



4th EU-AFRICA SUMMIT CONCLUSIONS

4th EU Africa Summit 2014

On 2-3 April 2014, the 4th EU-Africa Summit gathered more than 60 EU and African leaders to discuss the future of EU-African relations and strengthen the already existing ties.

Summary of Outcomes

- The theme of the Summit was 'Investing in People, Prosperity and Peace'.
- Peace and Security: leaders recognised the importance of peace and security for development and agreed to support African capabilities and jointly combat international terrorism.
- Prosperity: leaders focused on responsible management of natural resources and pledged to support job creation and long-term growth on both continents, while encouraging greater investment and economic development within and between both continents.
- People: leaders confirmed a joint commitment to continuing efforts towards reaching the Millennium Development Goals by 2015 and recognised the importance of upholding human rights.
- Commitment to the objectives set out in the 2007 Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) was confirmed, but a need for improvement and a results-oriented approach was recognised. The JAES will remain the main strategic political reference for EU-Africa relations. The EU-Africa dialogue will be complemented by regular high level contacts between European and African leaders on common challenges and crises.
- A roadmap to frame EU-Africa relations for 2014-2017 was adopted, covering 5 areas for joint action: peace and security; democracy, good governance and human rights; human development; sustainable and inclusive development and growth and continental integration; and global and emerging issues.
- Agreed actions will be assessed in joint annual forums which will replace the current Joint Task Force.

Analysis

- The general attitude of the Summit revealed a willingness to transform the donor-recipient relationship between the EU and Africa into one of partnership based on equality.
- The Summit Declaration stated the need to change the EU-Africa cooperation approach from aid to trade and investment ‘as agents of growth, jobs and poverty reduction’. The EU nevertheless committed to maintain the level of its development assistance including aid for trade.
- The EU pledged to support the AU’s decision to speed up the establishment of a Continental Free Trade Area in Africa and to encourage intra-African trade and African integration through signing EPAs.

Outcomes for EU-African Cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation

- The 4th EU-Africa Summit agreed to develop a long-term, jointly funded and managed research and innovation partnership.
- For this purpose, the EU-Africa High Level Policy Dialogue (HLPD) on science, technology and innovation was designated as the main platform in the JAES for priority-setting and implementation design. A HLPD expert working group will be set up to develop a detailed roadmap defining the scope and outlining the different steps to be taken towards this new partnership. Financing will come from the European Research and Innovation Programme, Horizon 2020, and other contributions from EU and African stakeholders.

Upcoming Events

- US-Africa Summit, Washington D.C., 5-6 August
- ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly-Bureau, 24-25 September

Bibliography:

<http://www.european-council.europa.eu/eu-africa-summit-2014>

<http://www.dw.de/eu-africa-summit-big-issue-is-trade/a-17537900>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-26841740>

For Further Reading:

Fourth EU-Africa Summit Declaration:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/142096.pdf

Fourth EU-Africa Summit Roadmap 2014-2017:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/142094.pdf