



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*



3 – 9 November 2006

Headline News

[Council approves €2 bn stability financing instrument under EU's external relations policy \(07/11/2006\)](#)

The Council adopted a regulation establishing an instrument to provide financial assistance during the 2007-13 period for the promotion of stable conditions for human and economic development and the promotion of human rights, democracy and fundamental freedoms.. A total of €2,06 bn over seven years will be provided from the Community budget for ... 1. assistance in response to situations of crisis or emerging crisis; and 2. assistance in the context of stable conditions for co-operation.

[EU to take over 2007 Chairmanship of Scheme to Combat Conflict Diamonds \(09/11/2006\)](#)

The European Commission is to take over the reins of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme (KPCS) to combat conflict diamonds. The outgoing chair, Botswana, passed on the baton at the process' annual Plenary, held in Gaborone from 06-09/11/2006. At the Plenary progress was achieved on a number of crucial issues, of which the most import were the adoption of urgent measures to help participating counties strengthen their internal controls, and a number of recommendations to strengthen the effectiveness of the Kimberley Process itself.

Other News

[ESF role in protecting the European social model – Speech by Com V Špidla \(09/11/2006\)](#)

Addressing a European Parliament workshop entitled Financing the European social model, Commissioner Vladimír Špidla (Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities), noted: "The European social model that we are talking about here is a package of common values that underlie the European Union. These values are freedom, democracy, equality and solidarity. They have inspired the social systems of all the EU's member countries. Although applied in various guises, they share a number of common characteristics. ... But the model is under pressure ..."

[Commission proposes renewed consensus on enlargement \(08/11/2006\)](#)

The Commission has adopted a strategy for the EU's enlargement policy, which includes a special report on the Union's integration capacity. The Commission concludes that the Union must be able to maintain and deepen its own development while pursuing its enlargement agenda. The current enlargement strategy, combined with ways and means to ensure the EU's capacity to integrate new members, form the basis for a renewed consensus on enlargement.

See also: [Enlargement package, press speaking points by Com O Rehn \(08/11/2006\)](#)

[Questions and answers on the Union's enlargement strategy and its integration capacity \(08/11/2006\)](#)

[Key findings of the progress reports on Kosovo \(08/11/2006\)](#)

[Key findings: Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Turkey \(08/11/2006\)](#)

[Frequently asked questions on Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance \(IPA\) \(08/11/2006\)](#)

[Climate change: Commission looks for progress from UN ministerial conference in Nairobi \(06/11/2006\)](#)

The European Commission will seek further global progress in the battle against climate change at the annual United Nations climate change conference which starts in Nairobi today and runs until 17 November. European Environment Commissioner Stavros Dimas will participate in the high-level segment from 15-17 November. This is the first world climate change conference held in sub-Saharan Africa and accordingly it will have a special focus on the needs of Africa and other developing countries. See also: [Climate change and the EU's response \(06/11/2006\)](#)

[Presidency declaration on EU's behalf on preparations for Malagasy presidential election \(03/11/2006\)](#)

At the request of the Malagasy authorities, and concerned to consolidate democracy in Madagascar, the European Union is actively supporting the preparations for the presidential election on 3 December 2006. The European Union is alert to the need for the electoral process to be properly conducted and produce a satisfactory outcome, and calls for a consensual approach to be adopted in the preparations for the ballot.

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