



**10th Joint Committee Mexico – European Union
Mexico City, 27 - 28 October 2010**

1. The Tenth meeting of the Joint Committee, mechanism established under the México-European Union (EU) Economic Partnership, Political Coordination and Cooperation agreement –Global Agreement–, was held in Mexico City, on 27-28 October 2010.
2. The Mexican Delegation was headed by Mr. Rogelio Granguillhome Morfin, Head of the Unit of Economic Relations and International Cooperation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, while the European Delegation, acting on behalf of Lady Catherine Ashton, High Representative and Vice-President of the European Commission, was headed by Mr. Gustavo Martin Prada, Director for Latin America at the European Commission (DG RELEX) and Mr. Koenraad Rouvroy, Ambassador, COLAT Chair Kingdom of Belgium.
3. Noting that the present year marks the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mexico and the European Union, as well as the 10th anniversary of the entry into force of the Global Agreement, both Parties reaffirmed their commitment to deepen the political dialogue, with the aim of further expanding their bilateral relationship and cooperation. They agreed that the institutional mechanisms in force have allowed a fluid and open exchange of views on major issues of the international agenda, allowing for greater cooperation in multilateral fora.
4. Both parties expressed the high value they attach to the Joint Executive Plan of the Strategic Partnership, adopted in the framework of the V Mexico – European Union Summit, held in Comillas, Spain, on May 16, 2010, which laid the groundwork to jointly work on a number of bilateral projects of cooperation and to strengthen dialogue and coordination in multilateral fora.
5. Mexico and the European Union reaffirmed their intention to establish a Macroeconomic Dialogue as soon as possible. They also reaffirmed their commitment to maintain and strengthen their bilateral dialogue on macroeconomic matters, to exchange views, enhance mutual understanding and promote coordination in the various fora that address the economic and financial issues of global importance. In particular, they recognized the Group of 20 as the premier forum for our international economic cooperation, and expressed their interest that the upcoming G20 Summit, to be held in Korea in November, contributes to promote a stronger and long-term recovery of the world global economy and to build global financial governance more inclusive and democratic in order that developing countries may have an adequate voice and representation in international financial organizations.

6. The Delegations welcome the agreement reached at the G-20 meeting of Finance ministers and Central Bank Governors in Korea on an ambitious set of proposals to reform the IMF's quota and governance that will help deliver a more effective credible and legitimate IMF and enable the IMF to play its role in supporting the operation of the international monetary and financial system.
7. The Delegations reviewed the progress made to clarify the projects and initiatives of cooperation under the Joint Executive Plan. In particular, they referred to the increased coordination in multilateral fora, through a series of consultation meetings that have been held between the delegations of Mexico and the European Union prior to multilateral events related to the environment and climate change, as the Consultative Group of Ministers and High Level Representatives on Environmental Governance, held in July 2010 in Nairobi, Kenya, the 10th Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity to be held from 18 to 29 October 2010 in Nagoya, Japan, the 16th Conference of the Parties of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 6th Conference of the Parties of the Kyoto Protocol to be held from 29 November to 10 December 2010, in Cancun, Mexico.
8. In the security field, Mexico and the EU agreed to boost joint efforts towards the rapid establishment of a Sectoral Dialogue in the field of Security and Law Enforcement, with the aim to strengthen the exchange of information, promote training and exchange of experiences in the field of public security and law enforcement. In this context, they confirmed their agreement on a visit to Mexico of a mission of European experts, to take place during November. Both Parties agreed also to explore the possibility of a triangular cooperation with Central America in this sector.
9. The Delegations stressed the importance of continuing to promote statistical cooperation activities, referred to in the Joint Executive Plan, developed between the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI) and the Statistical Office of the European Commission (EUROSTAT) under the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding signed between both Institutions in June 2009.
10. The Parties welcomed the plans for nuclear safety cooperation between Mexico and the European Commission, which could materialize in concrete projects in the near future, contributing to further improvement of nuclear safety in the country.
11. The Parties also held an exchange of views on regional development policy and agreed to continue discussions with a view to establishing a Sectoral Dialogue on regional policy.
12. Both Parties expressed satisfaction about the holding of the Second Meeting of the Mexico-EU High-Level Dialogue on Environment and Climate Change. These dialogues represented an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences and identify joint activities in the area of Green, Low Carbon and sustainable Economy and Climate Change.
13. Mexico and the European Union reiterated their interest in further strengthening their activities on key issues, particularly financial mechanisms, environmentally sound technologies, reduction of emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, as well as

carbon markets, including the implementation of the EU Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS), and the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM).

14. The EU side expressed support to Mexico as Chair-in-Office of the GFMD 2010 with regards to the preparations for and follow-up to the Global Forum meeting, dedicated to the theme of Partnerships for migration and human development. Both sides reiterated their wish for a balanced approach of the chosen theme, emphasizing both opportunities and challenges that the phenomenon of migration brings along.
15. The Parties will continue working together to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control initiatives in the framework of the United Nations Organization. To this end, the Diplomatic Missions of both Parties in New York, Geneva, Vienna and The Hague, may meet prior to the start of the meetings of the organization concerned, in order to exchange views and agreeing on possible common positions.
16. Both Delegations noted that transnational organized crime affects the well being of all countries and their populations, and agreed on the need to ensure a coordinated response by the international community to address this phenomenon.
17. Mexico and the European Union welcomed the results of the Fifth Conference of States Parties of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (Vienna, 18-22 October 2010), particularly the creation of a working group aimed at developing terms of reference on the mechanism for monitoring the implementation of the said international instrument.
18. Mexico and the EU recognized the importance of the bi-regional relationship and the solid historical and cultural ties that unite them. In this regard, they pledged to deepen bi-regional cooperation and dialogue, in the framework of the Latin America and the Caribbean – European Union Summit (EU-LAC), and implement the commitments reached at the VI EU-LAC Summit, held in Madrid, Spain, on 18 May 2010.
19. The Parties expressed their support to the establishment of the European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean Foundation (EU-LAC) and expressed their firm belief that the new Foundation will contribute to strengthening bi-regional partnership, to mutual understanding and to the visibility of each region in the other one.
20. Both Sides stressed the importance of the Rio Group – EU dialogue and the establishment of the Community of Latin American and the Caribbean States, which, once the process is completed, would be consolidated as the counterpart of the EU in a partnership of global players.
21. The Parties reiterated their will to continue the dialogue on social cohesion in the framework of the 2007-2013 Cooperation Programme. They expressed their satisfaction for the seminars of Sectoral Policy on public health, fiscal administration and social security held in Mexico City, in January, March, April and August 2010. These dialogues represented an excellent opportunity to exchange experiences between Mexico and the European Union and address together the challenges we are currently facing.

22. Both Parties will encourage the staging of the final stages of negotiation of the Mexico-European Union Integrated Program on Social Cohesion ("Mexico-European Union Social Cohesion Laboratory"), whose objective is to strengthen social cohesion in Mexico through better access and improved quality of basic services and public programs in the social sector. The Mexican institutions that will participate in the project are: the Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL) and the Government of the State of Chiapas, as well as four institutions involved in cross-cutting issues (the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples (CDI), the National Women's Institute (INMUJERES), the Federal Institute for Access to Public Information (IFAI) and the National Council to Prevent Discrimination (CONAPRED). For the implementation of this project it is considered a total of 20 million Euros to be provided by Mexico and the European Commission in equal parts. A second part of this cooperation program is scheduled in 2011. For the implementation of this project is considered a total of 22 million Euros to be provided by Mexico and the European Commission in equal parts.
23. The Parties expressed their satisfaction for the establishment of the framework for deepening the dialogue on human rights based on the principles of reciprocity and cooperation, which includes a bilateral component and another multilateral. This framework dialogue has been included in the Joint Executive Plan of the Strategic Partnership Mexico – European Union. The first meeting of the multilateral dialogue took place in Geneva, Switzerland, on March 12, 2010, in the context of the 13th session of the United Nations Human Rights Council. In this context a consultation was held in New York on co-operation in the Third Committee of the UN General Assembly (on social, cultural and humanitarian affairs), held on 30th September. Also, the first meeting of the bilateral dialogue was held on May 12, 2010 in Mexico City. The Parties agreed on the possible organization of a human rights civil society seminar to exchange views before the next session of the human rights dialogue.
24. In this context, following the agreements raised from the V Mexico – European Union Summit, both Parties reaffirmed their interest in strengthening and updating the existing EU/Mexico programme of cooperation in the field of Human Rights.
25. The Delegations expressed their satisfaction regarding the ongoing EU-Mexico Science & Technology cooperation, and noted that new opportunities and synergies had been created under the 7th EU Framework Programme for Research & Technological Development 2007-2013 (FP7). The European side appreciated the very successful fourth Steering Committee of the EU-Mexico Science and Technology Agreement that took place in Brussels on 23rd September 2010. At this occasion, the conclusions of the review of the EU-Mexico S&T cooperation in the context of the preparation of the renewal of the S&T Cooperation Agreement between the EU and the United Mexican States ("EU-Mexico S&T Agreement") were presented. Both parties expressed their satisfaction of the renewal of the EU-Mexico S&T Cooperation Agreement for another 5-year period and for the positive results of the International Cooperation Fund for the Promotion of Scientific and Technological Research between Mexico and the European Union (FONCICYT), which supports joint research projects and the development of research networks. Both Parties

expressed their commitment to continue fostering our S&T cooperation and the common interest in broadening and deepening our cooperation in areas of mutual interest.

26. Both Parties welcome excellent cooperation under the Erasmus Mundus and Marie Curie programmes and highlighted the positive results of the specific Erasmus Mundus external cooperation window for Mexico that has allowed enhancing cooperation between Mexican and European universities through staff and student mobility. For the implementation of this project a total of 4 million Euros were provided by the European Commission. They expressed their willingness to further strengthen academic cooperation and mobility; improve the quality of higher education and promote a better integration of graduates into the labour market. They will continue to jointly discuss issues such as quality assurance, recognition of study periods, titles and degrees and joint programmes to facilitate academic cooperation and mobility.
27. To that end the Parties will launch the Sectoral Policy Dialogue through a First Senior Officials' Meeting on Higher Education that will take place in Mexico City, on 23 November 2010, considering the recommendations of the first EU-Mexico higher education conference held in Antwerp on 20-22 September 2010. Discussions will be focused on mobility, recognition of study periods abroad, quality assurance and joint programmes as well as the Bologna Process.
28. A joint Programme on Strategic Cooperation in Higher Education is programmed in 2011.
29. Parties will also continue to discuss youth participation and non formal and informal learning opportunities for young people, as a follow up to the Youth World Conference held in Mexico in August 2010.
30. Both Parties expressed their commitment to continue fostering cultural diversity, specifically the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions of UNESCO; the development of cultural industries in Mexico and the EU; the policy guidelines aimed at encouraging creativity in Mexico and the EU, and intercultural dialogue between the Parties.
31. The Parties expressed their support in carrying out a first Senior official's Meeting on Culture, in Mexico City, on November 24, in order to launch the Sectoral Policy Dialogue on Culture during the second quarter of 2011, which will address the issue of cultural industries, specifically the publishing industries, and will explore possible joint activities to be organized on this topic in 2011.
32. The Delegations agreed on the importance of continuing promoting joint activities under the "Mexico-EU Joint Cultural Fund" that is currently in its second phase of implementation and will support Mexican and European efforts to disseminate, promote and enhance the cultural development and diversity between the Parties.
33. The Cultural Fund Mexico-UE will amount € 5.600.000, of which the Mexican government will contribute with 50% and the EU the other 50%. The implementation of the Cultural Fund will be under the responsibility of the National Council for Culture and the Arts,

through the National Fund for Culture and the Arts, which will issue at an early date the call for proposals.

34. Both Parties have also greeted with satisfaction the announcement by the European Commission of the launching in late October 2010 of a special action for Mexico 2011-13 under the EU Culture Programme, providing financing for bilateral cultural cooperation. The budget will be of at least € 1.600.000. The aim of this activity is to support cultural projects, involving both Mexican and European cultural operators, and taking place equally in Europe and Mexico. It is more specifically meant to ensure the continuation and sustainability of cultural activities of common interest developed in the context of the 2010 official celebrations in Mexico and Europe (centenary of the Mexican Revolution and Bicentenary of Mexican Independence).
35. Relevant information on the EU Initiative Latin America Investment Facility LAIF was provided. Such new instrument may reveal useful in the context of the Mexican Mesoamerican Project, particularly regarding investment procurement for works in the transportation, energy, communications and commercial facilitation sectors.
36. Mexico and the EU will continue to discuss the potential for triangular cooperation in Africa as mentioned in the Joint Executive Plan.
37. With regard to the session on Trade and Trade related Issues, works were led, on the Mexican Party, by Eduardo Ramos, Head of Unit for the Coordination of International Negotiations of the Ministry of Economy and, on the European Union Party, by Matthias Jorgensen, deputy Head of Unit for relations with Latin America of the Directorate-General for Trade of the European Commission.
38. Both delegations welcomed the tenth anniversary of the Free Trade Agreement between Mexico and the European Union (FTA) and, on this basis, held an evaluation of the results over ten years after its entry into force on July 1, 2000. In relation to bilateral trade exchange, to December 2009, trade grew 122 percent with respect to 1999, the year prior to entry into force of the FTA, with a total trade of more than 29 billion euros (41 billion dollars). In 2010, the dynamics of the trade flows show a trend to the recovery after the international crisis, underlying the potential of the bilateral economic relation.
39. The Parties reviewed the processes of negotiation with third countries that are taking place, as well as those recently completed, in particular with countries and regions of Latin America.
40. At the multilateral level, the parties reiterated their full support to reach, as soon as possible, a balanced and ambitious Doha Round under the World Trade Organization (WTO). They also stressed their opposition to all forms of protectionism, in line with the Toronto Declaration of the G20.
41. Both Parties took note of the issues addressed in the special committees under the FTA framework and instructed the technical experts to advance in pending specific cases. The Parties agreed on maintaining a dialogue on the problems that have affected the economic operators in relation to the payment of taxes through custom brokers, with the aim to find

a satisfactory solution for all the parties involved as soon as possible, in conformity with the Mexican legislation.

42. As regards sanitary and phyto-sanitary issues, Mexico and the European Union confirmed their determination to establish and implement transparent sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, such as those agreed in the corresponding Special Committee, with the aim to facilitate the trade between the Parties of goods subject to sanitary and phyto-sanitary requirements.
43. In the context of the Special Committee on Standards and Technical Regulations, the Parties expressed their support to all trade-facilitating measures, and marked their openness to proceed in line with the provisions of the EU-Mexico Free Trade Agreement and the Agreement on Technical Barriers to Trade of the World Trade Organisation on issues of equivalence of technical standards. In particular, the Parties agreed on exploring areas in which it could be possible to recognise as equivalent the standards and the conformity assessment procedures of the other Party, among other things, for electrical and electronic products, with a view to maintaining the parity in the technical conditions for market access and to continue the dialogue in order to identify actions to deepen the regulatory cooperation in sectors of interest.
44. Mexico and the European Union agreed on the common interest for deepening the mutual trade liberalization through the provisions of the review clauses of the EU-Mexico Free Trade Agreement on agriculture, trade in services and investment. The Parties took note of the results of the negotiation processes carried out in 2010, and confirmed the importance to reach ambitious results in conformity with the interests of each Party.
45. In the field of sustainable, low carbon economy and competitiveness, both sides expressed satisfaction with the activities conducted under the trade pillar of the Global Agreement. In particular, they stressed the importance of having extended the term of the Facilitation Project of the Mexico - European Union FTA Project (PROTLCUEM), which began operations in October 2006 and will end, thanks to Addendum 2, in 2011. The Parties also informed on the progress towards the definition of the conditions for the implementation of the Competitiveness and Innovation Programme, which intends to increase the competitiveness of the Mexican Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) through the incorporation of technologies and skills needed with the aim of facilitating their access to the EU market. The Mexican institution that implements the counterpart of the Programme is ProMéxico.
46. The Fourth Forum of Dialogue between Civil Society and Government Institutions of Mexico and the European Union, took place on 25 and 26 October 2010 in Mexico City. The Mexican institutions reiterated their willingness to continue working closely and to coordinate with their European counterparts in order to achieve greater and a more active participation of both parties in the Fifth Forum. The Joint Committee took note of the conclusions derived from the Fourth Forum of Dialogue.
47. It was agreed that the next meeting of the Joint Committee will be held in Brussels, in the second semester of 2011.