



Report of the 9th meeting of the
Joint AUC-EC Task Force,
(8-9 October 2009, Addis Ababa)



1. The **Ninth meeting of the Joint Africa-EU Task Force (JTF)** was held on 8-9 October 2009 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The opening plenary session was co-chaired by Amb. John Kayode Shinkaiye, Chief of Staff in the Bureau of the AU Commission Chairperson, and Mr. Klaus Rudischhauser, Director of General Affairs in the Directorate General for Development and Relations with ACP countries in the European Commission. The Meeting was also attended by co-Chairs of the Joint Expert Groups (JEGs), Representatives of AU and EU Presidencies and Member-States and the EU Council Secretariat, and representatives of the European Parliament and civil society from both continents. In parallel, AUC and EC services discussed during a video-conference the deepening of the institutional cooperation between the two institutions.
2. The Co-chairs reminded participants that in addition to the institutional cooperation between the two Commissions the Joint EU-Africa Strategy (JAES) and its first Action Plan had by now become the focus of the JTF Meeting. They welcomed the presence of JEG co-Chairs, representatives of AU and EU Presidencies and Member-States, the European Parliament and members of civil society from both continents in the meeting. Their presence shows the increasing importance of the JTF and the progress made since its last meeting in Brussels in March 2009.
3. The Co-chairs appreciated all efforts made to implement the JAES and its first Action Plan, but pointed out that this implementation process had not yet lived up to its full potential. A thorough mid-term review of the JAES was important to address shortfalls in this regard. The Co-chairs also took note of the JAES Resources Workshop that took place from 5 to 7 October 2009, and hoped that its outcomes would soon translate into concrete actions. Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to make the JTF a result-oriented meeting by addressing all the issues related to the implementation of the JAES, and to reflect the results in the upcoming Ministerial Troika meeting on 14 October 2009. The Co-chairs finally stressed the need for an early start of the preparations of the next Africa-EU Summit to be held in late 2010.
4. With regard to the institutional cooperation between the two Commissions, the Co-chairs welcomed the achievements in areas such as capacity-building, training visits and staff exchanges, and linguistic cooperation. They acknowledged the promising results in the areas of financial and human resources management, internal and external communication, conference management, and translation and documentation services. Both Commissions observed however that new challenges are emerging and agreed to coordinate their efforts to tackle these jointly.

5. During a lunch hosted Amb.Shinkaiyé for senior EC participants, the AUC raised the issues of Universal Jurisdiction, the ICC and the trial of H.Habr , reiterating the AU positions on these matters. The EC took note of these concerns. It was agreed that follow-up activities would be taken on outstanding issues.

Discussions on the Mid Term Review on the implementation of the Joint EU-Africa Strategy and Action Plan

How to ensure the Participation and contribution of key stakeholders?

6. **Involvement of Civil Society:** Representatives of the African and European civil societies reaffirmed their willingness and commitment to actively participate in the implementation of the Action Plan's 8 partnerships, and in particular in the area of Democratic Governance and Human Rights. In this field, the European representative regretted that the workshop to launch the 'Platform on Dialogue' has failed to materialize. The JEG of the second partnership has agreed to hold this workshop, and the necessary practical arrangements are in place. The African side reaffirmed its commitment to speedily finalize the consolidation of its position. In addition, the early holding of the planned Africa-EU CSO Forum was necessary to strengthen the people-centered dimension of the Partnership.

Conclusions:

- o *Civil society should enhance its active participation in, and contribution to, the implementation of the JAES and in all 8 partnerships.*
 - o *JEGs should promote the participation of the Civil Society through the timely publication of relevant documents and information on the Joint Website;*
 - o *Need to strengthen the capacity of CSOs to enable them to play a more effective role in the JAES implementations.*
7. **Involvement of the European and Pan African Parliaments:** Both parliaments are actively participating in the implementation of the JAES and there is a continuously growing interest from them. A permanent EP-PAP Delegation has been recently established, and thematic experts from the EP will participate in future JEG meetings. The EP has already adopted a declaration on the earlier JAES progress report, and was seeking to establish joint positions with the PAP on future progress reports. Furthermore, the establishment of a Pan-African Envelope is something the EP could consider and support.
 8. **Private Sector:** Participants were informed on the outcome of the 3rd Africa-EU Business Forum held in Nairobi (Kenya) on 28-29 Sept. 2009, which was attended by almost 300 Business leaders, international organizations and government representatives from both continents. The focus of discussions was in line with the priorities of the JAES, in particular in the areas of Trade, ICT, Energy, Infrastructure, SMEs, and Entrepreneurship. The conclusions and recommendations of the Forum will be published on the JAES Website (www.Africa-EU-partnership.org). The JTF regretted the weak participation of the

private sector in the implementation of the JAES, and invited JEGs to urgently seek pragmatic solutions in this respect.

Conclusions:

- *To speedily identify within the 8 partnerships concrete entry points for the private sector;*
- *To bring together high-level business leaders, financial institutions and decision makers to address the policy- and operational challenges of the Partnership.*

9. **Involvement of Countries and RECs:** The JTF agreed that individual countries and RECs must be more actively involved in the implementation of the JAES despite their human and financial resource constraints. There is a need to improve the ownership of the process by the African countries and RECs, and to further enhance and sustain their involvement.

Conclusions:

- *Individual countries and RECs should better integrate the JAES priorities in their respective development- and policy-strategies. They should enhance their ownership and contribute to the implementation process. The EC regional seminars with RECs and country-dialogues, including in the framework of the EDF mid-term review, have started to address these issues, but more could be done in this regard by all African and European actors concerned to ensure that the JAES priorities are embedded in national and regional frameworks;*
- *RECs and JEGs should improve the two-way information flow;*
- *Successful capacity-building initiatives for RECs in areas such as Peace and Security should be expanded to other areas.*

The Joint Africa - Europe Strategy Implementation Architecture

10. The meeting noted an uneven progress in the 8 partnerships as well as several cross-cutting operational obstacles to the efficient functioning of the JEGs. Participants agreed on the need to find pragmatic short-term solutions, to enhance the effectiveness of the JEGs, and to speed up the delivery of tangible results ahead of the next Summit. Both sides also agreed to reflect on the preparation of the next Summit and on the future content, focus, scope of ambition and institutional arrangements for the Strategy. The underlying implementation architecture needs to be re-thought in depth, and working methods better adapted to the JAES requirements so as to work more effectively and efficiently and to deliver all expected results. Participants agreed that the development of implementation roadmaps by the JEGs was a positive step forward. The updated roadmaps should clearly identify the deliverable priority activities and its lead actors, timelines, expected results and mobilized resources. The updated roadmaps will be published on the JAES website with a view to enhance transparency, awareness and ownership.

Conclusions and practical recommendations:

The various ideas and suggestions made in the Resource Workshop, in the various break-out sessions and in the JTF, in particular with regard to prioritizing and rationalizing the work of the JEGs, should be actively explored by both sides. Feasible quick solutions should be implemented quickly. Possible avenues in this regard include inter alia:

- *a sharper focus on initiatives with a clear added value and a pan-African dimension;*
- *a more effective use of existing African expertise, frameworks and structures to facilitate the work of the JEGs.*
- *greater synergies between JEGs and African and international high-level meetings so as to facilitate and broaden the participation of competent African and European experts and decision makers;*
- *systematic use of the JAES website and Intranet as well as of video-conferences and telephone contacts in order to enhance the efficiency of the JEGs, to sustain work between physical meetings, to broaden participation, and to reduce the overall 'carbon footprint' of the JAES;*
- *use of specific AU frameworks and initiatives such as the NEPAD and the APRM to foster the implementation of the JAES;*
- *proposal for an independent external evaluation with a view to enhance the discussion on the adaptation of the implementation architecture.*

Reports from the thematic breakout sessions

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

EC-AUC Institutional Cooperation

I. Participants

African Union Commission:

Nedjat Khellaf, Regina Muzamai Maambo, Wolansa Mekuria, Habiba Mejri-cheikh, Amb Mahamat Saleh Annadif, Rekia Mamoudou, Mandla Madonsela, Asmeron Girma, Agbor Ambang, Christine Gama, Mesfin Tessema, Francis Bokilo, Geremew Tadele, Denis Atabong, Annie Quincke, Tadele Demeke, Samuel Melesse Nebiyu Abebeshoa, Lamin Fatty, Abdul Hakim Rajab Elwaer and Ngomo Leopold.

EU:

Daniele Dotto, Jacques Vonthron, Anne D'Haen-Bertier, Klaus Rudischhauser, Philippe Darmuzey, Joana Cruz, Chloé Debay-Cornish, Sophie Le Rue, Marie Panou, Victor Madeira dos Santos, Fiorino Luigi, Donatella Fassone, Christophe Bouli rac, Ian Barber, Christian Simon, Franck Gou ry, Gaspar Pericay Coll, Nancy Dzokoto-Pomenya.

II. Administrative and Human Resources Development / Internal Audit Cooperation

II.1 Outcomes

1) Progress Review

- a) *Exchanges of documents*
 - EC annual activity report,
 - EC annual management Plan
 - EC internal rules
 - Other financial documents
- b) *Exchange of information related to EC policies (in the context of HR Reform in the AUC):*
 - Recruitment/ selection
 - Staff mobility
 - Staff appraisal and promotion (especially the performance management system for senior officials)

c) Exchange of officials:

The new SNE (Seconded national experts) decision¹ has been changed to take into account the exchange of officials from international institutions and the specificity of the AUC (short term missions).

Since the launching of the exchange program, 11 EC Officials (RTD, AIDCO, SG, JRC, TRADE, JRC-Ispra, INFSO, DEV, Protocol and ESTAT) went for long and short term missions of approximately 3 months to the AU Headquarters and from the AUC side, 9 Experts (Social Affairs, Women, Gender and Development, SPPMERM, AHRD, HRST and Infrastructure and Energy) came to the EC for long and short term missions.

A retreat on the AHRD reform is being organized by AUC and it will be expected if a senior staff from EC would participate as resource person.

d) Experts' recruitment on EC-AUC agreement

Around 30 Experts have been recruited under EC-AU agreement to build the capacity of African Union Commission.

e) Exchange of information about training opportunities in the areas of expertise

AUC has requested joint training programs in report writing on statutory meetings, drafting decisions and organization and preparation of conference of Heads of State and Government.

With regard to the Internal Audit Services, an exhaustive list of training has been sent to the AUC for consideration.

The dates and syllabus on the EC internal communication training will be sent next week to the AUC ICD. Further details can be found under the Communication section of this report.

f) Reviewing by EC of the final draft of the AUC Staff Rules and Regulations

The AUC requested the EC to peer review its draft Staff Rules and Regulations in preparation for negotiations leading to the adoption of this important administrative tool. The EC assigned an expert to this task which is now completed.

g) Invitation of two members of the AUC at the EuropeAid/OLAF's Kampala conference

Wolansa Mekuria and one other person attended the conference

h) Action Plan

AUC sent a new version of the Action Plan that has been distributed among the EC services concerned for comments.

II.2 Follow up actions

a) Organisation of 2 seminars

¹ C(2008) 6866

The participants agreed on the **organisation of 2 seminars** in Brussels before the end of the year. The proposal is that for each seminar, a staff will come to study the relevant EC systems, methods and processes for one week (5 days) in preparation for a one day seminar which will be attended by two or three other staff from AUC and some staff of EC. Two subject areas have been identified:

- A seminar on career planning: Deriving lessons from the EC model
- A seminar on Governance and Internal Controls: Experiences of EC and AUC

The AUC directorate of PBFA expressed interest in organising similar capacity building programmes in archiving financial records and budget planning, implementation and reporting, which shall be discussed within the scope of the next review of the Action Plan in Addis Ababa for implementation in the year 2010. The meeting was informed of ongoing discussions for greater collaboration between the two Internal Audit departments and expressed the need to have the outcomes captured within the Action Plan.

Timing of 2009 workshops in Brussels:

- Week beginning 23rd -27th November + 30th November, 2009: Career Planning and Management seminar for senior management.

- Week beginning 7th -11th December +14th December, 2009: Workshop on Internal Controls as a tool of governance.

Dates for the first workshop are confirmed. AUC will consult and confirm ASAP or propose to re-schedule the dates for the second workshop.

Content for the seminar on Internal Controls

It is agreed that the scope will be expanded to include matters on financial management. Some topics have been identified:

- Expenditure life cycle
- Financial resources
- Internal control

This list is not exhaustive: Other topics can be added. A first draft of agenda will be sent in the coming days to the AUC for comments.

For HR seminar, the content will be discussed during the visit to Addis of EC officials.

b) EC Senior Management visit to Addis in November 09

Participants agreed on an EC **Senior Management visit to Addis Ababa** (5-6/11/2009). EC in collaboration with Lamin Fatty from the AUC will send a draft agenda to the AUC for comments and inputs.

Participants agreed on two levels of meetings during this visit:

- Political meetings to share experience
- Technical meetings to finalise the Action Plan and the Memorandum of understanding (MoU) as well as discuss possibilities of collaboration on the ongoing AUC administrative reforms and issues on staff exchange.

c) Action Plan

Participants agreed on the principles to **review the Action Plan** so that the details are worked out later and finalised. During the visit to Addis a final version of the document will be prepared for signature.

d) Memorandum of understanding (MoU) related to staff exchange

EC presents the principle of having a specific framework for staff exchange. Based on what is done with the UN, DG ADMIN will soon send a draft of MoU to AUC for comments. Ideally the MoU could be finalised and endorsed during a high level visit from the European Commission, to Addis (5-6/11/09).

e) Tripartite EC- AUC- UN joint training

Participants agreed on the organisation of a tripartite meeting in Vienna in April 2010 on ADMIN and HRD experience between International Institutions.

III. Contract, Financing Management, Budget

DG BUDG has in the past welcomed officials from the African Union Commission (AUC) with a specific training on the links between decision-making and financial matters. This has resulted in a highly beneficial exchange of experiences. DG BUDG would therefore be happy in principle to pursue this exchange. This paper outlines briefly what we can offer, although it is all subject to confirmation.

DG BUDG finds the "5+1"/"4+1" concept extremely attractive and would be happy to offer an agenda based on it. The official from the AUC would spend 4 or 5 working days based in a unit of DG BUDG. This will enable the individual to gain a high exposure to the workings of DG BUDG and to develop his/her technical expertise in the area. The number of days would be 4 or 5 depending on what is deemed most suitable, this will be determined later. He/she will then prepare, in conjunction with DG BUDG officials, a seminar designed for a larger number of decision-makers (approximately 3 to 5) from the AUC, to take place the following Monday.

AUC agrees with DG BUDG proposal and would like to focus on the following:

- SAP: EU's experience in managing and adopting the system to Organizational needs, interfacing with other systems and post implementation support ;
- Internal Control system in computerized environment;
- Improved Business processes in financial management;
- Budget preparation and monitoring in light with Medium Expenditure Framework and result based budgeting

A suitable unit able to welcome the official has already been identified, upon suggestion of DG ADMIN, the specialisation of which is in Internal Control and Risk Management. This is an area that has been the subject of profound reforms during the past decade which has resulted in a change of culture as well as practices. The change that occurred, as well as the practices that have been implemented, in our view will be of particular interest to the AUC.

In terms of technical resources to provide, there is no difficulty, the sole problem concerns time. It remains to be determined whether the relevant unit will be able to fulfill the proposal of DG ADMIN, whereby an official would be welcomed from Monday 7 or Tuesday 8 until Friday 11 December, with the date of Monday 14 December being possible for the seminar.

IV. Communication and Information strategy

IV.1 Outcomes

a) Spokespersons challenge

After the exchange on information regarding staff resources (1 spokesperson, 1 assistant, 1 secretary on the EU Commission side), the visit to Brussels by an AU Information & Communication department staff member has been postponed to November 2009. The 4-point training programme will be finalised at that time.

b) Media & Development

1. Pan-African Media Observatory

The African Union Member States were informed by the AU Commission of the blueprint for an Observatory.

This was presented to COREP and the Executive Council in the margins of the AU Summit in June 2009.

The online stakeholder consultation (first in the history of the African Union) concluded on 15 August. Since then, a report has been written summarising the comments received. This report has been submitted to the President of the African Union Commission.

A meeting of experts from Africa (funded by the AU Commission) and from Europe (funded by the EU Commission) is foreseen to take place in Addis Ababa before the next AU Summit at the end of January 2010.

In its budget preparations for 2010, the AU Commission will address the issue of funding for the Observatory to be set up.

2. Pan African Media Web Portal

A study into the sources of EU funding for the media in Africa has been launched by the EU Commission. The first draft report is due before the end of 2009. A study of the media landscape in Africa may be launched by the AU Commission.

c) Internal Communication

The visit to Brussels for the AU Spokesperson & Head of Communication is now foreseen for November 2009. The exact dates will be specified in the coming week for planning purpose and the syllabus on internal communication training will be sent to the AUC.

Nominations from the AU Commission staff are awaited for the proposed 3 week training courses with DG ADMIN, at the working level.

The technical profile (analyst, programmer) required for the IT support to the AUC website will be specified by the AUC by end October, as well as tasks to be performed and the expected duration of his/her visit to Addis.

EC services reiterate their willingness to technically assist the AUC in producing an internal Newsletter with AUC information material. This could be combined with the above-mentioned visit in November.

d) Communication strategy

An overall communication strategy of the Africa-EU Strategy Partnership has yet to be specified. Synergies could be identified between existing communication instruments to ensure the communication of common Africa-EU messages. Some preliminary actions have already been implemented:

- The Africa-EU Partnership website, launched in October 2008 (see below)
- The **Newsletter 'LINK! Inside the Africa-European Union partnership'**, produced by the EU delegation to the AU, is now fully functional and is an excellent tool to promote the results achieved in the implementation of the Joint Africa-EU strategy and its first action plan (2008-2010)
- It has been decided by the AU and the EU to jointly launch the AU/EU video '**Peace and security in Africa: The African Peace Facility**', at the margin of the COPS/PSC meeting to be held on 12 October 2009 to demonstrate how the EU and the AU, in collaboration with the regional African organisations, are working together, as equal partners, to address in an effective manner peace and security issues in Africa. A distribution strategy will be identified jointly with the African Union to reach the relevant target groups. A **brochure on the African Peace Facility** is currently under preparation, and will reflect the spirit of partnership of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy.

After its first year of operation, the *Africa-EU Partnership website* has been renewed. A new contractor is, via a new e-mail editor@africa-eu-partnership.org, at the disposal of both the AU Commission and EU Commission to prepare original material for the website. The overall aim is to boost the number of visitors to this pioneering inter-continental website. An RSS feed will make the site easy to refer on other websites. The site will be promoted in each Commissions' other web activities (for example Youtube/EUTube) where possible. The editorial arrangements remain unchanged. The updated website will be ready for the Ministerial Troika on 14/10/09.

The website Editorial Board met on 6 October and will meet again on 28/10/09, 25/11/09 and 16 December at 15:00 Addis time 13:00 Brussels time by videoconference, The AU Delegation to the EU and the EC Delegation to the AU will both be invited to these meetings. Those unable to participate in the meetings may designate a replacement.

At the 6 October meeting, it was reiterated that **all members of the Joint Expert Groups should have access to the intranet**, as agreed at the last JTF. EU members, African co-chairs and AUC Focal points have already received their access codes. ALL remaining members of the JEG should get access by end 2009. The AUC ICD will send a memo to African co-chairs to be able to provide all African JEG members with access codes.

A workshop with europafrika.org web editors took place in Brussels on 4 August 2009.

To complement the workshop on resources and funding opportunities in the Africa-EU Partnership, the EU Commission has ensured the budget for the EU-AU Website and two part-time staff members.

V. Translation, Interpretation, Documentation, Publication

V.1 Review

The group on Linguistic Cooperation reviewed the action plan and noted that the majority of the targets stated in the report of the 8th Joint Africa-EU Task Force have been reached, which is a positive achievement. In particular, since March 2009 a first visit was carried out by CSD staff to DGT and DG SCIC in May 2009. The mission comprised revisers, interpreters, translators, documentalists and technicians. The mission was in the context of the effort of the CSD to restructure itself in order to become more efficient and to lay a stable foundation in the form of modernizing services, gathering and structuring legacy translations for use in CAT Tools, rationalizing workflow and acquiring the necessary software to manage it, rationalizing and managing interpreters and meeting room allocation, producing procedural manuals for the Department and modernizing the printing unit as well.

Since this visit a successful upgrading of the conference interpretation system has been implemented by CSD. In addition, there has also been a substantial sharing of information and documents both by DGT and SCIC via the Joint EU- AU Website.

V.2 Follow-up

The following actions were agreed upon for the 2009-2010 period:

a) Interpretation

- Programming tool to be developed by the spring of 2010 and subsequently a mission to CSD by DG SCIC staff to install the application;
- Participation of CSD in a SCIC test procedure for freelance interpreters;
- Installation and access to the LITHOS Terminology Database in the CSD;
- Technical assistance and possible mission with a view to upgrading the CSD's video recording facilities;
- SCIC reiterates its willingness to provide advice with regard to the conference facilities which will be put in place in the new Conference Center.

b) Translation

- Regarding translations, main focus for the CSD is still on the necessity for some specific advice on IT capacities and tools.
- In addition, questions concerning translation techniques, revisions and terminology building would also need some support.

For both priorities DGT will examine the possibility of sending to CSD an IT technician and a translator and will provide CSD with any useful document concerning workflow and translation procedures.

c) Reproduction and Printing

Regarding the publication and printing actions, and in particular the exchange of documents and visits with OPOCE, although they are in the 2009 agreed action plan no activity has taken place up till now. Cooperation with OPOCE should be quickly boosted by implementing the agreed activities before the end of this year and in 2010.

d) Documentation

Continue advice and assistance by DGT and DG SCIC for documentation aspects under their responsibility.

Both parties express satisfaction at progress made so far and recognize the need to further strengthen the CSD structure and resources in order to successfully implement CSD modernization.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009²

Africa-EU Partnership on Democratic Governance and Human rights – Coordination Meeting I. Participants

Africa: Salah S.Hammad (AUC-DPA); Mohamed MOUNIR (Egypt-MFA); Salah F. ELHAMDI (Algeria); John EJINAKA (Nigeria); Jalel CHELBA (AUC-CIDO); Darafiry RALAIVAO (AUC-DSA); Shumbana KARUME (AUC-DPA).

EU: Emma ACHILLI (EC – DG RELEX); Melis ALGUADIS (EC-DG DEV); Christoph PELTZER (EC-DG AIDCO); Ramon GIL-CASARES (Spain-Cooperation); Lasia BLOSS (Germany-MFA); Elisabeth MILDEBERGER (German-Cooperation); Carolina QUINA (Portugal-MFA); Joaquim NEVES (Portugal-MFA); Tom MORGAN (European Parliament); Toni WEIS (Boll Foundation/ENoP);

II. Outcomes

Review progress in thematic partnership

Priority Action 1:

Platform on Governance and Human Rights: The EU side is awaiting the African position on the Platform, which is to be discussed in the next iJEG, including support to the APRM. Also, the African Side is expected to comment on the ToR for the proposed Workshop on the Platform. The EU has already consulted its own iJEG participants (MS, CSO, EP) on this process.

AU-EU Human Rights Dialogue: A session of the AU-EU Human Rights Dialogue was held in Brussels on the 17th of April 2009, and agreed on a number of initiatives including: “Fight against torture” and “Women, Peace and Security”. For the first time, the Dialogue was preceded by an AU-EU Civil Society Human Rights Seminar. The seminar provided inputs into the official Dialogue on the fight against torture and NGO laws. Such seminars will be held annually and alternatively in Europe and in Africa. The next session of the HRD will take place in Addis before the end of the year.

Cooperation in International Fora: The common position of the African side on the EU proposal earlier submitted will be communicated by the AUC in time for the next iJEG, which is expected to be held tentatively on 14th December 2009. The common position of both sides, Africa and EU, will identify concrete areas of cooperation and targeted actions.

Priority Action 2:

² Bilateral meetings replaced the official **Peace and Security Partnership** thematic session at the Joint Task Force meeting. The outcomes of the Peace and Security iJEG (held prior to the JTF and allowed for comprehensive discussions), the roadmap and the assessment report have been reviewed and approved at this occasion.

Support to the Pan-African Governance Architecture: the AUC is undertaking a review of the Pan-African Governance Architecture, which is now part of the AU 2009-2012 Strategic Plan. At the 3rd iJEG the AU will report on the progress made and on the possibilities on the partnership's support. The AU is also conducting a human rights mapping which will lead to an overall Human Rights Strategy for Africa. A report on both initiatives will be made in the next iJEG.

Election Observation Cooperation: Cooperation in this area has continued between the EU and AUC with the financing agreement for 1 M € recently signed to support the AUC's capacity in the area of election observation in post-conflict countries. In June 2009, African experts observed the EU Parliament elections, and participated in a training session aimed at understanding the European Electoral Framework and its Standards for External Election Observation. The AUC will soon provide an assessment on this initiative.

EU member states indicated interest to explore the possibility of inviting African observers to national elections. Further consultation will take place after the PSC to PSC (12 October 2009) meeting which will inter alia address the issues of elections disputes and crisis.

Local Governance: Both parties will look into ways of associating local authorities in this Partnership. The AUC will coordinate positions on the African side to feed into the EC Committee of the Regions' initiative in December 2009 engaging local authorities from Africa and Europe to discuss the local dimension of the Strategy and to ensure awareness of the Yaoundé process. Both sides agreed to support the Yaoundé process.

Anti-Corruption: An African Anti-Corruption Board has just been established, and has the mandate to tackle this issue at the pan-African level. This provides an opportunity for institutional collaboration with other European institutions dealing with anti-corruption in the discussions on the Platform.

Priority Action 3:

The terms of reference for the inventory on **cultural goods** have been agreed and the study will be launched before the end of the year. The AU is organising a Pan-African Cultural Conference on the issue on November 9-11th, funded by the EC. At the next iJEG meeting in December, the two sides will explore possible ways of moving forward on cultural cooperation.

With regard to the jointly identified human resources shortfall in relation to this priority action, measures will be taken in the near future on the African and European sides:

1. The AUC is organizing the 2nd Pan-African Cultural Congress in Addis on November 9-11, concentrating on the issue of "Inventory, Protection and Promotion of African Cultural Goods". This meeting will also see experts discussing relevant issues and therefore will contribute to our knowledge on the state-of-play of the cultural goods thematic in Africa (9th EDF is contributing to this event). The work of the PACC II should be effectively used to feed into the Partnership on Democratic Governance and Human Rights (PDGHR) work on cultural goods. The congress should also provide a good opportunity to mobilize expertise from African MS for the PDGHR.

2. The EC will call a meeting of MS experts on culture in Brussels in December 2009 to enlarge the pool of expertise needed for this topic. This comes a year after a first effort of this kind, but should hopefully prove more successful due to a heightened awareness of the EU side of the serious obstacle that the absence of MS expertise poses.
3. The two Commissions will look jointly into possibilities to support museum networks and cooperation between Africa and Europe. The exhibition project for the summit 2010 and its itinerant second phase through interested African capitals in 2011 have also been discussed between the two Commissions who agreed to further cooperate on these issues.
4. The list of six project proposals from Egypt will be discussed as agreed at the 3rd iJEG-meeting. The two Commissions are proactive by already looking into funding possibilities.

III. Best Practices:

Guidelines on more effective working methods will be discussed at the next iJEG.

IV: Others:

- Level of communication will be improved including through increased reliance on the website and intranet; with particular reference to the agenda for future meetings of interest to the EU and AU in the area of human rights and democratic governance.
- With regards to channels of communication, information to the African side will be channeled by the AUC through Embassies/Ministries, focal points and the joint website to ensure better communication.
- The next iJEG will agree on a calendar of events in the framework of the partnership in 2010. Within this context, funding possibilities will be discussed and explored once activities and programs have been identified and agreed upon.
- The EU side reported on the positive experience they had on involving EU civil society in their implementation team meetings to develop consolidated positions.
- The Task Force has updated the assessment report.
- The next iJEG should be held on the 14th of December 2009 pending confirmation.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

Africa-EU Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure – Coordination Meeting

I. Participants

Africa : Nadir Merah, Monethi Monethi, Islam Swaleh, Tarana Loumabeka, Henjerai Chibayo, Dr. Sarah A.H.Olembo, Ms.R.Human, Ms.Mviko, Mr.A.Tau, Ms. B.Day, Mr.Joseph.

EU : GARZON Isabelle (EC DG DEV), ZELLER Joaquim (EC DG TRADE)

II. Outcomes

- The Partnership on Trade, Regional Integration and Infrastructure rests on three main pillars; support for the African Integration Agenda, the strengthening African Capacities in the area of rules, norms, standards and quality control and the implementation of the EU-Africa Infrastructure Partnership.
- The tri-partite FTA Roadmap, currently being finalized, is a clear testimony that the region feels bound by its commitments and are keen to realize them.
- Steps have already been taken to ensure the swift and effective implementation of the programmes and a close coordination with actions and financial allocations at national level.
- Minimum Integration Programme [MIP] was adopted during the Conference of African Ministers and endorsed by the 13th AU Assembly held in Sirte, Libya.
- The African Charter for Statistics was adopted in February 2009 by the Heads of State and Government of the AU.
- Regular dialogue took place on the ongoing trade negotiations between the EC and African Regional Groupings.
- AU Border Programme Regional Workshop took place in Ouagadougou on 23-24 April 2009 and similar workshops will take place in Libreville and Windhoek.
- On strengthening of African Capacities in the area of rules, norms, standards and quality control, progress registered is on sanitary and phyto-sanitary [SPS] measures.
- Comprehensive set of training activities covering the entire food chain, from control activities, laboratories, and legislative frameworks to direct support to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) is now being implemented in Africa.

Challenges and opportunities

- Lack of broad ownership by stakeholders beyond the two Commissions and the South-African Co-chair.
- Establish a dedicated implement process to identify a pipeline of concrete 'bankable' initiatives in the field of trans-African networks,
- Mobilize contributions from other donors and from the private sector

- Strengthened information sharing and coordination mechanisms
- A stronger participation by technical experts in the JEG to ensure concrete results and continuity of the work.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

Africa-EU Partnership on MDGs – Coordination Meeting

I. Participants

Africa: AUC: Yeo Dossina, Leila Ben Ali, Ndinaye Sekwi Charumbira; Tunisia – Amb. Hatem Atallah; Zaidi Zied (Embassy of Tunisia)

EU:Magdalena Williams (FCO, UK); Tomas Varnai (EC DEG Dev); UK - Maria Low (DFID)

II. Outcomes

1. Progress

Since the last Taskforce meeting in March 2009, the following have been achieved:

- 2nd JEG Meetings held
 - Sectoral JEG on Food Security -24th March, 2009 in Pretoria alongside the CAADP Meeting
 - Sectoral JEG on Education and Health – 26th March, 2009 in London at DFID Offices
 - Sectoral JEG on Education, April 2009, alongside ADEA Conference in Tunis
 - Sectoral JEG on the Finance and Policy Base for the MDGs- 27th March at the Sofitel Hotel, London.
- 3rd JEG Meeting 5th October 2009
- Development and agreement of the road map for the MDGs Partnership. It was agreed at the JEG meetings that the Roadmap is a living document which will continue to evolve. It must capture action taken by lead actors and progress made, and should be dynamic in order to be useful as an accountability tool for Partnership members. It is also intended to be a means of advocating for policy measures and other concrete actions to achieve the MDGs, and therefore it needs to be kept short and accessible. Roadmap should initially focus on a small number of priority deliverables, based on certain criteria, including:
 - Regional or continental in character;
 - achievable by 2010 and able to deliver a significant impact;
 - involve multiple players;
- The Roadmap was endorsed by the Troika Ministers Conference held in Luxemburg, April 2009.

- Development of a mapping; consultant has been engaged and undertaken full mapping addressing all activities for the Action Plan;
- The AU and EU agreed to prepare a common Africa-EU Common Position on the MDGs during the MDGs 2010 Summit in New York, possibly combined with a side event to showcase progress and problems;
- In view of the preparation of the Mid-term MDGs Review Report and EU-African Common Position on MDGs for the UN Summit in September 2010, the AUC has prepared an Aide-Mémoire for the organization of two Regional consultative Meetings and Continental Meeting which aims to review the status of the progress made in terms of attainment of MDGs, to analyse constraints and propose recommendations which addresses challenges in order to accelerate the implementation of the MDGs in Africa by 2015. The next JEG could held the alongside to discuss and agree joint Africa-EU inputs to the MDGs Summit;
- Development of ToR for the recruitment of a MDGs Expert to strengthen the capacity of the Statistics Unit in terms of providing technical support for the implementation of EU-Africa MDGs Partnership and the preparation of the MDGs review reports;
- Elaboration of a Joint AU, UNECA and AfDB 2009 MDGs Progress Report, endorsed by the Conference of Ministers of Economy and Finance in Cairo, Egypt. It highlights that Africa continues to make progress. However, the noted progress is uneven and varies by region and country. Efforts by African countries to accelerate attainment of the MDGs by the target date need to be supported by the international community, particularly in the areas of finance and technical support.

Main obstacles to implementation of partnership

- The scope of the Partnership is far too broad (Finance & Policy, Food Security, Education, Health) and requires further discussion on future solutions.
- The Partnership does not have a clear niche and is not adding value to the very diverse institutional and financing architecture at the international level that is supporting achievement of the MDGs in Africa.
- There are serious weaknesses in participation and engagement, with a lack of continuity in representation, variable levels of expertise, many Member States not represented and very limited engagement in the Roadmap and wider mapping exercises. Furthermore, there is also a lack of awareness and engagement at country level in Africa and in Europe.

Financing issues

- Detailed mapping has shown that specific activities in the MDG Action Plan are mostly well or reasonably well financed. However, the international community is currently not on track to fulfil the financial commitments it had made to Africa, including in relation to Food Security, Education and Health.
- Further, more needs to be done to comply with commitments made under the Paris and Accra agreements on Aid Effectiveness, including in relation to predictability and timeliness of financing.
- On the African side, there was a recognition that countries need to fulfill financial commitments they have made, such as allocating 15% of budget for health (the Abuja Declaration)

2. Additional areas of focus for the partnership

- Disability and maternal mortality have been highlighted under the Partnership as areas where more activity is needed. There is potential to address these gaps under the partnership.
- Gender mainstreaming should be included across all areas of the partnership.

3. Best practice

- Representatives from 4 CSOs attended the last JEG representing EU CSOs. The meeting discussed the possibility to involve the CSOs from African in the implementation of the MDGs partnership through ECOSOCC. Discussions will be held on the African side with representatives from ECOSOCC to ensure their representation in future JEG meetings.
- The meeting agreed to involve Regional Economic Communities and the private sector in JEG meetings in principle. However, a mechanism of their involvement is yet to be established.
- Information flow was identified as an impediment to progress. It was agreed that as a way to address this challenge, continuous dialogue should be maintained mainly through e-discussions. Further, focal persons should be clearly identified in Member States to encourage effective participation and interest in the JEG meetings. As a way to get

stakeholders to contribute to discussions and documents, interpretation and translation would have to be available for the relevant languages.

4. Solutions/ the way ahead

- If the MDG Partnership is to add value in future, including in a 2nd JAES Action Plan, the following measures are needed:
 - A much sharper focus on a very small number of issues.
 - Precision about what we are aiming to achieve, i.e. making clear the niche and added value.
 - The chosen issues should be selected on the basis of clear criteria that test whether the Partnership can genuinely add value.
 - This focus and specificity might deliver greater credibility of and engagement with the Partnership and contribute to resolving the problems of participation and awareness.
 - The 2010 MDG Summit presents an important opportunity to put this new focus into practice.
 - In the short term, the MDG Partnership will continue to arrange sectoral JEGs in Food Security, Education and, if possible, Health alongside other events that are attended by relevant experts, thus securing a high quality of discussion and decisions.
 - Increased use of African expertise where available.
 - Explore the possibility of using regional, continental and international events to create awareness of, or as a marketing strategy for, the partnership.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

Africa-EU Energy Partnership (AEEP) – Coordination Meeting

I. Participants

Africa: A. BABA-MOUSSA, P. NIYONGABO, A. MARZOUK (AUC), L. SEWTOHUL (MAURITIUS), J. BAANABE (UGANDA), R. BADAROU (BENIN), N. DIKWENI (SOUTH AFRICA), J. CHEVALIER (COTE D'IVOIRE),

EU: W. MOSER (AUSTRIA), R. SCHROEDER (GERMANY), R. COSTA, K. LARSSON (EC-DEV), R. UHER (EU DELEGATION ADDIS)

Other: S. BEHRLE (EUEI-PDF)

II. Outcomes

- The Road Map (v8) has been agreed between the implementation teams.
- A Communication Version of the Road Map, highlighting political messages, will be produced to be submitted to the High-Level Meeting (at ministerial level) together with the Road Map for endorsement.
- The High-Level Meeting will be hosted by Austria, tentatively by the end of March 2010 in Vienna.
- Preparatory work on the Energy Partnership Forum, scheduled for late 2010, is underway involving civil society, the private sector and research institutions.
- A draft concept note of a Renewable Energy Cooperation Program was introduced and discussed. A revised version will be presented to the next JEG in early 2010.
- The meeting reiterated the importance of PIDA for the implementation of the road map and took note of the progress report provided by the AUC.
- The AUC will receive TA for the implementation of the partnership soon.
- The meeting recognizes the importance of linking with other partnerships and international actors and has initiated activities in this regard.
- The meeting considered the relevant thematic pages on energy in the assessment report and concluded that they do not adequately reflect the philosophy and work already undertaken in the partnership. Therefore the meeting has submitted a proposal for a revised text.

III. Operational Conclusions

1. Exchange of views on version 8 of the Road Map (RM) and confirmation of approval

- a. A brief presentation of version 8 of the AEEP Road Map was made by the EUEI-PDF.

- b. The EUIT co-chair, Mr. Moser, confirmed that the procedure agreed during the 2nd JEG for approval of the RM was followed and that an exchange of letters has been initiated by the EU side.
 - c. The African IT members confirmed agreement with version 8 of the RM. A letter confirming approval of the document will be sent to the EU IT co-chairs by Friday, 9 October 2009, signed by Director of Infrastructure Mr. Baba-Moussa in consultation with the African IT co-chair (Mauritius). It is understood that the Road Map is a living document and quality of data in chapters 6, 7 and 8 will be improved.
2. Presentation of the concept of a Communication Version of the Road Map / Commitments Paper, to be submitted to the High-Level Meeting together with the RM
- a. As agreed during the 2nd JEG, a Communication Version of the Road Map / Commitments Paper, to be submitted to the High-Level Meeting together with the RM, will be produced.
 - b. This Communication Version of the Road Map is envisaged as being composed of two parts. First, a short summary of the findings, priorities and ongoing actions as described in the Road Map. Second, a statement of political commitments by the African and EU sides to be endorsed at the High Level Meeting.
 - c. A preliminary draft is being discussed on the EU side. In order to formulate the common political commitments to be included in the document the EU IT urged the African IT to start formulating the political goals and targets that they could support and have African states commit to at the High Level Meeting.
 - d. Political goals should be consistent with those priority areas already identified in the Joint Statement of the two Commissions of September 2008 and in part 2 of the Road Map. Targets should address impacts in the agreed priority areas and should be realistic and achievable.
 - e. Key messages/Political commitments for the HLM should reflect outcomes of and take advantage of opportunities created at the Copenhagen climate negotiations in as far as they address energy.
 - f. In order to enable a successful preparation of the HLM by Austria, the first discussion between the two ITs of the political commitments must take place in the format of a videoconference no later than 7 November 2009. A final draft of the Communication Version of the Road Map / Commitments Paper must be ready by end of January 2010.
 - g. In preparation for the November videoconference, the EUEI PDF will send a skeleton for the political commitments to EU and African ITs.
 - h. A JEG should be held before the HLM to discuss the Communication Paper.
 - i. Political commitments would be consistent with existing AU decision-making bodies' targets in the energy sector.

3. High Level Meeting (HLM) in 2010

- a. The EU side informed participants that The Netherlands regret that they will not be able to host the meeting at this time due to internal restructuring of the departments in charge. The Netherlands remain an active supporter of the Partnership and look forward to contributing in other forms.
- b. Austria was pleased to announce that they will be able to host the High Level Meeting in Vienna in the second half of March 2010, assuming that political commitments for endorsement have been adequately prepared in the meantime.
- c. Under the new circumstances, it was decided to accelerate the preparation of the HLM and to implement asap previous decisions (see conclusions of energy meeting under JTF in March and 2nd JEG in June):
 - The date for the 2-day HLM was discussed and AUC and Austria will jointly make proposals on exact date;
 - A preparation task force composed of AUT, GER, MAU, AUC, EC and EUEI PDF is to be established as a matter of urgency;
 - Austria informed that they expect around 80 participants. Austria will bear costs for logistics. Interpretation will be provided for English and French. Media will be invited;
 - The concept note on the HLM initially prepared by the EUEI-PDF and revised by the EC will be updated by Austria before 19 October and submitted to the AUC in English and French;
 - A first information note by the AUC to African countries will be sent by 27 October 2009. Austria will inform EU MS in a similar manner. The note should tentatively indicate the week and month for the HLM in 2010.
 - On the basis of the updated concept note, Austria will decide on venue, exact date and elaborate on further practical and logistical details;
 - An invitation jointly signed by AUC and Austria will be send from the MFA in Austria and is to be sent as early as possible based on a list of invitees provided by AUC.

4. Energy Partnership Forum

- a. The AUC informed participants of the appointment of the three African institutions that will contribute to the discussion of the Forum's concept. These are:
 - AAA (civil society), TBD at JTF meeting
 - BBB (private sector), TBD at JTF meeting

- KNUST, The Energy Centre, Ghana (research)
- b. The EU side will inform the three European institutions of this decision and invite them to directly contact their counterparts so that ongoing work can be shared and jointly developed.
 - c. A decision on the concept and feasibility of the Partnership Forum should be taken (on the basis of a paper submitted by the institutions involved) by the next JEG.
5. Presentation of a discussion paper on options for a Renewable Energy Cooperation Program
- a. A brief presentation of a first draft concept paper on options for a Renewable Energy Cooperation Program was made by the EUEI-PDF.
 - b. After an exchange of views, the following recommendations were issued:
 - EUEI PDF will send First Draft of concept paper and draft e-mail to address African countries to AUC;
 - Final draft agreed by end of 2009;
 - Next JEG should agree on concept note;
 - JEG will decide on way forward for the program.
6. Progress on activity mapping on the AU side and relation to other initiatives (e.g. PIDA)
- a. The AUC gave a short presentation on current status of preparation of the PIDA project. The AUC expects the contract with a consulting firm will be signed in November and work can start in December 2009. A financing gap for completing PIDA remains.
 - b. The AUC will inform the next JEG about further progress of the PIDA process.
 - c. The energy partnership will follow the PIDA project closely and take outcomes of first PIDA validation workshops, both regional and continental, into account.
 - d. The first contribution by the AUC to the mapping will be facilitated by the TA provided to the AUC before the next JEG.
 - e. Other members of the African IT and other major actors in the energy sector will be invited by the AUC to participate in the activity mapping exercise as well.
7. Communication with other Partnerships, non-African and non-EU actors
- a. Proposals for developing links with the Climate, Infrastructure, MDG (including water and sanitation) partnerships were discussed.

- b. Possibilities of cooperation with other international actors were also discussed and shall be encouraged.
- c. It was reported that:
 - Initial contact with the Climate Change Partnership was established;
 - A meeting is foreseen with Climate Change Partnership on the European side on carbon financing (including CDM);
 - It was agreed that it will be more efficient to establish closer working relationship between energy and infrastructure partnerships.

8. Assessment Report

- a. The JTF has received copies of the report and briefly reviewed the energy part of it (paras 30 to 33).
- b. The participants found that the relevant thematic pages on energy in the report do not adequately reflect the philosophy and work already undertaken in the partnership:
 - For instance para 30 gives a wrong impression of the objectives of the partnership. It should be replaced by introductory sections of the road map where these objectives are well described.
 - In para 31 some points mentioned should be reviewed, e.g. points (f) and (g).
 - The group also had several editorial remarks.
- c. A revised text on the energy thematic section will be submitted.

9. A.O.B.

- a. AUC reiterated the request to finalizing the hiring procedure so that the expert can be on board as soon as possible. Currently it is foreseen by EUEI PDF for the expert to start in November 2009.
- b. The AUC should examine the possibility of financing participation in AEEP-related meetings, including to the JEG, Energy Forum and to the High-Level Meeting, through the €55 million given in budget support to the AUC.
- c. The next JEG and the Energy Forum will take place in Africa. The AUC will contact African countries to host these events.
- d. The European side informed participants of a letter received from the EC-funded CEMA (Capacity Enhancement and Mobilisation Action for Energy in Africa) project. CEMA is willing to actively contribute to AEEP activities but would need confirmation that its role is welcome by the Partnership in order to further involve African

stakeholders in the process. The co-chairs will examine the proposal circulated to EU and African ITs in order to collect comments in view of reaching a decision at the next JEG.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

Africa-EU Climate Change Partnership – Coordination Meeting

I. PARTICIPANTS

Africa: Dr Abebe Haile Gabriel; Driss Isbayene (Morocco)

EU: Francoise Villette (EU Delegation Addis), Jean-Claude Gazeau, Franz Coïdan, G. Le Roux (France)

The Joint Declaration on Climate Change ahead of the Poznan Conference in 2008 has been a major political achievement, identifying concrete opportunities for future cooperation and dialogue. The ongoing joint work has been pursued to prepare the ground for a successful outcome at Copenhagen.

The areas identified in paragraph 29 of the Joint Declaration on Climate Change required further prioritisation under the corresponding Roadmap input (the so-called “Plan of Action” of the Declaration).

The thematic priorities of the joint Roadmap, endorsed at the 12th Africa-EU Ministerial Troïka of 28th April 2009, have been translated into the following five components (fiches):

A. Capacity Building of African countries, RECs and AUC for climate change, including strengthening African capacities to better exploit opportunities (fiche A1) under the carbon market (fiche A2) ;

B. Support to adaptation and mitigation initiatives in Africa, including :

- i. water resources management and adaptation in the field of agriculture (fiche B1)
- ii. sustainable land management, fight against desertification and avoided deforestation (fiche B2)
- iii. implementation of the Global Climate Change Alliance in Africa (fiche B3)

II. OUTCOMES :

Capacity Building : in this respect the following represent some relevant outcomes :

1. Under the €20 M EC-ACP capacity building programme for Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs), the EC, through specific € 3,3M component is supporting the

operationalisation of the "African Hub" at the African Union Commission to enhance African capacity related to MEA implementation and compliance of African countries in the climate change, biodiversity, desertification and chemicals agreements. The activities planned for the inception phase of the project have been executed accordingly.

2. Joint discussions to strengthen the capacity of the department of rural economy and agriculture of the AUC to establish the unit for climate change and desertification control, and to conduct joint training, are ongoing.
3. Preparatory work with AUC, UN-ECA and the African Development Bank for support to the ClimDev Africa Programme and the establishment of an African Climate Policy Centre to strengthen resilience to short-term climate variability are on-going. The expected outcome from ClimDev Africa is improved availability and use of quality climate information and services addressing needs of local, national and regional scale decision-makers throughout the continent. Further financial resources made available by DFID, recruitment of staff for the ACPC is ongoing. Discussion for additional funding from the European Commission and Sweden is taking place.
4. Implementation of the EU-funded €20 M African Monitoring of Environment & Sustainable Development (AMESD) Programme is ongoing according to Plan. Consultation with RECs and the Partners has been conducted on possible continuation of the program post-AMESD. Discussions are also going on to ensure linkages with the joint partnership on Science and Technology on AMESD, post-AMESD and GMES.
 - ✎ **Great Green Wall** : A pre-feasibility study for the Great Green Wall of the Sahara and Sahel initiative, with cross-sectoral actions aimed at the sustainable land and natural resource management, was finalised in June 2009. In light of the recommendations of the study, possible avenues for implementation are being explored, including on institutional and funding mechanisms, inter alia, to complement FAO's contribution for the project. Several of the GGWSSI countries, particularly in West Africa, have already designated "key" Ministries, institutions or committees and "entry points" for the Green Wall initiative.
 - ✎ **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR)** is a central aspect of Climate adaptation. Exchanges on DRR policies and strategies have taken place between the African and EU sides. The 10th EDF intra-ACP Strategy includes an allocation of €180 M for disaster risk reduction. Its programming, in particular in Sub-Saharan Africa, is being finalised. This is relevant in view of the outcomes of the recent African Regional Platform for DRR held in May 2009 which among other things agreed on extensions of the Africa Program of Action for the implementation of the Africa Strategy for DRR until 2015.
 - ✎ **FLEGT** : Negotiations with African countries for the implementation in Africa of initiatives such as the EU Forest, Law enforcement, Governance and Trade (FLEGT) intended to curb illegal logging and foster sustainable forest management through trade mechanisms are ongoing.

- ↪ **GCCA** : The Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA)³, is aimed at enhancing political dialogue on climate change, promoting an exchange of experiences and increasing support for LDCs and SIDS particularly in the adaptation and capacity building domains. The implementation of the GCCA in Africa is one of the main contents of the Roadmap of the Africa-EU Climate Partnership. Seven African countries have been identified so far for cooperation under the GCCA for 2009 and 2010: Mali, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mozambique, Rwanda, Senegal and Seychelles. Work undertaken in some of the GCCA pilot countries allowed some similar pioneering experiences to start emerge and should be up-scaled.
- ↪ **International negotiations on Climate Change** : in accordance with the Joint Declaration on climate change, dialogue for exchange of the Africa and EU respective positions is ongoing with the aim to an optimal outcome of the negotiation process.

IV Recommendations for further progress

Enhance progress of the ongoing priorities adopted in the roadmap and in the following Partnership actions :

- **ClimDev** : pursue the dialogue with all relevant partners such as the AUC, the EC, the African Development Bank and UNECA and expedite the establishment of the financing mechanism to support ClimDev.
- **GGWSSI** : progress should be made on implementation of the GGWSSI based on the recommendations of the feasibility study, including ensuring appropriate synergies with ongoing processes and platforms, in particular TerrAfrica in Sub-Saharan countries and MENARID in North African countries.
- **DRR** : support implementation of the Africa Program of Action of the Africa Strategy for DRR through allocations being made.
- **Climate change negotiations**: Pursue joint discussions, using the instrumental role of the Climate Africa-EU Partnership, in bridging positions and nourishing dialogue prior to Copenhagen, involving as appropriate relevant continental organisations e.g. the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), Conference of African Heads of States and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC).

Working mechanisms

3 Communication on Building a Global Climate Change Alliance between the European Union and poor developing countries most vulnerable to climate change – 18.9.2007 COM(2007)540 and 15.7.2008 SEC(2008) 2319 Staff Working Document on the implementation modalities of the GCCA

- Ensure regular exchange of relevant policy and implementation documentation/information on activities of mutual interest to keep both sides up-to-date with ongoing work, e.g. ClimDev, implementation of GGWSSI, EU and African positions on UNFCCC negotiations.
- Maximise linkages between the Climate change Partnership (n° 6) and other relevant partnerships such as partnerships n° 4 on Millennium Development Goals (e.g. food security), n° 5 on Energy (renewable energy) and n° 8 on Science, Information Society and Space (e.g. environment observatories).
- Provide interpretation and translation services to ensure and enhance effective participation of all concerned stakeholders and encourage sub-regional representation.
- Identify and ensure regular participation of « core » expert members while maintaining the open nature of the meetings of the joint climate change partnership. In this respect, the participation of representatives of RECs, UNECA and regional financial institutions such as the AfDB is recommended.
- Ensure the holding of meetings of the Climate change partnership in the margin of existing international Climate meetings such as UNFCCC
- Use tools such the joint website, videoconferences, the database to ensure effective progress of the partnership.

The CC joint taskforce took note of the other logistic recommendations of the meeting of CC Joint Expert Group, held 5 October.

CONCLUSION

Challenges and opportunities: The Copenhagen UNFCCC is an important milestone, the main challenge being the conclusion of an ambitious agreement. But while the December UNFCCC Copenhagen meeting represents the culmination of the current international climate negotiations, it will be by no means the end of a process: commitments will have to be implemented as a medium and long-term process. In the meantime, work is on going towards climate proofing of Country and Regional Strategy Papers and mainstreaming the environment dimension. The Mid-term review notably of the African CSPs and RSPs offers an opportunity to keep a close eye on this integration in coherence with the linkages between environment and development (conflict prevention, food security, governance, etc.). Climate change remains a wide domain with potential synergies with several other Partnerships of the Joint Strategy (e.g. environment security and satellite observatories, renewable energy, food security, migration, environmental governance, water management, etc.). These linkages, not only strengthen the efforts to reach MDG 7 (environmental sustainability) but of most other MDGs. They need to be seen jointly to reinforce the objectives of each action rather than operating in isolation.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

Partnership on Migration, Mobility and Employment (MME) – Coordination Meeting

I. Participants

Africa: Mariama Cissé (AUC), Mohamed Khaldi (AUC), Oumar Diop (AUC), Wuyi Omitoogun (AUC/CIDO), Mehari Tadele Maru (AUC), Hassan Sunmonu (ECOSOCC/ Organisation of African Trade Union Unity).

EU: Rob Rozenburg (EC), Hjordis Ogendero (EC), José Matres (Spain)

II. Outcomes

The AUC, EC and the EU-MME co-chair Spain warmly welcomed the participation of the ECOSOCC representative. They also welcomed the written contribution by the ETUC to this partnership. The group looks forward to the continued participation of organised civil society in future meetings.

The group reviewed the five priorities identified in the road map that was endorsed by the JEG of 5 October 2009. The AUC also provided information on progress being made on the other actions identified in the road map/implementation table. This work resulted into an updated version of this document (October 2009), which both Commissions committed to make available to all participants in this partnership at both the EU and African side. (**Action: EC and AUC**).

Priority 1: African Remittances Institute (action 6 of road map)

The EC explained that following intense consultations between the two Commissions and the World Bank further progress has been made towards the conception of this project. The establishment of the actual institute will be decided by the AUC after an extensive consultation process of its membership. In its first phase the ARI project will therefore have a temporary secretariat in Addis. It will engage in all the substantive tasks of the institute (networking, data collection, mapping and research, training, technical assistance), under the contractual responsibility of the World Bank. Finance for this first phase has been secured and operations may start as from now.

The AUC explained that its internal reflections on this project have not yet been concluded. (**Action: AUC**).

Priority 2: Assessment Tripoli Fund (action 10 of road map)

The EC has provided its feasibility assessment in April 2009. AUC announced that its own assessment will follow very soon. (**Action: AUC**).

The group agreed that the two assessments should be discussed in the next JEG by Member States of both sides, in view of reaching joint conclusions.

Priority 3: Africa diaspora networking in EU (action 18 of road map)

The AUC/CIDO presented an overview of its activities in this domain; It mentioned inter alia the launch of a AUC/World Bank project on global mapping of African Diasporas, its work toward establishing a framework for engaging diasporas (forthcoming workshop in Paris) and its efforts to set up a European network of African diaspora organisations, for which a meeting is being planned in Brussels. The organisation of an AU Summit on Diasporas is still being planned, but no date set yet.

The EC explained that it is committed to support the establishment of an EU-wide network of African Diaspora organisations working in the field of development. An amount of € 1,5m has been made available to support this objective (based on Call for Proposals). The EC has good contacts with some of the lead diasporas organisation in the EU who work on this issue, and has been associated in seminars and workshops on this topic.

The two sides agreed that duplication of efforts, or – worse – a future competition between two similar networks should be avoided, and that currently emerging initiatives should be merged whenever possible. As a first step it is considered important that the primary stakeholders establish the necessary contacts with each other, and agree to work in the same direction. **(Action: EC and AUC/CIDO)**

Priority 4: African coordination on fight against human trafficking (action 27 of road map)

The AUC reports that the implementation of the Action plan on the fight against trafficking in human beings has started. The AU Commission Initiative against Trafficking (AU.COMMIT) Campaign was launched on 16 June 2009, under the Slogan: “Let’s Combat Trafficking in Human Beings Especially Women and Children”.

The AUC is willing to lead on the priority, with support of the EC. It is agreed that further contacts between experts are necessary to further develop this priority action. **(Action: EC and AUC).**

Priority 5: African employment agenda (actions 28-33 of road map)

AUC and EC had a preparatory meeting on the forthcoming workshop on ‘Employment, Social Protection and Decent Work’ with a focus on the informal economy and on African labour market governance. The workshop will be held on 28-30 April 2010 in Nairobi. (to be confirmed before end October: **Action: AUC**). The workshop will be jointly organised by EC and AUC with the collaboration of EU and AU Member States, civil society and ILO. The objective of the workshop is to address measures that will contribute to the creation of decent jobs in line with the Ouagadougou 2004 plan of Action on Employment Promotion and Poverty Alleviation.

The two sides welcomed the establishment of the African Guarantee Fund (AGF) by Denmark, the African Development Bank and International Finance Corporation, as announced by DK at the JEG meeting of 5 October 2009.

EU-Africa Joint Task Force Meeting, Addis Ababa 8-9 October 2009

I. Partnership Science & Technology, ICT and Space – Coordination Meeting Participants

Africa Ahmed Hamdy (AUC); Bethlehem Antoine (AUC), Fahmi Chelly (Tunisia),

EU Fadila Boughanemi (RTD), Pratima Frantzen (AIDCO) Francesco Affinito (DEV), Thierry Devars (INFSO, Rui Meneses (ENTR), Roland Zinzius (DEV), Harry De Backer (EU DEL to AU), Patrice Cayré (France)

II. Report on JEG8 Workshop

The meeting was informed that the JEG8 meeting was held from 3- 8 October 2009 in the AUC Headquarter to discuss the issues related to the Partnership⁸. Among the issues raised a status report on the implementation of the partnership, the need to have a TOR for the JEG functionality and the need to develop a financial instrument.

III. Joint Expert Group Agenda

The upcoming JEG8 agenda was a draft and presented by the Tunisian Co-chair. The Joint Task force noted the agenda and requested the Co-chairs to take all the necessaries action to ensure the success to the upcoming Joint Expert Group Meeting.

IV. JEG8 Recommendation

a) Recommendation

The JEG8 recommend among others:

1. Other EU and African Member States to participate actively in the Joint Expert Group.
2. Work out a draft for TOR for the JEG Functionality and
3. The need to develop a feasibility study on setting up a dedicated fund for the 8th partnership.

b) Follow up:

1. A committee was set in place to draft the TOR for the JEG Functionality;
2. It was stated that the AUC may avail an amount of \$200,000 for the study on the dedicated fund; and

3. Republic of South Africa, Tunisia, and *Kenya will draft the fund feasibility study TOR other member of the JEG notably from the EU side are encouraged to join this team.*

c) ROADMAP

An updated Roadmap was presented to the Joint Task Force and it was agreed upon.

Agenda Item 4: POLICY DIALOGUE

It was highlighted that this partnership is not only there to execute projects and programmes of common interest but also to enhance the political dialogue between the Unions.

It was indicated that several forum and instruments could be consider as a policy dialogue such as **IST-Africa, (WSIS), Internet Governance FORUM, SFIC and etc.**

It was agreed by the members of the JTF that a high level political consultation is the ultimate of this political dialogue which will result in a Ministerial Round Table meeting in each of the three partnership sectors:

V. Science

a) Report on the Implementation

The Science component of the 8th Partnership has steadily realised substantial progress with the following projects taking off the ground.

1. **African Union Research Grants Project;**
2. **African Union Scientific Awards Programme;**
3. **Pan African Universities Initiative; and**
4. **Water Sanitation and Food Security Programme;**
5. **Coordination of National Programmes of Cooperation in Science and Technology.**

b) Discussion

1. It was realized that the INCO-NETs (CAAST-NET, MIRA) are useful tool which were established before the EU-Africa Partnership. Despite the later it is wise to utilize the INCO-NETs for the benefit of the science component of the 8 partnership.
2. AUC needs to popularize the FP7-Africa call2010 among its Member States via the AUC website and PRC. Also the AUC was requested the possibility to encourage the African Scientist to be members of the Evaluation Committee of this call.

3. The development on the science sector was acknowledged by the AUC and the EC was requested to involve more the AUC in the FP7 calls and Era-Net.

VI. Information Society

a) Report on the Implementation

Several projects are moving towards implementation in the Information Society component namely:

1. **The Africa-Connect for Research and Education;**
2. **The African Internet Exchange System;**
3. **The African Virtual Campus;**
4. **ALICT;**
5. **HIPSSA;**
6. **A policy dialogue has been facilitated through two (EuroAfrica-ICT and IST-Africa) support actions**

EU Africa Business Forum (EABF) Group on ICT

In parallel mobilization of the private sector has been made through direct interaction with the EU-Africa Business Forum (EABF)

b) Discussion

1. In order to ensure coordination of the HIPSSA Project in the P8 context a meeting will be organized at the AUC on the 21st October 2009 between the EC, the AUC and ITU. A report will be submitted to the upcoming Joint Task Force.
2. More effort needed to mobilize the resources for the implementations of the Africa Internet Exchange System
3. The AUC appreciate the secondment of Mr. Thierry Devars to support the preparation of 2010 Summit
4. The EABF should be invited to participate to JEG8.
5. The AUC appreciate the efforts for mobilizing the private sector and the policy dialogue and requested to be more involved in these activities.

1. Space

There are three projects in space and they are also making good progress in the context of implementation namely:

(i) GMES and Africa Project

(ii) Capacity Building in the AUC on Geospatial Sciences

(iii) New project: The **European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS)** is a satellite based developed by the European Space Agency, the European Commission and EUROCONTROL. It is intended to supplement the GPS systems to provide more accuracy of the signals.

After the Aviation Summit in Windhoek in April 2009, DG TREN is investigating the possibility to extend EGNOS to the whole of the African continent.

RECOMMENDATION

The existing financial instruments should be exploited in an optimum manner in order to demonstrate the potential of the Partnership. However, setting –up a common fund for specifically, the 8th Partnership on Science, information Society and Space, the feasibility study needs to be finalized as soon as possible to be submitted to the Troika.

Since this partnership is not only there to execute projects and programmes of common interest but also to enhance the political dialogue, it is recommended to convene a Ministerial Round Table in each of the three component of the partnerships.