



European Union
Delegation of the European Commission
in South Africa

**... this week
in review**

*This publication seeks
to provide information
on EU activities of
interest to SA readers*



13 – 19 October 2006



Headline News



EU and SA step up co-operation (19/10/2006)

The European Commission and the South African Government have just completed a round of consultations in Pretoria aimed at reviewing the European Programme for Reconstruction and Development (EPRD) in South Africa. The programme, made up of EC grants in excess of R1 billion annually, is the largest programme of its kind in SA. EU Ambassador Lodewijk Briët said: "The EU and SA are working towards a Strategic Partnership, through which our two sides will work together to address peace, security and development in Southern Africa and beyond. The new strategy will provide an umbrella for future European economic and development co-operation with South Africa and is a first, but significant, step towards the achievement of the objectives of the Paris Declaration on aid effectiveness."

Council agreement on €17 billion financing instrument for development cooperation (17/10/2006)

The Council reached political agreement on the content of a draft regulation aimed at establishing a financing instrument for development co-operation for the 2007-2013 period. Creation of the development co-operation instrument (DCI) will allow renewal of one of the European Community's most important tools for funding its development co-operation activities, with almost €17 bn for the 2007-13 period. These funds (previously decided) come in addition to €22.7 bn agreed specifically for African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries over the 2008-13 period, bringing the total - not including Member States' national contributions - to almost €40 bn in new Community funding.

Other News

Economic Partnership Agreements – Speech by Com P Mandelson (19/10/2006)

In an address to the European Socialist Party Conference at the European Parliament, EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson dealt with EPAs: "The Commission has been subjected to a fair amount of criticism over the last few months on EPAs. We've been accused of not listening. We've been accused of ignoring ACP concerns again and again. The very same people who organised this conference today chose to sell it to the media yesterday as a "clash" between myself and "poor countries". Well, that's an insult to the process and to the very goals we are trying to achieve. We are partners, the ACP and the EU, not combatants. This is a partnership. There's no monopoly of wisdom. There is shared experience: and a duty to listen to each other, and learn from each other. I'm ready to address genuine anxieties. I always have been. I'm ready to listen and respond to genuine concerns."



International Development community meets for first European Development Days (19/10/2006)



The most important players of the international Development community will meet between 13 and 17/11/2006 in Brussels for the first European Development Days (EDD) event organised by the Directorate General for Development of the

European Commission. This first edition will focus on the African continent and the challenges in terms of governance as main topics and will include an EU-Africa Business Forum. See: <http://www.eudevdays.eu/>

Research shows huge potential energy savings through light-bulbs and household goods (19/10/2006)

Studies conducted by the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission show a huge potential for saving energy through better energy efficiency. Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs), compared to their conventional counterparts, reduce electricity consumption and energy costs for the consumer by 60%. While lasting six to twelve times longer, they offer the same or even increased light quality. Every electricity unit saved corresponds to about 3 units of primary energy use avoided. See also: [Saving 20% by 2020 \(19/10/2006\)](#)

[€28.3 million for new research into avian and pandemic influenza \(17/10/2006\)](#)



The European Commission is today announcing €28.3 million of new projects into avian and pandemic influenza. 17 projects were selected after a special call for proposals under the EU's Sixth Research Framework Programme. The new projects cover human and animal health, and address research needs identified by organisations such as the World Health Organisation, the World Organisation for Animal Health and the Food & Agriculture Organisation of the UN. The €28.3 million allocated to these projects comes in addition to the €21 million already made available under the Fifth and Sixth Framework Programmes.

See also: [Details of new avian and pandemic flu research projects \(17/10/2006\)](#)
[Avian flu: European researcher developing revolutionary flu vaccine \(19/10/2006\)](#)

[Seeing through the hallucinations: UK and Europe in the 21st century – Pres JM Barroso \(16/10/2006\)](#)

Presenting the Hugo Young Lecture in London, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso noted that: "Europe's raison d'être was crystal clear from the beginning. It was not the common market. It was certainly not some plot 'blessed' or not, created by foreigners for the sole purpose of eroding the sovereignty of the United Kingdom, or indeed any other country. Its fundamental raison d'être was a noble one, and Robert Schuman, in his declaration of 9 May 1950, made sure everyone knew it. It's there in the very first sentence: 'World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it'."

[EU agrees to move ahead with "aid for trade" package \(16/10/2006\)](#)

The Council agreed that the EU should move ahead with pledges made in the last year to make available €2 bn annually by 2010 for "aid for trade", in response to recommendations issued in a report by the World Trade Organisation. The Council agreed that delivering this aid should not be linked to progress in negotiations under the WTO's Doha Development Agenda.

[EU-India Summit 2006 \(13/10/2006\)](#)

The 6th EU-India Summit, held in New Delhi (2005), endorsed a comprehensive Joint Action Plan setting out a road map for the EU-India Strategic Partnership. It was agreed that a report on progress in implementation of the Joint Action Plan would be presented before each annual Summit. Looking at each of the successive sections of the Joint Action Plan, this year both sides were pleased to report achievements in the fields of: strengthening dialogue and consultation mechanisms, political dialogue and co-operation, bringing together people and cultures, economic policy dialogue and co-operation, and developing trade and investment. See also: [EU-India Summit – Joint Statement \(13/10/2006\)](#)

[PASR 2006: 15 new security research projects to combat terrorism \(13/10/2006\)](#)

The Preparatory Action on 'Enhancement of the European industrial potential in the field of Security Research 2004-2006 (PASR) focuses in particular on the development of a European security research agenda to bridge the gap between civil research, as supported by EC Framework Programmes, and national and intergovernmental security research initiatives. Given the increasing importance of security concerns and, in light of the successful implementation of the PASR, Security Research will be integral part of the 7th RTD Framework Programme (2007-2013) – total budget of FP7 is about €1.35 bn. See also: [€15 million funding for security research to combat terrorism \(13/10/2006\)](#)

Photo File:



Commissioner Louis Michel (Development and Humanitarian Aid), and Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson (pictured), received Boni Yayi, President of Benin (18/10/2006)

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