



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 19 October 2012**

**16681/06  
EXT 1**

**PESC 1273  
COAFR 284  
ACP 238  
DEVGEN 325**

**PARTIAL DECLASSIFICATION**

---

of document:	16881/06 RESTREINT UE
dated:	12 December 2006
new status:	Public
Subject:	Report

---

Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.

  

---



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 12 December 2006  
(OR. en)**

**ANNEX**

**16681/06  
EXT 1 (19.10.2012)**

**PESC 1273  
COAFR 284  
ACP 238  
DEVGEN 325**

## **OUTCOME OF PROCEEDINGS**

---

from : Africa Working Group meeting

on : 8 November 2006

in : Brussels

---

No. prev. doc. : 16662/06

---

Subject : Report

---

## **OPERATIONAL CONCLUSIONS**

### **1. EU Strategy for Africa; Preparation of the progress report for the European Council**

The Group:

- welcomed, and exchanged views on, the draft of the "way forward" part of the report to the European Council on the implementation of the Africa Strategy prepared by the Presidency, the Council Secretariat and the Commission (SEC/2431/06); agreed that this part should not exceed two pages;
- underlined that the report should be formally endorsed by the European Council in December;
- noted that some Member States expressed the strong wish to have the current legal and political obstacles addressed in order to hold the Second EU/Africa summit during the Portuguese presidency;
- looks forward to examine a draft "stock taking" part of the report, which is under preparation by the Commission and which will be based on the joint Commission/Council Secretariat report and the answers of Member States to the "questionnaire"; took note of the Presidency's invitation to those Member States that have not yet provided their answers to the "questionnaire", to do so urgently, in order to enable further work on the draft "stock taking" part;

- noted that the "way forward" part of the report will be discussed by the ACP Group on 14 November, that CODEV will be informed about it and that it will be discussed in PSC on 28 November;
- was invited by the Presidency's to provide written comments and input to the two documents by coreu on 17 November at the latest;
- agreed to revert to the issue in its next meeting.

## **2. EU-CHINA**

The Presidency briefed the Group on the outcome of the Ninth EU-China Summit held in Helsinki on 9<sup>th</sup> of September 2006, where leaders agreed to pursue a structured dialogue on Africa stressing the importance of their relations with Africa and stating their commitment to work together in favour of Africa's peace, stability and sustainable development. Furthermore, the Presidency highlighted the results of the summit meeting at the China-Africa forum in Beijing on 3-5 November.

**NOT DECLASSIFIED**

## **3. Debriefing of the EU-ECOWAS Ministerial Troika (27 October, Niamey, Niger)**

The Group:

- welcomed the Final Communiqué of the 10th EU-ECOWAS Ministerial troika held in Niamey, Niger, on 27 October 2006 and took note of the report on this meeting (SEC/ 2377/06);

- agreed to further discuss the points that need follow-up by COAFR, including the issue of sanctions on Liberia, cooperation with ECOWAS in the field of democracy (including elections) and human rights promotion , preparations for an article 13 dialogue with ECOWAS supported by an EU-ECOWAS Working Group on Migration, and possible EU support for ECOWAS' Logistics Depot in Freetown;
- discussed a draft EU declaration on Côte d'Ivoire, for which a revised text will be circulated by COREU on the basis of amendments proposed at the meeting.

#### **4. Commission Communication on an EU strategy for the Horn of Africa**

##### The Group

- welcomed the Commission's Communication (COM (2006) 601) on an EU regional political partnership for peace, security and development in the Horn of Africa and thanked the Commission for the presentation of the main elements of the Communication;
- agreed that the Horn of Africa is of strategic importance to the EU and that an enhanced EU engagement to promote stability in the region is required;
- agreed to the need for a comprehensive EU approach to conflict prevention, management and resolution in the Horn of Africa, both with regard to individual countries and the broader regional dimension and dynamics, as well as the need to encourage regional political and economic cooperation and the reinforcement of African capabilities for conflict prevention in the region;
- agreed that the AWG should revert to this issue for further discussion on the implementation of an EU regional political partnership for the Horn of Africa and on how to take forward work on the basis of the Communication.
- noted that the EU Strategy for Africa is the main reference for EU action in Africa and the EU Strategy for the Horn of Africa is under elaboration with a view to the complex regional situation;

#### **5. Sudan**

##### The Group:

- thanked the EUSR for Sudan for his briefing on the latest developments, in particular concerning the Darfur conflict;
- agreed on the need to maintain continued attention to Darfur in the coming days and weeks, in particular as regards the efforts to secure agreement on a credible peacekeeping force in Darfur and to get the non-signatory rebel movements to adhere to the Darfur Peace Agreement;
- noted the preparations in course for negotiations in Asmara between the Government of Sudan and the non-signatory rebel movements;
- noted the need to consider the issue of the possible financing of AMIS after 1 January 2007 and in this context stressed the importance of the summit meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council scheduled for 24 November;
- underlined the need to focus on the North-South situation and to consider a stronger EU presence in Juba;
- welcomed the information that the Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs plans to visit Sudan and Eritrea on 21-22 November.

## 6. Somalia

The Group:

- had an exchange of views on the latest developments in Somalia, expressing its deep concern at the postponement of the third round of talks between the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC) originally scheduled for 30 October, reiterating that there is no alternative to the continuation of the talks;
- took note of the mission of the Parliamentary Speaker to Mogadishu and agreed to further evaluate the outcome of his contacts with the UIC;
- took note of the meeting of the International Contact Group in Nairobi on 19 October, emphasising the need for the international community to present a consensual approach vis-à-vis Somalia;
- took note of the outcome of the consultations in the UN Security Council on Somalia, and in particular of the debate on 7 November;
- noted the request from the AU for funding under the African Peace Facility of an IGAD peace support mission and recalled the EU position that a peace support mission builds upon a broad consensus among the Somali parties;
- asked HoMs in Nairobi to continue engaging with the UN Secretary General's Special Representative Francois Fall;
- **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

## 7. DRC

The Group:

- welcomed the recent Joint Communiqué of 7 November, issued by President Kabila and Vice President Bemba regarding their commitments to a peaceful conduct in post electoral phase;
- noted the state of the preparations of the Council Conclusions for the GAERC on 14 November and suggested to take explicitly account of the Joint Communiqué;
- thanked EUSR Ajello for his update on recent developments following the second round of presidential elections as well as the provincial elections on 29 October, highlighting in particular that the overall situation remained calm throughout the country;
- thanked the Commission for the update on the ongoing EOM;
- underlined the need to define a coherent EU approach in support of SSR in DRC and, in this context, welcomed the initiative to discuss the issue on the basis of a joint GCS / Commission paper in an upcoming PSC meeting;
- recalled the necessity to establish a support and coordination mechanism bringing together the new government and the International Community, for which the future role of the EU political dialogue under Art 8 Cotonou Agreement as well as possible arrangements in the framework of the envisaged 'Governance COMPACT' should be taken duly into account;
- took note of the progress made in preparation of the Great Lakes Conference in December 2006.

## 8. EU-Africa Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development (Tripoli, Libya, 22-23 November 2006)

The Group:

- was briefed by the President of the Council's High Level Group on Migration on the results of the preparatory meeting that took place in Valletta, Malta, in preparation way for the EU-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development scheduled to take place in Tripoli on 22 and 23 November 2006;
- took note of the information available on participation by African and European Ministers;
- took note of the draft Joint EU-Africa Declaration on Migration and Development, which will be finalised by the High Level Group on Asylum and Migration, which remains the Group with the primary responsibility for the preparation of this document;
- had an exchange of views on the elements of this conference that could be taken up in the preparation of the joint EU-Africa Strategy;
- underlined the importance of Morocco being invited to the Conference under the Cairo format;
- agreed that due consideration should be given to the outcome of previous conferences on this subject, in particular the Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development on 10-11 July 2006 in Rabat.

## 9. Uganda

The Group:

- had an exchange of views on and the talks between the Ugandan Government and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA), with particular focus on the issue of the role of the International Criminal Court (ICC) indictments against five members of the LRA and the possible EU position in this respect, **NOT DECLASSIFIED** (coreu VIE/1141/06);
- agreed to continue discussions and consultations on this issue;
- took note of the request by the Presidency to the HOMS in Kampala to visit Juba in order to gather more information on the state of talks between the Government of Uganda and the LRA.

## 10. AOB

- the Group was briefed by the Commission on the latest development concerning the expulsion of the two officials of the Delegation of the European Commission from Ethiopia;
- noted that the post election situation in Ethiopia will be on the agenda of the Group either in November or in December.