



**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.*



## 20 – 26 May 2005

### Headline News

#### **European partnership for aid and development – Speech by EC President JM Barroso (20/05/2005)**

During an address at the London School of Economics, European Commission President Barroso stated: "I am a European who wants to focus on Africa. My message to you is that Europeans must focus on, and act in, the wider world. That is the kind of Europe which I, as the President of the Commission, want. An open Europe. A generous Europe, which spreads its drive and determination for change beyond its borders. A Europe which engages with the world rather than trying to avoid it. ... (But) why should we act? Because it is both part of our values as Europeans to do so and because it is in our interests to do so. ... Europe has unique ties to Africa. The histories of the two continents have long been connected ..."

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/291&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

#### **European Commission welcomes appointment of Pascal Lamy as WTO DG (26/05/2005)**

The EC welcomed the WTO General Council's appointment of Pascal Lamy as the next DG of the World Trade Organisation. President Barroso said: "I am very pleased to see former EU Trade Commissioner Pascal Lamy appointed as the next Director General of the WTO, with extensive and broad support from across the WTO's membership. The WTO faces a decisive half-year of negotiation ahead. ... Pascal Lamy is, with his knowledge of trade matters, his international experience, his concern for development and his constant search for consensus, uniquely qualified to lead the WTO at this defining moment."



#### **Remarks to the Trade Committee of the European Parliament – by Peter Mandelson (23/05/2005)**

On the topic of Economic Partnership Agreements with the ACP countries, EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson said: "We are making good progress on substance with all six regions. Our immediate focus is on helping our partners integrate their economies regionally: for the impetus given to growth of regional markets is one of the most important innovations of this EPA process. ... The negotiation deadline agreed in Cotonou is 1st January 2008. ... Agreement will send a powerful signal that ACP countries are taking the desired steps to integrate progressively into the world economy."

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/295&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

#### **Commission White Paper on market access for developing countries (24/05/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/170&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### Other News

#### **Louis Michel participates in Pledging Conference for AU Mission in the Sudan/Darfur (AMIS) (26/05/2005)**

The European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, Louis Michel, participated in the Pledging Conference to support the African Union's (AU's) peacekeeping mission in the Darfur (AMIS). The AMIS mission is the first peace keeping operation carried out by the AU. And it is also a test case for the AU-EU partnership. The EC has disbursed €30 million through its Peace Facility for Africa to support AMIS and €60 million are still available to support its expansion until October. See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/609&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### Photo File:

Attending the recent EU reception hosted by Ambassador-designate, Lodewijk Briët (left) in Durban, were KZN Minister Narend Singh, ( Arts, Culture and Tourism ) on the left and Mr Raymond Nazar, (Hon Consul of Belgium) (centre).



Present at the Durban Diplomatic Corps Lunch were from left to right: Mr R Nazar (Belgium), Mr L Briët (EU) & Mrs N Briët, Mr P Bjorvig (Denmark), Mr A Prunas (Italy), Mr G Erswell (Spain), Mr C Correa (UK), Mr P Iliadis (Greece), Mr H Beier (Germany). [26/05/2005]

### **Approval of new Directive will boost fight against money laundering and terrorist financing (26/05/2005)**

The European Commission welcomed the European Parliament's approval of the proposed Third Directive on the prevention of the use of the financial system for the purposes of money laundering or terrorist financing. The Directive applies to the financial and other key services sectors and also covers all providers of goods, when payments are made in cash in excess of €15.000. See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/616&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### **Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner's visit to Libya (25/05/2005)**

Benita Ferrero-Waldner, Commissioner for External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy, travelled to Benghazi and Tripoli, Libya, on 24-25/05/2005. In talks with the highest authorities, including Colonel Muammar Khadafi and Libyan Prime Minister, Shokri Ghanem, she discussed how to advance EU-Libyan relations, including under the Barcelona Process, and raised the case of Bulgarian and Palestinian medical workers under sentence of death in Libya.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/605&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### **European Commission and UNEP co-operate to address global environmental threats (24/05/2005)**

The European Commission and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) met in Brussels to discuss cooperation in addressing threats to the environment. The High Level Meeting, co-chaired by Klaus Töpfer (Executive Director of UNEP) and Catherine Day (Director-General of DG Environment), took place in response to the Memorandum of Understanding signed between the European Commission and UNEP in September 2004. The Memorandum reinforces policy dialogue and collaboration between the two institutions, supports implementation of the commitments made at the 2002 World Summit on Sustainable Development and helps reach the environment-related UN Millennium Development Goals.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/597&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### **Commission tables first elements for a genuine European Space Policy (24/05/2005)**

Environmental monitoring, navigation systems, weather forecasting, toll collection, early flood warnings... - the role that space plays in our daily lives is increasing. Taking the full economic impact of space applications into account, the Commission has now outlined the first elements for a European Space Policy, which is expected to be devised and approved before the end of 2005. See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/593&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Summary of European Space Policy Communication - Preliminary Elements (24/05/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/167&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### **Commission approves detailed plans for post-tsunami reconstruction (23/05/2005)**

The European Commission approved detailed plans for €323 million of its €350 million post-tsunami reconstruction programme, which will be delivered over the coming two years. €12 million has been immediately released under the Rapid Reaction Mechanism (RRM) to kick-start this longer-term reconstruction work. This builds on the Commission's €123 million humanitarian aid that started flowing days after the disaster struck.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/591&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

### **Stronger global defences against epidemics: Markos Kyprianou welcomes WHO agreement (20/05/2005)**

Markos Kyprianou, European Commissioner for Health and Consumer Protection, welcomed the agreement reached at the World Health Assembly to strengthen international cooperation against infectious disease outbreaks. ... This would include major disease outbreaks, and also suspected "bio-terrorism" events. Cooperation in responding to such events will also be strengthened by the adopted revised International Health Regulations (IHR).

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/585&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

**Ahead:**



Now in its final week the ever popular **European Union Film Festival** moves to Cavendish Square (Cape Town) from 27-05-02/06/2005.

**Entrance is free.** See: <http://www.eusa.org.za/PDFdownload/Film%20Festival%202005.pdf>

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

### **Born into Struggle – EU-funded documentary film collects string of awards**



Rehad Desai's unashamedly passionate and at times controversial eulogy to his political father was screened at the Cannes Film Festival on 15 May and was released by Ster Kinekor at cinemas in South Africa on 27 May. The film has been awarded the Audience Award for Best Documentary – Encounters Documentary Festival 2004, the Jury Prize for Best Documentary - Apollo Film Festival 2004, and the Jury Prize for Best Documentary - Cape Town World Cinema Festival 2004. This documentary has been produced in 2004 with financial assistance from the European Union through a Decade of Democracy grant of the CWCI Fund.