

EU-Africa 8th Partnership

Science, Information Society, Space

SFIC Task Force meeting

Brussels, 7th of July 2011

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EU-Africa Summits

→ 1st EU-Africa Summit, Cairo, 3-4APR2000

Declaration of Cairo and Joint EU-Africa Cairo Plan of Action, addressing trade, debt, political issues, peace building and conflict prevention, and development

→ 2nd EU-Africa Summit, Lisbon, 8DEC2007

New Strategic Partnership and Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES), vision and roadmap for future cooperation, Action Plan I (2007-2010)

→ 3rd EU-Africa Summit, Tripoli, 29-30NOV2010

Joint Africa-EU Strategy, Action Plan II (2011-2013)

Established the new AU-EU High Level S&T Policy Dialogue



EU-Africa 8th Partnerships

Action Plans I and II

1. Peace and Security
2. Democratic Governance and Human Rights
3. Regional integration, Trade and infrastructure
4. Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)
5. Energy
6. Climate change and Environment
7. Migration, Mobility and Employment
- 8. Science, Information Society and Space**



EU-Africa Partnership Overall Governance

- **Guidance: Africa-EU Ministerial Troika (biannual)**
with inputs from sector-specific Ministerial Troikas
- **Monitoring: College-to-College (C2C) Commissioners Meetings (annual)**
- **Monitoring: Joint AU-EU Task Force (JTF) (6-monthly)**
AUC, EUC and EEAS, Parliaments, African and EU JEG co-chairs, chefs de files, RECs, private sector and civil society representatives (for the African side through AU-ECOSOCC)
- **Implementation Follow Up of each of the 8 Partnerships: Joint Experts Group (JEG)**
- **Implementation Coordination in EU: Jointly COM and EEAS**



Role of EEAS in EU-Africa Partnership

- EEAS has an Africa Department and a specific unit of Pan-African Division
- Division of tasks between EEAS and COM is not very clear, but it is understood that the EEAS will act more directly on the more political partnerships (peace and security, democratic governance and human rights) and less on the more technical
- EEAS was commissioned by the Council Africa WP (COAFR) to prepare a proposal of improvements for the of the Action Plan II implementation (2011-2013) and beyond. The draft proposal (0.0) is to be submitted to the COAFR WP by the end of JUL2011 and to be discussed with African partners in the Autumn
- With the EEAS, the role of EU Delegations in African capitals has been strengthened. All EU Delegations in Africa, but specially EU Delegations to the AU and in RECs capitals, will play an important role in ensuring effective EU coordination and in promoting awareness and ownership of AU MSs



EU-Africa 8 Partnership Action Plan II

Science, Information Society, Space

PRIORITY ACTION 1:

S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

PRIORITY ACTION 2:

Support the development of an inclusive Information Society in Africa

PRIORITY ACTION 3:

Enhance Cooperation on Space Applications and technology



EU-Africa 8th Partnership Governance

- ➔ Co-Chairs (MS): EU (Luis Magalhães, Portugal), AU (Rached Hamza, Tunisia)
- ➔ Joint Experts Group of 8th Partnership (JEG8)
- ➔ European Experts Group of 8th Partnership (EEG8)
EU members of JEG8 (no African counterpart)
 - EEG8 Sub-group for Science (Chair: France)
 - EEG8 Sub-group for Information Society (Chair: Finland)
 - EEG8 Sub-group for Space (Chair: vacant, calling for expression of interests from MS)



AU-EU High Level S&T Policy Dialogue

→ Ministerial Level

AU: AMCOST – African Ministerial Conference on S&T

EU: Competitiveness/Research Council

→ Senior Officials Meeting (SOM)

Decided at 1st C2C (1JUN2011) that 1st SOM will be in Addis Ababa on 10-11OCT2011

→ Task Force to prepare SOM

AU: AMCOST Bureau (Egypt, South Africa, Congo and the AUC as Secretariat)

EU: Troika of past, present and forthcoming EU Presidency (BE, HU, PL; but also involving DK), DG RTD, EEAS, EEG8 Chair

1st meeting held on 14JUN2011 (video-conference)



EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II

Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Expected outcomes

- Strengthened African S&T **capacities** and EU capacities for working with Africa to enhance coherence of **cooperation**
- Improved **training**, and hence increase the **quality** and **number** of African and EU scientists, technicians and engineers
- Improved **exchange** programmes
- Mainstreamed **S&T into REC's sectoral programmes and projects**, including those in EDF RIPs
- Improved pan-African **infrastructure and facilities for R&D**
- **Actively pursued AU-EU high-level policy dialogue**
- Enhanced S&T **cooperation** at all levels (bilateral, bi-regional, bi-continental, REC-level)
- Enhanced **innovation capability** of African and European SMEs
- Developed **STI evidence-based AU EU policy making**, including support to the **Africa STI observatory**.



EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II

Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Activities

- **Awareness-raising** at all levels (policy makers/government, parliament, local stakeholders/communities, private sector, civil society) on the **opportunities for S&T** to contribute to national/regional/pan-African **development** and to respond to **major challenges** faced by both Africa and Europe
- Consolidate and implement national/regional/pan-African S&T policies consistent with **regional or continental social and economic development agendas**, including the support of the AU objective of designing a **multi-annual African Research Framework**, *inter alia* by implementing the **African Research Grants Initiative**, as well as **providing the AUC with the requisite experience and management capacity**
- Enhance EU (Commission and Member States) **cooperation**, in **partnership with RECs** (through a well-defined framework with the AU) on **mainstreaming S&T for socio-economic sustainable development** and support the strengthening of their capacities in this area



EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II

Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Activities

- Complete formulation of S&T for the development of African SMEs and Business Incubators network Lighthouse project and seek its financing by further mobilizing stakeholders in Europe (EC, Member States, Private sector and Local authorities) and in Africa (national, regional and continental financial instruments, Private Sector, NGOs) and others
- Explore all possibilities for Africa to support the deployment of regional, and global high quality research infrastructures
- Set up an adequate mechanism to promote an African brain-gain programme
- Cooperate in capacity building in R&D and R&D policy in Africa and EU
- Stimulate and support collaborative research in the areas of the CPA. This will be done by exploiting opportunities of new programmes focused on developing bi-regional funding frameworks



EU-Africa 8th Partnership Action Plan II

Priority Action 1: S&T capacity building for the implementation of Africa's S&T Consolidated Plan of Action (CPA)

Activities

- The S&T related activities will be implemented in line with the CPA with a focus on the **grand challenges faced by Africa and Europe**. Priority will be given to joint strategic initiatives where a particular impact of S&T is expected, for example, **Climate Change/Energy, Sustainable Agriculture and Food Security and Global Health** (emphasis on **Maternal and Child Health and Infectious Diseases**). Strategies will be developed to **further adapt and open the existing 7th FP to African scientists**
- Pursue the **EUC–AUC Exchange programme**, extend it to Member States and **include RECs**, following the development of an exchange strategy by the AUC-EC;
- Seek active coordination and cooperation with **university related activities** in order to improve the value of S&T within national policies including **budget allocation to science and research**
- **Ensure coordination with the proposed new high-level AU-EU science and technology policy dialogue.**

