

Weekly Compass Extended Version

Topics monitored

Some sections may be empty if there was no news this week.

(Archives at: <http://tinyurl.com/n8xghn>)

Editor's Pick.....	2
Policy News.....	2
Off the track.....	4
Development Policy.....	4
International external assistance.....	4
EU external assistance.....	4
International development and aid effectiveness.....	4
EU development effectiveness.....	5
Financing for development.....	6
EU Coordination, Complementarity and Coherence (3Cs) and division of labour.....	6
Migration and development.....	6
Climate change and development.....	7
Food security / agriculture.....	8
International Relations.....	10
EU institutional change.....	10
EU Common Foreign and Security Policy – The EU's role in the world.....	11
Conflict, peace-building, security and development (for all conflict and peace related items that are not explicitly CFSP related).....	11
EU enlargement / neighbourhood policy.....	12
Political dialogue – ACP-EU.....	12
Joint Africa-EU Strategy.....	13
African Union / NEPAD.....	14
Economic and Trade Cooperation.....	14
Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations.....	14
Aid for Trade / EPA development support.....	20
Monitoring EPA implementation.....	21
General economic and trade issues.....	21
Governance.....	24
ACP governance initiatives.....	24
Governance and development partners.....	24
EU-Africa governance dialogue.....	24
Civil society.....	24
Decentralisation and local governance.....	24
Knowledge Management and Communication.....	24
Capacity development.....	25
Knowledge management.....	25
Research for development.....	25
Monitoring, evaluation and learning in international cooperation.....	25
Communication for development.....	25

No. 13 – 16 October 2009

Dear Reader,

As we prepare for next week's European Development Days in Stockholm (www.eudevdays.eu/index_en.htm), this week's update examines some of the key debates that are expected to arise in that forum, particularly in relation to capacity development, domestic accountability, policy coherence for development and ACP-EU trade relations. The *Weekly Compass-Extended Version* includes some of the side events that will be taking place there as well. We also provide further reports from the Joint Africa-EU Strategy meetings which concluded this week with a Ministerial level communiqué.

I hope to have to occasion to meet with you next week in Sweden.

All the best,

Melissa
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Editor's Pick

Main Feature

ECDPM seeks your views on policy priorities for 2010

ECDPM is currently preparing its annual paper on the challenges for European Union-African Caribbean and Pacific (EU-ACP) development cooperation for 2010. In this regard, we are interested in hearing your views on the **policy priorities** you identify for your region/ country for next year and the policy priorities the EU should take into account when engaging with your country. We would also like to know how you **rank the EU's (European Commission and Member States') importance in your region** and elsewhere in comparison to other (emerging) actors. Our last question focusses on the **future of the ACP group** beyond 2020.

We would appreciate it if you could please take **five minutes** to respond to this anonymous survey by **23 October 2009** (you can also reply in French).

You can access the survey on http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=4UpYuiP2f5Z2wTL8BXkkqw_3d_3d

We look forward to your input.

Policy News

Public Launch of www.capacity4dev.eu. CAPACITY4DEV. 16 October 2009.

An interactive website supporting the European Commission's reform of technical co-operation. But is making technical cooperation more effective a "Mission Possible"? Join the debate between:

* Koos Richelle, Director General of EuropeAid

* Paul Engel, Director of the European Centre for Development Policy Management.

<http://capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/event/public-launch-wwwcapacity4deveu>

Supporting domestic accountability: Exploring conceptual dimensions and operational challenges. ECDPM Discussion Paper. October 2009.

A Netherlands government initiative to translate the Ministry's policy focus on domestic accountability into operational activities of a strategic nature to ensure that ongoing efforts contribute credibly and explicitly to strengthening the domestic accountability of government institutions to citizens, directly, through democratically elected bodies or through other mechanisms. As part of its support activities, the ECDPM drafted four practical notes to assist the country teams in drafting and operationalising their interventions. The four notes are preceded in this document by a brief exploration of the main conceptual dimensions associated with domestic accountability.

<http://www.ecdpm.org/dp93>

EU-African Union Ministerial Troika Meeting. Communiqué. 14 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/ylye9cx>

Spotlight on Policy Coherence report. CONCORD. October 2009.

The report looks at the damaging impact that EU policies such as trade and agriculture are having on developing countries, effectively undoing all of the potential achievements of its development aid. At the report's launch it was noted that the EC will draw up a work programme for 2010/2011 based on the results of the November 2009 EU Council discussions and that CONCORD would like a stronger role for the EP and a broader scope for PCD work that includes raw materials and aspects of international finance. The EC was criticised for its proposal to abandon the 12 policy areas (agreed in the 2005 EU Consensus) and instead focus on five (broader) areas of global

concerns: food security, migration, intellectual property, climate change and security. EC officials announced that DG DEV has initiated preparations for a Communication on the governance of finance.

www.concordeurope.org/Files/media/internetdocumentsENG/5_Press/1_Press_releases/...

Economic Partnership Agreements and their impact on ACP States. Follow-up by the European Commission to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly Resolution. 1 October 2009.

The EC highlights the need for tailor-made solutions for all countries and trade related issues where appropriate, but without undue pressure from the EU. The Commission considers that it is up to the ACP partners themselves to decide which type of trade-related rules they want to negotiate at this stage and to what extent. The Commission is open to re-discuss any provision of the interim agreements in the framework of regional negotiations, with a view to improving them where possible. The Commission agrees with the need for broad-based monitoring and review to ensure that the EPAs meet their objectives. This can be linked to formal amendments where necessary. Both systematic monitoring and five-yearly reviews are already foreseen under the only full EPA so far (the Caribbean EPA) and this can be an example for other full EPAs. <http://tinyurl.com/yghwsvb>

Competitiveness in the European food industry. New trade opportunities in a globalised world. EU Presidency Conference. 15-16 October 2009.

On 15–16 October the Swedish Board of Agriculture, together with the European Commission and the Swedish Presidency of the EU, is organising a food industry conference in Malmö. New export opportunities, quality as a competitive advantage and solutions to problems with fluctuating commodity prices. These are some of the topics to be discussed at the food conference in Malmö on 15–16 October. The conference is targeted at food industry entrepreneurs and stakeholders, consumer organisations, government agencies and ministries. During these two days, participants will hear the latest news on the trade agreements that are currently being negotiated between the EU and countries outside the EU. Support for export, innovations and development will also be presented. New ways of increasing competitiveness can be to invest in quality aspects such as health foods, or ethical aspects such as good animal welfare or fair trade labels. <http://tinyurl.com/ygdqq6g>

Africa Infrastructure Country Diagnostic Study

Final report due soon. Draft available on request.

www.infrastructureafrica.org/loadPage.php?page=home

Problem-Driven Governance and Political Economy Analysis. World Bank. October 2009.

The primary objective of this good practice framework is to systematize approaches to governance and political economy analysis for World Bank task team leaders and teams—but we hope it will also be useful for all those who share an interest in governance and political economy diagnostics. As country and sector situations vary widely, this framework does not set out a particular product but instead presents a menu of options, proposes standards for diagnostics and synthesizes lessons learned. The emphasis on a ‘problem-driven’ approach helps to make governance and political economy analysis focused and operationally relevant. It comprises working through three layers: first, identifying the problem or opportunity to be addressed, second, mapping out the institutional and governance arrangements and capacities and, third, drilling down to the political economy drivers. This basic approach can be applied to analysis at country, sector or project levels. <http://tinyurl.com/yz6ykga>

Europe's International Role. Broker blog. Contributions welcome!

<http://www.thebrokeronline.eu/en/regulars/blogs/Europe-s-International-Role>

Off the track

Participatory Learning and Action - Change at hand: Web 2.0 for development

Web 2.0 tools and approaches are radically changing the ways we create, share, collaborate and publish digital information through the Internet. Participatory Web 2.0 for development is a way of employing web services to intentionally improve information-sharing and online collaboration for development. Web 2.0 presents us with new opportunities for change – as well as challenges – that we need to better understand and grasp. This special issue shares learning and reflections from practice and considers the ways forward for using Web.

http://www.planotes.org/pla_backissues/59.html

Development Policy

International external assistance**EU external assistance****EU to increase funding of energy projects in Africa through the Infrastructure Fund. europafrika. 15 October 2009.**

The European Union will increase the EU-Africa Infrastructure Fund, giving hopes that projects like the Kenya-Ethiopia electricity interconnection will continue to receive funding. The EU is a major financier of power and telecommunications projects in Africa.

<http://europafrika.net/2009/10/15/eu-to-increase-funding-of-energy-projects-in-africa-through-the-infrastructure-fund/>

ACP-EU Water Facility: €200 million call for proposals planned. CTA. 14 October 2009.

The European Commission has announced phase two of the ACP-EU Water Facility, setting aside €200 million to help to tackle water and sanitation problems in the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries. It will launch a call for proposals at the beginning of 2010. Between 2004 and 2006, the Water Facility financed 175 proposals, contributing €414.5 million out of the total project costs of €788 million. European institutions have doubled their support to the water and sanitation sector since 2002. They are also spending more on basic water supply and sanitation for the poor - up from 22% of the aid in 2007 to 37% in 2009, and relatively less on large water supply and sanitation systems. EU donors give on average €1 billion every year to the water and sanitation sector, according to EUWI, the EU Water Initiative. <http://tinyurl.com/yk7q3on>

International development and aid effectiveness**The effects of the global financial and economic crisis on developing countries and on development cooperation. European Parliament resolution. 8 October 2009.**

www.europarl.europa.eu/sides/getDoc.do?pubRef=-//EP//TEXT+TA+P7-TA-2009-0029+0+D...

European Parliament resolution on the Pittsburgh G-20 Summit.. 8 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/yld3bh6>

Renewing Hope, Rebuilding Lives - Partnership between the United Nations and the European Commission in Post-Crisis Recovery. Report. October 2009.

The fourth annual report on the partnership between the United Nations and the European Commission focuses on one important aspect of the partnership, namely the joint UN-European Commission support to countries recovering from natural disasters or conflict. This report illustrates some of the results of this vital and dynamic partnership, and offers policy-makers a guide to lessons learnt along the way.

www.unbrussels.org/UN-EC_Partnership-Report_2009.pdf

Tax havens and development. Report from Norway Government Commission on Capital Flight from Poor Countries. 18 June 2009.

www.regjeringen.no/en/dep/ud/Documents/nou-er/2009/nou-2009-19-2.html?id=572129

EU development effectiveness**The World Log. Web platform that spreads user generated content related to development cooperation. Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)**

Sida has developed the on-line platform to bring the general public closer to the realities of development work throughout the world and to involve them in the issues. The target audiences for the site are professionals, people involved in development issues and the general public. The goal of the platform is to raise awareness and generate discussion prior to, during and after the European Development Days (<http://www.eudevdays.eu/>) in Stockholm this October, and to engage the general public in the debate and questions of international development. theworldlog.org/

Spain puts emphasis on Africa's needs, challenges. europafrika. 15 October 2009.

The Spanish Ambassador to Ethiopia, Antonio Sanchez Benedito Gaspar said his country puts emphasis on the needs and challenges of Africa. In an exclusive interview with ENA, the ambassador said that Africans are severely affected by climate change and Spain will contribute its share in the efforts to address the issue.

<http://europafrika.net/2009/10/15/spain-puts-emphasis-on-africa%e2%80%99s-needs-challenges/>

EU Coreper II. Agenda. 14-15 October 2009.

Discussions include on: Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) - Coherence screening of indicative Council agendas - Identification of items with a development dimension on the indicative agendas for Council meetings - Presidency Information Note; Adoption of a Council decision on the procedure concerning derogations from the rules of origin set out in the Origin Protocols annexed to Economic Partnership Agreements with ACP States; ratification of the revised Cotonou Agreement. <http://tinyurl.com/yf78dk8>

Glenys Kinnock appointed UK minister for Africa and Asia and the United Nations. European Voice. 12 October 2009.

The UK government appointed Chris Bryant as minister for Europe.

www.europeanvoice.com/article/2009/10/uk-appoints-new-europe-minister/66114.aspx

The Future of Caribbean-European Union Relations. Trinidad and Tobago Government News. 8-9 October 2009.

A new partnership at The University of the West Indies (UWI) is exploring the possibilities for productive engagement between the Caribbean and the European Union. The UWI Institute of International Relations (IIR) and the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) are cooperating to analyse the evolving

relationship between Europe and the Caribbean and to assess related issues. Both institutions have recognised the need to identify specific areas of research and to establish appropriate mechanisms for the conduct of this activity over the next five years. On October 8th and 9th from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., the IIR, in collaboration with the ECDPM, will host a seminar titled “The Future of Caribbean-European Union Relations”. This seminar, which is open by invitation only, will bring together a mix of academics, activists and think-tanks.

www.news.gov.tt/index.php?news=2044

Extra Efforts for Better Aid. Netherlands Action Plan Paris/Accra. Netherlands Foreign Ministry. October 2009.

An important catalyst for ensuring that the Netherlands meets (and possibly even exceeds) the commitments it undertook in the Paris Declaration on Aid Effectiveness (2005) and the Accra Agenda for Action (2008). In the action plan, seven main areas where extra efforts will be made by the Netherlands to improve aid effectiveness are identified and described: 1. the use of country systems; 2. predictability of aid and conditions; 3. transparency and mutual accountability; 4. a results-oriented approach; 5. fragmentation and the division of labour; 6. harmonisation; 7. the special challenges posed by post-conflict countries and fragile situations.

<http://www.google.be/url?sa=t&source=web&ct=res&cd=4&ved=0CB0QFjAD&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.oecd.org%2Fdataoecd%2F59%2F38%2F43837712.pdf&rct=j&q=Extra+Efforts+for+Better+Aid.+Netherlands+Action+Plan+Paris%2F&ei=dvYYSqa6Bszt-AbugsC9DQ&usq=AFQjCNGvITvXVQ3tbpeoKiKoOs2lflFQoQ>

Financing for development

EU Coordination, Complementarity and Coherence (3Cs) and division of labour

Migration and development

Time for the EU to acknowledge the advantages of migration says Swedish Presidency. European Voice via europafrika. 15 October 2009.

To help ourselves and the developing world, both in this crisis and in the longer term, the EU needs orderly migration say Tobias Billström, Sweden’s minister for migration and asylum policy, and Gunilla Carlsson, Sweden’s minister for international development co-operation, in the European Voice.

<http://europafrika.net/2009/10/15/time-for-the-eu-to-acknowledge-the-advantages-of-migration-says-swedish-presidency/>

Making Migration Work for Development. Development Research Centre on Migration. October 2009.

The report is a summary of six years of investigation into migration policy and practice. The Centre’s findings indicate that, for migration to have its full developmental impact, the most beneficial policy change would be to reduce barriers to migration, at all levels and particularly for the poorest.

http://www.migrationdrc.org/publications/misc/Making_Migration_Work_for_Development.pdf

Climate change and development

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Carbon Finance 2009. New Opportunities in the Global Carbon Markets. London. 20-21 October 2009.

Carbon trading is booming and further explosive growth is anticipated as the US prepares for a federal cap-and-trade market. The panel of experts at Carbon Finance 2009 will bring attendees up-to-date on how the carbon markets are affecting trading, investment and project finance decisions around the world. The conference will involve various discussion panels on issues such as global carbon markets policy, trading and pricing trends, investment opportunities, risk management strategies, among others.

www.environmental-finance.com/conferences/2009/CF09/register.htm

Other News

The New Politics of North Africa-EU Energy Trade. Chatham House. 16 October 2009.

As EU countries try to diversify their imports of gas and oil away from Russia, North Africa has become an attractive strategic partner. Yet the terms, potential and limits of this partnership remain fluid as complex political ties with individual EU states as well as with the EU itself come into play. Amelia Hadfield and Jon Marks will discuss how this relationship develops as a) the EU attempts to secure energy resources through governance initiatives as part of the European Neighbourhood Policy and b) domestic drivers in countries like Algeria, Libya and Egypt affect relations with the EU. Issues will include North African country responses to EU policy demands, bilateral deals with EU member states that are influencing the direction of trade, and the implications of new pipelines and renewable energy links between the continents.

www.chathamhouse.org.uk/events/view/-/id/1314/

EU Member states split over climate change strategy. European Voice via europafrica. 15 October 2009.

Some countries fear premature commitments amid disagreement over money to development countries. European Union member states are struggling to agree a common strategy for the UN climate conference in Copenhagen says The European Voice.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/15/member-states-split-over-climate-change-strategy/>

The Copenhagen climate agreement: EU positions and state of play. EC Press Release. 12 October 2009.

International negotiations were launched in December 2007 to draw up a United Nations agreement on tackling climate change for the period after 2012, when key provisions of the Kyoto Protocol will expire. The negotiations are due to be concluded at the Copenhagen climate conference on 7-18 December 2009. Three negotiating sessions at official level have been held so far this year, all in Bonn, Germany. The second last preparatory sessions for Copenhagen has taken place in Bangkok from 28 September to 9 October and the last one will be held in Barcelona from 2 to 6 November. <http://tinyurl.com/yfjgtae>

New Climate Change Financial Scheme Turns Heat on Rich Nations. IPS. 11 October 2009.

A new financial mechanism to help the developing world deal with the challenges posed by climate change looms as a major hurdle on the road leading up to a United Nations summit in Copenhagen in mid-December.

Negotiators from the developing world and the developed world have only five days of climate talks in Barcelona, Spain from Nov. 2 to 6 to bridge stark differences that have emerged between the developed and developing nations before they head to the Danish capital for the pivotal U.N. climate change summit. The only consolation,

for now, seems to be hints that "there was some convergence in language" between negotiators from the two camps over the need for climate change funds for the developing world during the two weeks of the U.N. climate change talks that ended here on Friday evening. www.ipsnews.net/news.asp?idnews=48802

Climate talks make little progress. FT. 9 October 2009.

Talks designed to pave the way for a comprehensive climate deal in Copenhagen this year ended with little progress and the gap between developing and industrialised nations seemingly no closer to being bridged. Karl Falkenberg, director-general of the European Union's environment department, however, said "It has achieved something: it hasn't broken down in procedural arguments and fights. Texts here and there have been rearranged and on some technical issues the positions have become clearer – not necessarily agreed, but clearer." But even he was apprehensive about the future: "On the downside, this is certainly not going at the pace we need to be having to have a deal in Copenhagen." www.ft.com/cms/s/0/fff3ad94-b4f3-11de-8b17-00144feab49a.html

Rich Countries Set To Condemn Billions To Grim Future says Oxfam. allAfrica.com. 9 October 2009.

The rift between rich and poor countries has intensified because rich countries have not put serious money on the table to help poor countries adapt to the escalating impacts of climate change and develop on a low carbon pathway, international aid agency Oxfam said on the last day of UN climate negotiations in Bangkok. Oxfam senior climate adviser Antonio Hill said a continued lack of political will from rich country leaders also meant there was no movement on the emissions reduction targets that would help safeguard billions of the world's poorest from death and suffering. "The millions of people facing greater floods, droughts and failed harvest after failed harvest will be the real losers if the US, Canada, EU, Japan and Australia continue as blockers to the UN negotiations," Mr Hill said. He said the US in particular was becoming the biggest obstacle to a fair and safe global climate deal in Copenhagen. allafrica.com/stories/200910090270.html

Climate and Trade Policies in a Post-2012 World. United Nations Environment Programme. 2009.

This publication, a joint effort by UNEP and the ADAM project ("Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies: Supporting European Climate Policy"), provides a collection of short, forward-thinking articles by leading experts on the relationship between trade and climate change policies. The authors closely examine a number of timely trade and climate change issues, including the potential use of climate-related border adjustment measures and liberalising trade in climate-friendly technologies. <http://tinyurl.com/ykmdqly>

Climate, Conflict and Capital. Norway Government position. 13 February 2009.

Climate change and violent conflicts are making the fight against poverty harder. Capital flows are more difficult to control. The eyes of the world are on these challenges. This creates opportunities for a Norwegian development policy that takes a strategic approach to climate change, conflict and capital, which are key factors affecting development and the fight against poverty. Norway can add value in the global efforts to address these issues. <http://tinyurl.com/yf3vb38>

Food security / agriculture

Economic crisis exposes fragile global food system. UN Food and Agriculture Organisation. 14 October 2009.

The economic turmoil sweeping the globe has led to a sharp spike in hunger affecting the world's poorest, uncovering a fragile global food system requiring urgent reform, according to a report issued today by two United Nations agencies. The combination of the food and economic crises have pushed more people into hunger, with the number of hungry expected to top 1 billion this year, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization

(FAO). The agency, along with the World Food Programme (WFP), said in their “The State of Food Insecurity” report that nearly all of the world’s undernourished live in developing countries.

www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=32534&Cr=hunger&Cr1=

How to Feed the World 2050. Preparatory meetings ahead of World Summit on Food Security. 12-17 October 2009.

Three important events will prepare the ground for the 16-18 November 2009 Summit: -The High-Level Expert Forum on How to Feed the World in 2050 will examine policy options that governments should consider adopting to ensure that the world population can be fed when it nears its peak of nearly 9.2 billion people in the middle of this century. -The Committee on World Food Security will meet to consider reforms that will enable it to play a much more effective role in the global governance of food security. -World Food Day focuses this year on how to ensure Food Security in times of crisis. www.fao.org/wsfs/forum2050/wsfs-forum/en/

Kenyan food crisis prompts tough questions. FT. 9 October 2009.

Why does one of the most developed countries in sub-Saharan Africa remain so dependent on foreign food aid? Why is it so vulnerable to the rain failures that climate change is making ever more frequent?

www.ft.com/world/africa

The Great Land Grab: Rush for World’s Farmland Threatens Food Security for the Poor. The Oakland Institute. 8 October 2009.

The report concludes that the current debate surrounding the land grab phenomenon fails to adequately and rigorously examine the consequences of this trend, and exposes how the huge sell-offs of resources undermines food security and land reform efforts. The authors implore that we question the assumption that increased investment in agriculture is beneficial for all parties involved. It critically examines the role of the private sector in agricultural development and exposes implications of private sector control over food resources. The report concludes that those who promote the benefits of private sector growth in agriculture fail to recognize that acquisition of crucial food-producing lands by foreign private entities poses a threat to rural economies and livelihoods, land reform agendas, and other efforts aimed at making access to food more equitable.

www.oaklandinstitute.org/?q=node/view/526

What can the World Trade Organization contribute toward addressing global hunger? IATP. Podcast. 7 October 2009.

IATP asked four experts from the Philippines, France, India and the U.S. at last week’s WTO Public Forum in Geneva. There was the usual argument about whether trade liberalization helps or hinders food security, but there were other important points of consensus: * Despite high-level calls and declarations to address the food crisis last year, nothing has been delivered to improve the coherence of global governance on food and agriculture: a major failure of the post-food crisis response. * The WTO is still unable to take into account rural development and food security concerns in its treatment of agriculture. Instead, it consistently reinforces an unsustainable model, characterized in particular by market concentration. * The IAASTD report, a global assessment of agriculture at the turn of the 21st century, provides recommendations for the way forward on agriculture which WTO members should take on board to put the multilateral trading system back on track.

iatp.typepad.com/thinkforward/2009/10/another-take-on-wto-and-food-stuff.html

WTO Rules and Food Crisis in the Least Developed Countries. Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development. Presentations and reports. 17 July 2009.

CSEND has organized an international conference on the Food Crisis together with the group of the Least Developed Country members of the WTO. The title of the conference was " WTO Rules and Food Crisis in the Least Developed Countries" . The conference took place on 17th July at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy in Geneva. The working programme including presentations and related documents are available here.

www.csend.org/KnowledgeConferences.aspx?id=38

International Relations

EU institutional change

The institutional aspects of setting up the European External Action Service. European Parliament draft opinion. 19 October 2009.

Click here to find the draft opinion and tabled amendments to be voted in the Foreign Affairs Committee on 19 October 2009. www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2009_2014/organes/afet/afet_20091019_1830.htm

Czech President row pushes top jobs off the agenda. Summit set to focus on saving Lisbon treaty, but there will be no time for consultations over new EU post. European Voice. 15 October 2009.

Discussions on who should get the EU's new top jobs have been pushed off the agenda of this month's summit by the need to cut a deal with the president of the Czech Republic over ratification of the Lisbon treaty. EU leaders attending the summit in Brussels on 28-29 October will have to agree whether to accede to a demand by Václav Klaus as a condition for his signature – which is the only obstacle now remaining to the entry into force of the treaty. <http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/imported/klaus-row-pushes-top-jobs-off-the-agenda/66123.aspx>

MEPs seek more power over diplomatic service. European Voice. 15 October 2009.

<http://www.europeanvoice.com/article/imported/meps-seek-more-power-over-diplomatic-service/66122.aspx>

Former Irish President Mary Robinson a possible contender for new EU Council President. Some EU Member States pushing for secretary general-type figure. EurActive. 14 October 2009.

Robinson's potential candidacy has benefited from swift backing from civil society, a Facebook group backing her attracted 4,500 members in just one week, compared with a meagre 225 members supporting Tony Blair in a similar movement. Polish daily Dziennik reported that Warsaw will send its official position concerning the kind of competences the new Council president should have to other EU capitals later this week. The Poles, it is claimed, will take a strong line against the presidential position becoming the influential globe-trotting 'face' of the EU that many experts expect it to be. Instead, Warsaw foresees the new president as a secretary general-type figure who will chair EU summits and coordinate the daily work of the Council, without taking any strategic decisions.

According to European Commission sources, Spain and other EU countries are also interested in the idea of the Council president being more of a low-key organiser, and could back Poland in its motion.

<http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/robinson-heads-list-female-candidates-top-jobs/article-186351>

Sweden's Development Minister Gunilla Carlsson is being touted as the new EU Development Commissioner. EurActive. 13 October 2009.

This article also includes a full list EU Member States likely appointments to existing and new Commission posts (including a new "Climate Change" Commissioner).

www.euractiv.com/en/opinion/new-european-commission/article-180216

Benelux countries confidential paper says EU President must be someone who has demonstrated his commitment to the European project. EurActiv. 13 October 2009.

Benelux countries have sought in recent days to block Blair from getting the EU top job. Britain is regarded by Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands as too Eurosceptic and not sufficiently pro-EU to take the new job, which is created by the Lisbon Treaty. According to the British press, a confidential paper which does not mention Mr Blair by name has been circulated by the three countries. "The president must have the stature of a head of state or government. He must be someone who has demonstrated his commitment to the European project," the paper says. See the Benelux paper: <http://blogs.euobserver.com/smyth/2009/10/06/the-benelux-strikes-back-against-blair/>
<http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/foes-raise-voices-blair-eu-president-bid/article-186332>

Poland signs Lisbon treaty. FT. 10 October 2009.

Lech Kaczynski, Poland's president, signed the Lisbon treaty reforming the functioning of the European Union, leaving his Czech counterpart as the lone holdout who has not yet ratified the pact.
www.ft.com/cms/s/0/f1c5f296-b597-11de-9c58-00144feab49a.html

EU Common Foreign and Security Policy – The EU's role in the world

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

European Commission-NGO consultation to discuss proposals on peace-building partnership in the framework of the EU Budget's Stability Instrument. 27 October 2009.

Other News

Renewing Hope, Rebuilding Lives - Partnership between the United Nations and the European Commission in Post-Crisis Recovery. Report. October 2009.

The fourth annual report on the partnership between the United Nations and the European Commission focuses on one important aspect of the partnership, namely the joint UN-European Commission support to countries recovering from natural disasters or conflict. This report illustrates some of the results of this vital and dynamic partnership, and offers policy-makers a guide to lessons learnt along the way.
www.unbrussels.org/UN-EC_Partnership-Report_2009.pdf

Conflict, peace-building, security and development (for all conflict and peace related items that are not explicitly CFSP related)

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Launch of the first-ever European Report on Development-Overcoming fragility in Africa – Forging a new European approach. 22 October 2009.

This first-ever European Report on Development (ERD), a framework for rethinking the EU perspective on key development issues and enhance its voice on the international scene, deals with the complex and multidimensional issue of "fragility", with a specific focus on SubSaharan Africa. A number of countries, especially in sub-Saharan Africa, are regarded as 'fragile states', where the authorities cannot or do not perform their most basic public tasks. Their citizens face hardship and insecurity, and are more vulnerable to external and internal shocks, such as natural disasters, economic turbulence or social unrest. Described as the "toughest development challenge of our era", how to deal with situations of fragility is an increasingly important priority in European development policies. It is also a key challenge for the European security strategy. http://erd.eui.eu/?page_id=50

Other News

The Links Between Corruption and Peacebuilding. Global Integrity Commons. 8 October 2009.

One effort towards bringing the two communities into an engaged dialogue is the recent publication of a special theme issue of the journal *New Routes* on the "nexus between corruption and peacebuilding" published by the Life and Peace Institute based in Sweden. Articles range from how grand corruption in Colombia weakens the government's efforts to eliminate criminal networks to corruption in the military. The issue also includes contributions that focus on practical, actionable strategies and toolkits. A piece outlines some core concepts in corruption analysis as well as suggestions of anti-corruption tools that might be appropriate to post-conflict settings. <http://commons.globalintegrity.org/2009/10/links-between-corruption-and.html>

East African Community peace and security conference. Peace and Security for Stability and Development. Resolutions and recommendations. 5-7 October 2009.

<http://appablog.wordpress.com/2009/10/08/eac-peace-and-security-conference/>

Conflict and dialogue: What can the development community do better? OECD DAC Newsletter. October 2009.

This issue of DACnews zeroes in on two important areas of attention for the development community: conflict and dialogue. It takes a look at how the reality of conflict impinges on development, and vice versa. It also focuses on the growing complexity of the development landscape, and how increasing dialogue is helping to build a road on common ground. Go directly to: Challenges and opportunities in the Central African Republic Armed violence and development The DAC of the future: Reaching beyond the development community Widening the dialogue Feature article News in Brief. www.oecd.org/dataoecd/52/1/43844294.htm

EU enlargement / neighbourhood policy

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Eastern Partnership Civil Society first meeting. 16-17 November 2009.

ec.europa.eu/external_relations/eastern/civil_society/docs/scso_091009_en.pdf

Political dialogue – ACP-EU

Joint Africa-EU Strategy

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Building the African Union institutional architecture – Progress achieved, new perspectives and possible support by the EU. ECDPM and NAI seminar. 21 October 2009.

The European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) and the Nordic Institute for Africa (NAI) will organise an informal high level multi-stakeholder seminar in Uppsala, on the brink of the European Development Days (22-24 October) in Stockholm. The meeting is organised with the support of the Swedish EU Presidency and in close coordination with the African Union (AU). The seminar “Building the African Union institutional architecture – Progress achieved, new perspectives and possible support by the EU” aims to take stock of the record of the AU institutional architecture, its ongoing reforms and future challenges ahead and the roles that the EU could possibly play in support of the AU institutional architecture. Invited participants will include a multi-stakeholder group of a maximum of 50. Participation only by invitation.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/15/ecdpm-and-nai-seminar-building-the-african-union-institutional-architecture-progress-achieved-new-perspectives-and-possible-support-by-the-eu/>

Joint Africa-EU Strategy Seminar on Mobilising stakeholders-Citizens at the heart of the Africa-EU Partnership. 23 October 2009.

Participants will be invited to share their expectations, analyses and proposals with EU and AU officials on the key issues at stake, progress made so far and main challenges. Discussions will also focus on which implementation mechanisms should be set up and how to organise a structured and efficient dialogue between civil society and official actors.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/15/jaes-edd-seminar-citizens-at-the-heart-of-the-africa-eu-partnership-mobilising-stakeholders/>

Next AU Summit. europafrica. 25 January-2 February 2010.

The next Summit of the African Union will be held in Addis Ababa from 25 January to 2nd February 2010. The theme of the Summit will be “Information and Communication Technologies in Africa: Challenges and Prospects for Development”. The schedule of meetings are as follows: a) Permanent Representative Committee of Ambassadors (PRC): 25-26 January 2010 b) 16th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council: 28-29 January 2010. c) 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of States and Governments: 31 January to 2 February 2010.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/15/2010-au-summit/>

Other News

Spain puts emphasis on Africa's needs, challenges. europafrica. 15 October 2009.

The Spanish Ambassador to Ethiopia, Antonio Sanchez Benedito Gaspar said his country puts emphasis on the needs and challenges of Africa. In an exclusive interview with ENA, the ambassador said that Africans are severely affected by climate change and Spain will contribute its share in the efforts to address the issue.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/15/spain-puts-emphasis-on-africa%e2%80%99s-needs-challenges/>

African Union pressing for EU Pan African financing envelope. allAfrica.com. 13 October 2009.

"It is our strong conviction that a dedicated Pan African envelope is now not only necessary but also a top priority that will go a long way in facilitating and ensuring effective implementation of the strategy," Mr John Shinkaiye of

the African Union Commission said in a statement ahead of Wednesday's joint 13th AU-EU ministerial troika meeting in Addis Ababa. allafrica.com/stories/200910121453.html

African Preparatory Meeting on the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. ECDPM Inputs. 12 October 2009.

On the request of the Economic Affairs Department, ECDPM has prepared 4 papers on the Financing of the Joint Africa- EU Strategy. ECDPM was asked by the Economic Affairs Department in the African Union Commission to help organising this Coordination meeting by elaborating 4 short background notes on key issues related to funding the JAES. In this context, the following papers have been prepared.

europafrica.net/2009/10/12/african-preparator-meeting-on-the-jaes-ecdpm-inputs/

Joint Workshop on the Financing of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. Report. europafrica. 5-7 October 2009.

The Africa-EU workshop on resources for the Joint Africa-EU strategy and first Action plan, opened on Monday 5 October 2009 in Addis Ababa and lasted for 2 days until the 7th of October 2009. Over 300 participants from Europe and Africa gathered in Addis Ababa to discuss the question of human and financial resources in the JAES and to find possible solutions for the future.

<http://europafrica.net/2009/10/12/joint-workshop-on-the-financing-of-the-jaes-5-7th-of-october-2009/>

African Union / NEPAD

African Parliamentary Speakers' Conference. Midrand. 8 – 9 October 2009.

Discussions will centre on the transformation of Pan-African Parliament into a legislative body, domestication of African Union policies and advocacy of the African Parliamentary Knowledge Network. The objective of the conference is to create a platform for dialogue between PAP and the National Parliaments of Member States. The dialogue strives to establish principles that will lead to development of a framework for effective domestication of AU policies. appablog.wordpress.com/2009/10/08/african-parliamentary-speakers-conference/

The proposed AU Authority: Hybridisation, balancing intergovernmentalism and supranationalism.

Situation Report. Institute for Security Studies. 18 June 2009.

http://www.google.be/url?sa=t&source=web&ct=res&cd=1&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.iss.co.za%2Fdynamic%2Fadministration%2Ffile_manager%2Ffile_links%2FAUAUTHORITY19JUN09.PDF%3Flink_id%3D21%26slink_id%3D7811%26link_type%3D12%26slink_type%3D13%26tmpl_id%3D3&ei=V-jOSpPUC43H-QbTtIGSAw&rct=j&q=institute+for+security+studies+paper+on+au+authority&usg=AFQjCNFXFbf44O1s5tuXt7fWsIXQsquH0Q

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) negotiations

[Upcoming Events](#)

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Pacific Forum Trade Ministers meeting. Brisbane. 23-24 October 2009.

It is possible that the meeting will set firm deadlines for the completion of PACER-Plus negotiations. The meeting may also issue a statement that PACER-Plus will be negotiated as a WTO compatible (or WTO-Plus) reciprocal free trade agreement, which would require liberalisation commitments from the Pacific Island Countries in a large range of areas. Australia and New Zealand are likely to argue for a deal that extends the rules of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) across the Pacific, and for the conclusion of negotiations as soon as possible. Regional NGOs say Pacific Trade Ministers needn't feel hurried however, as recent comments from Australian Trade Minister Simon Crean indicate the Forum Island Countries (FICs) are under no legal obligation to begin discussions relating to PACER-Plus until 2011.

<http://www.forumsec.org/pages.cfm/newsroom/press-statements/2009/ftmm-progress-pacer-plus.html>

Promoting Dialogue on Trade Reform in South Africa. SAIIA Forum. Cape Town. 9 November 2009.

The South African Trade Policy Review draft document calls for a strategic review of tariffs to support industrial development. It argues that trade liberalisation has not been able to transform South Africa's production and exports away from resources. Hence it asserts the need to subordinate trade policy to the National Industrial Policy Framework in order to promote such diversification. Tariffs will be raised/reduced where appropriate. This "strategic tariff policy" is currently being implemented on a case by case basis, with reviews of some selected lines already completed. To promote transparency, this public forum will attempt to assess the South Africa's tariff review process and the associated methodology undertaken for tariff investigations. The forum will also assess the efficacy of using subsidies to support targeted industries, their WTO legality, the scope for SA to pursue them, and the likely form they could take. www.tradeknowledgenetwork.net/calendar/event.aspx?id=6877

Other News

It has been agreed that Mauritius will host the COMESA Fund (Infrastructure) whose main mission is to consolidate regional integration through infrastructural development, food security and energy.

EU Coreper II. Agenda. 14-15 October 2009.

Discussions include on: Policy Coherence for Development (PCD) - Coherence screening of indicative Council agendas - Identification of items with a development dimension on the indicative agendas for Council meetings - Presidency Information Note; Adoption of a Council decision on the procedure concerning derogations from the rules of origin set out in the Origin Protocols annexed to Economic Partnership Agreements with ACP States; ratification of the revised Cotonou Agreement. <http://tinyurl.com/yf78dk8>

Mauritian political movement questions value of Economic Partnership Agreement with the EU and calls for parliamentary debate. Business Report, South Africa. 14 October 2009.

Rezistans ek Alternativ, a Mauritian political movement, wants answers to the following questions after its country's government signed an interim economic partnership agreement (EPA) with the EU last month: Why should we surrender ourselves to the invasion of highly subsidised European goods? What will be the effect of capital outflows because of strategic services such as telecoms, port, energy and water services liberalised and privatised in the interest of European companies? They appealed for an urgent session of the parliament to be held to debate the deal. www.busrep.co.za/index.php?fSectionId=553&fArticleId=5201547

African experts formulating strategies for integration. Tralac. 14 October 2009.

Senior officials from across Africa as well as experts representing Pan-African Institutions and Regional Economic Communities (RECs) are currently in Addis Ababa to translate strategies for regional integration into concrete actions. Discussions are being held under the framework of the sixth Committee on Trade, Regional Cooperation and Integration (CTRI) which is being organised by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) from 13 to 15

October 2009. The focus of the meeting is on mainstreaming regional integration at the national level since many protocols and other regional integration instruments agreed upon at sub-regional and continental levels are pending ratification and implementation by member states. <http://tinyurl.com/yz346fp>

COMESA Secretary General says EPA demands are unrealistic. Tralac. 14 October 2009.

COMESA Secretary General Sindiso Ngwenya said that often the rules and demands of multilateral agreements and economic partnerships negotiations are unrealistic. "Those who have developed make the rules, climb the ladder and once up remove it and expect you to climb without it. They expect us to climb at the same pace when the ladder is no more there... they have gone through the same paths but expect us to simply somersault over. Quite often we find this approach dishonest", said Ngwenya. The Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) should be based on rules of origin that improve market access for African countries into the EU, he said. "The EPAs should be realistic, practical and honest" as well as "transparent and simple to use. As they are today, however, this is not the case", Ngwenya said. The balance of trade favours the EU, Ngwenya said.

<http://tinyurl.com/yldc28f>

Multiplicity of ACP-EU trade regimes does not bode well for strengthening ACP-EU trade relations says ACP Secretary General. allAfrica.com. 14 October 2009.

"This state of affairs, which results in multiplicity of trade regimes between ACP regions and the European Union, does not bode well for strengthening of ACP-EU trade relations. Moreover, the unity and solidarity of the ACP Group is likely to be eroded," Mr John Kaputin, the secretary-general of the ACP Group, said in statement on Tuesday. allafrica.com/stories/200910131168.html

L'Afrique et le droit à la différence dans les négociations commerciales internationales : OMC, APE, Intégration régionale. El Hadji Abdourahmane Diouf. Agence de Presse Sénégalaise. 13 October 2009.

L'une des idées centrales de cet ouvrage tourne autour de la possibilité d'aménager un régime juridique spécial aux pays africains, qui leur permette de faire face à un certain nombre de contraintes économiques intérieures avant de se lancer dans une libéralisation outrancière. Cette demande de flexibilités, poursuit la note, déborde le cadre multilatéral. Elle est applicable aux Accords de partenariat économique (APE) en négociations entre les régions/pays africains et l'Union Européenne. L'ouvrage examine une étude de cas intéressante : l'Accord sur l'agriculture de l'OMC. Ce sont les pays développés du Nord qui disposent d'un traitement spécial et différencié. L'auteur de l'ouvrage, Dr El Hadji Abdourahmane Diouf, est directeur du Programme sur les APE et le régionalisme au Centre international pour le commerce et le développement durable (ICTSD) à Genève (Suisse).

www.aps.sn/aps.php?page=articles&id_article=60763

Partenariat économique UE-Afrique de l'Ouest. Un nouveau report envisagé. Le blog ENJEUX. 13 octobre 2009.

La signature de l'Accord de partenariat économique entre l'Ue et l'Afrique de l'Ouest risque d'être reportée à une nouvelle échéance non encore définie par les deux parties du fait des divergences constatées sur un certain nombre de points relatifs à l'offre d'accès au marché, la suppression des prélèvements communautaires de l'Uemoa et de la Cedeao et aux modalités de financement du Programme de développement pour l'Ape (Paped), selon le directeur du commerce extérieur. C'est ce qu'a constaté le directeur du commerce extérieur, Cheikh Saadibou Seck, qui faisait hier le point sur l'évolution des négociations sur les Ape entre l'Afrique de l'Ouest et l'Union européenne, au cours d'un séminaire organisé par le ministère du Commerce, en partenariat avec l'Organisation internationale de la francophonie (Oif) à l'intention des parlementaires sénégalais.

www.enjeux.org/index.php?entry=entry091013-093907

Les régions engagées dans les négociations commerciales internationales devraient “se mettre à niveau” des compétences requises pour défendre au mieux leurs intérêts. UEMOA. Agence de Presse Sénégalaise. 12 octobre 2009.

Joachim Ouédraogo, directeur de cabinet du commissaire chargé du marché régional, du commerce, de la concurrence et de la coopération de l'UEMOA (l'Union économique et monétaire ouest-africaine) a dit dans un séminaire de formation en négociations commerciales internationales. Des experts gouvernementaux de plusieurs pays africains participent à ce séminaire d'une durée de 15 jours. "La conduite des négociations commerciales à des niveaux multiples exige, de manière impérieuse, un renforcement des capacités. La formulation, puis la conclusion, d'un accord commercial et d'investissement requiert des compétences variées en matière de statistique et d'analyse économique, mais aussi en matière juridique", a ajouté Ouédraogo. "Une politique commerciale efficace, a-t-il estimé, est un support nécessaire et essentiel au développement durable, et le commerce international peut être un puissant catalyseur de croissance économique et d'emploi".

www.aps.sn/aps.php?page=articles&id_article=60679

Trade Policy Challenges Facing South Africa. South African Institute of International Affairs. 12 October 2009.

On 12 October 2009, SAIIA hosted South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry, Rob Davies, at a speaker's meeting where he discussed major trade policy challenges facing South Africa. Below, please find the presentation given by the minister, as well as links to some of the media coverage of the event, and some of the work that SAIIA has done relating to issues raised in the presentation. * Download the Minister's Presentation * SAIIA Trade Report 25: South Africa's Current Account Deficit: Are the Proposed Cures Worse than the Disease * Media coverage: Davies says state will not hesitate to use tariffs to shield job-sensitive sectors (Business Day) * Media coverage: Strong rand not competitive – Minister Davies (Engineering News). www.saiia.org.za/

Services sector to benefit from EAC common market. Tralac. 12 October 2009.

A meeting of the multi-sectoral council of the East African Community (EAC) was held in Kampala recently during which a draft common market protocol together with eight annexes was adopted. The draft protocol contains legal provisions on the free movement of persons, removal of restrictions on the free movement of workers, and the right of residence. It proposes mutual recognition of academic and professional qualifications, free movement of capital, trade in services, and safety measures. The protocol spells out liberalisation of trade in services, which will open up one of the fastest growing sectors in the region, which until recently was undeveloped. Developments in recent times have turned the services sector into the fastest growing industry, whose contribution to gross domestic product (GDP) can no longer be ignored. <http://tinyurl.com/yfqoowe>

L'Afrique de l'Ouest et l'Union Européenne ne sont pas prêtes pour signer des Accords de partenariat économique fin octobre. Reussir Magazine. 10 octobre 2009.

Pour la signature des Accords de partenariat économique (Ape), l'Afrique de l'Ouest et l'Union Européenne (Ue) vont vers une autre échéance. Le Directeur du commerce extérieur, Cheikh Saadbouh Seck, a souligné a indiqué, ce vendredi, que les deux parties ne sont pas prêtes pour signer fin octobre.

www.reussirbusiness.com/spip.php?article5744

Un séminaire sur les négociations de l'Ape à l'intention des parlementaires sénégalais. Des parlementaires sceptiques. Sud Quotidien. 10 octobre 2009.

Le Ministère du Commerce, en partenariat avec l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie(Oif), a organisé hier vendredi 9 octobre à Dakar, un séminaire sur les négociations de l'Ape à l'intention des parlementaires. Ce séminaire a permis aux organisateurs de faire la situation sur les Ape mais aussi et surtout, permettre aux

parlementaires sénégalais de s'imprégner de l'évolution des négociations des Ape afin de dégager leur position sur la question. www.sudonline.sn/spip.php?article20735

See also: http://www.lesoleil.sn/article.php3?id_article=51535 and <http://www.senego.com/les-parlementaires-a-lecole-de-la-negociation/>

«La signature de l'Ape est en vue mais... » Directeur du secteur prive de la CEDEAO. Sud Quotidien via africatime.com. 10 octobre 2009.

Un énième report de la signature d'un Accord de partenariat économique liant l'Union européenne et l'Afrique de l'Ouest se précise. Même si la date du 30 octobre prochain a peu de chance d'enregistrer une signature, du côté de la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (Cedeao) on se donne une échéance allant au plus tard à la fin de l'année ou en début 2010. L'Accord de partenariat économique (Ape) entre l'Union européenne et la Communauté économique des États de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (Cedeao) risque de ne sera pas être signé le 30 octobre 2009. Le directeur du secteur privé de la Cedeao Alfred M. Braimah, a confirmé 9 octobre à Dakar à la suite du « séminaire de validation des indicateurs relatifs au Climat des affaires et de sensibilisation sur le processus de certification de la qualité dans l'espace Cedeao ». www.africatime.com/Senegal/nouvelle.asp?no_nouvelle=483887&no_categorie=

See also: http://www.lesoleil.sn/article.php3?id_article=51536

Grynberg back to Pacific trade negotiating team? Whispers, Islands Business. 9 October 2009.

The Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat has finally made an official announcement that Australian Dr Chakriya Bowman will start this month as the new Director for Economic Governance. This is despite it being already a public secret. Ms Bowman replaces Dr Roman Grynberg whose contract was not renewed under controversial circumstances. She held the post of Director and Trade Advisor to AusAID's Pacific Group (2007-2009). She has responsibility for trade policy issues ranging from the WTO and "aid for trade" through to Pacific economic integration, trade agreements and bilateral trade issues. But could we be seeing the re-emergence of the tough talking, no-nonsense Dr Grynberg? Well, WHISPERS has been told there are moves behind the scenes to get him back to the islands by a certain bloc to head their trade negotiations team. Keep tuned for more details.

http://www.islandsbusiness.com/islands_business/index_dynamic/containerNameToReplace=MiddleMiddle/focusModuleID=18876/overrideSkinName=issueArticle-full.tpl

"Il est impossible de signer les APE en l'état". Le ministre du Commerce du Senegal. senegal-business.com. 9 octobre 2009.

Le ministre sénégalais du Commerce, Amadou Niang, a annoncé "l'impossibilité" pour les pays africains, de signer en l'état les Accords de partenariat économique (APE) et prévenu le continent contre "le piège des accords bilatéraux séparés qui risquent de les fragiliser davantage". M. Niang "a fait part au Conseil (des ministres) de l'impossibilité de la signature de l'accord sur les APE initialement prévue en Octobre 2009". "La finalisation de cet accord doit être conditionnée, selon la partie africaine, à la prise en compte du PAPED dans les APE pour en réduire les coûts d'ajustement et favoriser la compétitivité et l'intégration régionale", a rappelé le ministre. L'accord finalisé des APE "doit aussi s'assurer du maintien du prélèvement communautaire de solidarité de l'UEMOA et de la CEDEAO, du consensus autour des clauses de non exécution et de la nation la plus favorisée", a-t-il ajouté.

<http://tinyurl.com/ylzmjj4>

European Commission will not put "undue pressure" on African countries to conclude economic partnership agreements. European Commission declaration. Bilaterals.org. 9 October 2009.

"The Commission continues to seek tailor-made solutions for all countries within a regional EPA in order to secure their duty-free, quota-free access to the EU and provide an improved framework for their economic development. It considers that it is up to the ACP (African, Caribbean and Pacific) partners themselves to decide which type of trade-related rules they want to negotiate at this stage and to what extent." Statement by the European Commission (EC), released on 1 October 2009.

www.bilaterals.org/article.php3?id_article=16046

Comesa Compensates Rwanda for Losses Resulting From East African Community Integration. bilaterals.org. 7 October 2009.

In a move to compensate revenue losses accrued by Rwanda as a result of having a common external tariff after the adoption of the EAC customs union protocol, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa) will disburse a total of 10.3 million (Frw 8.8 billion) through budget support for the fiscal year 2009/10.

www.bilaterals.org/article.php3?id_article=16044

CEDEAO : La nécessité d'une Certification de nos entreprises. [Rewmi.com](http://rewmi.com). 5-9 octobre 2009.

La Commission de la Communauté Economique des Etats de l'Afrique de l'Ouest (CEDEAO) a organisé du 05 au 09 Octobre 2009 à Dakar, un séminaire de validation des indicateurs relatifs au climat des affaires. Une rencontre qui visait surtout la sensibilisation sur le processus de certification de la qualité dans l'espace CEDEAO. Car ce séminaire avait pour objectif de permettre à la sous région de disposer de normes et de standards reconnus, pouvant permettre aux produits de la zone d'avoir un label de qualité. A travers les échanges entre panélistes de vives recommandations ont été émises pour une meilleure compétitivité de nos entreprises.

http://www.rewmi.com/CEDEAO-La-necessite-d-une-Certification-de-nos-entreprises_a19103.html

Do Trading Partners Still Matter for Nigeria's Growth? A Contribution to the Debate on Decoupling and Spillovers. [IMF Working Paper](http://imf.org). 1 October 2009.

This paper by Kingsley Obiora asks should policymakers still be concerned about their trading partners' economic growth? Have developing and emerging market countries decoupled from the US enough to grow despite significant recession in the US? This working paper addresses these questions for Nigeria in the context of the global crisis. The results seem to debunk the "decoupling theory" and suggest there are still significant spillovers from Nigeria's main trading partners, including the US, with trade and commodity price linkages being the dominant transmission channels. Given the sharp fall in both trade financing and commodity prices in aftermath of the crisis, these results provide some explanation to the realisation of adverse second-round effects in Nigeria.

www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.cfm?sk=23328.0

Pacific Economic Survey 2009. [AusAID](http://ausaid.gov.au). October 2009.

The Pacific Economic Survey 2009 is the second of a series of annual reports on the economic performance of Pacific island countries and Timor-Leste. The Pacific Economic Survey 2009 was prepared by AusAID. Survey 2009 was produced in close consultation with regional organisations and specialists, to promote discussion and debate on the regional economic outlook and to focus on ways to reduce poverty and promote development. The theme for this Survey is 'Engaging the World' and it includes chapters on opportunities and innovative policy faced by Pacific island countries in trade and labour mobility; and examine risks and policy responses to the recent fuel and food shocks, and the global economic crisis.

www.ausaid.gov.au/publications/pubout.cfm?ID=8406_1805_1698_743_1462&Type=

Accès au marché et commercialisation de produits agricoles : Valorisation d'initiatives de producteurs. [Inter-réseaux Développement rural](http://inter-reseaux-developpement-rural.org). septembre 2009.

Cette capitalisation d'un Groupe de travail Inter-réseaux invite à dépasser préjugés et simplifications pour aller vers des démarches d'analyse et de construction de solutions à adapter à chaque situation. La première partie du document présente la démarche générale du Groupe de travail. La seconde partie, coeur du document, est composée de 15 fiches présentant chacune un type d'action liée à la commercialisation : des actions individuelles de paysans (bord champ ou dans les marchés de proximité) et des actions collectives menées par des OP, seules ou en liens avec d'autres acteurs de la filière. Chaque fiche présente des principes, exemples, intérêts et limites du type d'action analysé. La dernière partie tire les enseignements du processus d'analyse participative des

initiatives locales. Elle souligne des facteurs d'échec ou de réussite des actions de commercialisation et apporte des éléments de réflexion sur la démarche et les outils.

<http://tinyurl.com/ygxzw6v>

Africa's Challenges in International Trade and Regional Integration: What Role for Europe? South African Institute of International Affairs. May 2009.

Phil Alves, Peter Draper and Nkululeko Khumalo argue that the challenges that Africa faces in trade and regional integration are legion, and well documented. In this brief they attempt to summarise them against the backdrop of Africa's broad development priorities. They then explore the 'demand' and 'supply' sides of Africa's trade problems, noting where and how the European Union may improve its efforts to assist. This is a wide-ranging discussion covering World Trade Organisation negotiating dynamics, official development assistance, trade facilitation, standards, infrastructure and so on. This necessarily limits the amount of detail we can offer on each area, but provides an important mapping of the problems. The last part of the brief contains an assessment of the role of regional integration and Economic Partnership Agreements in bringing about an improvement in Africa's trade and broader economic performance.

www.saiia.org.za/occasional-papers/saiia-occasional-paper-no.32-may-2009.html

Aid for Trade / EPA development support

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

The future of Trans-European Transport Networks. Building bridges between Europe and its neighbours. TEN-T Days. Naples. 21-22 October 2009.

An opportunity to take stock of the implementation of priority projects. The results of the Conference should establish the most realistic approach for completing them and to reflect on the TEN-T policy framework for the future, on the basis of shared experience. The goal will be to provide a first outline of common priorities until 2020. With this in mind, particular emphasis will be placed on coordinating plans to stimulate economic activity at both national and Community level. This will help both to move forward the TEN-T policy review launched at the beginning of 2009 and aiming at a revision of the Trans-European transport network guidelines, and to develop a common approach on the external dimension of Europe's transport networks, looking at links with neighbouring countries and giving special attention to Africa, in order to identify the fundamentals of a strong partnership and how to get there. www.ten-t-days-2009-naples.eu/

Other News

Un séminaire sur les négociations de l'Ape à l'intention des parlementaires sénégalais. Des parlementaires sceptiques. Sud Quotidien. 10 octobre 2009.

Le Ministère du Commerce, en partenariat avec l'Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie(Oif), a organisé hier vendredi 9 octobre à Dakar, un séminaire sur les négociations de l'Ape à l'intention des parlementaires. Ce séminaire a permis aux organisateurs de faire la situation sur les Ape mais aussi et surtout, permettre aux parlementaires sénégalais de s'imprégner de l'évolution des négociations des Ape afin de dégager leur position sur la question. www.sudonline.sn/spip.php?article20735

See also: http://www.lesoleil.sn/article.php3?id_article=51535 and <http://www.senego.com/les-parlementaires-a-lecole-de-la-negociation/>

Review of the European Union's agricultural quality policy. European Forum on Food Quality. EC Agriculture Commissioner speech. 7-8 October 2009.

The Commissioner says good progress is being made. The Green Paper came in October 2008; Commission Communication in May 2009; and key stakeholder representatives in the Advisory Group meet on 9 October 2009. The Commission expects to put legal proposals on the table a year from now. The policy review has a very broad scope. It covers the whole range of quality policy – not just geographical indications, but also marketing standards, certification schemes, and many other things. <http://tinyurl.com/yz6pk7r>

Monitoring EPA implementation

Convocation on the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME). Bridgetown. 9-10 October 2009.

The Convocation brings together stakeholders to receive and consider the Report of an Audit of the implementation of the CARICOM Single Market which came into effect in 2006. The Forum will also chart the way forward with regard to the Single Economy. The Convocation wraps up a series of Community events in Bridgetown that included the Twenty-Eighth Meeting of the Council for Trade and Economic Development (COTED) and a signing ceremony to amend the Contribution Agreement for CARICOM Trade and Competitiveness Programme funded by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). Click here for speeches: http://axses.com/encyc/caricom/nt/press_list.cfm?year=2009
www.caricom.org/jsp/pressreleases/pres383_09.jsp

Caribbean Trade Ministers meeting in Barbados ahead of major review of the Caricom single market. BBC. 9 October 2009.

Caricom Secretary General Edwin Carrington described the meeting as very important as the ministers have before them a detailed assessment of the progress of the four-year-old single market. It was not immediately clear when the audit, which will show which nations have met their commitments, will be released.

www.bbc.co.uk/caribbean/news/story/2009/10/091008_niboct8pm.shtml

General economic and trade issues

EU trade policy and raw materials. European Commission discussion paper. 15 October 2009.

trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/145096.htm

WTO Banana Deal Reportedly Closer. WTO Agricultural Negotiations Chair Consults on Market Access. Bridges Weekly. ICTSD. 14 October 2009.

Agriculture negotiators in Geneva met in small group consultations convened by the chair of the farm trade talks, Ambassador David Walker of New Zealand, amid reports of gradual convergence on the controversial issue of bananas. consultations are focusing this week on a set of market access issues, several of which were inter-

related. These include the conditions under which members might be allowed to establish new tariff quotas (tariff quota creation); rules on the 'sensitive' products that importers would be allowed to shield from tariff cuts in exchange for expanded market access through quotas; tariff simplification; and tariff caps. The meetings followed discussions last week on domestic support, which focused on production-limiting blue box payments and on cotton. ictsd.net/i/news/bridgesweekly/56765/

Africa-wide Civil Society Preparatory Meeting for 7th WTO Ministerial Conference. Statement of positions and demands. Africa Trade Network. 1-3 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/yh2cfeb>

The effects of the global financial and economic crisis on developing countries and on development cooperation. European Parliament resolution. 8 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/ylysp8l>

European Parliament resolution on the Pittsburgh G-20 Summit.. 8 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/yld3bh6>

What can the World Trade Organization contribute toward addressing global hunger? IATP. Podcast. 7 October 2009.

IATP asked four experts from the Philippines, France, India and the U.S. at last week's WTO Public Forum in Geneva. There was the usual argument about whether trade liberalization helps or hinders food security, but there were other important points of consensus: * Despite high-level calls and declarations to address the food crisis last year, nothing has been delivered to improve the coherence of global governance on food and agriculture: a major failure of the post-food crisis response. * The WTO is still unable to take into account rural development and food security concerns in its treatment of agriculture. Instead, it consistently reinforces an unsustainable model, characterized in particular by market concentration. * The IAASTD report, a global assessment of agriculture at the turn of the 21st century, provides recommendations for the way forward on agriculture which WTO members should take on board to put the multilateral trading system back on track.

iatp.typepad.com/thinkforward/2009/10/another-take-on-wto-and-food-stuff.html

Setting-up and definition of the powers, composition and term of office of a special committee on the financial, economic and social crisis. European Parliament decision. 7 October 2009.

<http://tinyurl.com/ykfzeqa>

Do Trading Partners Still Matter for Nigeria's Growth? A Contribution to the Debate on Decoupling and Spillovers. IMF Working Paper. 1 October 2009.

This paper by Kingsley Obiora asks should policymakers still be concerned about their trading partners' economic growth? Have developing and emerging market countries decoupled from the US enough to grow despite significant recession in the US? This working paper addresses these questions for Nigeria in the context of the global crisis. The results seem to debunk the "decoupling theory" and suggest there are still significant spillovers from Nigeria's main trading partners, including the US, with trade and commodity price linkages being the dominant transmission channels. Given the sharp fall in both trade financing and commodity prices in aftermath of the crisis, these results provide some explanation to the realisation of adverse second-round effects in Nigeria.

www.imf.org/external/pubs/cat/longres.cfm?sk=23328.0

Agricultural Subsidies in the WTO Green Box: Ensuring Coherence with Sustainable Development Goals. The International Centre for Trade and Sustainable Development (ICTSD). October 2009.

Current WTO requirements set no ceiling on the amount of green box subsidies that governments can provide, on the basis that these payments cause only minimal trade distortion. Governments are thus increasingly shifting their subsidy spending into this category, as they come under pressure to reduce subsidies that are more directly linked to production. However, evidence suggests that green box payments can affect production and trade, harm farmers in developing countries and cause environmental damage. This information note summarises some of the findings of the forthcoming ICTSD book. ictsd.net/i/publications/56284/

Globalization and Informal jobs in Developing Countries. A joint study from the International Labour Organization and the WTO. October 2009.

The study finds that high incidence of informal employment in the developing world suppresses countries' ability to benefit from trade opening by creating poverty traps for workers in job transition. It focuses on the linkages between globalization and informal employment and finds that informal employment is widespread in many developing countries, leaving thousands of workers with almost no job security, low incomes and no social protection. "The study confirms what we know from experience, that by promoting complementarity between decent work objectives and trade, financial and labour market policies, developing countries are much better placed to benefit from trade opening, advance the social dimension of globalization, and to cope with the current crisis" said ILO Director-General Juan Somavia.

http://www.ilo.org/global/What_we_do/Publications/Newreleases/lang--en/docName--WCMS_115087/index.htm

EU-China trade relations. EC DG Trade Market Access Newsletter. 30 September 2009.

trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/145093.htm

Creative Economy E-news. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development. September 2009.

The international community, governments, the private sector and civil society are joining forces to find practical solutions to foster the development of the creative economy worldwide. For the majority of developing countries the starting point is to strengthen creative capacities and their supply capabilities to meet the growing demand for creative goods and services in domestic and international markets. A number of activities are taking place in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America to promote stronger links between artists, professionals, corporations, policymakers and donors.

www.unctad.org/Templates/Download.asp?docid=12300&lang=1&intItemID=4577

WTO Rules and Food Crisis in the Least Developed Countries. Centre for Socio-Eco-Nomic Development. Presentations and reports. 17 July 2009.

CSEND has organized an international conference on the Food Crisis together with the group of the Least Developed Country members of the WTO. The title of the conference was "WTO Rules and Food Crisis in the Least Developed Countries". The conference took place on 17th July at the Geneva Centre for Security Policy in Geneva. The working programme including presentations and related documents are available here.

www.csend.org/KnowledgeConferences.aspx?id=38

Climate and Trade Policies in a Post-2012 World. United Nations Environment Programme. 2009.

This publication, a joint effort by UNEP and the ADAM project ("Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies: Supporting European Climate Policy"), provides a collection of short, forward-thinking articles by leading experts on the relationship between trade and climate change policies. The authors closely examine a number of timely trade and climate change issues, including the potential use of climate-related border adjustment measures and liberalising trade in climate-friendly technologies. <http://tinyurl.com/ykmdqly>

Governance

ACP governance initiatives

Governance and development partners

EU-Africa governance dialogue

Civil society

Upcoming Events

(For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Third ACP Civil Society Forum. 9-10 November 2009

The objective of the meeting is to execute the coordination of the Plan of Action.

Other News

Financial constraints force Euforic to scale down operations. euforic blog. 9 October 2009.

euforic.blogspot.com/2009/10/financial-constraints-force-euforic-to.html

Decentralisation and local governance

Enter the universe of twinning! Council of European Municipalities and Regions website.

Twinning has been part of Europe's life since the early 1950's, bringing people together across frontiers. It continues to grow and evolve, yet it can still be difficult to find enough reliable, up-to-date information on twinning in one single place. This is why the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) has created this website. It has a dual purpose: to provide you with a well of information on twinning, and to help you find a twinning partner. <http://www.twinning.org/>

Knowledge Management and Communication

Capacity development

Upcoming Events

For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

Technical Cooperation Training. Brussels. 18-19 November 2009.

This two day course will present the key elements of the Guidelines for Making TC More Effective, and link this to cases that participants are working with. Registration for the course is through the SYSLOG for EC staff, but the course is also open for a limited number of participants from the outside. Please contact

Laura.mascagna@ec.europa.eu See: capacity4dev.ec.europa.eu/event/tc-training-brussels

Other News

What does country leadership mean in practice in the context of the design and implementation of technical cooperation support? What is your experience on the ground? Can you give us concrete examples on good or bad practices? CAPACITY4DEV. 12 October ...

What does country leadership mean in practice in the context of the design and implementation of technical cooperation support? What is your experience on the ground? Can you give us concrete examples on good or bad practices? <http://tinyurl.com/ylzek9l>

Knowledge management

Research for development

Upcoming Events

For a compilation of all events, see ECDPM's Event calendar at: www.ecdpm.org/news)

First International Conference on Building Research Capacity in Africa. Bamako. EuroAfriCa-ICT News. 9-11 November 2009.

The UNESCO Bamako Cluster Office in collaboration with the Government of Mali, the International Telecommunications Union, the Global University Network for Innovations (GUNI), the National Universities Commission (NUC) of Nigeria, the Association of African Universities, the Association for the Development of Education in Africa (ADEA) Working Group on Higher Education is very pleased to announce its 1st International Conference on Building Research Capacity in Africa ("Promoting Research in African Universities through Regional and International Research and Knowledge Networks and the Use of ICTs") to be held in Bamako, Mali on Nov. 9-11, 2009. www.euroafrica-ict.org/news.php

Monitoring, evaluation and learning in international cooperation

Communication for development

The inaugural African Bloggers Conference dubbed 'Kelele' (Kiswahili for Noise) has been postponed to mid 2010.

The organizing committee of the KELELE Bloggers Conference would like to apologise for this the 2nd postponement of the African Bloggers Conference—KELELE—which was due to take place from 29th October to 1st November 2009 in Nairobi, Kenya. kelele.org/2009/10/kelele-update/

\$215 Million Central Africa Backbone Program Will Bring Low Cost, High Speed Internet to the Region. World Bank. 6 October 2009.

web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/NEWS/0,,contentMDK:22340869~pagePK:64257043~pi...

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