Ambassador to Tanzania, Tim Clarke

PARTNERS under the General Budget Support (GBS) group have commended the government for improving both formal and informal communications with donors but singled out three areas that need more improvement.

The Chair of the GBS group, the then EU Ambassador to Tanzania, Tim Clarke, listed the need to strengthen dialogue, delivering tangible and measurable results and improving accountability as areas that the government should focus on.

He noted that though there was improvement in communication between the donors and the government, discussions around the 2011/12 Budget could have been made more productive

Ambassador Clarke made the statement during the opening of the 2011 GBS annual review meeting held between November 24 and 25 in Dar es Salaam, which was officiated by the Finance and Economic Affairs Minister, Prof. Mustafa Mkulo.

"Discussions around this year's budget have been complicated and perhaps not as transparent as we would have liked," he said.

On delivery of measurable results, Amb. Clarke noted that Performance Assessment Framework for GBS (PAF) showed that implementation of the Budget did not achieve the intended results in some areas.

Therefore, he said, there was a need for

a dialogue to ask why certain targets were not met and coming with answers that would help to improve matters in the future.

According to him, though the economy has been growing well at between six and seven per cent, the government ought to be careful with fiscal deficits which have been growing as well as inflation which has also been on an upward trend for several years now.

On improving accountability, the EU Head of Delegation advised the government to strengthen the oversight organs such as parliamentary committees and media as a way of enabling the community understand well what the government was doing.

Opening the meeting, Hon. Mkulo said the government would continue to improve and use GBS because it was the appropriate system of assisting the government Budget.

"GBS is the government's preferred modality of providing official development assistance to Tanzania. This is because GBS gives the government full ownership over resource allocation in line with national priorities," he said.

Regarding the issues raised by the GBS donor group, Prof. Mkulo promised that the government will see to it that the issues are addressed.

"The government is committed to good governance and accountability as a critical requirement for promoting broad-based economic growth and poverty reduction," he insisted.



GBS partners in a group photo after the opening session. Photos: Emmanuel Kihale

GBS partners assure Tanzania of support despite troubles in global economy

DONORS supporting Tanzania under the General Budget Support (GBS) modality have pledged to continue supporting Tanzania in its efforts to bring about development to its people despite the ongoing troubles in the global economy.

Speaking at the Annual National Policy Dialogue in Dar es Salaam recently, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union in Tanzania, Ambassador Filiberto Ceriani Sebegondi, said that the levels of the GBS financing will remain stable despite the unpredictable trend.

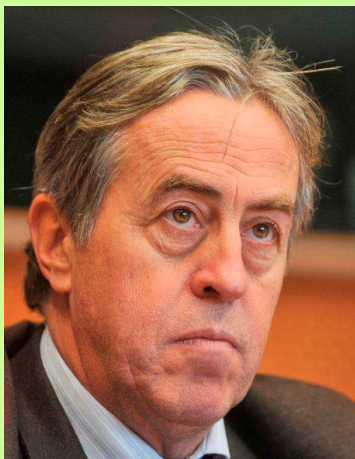
He gave assurances that development partners under the GBS group shall remain committed to keep honouring their commitments by providing finances predictably amid the global economic crisis.

However, he called upon responsible attitudes:

"Today's global financial outlook remains bleak and for that reason aid instruments such as the GBS remain exposed to criticism and continuing with status quo will not be healthy."

He also called upon the Parliament, civil society organisations, the media and the general public to keep on scrutinizing government expenditure priorities so that public funds are spent wisely and budgets are result oriented. Ambassador Sebegondi commended the government of Tanzania for a

fruitful dialogue and for increasingly striving to rely on own revenues.



Ambassador Sebegondi at the Annual Policy Dialogue

The Head of the EU Delegation also cautioned the government to seek a lasting solution to the perennial energy crisis which is vital for harnessing a vibrant private sector and the development agenda in general.

The dialogue came up with a long list of deliberations, drawing particular attention of stakeholders to the envisaged five years development plan which needs about 43tr/- to be effectively implemented.

"The First Five Year Development

Plan (FYDP 2011/12 - 2015/16) is the first of three such plans intended to deliver the goals of the Tanzania Development Vision 2015, and it aims to unleash Tanzania's latent growth potentials," Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) Director for Special Duties, Mugisha Cerase Kamugisha, said when presenting the summary of the deliberations.

He mentioned the plan's priorities as building infrastructure, particularly in the energy sector, transportation, and ICT as well as agriculture, with particular focus on production and agro-processing.

"Others are industrial development, particularly that which will increase national capacity to process locally available raw materials and improve tourism, trade, and financial services," he said.

However, stakeholders warned that the successful implementation of the plan will require high levels of discipline in resource mobilisation, coordination, and avoiding the 'business as usual' mentality.

Closing the dialogue, the Minister for Finance and Economic Affairs, Prof. Mustafa Mkulo, said that the government is committed to give special attention to further strengthen ownership, accountability, improvement in quality and use of country systems as well as reducing aid dependency.

"Today's global financial outlook remains bleak and for that reason aid instruments such as the GBS remain exposed to criticism and continuing with status quo will not be healthy"



Finance Minister, Prof. Mustafa Mkulo

General Information on GBS

What is General Budget Support?

GBS is an aid delivery modality that provides financial assistance to the national budget whereby the funds are provided by Development Partners (DPs) and spent by Government according to its priorities as set out in the Tanzania's National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (MKUKUTA for Tanzania's Mainland and MKUZA for Zanzibar).

GBS in Tanzania

Tanzania's tax base is still small to generate adequate domestic revenues for implementing poverty reduction plans hence the country still relies on external aid in implementing its development plans. The aid is received mainly through three modalities; project support, sector and programme baskets, and the GBS.

In Tanzania, the GBS is financed by 11 bilateral Development Partners and 3 Multilateral: The African Development Bank, Canada, Denmark, the European Union, Finland, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Norway, the Netherlands, Sweden, Switzerland, the United Kingdom, and the World Bank. The group is led by a Troika (the Chair) which rotates every year. European Union is the Chair for the Financial Year 2011/12.

Once a year (usually around November), the GBS stakeholders meet at an Annual National Policy Review where they evaluate the progress made by Government in meeting the targets set out in the MKUKUTA and MKUZA. The Review is an opportunity for Development Partners, Government and domestic stakeholders to discuss development challenges and set out the objectives for the coming year.

Why is GBS a preferred aid modality?

The Government prefers the GBS modality because the funds go straight into the national budget and it decides on how to spend the money, it strengthens the parliamentary role for decision-making and shifts government accountability from donors to citizens, it makes aid contributions more predictable and so makes it easier for the Government to implement its poverty reduction programme, among other benefits.

On the other hand, GBS is favoured by donors for countries like Tanzania which are politically stable, have carried out successful economic reform programmes, have initiated governance reforms and which have shown a strong commitment to poverty reduction and the targets set out in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). Tanzania is one of the leading recipients of GBS in the world.



Prince of Wales, The Duchess of Cornwall visit Tanzania

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Their Royal Highnesses taking picture with President Kikwete and his wife Salma at State House in Dar es Salaam.
Photos: Online Sources

BETWEEN November 6 and 9 The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall undertook an official visit to Tanzania at the invitation of President Jakaya Kikwete.

Soon after their arrival they attended a colourful reception at the State House in Dar es Salaam that was attended by a crowd of school children and some government officials waving both the Tanzanian flag and British union flags.

Before coming to Tanzania, The Prince of Wales and The Duchess of Cornwall visited Arabian Gulf countries and the South Africa.

Their Royal Highnesses' Commonwealth tour focused on trade and investment promotion to support Britain's economic recovery and strengthen economies of our partners; employment opportunities and development issues; education and practical support for disadvantaged young people.

The visit, which was part of the celebrations to mark Tanzania's 50th anniversary of Independence, also focused on sustainability issues in the run-up to the Durban Climate Summit in November.

In South Africa and Tanzania there was a strong focus was on the World Wide Fund for Nature's (WWF's) work to protect endangered species and fragile ecosystems. Last year The Prince of Wales became the President of WWF in the United Kingdom.

dom.

During the Royal Visit to Tanzania, Their Royal Highnesses visited a number of locations in Dar es Salaam, Zanzibar and Kilimanjaro.

The Prince's last official visit to Tanzania was in 1984 but it was The Duchess of Cornwall's first time.

While in Dar es Salaam The British Royal Highness, Prince of Wales was briefed about a project by WWF Tanzania on community-based management of fisheries resources in villages of Rufiji, Mafia and Kilwa districts.

The Prince of Wales was impressed by the manner at which the project was being implemented through the application of greater wisdom of the local communities.

The Royal Highness awarded the project with a certificate in appreciation of the efforts.



'The Prince's last official visit to Tanzania was in 1984 whereas for his wife this was the first time'



The Duchess of Cornwall greeting children when she visited the offices of the Women and Development Organisation (WAMA) in Dar es Salaam. Looking on is Tanzania's First Lady Salma Kikwete who is WAMA's Chairperson



EU pushes for new phase in global climate policy

"It is good news that by 2020 all countries will be legally bound under a common regime to reduce emissions"

AT the Durban Climate Conference that ended on 11 December, the European Union's strategy worked. The first commitment period under the Kyoto protocol expires in 2012.

The EU had made clear we would engage in a second Kyoto period only if Durban agreed on a clear roadmap to a deal which, for the first time, would bind all nations legally.

And Durban delivered this roadmap. It agreed that this new legal framework must be concluded by 2015 and come into force from 2020.

And it stated that the new climate regime must be more ambitious than the one we currently have.

By standing united and firm in Durban, the EU achieved what few had thought possible. We put pressure on the big emitters. We proved wrong those who thought the EU would cave in to China and India.

We had to fight until the very last minute, but we succeeded in bringing all countries into a common and truly global legal regime to curb emissions.

The truth is that the EU was the leader in Durban, and we will continue to be proud leaders in the future. When the EU moves, others follow – sometimes under pressure, but they do move.

The EU's roadmap was at the core of the negotiations from the outset. It was our main goal and our key condition for taking a second Kyoto period. Linking the two paid off.

But how does a roadmap help combat climate change? Well, it's obvious that this doesn't change much today, nor in the near future.

However, it is good news that by 2020 all countries will be legally bound under a common regime to reduce emissions.

In the meantime, more ambitious near-term action is essential. All the scientific evidence indicates that global emissions need to peak before 2020 – before the future legal regime kicks in.

The EU will not be sitting back and waiting for the new big deal. We will be trying to do more: more renew-

ables and energy efficiency, smarter ways of taxing and more emissions cuts.

And this will boost growth and jobs here in Europe.

Until we get the big deal in force by 2020, the rest of the world must join us in considering how they will increase their ambition.

At present, only some developed countries have the legal obligation to reduce emissions under the Kyoto protocol.

With the new legal framework Durban has agreed to build, all countries – developed and developing – will be equally bound. In breaking with the past, this new system reflects the reality of today's mutually interdependent world.

All countries need to take on commitments that have equal legal weight.

Developing countries, led by China, already emit more greenhouse gas than the developed world.

It is estimated that by 2020 they will be responsible for around two thirds of global emissions.

The EU would have liked to see the new system in place very much earlier. But many of the big emitters were not ready for that yet.

In accepting the Durban outcome they have agreed to be ready by 2020 at the latest. In the meantime, Kyoto will act as a bridge to the new global regime.

The EU has always supported Kyoto and wants to preserve its essential elements for the future.

We have based our own legislation on Kyoto principles; we are the region with the most ambitious target



EU's Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard addressing the Durban Climate Change Conference. Photos: Online Sources

under Kyoto – and we are meeting it. Actually, we are on course to over-achieve our target.

If there is one thing we have learned in Europe, it is this: binding targets work. They help governments remain focused even when other political priorities come up.

Important though they are, international agreements are not the only answer to climate change.

What defines whether we have strong and effective or weak and inadequate climate policies is what nations, regions, municipalities, companies and individual citizens do. Combating climate change concerns us all.

However, it is no exaggeration to say that Durban marked a breakthrough. It is not the end of the road but rather the beginning of a new phase in international climate policy.

A new phase with a clear mandate to raise the level of ambition, both now and in the future legal regime.

As we did in Durban, the EU will continue to set the pace and fight for more ambition here and abroad.

We will continue working to get all our partners on board for the ambitious action our planet demands.

The author of this article is EU's Commissioner for Climate Action, Connie Hedegaard



"We will continue working to get all our partners on board for the ambitious action our planet demands"



President Rompuy: Eurozone crisis is a test for Europe

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IN the past year, the sovereign debt crisis in the eurozone became even more intense.

This is the most serious test that the European Union has faced since long.

Over these twelve months, European leaders from all 27 member states took major decisions, individually and jointly, to bring this storm to rest.

We were united by the sheer determination to overcome the euro crisis.

We are aware that there is no quick fix and that the path will be long and arduous.

Yet we remain convinced that it is necessary to safeguard the achievements of sixty years of European integration and to lay the foundations for the future.

The European Council in 2011 covers the institution's activities in 2011, the second year of my mandate as its president.

The stability of the eurozone and the state of our economies required our full attention.

So did the changing geopolitical landscape around us, not least as a result of the Arab spring.

The European Council brings the Union's highest executive leaders around the table: the 27 Heads of State or Government of the member states, the President of the Commission, and the President of the European Council.

Together we establish political priorities, we set the Union's strategic

course and we take responsibility in crisis situations.

In the course of 2011 we welcomed new colleagues, and said goodbye to former ones, after government changes in Ireland, Finland, Portugal, Denmark, Greece, Italy and Belgium.

Some of these changes were related to the public debt crisis.

Colleagues from two countries agreed to hold anticipated parlia-

mentary one, one informal meeting of the European Council members, as well as four separate summits of the Heads of State or Government of the eurozone, which I also chaired.

From the table of the Union's leaders I can testify that, even if we have sometimes frank discussions, there is a strong and fundamental political will to work as equals, to help each other and to move forward as a Union, respecting fully each other's situation.



European Commission President Manuel Barroso



EU Council President Herman Van Rompuy. Photos: Online Sources

"The stability of the eurozone and the state of our economies required our full attention"

mentary elections to preserve the financial stability of the eurozone: in order to help restore market confidence in Spain, and in Slovakia to honour a pledge to contribute to a stronger firewall.

These are all signs of how European and national politics are now woven together ever more tightly.

The Lisbon Treaty requires a minimum of four European Council meetings to be held each year.

Circumstances have required us to work more closely together. In 2011, there were five formal European Council meetings, an extraor-

All along our aim has been to establish the right balance between collective solidarity and individual responsibility in safeguarding the common European good, be it the single currency, the internal market or a common border.

Dealing with the tension between unity and diversity remains the daily bread of our Union.

This is a message by President of the European Union Council, Herman Van Rompuy looking back at the EU's activities in 2011 and provide his personal account of key decisions taken by his institution in relation to a number of issues including the eurozone crisis





Zanzibar Second Vice President, Amb. Seif Idd (right) greeting the Swedish Ambassador to Tanzania, Lennarth Hjelmaker soon after arrival at the launch of a project against child labour in the isles that is implemented by the Zanzibar Government with support from the European Union and the Government of Sweden. Looking on is the former EU Ambassador to Tanzania, Tim Clarke.



EU Tanzania Delegation's staff taking a group photo together with the Former EU Ambassador to Tanzania, Tim Clarke and his wife Anne (2nd row from right) soon after a farewell party that was held at Umoja House, Dar es Salaam in December 2011. Photos: EU Delegation and Courtesy of Tanzania's Ministry of Foreign Affairs



Tanzania's Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Bernard Membe talking with the new EU Ambassador to Tanzania and the East African Community, Filiberto Ceriani Sebreghondi when the latter paid him a courtesy at his office in Dar es Salaam in December 2011



Children celebrating soon after the inauguration of the eco-village project in the Uluguru Mountains, Morogoro region in December 2011. The project is funded by the European Union and implemented by the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). The project is aimed to build resilience to local communities against effects of climate change



A cross-section of people who turned up at the inauguration of Tove-Mtwango Water Project, in Njombe District, Iringa region in December 2011. The project is funded by the European Union and the Government of Italy. The inauguration ceremony was presided over by President Jakaya Kikwete.

My short but interesting stay at the EU Delegation in Tanzania

IN the second half of November 2011 I had an opportunity to volunteer at the EU Delegation in Tanzania. How does development cooperation work in practice? That is what I wanted to discover.

'Assisting the person in charge of external communication and other colleagues with their daily work' was my job description. I thought that was excellent given the fact that I previously worked for the Information and Communication Unit in office of the Director General for Development (DG DEV) at the EU Headquarters in Brussels. Currently, I deal with internal communication which is one of the tasks that I dealt with during my stay at the EU Tanzania office.

I was curious to learn how knowledge management was dealt with in the Delegation. One aspect of it is the compiling of a daily press review, to which I contributed.

What does external communication mean in reality in a Delegation? Quickly I found the answer by attending an information session on a Call for Proposals related to management of natural resources and a press-conference which announced the ceremony of the volunteering awards.

I also could formulate some comments on



the draft Guidance Note on Disability and Development. I also saw how a formal evaluation of a project proposal is done.

Finally, I could notice how colleagues did tremendous efforts to bring the final negotiations on the General Budget Support to an end.

To conclude, I was impressed by how highly motivated people could perform under a heavy workload. The nice atmosphere at the Delegation is certainly one element which makes this possible.

I am happy that I could experience what real life in a Delegation is all about.

Asante Sana!

Gino Debo

UPCOMING EVENTS

- February 6-11-European External Action Service (EEAS) Managing Director for Multilateral Affairs, Mara Marinaki and the European External Action Service (EEAS) Managing Director for Africa Nick Westcott visit Tanzania
- Ongoing-Identification Mission for the Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT)
- February 16-New EU Ambassador, Filiberto Ceriani Sebgondy presents his letter of introduction to the Secretary General of the East African Community (EAC), Dr. Richard Sezibera.
- February 22-24-Regional Maritime Capacity Building Technical Assessment Mission

GOOD-BYE



I'm leaving the EU Delegation and Tanzania after five fantastic years. I have really appreciated working at this very colourful office and working on the good governance portfolio is never boring. I'm happy to have had the opportunity to work with so many amazing people both at the office, in the governance group and with my Tanzanian counterparts.

Kirza Kristensen
Contract Agent-Economic Section

WELCOME

I'M delighted to start working at the EU Delegation to Tanzania. I want to thank all the colleagues for receiving us so warmly. My family and I are impressed by the country and the Dar es Salaam city where we stay. We're really looking forward to getting to know much more of the country and its people!



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