

Weekly Compass

No. 21, 11 December 2009

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Editor's Pick

Independent African monitoring report aimed at enhancing public engagement on peace and security in Africa presented to European Union officials

The African Union's (AU) Peace and Security Protocol encourages non-governmental organisations to participate in efforts aimed at promoting peace, security and stability in Africa and feed information into the official decision-making processes of the AU's Peace and Security Council (PSC). The Addis Ababa-based Institute for Security Studies (ISS) recently launched a monthly Peace and Security Council Report which seeks to provide independent, publicly available and informative analysis on the work of the PSC with a view to increasing capacities to be able to effectively engage with the PSC's work. Peace and security issues in Africa are also of increasing relevance to Europe as recognised in the Joint Africa-EU Strategy and EU-Africa Partnership on Peace and Security as well as in Europe's support for the African Peace and Security Architecture. To gain access to African perspectives on peace and security, ECDPM and ISS organised a launch event for the report on 25 November in Brussels for key stakeholders. Click [here](#) for the ISS Peace and Security Council Report, a video of ISS's Tim Murithi's introductory statement to the meeting and a report of the meeting.

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Policy News

The 2010 European Report on Development will focus on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets

Against the backdrop of the food, fuel, financial and economic crises, poverty and social inequality may well sharpen, increasing the need for effective social protection mechanisms. The European Commission (EC) and the six Member States supporting the European Report on Development (ERD) initiative, therefore, decided to focus the 2010 edition of the ERD on the issues of inequality, social protection and safety nets. The ERD 2010 will follow a similar participatory and consultative process to the 2009 edition. Click [here](#) and [here](#) for more details.

Adoption of European Union implementation plan on situations of fragility and conflict planned now for 2010

Two action plans, originally to have been completed this year, were requested in October 2007 in European Union (EU) Council Conclusions on Situations of Fragility and Conclusions on Development and Security. After having undertaken two sets of

Dear,

By the time this arrives in your in-box, EU leaders should have reached an agreement, after much external protestations and internal discussions, on the amount of financial support they will pledge to provide to developing countries to help tackle global warming and the emissions cuts they will offer in the ongoing and tense Copenhagen climate summit. Earlier this week, EU Foreign Ministers adopted conclusions on climate change and security as well as on human rights and democratisation in third countries, on the Horn of Africa and on ratification of the revised ACP-EU Partnership (Cotonou) Agreement. There were several interesting reports issued this week on the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Negotiations, including one examining legal issues in relation to WTO rules and one from the French Parliament. Several interesting Aid for Trade initiatives were also announced. ECDPM published its workplan for 2010 and we have a vacancy for a research assistant. Click [here](#) to read the details on all this and much more in the [Weekly Compass-Extended Version](#).

All the best,

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Extended version in PDF

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Off the track

Lessons in Distributed Leadership from the Obama Campaign

Barack Obama's presidential campaign owed its victory not to a single charismatic candidate, but to the efforts of a disciplined and

country case studies, the EC's Directorate General for Development (responsible for situations of fragility) and the Directorate General for External Relations (responsible for security and development) decided to produce instead one joint action plan according to Aprove. The draft plan is now in inter-service consultation in the EC and should be adopted under the Spanish EU Presidency in the spring of 2010. Click [here](#) for more information (see December 2009 newsletter to be posted today on this page).

Implications of the Global Crisis for the ACP-EU Economic Partnership Agreements

The financial crisis, though having its origin in developed countries, has generated a global recession that has severe consequences for developing countries, including in Africa, in terms of their prospects for economic growth and development. With more pessimistic growth expectations, most African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) governments, in particular in Africa, will be facing serious budgetary constraints and forced to make difficult choices for the future of their economies. In this context, ECDPM's Sanoussi Bilal asks in The Broker's Redeveloping Finance Blog if it is not worth asking what role Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) can play or should not play. Knowing that the situation of African economies vary from country to country, it is unlikely that a one-size-fits-all or a tailored-made approach would be suitable, however broadly two opposite options can be identified he argues. Click [here](#) to read the article.

European Commission says tariffs on Kenyan exports could be re-introduced or increased if EPA is not signed

In a press release issued following an EU experts and East African Community (EAC) private sector representatives meeting on the region's EPA ahead of next week's negotiations, the EC reports that executives of EAC business organisations voiced their concerns and expectations on several key issues including trade in goods in agri-food products, industrial products, services and investment. The press release states that failure to finalise the EPA process could lead to putting non-Least Developed Countries such as Kenya on the Generalised System of Preferences list. This would de facto mean re-introduction or an increase in tariffs on some key Kenyan export products. Click [here](#) for more details.

EC and EU Member States to report jointly on Aid for Trade implementation

The German Technical Cooperation Office reports that the EC plans to circulate a questionnaire on Aid for Trade (AFT) to EC Delegations as part of the External Assistance Management Report due to be produced in January 2010. The questionnaire aims to provide EC Delegations with a tool to facilitate discussions with EU Member States' field offices on AFT matters in the partner country/region in question with a view to advancing together the policy lines embedded in the EU Aft Strategy. The replies provided by the EC Delegations to this questionnaire are to be prepared jointly with EU Member States. Click [here](#) for details.

Partnership for Democratic Governance. Contracting Out Government Functions and Services. Emerging Lessons from Post-Conflict and Fragile Situations. OECD, African Development Bank.

The ability to deliver essential public services and government functions is a prerequisite for well-functioning, legitimate states. It is also a necessity if states are to meet the most basic needs of their citizens while maintaining security and stability, bringing in foreign direct investment, pursuing poverty reduction objectives and strengthening governance. The second volume of the Partnership for Democratic Governance Series investigates whether 'contracting out' core government functions and services has been conducive to capacity development. Click [here](#) to read

motivated organisation. A recent Massachusetts Institute of Technology lecture featured Marshall Ganz, a key activist in the Obama election campaign, who described that leaders recruit, motivate and develop others, constructing a community around common interests, and building capacity from within the community. Such distributed leadership draws from and resonates with emerging theories of complex adaptive leadership. Click [here](#) to read more.

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[acp-eu-trade.org](#)

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NEPAD launches Capacity Development Framework

The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) has prepared a Capacity Development Strategic Framework which may evolve into a common reference for donors supporting capacity development on the continent. The framework, scheduled to be presented for endorsement at the African Union Summit in February 2010, has been prepared in a consultative process over the last three years across the continent. Click [here](#) for the details.

ECDPM posts the latest news on international relations, development, economic, trade and governance policies daily on its website.

Click [here](#) to access the full list of all the news we've collected this week. A convenient "Topics" feature also allows you to quickly scan your specific areas of interest.

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