



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.



24 – 30 June 2005

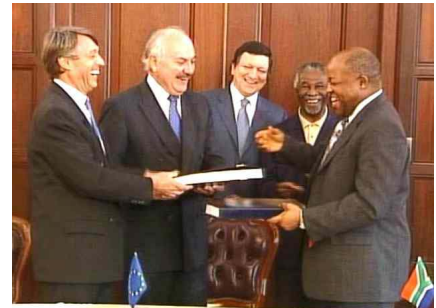


Headline News



President José Manuel Barroso visits South Africa (25/06/2005)

President Barroso visited South Africa from 24-25/06/2005. On Friday, after meeting with representatives of big business at the South Africa Foundation, President Barroso delivered a keynote address to a full audience and large media presence at the South African Institute of International Affairs (SAIIA). Later, after their meeting, President Barroso and Health Minister Tshabalala-Msimang jointly announced a €25 million support package to the Department of Health's Comprehensive Plan for HIV and AIDS. Friday evening saw President Barroso address European business operating in South Africa. On Saturday President Barroso had the opportunity to be briefed by representatives of a number of influential think tanks and organisations (Institute for Security Studies, Centre for Policy Studies, South African Institute for Race Relations, World Bank). Subsequently the President met with Judge Pius Langa (Constitutional Court Judge President), and then visited Orange Farm settlement where he experienced first hand some of the major challenges facing South Africa today. President Barroso's one-on-one meeting with President Mbeki was followed by a joint meeting including Foreign Minister Dr N Dlamini-Zuma and Trade and Industry Minister M Mphahlele. Presidents Barroso and Mbeki then witnessed the signing of the Enlargement Protocol between South Africa and the EU.



Presidents Barroso and Mbeki witness the signing of the EU Enlargement Protocol by Ambassador Briet (European Commission), Ambassador Engering (Acting EU Presidency), and Trade & Industry Minister Mphahlele



President JM Barroso driving home a point during his keynote address at the South African Institute of International Affairs, and EU Ambassador Lodewijk Briet.



President Barroso flanked by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Sue van der Merwe (right) and Mr Richard van der Merwe (President of the SA-German Chamber on behalf of the EU-bilateral Chambers of Business - left)



President Barroso and EU Ambassador Briet. Being Given a detailed tour of the Constitutional Court by Judge Pius Langa (Const. Court Judge President)



(from right to left) President Barroso with Mr John Kane-Berman (SA Institute for Race Relations), Dr Jakkie Cilliers (the Institute for Security Studies), Mr Chris Landsberg (Centre for Policy Studies)

See: **The European Union & South Africa: Essential Partners for Progress – Keynote address (24/06/2004)**

http://www.eusa.org.za/PDFdownload/Speeches/Barroso_SAIIA_2005.pdf

Partners for Progress: a case for European Business in South Africa – Euro Chambers Speech (24/06/2005)

http://www.eusa.org.za/PDFdownload/Speeches/Barroso_EuroChambers_2005.pdf

Press Coverage: **Crisis in Europe, And New Promise for Africa, As Barroso Visits SA (Business Day, 24/06/2005)**
(selection) <http://allafrica.com/stories/200506240092.html>

Africa's journey to prosperity (SABC, 24 June 2005)

http://www.sabcnews.com/africa/southern_africa/0,2172,107140,00.html

EU's Barroso chides African Union over Zimbabwe (Reuters, 25/06/2005)

<http://www.alertnet.org/thenews/newsdesk/B494039.htm>

EC's Barroso raises Zim with Mbeki (SAPA, 25/06/2005)

<http://www.dispatch.co.za/2005/06/27/SouthAfrica/dzim.html>

Other News

The EU Constitution and Europe's 'living stream' – Speech by President JM Barroso (30/06/2005)

Addressing the National Forum on Europe, Plenary Session in Dublin, European Commission President Barroso said: "All changed, changed utterly'. When French and Dutch voters turned out in force to snub the European Constitution, Yeats's words inevitably came back to me. Thankfully, unlike the uprising he is commemorating in 'Easter, 1916', no-one has died for this political cause. But the situation is serious enough. The question is, what do we do now? We could look at ways of bringing Europe's institutions closer to its citizens, but the European Convention was supposed to do that. Repeating the exercise, at great expense I might add, is unlikely to change much at the present time ..."

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/406&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

A European Union Agency to protect and promote fundamental rights (30/06/2005)

The European Commission adopted a proposal for a Regulation establishing a European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights. As the Commission has chosen the protection and promotion of fundamental rights as one of its basic policy objectives, the creation of the Agency is an important tool in meeting this objective. Vice-President Franco Frattini, responsible for Justice, Freedom and Security said: "Fundamental rights are at the core of the European Union's values. They are essential for the building of stable societies, based on well-functioning political institutions and efficient legal systems. ... we need to build up appropriate structures and allocate resources to the fundamental rights work. This is what we are doing by establishing the Fundamental Rights Agency".

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/822&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Presidency Declaration on behalf of the EU on the resumption of the Abuja talks (29/06/2005)

The European Union welcomes the resumption of African Union-led talks on 10/06/2005 and urges the government of Sudan and the rebel groups to maintain the momentum of the Abuja talks and to reach a political solution to the conflict in Darfur as a matter of immediate priority. The European Union will continue to follow closely the negotiations in Abuja.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PESC/05/67&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

The progressive case for open markets – Speech by Commissioner Peter Mandelson (28/06/2005)

In this speech to the Council on Foreign Relations in New York on 28/05/2005 EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson makes the progressive case for open markets, arguing that in the face of globalisation governments must develop a political response that addresses the needs of those affected by economic change while preserving the benefits of free trade and open markets.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/395&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Presidency Declaration on behalf of the EU on the Presidential elections in Guinea-Bissau (27/06/2005)

The European Union is pleased to note that the first round of the Presidential elections in Guinea Bissau was considered by international observers, in particular the European Union Election Observation Mission (EU EOM), to have been peaceful and generally well administered in line with essential international principles for democratic elections.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PESC/05/63&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EU and ACP countries sign the revised Cotonou Agreement (25/06/2005)

The revised Cotonou Agreement was signed in Luxembourg by the EU and 76 countries from Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific. The new provisions cover a broad range of issues, including a provision for a strengthened political dialogue and references to the fight against terrorism, cooperation in countering proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the International Criminal Court (ICC).

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/789&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Presidency Declaration on behalf of the EU on the extension of the transition in the DRC (24/06/2005)

The European Union has taken note of the decision of the two chambers of the Parliament of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to extend the transition period for six months as from 01/07/2005, and of the request by the International Committee for support to the transition (CIAT) that this extension should go hand in hand with greater effectiveness and promptness on the part of the transitional institutions.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=PESC/05/61&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Ahead:

- **26-27/06/2005 – Commissioner Benita-Ferrero Waldner to visit Algiers**
See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/790&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- **27-28/06/2005 – UN High Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, New York**
See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/799&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>
- **28/06-05/07/2005 – African Union Summit, Libya**
See: <http://www.africa-union.org/summit/JULY%202005/home.htm>
- **06-08/07/2005 – G8 Gleneagles 2005, Scotland**
See: <http://www.g8.gov.uk/servlet/Front?pagename=OpenMarket/Xcelerate/ShowPage&c=Page&cid=1078995902703>

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