



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.



15 – 21 July 2005

Headline News

The Commission has got to be bold - Speech by Peter Mandelson (20/07/2004)

In this speech to the University Association of Contemporary European Studies in Brussels on 20 July 2005, EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson assesses the current state of the argument for European Union. He argues that the old arguments for European Union – the peace dividend, the economic benefits of the Single Market – no longer resonate for many Europeans. Mandelson argues that ‘core Europe’ has an “emotional block” about facing up to Economic reform and says that this is now the key to reinvigorating Europe and the idea of European Union and making it relevant to Europeans.



See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/454&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Other News

Regional integration - engine of development (20/07/2005)

On 22/07/2005 Commissioner Louis Michel (Development & Humanitarian Aid), will take part in the third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Indian Ocean Commission in Antananarivo, Madagascar. At the meeting he will underscore the added value of regional integration and co-operation initiatives as an effective means of development, combating poverty and achieving fairer integration in the world economy. Mr Michel will discuss bilateral relations with the Malagasy authorities and will visit EDF funded projects. (Since 1984 the Indian Ocean Commission is an intergovernmental organisation that encourages co-operation between France, the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius and the Seychelles)

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/991&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EC earmarks €4.7 million for the repatriation of 400 000 Liberian and Congolese refugees (19/07/2005)

The European Commission is to support the return of more than 400 000 refugees and displaced persons to their places of origin in Liberia and the Democratic Republic of Congo. The two new decisions allocate €4.7 million towards facilitating the voluntary repatriation and resettlement of these populations. The grants are to be channelled through ECHO, the Commission’s humanitarian aid service, which comes under the responsibility of Commissioner Louis Michel.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/972&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Ensuring Greater Security of Explosives, Detonators, Bomb-making Equipment & Firearms (19/07/2005)

The European Commission has adopted a ‘Communication on ensuring greater security of explosives, detonators, bomb-making equipment and firearms’. This constitutes an integral part of the European Union’s work in developing a coherent preventive strategy in the fight against terrorism and complements parallel work being done in the fight against terrorism financing and violent radicalisation and recruitment. The Communication makes a series of concrete proposals in all related fields – eg, to make the purchase of fertilisers subject to an authorisation obligation. The Communication places emphasis on improving security arrangements all along the production and supply chain but particularly during storage and transport.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/969&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Communication on Explosives, Detonators, Bomb-making Equipment and Firearms (19/07/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/266&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>



Com Louis Michel (Development and Humanitarian Aid), receives Elie Doté, Prime Minister of Central African Republic

Competition for the 2005 Natali Prize Launched

Prizes worth a total of €50.000 are awarded by DG Development for articles of journalistic excellence in five geographic areas, published in print or online media between 01/01/2004 and 31/08/2005. To qualify, the articles must focus on issues of human rights and/or democracy in the developing world.

The deadline for entries this year is set at 31/10/2005. For further information, please consult the following webpage: <http://www.prixnatali.info>

Scientific Council of the European Research Council announced (18/07/2005)

The European Commission announced the names of the 22 eminent men and women who are the founding members of the Scientific Council of the European Research Council (ERC), a funding organisation for frontier research proposed by the European Commission under the Seventh Research Framework Programme (2007-2013). The Scientific Council will be an independent body whose role is to determine the ERC's scientific strategy and ensure that its operations are conducted according to the requirements of scientific excellence. The 22 scientists were chosen by an independent panel of high-level scientists, chaired by Lord Patten of Barnes, Chancellor of Oxford and Newcastle-upon-Tyne Universities.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/956&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Biographies of Members of the Scientific Council (18/07/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/265&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Presidency statement on behalf of the EU on the killing of a peace activist in Somalia (18/07/2005)

The European Union joins others in condemning unequivocally the brutal murder, on the morning of 10 July, of the respected Somali peace and reconciliation activist, Abdulkadir Yahya Ali. This action deprived Somalia of a person who had worked ceaselessly to help bring stability and good government. The European Union sends its condolences to Yahya's family and friends. The European Union expresses its deep concern that this and other concurrent acts of violence could create further tensions within the peace process. The European Union reiterates its unequivocal support to the Transitional Federal Institutions as the only framework for peace, stability and governance to Somalia. The European Union appeals to all Somalis to refrain from violent acts and to recognise that inclusive dialogue is the only way to resolve their differences.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PESC/05/77&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Commission outlines next steps on BSE (15/07/2005)

The European Commission adopted a reflection paper, the TSE Roadmap, providing an outline of possible future changes to EU measures on BSE in the short, medium and long-term. TSEs are transmissible spongiform encephalopathies, namely BSE affecting cattle and scrapie affecting goats and sheep. Over the past few years, there has been a significant decrease in the number of positive cases of BSE detected in the EU, due to the stringent risk reducing measures at EU-level. In light of this positive trend, and new developments in science and technology, the TSE Roadmap considers possible amendments to certain BSE measures currently in place while still making food safety and consumer protection the highest priority.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/952&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Questions and answers on TSE Roadmap (15/07/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/263&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

For further information please contact Frank Oberholzer at 012-452-5200

!!!! NEW CALLS FOR PROPOSALS !!!!



SA Pesticide Initiative Programme

Adaptive Research for the Regulation Component of the SA Pesticide Initiative Programme

Closing date: 30/09/2005

See: http://www.eusa.org.za/PDFdownload/Calls%20for%20Proposal/Pesticides_2005.pdf



Conflict and Governance Facility (CAGE)

A Partnership of the National Treasury and the European Union

The Facility seeks to inform the policy agenda in Conflict and Governance for South Africa and the Southern African Development Community, through the establishment of early warning systems to mitigate against conflict and to promote good governance.

Closing date: 30/08/2005 (no later than 15h00)

See: http://www.eusa.org.za/PDFdownload/Calls%20for%20Proposal/CAGE_2_Call_for_proposals_ad_2005.pdf



The CWCI Fund

The fund is seeking proposals for: Conferences on policy dialogue and social debate
Short-term cultural initiatives

Closing date: 12/09/2005 at 13h00 – for activities from November 2005

23/01/2006 at 13h00 – for activities from Apr – Dec 2006

See: http://www.cwci.co.za/CWCI_CFP.htm