



EUROPEAN UNION

~FACTSHEET~

EU - INDIA SUMMIT

(Brussels, 10 December 2010)

The European Union is hosting the forthcoming 11th EU-India Summit in Brussels, on 10 December 2010. The EU will be represented by Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council and José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission. India will be represented by the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh. The High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Catherine Ashton, will also be present at the discussions.

SUMMIT AGENDA

Bilateral issues

Leaders will address cooperation in the **security, defence** and peacekeeping sphere. Talks will also examine the progress registered in the **counter-terrorism** field.

Consultations are also expected to focus on the EU-India **economic cooperation**, in particular the ongoing Free Trade Agreement negotiations as well as the bilateral collaboration in the energy field

Regional issues

Under this cluster, leaders are expected to address inter alia the topics of **Afghanistan** and **Pakistan**

Global issues

The main focus of discussions will be on the **global economic governance**. Leaders are expected to exchange views on viable ways of stimulating economic recovery, following the G20 Summit in Seoul.

Global threats and challenges including **non-proliferation** and **disarmament** as well as **climate change** are also important topics on the agenda. Leaders are expected to discuss the implementation of decisions made at the Cancun conference, which will be in its decisive phase when the summit takes place.

P R E S S

EU-INDIA RELATIONS

EU-India relations date back to the early 1960s when diplomatic relations were established. It was however the 1994 Cooperation Agreement (which is still the current legal framework for cooperation) that opened the door to the broad political dialogue that has since evolved, notably through annual Summits since 2000, and through regular ministerial and expert-level meetings.

In recognition of both sides' political and economic importance the **EU-India Strategic Partnership** was created in 2004 to enable the partners to better address complex international issues in the context of globalisation. To underpin the Strategic Partnership, leaders at the 2005 Summit adopted the EU-India Joint Action Plan (the 'JAP') which defined common objectives and proposed a wide range of supporting activities in the areas of political, economic, and development cooperation.

The Joint Action Plan was reviewed at the 2008 Summit which has since focused on promoting four priorities: peace and comprehensive security, sustainable development, research and technology, and people-to-people and cultural exchanges.

Summit meetings

Besides several ministerial and expert level meetings, the EU and the Republic of India hold regular annual summits. The forthcoming Brussels meeting will be the first EU-India Summit organized under the arrangements introduced by the Lisbon Treaty. The [previous EU-India Summit](#) was held in New Delhi on 6 November 2009.

MAIN AREAS OF EU-INDIA COOPERATION

Political cooperation

Essential political areas of cooperation are the fight against terrorism, non-proliferation, crisis management, security, in particular on anti-piracy ("Atalanta" cooperation), peace building and peace keeping and regional issues within the South Asian region.

The High Representative, Catherine Ashton, visited India in June 2010 to deepen cooperation in these areas. She was accompanied by Gilles de Kerchove, the EU Anti-Terrorism Coordinator, and General Ton Van Osch, Head of EU Military Staff.

Human rights issues are addressed in the EU-India Human Rights Dialogue held in Delhi on an annual basis.

Trade relations

EU-India trade relations have progressed tremendously over the last years. India ranked 9th in the list of the EU's main trading partners in 2009, up from 15th in 2002.

The EU is India's largest trading partner accounting for approximately € 69 billion in trade in goods and services in 2009. The EU accounted for 21% of India's total exports and 14% of India's total imports. On the other hand, India accounts for 2.5% of EU's total exports and 2.1% of the EU's total imports.

The EU has been the biggest investor in India with a cumulative volume of about € 20.0 billion since 2000. However, there is still much potential for trade growth.

Aiming to boost trade in goods and services, these negotiations started in 2007. Several rounds of consultations have been held until now, therefore, during the summit, leaders are also expected to review ongoing negotiations, with the aim to conclude the agreement in 2011

The completion of the Free Trade Agreement negotiations is a strategic objective for the EU and India.

In addition to annual summit meetings, trade subjects are regularly discussed in fora such as: the senior-official level Joint Committee, the Sub-Commission on Trade and a series of working groups dealing with the issues of barriers to trade, agricultural or industrial policy.

Climate change and environment

The European Union supports India's efforts to promote sustainable growth. The environment was established as a strategic area for dialogue in the EU-India Partnership as well as in the JAP. In order to deepen cooperation in the environmental area, India and the EU launched the Initiative on Clean Development and Climate Change as well as an Environment Forum.

In 2008, the two parties adopted a Joint Work Programme for EU-India Co-operation on Energy, Clean Development and Climate Change. Follow-up activities were confirmed at the Summit in November 2009, when the EU and India agreed to expedite cooperation activities on Climate Change mitigation, clean energy (clean coal technology, nuclear energy) energy efficiency and renewable energy (in particular solar energy).

Science and technology

Science and technology represents a central element in the EU-India Strategic Partnership. Research cooperation started in the mid-80s and the first Science and Technology cooperation Agreement was signed in 2001 and extended in 2009. In addition, the EU-India JAP contains several action points which have important science and technology dimensions.

India has become the fourth largest international partner for the EU under the 7th (2007-2013) EU Framework Programme for Science and Technological development (FP7). Indian organisations are participating in research projects in various technological areas of which health, environment, food agriculture biotechnologies and ICT are the most prominent. India has become a full partner in the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) nuclear fusion project.

A Joint EU-India Call for Proposals on Solar Energy Research was launched in 2009 with €5 million contributions from each side.

A new pilot initiative, the Strategic Forum for International S&T Cooperation (SFIC), aims at making Europe's international research policy towards non-EU countries more effective and coherent through enhanced dialogue and cooperation between the European Commission, the EU Member States and our major partner countries outside Europe. The SFIC has chosen India as strategic partner country with which to start implementing its first pilot initiative.

EU-India Cooperation Programme

The main objectives of the EU-India Cooperation Programme are to contribute towards India's achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and to provide support for the implementation of the EU-India Joint Action Plan (JAP).

The first Multi-annual Indicative Programme (MIP) under the 2007-2013 planning period allocated a total of €260 million for the above activities over the four years from 2007-2010.

Following a Mid-term Review exercise conducted in 2009 the second MIP (2011-13) allocates an indicative total of €210 million to the same sectors as previously, but with an increased allocation for the social sectors.
