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**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE PREPARATIONS
FOR THE THIRD AFRICA-EU SUMMIT SCHEDULED IN TRIPOLI, GREAT
SOCIALIST PEOPLE'S LIBYAN ARAB JAMAHIRIYA,
FROM 29 TO 30 NOVEMBER 2010**

2010
MAKE PEACE HAPPEN

**REPORT OF THE COMMISSION ON THE PREPARATIONS FOR THE THIRD
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I. Introduction

1. The 3rd Africa-EU Summit is scheduled to take place in Libya on 29-30 November 2010. Regarding preparations for the Summit, the two sides have agreed to set up a Joint Steering Committee to drive the process. The African side is represented by members of the Follow-up Committee. Among others, the Steering Committee will identify and elaborate the thematic key issues to be discussed at the Summit, facilitate an agreement on possible Summit deliverables, address the logistical, organizational and communications aspects of the Summit and coordinate the preparation of the Action Plan for the period 2011-2013.

2. The Steering Committee held its inaugural meeting in Brussels on 14 April 2010 in the margins of the last Ministerial Troika meeting. Members exchanged views on a range of issues including:

- Possible themes for the next Africa-EU Summit
- Possible key deliverables
- People-to-people dimension and side events
- Joint communication strategy
- Calendar of activities

3. It was decided that a small working group would be set up to work on a second Action Plan on the basis of agreed principles.

II. Theme of the Summit

4. The Steering Committee considered the following as possible themes:

- Energy
- Infrastructure & ICT
- Climate change
- MDGs
- Food Security and agriculture
- Peace and Security
- Economic growth and investment

5. The African and EU sides will continue to exchange views on an overall theme as well as sub-themes for the Summit.

6. A proposal worth considering as an overall theme is ***Investment and economic growth in Africa***. This is relevant, particularly in the aftermath of the recent economic and financial crisis.

III. Side events

7. The Steering committee considered the following as possible side events:

- Private sector
- Parliaments
- Gender
- Youth
- Civil society
- Diaspora
- Local government authorities

8. Both sides are expected to come up with concrete proposals for consideration by the next Troika.

IV. Possible Summit deliverables

9. Below are possible deliverables, proposed by the African side at the last Steering Committee meeting:

- Visa facilitation
- Coordinated joint Africa-EU positions on global challenges
- Coherence in dealing with Africa (treating Africa as one)
- Establishment of a pan-African financial support programme
- Launching of a number of flagship projects in each of the five regions of the continent
- Cancellation of Africa's external debt

V. Second Action Plan

10. It will be recalled that the Africa-EU Joint Strategy was adopted at the Lisbon Summit of December 2007. The Strategy is envisaged to be implemented in phases through successive Action Plans, the first of which, covering the period 2008-2010, was adopted at the Lisbon Summit. As we approach the end of the first phase of implementation, work has commenced on the elaboration of a second Action Plan for the period 2011-2013.

11. The above was the subject of discussion at the 14th Africa-EU Ministerial Troika/Political Dialogue Meeting, which took place in Luxembourg on 16 April 2010. At that meeting, guided by a jointly prepared Options Paper, Ministers agreed:

- that the second Action Plan should not be fundamentally different in substance from the first Action Plan;
- to continue to reflect on the substance and the working arrangements of the eight thematic partnerships, and make appropriate suggestions with a view to reaching agreement before the next Ministerial Troika/Political Dialogue meeting in October 2010;
- that primary focus of the Action Plan should be given to activities that have a clear regional, continental, or global dimensions; have a clear added value and proven buy-in;
- that the Action Plan will be accompanied by a detailed “implementation plan” with timelines, benchmarks, deliverables, actors, cost estimates, financial resources available, etc.

12. All stakeholders will continue to be engaged with a view to soliciting inputs for the elaboration of an appropriate Action Plan. In addition to the work of the Joint Expert Groups, the African Union and European Commissions will continue to work hand in hand with member States, Regional Economic Communities, the Pan-African and European Parliaments, the private sector, civil society and all other stakeholders to make sure all views are taken on board.

13. The 16th Ministerial Troika/ Political Dialogue meeting, scheduled to take place in Lilongwe, in October 2009, is expected to consider the draft second Action Plan before submission to the Summit in November 2010.

VI. Commission’s Recommendations

14. Below are some key recommendations proposed by the Commission as possible ways of strengthening the partnership and improving implementation:

- i. The problem of resources must be adequately addressed. This is a collective responsibility; hence, both sides need to take concrete measures to provide such resources. In the medium term (starting from the negotiation and the scheduling of the 11th ADF in 2013), the setting up of a pan-African financial support programme as agreed in the Joint Strategy is necessary. In the mean

- time, the EU side needs to provide more information on the available financing instruments and how to access available funds;
- ii. Member States need to demonstrate commitment to the partnership by providing the expertise required in the Joint Expert Groups;
 - iii. More engagement is required to balance the development and political dimensions. The African side is more preoccupied with the former while the EU side seems to put too much emphasis on the latter;
 - iv. All stakeholders, including civil society, the private sector, RECs and the Pan African Parliament must continue to be engaged with a view to ensuring their full participation;
 - v. All stakeholders should play their part to ensure the success of the 3rd Africa-EU Summit. Early preparations are essential in this regard;
 - vi. A policy decision should be taken to initiate and speed up the process for adapting existing instruments to the Joint Strategy;
 - vii. A policy decision should also be taken for the establishment of a pan-African package or the « Africa's Integration Facility » Fund;
 - viii. A political commitment should be made for the realization of a joint project, that is of high benefit and visible in each of the five (5) regions of Africa. For instance, for Central Africa, the construction of the Inga Dam could be carried out within the framework of the Joint Strategy. Such a project would have the advantage of increasing the visibility of the Africa-Europe Partnership;
 - ix. The issuance of entry visas to Europe, particularly for African researchers, academics and students, should be facilitated;
 - x. A strategy should be put in place for the adoption of common positions on some key issues such as the Reform of the United Nations, climate change, environmental protection or health;
 - xi. A solution should be found to the sustainability of Africa's external debt;
 - xii. An Africa-Europe mechanism for the management of crises should be established.
15. Guidance of the Assembly is sought on all the aforementioned proposals and list of recommendations.

“We are determined to deal once and for all with the scourge of conflicts and violence on our continent, acknowledging our shortcomings and errors, committing our resources and our best people, and missing no opportunity to push forward the agenda of conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction. We, as leaders, simply cannot bequeath the burden of conflicts to the next generation of Africans.” (Paragraph 9 of the Tripoli Declaration of 31 August 2009).

2010-07-25

Report of the commission on the preparations for the third Africa-EU summit scheduled in Tripoli, great socialist people's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, from 29 to 30 November 2010

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