

*Brussels, 23 October 2014*

*Dear President,*

*I would like to start by wishing you Dear President and the Zambian people, my warmest congratulations and good wishes on the commemoration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the independence of Zambia,*

*In the course of those fifty years, Zambia has become a respected member of the community of nations*

*On the occasion of this anniversary a tribute is due to the founding fathers of your nation, which by way of their courage inspired so many other African leaders to seek the emancipation of their people.*

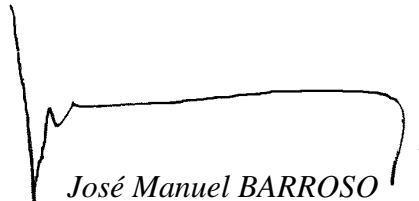
*Our meeting last April, in the context of the Africa-EU Summit marked yet another step in our long standing relation. The last 35 years have seen Zambia and the European Union enjoy a positive and constructive relationship built on a shared commitment for freedom, democratic values and inclusive and sustainable growth.*

*I am convinced that the EU and Zambia will continue to build on this solid relationship, by promoting democracy, rule of law and deeper economic, political and cultural ties.*

*Allow me to conclude by conveying my very best wishes for the continued success, well-being and prosperity of Zambia and its people.*

*Please accept, Mr President, the assurance of my highest consideration.*

*Yours sincerely,*

  
*José Manuel BARROSO*

*H.E.  
Mr Michael Sata  
President Republic of Zambia*