



EU TANZANIA NEWS



Special Edition Newsletter of the Delegation of the European Union in Tanzania

JULY 2012

Message from EU Ambassador



Dear reader,

Exceptional moments create special opportunities. I feel privileged having the opportunity to present this extraordinary issue of our newsletter at the occasion of the visit of President José Manuel Barroso and Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs of the European Commission, to Tanzania on 21 and 22 July 2012.

Presidential visits are a rare treat and President Barroso's visit to Tanzania was the first of its kind. The depth, warmth and quality of the discussions between President Barroso and the Tanzanian authorities underscored the strong economic and political partnership between the European Union and Tanzania. The EU has since long been a main development partner of Tanzania and will continue to be so. The President witness that Tanzania has experienced significant economic growth in a dynamic region and that society has become increasingly diversified society. It has created an environment for a broader partnership beyond the traditional donor-recipient relationship. The visit of President Barroso has given a significant boost to this broad partnership.

During the visit President Barroso held discussions with President Kikwete and with senior Cabinet Members and government officials. He also met with represen-

tatives of the international community and with EU Heads of Mission and EU Delegation staff.

For a taste of life outside the meeting rooms, the President and Commissioner visited the CCBRT disability hospital in Dar es Salaam. The commitment, determination and attitude of the CCBRT staff and their impressive achievements left a deep impression on the visitors. Commissioner Piebalgs and his delegation also travelled to Mbeya to inaugurate, with President Kikwete, the Mbeya Urban Water Project.

The visit took place while the country was in mourning over the tragic accident involving the ferry MV Skagit near Zanzibar. President Barroso expressed his profound sadness over the loss of so many lives.

The staff of the Delegation went the extra mile to prepare the coming of their President and their Commissioner for Development. They were rewarded with a flawless visit, an opportunity to meet their President in person and a boost to the EU presence in Tanzania.

The plaque that President Barroso unveiled at Umoja house will continue to remind us of this momentous occasion.

Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi

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President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs visit Tanzania

THE DELEGATION was honoured to welcome European Commission President José Manuel Barroso and European Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs to Tanzania last weekend.

During a brief visit, President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs held talks with President Jakaya Kikwete at State House on Saturday, before the Commissioner and Tanzanian Minister of Finance, Dr William Mgemwa, officially signed six financing agreements totalling €126.5 million. Following a working lunch with prominent ministers of the Tanzanian government and European dignitaries, the delegates paid a visit to the CCBRT hospital in Dar es Salaam before meeting with Delegation staff at Umoja house, where President Barroso unveiled a plaque commemorating the visit.

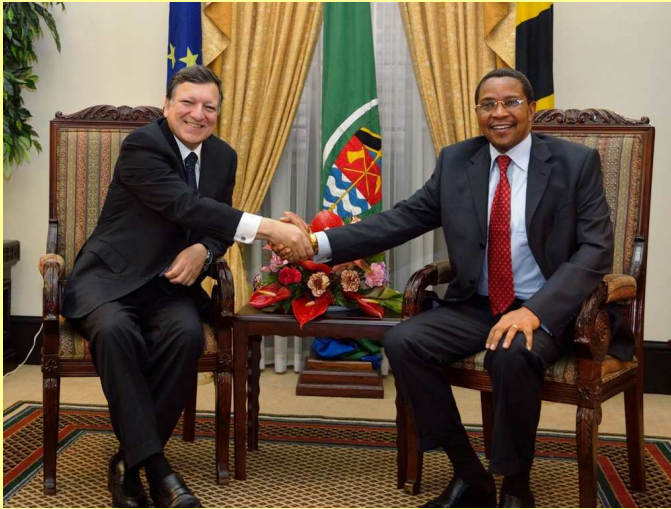
The following day, Commissioner Piebalgs flew to Mbeya to inaugurate, along with President Kikwete, the Mbeya Urban Water Project, a major collaboration between the EU and the Tanzanian government which will provide safe drinking water for over 140,000 people.

The trip was hailed as a great success, with Tanzanian and EU officials both celebrating the existing cooperation between Tanzania and the EU, and pledging increasing cooperation and dialogue in the future.



President Barroso (centre) posing for a group photograph with the staff of the European Delegation at Umoja House.

EU, Tanzania leaders pledge increasing cooperation, dialogue



President Barroso and President Kikwete getting down to business

AS A KEY part of last week's visit, President Barroso held talks with H.E Jakaya Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania, in which both expressed commitment to increase cooperation and dialogue between the EU and Tanzania. Commissioner Piebalgs, Ambassador Filiberto Ceriani Sebregondi and other senior EU officials also attended the talks, which took place at State House in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, July 21.

President Barroso praised progress made by Tanzania in recent years, stating: "Tanzania has become one of the EU's main partners in Africa, and is also playing an increasingly important role in the stability and the inclusive and sustainable economic growth of the whole region. We now want to deepen our regular political dialogue with Tanzania and further increase our cooperation in areas like energy, anti-piracy, counter-terrorism or migration; issues which are of concern both for Africa and the European Union."

The European Commission President paid tribute to President Kikwete, commending him for "his strong leadership and for his present and past roles in advancing regional peace and security."

"Tanzania's active engagement in the East African Community (EAC) and in the South African Development Community (SADC) is central for this region and beyond, and it is deeply appreciated in the European Union," he added.

Noting the considerable prospects for economic transformation in Tanzania, he announced: "I am also pleased to further increase our development cooperation by launching new programmes that will encourage inclusive and sustainable growth and help us to make even more of a difference in the fight against poverty."

President Kikwete expressed his appreciation of the unprecedented historical socio-political and economic cooperation between European Union and Tanzania, and describing the EU as "one of our key Development Partners, both in terms of magnitude of financial support and commitment to our development initiatives". Since 1975, Tanzania has received close to €1.8 billion in grant aid from the EU.

The Tanzanian President highlighted his government's commitment to strengthen the long-standing cooperation between Tanzania and the EU, and said he looked forward to increased cooperation in the future.



Ambassador Sebregondi and Commissioner Piebalgs were also present for the talks

EU grants €126.5 million to water, sanitation, transport and governance projects in Tanzania

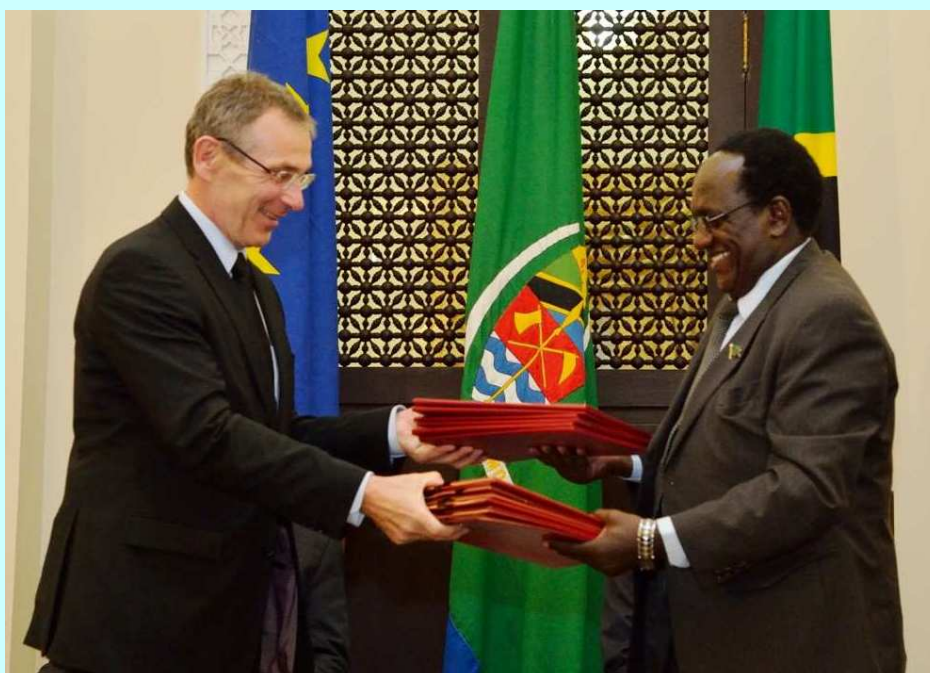
THE EUROPEAN UNION has launched six new development programmes in conjunction with the Tanzanian government, worth a total of €126.5 million.

Announced as part of President José Manuel Barroso and Commissioner Andris Piebalgs's visit to Tanzania on Saturday, July 21, the programmes covered a variety of aims, from improving access to water and sanitation and strengthening Tanzania's road infrastructure to providing the government with capacity support in the areas of programme management and policy dialogue.

The six separate financing agreements were signed by Commissioner Piebalgs and Tanzanian Finance Minister Dr. William Mgimwa Saturday 21 July morning at State House. Cumulatively, the programmes aim to repair more than 200km of roads, provide access to safe drinking water for 500,000 people, improve sanitation services for over 140,000 inhabitants, and strengthen democratisation and good governance practices in the country.

THE AGREEMENTS:

- €45 million to support transport infrastructure
- €51.5 million to create access to safe drinking water in Lindi, Sumbawanga and Kigoma.
- €22 million to improve rural road networks.
- €3 million to support Non-State actors in Zanzibar, helping to strengthen democratisation and good governance practices.
- €2.5 million to support the National Authorising Office to manage the EU portfolio.
- €2.5 million for a Technical Cooperation facility to strengthen the implementation and formulation of EU programmes.



Commissioner Piebalgs and Dr Mgimwa commemorate the signing of the finance agreements

Official visit takes in trip to CCBRT disability hospital

AS PART OF their visit, President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs toured the CCBRT disability hospital in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, July 21. The delegates pronounced themselves to be highly impressed by the facilities at the hospital, which is the largest indigenous provider of disability and rehabilitation services in the country, providing quality rehabilitative services to 120,000 people with disabilities and their caregivers each year. The European Union is a major supporter of the hospital.



Clockwise, from top left: President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs seeing CCBRT's work first-hand; Commissioner Piebalgs is presented with a gift by a young patient; the delegates pose for a group photo with the CCBRT staff



President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs visit Umoja House

THE STAFF OF the European Delegation to Tanzania and Heads of Mission were delighted to welcome President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs to Umoja House on Saturday, July 21. The officials held a question and answer session with Delegation staff before President Barroso unveiled a plaque commemorating the visit.



Clockwise, from top left: Commissioner Piebalgs, President Barroso and Ambassador Sebregondi addressing Delegation staff; President Barroso unveiling the commemorative plaque; Officials unwinding over cocktails; President Barroso delivers a speech to assembled staff and Heads of Mission



Commissioner Piebalgs, President Kikwete inaugurate Mbeya Urban Water Project

ON SUNDAY July 22, the European Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and Tanzanian President Jakaya Kikwete travelled to the southwest of the country to inaugurate the Mbeya Urban Water Project.

The project, which has been jointly funded by the Government of Tanzania, the European Union and the Federal Republic of Germany, provides access to safe drinking water to about 400,000 people in Mbeya city. The EU contributed Tshs. 36.9 billion, the Government Tshs. 29.1 billion and Germany 13.5 billion to the programme.

Its maximum capacity is serving about 500,000 people that the city will have in 2017 according to the current population growth rate.

The European Union and Germany not only provided financial assistance to fund a water treatment plant at the Swaya facility, but also logistical support to expand Mbeya Urban's water distribution network and to rehabilitate its sewerage treatment network.

In a speech to mark the occasion, Commissioner Piebalgs described the project as "just one of the many examples that testify to the very important partnership between the EU and Tanzania."

"Access to safe and clean water and basic sanitation facilities is essential to eradicate poverty," he added, before highlighting that the EU provides close to Euro 1.5 billion (Tshs. 3 trillion) a year towards water and sanitation programs in developing countries – making it the world's largest single contributor.

Commissioner Piebalgs acknowledged the efforts of the Tanzanian government to improve water supply and sanitation in the country. "Rest assured that the European Union will always be committed to support Tanzania in fulfilling this challenging cause," he concluded.



Ambassador Sebregondi, Commissioner Piebalgs, President Kikwete and German Ambassador Klaus Peter Brandes officially open the Swaya water facility

Speaking at the event, President Kikwete described the project as a "saviour" to the people of Mbeya and the neighbouring centres that will guarantee them with safe and clean water.

"Through this project, the current needs for water in Mbeya will be addressed by hundred percent and will remain so until 2017 when its full capacity will be reached," he stated.

The President was vocal in his praise of the EU and its continued support for development in Tanzania, saying: "these partners are very good people. They've shown kindness and much love to our country and its people...on behalf of the Government and my fellow citizens I would like to thank them."

Media Coverage



The visit of President Barroso and Commissioner Piebalgs and the subsequent signing of the financing agreements attracted extensive national and international media coverage. A few links to online coverage - in English and Kiswahili - are listed below:

European Commission 'Ready to Support' Tanzania's Farming Output (Bloomberg)

Full article: <http://www.bloomberg.com/news/2012-07-23/european-commission-ready-to-support-tanzania-s-farming-output.html>

Umoja wa Ulaya waahidi misaada zaidi kwa Tanzania (Radio France International)

Full article: <http://www.kiswahili.rfi.fr/eac/20120723-umoja-wa-ulaya-waahidi-misaada-zaidi-kwa-tanzania>

EU gives Tanzania \$153 mln for road, water projects (Reuters, Thai News Service, New Europe)

Full article: <http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/23/tanzania-eu-aid-idUSL6E8INGLW20120723>

Dar gets 250bn/ EU Grant (Daily News - Tanzania)

Full article: <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/local-news/7737-dar-gets-250bn-eu-g>

Photo: <http://www.dailynews.co.tz/index.php/gallery/photovideo-gallery/photo-gallery/7746-jk-chats-with-mr-barroso>

Tanzania to strengthen cooperation with European Commission (In2East Africa)

Full article: <http://in2eastafrica.net/tanzania-to-strengthen-cooperation-with-european-commission/>

EU yaimwagia Tanzania Sh. bilioni 99 (IPP Media)

Full article: <http://www.ippmedia.com/frontend/index.php?l=43934>

European Commission President Barroso visits Tanzania to strengthen political dialogue and launch major poverty reduction programmes

(DiploNews)

http://www.diplonews.com/feeds/free/22_July_2012_369.php

Tanzania, Europe sign infrastructure development agreements (Sabahi)

Full article: http://sabahionline.com/en_GB/articles/hoa/articles/newsbriefs/2012/07/22/newsbrief-08

EU Commission President Barroso visits CCBRT (In2EastAfrica)

Full article: <http://in2eastafrika.net/eu-commissioner-barroso-visits-ccbrt/>

