



European Union
Delegation to the Republic of South Africa

EU Perspectives

*Regular publication that seeks to provide information
on EU-related activities of interest to SA readers*



5 - 11 August 2011

Top News

[Council reinforces sanctions on Libya \(10/08/11\)](#)

The Council extends an assets freeze to two further entities closely linked to the perpetrators of the serious human rights abuses in Libya. In total, six port authorities, 49 entities and 39 persons involved in the serious human rights abuses in Libya are now subject to a freeze of their funds and financial resources in the EU. In addition, the same 39 persons, including Muammar Qadhafi and several family members, are banned from entering the EU.

[Declaration by the EU's High Representative: International Day of World's Indigenous People \(09/08/11\)](#)

EU High Representative, Catherine Ashton, said: "Today, on the International Day of the World's Indigenous People, the EU and its Member States reaffirm their commitment to indigenous peoples both in and outside the EU. The 27 Member States of the EU all support the 2007 UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, an important milestone for them and for everyone working to promote human rights."

[New funding instruments for EU external action \(05/08/11\)](#)

The European Commission has proposed allocating €70 billion to EU external action activities between 2014 and 2020. The proposal is now being discussed by EU Member States and the European Parliament.

[European Commission to invest extra €175m in Somalia \(09/08/11\)](#)

EU Commissioner for Development, Andris Piebalgs, announced a decision to step up Europe's long-term commitment to Somalia with an extra €175 million in development assistance. Com Piebalgs, who visited Somaliland less than a month ago, noted that development assistance could provide sustainable solutions. [EU Development Work: Horn of Africa](#)

[European Council President welcomes decisions taken to strengthen fiscal discipline \(08/08/11\)](#)



President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, said: "I welcome the decisions taken over the weekend in Europe both at national level, in Italy and Spain to strengthen fiscal discipline and growth, and by the ECB regarding the active implementation of its Securities Markets Programme. These decisions will contribute to financial stability in the euro area. I also welcome the close cooperation at the global level of the G7 and the G20 to deal with the current challenges both the euro area and the USA are facing."

[Statement by the President of the European Central Bank \(07/08/11\)](#)

ECB President, Jean-Claude Trichet, stated: "The Governing Council of the European Central Bank (ECB) welcomes the announcements made by the governments of Italy and Spain concerning new measures and reforms in the areas of fiscal and structural policies. The Governing Council considers a decisive and swift implementation by both governments as essential in order to substantially enhance the competitiveness and flexibility of their economies, and to rapidly reduce public deficits."



[EU funds new research project to respond to unexpected epidemic threats such as E.coli \(09/08/11\)](#)

The European Commission has decided to allocate an additional €12 million from the EU's Research Framework Programme to reinforce Europe's capacity for tackling pathogens like the virulent Escherichia coli (E.coli) bacteria that recently infected close to 4,000 people in Europe and killed 46.

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