



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.



27 May – 2 June 2005

Headline News

Joint Statement of Pres Josep Borrell Fontelles (European Parliament), Pres Jean-Claude Juncker (European Council), and Pres José Manuel Barroso (European Commission) on the results of the referendum in the Netherlands on the Treaty establishing a Constitution for Europe (01/06/2005)

The people of the Netherlands, like the voters of France, have chosen to say no to the ratification of the Constitutional Treaty. This is a choice that we respect. The result of the democratic ballot taken in the Netherlands comes at the end of a rich and intense debate and deserves a profound analysis, to which we must now dedicate the necessary time. We remain convinced that the Constitution makes the European Union more democratic, more effective and stronger, and that all Member States must be able to express themselves on the project of the Constitutional Treaty. The fourteen Member States (*now thirteen as Latvia ratified on 02/06/2005*) that have not yet had the chance to bring to a conclusion the process of ratification are today faced with a situation in which, although nine (*now ten*) Member States have ratified the constitutional treaty, two Member States have rejected it. For this reason, the Presidency has decided that the Council of 16 and 17 June could usefully carry out a serious collective analysis of the situation. Furthermore, we hear the messages sent by the citizens of France and the Netherlands on the European project and we note them well. The European Institutions will listen to the concerns of European citizens and they will come together to offer a response. We are confident that together and in partnership – national governments, European institutions, political parties, civil society – we will know how to find the means to move the European Union towards an enduring consensus as to its identity, its objectives and its means. Because Europe goes on, and its institutions will continue to function fully.



from left to right: Josep Borrell, José Manuel Barroso, Jean-Claude Juncker

See also: **Joint Declaration on the results of the French Referendum on European Constitutional Treaty (29/05/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/627&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&quiLanguage=en>

EU tables revised services offer in Doha Round negotiations (02/06/2005)



The European Commission has transmitted to the WTO the EU's revised services offer in the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) negotiations. The revised offer outlines how the EU is prepared to open further access to its services market in exchange for improved access to other WTO Members' markets. While ambitious in scope, and responding in many ways to requests for access from developing countries, the EU's offer safeguards public services such as education, health and audio-visual services. The offer is fully public, and can now be seen on the DG Trade website. (<http://europa.eu.int/comm/trade/>)

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/654&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&quiLanguage=en>

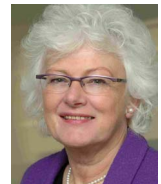
See also: **Summary of the EU's revised services offer in the Doha negotiations: June 2 2005**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/190&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&quiLanguage=en>

Other News

European Agriculture in 2010 - Speech by Com Mariann Fischer Boel (02/06/2005)

In a recent speech Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel (Agriculture and Rural Development) said: "It's clear that we're in the middle of unfinished business – the business of remoulding the CAP for a better fit with modern economies. The big challenge of the last 5 years was dreaming up the ideas, talking them over and turning them into a workable overall scheme – the reforms of 2003 and 2004. One of our tasks for the next 5 years is making that scheme work on the ground in all its various forms in member states which between them encompass freezing mountains and sun-baked plains, livestock holdings of a few hectares and cereal farms of a few hundred."



See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/316&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&quiLanguage=en>

Louis Michel participates in Summit of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (01/06/2005)

Commissioner Louis Michel (Development and Humanitarian Aid) will participate in the 10th Summit of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) taking place in Kigali, Rwanda, on the 02-03/06/2005. Commissioner Michel will seize the opportunity to stress the added value that the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) can bring to regional integration and to helping Africa gradually integrate into the global trading system. The European Commission firmly believes that regional integration and co-operation can help these countries to be in a better position to cope with the challenges of globalisation, a trend which poses a serious challenge but which at the same time can lead to new opportunities if well managed. See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/652&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Working Together as Global Partners – Speech by Com Benita Ferrero-Waldner (01/06/2005)

Addressing the European Institute in Washington, Commissioner Benita Ferrero-Waldner (External Relations and European Neighbourhood Policy), said: "... the EU's relationship with the US will continue to be pre-eminent. ... The immense breadth of our bilateral cooperation is reflected in the European Institute's programme: counter-terrorism and security; trade; research; air traffic; migration; energy; the environment; and development policy. The global reach of our cooperation on international issues is also impressive and increasing, yet not always well known."

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/313&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Commissioner Ferrero-Waldner visits the US from 1-3 June 2005 (31/05/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/634&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EU resumes WTO case against Boeing (31/05/2005)

The United States decided to request formal dispute settlement procedures in the WTO against alleged subsidies provided to Airbus by four EU Member States (France, Germany, Spain and the UK). Responding to this decision, which puts a halt to the negotiations between the EU and the US on support to producers of large civil aircraft, the EU has decided to call on the WTO to adjudicate the legality of subsidies granted to Boeing.

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/638&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: **Statement on Boeing, Airbus and the WTO – by Com Peter Mandelson (31/05/2005)**

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/310&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Climate Change: The Urgency of the Problem – Speech by Com Stavros Dimas (31/05/2005)

During the opening debate of Green Week, Com Stavros Dimas (Environment) noted: "Politically, 2005 is an important year for the fight against climate change: in February, the Kyoto Protocol entered into force. One month earlier, EU companies started trading allowances through the EU emission trading scheme – the biggest ever trading scheme both in economic and environmental terms. Crucially, this year has also witnessed the start of the dialogue about the next phase of climate change policy, post 2012. The EU will maintain its leadership role in this context."

See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/309&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EIB opens regional representation for Central and East Africa (30/05/2005)

New offices for the European Investment Bank's Regional Representation for Central and East Africa were today officially inaugurated by the Minister for Finance, the Hon. David Mwiraria and the President of the EIB, Mr. Philippe Maystadt. The new representation office is the first to be opened by the EIB in sub-Saharan Africa. It is to play a key role in the EIB's commitment to build closer ties with its customers and expand operations in Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific (ACP), within the framework of the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, signed in Cotonou in June 2000, and of the Investment Facility, a risk taking facility for the private and the commercially run public sector, created under the Agreement and managed by the EIB. See: <http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=BEI/05/36&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

EU cohesion policy could create 2.5 million jobs between 2007 and 2013 (27/05/2005)

Danuta Hübner, European Commissioner for Regional Policy, sets out how she expects a reformed cohesion policy to contribute to raising employment rates in the European Union. EU-funded programmes affect job creation in two main ways: they create job opportunities through additional investments, and they help to improve the working of the labour market, for example through training or measures to smooth restructuring. Independent evaluations of current and past regional policy suggest that the impact has already been substantial.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/05/178&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

Health rules must not become unjustified barriers to trade – Speech by Com Mandelson (27/05/2005)

EU Trade Commissioner Peter Mandelson told a Brussels conference on sanitary and phytosanitary rules that international export and import standards need to be based on sound scientific evidence and the option "that restricts trade the least". Com Mandelson said that the EU needs to act more coherently to ensure market access for EU exports in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary products.

See: <http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/620&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

See also: Conference on EU Exports and Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures

<http://www.europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/05/307&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

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