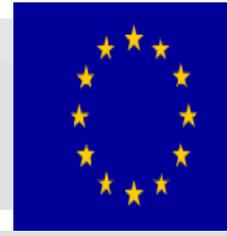




Report of the 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the  
Joint Africa-EU Task Force,  
(17-18 March 2009, Brussels)



1. The **eighth meeting of the Joint Africa-EU Task Force** was held on 17-18 March 2009, in Brussels, Belgium. The opening plenary session was co-chaired by Mr. Stefano Manservigi, Director General for Development and Relations with the States of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific in the European Commission and by Amb. John K. Shinkaiyé, Chief of Staff in the Bureau of the AUC Chairperson, in the presence of representatives of the Czech and Libyan Presidencies, co-Chairs of the Joint Expert Groups (JEGs), the European and Pan-African Parliaments and members of civil society from both continents. The closing plenary session was co-chaired by Amb. Shinkaiyé and Director K. Rudischhauser.
2. The meeting had **four main objectives**:
  - a) to enhance cooperation, coordination and synergies amongst the 'key actors' of the Joint Strategy and to effectively address cross-cutting issues;
  - b) to enhance the institutional cooperation and capacity building between the European and AU Commissions;
  - c) to prepare the forthcoming Ministerial Troika discussion on 28 April 2009 regarding the Joint Strategy, and
  - d) to accelerate the delivery of concrete results in 2009, which will mark the mid-point of the Action Plan.
3. Participants welcomed the **new format of this Joint Africa-EU Task Force**, and in particular the presence of staff members of both Commissions, of EU and AU Presidencies, JEG co-Chairs, and of observers from the European Parliament (EP) and the Pan-African Parliament (PAP), and from Civil Society from both continents. They underlined the need to establish the Joint Task Force as an effective coordination body for the Strategic Partnership, bringing together the key actors of the Action Plan with a

view to deepening cooperation, identifying synergies, tackling new challenges and opportunities, and effectively addressing cross-cutting issues.

4. Participants **took stock of the accomplishments** since the last Joint Task Force meeting, and welcomed in particular the setting up of the innovative institutional architecture for the Joint Strategy, the first Joint Expert Groups (JEG) meetings, and the enhanced cooperation between the two Commissions. The Chairs paid tribute to the efforts and the personal commitment of all actors who have contributed to these important first results.
5. In the broad field of **administrative cooperation between the two Commissions**, the meeting noted steadily growing achievements in areas such as the management of financial and human resources, efficient internal and external communication, conference management, translation and documentation services. Both Commissions have agreed to consolidate the **Action Plan** incorporating all aspects of administrative cooperation, and to put in place the necessary conditions to further enhance their cooperation, in particular through staff exchanges and short term training- and capacity building missions.

## Cross-cutting issues related to the Joint Strategy and the first Action Plan

6. Participants underlined the **need for speedy overall progress on the Joint Strategy**, for tangible results in the 8 thematic partnerships, and for more and more efficient cooperation on concrete activities. The Strategy as an ambitious policy framework and a platform for enhanced political dialogue needs to be better exploited by all stakeholders. Therefore bold and creative leadership is required, both in the thematic partnerships and at the overarching policy level. More needs to be done to increase the ownership of the strategy among the key actors. Participants stressed the requirement for a strong commitment and tangible contributions to implement the priority actions agreed.
7. Participants recalled the **inclusive nature of the Joint Strategy**. Joint Expert Groups offer the opportunity for key stakeholders, and in particular the RECs, Parliaments, civil society, international partners, as well as the private sector and local authorities, to work together. The two Commissions, as motors of the Joint Strategy, will continue to play a key role. Co-Chairs should step up efforts to reach out and mobilize all necessary stakeholders that are not yet sufficiently involved, and in particular RECs and Member States from both sides. The meeting also underlined the need to secure a broader geographical participation in the JEGs.
8. With regard to the **preparation of the Ministerial Troika** on 28 April 2009, the Czech and Libyan Presidencies informed the meeting of the ongoing preparations and recalled the political requirement for the expeditious delivery of implementation roadmaps. JEGs, under the leadership of the co-Chairs and with strong inputs from the two Commissions need to agree on clear and concise roadmaps, identifying concrete results, timetables, and actors. These roadmaps will be endorsed by Ministers. The delivery of concrete results needs to be accelerated in 2009, in time for the forthcoming mid-term review of the Action Plan.

**Operational conclusions:** *The two Commissions, Presidencies and co-Chairs agreed to speed up the finalization of implementation roadmaps for the 8 thematic partnerships, and to mobilize the missing inputs. The roadmaps will be submitted under the Co-Chairs' leadership as living documents for endorsement to the Ministerial Troika of 28.04.2009.*

9. **Financing of the Joint Strategy and Action Plan.** The meeting noted the AU request to hold an early workshop on the financing aspects of the Joint Strategy and Action Plan, to which the EU side agreed in principle. Participants underlined that further progress on

implementation will depend on the sustained joint commitment to deliver the necessary policy and operational inputs and to secure the appropriate funding. Participants also recalled the Lisbon agreement that actions under the Joint Strategy and Action Plan will be financed out of existing or where possible new financial resources, which include EC instruments, contributions from EU and African countries, and other African financial instruments. The RECs, the private sector and international partners will also have to play a part in this resource mobilization. The workshop should ensure an efficient burden sharing between the Commissions and Member States, and between EU and Africa.

10. Participants stressed the need to finalize our work on joint implementation roadmaps for each partnership, which will better identify early deliverables and priority actions, key actors, implementation timelines and financial requirements. The agreed roadmaps will facilitate in particular an informed discussion on possible resource shortfalls, including finance. With regard to the financing of administrative costs of the Strategy's working arrangements, the two sides agreed that costs related to the participation of African experts in JEGs and related meetings will be covered by the AUC from the budget set aside to this end within the EC's 55 ME support programme.

***Operational conclusions:*** *The meeting recommended that the forthcoming Ministerial Troika endorses the early holding of a workshop to address the issue of the necessary resources in a comprehensive manner. The two Commissions will start the preparation of the substance, organization and modalities of the workshop, including the drafting of a joint paper, so that the workshop can take place late May 2009.*

11. **Involvement of Parliaments, civil society and other stakeholders.** Participants underlined the "people-centred" nature of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership. Representatives of the EP and the PAP and of the European and African civil society reaffirmed their willingness to actively participate in the implementation of the ambitious Lisbon agenda.

- a. The joint note by the **EP and the PAP** on their role in the monitoring and implementation of the Joint Strategy was already discussed between the two Commissions, the two Parliaments and the two (EU-AU) Presidencies in the margins of the last AU Summit in Addis. A revised version has already been endorsed by EU Member States and will serve as the basis for a second round of informal six-partite discussions on 23 March 2009 in Strasbourg, so that the Ministerial Troika in April can confirm this agreement at the political level and endorsed it as a basis for further work.

- b. With regard to **Civil society**, the meeting noted that an EU Civil Society Steering Group was set up in Spring 2008 to follow the implementation and monitoring of the Africa-EU Strategy, designating one contact point per thematic partnership. Participants also noted on the African side the outcome of the African Civil society meeting held in Nairobi in early March 2009, including the reconstitution of the African civil society Steering Committee for the implementation of the Africa-EU Partnership and their active participation in the work of the JEGs. The meeting welcomed the holding of the Africa-EU Civil Society Forum on 23 April 2009.
- c. The meeting stressed the necessity to involve other important actors with a real implementation capacity, such as the **RECs, the private sector, but also international partners**.

**Operational conclusions:** *The meeting welcomed the recent joint EP/PAP paper and recommended its endorsement by the next Ministerial Troika as a basis for further work. The meeting also welcomed progress made in the participation of African and European civil society in the eight thematic partnerships, and recommended their speedy involvement in the work of the Joint Expert Groups in line with the institutional architecture agreed in Lisbon.. Finally, the meeting reiterated the need to involve other competent and committed stakeholders, and in particular relevant international partners and the private sector, and recommended that JEG co-Chairs and other members actively reach out to those actors.*

## 12. **Communication, outreach and visibility:**

- a. The meeting welcomed the launching of the **joint website** on the Africa-EU Partnership ([www.africa-eu-partnership.org](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org)) in the autumn of 2008, and stressed the need to harness the full potential of this powerful tool to reach out to all stakeholders in the most efficient and cost-effective manner. The meeting also agreed that Joint Expert Groups should systematically publicise their work.
- b. The meeting noted that the **intranet section** has been developed to enhance the internal communication between JEG members and to facilitate continuous work between physical meetings. An online demonstration was given and the meeting invited Co-chairs to ensure that all JEG members have access to those working space, which should help overcome the geographical distance and enable an efficient joint work.

**Operational conclusions:** *The meeting agreed to increase the timely publication of relevant documents on the Web-Site to promote better information, broader ownership and larger participation. The meeting underlined the necessity for continuous work between physical JEG meetings, and invited all JEG members so make better use of the Intranet-Workspace foreseen to this end.*

## Bilateral Meeting between DG Manservisi and Ambassador Shinkaiyé

In parallel to the plenary session of the 8th African-EU Joint Task Force, DG Manservisi and Ambassador Shinkaiyé met for a bilateral meeting. They took this opportunity to discuss the following issues.

### *i) State of play on the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and way ahead*

Both Ambassador Shinkaiyé and DG Stefano Manservisi recognised the need to speed up the implementation process and achieve concrete results in the implementation of the first Action Plan of the Joint Strategy. In this respect, they emphasised the importance of the road-map to be prepared by each JEG in the run up to the April 28 Africa-EU Ministerial Troika meeting. They moreover agreed that, in many respects, substantial progress had been achieved in the implementation of various Lisbon commitments and the latter should be reflected during the upcoming Africa-EU Ministerial Troika meeting.

They welcomed the organisation of a joint workshop on the financing of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy at the end of May 2009. In this context, DG Manservisi stressed the importance of the 10th EDF National and Regional indicative programme mid-term review process in order to mainstream the political priorities and activities derived from the first Action Plan of the Joint Strategy. Ambassador Shinkaiyé indicated his determination to sensitize AU Member States and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) to the importance of this up-coming exercise.

They finally agreed to strengthen AUC and EC efforts to increase the awareness, appropriation and involvement level of African and EU Member States and Regional Economic Communities in the implementation process.

### *ii) Universal Jurisdiction and Habré trial*

The absence of an EC competence in the field of Universal Jurisdiction was acknowledged by Ambassador Shinkaiyé. Ambassador Shinkaiyé and DG Manservisi welcomed the progress made by the informal Joint Expert Group of Legal Experts tasked by the 11<sup>th</sup> Africa-EU Ministerial troika meeting to draft a report aiming at clarifying the African and EU understanding of the principle of universal jurisdiction. They stressed the importance to have a final report ready ahead of the 12<sup>th</sup> Africa-EU Ministerial troika meeting scheduled to take place on 28 April 2009.

The commitment of the EC to make €2M available to assist in the organisation of the trial of former President Habré was confirmed. It was however indicated that the EC would not be in a position to transfer any of these funds if it did not receive from the Senegalese authorities a fully fledged budget proposal along with all other information requested by the EC Head of Delegation in Senegal. The two Commissions committed to share information and give the necessary follow up.

In addition, the bilateral meeting also touched upon the up-coming midterm review of the €55M support programme to the AU institutions and the up-coming G20 meeting on 2 April in London.

## ADMINISTRATIVE COOPERATION

### **I. Participants**

European Commission: Mr Daniele Dotto, Mr Philippe Bierlaire, Mr Benoît Vermeersch, Hendrik Vantilborgh

African Union Commission : Mr. Anthony Okara, Dr. Abdul-Hakim Elwaer, Mrs. Regina Muzamai Maambo, Mr. Francis Bokilo, Mrs. Rekia Mahamoudou, Mr. Mandla Madonsela, Mr Magdi M. Khalifa, Mrs Wolansa Mekuria, Mary Nderitu

### **II. Conclusions**

#### **Audit**

The EC Internal Audit Services (IAS) made a presentation about the structure and operations of Internal audit in the European Commission.

The following issues were discussed

- Coordination IAS/ IAC
- Effective independence of IACs
- Personal liability of Directors General
- IAS Charta: scope, addressees, responsible
- Follow-up of audits
- Functioning of APC and considerations about presence of internal/ external members
- International recognition of IAS

In the conclusions it was agreed that:

- The AUC is keen to learn from the experience of the EC in the area of Audit management and organisation, especially in the current phase of change of mandate of the office of the AUC and of development of a software for audit management;
- The AUC and the EC agreed that further co-operation in this domain will be targeted to support the setting-up of a performing audit structure in the AUC with the purpose of ensuring that the AUC becomes a recognised expert in this domain – especially viz. other Organisations - and also to allow it to become fully capable of accessing and using EU funds and report about their use.

In order to reach this objective specific actions have been defined in the below mentioned action plan

#### **Information Technology**

DIGIT made a presentation about the structure and operations of IT in the Commission.

The following issues were discussed:

- Structure of DIGIT (incl. Internal/ external staff)
- Corporate and 2<sup>nd</sup> level functions

- Local and corporate developments
- Roles of System Owner and System Supplier and initiation of IT projects

In the conclusions it was agreed that:

- since the AUC is now laying down the foundations of its IT strategy towards an e-Commission, the AUC and the EC would collaborate to assist the AUC to develop and roll-out its strategic plan for this purpose. This strategic plan should be presented to the Task Force in September 2009. In addition, policies and guidelines regarding mail and internet use, and IT package developments will be discussed.

In order to reach this objective:

- Bilateral meetings will be organised between DIGIT and the AUC;
- AUC would establish clear priorities in terms of IT developments;
- an exchange of officials for short term could take place to analyse the current practices of IT developments in the organisations
- Subsequently DIGIT/ DG Admin - AUC would organise a first high-level seminar on IT-related issues at the EC premises (in end May/ June, further to the training of 5 days in the EC premises) and a second seminar in the AUC premises.

## **Budget**

Participants discussed the following issues:

- 1) Hierarchy of laws in which budgeting is regulated
- 2) Budget procedure including Annual Policy Strategy, Preliminary Draft Budget, budget adoption by European Parliament, budget implementation, Annual Activity Report and synthesis, balance sheet, yearly accounts analysed by Court of Auditors, and discharge of the budget.
- 3) Budget structure which is activity based budgeting as all costs are identified under the cost centre managed by Directorates-General and responsible for their activities and thus for their budgets.

Meeting agreed on:

- EC will send copies of the relevant documents to AUC Counter Parts
- Budget joint meetings be incorporated in the Action Plan

## **Action Plan**

Further to a discussion it was agreed that the details of the Action Plan would be discussed and finalised by the AUC and the EC by the end of March (contact persons Mr Daniele Dotto – EC and Mr. Mandla Madonsela – AUC).

The following topics were identified for inclusion in the Action plan:

- 1) General kick-off
  - a) EC/ UN seminar
    - i) Action: Joint seminar EC/AUC
    - ii) Purpose: Exchange senior management and experts' views on areas of joint interest with the objective of capacity building, exchange of best practices to better know each other and hence better cooperate. Topics for discussion could be: Financial management and Procurement, Internal Audit and HR management.

- iii) Timing: 4<sup>th</sup> week of May
    - iv) Location: Brussels
    - v) Responsible persons: Dr. Abdul-Hakim Elwaer - Mr. Mandla Madonsela, Mr Daniele Dotto – Mrs Marie Panou
  - b) In 2010, possible EC/ UN/ AU seminar
- 2) General Administration
- a) Three areas of activity
    - i) Administrative services (infrastructure and logistics incl. assets e-management and e-catalogue, registry and mail management)
    - ii) Procurement
    - iii) E-Administration and IT
  - b) Actions : 5 days' presence of an expert followed by 1 day senior management seminar
  - c) Purpose: Exchange senior managers' and experts' views on areas of joint interest with the objective of capacity building and exchange of best practices to better know each other and hence better cooperate
- 3) Budgeting and Planning
- a) 2 areas of activity
    - i) Strategic Planning of activities (SPP)
    - ii) Monitoring and Evaluation
  - b) Actions : 5 days' presence of an expert followed by 1 day senior management seminar
  - c) Purpose: Exchange senior managers' and experts' views on areas of joint interest with the objective of capacity building and exchange of best practices to better know each other and hence better cooperate
- 4) Financial Management and Accountability
- a) 4 areas of activity
    - i) Internal Audit
      - IAS would provide the AUC with detailed information on methodology, procedures and reporting templates for audit in the Commission (deadline: end March);
      - IAS would also inform the AUC about training opportunities in the area of audit (deadline: end March);
      - IAS/ DG Admin would welcome an expert of the AUC for a short term secondment to analyse the current practices of the IAS and of an IAC (2<sup>nd</sup> half of September);
      - Subsequently IAS/ DG Admin - AUC would organise a first high-level seminar on audit-related issues at the EC premises (second half of September further to the training of 5 days in the EC premises – see above) and a second seminar in the AUC premises.
    - ii) Internal Control System
    - iii) Ethics and Integrity
    - iv) Financial Management, with focus on Declaration of Assurance
- 5) Communication
- Please refer to the outcome of the Workshop "Optimising Communication" that will be integrated in the Action Plan.
- 6) Translation, Interpretation and Conferences
- Please refer to the outcome of the Workshop "Linguistic cooperation and Conferences" that will be integrated in the Action Plan.

- 7) Human Resources Management
  - a) 4 areas of activity around two pillars: administration and development. Focus should be around the second pillar.
    - i) Recruitment/ selection
    - ii) Staff mobility
    - iii) Staff appraisal and promotion
    - iv) Staff benefits and welfare
- 8) Crisis management and security
  - a) 2 areas of activity
    - i) Crisis management
    - ii) Security of staff, buildings, IT

### **Exchange of Officials**

DG Admin presented briefly its scheme for exchange of officials that is being adopted at the level of EC services.

The new scheme aims at codifying the conditions for the exchange of staff for short term secondments (2-3 weeks).

The scheme will be soon circulated to the AUC for comments and should be implemented as soon as possible.

DG Admin highlighted the need to define areas of common interest for which the EC and the AUC would identify experts to second to the other organization.

The experts from the AUC would be sent to the EC on the scheme of Seconded National Experts on Training. EC seconded experts would be identified on the basis of specific needs emerging at the AUC and hence assist it in its capacity building efforts.

AUC asks for coordination at HR level for all exchange of staff. DG Admin indicates that it would coordinate the short-term secondments, whereas DG DEV would coordinate the longer terms one Commission-wide. On the AUC side coordination would be ensured by the Directorate of AHRD.

## TRANSLATION & INTERPRETING

### I. Participants

Africa: Ms N. KHELLAF, Mr D. ATABONG, Ms A. QUINCKE, Mr M. DERESSA, Mr Y. TAFESSE (Conference Services Directorate (CSD))

EU: Ms A. D'HAEN-BERTIER, Mr A. VERLEYSSEN (DG SCIC), Mr T. DAMAN (OPOCE), Mr H. GLASTRA (DGT)

- Both sides agreed on an updated and streamlined Action Plan for cooperation between the language services of the EC and AUC. This action plan is to be included in the action plan established by DG ADMIN, under a separate heading called "**Translation, Interpretation & Conference Management**".
- Parties have set dates for training visits of CSD staff to DG SCIC and DGT.
- The parties also agreed on visits from DG SCIC and DGT, on dates to be agreed upon.
- Further contacts with the EU Office for Publications were made.

### II. Conclusions

- Parties underlined that language as a tool for communication and mutual understanding is a fundamental building block in the democratic and participatory process of citizens, for which the involvement of the Departments in charge of linguistic services in the EU and AU is crucial.
- Parties have agreed on a timetable for implementation of the action plan, the first step being one-week training visits to DGT (Workflow Management and Translation Tools) and DG SCIC (Planning and Programming) in the month of May. To this end, the CSD will inform SCIC and DGT about their exact needs and wishes, the names of the visitors and their function. Follow-up visits to CSD could then be envisaged for June.
- The Conference Services Directorate should have access to the common AU-EU website (<http://africa-eu-partnership.org>). Parties agreed that a heading for translation and interpretation should be added to the website, where relevant documents can be published.
- The EU Office for Publications (OPOCE) will identify further documentation to be provided to the CSD and the CSD will inform OPOCE of its specific needs. It is envisaged to organise a one-week visit to OPOCE in Luxembourg, followed by a visit of one or more weeks to the CSD.
- In follow-up of these visits, parties will explore the possibilities of short-term staff exchanges as organised by DG ADMIN, with a view to assisting the CSD in putting the knowledge acquired during the training visit into practice in their own operations.
- The CSD will engage in cooperation with IAMLADP<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> International Annual Meeting on Language Arrangements, Documentation and Publication

## COMMUNICATION

### I. Participants:

#### **African Union:**

*African Union Commission:* Ms Habiba MEJRI-CHEIKH, AUC Spokesperson and Head of Information and communication department; Ms Arisoa Lala RAZAFITRIMO, Special Advisor to the Chairperson, AU Permanent Mission to the EU: Mr Cheikh NIANG, Information Officer

#### **European Union:**

*Council:* Cristina GALLACH, SG/HR Solana's Spokesperson; Mary BRAZIER, Press attachée; *EU Delegation to the AU:* Koen VERVAEKE, Head of Delegation; Christophe BOULIERAC, Press and Information Officer

*European Commission:* DG-COMM: John CLANCY, Commissioner Michel's Spokesperson, DG-DEV: Ian BARBER, Head of Information-Communication unit; Franck GOUERY, Press and Information Officer; Sophie LE RUE, Panafrican Unit; DG-AIDCO: Nancy DZOKOTO-POMENYA, DG-ADMIN: Denis McGOWAN, Chief Editor "Commission en Direct"; Daniele DOTTO, Head of Unit

### II. Conclusions

#### **A. Responding to the Spokesperson's challenge of keeping informed internally to better communicate externally:**

- The AUC ICD and the Commission SPP will produce a brief overview of their respective human and technical resources available. On this basis, realistic plans of cooperation will be developed.
- A staff member of the Information and Communication department will come to Brussels for a week to follow the daily work of an EU institution (Commission and Council) Spokesperson in its various aspects.

In this framework, proposed activities for this on-the-job training are the following:

- ⇒ Meeting with the European Commission and HR/SG spokespersons' services on African issues: exchange about respective communication tools and strategies; role of the spokespersons' services; ethics; complementarities between institutions' based on respective competences (eg. in the field of Peace and Security);
- ⇒ Spending a day with a Commissioner's spokesperson (Cabinet meeting; SPP meeting; Midday express; press conference);
- ⇒ Briefings from the Council's spokesperson on Foreign Policy, Security and Defence with a special focus on Africa / the AU;
- ⇒ Multimedia tools: presentation of Europe by Satellite (EbS) and web operations.

#### **B. Media and Development - Follow-up to the Ouagadougou Forum**

##### **1) Panafrican Media Observatory**

Extend the consultation process until 2 May (possible joint press release on 3 May for the world press freedom day); draft a consultation report with a synthesis of all comments received, organize a consultation meeting (possibly 9 June) in order to inform the African Union Member States during the next AU Summit (around the 24 June).

## 2) Panafrican Media Web Portal

Launch a study about the media's situation in Africa in 2009 to feed the portal content.

### C. Internal communication – Training and Newsletter:

Practically, both sides have agreed on the operationalisation of the Action Plan proposed by DG-ADMIN to the AUC, in terms of internal communication. The calendar for the 3 weeks of traineeship offered by DG-ADMIN to AUC staff (internal communication strategy; newsletter; web) will be defined shortly, depending on the dates available for training sessions in French.

In 2009, the AUC information and communication staff will participate in various training sessions offered by the EC (DG-ADMIN) as follows:

Date	Participants	Focus / Content
04-05/05 (tentative dates)		Internal communication policy <sup>2</sup> , best practices, strategy and tools: a 2-day training, followed by other sessions in 2009 (dates tbc)
		Internal communication tools, incl. printed media (Newsletter) - Getting familiar with the process: design, collect of information, drafting, editing, translation, lay-out, production, dissemination. A hands-on practice focused on the production of an internal Newsletter for the AUC (see below).
		Web management support: development and management of intranet and internet sites; RSS flows; server's migration.

In addition, the EC will seek to send a staff member to Addis, for a period of up to 3 x 1 week, to provide technical cooperation support in web management support, on the basis of needs to be further defined by the AUC.

Finally, the EC will assist the AUC in producing up to four issues a year of an internal Newsletter of about 12 pages (similar to "Commission en Direct"), designed for the internal staff, for the AU external offices and for the Member States. The editorial content will be provided by the AUC. The EC will take care of the lay-out and material production of 1000 copies, in English and French (500 each). It will be sent to Addis via diplomatic pouch. The dissemination will be taken care of by the AUC. The possibility to insert a page on the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership will be given serious consideration.

### D. Communication Strategy of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership – the joint website and intranet section ([www.africa-eu-partnership.org](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org))

- The new P&IO of the EU Delegation in Addis will work in close cooperation with and provide support to the AUC information and communication department;

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<sup>2</sup> Depending on the AUC needs and designated participants, the first two trainings could be merged into one: a 2-day training, followed by the hands-on practice focused on the Newsletter production.

- The communication strategy of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership will be specified by the end of April 2009, the primary target being the stakeholders, proceeding in concentric circles;
- The thematic page on Peace and Security will be shortly fed with material produced by the Council and by the EC (factsheets, brochures, videoclips, audio files);
- Clear division of tasks, workflows and calendar for updating the website (Focus, Blog, general and thematic pages) will be defined shortly, including the selection of topics to be addressed; update frequency, multilingualism and translation (EN, FR, PT, Arabic).
- Communication will be promoted as a cross-cutting issue for all Joint Expert Groups; ownership for updating the website thematic pages will be encouraged;
- From now on, the use of the intranet section will be encouraged as the main internal communication channel for the African implementation teams; the EU implementation teams and the Joint Expert Groups. Each Joint Expert Group will designate two Administrators for communication: one for the African group of experts; the other one for the European group of experts. All JEG members should have access to the intranet via an individual login and password.
- Automatisation of some functions of the website (news, web-content management systems) and promotion through a "push" system (e-mail alert) will be considered;
- A workshop will be organised to learn from the best practice of the [europaffrica.org](http://europaffrica.org) website, possibly in May 2009;
- An appropriate budget should be planned for communication activities; this issue could be discussed during the workshop on funding opportunities for the Africa-EU Partnership.

## PEACE AND SECURITY

### I. Participants:

African Union: TESSEMA Biscut (AUC), DIONGUE Amadou (AUC), Amb. N. Aouam (Algeria), Amb. ANNADIF

EU: TOMASOVÁ Bronislava (Czech Presidency); CALDERONE Maurizio (RELEX), DICORRADO-ANDREONI Daniela (DEV), JOANA PIERRE MICHEL (CONSIL); FRIEDLING Bernard (AIDCO); BERGEON SEBASTIEN (CONSIL); CAUWENBERGH DIRK (CONSIL); TOMAT STEFANO (CONSIL); GARCIA GARCIA Francisco (RELEX)

### II. Conclusions

Three-year Action Plan totals 24 activities, more than two third of which have been launched, some already delivered, others are at an advanced stage of implementation.

The political dialogue, has achieved an exceptional degree of maturity and intensity, which outpaces any other strategic partnership of the AU. The second joint AU PSC-EU COPS meeting to take place September/October 2009. The funding support to AMISOM in the light of UN Resolution 1863(2009), the necessity to develop the lesson learned from AMIS combined with AMANI AFRICA cycle (Strategic decision makers seminar) and the planning of conference on Peace and Security and SALW, the AU-EU co-operation on the follow up to the Prodi Report have been specifically addressed.

The implementation of APSA continued through the launch of Amani Africa cycle and its Contributor Conference, the strengthening of the EU-Africa co-operation on the Continental Early Warning System (link-up between political decision making and EWS), the reinforcement of the AU and SROs capacity ranging from administrative, financial, mission planning up to training centres. The operationalisation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) with its many institutional aspects and policies requires a strong degree of co-operation between the AU and the Sub Regional Organisations or Regional Economic Communities, including through the operationalisation of the AU-RECs Memorandum of Understanding. To this effect the EU proposal of a high level seminar with the AU and RECs about respective responsibilities, needs, action plans, with a view to match priorities and support has been welcomed.

Regarding funding aspects, the work on the preparation of and follow up to the Prodi Report on the financing of Africa-led peacekeeping operations will continue with the implementation of a Joint Working Group. The financing architecture of this Partnership is based on solid foundations: the 2<sup>nd</sup> African Peace Facility has been adopted, with an allocation of €300M + € 300M in reserve, and €200M available under the political focal sector of Regional Strategy Papers addressing the capacity and operations of the African Sub-regional organisations (SRO) related to the African Peace and Security Architecture.

The financing of this Partnership should include efforts from both AU and EU Member States. In this regard, the example given by the Voluntary Additional Contributions to the 1<sup>st</sup> African Peace Facility, should be continued and reinforced under the 2<sup>nd</sup> APF both at African and EU level.

The next JEG "Peace and Security" shall be held before the Ministerial Troika of 28<sup>th</sup> April; draft proposals for a Joint, updated Roadmap will be prepared by the Africa and EU sides.

## DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS

### I. Participants

Co-chairs – Alfonso PASCUAL (EC – DG DEV), Ambassador Emile OGNIMBA (AUC – Political Affairs)

Participants - ACHILLI Emma (EC – DG RELEX); ALGUADIS Melis-Sandrine (EC – DG DEV); ATHLIN Joanna (EC – DG AIDCO); COUTINHO Maria-João (Portugal – Ministry of Foreign Affairs); DUPONT Patrick (EC – DG RELEX), FEILMAN-QUINA Carolina (Portugal – Permanent Representation to the EU); FICARELLI Giorgio (EC – DG DEV); GEURTS Charles-Michel (EC – DG RELEX); GOUERY Frank (EC – DG DEV); KAMP Christophe (EU Delegation to the AU); KLUSSMANN Georg (Germany – Ministry of Foreign Affairs); LAKOVA Ivanka (EC – DG DEV); MILDEBERGER Elisabeth (Germany – BMZ); MOSLEH Maged (Egypt – Ministry of Foreign Affairs); NIEBOJ Agata (EC – DG DEV); OPPERMANN Anke (Germany – BMZ); PELZER Christoph (EC – DG AIDCO); POSTLEROVÁ Petra (Czech Republic – Permanent Representation to the EU); SACAZE Jean-Pierre (EC – DG AIDCO); SCHMID Io Kerstin (EC – DG AIDCO); SUDRKASA Michael (Africa Business Group)

### II. Conclusions

#### Priority actions - towards a consolidated roadmap

1. Enhanced dialogue at global level and International Fora
  - a. Platform – The AUC briefed participants on the outcome of the "Multi-stakeholder Workshop on Governance" (Yaoundé, 9-11 March 2009) and the first recommendations on the Platform made by this workshop. The EC and the AUC updated participants on the preparation of the EU and African papers on the nature and details of the Platform, to be presented for discussion to the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon, with a view of preparing a joint paper with operational proposals for launching the Platform. The Platform will be integrated into the roadmap, which will be submitted to the Ministerial Troika (Luxembourg, April 2009).
  - b. Human Rights dialogue – The EC and the AUC briefed participants about the preparation of the next session of AU-EU Human Rights Dialogue, to be held in Brussels in April 2009. An event between civil societies will take place in the margins of this session. The two Commissions will provide a more detailed information in the IJEG meeting in Lisbon, and the Troika will be informed of the outcomes of both the session and the civil societies event. Both parties agreed on exploring ways for more regular flows of information and more structured synergy between this Dialogue and the thematic Partnership, including participation of respective Implementation Team members, and its range of activities, including the Platform.
  - c. Cooperation in international fora – Participants reiterated the strategic importance of Africa-EU coordinated positions and joint initiatives at international level. The workshop organised by the two Commissions in New York in February 2009 on women in situations of conflict and the UNSCR 1325 was mentioned as an example of good practice for the future. Other themes and occasions for further joint initiatives in 2009 will be discussed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting. The IJEG co-chairs updated participants on the preparation of proposals in this respect to be

discussed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon. Progress will be accounted for in the implementation roadmap.

- d. Improving mutual understanding and information – The EC and the AUC will prepare notes on “Governance and Human Rights Architecture in the AU and EU system”. The two Commissions, with the support of the members of the African and EU Implementation Teams, will make available relevant information on events and initiatives in areas covered by Partnership nr. 2, using the joint website as appropriate. Progress made in this respect will be assessed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon, which will be integrated into the roadmap presented to the Ministerial Troika.
  - e. The EU will consider possibilities for inviting African partners to discussions in the relevant Council Groups on topics covered by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Partnership.
2. Promoting the African Peer Review Mechanism and support for the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance:
- a. Support to Panafrican Governance and Human Rights architecture – Participants discussed about the most effective ways for partners to support this architecture, which comprises a range of institutions, instruments and processes, with particular focus on the APRM. A reference was also made to financial instruments available, notably the "Governance initiative", and lessons learned from past and ongoing support. The AUC envisage distributing an African written input on this topic to frame discussions in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting. This written input will include a reference to measures to promote the ratification on the African Charter on Democracy, elections and Governance as well as to the Panafrican anti-corruption instruments and institutions.
  - b. EC-AUC cooperation in the area of electoral observation – The EC provided updated information on (1) consultations on the ground between EOMs, (2) Contribution to the AU's Electoral Assistance Fund, (3) AU observers at EU Parliamentary elections (4) training of AU observers and internship of AU observers in EU Election Observation Missions. The EC will provide further details in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting and the AUC will provide on the appropriate time to the EC all the necessary information for the effective launching of some components of this cooperation. The IJEG will report to the next Ministerial Troika on progress made in the cooperation in this area.
  - c. Local governance / Local authorities –The AUC referred to the Meeting with selected regional Stakeholders in Local Governance (Yaoundé, 12-13 March 2009) and will provide further information in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting. Morocco will submit a proposal for cooperation in this area. The EC announced an intervention in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting to present the EU approach to the role of Local Authorities in Development and the initiatives that are being undertaken in this area (including the ongoing support to the ACP Local Government Platform). The AUC proposed to discuss the EU approach in relation with ongoing AU initiatives on local governance.
  - d. Anti-corruption – Participants agreed on having a discussion in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG on African and EU respective anti-corruption instruments, their links to the common international framework (the UNCAC) as well as possible ways for joint work in this area.
3. Strengthening Cooperation in the Area of Cultural Goods

- a. Inventory of ongoing activities in the area of cultural cooperation - The EC announced that the Terms of Reference of the study are finalised. They will be transmitted in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting to the AUC for the study to be launched. It is agreed that the study will be financed under the € 55 programme for capacity building of the AU, that the AU will be responsible for launching the tender, that African and European experts will form the team of consultants and that the EC will be involved in the selection of the team of experts, possibly through the EU Delegation to the AU.
- b. The African co-chair as well as the EC updated participants on progress made in the preparation of projects and initiatives announced in the first IJEG meeting. The IJEG co-chairs will present a consolidated common list of projects for consideration by the IJEG in the upcoming meeting in Lisbon and submission to the Ministerial Troika through the implementation roadmap.
- c. The EC briefed participants on the event "Culture and creativity, factor for development" (Brussels, 2-3 April 2009) ([www.culture-dev.eu](http://www.culture-dev.eu))

#### **Organisation of the next IJEG (Lisbon, 30-31 March 2009)**

- a. Participation of stakeholders and partners in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon – It was agreed that the African co-chairs and the AUC will invite the APRM Secretariat, the AfDB, the PAP and the ECOSOC to the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG. The EU will invite representatives from the EP, the EESC and the CoR as well as two representatives of EU civil society. The EC referred to expressions of interest to engage in dialogue and cooperation in the broad area of governance from Mo Ibrahim Foundation (supporting the governance agenda in Africa) or UN (UNODC and UNDP on anti-corruption). The African side referred to the importance of involving the Council of Europe and other relevant European institutions in the area of human rights. An agreement on the opportunity of inviting these actors to the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting could not be reached. The involvement of other African and European relevant actors and institutions in the implementation of the Partnership and participation in IJEG work will be discussed in detail in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon.
- b. Subject to agreement by the African side, the two Commissions will present to the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting in Lisbon the results of the Media Forum (Ouagadougou, September 2008).
- c. Funding - Participants exchanged views on the way in which activities linked to the implementation of Partnership nr 2 (including studies, expenditures for participation in meetings, etc) are being supported by the ongoing EC-financed Capacity building programme for the AU institutions (€ 55 million under 9<sup>th</sup> EDF). Participants agreed that the implementation of the Action Plan 2008-2010 should be given priority under the planned support programme to be financed by the EC under 10<sup>th</sup> EDF and are in favour of setting specific financial envelopes by partnership within this programme.
- d. It was agreed that papers to be discussed in the 2<sup>nd</sup> IJEG meeting will be distributed to participants by 25<sup>th</sup> March 2009. IJEG members will be encouraged to use the joint website [www.africa-eu-partnership.org](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org) as much as possible to exchange views and comment papers, which will start being uploaded as soon as possible.

## TRADE, REGIONAL INTEGRATION, INFRASTRUCTURE

### I. Participants

African Union: TAU Alfred (South Africa), René KOUASSI (AUC)

European Union: GARZON Isabelle (DEV), Eugenia AGUIAR (TAXUD); Moustapha MAGUMU (SANCO); Christophe KAMP (EU Delegation to the AU); Kristina KAMSIUKAITE (AGRI); DURAND Guillaume (DEV);

### II. Conclusions

#### *Trade and Regional Integration*

The African Co-Chair (South Africa), the European Co-Chair (European Commission) and the AU Commission met on 17 March 2009 to discuss the way forward for the EU-Africa Partnership on Trade and Regional Integration and, in particular, to prepare the next Joint Expert Group (JEG).

It was agreed that the JEG will take place in Addis on 2 April. The Co-Chairs recognised that, given the nature of this Partnership, the involvement of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) is particularly important and that particular efforts will be made by both sides to reach out to them. The Co-Chairs also concurred to encourage countries to send technical people to the JEG so that discussions focus on technical matters and move the process closer to implementation.

The following main issues were agreed for discussion at the JEG:

- the involvement of various actors in the Partnership: RECs; civil society (including the private sector); parliaments (taking guidance from the results of the "Hexalogue" meeting to be held between the two Commissions, the two Presidencies and the two Parliaments)
- the roadmap to be endorsed by the Ministerial Troika, including technical project proposals with respect to some of the priority areas : this roadmap will outline, for each agreed activity, its implementation status, the next steps and timing for delivery, as well as, where applicable, the identified sources of funding. This roadmap will be developed ahead of the JEG through internal discussions on the African and European sides, as well as exchanges between the Co-Chairs.

#### *Infrastructure*

### I. Participants

AUC: A.BABA-MOUSSA, A.MARZOUK, I.ZAMMIT (AUC)

EC: E.MATEUS -PAULA, E.TSIAVOS, A.MONTALBAN, P.GERAERTS, V.LATAPIE

### II. Conclusions

- An outline roadmap for partnership activities will be prepared (to be presented to the next Ministerial Troika on 28<sup>th</sup> April 2009)
- A steering committee ensures the governance of the Infrastructure partnership, which lastly met in Addis on Non 2008 and issued recommendations

- The main instrument of the Infrastructure Partnership is the EU-Africa Infrastructure Trust Fund (ITF)
- Si far, the ITF has received financial contributions of 12 EU-MS and the EDF to the tone of €160M in the form of grants.
- 12 regional projects in the sectors of transport, energy and ICT's have been funded in 2008
- The set-up of an ah-hoc working group on specific infrastructure subjects will be further discussed to agree on scope, duration and duties to be developed by the group in assisting the Steering Committee (may 2009)
- Initiate the preparations of a seminar on Trans-European networks (mid-2009)
- Discussions on implementations of EDF funded programmes in support of the Partnerships as well as the PIDA program (€10M Port Moresby agreement)
- Preparation of the forum on Infrastructure 2010

## MDGs

### I. Participants

EU: Angela Solomon, Mark Mallalieu (DFID), Andrew Woodcock (Czech presidency),  
EC: Sue Milner (DG Dev A1 - focal point for MDG partnership). Marian Amples (DEV), Gaelle Lemaire (Dev C2), Dorina Pfeiffer (DEV), Wim Althof (DEV), Christine Wallace (DEV), Antoinette Gosses (DEV)

AU: FEZZABI Abdellatif (Embassy of Tunisia)

AUC: Leila Ben Ali, Abebe Gabril, Baboucarr Koma, Janet Byaruhanga

### II. Conclusions

1. The Group received an update from the UK co-chair on the **first JEG**, which was held in Addis in November 2008, and at which the EU and Africa agreed that the next JEG should be broken down into the sectoral priority actions, and that the UK should take forward the **mapping exercise**.
2. The UK co-chair will circulate a **revised version of the mapping** before the next JEG. This had been updated to become a living document containing ongoing work at regional and continental level against the large number of activities in action plan, including on the African side. In future the mapping should include **details of finance needed/committed** against each activity. The group agreed it was important for all parties to make comprehensive contributions to the mapping exercise.
3. The UK had commissioned **summary discussion papers** to inform the JEG on each of the sectoral priority actions (education, health and food security), plus disability as a cross cutting theme. The EU Commission had produced a paper on the Finance and Policy Base of the MDGs for discussion at the next plenary JEG. The Health paper was circulated. Others will follow, in the coming days in English, with French versions to follow as soon as possible. These give an overview of activity against each priority action and start to identify gaps.
4. The **2<sup>nd</sup> JEGs Meetings** will take place on the following dates:
  - Food Security – 24<sup>th</sup> March in Pretoria alongside the CAADP meeting.
  - Education – 26<sup>th</sup> March in London at DFID offices, 1 Palace Street, Victoria, London, SW1E 5HE
  - Health – 26<sup>th</sup> March in London at DFID offices, 1 Palace Street, Victoria, London, SW1E 5HE
  - The Finance and Policy Base for the MDGs – 27<sup>th</sup> March at the Sofitel Hotel, London St James, 6 Waterloo Place, London SW1Y 4AN.
5. UK co-chair presented a **proposed matrix for the roadmap**, which would record activities, deliverables, lead actors, date and financing. A narrative will be needed in addition to this matrix. This could be, for example, a conference, a paper, financing for a project, advocacy to influence decisions in international for a agreement to push for greater EU participation in initiatives under the AP. **[Action: MM to share the form]**

6. **AUC suggested co-chairs discuss the roadmap before the JEG, with each other and their respective Commissions. UK co-chair agreed in principle but in this case the meetings were perhaps too soon. He called on individuals to come to the JEG meetings with ideas.** It was agreed that a well-advanced draft of the roadmap, with bullet points for the accompanying narrative, needs to be completed by the end of the JEG meeting and finally agreed within the next two weeks in order that it can contribute to the next Ministerial Troika at the end of April.
7. The Group agreed it would be useful to know about **international events where experts will be gathered**, to use the opportunity to get experts together for a discussion under the partnership. [In the case of food security, the AUC agreed it was sensible to organize the sub-group meeting in Pretoria, and undertook to inform the AUC focal person.]
8. The group agreed that there were fruitful topics for discussion on the priority actions (policy and finance base for the MDGs, food security, health and education), but that there were some issues with **operational structures**. They agreed that **Communication** is key, in the form of regular, substantive dialogue about the partnership.
9. The AU Commission shared **names and email addresses of focal points within AUC**.
10. **The group agreed that the Africa-EU website (www.africa-eu-partnership.org)** offers great potential for collaboration online, and perhaps a more reliable way of communicating than using email. Participants need a username and password (all participants at the meeting will be given these and **Sue Milner (EUC)** can liaise for further names to receive them). Co-chairs will inform participants when the website is populated with relevant documents (after the suite of JEGs in March – e.g. meeting record and draft roadmap).
11. **With respect to Stakeholders, the group noted that African partners were still consulting on CSO participation and therefore it was unlikely that African CSOs would be invited to the JEGs.** The UK co-chair stated that 1-2 European CSO representatives have been invited to the next MDGs JEGs, and hoped for a speedy resolution of this issue on the African side.
12. AUC said that **RECs** must be part of this process, as key stakeholders. The group noted that Commissioner for Economic Affairs will be calling on the RECs' chief executives to discuss how to involve RECs in this process. The Group flagged the importance of involving regional health organizations that work closely with the RECs.
13. The Group agreed that the JEGs should discuss what other participants could bring expertise and experience to future meetings, and suggested that **the sub-groups could each agree to compile a list of potential partner organisations**.
14. The UK co-chair thanked participants for their attendance and contributions to a successful meeting.

## ENERGY

### I. Participants

**Africa:** A. BABA-MOUSSA, A. MARZOUK, I. ZAMMIT (AUC)

**EU:** H. WINNUBST, R. HAKALA (DE), W. MOSER (AUT), J. FREDERIKSEN (CZ), P. BRANDT (NL)<sup>3</sup>, R. COSTA, R. ZINZIUS, K. LARSSON (EC-DEV), A. PANAGOPOULOU (EC-TREN), N. LAMBERT, A. SGOBBI (EC-AIDCO), K. UHEROVA, M. STAJNAROVA (EC-RELEX)

**Other:** R. HOLLAND, S. BEHRLE, E. BLAUSTEIN (EUEI-PDF)

### II. Outcomes

Both sides have agreed on a **revised AEEP meeting schedule and deliverables**, including:

- an **outline Road Map** for partnership activities (to be presented to the next Ministerial Troika on 28 April 2009); and
- a **full version of the Road Map** (to be presented to the next Energy High Level Meeting, foreseen to take place during the second semester of 2009).

The **first draft of the outline Road Map was discussed** and participants agreed on the steps needed to finalise the document.

Participants **took stock of progress** on ongoing and planned activities and **issued recommendations** on the way forward.

The **support of a short-term expert to the Energy Division of the AUC through the EUEI-PDF** was confirmed. Possibilities of **staff exchanges** were discussed.

During the meeting it was stressed that it is time to **move from process to concrete results**. There is also the **need to involve African MS more closely** in the AEEP and to **focus on capacity development**. Finally, the need to **improve coordination between the energy and infrastructure partnerships** was emphasised.

### III. Operational Conclusions

#### 1. Discussion of the revised AEEP meeting schedule. Objectives and state of play of the Road Map

f. A revised AEEP meeting schedule was approved. Key meetings are:

- A 7<sup>th</sup> EU IT meeting on 21 April 2009, in Brussels;
- A 1<sup>st</sup> African IT meeting on 5 May 2009 (i.e. the day before the first consultation meeting in Africa, see below, and in the same city);
- A 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG meeting on 18-19 June 2009 in Brussels;
- An Energy High Level Meeting to be organised in the second semester of 2009 in The Netherlands;
- An Energy Partnership Forum to be organised in 2010.

<sup>3</sup> Participation in agenda item 7 only.

- g. A first presentation on the structure of the Road Map was made by the EUEI-PDF. The consultation process leading to the production of the final draft shall take into account the outcome of the 12<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the AU, focussing on transport and energy. This process will be organised by the EUEI-PDF and include discussions with the Regional Economic Communities and Power Pools, specialised institutions in the energy sector and major African actors. It will comprise up to two consultation meetings / workshops:
- One in Kampala (Uganda), on 6-7 May 2009 (organisation details TBC<sup>4</sup>);
  - If necessary<sup>5</sup>, a one-day meeting in Brussels, on 17 June 2009 (i.e. just before the 2nd JEG).

The final draft of the Road Map shall be presented to the 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG for approval at experts' level. The document will then be submitted to the Energy High Level Meeting for endorsement at political level.

## 2. Presentation and discussion of the first draft of the outline Road Map

- e. The first draft of an outline Road Map, intended for submission to the April 2009 Troika<sup>6</sup>, was presented by the EUEI-PDF and accepted by participants as a good working basis. In order to improve the document, the following requests were made:
- The role of RECs should be further developed;
  - The African perspective should be strengthened in the document;
  - The gaps in current activities should be better described and resulting priorities highlighted;
  - The AUC-EC Joint Statement of September 2008 should be better reflected in the document;
  - The role of the African Development bank should be highlighted;
  - Activities should be better characterised (more details are needed on the state of play);
  - Practical examples of activities supporting political dialogue and exchange of know-how on energy issues should be included;
  - The EU's concerns in terms of energy security should be the object of a more detailed analysis, given the political importance of the issue.

The background document prepared by the AUC for the last AU Summit will be sent to the EUEI-PDF and used in the next drafting phase.

The AUC will send written comments to the current version of the document by 27 March. Other participants are also invited to submit comments in writing by the same date. The EUEI-PDF will then produce a revised version by 3 April.

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<sup>4</sup> The AUC will contact Uganda's Embassy in Addis Ababa immediately after the end of the JTF meeting in order to launch the process. The EUEI-PDF will send to the AUC by Friday 20 March the tentative agenda and the concept note for the consultation meeting. The AUC will formally invite for the consultation meeting by the end of March.

<sup>5</sup> A decision will be taken early May, after the first consultation meeting.

<sup>6</sup> This outline Road Map must meet the requirements set by the November 2008 Troika.

- f. On the basis of the revised version of the document, 2 or 3 paragraphs with the most relevant political messages will be agreed on in early April between the EU and African ITs for insertion in the Troika's final communiqué. This exercise will be coordinated by the respective IT chairs.
- g. The outline Road Map shall be submitted to the April Troika by the chairs of the African and EU Implementing Teams after agreement on its final version by the drafting Committee (EC, AUC, Co-chairs of the Energy Partnership) and following consultation of the African and EU Implementing Teams.

### 3. Progress on activity mapping on the EU and African sides and related initiatives

- a. The first results of the energy activity mapping were presented by the EU side. The current version of the mapping table, compiled by the EUEI-PDF on the basis of contributions by EU MS and the EC, already comprises 130 entries. After analysis of the work carried out it was concluded that:
  - The activity mapping file should be uploaded to the Partnership's intranet site;
  - The AUC will send a first contribution to the mapping exercise with their written comments to the outline Road Map (i.e. by 27 March);
  - Members of the African IT and other participants in the May consultation meeting will be invited to participate in the activity mapping exercise as well; their contributions will be sent to the PDF on a second stage;
  - More information on activities by other donors is needed;
  - The activity mapping table should be exploited to produce aggregate information (i.e. investments in energy in the past 5 or 10 years; investments foreseen in the next 5 years, etc).
- b. Participants presented updates on related ongoing initiatives (PIDA, Energy Facility, CEMA). The PIDA progress report was distributed. The strengthening of interactions between such initiatives and the AEEP was recommended.

### 4. Structure of JEG and ITs and guidelines for communication within the JEG and between ITs.

- a. The draft paper on the structure of JEG and ITs and on guidelines for communication within the JEG and between ITs was discussed. After analysis, the principles presented in the paper were approved, subject to consideration of written comments to be sent by 27 March. Issues mentioned during the discussion:
  - There should be better communication between the energy and the infrastructure partnerships.
- b. An update on current membership of African and EU Implementing Teams (participating countries, RECs and other institutions) was provided by the respective IT leaders. The lists of participants (including names, functions and contact details) will be updated by the IT leaders and posted to the AEEP intranet by 15 April 2009.

### 5. Involvement of the private sector and civil society in the AEEP

- e. The co-chairs of the EU IT reported on the results of their first consultations with EU umbrella organisations representing civil society and the private sector. The chair of the African IT reported on African discussions on how to involve civil society and the private sector in the AEEP.
- f. After discussion, the following recommendations were issued:
  - Both sides should collaborate in the mapping of African civil society institutions;
  - Approaches in Africa and the EU should take into account local conditions;
  - A more detailed discussion on modalities for the involvement of civil society should take place on the occasion of the 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG;
  - The launch of a replenished Energy Facility should be an occasion to attract CSOs and the private sector.

## 6. Energy Partnership Forum

- a. Given the current situation in AEEP implementation and the practical difficulties in producing a feasible concept so far, it was confirmed that the Energy Partnership Forum could not take place before 2010. The value of the Forum as a tool to provide input from key stakeholders to the political process was confirmed.
- b. It was also confirmed that the Forum should comprise three independent components / strands: (i) private sector; (ii) civil society; (iii) research institutions. In view of the different nature of the three components, it was agreed that the processes leading to the Forum and the expected outcomes for each one of them would be differentiated.
- c. In order to make progress, and further to the decisions taken during the 1<sup>st</sup> JEG, it was decided to invite the EUEI-PDF to produce a one page information note on the Energy Partnership Forum by 20 April. This note will be used to invite pairs of EU / African institutions to propose a practical concept for the Forum for their respective components. A decision on the EU and African participants in this exercise will be taken on the occasion of the next EU and African IT meetings.
- d. The pairs of EU / African institutions will be invited to submit their first proposals by 15 June 2009, for discussion during the 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG.

## 7. Energy High Level Meeting

- a. Given the current state of implementation of the AEEP, it was confirmed that the Energy High Level Meeting could not take place before the second semester of 2009 and, most likely, be organised in the month of October.
- b. The offer by The Netherlands to host the event was confirmed and welcomed by participants;
- c. Discussions were held on the format of the meeting and on how to organise the invitation process;
- d. It was decided that:

- The EUEI-PDF will prepare a concept note by 27 March;
- A tripartite communication setup (NL, EU IT, African IT) is to be established;
- On the basis of the concept note, The Netherlands will decide on venue, exact date and elaborate on practical details.

8. A.O.B.

- a. The support of a short-term expert to the Energy Division of the AUC through EUEI-PDF was confirmed. The ToR for this expert will be finalised by the AUC and the EUEI-PDF.
- b. On the issue of exchange of staff between the AUC and the EC, DG TREN is open to discuss the possibility of hosting an AUC official in Brussels under existing framework conditions.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

### I. Participants

Africa: M. MOUSTAFA (AUC), H. ABOUTAHIR (Morocco), D. AMGHAR (Morocco)

EU: M. MORETTINI (EC, DEV), F. VILLETTE (EC, ENV), P. RENIER (EC, AIDCO), J. BLOK (EC, DEV), D. KRISLER (EU DEL to AU, Addis), J-C. GAZEAU (France) F. COÏDAN (France)

### II. Outcomes

Following the first JEG Meeting in Addis in November 2008, both sides provided an update on respective activities and work focussing on concrete actions, specific projects in particular the follow-up of the Africa-EU Declaration on Climate Change of December 2008, the first early deliverable under the partnership. From the African side it was indicated that the areas identified in paragraph 29 of the Declaration would require further prioritisation under the corresponding Roadmap input (the so called “Plan of Action” for the Declaration, still to be developed). The EU side agreed to this suggestion.

Both sides agreed that work on the building blocks of the Roadmap should be carried out jointly without delay in full adherence with the requirements established in paragraph 69 of the *Joint Progress Report on the implementation of the Africa-EU Strategy and its First Action Plan* of 21.11.2008. In this respect the necessary preparatory documents will have to be finalised by the EU and African IT according to the share of labour highlighted below (to be completed)) before the next JEG meeting in order to enable joint and conclusive discussions at the JEG meeting itself on the Roadmap.

The Roadmap building blocks will be developed on the basis of the following thematic priorities.

- a. Capacity Building of African countries, RECs and AUC for climate change, including strengthening African capacities to better exploit opportunities under the carbon market;
- b. Support to adaptation and mitigation initiatives in Africa, including:
  - i. water resources management and adaptation in the field of agriculture
  - ii. sustainable land management, fight against desertification and avoided deforestation
  - iii. the implementation of the Global Climate Change Alliance in Africa

It was agreed that to the extent possible flagship initiatives such as “CLIMDEV Africa”, “Great Green Wall of the Sahara and Sahel”, “the Global Climate Change Alliance” and continental capacity building activities such as the “Africa Negotiators Road Map”, in light of their continental value and prominence, would represent the main concrete activities and vehicles through which the above priorities would be spelled out in the Roadmap.

In addition to these initiatives, the African side mentioned ongoing work in relation to the development in some African countries of project proposals covering various issues related

to climate change. Further joint consultations, notably on the proposed specific projects, are needed in order for these activities to be included in the Roadmap.

### III. Operational Conclusions

#### 2. Preparations for 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG meeting, prior to next Ministerial Troika (28 April 2009)

- a. It was considered that the proposal to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> JEG meeting in the margins of the next UNFCCC intersessional meeting in Bonn (in the period 29/3-8/4 2009) although being an interesting idea would not warrant for the present session (predominantly due to logistics and organisational factors) the necessary degree of participation of experts to finalise discussions on the Roadmap.
- b. Hence in order to overcome such constraints both sides agreed to consult (through co-chairs and Commissions) without delay their respective caucuses on the following working proposal:
  - i. Holding of a preparatory JEG videoconference on **16 April 2009** linking Addis (where the African experts would gather) and Brussels where the EU experts would gather) to advance as much as possible work for the finalisation of the comprehensive Roadmap. Such videoconference would be preceded by preparatory meetings of the EU and African ITs as appropriate.
  - ii. Holding of a physical JEG meeting, in the format of 2 co-Chairs+ the 2 Commissions in Luxembourg on **22 April 2009** prior to the Ministerial Troika to finalise the Roadmap.

#### 3. Further opportunities for dialogue/coordination in 2009

Apart from JEG meetings, the meeting agreed to identify concrete opportunities for cooperation and dialogue in relation to the UNFCCC negotiations and also to the Roadmap during 2009 in the run-up to Copenhagen. The 1 to 12 June 2009 UNFCCC Bonn intersessional could represent the first occasion for this purpose.

#### 4. Regular exchange of relevant documentation/information on activities of mutual interest

- a. The African side (through the AUC) will share with the EU side (through the EC) the latest draft CLIMDEV programme document and update regularly on progress in its finalisation up to its planned endorsement by the AU summit in July 2009. Both sides agreed on the need to ensure regular follow-up and exchanges on the matter, including possible joint outreach actions.
- b. On the ongoing pre-feasibility study for the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and Sahel which is to be finalised in June 2009, both sides agreed on the need to ensure regular follow-up and exchanges on the matter, including possible outreach actions.
- c. The African side (AUC) will also keep the EU side (EC) up to date in relation to the ongoing work to prepare a common position for the UNFCCC negotiations (to be finalised in May and endorsed by the AU summit in July), involving as appropriate AMCEN Secretariat and Chairmanship. This will include details of the African negotiating team that will spearhead the UNFCCC negotiations in 2009.

- d. The EU (EC) will transmit to the African side (through the AUC) the recently adopted “Copenhagen Communication” that puts forward proposals ahead of the international climate negotiations in Copenhagen in December.

4. Finally, in what concerns working mechanisms of the partnership, it was agreed that:

- a. All preparatory documents will be posted on the intranet ([http:// www.africa-eu-partnership.org](http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org)), and all participants and stakeholders will be actively encouraged by the co-Chairs and the Commissions to make better use of the communications tools, including the website for informing all stakeholders.
- b. Both sides will finalize, on the basis of a draft elaborated by the Co-Chairs in close cooperation with the Commissions, the implementation roadmap which will be endorsed at the Ministerial Troika in April. It was also agreed that linkages between the Climate Change Partnership (n.6) Roadmap and the ones being developed under partnership n. 4 on the Millennium Development Goals, partnership n.5 on Energy and partnership n.8 on science, information society and space will have to be ensured as appropriate.
- c. Representatives from the EP/PAP and African and EU civil society representatives will be invited to JEG meetings. In this respect the suggestion made by the African side to initiate work for developing guidelines for the participation of CSO representatives in the various JEGs was noted with the understanding that given the cross-cutting nature of the issue, an harmonised and consistent approach for all partnerships and in line with the principles and provisions of the Africa-EU Strategic Partnership, will have to be followed.

## MIGRATON, MOBILITY and EMPLOYMENT

### I. Participants

Africa: Mariama Cissé (AUC), Ahmed Rashad (Egypt), Alyaa Borhan (Egypt), Pinkie Moleko (South Africa, for employment discussion only)

EU: José Matres (Spain), Rob Rozenburg (EC), Hjordis Ogendo (EC), Anthony Crasner (EC), Agata Sobiech (EC), Sara Monterisi (EC), Ronald Hendrix (EC), Tamas Varnai (EC), Daniela Munzbergova (EU Presidency)

### II. Operational Conclusions

#### 1. Follow up to the conclusions of the last iJEG

a. Both sides agreed that the priorities identified at the last iJEG meeting would be dealt with in the following manner:

- i. Diaspora : On the European side, the Netherlands will be responsible to organise a first meeting with EU MS / EC to exchange information and coordinate activities. The focus of this effort would be on facilitating the self-organisation of African Diaspora groups in the EU. It is expected that South Africa will organise the African Diaspora Summit, before the end of 2009. Egypt proposed to add to the agenda of the next iJEG the implementation of the international convention on the rights of workers, and notably the issue of family reunification.
- ii. Remittances: The EC expressed its strong commitment to make concrete progress towards the establishment of the African Remittances Institute, for which finance has been made available. The AUC explained that it is internally reflecting on this initiative. The EC suggested that the Steering Committee of the future African Remittances Institute could serve as a first sub-group meeting on remittances (to be extended with other interested partners). Such a meeting should in the EC view be held as soon as possible, possibly before the next iJEG meeting.
- iii. Employment: South Africa confirmed its interest to take the lead on an initiative on employment/skills development for SMEs. The EC agreed to try to mobilize EU member states that could be interested to be part of the initiative. Subsequently, a first subgroup meeting to discuss the proposal will take place.

b. Although not specifically mentioned as a priority during the last meeting, progress towards an improved cooperation and regular exchanges between the Nyerere programme and Erasmus Mundus was also acknowledged by both parties and it was agreed that higher education should be considered as a priority under this partnership.

c. Both parties agreed that on the basis of this discussion, a roadmap identifying concrete deliverables would be developed jointly by both Commissions in the following weeks and discussed via email with the co-chairs in order for the roadmap to be adopted by the next iJEG. Further to the three subjects mentioned above (diasporas, remittances, employment) the roadmap should if possible also contain deliverables on human trafficking and on higher education, as well as on other subjects that may be agreed upon. Parties reflected on the question whether the organisation of a workshop or meeting would qualify as a deliverable under this roadmap.

d. On the proposed Tripoli Fund on migration, the EC explained that a paper is being prepared which will be discussed with EU Member States and will be sent to the iJEG members before the next iJEG meeting for a discussion at this occasion.

## 2. Exchange of information and discussion on recent policy development:

- i. Both sides exchanged information on a series of migration and employment policy issues, notably the recent EC proposals towards a Visa Information System, the situation as regards the implementation of the Ouagadougou Plan of Action to combat human trafficking (AUC campaign against human trafficking), an update on the AUC 2009 programme on Employment and Social Protection, information on the upcoming seminar on circular migration, the state of play as regards the 'EC Blue Card' and the current situation on the Nyerere programme.
- ii. A seminar on employment and decent work related issues is being organized jointly by EC and AUC in 2010 with the participation of African and EU member states. The seminar should aim at identifying activities on both sides that could feed into a proposal for an "African Labour Market System".
- iii. It was agreed that this type of exchanges is one of the added value of this Partnership and that it should become permanent through the use of the intranet.

## 3. Support to the implementation of the Africa-EU Partnership on migration, mobility and employment

The EC gave a short presentation on its intention to fund a project for the facilitation of discussions and exchanges under the Africa-EU Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment. The project would be based on experiences obtained in West-Africa under the Rabat process. A fuller presentation will be given to the next iJEG, which will also need to look into the issue of the governance of the project (where an active role and shared responsibility of AUC, EC and the Egyptian and Spanish co-chairs would be envisaged).

The implementation of this project should start at the end of 2009 and is one of the concrete deliverables of this Partnership;

4. Finally, concerning the next iJEG meeting and working mechanisms of the partnership, it was agreed that:

- i. The next iJEG meeting will in principle be held on 21-22 April in Cairo, provided that a solution can be found to cover the expenses of African participants, as well as for interpretation costs.
- ii. The EC explained that if the AUC could not pay for the participation of African experts under the €55M programme, no other instrument existed on the EU side. The meeting requested the AUC to look into this issue with utmost urgency. The EC committed to explore the possibility to provide interpreters for the Cairo meeting.
- iii. Participation of civil society and international organisations will be decided on a case-by-case basis, depending on the agenda of the meeting, and on the question whether these organisations can provide an added value to the discussion. It is understood that the participation of relevant organisations in subgroup-meetings (e.g. on diasporas, remittances, employment) would be logical

and useful. At the African side ECOSOC would be responsible for proposing civil society representation.

## SCIENCE and TECHNOLOGY, ICT and SPACE

### I. Participants

Africa: Hambani Masheleni (AUC); Ahmed Hamdy (AUC); Hakim ELWAER (AUC)

EU: Carla Santos (Pt Repres.); Patrice Cayré (FR co-chair); Pratima Frantzen (AIDCO-EC); Philippe Darmuzey (DEV-EC); Thierry DEVARS (INFISO-EC); Flora Geley (INFISO-EC); Francesco Affinito (DEV-EC); Dimitri Desbeek (RTD-EC); Mário Catizzone (RTD-EC); Eduardo Sorribes (DEV-EC)

### II. Operational Conclusions

The P8 JTF meeting highlights the crucial need to take into consideration that the S&T and ICT domains are dealt by two separate African Ministerial committees, AMCOST and the CIT respectively. The P8 implementation process should therefore establish duly links with those two committees and involve on the EU and African side, national experts from the ICT and ICT4D sectors.

#### 1. Book of lighthouse projects: implementation status

##### (i) Information Society,

- **Africa Connect** and the **African internet Exchange System** are to be implemented as early deliverables (following c2c meeting of October 2008 and Troika meeting of November 2008), and will be proposed as priorities in 2009 annual action plan of 10<sup>th</sup> EDF. AUC is in consultation with the AfDB regarding possible and additional funding for the Internet Exchange Points. The EC launched the preliminary phase of Africa Connect, FEAST, for the identification of connectivity scenarios.
- The AUC is jointly with UNESCO implementing **African Virtual Campus** project which initial phase was partially funded by Spain. National virtual campuses are being established in 11 countries. A progress implementation report will be submitted to the upcoming sectorial Ministerial meetings "CIT and science and technology".
- The AU Commission is making efforts to raise resources for the African Leadership ICT Program and Harnessing information & Knowledge for Youth Development projects. JTF calls upon the EC and EU Member States to technically and financially support this project.

##### (ii) Science

- There are two major projects that are in implementation stages, using the allocation for S&T from the EC55 million Euro Support programme:
  - Setting up a Programme Management Unit before the summer 2009 to run the African Union Research Grants. A call for proposals is expected to be launched by the AUC in November 2009,
  - Under the popularisation cluster, the AU Commission has launched in February 2009 the AU Scientific Awards programme at Regional and Continental levels, and also secured enough funds to support the award programme at national level. A ceremony will be organised on the 09/09/2009 for regional and national awards while the continental will be in January 2010 Summit. The EC should send a high-level official in this context.

- In Africa's Science and Technology Capacity Building efforts, the Commission has made substantive progress in the implementation of Pan African Intellectual Property Organization (PAIPO), where the Constitutive Act is in place regarding its set-up.
- The AU Commission in consultation with UNESCO is working on the modalities of establishing the African Observatory on Science, Technology and Innovation. The Government of Equatorial Guinea offered to host, champion and allocate a seed fund of US\$ 3.6 million. JTF calls upon the EC and EU Member States to technically and financially support this project.
- On the Development of a Common African Union Science and Technology Policy Framework and Reviews of AU Members States, the AU Commission is working closely with UNESCO. One Review was done for the SADC countries and the next review will be done for the Eastern and some Northern Member States, in April 2009.
- On the Development of African Small Medium Enterprises (SMEs) and support business incubator networks project, the AU Commission is consulting with InfoDev and UNIDO to finalise the project document to be submitted for consideration by Partnership 8.
- In the thematic Capacity Building programmes the AU Commission has submitted the following projects to be funded under the 9<sup>th</sup> EDF Programme: Building Africa's Scientific and Institutional Capacity (BASIC) in Agriculture, and Natural Resource Management and Harnessing Biotechnology for the Advancement of African Agriculture.
- In the context of Water and Food Security at a basin level, a special dedicated FP7 call for proposals will be launched and published before the end of 2009. Approximately 20 million Euros have been foreseen. The evaluations and related projects contracts will take place in 2010.
- The projects "African Pole of Excellence on Desertification and Forestry" , "African Union Initiative on Climate Change "and "Securing and Using Africa's Indigenous and Traditional Knowledge" are still under consideration for further implementation.

(iii) Space,

- The GMES Africa project is making progress by drafting the GMES Africa Action Plan. The Action Plan will be based on African user requirements in Earth Observation product and services and will identify the capacities and coordinated actions necessary for its development; an initial version of this Action Plan is expected by the end of May 2009. The schedule for the several steps of the consultation of the Action Plan has been defined from June to September 2009. There is a need to ensure adequate financial support for conducting regional consultation.
- The AUC and JRC are finalising the project proposal on AUC Capacity Building Programme for using Geospatial data "Pan-African geo-information observatory in support to sustainable development".

## 2. Further considerations

- In view of organizational factors the P8 JTF considered differing the holding of the next JEG given the progress reported herein.
- The two Commissions will use their best offices to facilitate interaction between the two implementation teams and their co-chairs.
- It is important to define in a mutual acceptable manner the roles of the ACP Secretariat and the AUC in the provision of intra-ACP funds in support of the JSAP including Partnership 8. This is particularly relevant to the consolidation of the African Research Grants; the AfricaConnect and AXIS initiatives that are currently under way.
- The P8 JTF meeting highlights the fact the next January 2010 AU Summit will be dedicated to ICT for Africa, thus reinforcing prioritization concrete and rapid P8 implementation. The AUC formally requested EC assistance for the preparation of this Summit.
- Finland volunteered to initiate a working group of EU MSs on the implementation of the P8 Information society component. The objective will be to pool resources regarding the 5 ICT lighthouse projects and more generally on the support to ARAPKE. This first meeting will be held on 24 March 2009, prior to the Euro Africa-ICT Forum organised by the EC.
- In order to improve the communication, it is recommended that the present documentation in the CIRCA website be transferred in the common partnership website. And that the common website be used to foster future exchanges.