



European Union  
Delegation to the Republic of South Africa

# EU Perspectives

*Regular publication that seeks to provide information  
on EU-related activities of interest to SA readers*



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## Top News

### [Statement by High Representative on the formation of a new government in Lebanon \(14/06/11\)](#)

Catherine Ashton, the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission, issued a statement welcoming the formation of the new government in Lebanon and reaffirming the importance which the EU attaches to the independent and democratic functioning of the Lebanese institutions.

### [Joint statement on the World Day against Child Labour \(12/06/11\)](#)

Joint statement by High Representative/Vice-President Catherine Ashton, Vice-President Viviane Reding, Commissioner for Development Andris Piebalgs and Commissioner for Trade Karel De Gucht on the World Day against Child Labour: "... there are no grounds for complacency: a staggering 115 million children are still exposed to hazardous work, and the global decrease in child labour is not prevalent in all regions and among all categories of children."

### [European Commission announces an extra €10 million to provide life-saving vaccines \(10/06/11\)](#)

During the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunisations (GAVI) Conference in London on 13 June, Development Commissioner Andris Piebalgs announced a pledge towards the US\$ 3.7bn (or €2.6bn) total, which GAVI has said it needs to vaccinate nearly 250 million children over the next five years. This is expected to save almost 4 million lives. This new funding will add to the more than half a billion euro that the Commission spends on health in developing countries every year.

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### [Commission proposes to continue economic support for jobless from EU Globalisation Fund \(14/06/11\)](#)

The European Commission has proposed to extend the temporary crisis-related derogation that allows the European Globalisation Fund (EGF) to be used for workers made redundant as a result of the current financial and economic crisis, in addition to those losing their jobs because of changes in global trade patterns. This derogation is currently due to expire on 30 December 2011, but the Commission's proposal would extend it until 31 December 2013.

### [Schengen's 26th anniversary \(14/06/11\)](#)

14 June marked the 26th anniversary of the Schengen acquis, an agreement, first signed on 14 June 1985 by 5 EU Member States (Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg and the Netherlands). This agreement has led to the removal of internal borders between 25 countries, to the benefit of more than 400 million Europeans. The creation of the Schengen area is one of the most tangible, popular and successful achievements of the European Union.

### [Commission launches search for European Green Capital 2014 \(14/06/11\)](#)

The European Green Capital Award recognises and rewards cities that are at the forefront of environmentally-friendly urban living and which can act as role models to inspire other cities. The annual award is intended to help European cities become more attractive and healthy places – "fit for life".

### [Joint Research Centre - Looking into the future of bio energy projects \(10/06/11\)](#)

The 19th European Biomass Conference and Exhibition (EU BC&E), co-organised by the JRC in Berlin from 6-10 June, covered a range of bio-energy topics and progress of demonstration projects. The five-day programme featured a series of sessions on biomass resources and conversion technologies for heating, electricity and chemicals, as well as processes for fuels from biomass.

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