



SHAPING OUR COMMON FUTURE

Latin America and the Caribbean – European Union
Strategic Partnership



Council of the
European Union



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or contact the Public Information Service of the General Secretariat of the Council:

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175

1048 Bruxelles/Brussel

BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Tel. +32 (0)2 281 56 50

Fax +32 (0)2 281 49 77

public.info@consilium.europa.eu

www.consilium.europa.eu/infopublic

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FOREWORD BY DONALD TUSK, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL



The EU–CELAC Summit brought together 61 EU and Latin American and Caribbean leaders, including more than 40 Heads of State or Government, to discuss the future of the EU–CELAC partnership and to reinvigorate the relationship between the two regions. This was the second EU–CELAC Summit, but the eighth time that the two regions have met at the highest level since the launch of our strategic association in Rio de Janeiro in 1999.

Many things have changed since then. Democracies have consolidated, economies have grown, regional integration has expanded and poverty rates have declined. Our relationship is also evolving along with these changes.

These Summits are shorthand for what the EU and CELAC stand for in the world: regional integration, international cooperation and multilateralism. We share objectives such as peaceful relations, respect for the rule of law, sustainable development, social cohesion and the fight against climate change. Under the Summit theme ‘Shaping our common future: working for prosperous, cohesive and sustainable societies for our citizens’, we discussed the best ways to achieve these objectives through enhanced cooperation.

Both regions have agreed to intensify our collaboration around three pillars: more political dialogue, deeper economic ties and sharper focus to our cooperation. We adopted two declarations, a political declaration titled ‘A partnership for the next generation’ and a longer one, the ‘Brussels Declaration’, covering the many strands of the relationship. Additionally, an updated and expanded Action Plan, including two new chapters on Higher Education and Citizen Security, was agreed. We have

decided that from now on, the EU–CELAC Foreign Ministers will meet in between Summits to ensure a swift follow-up of the decisions made at Summits and to have an additional moment of political dialogue between our two regions.

Together, we are building a partnership of equals, based on mutual benefit and mutual respect. Most importantly, we are making use of our important legacy and achievements to turn this relationship into a partnership for the next generation.

FOREWORD BY JEAN-CLAUDE JUNCKER, PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION



I am very pleased with the results obtained at this EU–CELAC Summit through discussions with our Latin American and Caribbean partners. Latin America and the Caribbean is an area of stability in the world, a success story which has lifted 70 million people out of poverty in the last decade.

This EU–CELAC Summit has contributed to the deepening of our bi-regional ties. Our economies are already very much connected.

Trade agreements have been concluded with 26 countries out of the 33 in the region, which makes this the region the EU has the most trade agreements with. Latin America is also the area where, apart from North America, the EU has the most investment. With over half a trillion in investments, we have invested more in this region than we have in Russia, China and India together. The EU has always supported CELAC and will continue to do so, for this reason the European Commission announced over EUR 800 million in support to the region during the Summit. In total, EUR 230 million will go to support the efforts towards the sustainable development of Latin America and the Caribbean; EUR 346 million is allocated to a new regional funding programme with the Caribbean region up to 2020; the EU will contribute EUR 118 million for strategic investment projects; EUR 81.5 million will go to finance capacity building projects linking European and Latin American higher education institutions and around EUR 25 million will go to a new fibre-optic cable connecting Europe and Latin America.

During the EU–CELAC Summit concrete steps were also taken towards a new type and focus of cooperation. A lot has changed in the last decade. Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean which used to be recipients of development cooperation are now donors and are playing a more prominent role in international relations. The way we cooperate must evolve also. New opportunities for South-South cooperation are opening up and the Commission will set up an international cooperation facility aimed precisely at triangular cooperation. The funds we have allocated to cooperation for the next period will remain unchanged and amount to almost EUR 2.5 billion for Latin America to support programmes in the areas of education, information

society, environment and support to SMEs. An additional billion will be allocated to the Caribbean countries which have particular needs linked to their vulnerability to climate change.

Additionally, we coincided on the need to partner more on global issues. With almost one third of the UN membership, our two regions have the possibility to shape many global issues of interest to us and the rest of the world. We had a thorough discussion on climate change in view of the 21st Conference of the Parties (COP21) scheduled for next December in Paris. We all agree on the need for an ambitious agreement. Peru has put us on track for this, and in Paris we need to deliver. The post-2015 development agenda, migration and the fight against illicit drugs are three additional examples of the issues we discussed and where our joint action can make a difference.

FOREWORD BY RAFAEL CORREA DELGADO, PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF CELAC



We people of Latin America and the Caribbean must learn from Europe. After two terrible world wars and endless enmity, the political will to union prevailed, and today, in spite of differences in history, language, culture and political systems, Europe has a wonderful union of 28 countries. The 'Patria Grande' - as we refer to Latin America united - is needed urgently too. Europeans may have to explain to their children why they united, but we will have to explain to ours why we left it so long.

In the coming years, CELAC will focus on five main objectives:

First, Reducing Extreme Poverty and Inequality: 68 million Latin American and Caribbean people live in destitution or extreme poverty. Eradicating poverty is a moral imperative for our region and for the planet as a whole, because - for the first time in humanity's history - that poverty is not the result of a lack of resources, but rather stems from the injustice that the few have everything whilst the many have nothing.

The second objective CELAC will focus on is Education, Science, Technology and Innovation. We firmly believe in the transformational power of science and technology. Currently, our region invests 0.78 % of GDP in research and development. We must double this investment over the next five years, to increase it to at least 1.5 % of GDP by 2020. Given the present stage of development Latin American and Caribbean countries, the kind of cooperation we need is no longer at the level of little schools and local roads, but of developing human talent, and of science and technology transfer.

The third objective is Environment and Climate Change. Previously, underdeveloped countries produced raw materials and developed countries produced industrial goods with high added value: this classic division of labour has probably become obsolete. Now, developed countries generate knowledge, which they then own, whilst our countries generate environmental goods, freely accessible and consumable. Whilst

the big polluters do not ratify Kyoto, in our countries failure to pay royalties for the use of patented products means prison. The Caribbean island states are particularly exposed to the negative effects of global warming: they urgently need resources to enable them to adapt in the face of extreme weather events. Finally, it is essential to declare climate change mitigation technologies global public goods and ensure that they are freely accessible.

The fourth objective is Financing for Development, Infrastructure and Connectivity. The United Nations' Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) estimates that the region requires investment of 6.2 % of GDP, equivalent to almost USD 320 billion per year, until 2020. In the last decade, however, such investment has amounted to only 2.7 % of GDP, less than half the amount.

The fifth objective is Developing and Enhancing our Synergy. The countries either side of the Atlantic defend the same principles: we believe in the primacy of international law, democracy, and the self-determination of peoples. We support human rights and the State's role as their guarantor; we focus our efforts on ensuring sustainable human development.

May the hands of our nations' citizens, on both sides of the Atlantic, help to build a better world.

POLITICAL DECLARATION

'A PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NEXT GENERATION'

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the European Union (EU) and of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, on the occasion of the second EU–CELAC Summit, decide to deepen our long-standing strategic bi-regional partnership based on historical, cultural and human ties, international law, full respect for human rights, common values, and mutual interests.
2. We salute our long standing bi-regional strategic partnership and reaffirm its principles, which remain as valid today as they were 16 years ago, when we held our foundational European Union–Latin America and Caribbean Summit, in Rio de Janeiro. We reiterate our commitment to its Declaration and subsequent bi-regional Declarations.
3. We reaffirm our commitment to all the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. We reaffirm our decision to support all efforts to uphold sovereign equality of all States, to respect their territorial integrity and political independence, to uphold the resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with justice and international law. In our international relations, we undertake to refrain from any conduct that might contravene these principles and to refrain from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations. In this context, with reference to UNGA Resolution A/RES69/5, we recall our opposition to unilateral measures with an extra-territorial effect.
4. We highlight the further progress on European and Latin American and Caribbean cooperation, and welcome the European integration and the CELAC consolidation, noting that CELAC has declared Latin America and the Caribbean as a Zone of Peace. We see these regional integration processes, political dialogue, cooperation, solidarity, complementarity and the development of national and regional capacities, including open regionalism, for those countries which are interested in its implementation, as fundamental pillars of multilateralism and of a more democratic and inclusive rules based world governance.
5. We commit to work, within the framework of our strategic bi-regional association, in an inclusive manner and on equal terms for both regions, on the issues covered by the EU–CELAC Brussels Declaration 'Shaping our common future: working together for prosperous, cohesive and sustainable societies

for our citizens' and its Action Plan, as well as, and as applicable, on the major international conferences, summits and special sessions on issues of worldwide concern, including particularly the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and the post-2015 development agenda to deliver an outcome combining poverty eradication, and sustainable development; the 21st Session of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC (COP21) to achieve a legally binding, global climate agreement that is needed to keep global warming below 2° C or 1.5° C; and the United Nations General Assembly Special Session on the World Drug Problem in 2016 to work for an integrated and balanced strategy to counter the world drug problem.

6. The importance of international peace and security, the interdependence of our economies, the achievement of prosperity for our people and the vulnerability of our planet demand that we step up our efforts to address these major global challenges respecting the Charter of the United Nations.





7. With the purpose of strengthening our bi-regional dialogue, deepening the mutual relations so they can deliver on their full potential, address legitimate expectations of our peoples, and respond effectively to global challenges, the Heads of State and Government, gathered in Brussels, mandate our Ministers of Foreign Affairs to commit to a comprehensive and inclusive exercise of reflection on the future of the bi-regional relationship including the assessment of the programs and actions adopted by the Summits and on the best way to ensure these common objectives. The results of this exercise will be presented during the bi-regional meeting of Ministers of Foreign Affairs that will be held in 2016.
8. Guided by these common values and vision, we renew our strategic partnership and commit to continue working together for achieving more prosperous, cohesive, inclusive and sustainable societies, for the sake of our peoples and future generations.

BRUSSELS DECLARATION

‘SHAPING OUR COMMON FUTURE: WORKING TOGETHER FOR PROSPEROUS, COHESIVE AND SUSTAINABLE SOCIETIES FOR OUR CITIZENS’

1. We, the Heads of State and Government of the European Union (EU) and of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC), and the Presidents of the European Council and the European Commission, met in Brussels, on 10 and 11 June 2015, for the II EU–CELAC Summit, our eighth bi-regional meeting, under the theme ‘Shaping our common future: working together for prosperous, cohesive and sustainable societies for our citizens’.
2. As an expression of our shared determination to further strengthen our relationship, deepen our dialogue and given the importance we attach to the bi-regional strategic association, we have adopted a Declaration on a ‘Partnership for the next generation’, which outlines our shared vision of the ties that bring us together and demonstrates our willingness to shape a joint future and to work together for prosperous, inclusive, fair, cohesive and sustainable societies for the benefit of our peoples.
3. We recall the Santiago Declaration and reaffirm the consensus reached in previous EU–LAC Summits, as the repository of our long-standing partnership and the foundation on which we continue to build our strategic association.
4. We welcome the holding of various side events which took place in the context of the Summit and we thank non-governmental organisations, businesses, trade unions, young people, academics and other social organizations for the points of view submitted, which could contribute to our discussions and to the strengthening of our bi-regional partnership. We particularly acknowledge the contribution of the Euro–Latin American Parliamentary Assembly and the parliamentary political dialogue to our partnership.

Global challenges: shaping our common future

5. We reaffirm our commitment to all the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. We reaffirm our decision to support all efforts to uphold the sovereign equality of all States, to respect their territorial integrity and political independence, to refrain in our international relations from the threat or use of force in any manner inconsistent with the purposes and principles of the United Nations, to uphold the resolution of disputes by peaceful means and in conformity with the principles of justice and international law.
6. We underscore the need to strengthen the multilateral system and to promote more effective and inclusive global governance, respectful of international law. To that end, we renew our commitment to its reform with the view to its democratization, inclusiveness and transparency in order to strengthen our collective capacity to face the many challenges posed by the new millennium. In this context, we recognise the need to pursue the comprehensive reform of the main United Nations bodies, in particular the revitalization of the General Assembly, and ECOSOC, and the reform of the Security Council with a view to enhancing the representativeness, transparency, efficiency, accountability and effectiveness of the United Nations system.
7. We agree to strengthen our dialogue, collaboration and cooperation on the global agenda and our positions in international fora.
8. We reaffirm that the promotion and protection of all human rights of all persons, as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, lie at the core of our Strategic Partnership. We are further committed to the realisation of the right to development. We further reaffirm our commitment to fulfilling our obligations stemming from international human rights covenants and conventions which we have ratified, and to continuing to improve international cooperation and the promotion and protection of all human rights, through the United Nations and human rights bodies such as the Human Rights Council. We renew our commitment to fighting all forms of intolerance and discrimination and to promote the universal respect for and observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms.

9. We reaffirm our commitment to fight impunity, in particular for the most serious crimes under international law, notably those referred to in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Their prosecution should be ensured by taking measures at the national or appropriate level and by enhancing international cooperation. We invite those countries which are not parties to consider the possibility to ratify or accede, as applicable, to the Rome Statute¹.
10. We call on all States to observe the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and other international human rights covenants and conventions to which they are Parties.
11. We reiterate our strong condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purposes. We express our determination to effectively combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and international law, including international human rights, refugee and humanitarian law.
12. We recognise that transnational organised criminal activities may, in some cases, threaten the stability and security of States, weaken the rule of law, governance systems, national economies and their development, and human rights. In this regard, we vow to continue implementing, as appropriate, concrete actions, aimed at strengthening, inter alia, law enforcement cooperation, mutual legal assistance, trans-border intelligence sharing, in order to dismantle criminal organizations, all within the full respect for human rights and international law.
13. Taking into account that Citizen Security is a shared concern, we undertake to promote our dialogue on this subject and to explore opportunities to enhance our cooperation, with full respect for sovereignty and domestic legislation and according to national priorities.

¹ The Government of Nicaragua notes with concern the continuing violations that systematically occur against international human rights and international humanitarian law worldwide, in many cases with open impunity. Nicaragua does not tolerate impunity with respect to crime against the international community and has developed robust judicial processes that are of exclusive competence of the Nicaraguan judiciary. The Government of Reconciliation and National Unity of Nicaragua has expressed its reservations to the subscription or ratification to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, because it considers that the conditions to join this institutional instrument are not yet given.



14. We recognise that the trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants are crimes with a growing impact at the global level that expose thousands of people to unacceptable risks and are deeply concerned by the loss of lives. This requires a concerted international assessment and response, in close partnership among countries of origin, transit and destination and the contribution of international organisations, in particular in the framework of the United Nations.
15. We expect that the Arms Trade Treaty, the first multilateral legally binding instrument on the arms trade, which includes small arms and light weapons in its scope, will contribute to provide an effective response to the serious consequences of illicit trafficking and non-regulated trade in arms to many people and States, in particular through the diversion of arms to non-state actors, unauthorized users, often linked to transnational organized crime and to drug-trafficking. We also expect that this Treaty could contribute to the prevention of armed conflict, armed violence and violations of international law. At the same time, in the light of the entry into force of the Treaty in December 2014, we invoke the treaty is applied in a balanced, transparent and objective manner, respecting the sovereign right of all states to ensure their self-defence, in accordance with Article 51 of the United Nations Charter. We recall the offers of the Governments of Austria, Switzerland and the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to host the Secretariat of the said instrument².
16. In view of the contribution that CELAC and the EU can make for peace in the international arena, we agree to explore together ways to foster cooperation for peace and the peaceful settlement of disputes, as well as the promotion of disarmament and non-proliferation at the international level. We welcome the commitment of CELAC, in declaring Latin America and the Caribbean as a zone of peace, to solve disputes through peaceful means. We also recall the Tlatelolco Treaty and its Additional Protocols and the commitment by the Parties to the Treaty and the Signatories to the Additional Protocols to keep Latin America and the Caribbean free of nuclear weapons, and encourage other regions to pursue the same objective. We are united in regarding the Non Proliferation

² Nicaragua is aware of the serious consequence and humanitarian impact that illicit arms trafficking has on people worldwide, for which it remains committed to multilateralism as a mean for its global eradication, but does not endorse mentioning the Arms Trade Treaty in this Declaration considering that the Treaty does not explicitly prohibit arms transfer to non-State actors; does not clearly reaffirm the sovereign right of States to acquire, manufacture, export, import and retain conventional arms, parts and components for self-defence and security needs, and it does not prohibit the transfer of arms for States that threaten other States with the use of force, or attack other States and/or carry out destabilization policies and practices.

Treaty (NPT) as the cornerstone of the global nuclear non-proliferation regime, the essential foundation for the pursuit of nuclear disarmament in accordance with article 6 of the NPT and an important element in the further development of nuclear energy applications for peaceful purposes.

17. We welcome the progress made on the peace process in Colombia. We encourage the Colombian government and the FARC-EP to make their best efforts to conclude these negotiations as soon as possible and we express our readiness to provide assistance to support the implementation of a comprehensive peace agreement. The EU and its member states are working towards the establishment of a Trust Fund in support of the post-conflict phase. We strongly support the efforts of the Colombian government and the FARC-EP that seek to reconcile the Colombian people to achieve stable and lasting peace in Colombia and take into account the rights of victims of the armed conflict. We also hope that the formal talks between the Government of Colombia and the ELN will start as soon as possible.



Child from Buenaventura, Colombia, expresses her longing for peace in a drawing

18. In a spirit of cooperation the EU and Cuba initiated negotiations in early 2014 on a Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement which will serve, once concluded, as the enabling framework for closer relations and engagement in support of the on-going modernisation process in Cuba. This agreement will also contribute to the further consolidation of the overall structure of the EU–CELAC bi-regional relations.
19. We welcome the announcement made last 17 December by the Presidents of the Republic of Cuba and the United States of America, Raul Castro Ruz and Barack Obama, on the reestablishment of diplomatic relations. In this context, we expect all necessary steps to be taken towards an early end to the embargo. With reference to UNGA resolution A/RES/69/5, we reaffirm our well-known positions rejecting coercive measures of unilateral character as well as on the application of the extra-territorial provisions of the Helms-Burton Act. These measures have provoked undue humanitarian consequences on the Cuban people and are damaging to the legitimate development of economic ties between Cuba, the European Union and other countries.
20. Reiterating our rejection of coercive measures of unilateral character with extraterritorial effect that are contrary to international law, we reaffirm our commitment to the peaceful settlement of disputes. We take note of the Special Declaration of CELAC on unilateral actions against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela of 29th of January 2015 and the CELAC communiqué in solidarity of 26th of March 2015.
21. We confirm our disposition to work together at global level to achieve strong, inclusive, sustainable, balanced growth, with a view to pursuing sustainable development and delivering better and more equitable living standards, dignified and productive employment and decent work, in particular for all vulnerable groups, in our respective economies. In addition, we emphasize our commitment to continuing our joint efforts towards the full implementation, by all IMF members, of the 2010 agreed quota reforms. In this regard, we reiterate our commitment to continue working together towards a new international financial architecture, as agreed in the Madrid and Santiago Summits. We also remain committed to the full, timely and consistent implementation of the international financial regulation agenda so as to strengthen the resilience of the financial system and reduce systemic risks which is key for a comprehensive reform of the global financial system.
22. Given the challenges litigation poses and in order to strengthen the orderliness and predictability of the sovereign debt restructuring process, we welcome the international work on strengthened collective action and *pari passu* clauses. We call for their inclusion in international sovereign bonds and encourage the international community and private sector to actively promote their use.

We take note of ongoing international discussions in relevant fora to build consensus on the sovereign debt restructuring process.

23. We reiterate our commitment to avoid protectionism in all its forms. We support an open and non-discriminatory, rules-based multilateral trade system and the full respect of its disciplines. We recognise the contribution of that system to the recovery from the economic crisis, and in promoting growth and development in line with the principle of special and differential treatment for developing countries, where appropriate, as expressed in the Madrid and Santiago Summits.
24. In this context, we agreed on the importance of strengthening the multilateral trading system by achieving an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced conclusion of the Doha Development Round. We call on Members of the WTO to implement the decisions emanating from the 9th Session of the WTO Ministerial Conference held in December 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, including the ratification of the Agreement on Trade Facilitation with the view to its entry into force as soon as possible. We also call for the development of a post-Bali Work Programme by July 2015, as agreed by the decision of the General Council of the WTO of 27 November 2014, so as to allow for a ministerial agreement on the outstanding issues of the Doha Development Round by the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference in Nairobi.
25. We are determined to eradicate poverty in all its forms and achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions, that is, economic, social and environmental in a balanced and integrated manner. To this end, we reaffirm our commitment to adopt an ambitious, universal and transformative post-2015 development agenda that ensures no one is left behind. Achieving this shared agenda requires commitment and action by all countries. We commit to strengthen the global partnership for development, promote policy coherence at all levels, and a comprehensive innovative approach to the mobilization and effective use of all available public, private, domestic and international resources as well as development, transfer and dissemination of knowledge to foster scientific and technological cooperation for the achievement of sustainable development and innovation. In this regard, we recognise the need for regular follow-up and review of the post-2015 agenda at the global level in the context of the High Level Political Forum, including on means of implementation, as well as at the national and regional levels, as appropriate. We note the EU's collective commitment to achieve the 0.7% ODA/GNI target within the time frame of the post-2015 agenda. We agree on the importance that this target be met in a timely and effective manner and call on the other developed countries to also commit to achieve the 0.7% ODA/GNI target within the same time frame. We also call on other countries to increase their commitments to developing countries and to LDCs in particular.

26. We recognise that the particular challenges facing the countries in special situations, such as least developed countries, land-locked developing countries and small island developing states, require a specific attention in the post-2015 development agenda. We reaffirm our commitment to address their special development needs through the full, timely and effective implementation of the relevant international conferences. In the case of land-locked developing countries, special attention should be paid with a view to facilitate freedom of transit to the territory of transit States according to international law.
27. We recognise the different visions, approaches, models and tools to achieve sustainable development in harmony with nature in order to achieve a just balance among the economic, social and environmental needs of present and future generations, recognizing that planet Earth and its ecosystems are our home and that 'Mother Earth' is a common expression in a number of countries and regions. In this regard, we acknowledge that green economy in the context of sustainable development and poverty eradication could enhance our ability to manage natural resources sustainability and with lower negative environmental impacts, increase resource efficiency and reduce waste.
28. We recognise that migration and mobility can make a positive contribution as an enabler to inclusive growth and sustainable development. We acknowledge the opportunities and challenges of migration in the implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, recognising its positive economic, social, labour, cultural and political impact in both origin and host societies.
29. We reiterate our adherence to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and all its principles, to protect the climate system for the benefit of present and future generations of humankind on the basis of equity and in accordance with common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC) and we remain convinced that climate change is one of the main problems of our time, and that its global nature also requires global solutions.
30. We urge all countries of the international community, particularly the developed countries, to fulfil their commitments under the Convention and the Kyoto Protocol, and to ratify urgently the Amendment to the Protocol to allow the entry into force of the second period of commitments as soon as possible.
31. We express our will to adopt a global legally binding agreement under the UNFCCC by 2015 and for it to come into effect and be implemented from 2020, applicable to all parties. We underscore our commitment to reach an ambitious agreement in 2015 in accordance with principles of CBDR-RC, in light of different national circumstances, with a view to reducing greenhouse gas emissions so as to hold the increase in global average temperature below 2° C, or below 1.5° C, above pre-industrial levels; building resilience to the adverse effects of climate

change and addressing climate change impacts considering its implications on sustainable development and poverty eradication. In this context, we strongly support an effective treatment of mitigation and adaptation and means of implementation in the 2015 agreement, in a balanced manner. CELAC and the EU will work together ahead of and at the 21st Conference of Parties in Paris in December 2015, to bring about the ambitious and balanced agreement that is needed to address the challenges emanating from climate change.

32. We acknowledge the adoption of the 'Lima Call for Climate Action' during COP20/CMP10, as a major step forward in the negotiation of the elements of the 2015 Agreement, the preparation and early presentation of intended nationally determined contributions and the acceleration of pre-2020 Climate Action. We invite all parties to the UNFCCC that have not yet done so to come forward for those countries that are ready to do so well in advance of the 21st Conference of the Parties with their nationally determined contributions to the new agreement.
33. We underline the importance of mobilizing financial resources, public and private to achieve the mitigation objective and to support adaptation actions. In this context, we underline the need of providing new and additional financial resources from all sources to developing countries. We reiterate the importance of the commitment to mobilize USD 100 billion per year by 2020 from all sources and in the context of the meaningful mitigation actions and transparency of implementation, which could be achieved, inter alia, by establishing a monitoring, reporting and verification mechanism and we welcome the initial pledges totalling more than USD 10 billion that have been made for the Green Climate Fund, which since 21st May 2015 can allocate resources for project implementation.
34. We also recognise the importance of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, urge to commit in the implementation and follow-up of this Framework, and call to strengthen international cooperation in order to achieve the goal, the outcome, the global targets and the four priorities defined. In this context, we highlight the importance of the provision of early warning systems to mitigate the resulting damages associated with natural disasters.



Awareness-rising contest on major natural hazards within the Masaya community in Nicaragua

35. We also stress the importance of addressing the mitigation and adaptation needs of Latin American and the Caribbean countries, in particular those most vulnerable to climate change, including small island developing states and landlocked developing countries, through the mobilization of financing, as well as technology and capacity building support, in accordance with the UNFCCC.
36. We commit to strengthen bi-regional cooperation in order to better understand the causes and consequences of disasters and slow onset events caused by climate change in our regions, of the problems and consequences of climate change and biodiversity loss and the importance to build the resilience of countries, societies and ecosystems, mitigation and adaptation to the adverse effects of climate change, prevention, preparedness and early warning. Furthermore, we commit to enhance cooperation on climate resilient development policies, strategies and actions, e.g. in the areas of renewable energy use and energy efficiency, and on preserving and restoring forest resources. We will promote the integration of these issues into sustainable development strategies and in policy design. We also stress the need to create and reinforce the capacity to deal with them through technology transfer and training in disaster risk reduction and management, cooperation, particularly

from developed to developing countries, and strengthening of institutional mechanisms. In that sense, we agree to exchange experiences and information between CELAC and EU States to facilitate the design of climate change adaptation, mitigation and recovery strategies, including the possibility of developing regional projects on climate change.

37. We reaffirm our commitments adopted under the Convention on Biological Diversity including its Aichi Targets, and we reiterate our readiness to comply with them in order to continue our efforts to reduce significantly the loss of biodiversity.
38. We also note that attention needs to be paid to the peculiarity of Small Island Developing States (SIDS) as emphasized by the outcome document of the Third United Nations Conference on SIDS, the SAMOA (SIDS Accelerated Modalities for Action) Pathway, which reiterates that SIDS are a special case for sustainable development in view of their unique and particular vulnerabilities and that they remain constrained in meeting their goals in all three dimensions of sustainable development, and whose efforts require the additional support of the international community to overcome the impact of climate change. We welcome the inclusion of SIDS in the category of countries most in need by the OECD Development Assistance Committee (DAC) at its High Level Meeting in December 2014, because of their vulnerability. We also welcome the progress in establishing the Caribbean Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency (CCREE) under the umbrella of the Sustainable Energy for All Initiative (SE4ALL) as a positive step towards supporting countries with these special vulnerabilities.
39. We support the Caribbean countries and their regional organizations as appropriate, in their efforts to protect the Caribbean Sea from all forms of pollution, as reflected in UNGA Resolution 69/216 and in accordance with relevant international rules and standards.
40. We stress the importance of bi-regional consultation in the run-up to the UN General Assembly Special Session on Drugs in 2016 and we commit to continue promoting an open, transparent and inclusive preparation in order to encourage a fruitful, wide ranging and pragmatic debate, in accordance with UNGA Resolutions 67/193, 69/200 and 69/201. We reaffirm the commitments made in the Montevideo Declaration as adopted in February 2015 by the XVII High Level meeting of the MCCMD. In that regard, we commit to counter the word drug problem and its negative effects, in all its dimensions, taking into account the existing and new realities on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, with a comprehensive, evidence-based, integrated, multidisciplinary and balanced approach to all aspects of the problem, including a perspective of public health, in conformity with the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law, the

Universal Declaration of Human Rights, underscoring that the United Nations Drug Conventions and other relevant international instruments constitute the framework of the international drug control system.

41. We pledge to promote the effective implementation of the international instruments of prevention and fight against corruption in our countries, in particular the Convention of the United Nations against Corruption, and promote the transparency of public policies, strengthening access to information, citizen participation, social control, effective and efficient public management.
42. We highlight the importance of information and communication technologies, including the Internet, as well as innovation, as tools to encourage peace, promote well-being, human development, knowledge, social inclusion and economic growth, highlighting their contribution to the improvement of coverage and quality of social services. Likewise, we reaffirm the peaceful use of information and communication technologies in a way compatible with the purposes and principles of the United Nations Charter and International Law and never with the objective of subverting societies nor create situations with the potential of fostering conflict amongst States. We therefore agree to take all efforts possible to guarantee stability and security of Internet and ensure its governance, based on full participation of all stakeholders, both from developed and developing countries, in the exercise of their respective roles and responsibilities.
43. We reaffirm our commitment in bridging the digital divide based on our conviction of the role of ICTs as tools for promoting sustainable development and innovative solutions for the challenges identified after 10 years of implementation of the outcomes of the World Summit on Information Society – WSIS. We uphold the principles of multilateralism, multistakeholderism, democracy and transparency in our efforts towards the improvement of Internet governance.

Bi-regional association: Working together for prosperous, cohesive and sustainable societies for our citizens

44. We reaffirm the importance of our strategic partnership, based on the principles of international law, mutual respect and benefit, as an integral part of our common efforts to deliver sustainable development and bring about more democratic, prosperous, equitable, inclusive, cohesive and fair societies in our countries. Our bi-regional dialogue and cooperation is based on shared values and a shared conviction that our interests are tied together in an interconnected and interdependent world.

45. We recognise that our economic links are drivers of sustained and inclusive economic growth, and should further allow the protection of the environment and promotion of social equity and inclusion, and dignified and productive employment and decent work in both regions. We welcome the growth in trade in goods and services between our regions. In addition, we recognise that the EU continues to be the leading foreign investor in CELAC countries, as well as the increase in investments from CELAC towards the EU. We reaffirm our commitment to adopt policies that promote increased trade and social and environmentally responsible investment between CELAC and EU countries, convinced that this will contribute to a framework that supports sustained, sustainable and inclusive development.



Container ship in the Panama canal

46. We highlight the strong commitment to achieve the effective ratification and implementation of existing Association and Trade Agreements between the EU and the countries and regions of CELAC. The Parties to these agreements recognise their value as instruments to enhance bi-regional trade and investments as well as having a direct positive impact on jobs and contribute to inclusive growth and development in both regions.
47. We stress the importance of investing in, promoting and facilitating the competitiveness and participation of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises in bi-regional trade, as well as their internationalisation and integration in global value chains, in order to enhance their crucial role in increasing productivity and creating wealth and decent work and quality jobs in both regions. We commit to create an enabling environment taking into account respective capabilities and levels of development to allow these enterprises to access markets, capacity building, financing, human capital and innovation.
48. We reaffirm our commitment to adopt policies that promote trade and investment between CELAC and EU countries, convinced that this will contribute to ensuring sustainable development and can foster economic growth and the generation of employment, especially youth employment, in both regions. Policies promoting trade and investment should be based on cooperation and complementarity, solidarity and social inclusion and cohesion, respective capabilities and levels of development, equity and equal opportunities on mutual benefits of CELAC and EU countries.
49. In this regard, these policies should aim at facilitating and deepening, as appropriate, trade agreements, the integration of productive chains, technology transfer, and at promoting the participation of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, as well as of local and indigenous actors in bi-regional trade. We recognise the importance of stable and transparent regulatory frameworks in both regions and of maintaining legal certainty for economic operators. We commit to maintain a supportive business environment for investors, while recognizing the sovereign right of States to regulate in order to meet their national policy objectives in accordance with their national and international commitments and obligations. Likewise, it is also vital that investors comply with national and international law, in particular, inter alia, on taxes, transparency, protection of the environment, social security and labour.
50. We commit to increase our joint efforts on corporate social responsibility, and in this context encourage the implementation of policies, National Actions Plans and other initiatives aiming at promoting and strengthening the compliance with corporate social responsibility dispositions, principles and processes within the framework of the relevant international fora.



Signature of three financing agreements with Bolivia in the margins of the EU-CELAC Summit 2015

51. We recognise the importance of international cooperation based on mutual interests as a way to better face global challenges and build a more inclusive development agenda. We are committed to strengthen bi-regional cooperation and to improve coherence and effectiveness of our development cooperation policies. We reaffirm our commitment to continue cooperating with middle income CELAC countries to define and agree the most appropriate forms of cooperation for the future. We pledge to pursue the dialogue on this matter, in the bi-regional context and international fora including at the upcoming III Conference on Financing for Development in Addis Ababa from 13–16 July 2015, which is expected to result in an inter-governmentally negotiated and agreed outcome, which should constitute an important contribution to the post-2015 development agenda.
52. We stress the importance of north-south, triangular, south-south, and other modalities and mechanisms of cooperation. We also stress the importance of cooperation for capacity-building and greater involvement of indigenous peoples and local communities as well as corporations, higher education institutions and research institutes for development initiatives that support, among others, high quality knowledge, entrepreneurship and innovation in the pursuit of sustainable development.

53. We welcome the adoption of the EU's 2014–2020 multiannual indicative programmes for Latin America and the Caribbean as a tool to strengthen our strategic partnership by delivering concrete results in areas of shared interest building on the priorities of CELAC States. These should give preference to projects that address the three dimensions of sustainable development, in consistency with the agreements reached at this Summit and in the Santiago Summit Declaration. We reaffirm the importance of regional cooperation programs that support sustainable development. We acknowledge the multidimensional nature of poverty, and as such, our efforts to eradicate it must address its multiple causes.
54. We welcome recent developments of cooperation in CELAC based on the principles of unconditionality, solidarity, mutual benefits and voluntary participation, among others.
55. We reaffirm the importance of triangular cooperation between the European Union and the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, which enhances our ability to better leverage efforts and resources and to expand the scope of cooperation activities.
56. The EU and the Caribbean States in the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group are committed to continuing their development cooperation under the 11th European Development Fund, in support of the objectives spelled out in the joint Caribbean–EU partnership strategy and in national development strategies. We reaffirm our shared interest in working on the priorities of regional economic integration, environment, climate change and energy, and crime and security. We reaffirm the importance of close cooperation in the regional programming of the European Development Fund and other EU funds between all countries, territories and entities related to the ACP group.
57. We recognise the need to continue supporting Haiti in its efforts to combat extreme poverty and achieve inclusive, equitable and sustainable development, in accordance with the priority areas defined by its government, for the benefit of the Haitian population, through the bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Improving governance and security, in this regard, is also key for ensuring and maximising the impact of our development efforts. Hereof, we fully support the Haitian government efforts to hold presidential, legislative and departmental elections in 2015, and call upon all donors to support the implementation of the National Development Strategic Plan (NSDH) of the Haitian Government.



Disaster preparedness in case of an emergency, Managua, Nicaragua

58. We recognise the contribution that the EU's Latin America Investment Facility and the Caribbean Investment Facility can play in mobilising financial resources for development and in leveraging funds for jointly identified priority sectors and projects, such as climate change adaptation and mitigation, transport infrastructure, energy, connectivity and promotion of the private sector, including micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. We acknowledge the European Investment Bank's support to private and public investments in Latin America and the Caribbean and we recognise its new 2014–2020 external mandate for Latin America which allows for a ceiling of EUR 2.3 billion for investments over this period. In this context, we recognise the importance of infrastructure development in Latin America and the Caribbean countries as an essential tool for the regional and sub-regional integration.
59. During the last decade, Latin America and the Caribbean countries have implemented policies that helped to make significant progress towards achieving the Millennium Development Goals, particularly by lifting millions

of people out of poverty. We agree to integrate the lessons learnt from these successful experiences as well as the commitments we will make towards the Sustainable Development Goals, into our bi-regional cooperation. In this regard, we welcome the EU's setting-up of a regional facility to develop through jointly conceived and implemented mechanisms, modern and innovative forms of triangular and international cooperation that take account of these experiences.

An updated bi-regional Action Plan

60. We acknowledge the progress made in implementing our bi-regional Action Plan. We adopt the EU–CELAC Action Plan 2015–2017, which is annexed to this Declaration. We welcome the expansion of our bi-regional cooperation and commit to the effective implementation of this updated EU–CELAC Action Plan. This Action Plan will guide our joint work to make further progress on essential issues of common interest.
61. We commend the advances in the joint initiative for research and innovation, continuing to build the EU–CELAC knowledge area moving towards a Common Research Area based on increased mobility of researchers, exchange of best practices and enhanced cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation and the strengthening of human talent. We welcome the strengthening of our cooperation by the implementation of the network on research and innovation (ALCUE NET) through strategic activities in articulation with other thematically related projects supporting policy dialogues, as well as the selection of jointly funded projects and the launching of a new call by the EU-funded networking project (ERA–NET–LAC) that brings together research funding agencies from both regions. We further welcome EU Horizon 2020 – the world's largest collaborative research programme with a EUR 80 billion budget over seven years – also open to participants from both regions, including for funding where applicable.
62. We believe that information and communication technologies and the development of the information society and the enhancement of internet access for all are essential to sustained and inclusive economic growth and delivery of social services and to bridge the digital divide. In order to improve cooperation between the EU and CELAC in this field, we support the reinforcement of private and public sector efforts for the improvement of the interconnection of education and research networks through the enhancement of transatlantic links, including through new fibre-optic cables. In this regard, we welcome that the EU is ready to financially contribute to a new fibre-optic cable between both regions.
63. We have continued to strengthen our bi-regional cooperation on environmental and climate change-related challenges, through among others, the Euroclima programme, roundtable dialogues and renewable energy projects financed

through the Latin America Investment Facility and proposed for the Caribbean Investment Facility.

64. We remain committed to achieving higher levels of social inclusion and economic, social and territorial cohesion, equality and access to public services, in accordance with national policies and bi-regional programmes on a voluntary basis such as the Eurosocial programme. We welcome close collaborations in addressing urbanisation challenges in a comprehensive way. Our cooperation and exchanges will be supported by a new EU programme on sustainable urban development. In this context, we note the decision of the UN General Assembly to hold the UN Conference on Housing and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat III) in Quito-Ecuador in October 2016, where the 'New Urban Agenda' could be decided by securing renewed political commitment to sustainable urban development and assessing accomplishments to date, including efforts to address poverty.
65. We highlight the importance of bi-regional dialogue on urban development and the strengthening of local governments, including through voluntary initiatives such as the Latin American Network of Public Policies for Regional Development in order to facilitate the sharing of experiences and knowledge on national policies of regional development, in pursuit of greater territorial cohesion within their countries.
66. We recognise the need to build on the synergies between migration and development, understanding that it is an obligation of all States – origin, transit and destination – to guarantee the full respect of all human rights of all migrants regardless of their migration status. We confirm our engagement to the structured and comprehensive dialogue on migration through the effective implementation of Chapter 4 of the Action Plan CELAC–EU, in particular the adoption of the 'CELAC–EU roadmap on migrations' with specific joint actions related to the bi-regional dialogue, human mobility and cooperation, while ensuring full respect of the human rights of all migrants, including of unaccompanied minors.
67. We also reaffirm the importance of sharing information regarding ongoing and new initiatives and practices which may affect migrants' situation in both regions, policies and practices, exchange views on issues of common interest, and explore ways to cooperate further in the area of migration, for instance the establishment of an appropriate mutually agreed mechanism, in order to facilitate the monitoring and follow up of the implementation of the dialogue.
68. We are also committed to ensure the implementation of labour rights, in line with the relevant obligations derived from conventions of the International Labour Organization and facilitate the transition from informal to formal employment. We reiterate our willingness to improving workplace safety and health in both

regions. We regard as a priority the support and promotion of decent work. As regards social security systems, we are ready to exchange experiences and best practices and explore possibilities for bi-regional cooperation, including through bilateral social security agreements between individual CELAC countries and EU Member States wishing to do so, respecting domestic legislations and existing bilateral and/or multilateral social security agreements between CELAC–EU states, such as the Ibero-American Social Security Convention.



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Agricultural cooperative in Planaltina, Brazilian Federal District

69. Academic and research cooperation between our regions has fostered the modernisation, accessibility and internationalisation of higher education. We welcome the support for bi-regional cooperation in higher education through the EU programmes, such as Erasmus+, Marie Skłodowska Curie Programme, the Paulo Freire and the Pablo Neruda Academic Mobility Programmes. We remain committed to promoting academic mobility as an instrument to improve quality, joint research, support the capacity of higher education institutions, enhance the career prospects of students and strengthen intercultural understanding, whilst taking into account the need to prevent 'brain drain' and promoting the return of human resources.
70. In recent years, on the basis of the principle of common and shared responsibility, we have successfully advanced towards comprehensive cooperation in addressing in an effective and balanced approach to the world drug problem, through political, operational and technical exchanges. We are convinced that this dialogue and cooperation have already created a solid foundation of shared principles and supported a progressive convergence of views and practice. We welcome the extension of the Copolad programme for a further four-year period, guaranteeing support for our bilateral activities, as well as the full involvement of the Caribbean countries in this programme.
71. We celebrate the decisions taken in Santiago to include a chapter on gender equality and women's empowerment in our action plan and establish a bi-regional dialogue on gender issues. We welcome the high-level launch event and workshop on violence against women held in Argentina in November 2013, and the side event held in March 2014 at the UN Commission on the Status of Women. We agree to work together to explore ways of consolidating this dialogue, in particular through joint initiatives to accelerate the implementation of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, in light of the review and assessment carried out on its 20th anniversary, taking into account the situation of rural, indigenous women and women with disabilities, among others.
72. We commend the inclusion of new chapters on 'Higher Education' and 'Citizen security' into the EU–CELAC Action Plan that we adopt in its revised version annexed to this Declaration. The chapter on 'Sustainable development, Environment, Climate change, Biodiversity, Energy' will be updated in light of COP 21 outcome. A chapter on 'Food Security' is being elaborated. This Action Plan will guide our joint work to make further progress on essential issues of common interest.
73. We welcome the conclusion of the negotiations and the initialling of the agreement for the establishment of the EULAC Foundation as an international organisation. We look forward to its swift signature and early entering into force.

74. We reiterate our commitment to supporting the EULAC Foundation as an important instrument of the EU–CELAC partnership. The Foundation shall work in close cooperation with EU and CELAC States, to promote the partnership and make it better known to the public and shall encourage cultural cooperation between our regions.
75. We welcome the progress made and take note of the initiatives made since the Santiago Summit on deepening relations between CELAC countries and sub-regions and the EU, particularly:
- The progress made towards the full ratification and implementation of the EU–Colombia–Peru Trade Agreement and the trade provisions of the EU–Central America Association Agreement between the EU and Central American countries;
 - The conclusion of negotiations, and subsequent initialling by the EU and Ecuador on 12 December 2014, of the resulting text of a Protocol of Accession, as part of the process, for Ecuador to join the Trade Agreement between the EU, on the one part, and Colombia and Peru, on the other;
 - The progress made in the CARIFORUM–EU EPA in terms of its institutionalization and the commitment to address the challenges identified by the 5-year review process in order to attain true economic development in both regions;
 - The signature of the EU–Colombia and EU–Chile Framework Partnership Agreements on participation in EU crisis management operations;
 - The entry into force in May 2014 and the holding of the first Joint Committee meeting of the Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement between the EU and Central America, which provides an instrument that ensures a framework for political dialogue and cooperation, until the entry into force of the CA–EU Association Agreement in its three pillars;
 - The adoption of the national and regional indicative cooperation programmes for Central and South America for the period 2014–2020;
 - The EU’s adoption of its Citizen Security Strategy for Central America and the Caribbean³;

³ The Government of the Republic of Nicaragua does not accept this mention in this Declaration, since it considers that the Central American Security Strategy is the only binding instrument for development of regional security in Central America.

- The opening and progress of negotiations on a landmark Political Dialogue and Cooperation Agreement with Cuba;
- The implementation of actions under the Joint Caribbean–EU Partnership Strategy, which aims at fostering closer relations and increased joint action towards common objectives including regional integration, Haiti reconstruction, climate change, citizen security and joint action on multilateral and global issues;
- The signature of national and regional indicative cooperation programmes for the Caribbean for the period 2014–2020;
- The signature on 28 May 2015 of bilateral short stay visa waiver agreements with Dominica, Grenada, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, and Trinidad and Tobago;
- The negotiations and initialling of the short stay visa waiver agreements between EU–Colombia and EU–Peru;
- The continued commitment of the EU and Mercosur to complete a balanced, comprehensive and ambitious Association Agreement as soon as possible;
- The important progress, in the context of the EU–Mexico strategic partnership, in the work for the modernization of the EU–Mexico Global Agreement, including the deepening of trade, investment, political dialogue and cooperation, with the aim of launching the negotiations as soon as possible;
- The sixth meeting of the Association Council established by the EU–Chile Association Agreement was held in Brussels on 21 April 2015. This was a propitious opportunity to highlight the excellent level of bilateral relations between Chile and the EU on all aspects, as well as to agree to move forward in the process towards the modernisation of the bilateral Association Agreement through the establishment of a Joint Working Group.

Future of the Partnership

76. To strengthen the bi-regional strategic partnership, and as a sign of our willingness to inject more dynamism into our political dialogue, we agree to task our Foreign Ministers to meet between Summits, in addition to their role in Summit preparations, to ensure a comprehensive follow-up of Summit decisions and to sustain a regular high-level dialogue between our two regions.
77. The next EU–CELAC Summit will be held in 2017 in the country holding the CELAC pro tempore Presidency in that year.



Rafael Correa (President of Ecuador and pro tempore President of CELAC); Jean-Claude Juncker (President of the European Commission); Donald Tusk (President of the European Council)



Roundtable at the start of the second day of the EU-CELAC Summit 2015

EU–CELAC ACTION PLAN 2015–2017

This Action Plan includes a number of initiatives consistent with the priorities established at the VI EU–LAC Summit as encompassed in its Final Declaration as well as in new areas incorporated at the VII EU–LAC Summit/I EU–CELAC Summit held in Santiago de Chile on 26–27 January 2013 and the II EU–CELAC Summit held in Brussels on 10–11 June 2015. The Action Plan identifies instruments and activities which, if properly implemented should lead to concrete results guaranteeing ownership and capacity building in the following key areas, which are directly or indirectly linked with the central theme of the Summit:

1. Science, research, innovation and technology;
2. Sustainable development; environment; climate change; biodiversity; energy;
3. Regional integration and interconnectivity to promote social inclusion and cohesion;
4. Migration;
5. Education and employment to promote social inclusion and cohesion;
6. The world drug problem;
7. Gender;
8. Investments and entrepreneurship for sustainable development;
9. Higher education;
10. Citizen security.

1. SCIENCE, RESEARCH, INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

The main objective in this area is to develop the ‘EU–CELAC Knowledge Area’ through: i) improving cooperation in research and innovation; ii) strengthening scientific and technological capacities, and infrastructures; iii) enabling sustainable research, innovation and knowledge sharing taking into account the contribution of ancestral and traditional knowledge; iv) boosting the use of new and existing technologies and technology development and transfer underpinning sustainable socio-economic development and v) fostering cooperation between both regions as regards the digital-economy and the reduction of the digital divide for improving competitiveness while making social inclusion a cross-cutting issue.



Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Strengthen the bi-regional dialogue on science, research, technology and innovation, through the 'EULAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation' established in March 2011, to consolidate EU–CELAC cooperation and to update common priorities, encourage mutual policy learning and ensure the proper implementation and effectiveness of cooperation instruments.
- b) Explore the possibility of working jointly with institutions from the public and private sector in matters related to innovation and knowledge, applied research and technological innovation.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- c) Continue to support the implementation of the new mechanism, the 'EU–CELAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation' combining instruments at national, regional and bi-regional level as appropriate in a complementary and synergistic manner.
- d) Establish new or strengthen existing thematic networks and partnerships on agreed issues of mutual interest, which should develop joint actions and facilitate exchanges between higher education institutions, research centres and networks, as well as between private and public sector institutions from the EU and CELAC countries.
- e) Strengthen the integration of both regions in the Information Society and support the development of the information and communication technologies (ICT) sector and the reduction of the digital divide and digital illiteracy through an increase of interconnectivity between the education and research networks within and between regions and enhance access to and use of resources.
- f) Develop and intensify the dialogue and cooperation on information society, strategies and regulation models for the communication sector and in the audiovisual field.
- g) Develop an interface between research and innovation through a knowledge and innovation centres network to facilitate social appropriation of knowledge and technology in particular keeping in mind the micro and SMEs.
- h) Promote the extension of scientific and technological cooperation between the EU and CELAC as well as the adoption of innovative instruments to strengthen cooperation with special attention to countries with low participation in science, research, technology and innovation cooperation activities.

- i) Foster cooperation for human and institutional capacity building and research infrastructures interoperability as well as encourage the return and reintegration of researchers to their countries of origin.
- j) Use existing networks and partnerships and exchange information, experiences and best practices in areas of innovation, such as incubation, entrepreneurship, science parks and start-up enterprises.

Expected results

- k) Advancement of knowledge, science; research and innovation; as well as business, entrepreneurial, and research centres and networks from the EU and CELAC countries, and leading to an improved uptake and dissemination of research results for innovation in particular for the micro and SMEs.
- l) Road Map defining specific targets and associated performance indicators for the implementation of the Joint Initiative will be set up and updated on a regular basis.
- m) A comprehensive joint strategy in research, development and innovation supporting, among other things, an improved use of the possibilities that ICT offers, including in the areas of e-Government, e-Health and e-Education, as well as in relation to climate change-related and other relevant issues.
- n) Reinforced private and public sector efforts for the improvement of the interconnection of education and research networks through the enhancement of transatlantic links, including through new optic fibre cables.
- o) Increased compatibility of regulatory frameworks in the field of electronic communications and improved quality of digital contents.
- p) Improved quality and effectiveness of the scientific and technological cooperation through: i) increased knowledge of EU–LAC scientific and technological communities; ii) increased research focus on agreed items of mutual interest; iii) larger scientific and technological capacities of CELAC countries, involving also national programmes and capacity building for the Caribbean, to drive their own development and to achieve enhanced cooperation opportunities with the EU and iv) increased information exchange and technology transfer on issues of mutual interest.
- q) Realisation of joint or coordinated calls, or programme level cooperation, between different funding agencies in the EU and CELAC countries, in the areas addressed under the JIRI Working Groups.

2. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT; ENVIRONMENT; CLIMATE CHANGE; BIODIVERSITY; ENERGY ⁴

The following main objectives in this area for ensuring environmental sustainability taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities are: i) to promote the sustainable development of all countries and to support the achievement of the MDG and the other international agreements on these issues; ii) to ensure the effective implementation of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the Kyoto Protocol, recognizing the scientific views regarding the limit for the increase in the global temperature; iii) to develop policies and instruments for adaptation and mitigation, to address the adverse effects of climate change and enhance long-term cooperation initiatives and to reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters; iv) to support activities oriented to reduce intensity of greenhouse gas emissions in consumption and production activities in our countries, according to existing international commitments; v) to facilitate access to and exchange of information related to best environmental practices and technologies; vi) to ensure and support the full implementation of the three objectives of the Convention on Biological Diversity; vii) to improve energy efficiency and saving as well as accessibility and viii) to develop and to deploy renewable energies and to promote energy interconnection networks, ensuring the diversification and complementarity of the energy matrix.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Step up regular dialogue to develop the relevant aspects of the 'Lima Agenda on Sustainable Development; Environment; Climate Change; Energy' as well as on Biodiversity; with the objective, amongst others, of fostering consensus and facilitating the proper implementation of international agreements and other decisions in these areas.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Strengthen bi-regional cooperation in the field of environment and disaster risk reduction and management, including by increasing the knowledge of the problems and consequences of climate change and biodiversity loss and the importance of climate resilient development and climate adaptation, and by promoting the integration of these issues into sustainable development strategies and in policy design.

4 Works are ongoing in view of the outcome of the COP 21.



Glacier in Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia, Chile

- c) Exchange of experiences and information among our countries and between our regions, with a view to facilitate the design of adaptation and mitigation strategies and policies notably among others through the EUroCLIMA programme and triangular and South-South cooperation.
- d) Seek the necessary financial resources that will i) contribute to sustainable development, biodiversity conservation and sustainable use, as well as adaptation to and mitigation of climate change; ii) ensure coordination of activities aiming at reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation, taking into account the capacities of the different countries.
- e) Promote the development of projects in the areas of renewable energy and energy efficiency.
- f) Support for capacity building on safe and sustainable low carbon technologies and low emission development strategies, climate change monitoring, greenhouse gas emission reporting and verification, forest and soil management among others.
- g) Work together to give due follow-up to the EU–LAC Forum on Technological Cooperation, Renewable Energies and Energy Efficiency.

Expected results

- h) Improved knowledge on problems and consequences of climate change including vulnerability and risk assessment, biodiversity loss and environment issues in its widest meaning, and integration of these issues into sustainable development and climate adaptation strategies and other adaptation activities.
- i) Strengthened capacities and emergency networks to prevent and address the effect of natural disasters.
- j) Improved capacity for sustainable development, environmental and climate change-related challenges and for the conservation and sustainable use of the biodiversity.
- k) Improved use and accessibility of renewable energies, increased energy efficiency and saving as these play an important role in the diversification and complementarity of the energy matrix.



Aerial view of the '5 November' hydroelectric plant in Nombre de Jesús, El Salvador

3. REGIONAL INTEGRATION AND INTERCONNECTIVITY TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COHESION

The main objectives in this area are: i) to increase regional integration and social inclusion and cohesion; ii) to contribute to the overall goal of poverty eradication, especially among persons in conditions of vulnerability, in the context of sustainable development, including the pursuit of the MDGs and the Post 2015 Development Agenda. Some key elements to achieve these goals are the promotion of investments in infrastructures favouring decent and dignified job creation, interconnectivity and the development of social and economic networks.



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Colombian child affected by the internal conflict receives healthcare

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Use all available instruments to ensure adequate dialogue on this matter between the EU, Latin American and Caribbean countries, such as those available under the EUROsociAL II programme (including institutional cooperation), the dialogue linked to the implementation of the governance tranche under the European Development Fund (EDF), as well as in the context of present and future trade, economic and association agreements between the EU and Latin America and the Caribbean countries and subregions.

This dialogue could also use all available instruments, organizations, mechanisms and associations related to international cooperation established between and within the EU and CELAC, in order to enhance the relationship between both regions.

- b) Continue the bi-regional dialogue within the EU–LAC Forum on Social Cohesion.
- c) Engage in a dialogue on territorial cohesion and equity and on regional development policies, with a particular focus on cross border cooperation and on territorial development strategies, to strengthen the capacity of the regional and urban authorities to promote economic development and innovation and social inclusion and cohesion.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- d) Mobilise the necessary financial resources to improve and develop sustainable infrastructures and networks favouring regional integration and social inclusion and cohesion, including through the Latin America Investment Facility (LAIF). LAIF grants are expected to have a leverage effect to mobilise resources from financial institutions to finance investment projects and technological transfer notably in three areas: i) interconnectivity and infrastructure in particular in the areas of energy efficiency and saving and renewable energy systems, research, sustainable transport, and telecommunication networks; ii) social and environmental sectors including climate change mitigation and adaptation; iii) providing for growth of the private sector (in particular of micro and SMEs).
- e) Mobilise the required resources for the establishment of the EU–Caribbean Infrastructure Fund with the purpose to contribute to strengthening regional integration and access to basic social services through improvements of physical infrastructure and related services. The fund is expected to facilitate the mobilisation of additional resources by leveraging of grants with loans and private capital.
- f) Support the development of more effective public social policies as well as policies aiming at strengthening local entrepreneurial environment and corporate social responsibility, promoting national and foreign investment and technological transfer.



Reconstruction of the national road between Port-au-Prince and Cap-Haïtien

Expected results

- g) Implementation of projects, in areas such as energy efficiency and saving and renewable energy, sustainable management of natural resources, sustainable production and consumption patterns, sustainable transport, communication networks, climate change adaptation and mitigation, social and economic networks – leading to increased regional integration and social inclusion and cohesion, including technological transfer and innovation when appropriate.
- h) Establishment of partnerships between EU and CELAC public administrations, through institutional strengthening and cooperation, to support the management and implementation of territorial development policies and social policies in areas such as education, health, lifelong learning, social security and social services, administration of justice, taxation, vocational training and employment. These partnerships may also involve different Latin American and Caribbean countries in triangular cooperation.

4. MIGRATION

The main objectives in this field are: i) to enhance bi-regional cooperation by identifying common challenges and opportunities that require common solutions; ii) to build a stronger evidence base on migration between both regions, in order to better understand this reality; iii) to address the positive synergies between migration and development; iv) to maximize the development impact of migration and human mobility; v) to address regular and irregular migration and other related issues including smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and vi) to promote the full respect of human rights of all migrants, including of unaccompanied minors.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Further strengthen and develop, for instance with appropriate mutually agreed mechanisms, the Bi-regional Structured and Comprehensive Dialogue on Migration, including all issues agreed in the Lima Summit and the June 30th 2009 document, 'Basis for structuring the EU–LAC Dialogue on Migration'.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Continue cooperation along the areas identified within the Basis document.
- c) Promote cooperation programmes to combat and prevent trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling networks and to assist the victims, with special attention to women and children.
- d) Promote a regular exchange of information regarding ongoing and new initiatives and practices which may affect migrant's situation, in particular on policies and legislation adopted in both regions.
- e) Building on the previous work on data collection and analyses jointly elaborate a CELAC–EU statistical review on migration and ensure its necessary updates.
- f) Provide information to migrants and potential migrants on legal and administrative requirements for entry and stay in EU and CELAC countries.
- g) Promote technical cooperation between EU and CELAC countries to exchange information on migration flows and policies, as well as to support improved policies on migration and development, amongst other through appropriate bi-regional projects, including specific activities regarding the Caribbean countries.
- h) Continue to develop measures to make the transfer of remittances cheaper, safer and more transparent, while fully respecting their private nature.

- i) Continue intra and bi-regional cooperation in areas of education and health of migrants, as well as on groups of migrants in situation of vulnerability, especially women and children.
- j) Exchange experiences and best practices and explore possibilities for bi-regional cooperation, including the establishment of bilateral social security agreements between individual CELAC countries and EU Member States wishing to do so, while respecting national legislations and existing bilateral and/or multilateral social security agreements between CELAC–EU States, such as the Ibero-American Social Security Convention.
- k) Jointly design and elaborate a ‘CELAC–EU roadmap on migrations’ with specific joint actions related to the bi-regional dialogue, human mobility and cooperation while ensuring full respect of the human rights of all migrants, including of unaccompanied minors.

Expected results

- l) Strengthening the impact of the positive link between migration and development in countries of origin, transit and destination.
- m) Promoting full respect of human rights of all migrants, including of unaccompanied minors and enhancing coherence in the fight and prevention of trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling networks, as well as in assisting victims. Improved fight against xenophobia, racism and all forms of intolerance.
- n) Increased exchange of mutual information on migration policy developments and best practices in both regions, as well as improved knowledge and more accurate data on migration flows between both regions, including through concrete joint initiatives.
- o) Improved qualitative and quantitative knowledge on bi-regional migration trends, with a cross-linked, up-to-date and accurate statistical review.
- p) Improved capacity and awareness on migration issues of relevant officials.
- q) Strengthened cooperation on measures making remittances cheaper, safer and more transparent.
- r) Enhanced intra and bi-regional cooperation to improve the situation of migrants in areas of education and health, protection of vulnerable groups, in particular women and children as identified through the Dialogue.
- s) Exchange of experiences and best practices regarding social security systems in the EU and CELAC countries in order to explore possibilities for bi-regional cooperation.

- t) The establishment of bilateral social security agreements between individual CELAC countries and EU Member States wishing to do so, respecting national legislations and existing bilateral and/or multilateral social security agreements between CELAC–EU States, such as the Ibero–American Social Security Convention.
- u) The establishment of a ‘CELAC–EU roadmap on migration’ with specific joint actions while ensuring the full respect of the human rights of all migrants, including of unaccompanied minors.

5. EDUCATION AND EMPLOYMENT TO PROMOTE SOCIAL INCLUSION AND COHESION

The main objectives in this area are to promote education, life-long learning and training (including technical and vocational education and training (TVET)) with a view to develop, in both regions, skills for employment, promote decent and dignified job creation, thereby increasing income and contributing towards the overall objective of poverty eradication. The pursuit of these objectives should take into account the diverse levels of vulnerability, different realities of countries, as well as to improve the functioning of labour markets, including through triangular cooperation, ensuring the involvement of employers and workers, while also considering the important role of social dialogue and corporate social action. This should lead to easier access to employment, decent, dignified and productive work and job opportunities, in particular for women and young people, as well as for other vulnerable groups, and should contribute to increased social inclusion and cohesion.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Establish a regular bi-regional dialogue on education and employment, building upon the results of the II EU–LAC Forum on Social Cohesion.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Support quality and equal access to education, life-long learning, vocational education and training and increased regional integration in this domain.
- c) Promote mobility of students, teachers and staff, and exchanges between higher education institutions from the EU and CELAC countries.
- d) Promote cooperation in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) systems, including transversal, that respond to the needs of the labour market and national development objectives.
- e) Contribute to meeting the educational objectives 2021 as referred in the EU–LAC Ministerial Forum on ‘Education, Innovation and Social Inclusion’.

- f) Implement programmes involving employers for fostering formal employment starting with the first job experiences, including through the promotion of entrepreneurship and improved access by young people and persons with disabilities to social protection mechanisms.
- g) Implement programmes to reduce all forms of discrimination at work including against young people, the elderly, women and persons with disabilities to promote decent work.
- h) Promote bi-regional programmes to exchange experiences and know-how on the labour systems and their link with the system of technical education and training for employment.
- i) Prepare a 'Latin American, Caribbean and European Union Roadmap on Safety and Health at Work', taking into account the specific economic and social conditions of each country. The development of this work plan could be supported by the International Labour Organization with the participation of the European Agency for Safety and Health at Work, EU-OSHA, and its counterparts in the Latin American and Caribbean sub-regions or those determined by CELAC.



Expected results

- j) Strategic reviews on the functioning of contemporary labour market information systems leading to the establishment and implementation of the necessary capacity-building plans and the improvement of the relevant statistical services.
- k) Emergence of a network of high-quality and inclusive technical and vocational education and training institutions.
- l) Improved integration of young workers and persons with disabilities into decent, dignified and productive jobs.
- m) School dropout rates reduction and links among basic, vocational and higher education strengthened.
- n) Progress towards meeting the Educational Objectives 2021.
- o) Establishment of a technical working group to develop a CELAC–EU Roadmap aimed at the creation of on-going exchanges of statistical data, methodologies and investigative procedures, as well as relevant experiences and best practices regarding workers' health and safety, based on the ILO Programme on Safety and Health at Work and the Environment, SafeWork: reciprocal cooperation and mutual technical assistance and the formulation of joint research.

6. THE WORLD DRUG PROBLEM

The objective is to strengthen bi-regional dialogue and effectiveness of joint efforts to tackle the world drug problem as identified and developed in the framework of the EU–CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs in accordance with the principle of common and shared responsibility through an integrated, multidisciplinary, balanced and scientific evidence based approach and in conformity with the international law, the purposes and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the three UN Drug Control Conventions and according to the commitments made in the bi-regional Declarations adopted at the High Level Meetings of the Mechanism.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Further develop and strengthen the EU–CELAC Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on Drugs.
- b) Intensify our cooperation in the framework of the United Nations, notably within the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to counter the world drug problem and to combat, among other issues, drug trafficking carried out through transnational organized crime and its consequences.

- c) Encourage active participation in the Special Session of the General Assembly of the United Nations on the world drug problem in 2016 and its preparatory process for a fruitful, wide-ranging and pragmatic debate in accordance with the UNGA Resolutions 67/193, 69/200 and 69/201.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- d) Support the establishment of EU–CELAC networks to promote the exchange of experiences and best practices in demand and supply reduction to tackle the world drug problem, through policy development and capacity building initiatives, such as the ‘COPOLAD’ programme.
- e) Strengthen regional security cooperation structures and fostering regional cooperation in the fight against illicit drugs and related crimes; in the Caribbean under the 11th EDF regional programmes and based on joint efforts agreed in the Joint Caribbean–EU Partnership Strategy as well as the CARICOM Crime and Security Strategy; and in Central America taking into account the Central America Security Strategy.
- f) Strengthen bi-regional cooperation against the diversion and trafficking of chemical precursors used for the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances through existing and future programmes such as COPOLAD.



Brazilian Força Nacional searching for drugs

- g) Strengthen cooperation and the sharing of information, best practices and research on synthetic drugs and new psychoactive substances, developing coordinated and integrated approaches in a balanced manner to tackle both demand- and supply- reduction.
- h) Strengthen cooperation against drug related money laundering and trafficking in arms and ammunition.
- i) Promote equal access to public health services, which should guarantee broad coverage, as well as basic treatment and rehabilitation, respecting human rights and support measures to reduce the negative health and social effects of drug abuse, in accordance with the respective national legal frameworks, which may assist the most vulnerable groups.
- j) Support the development and adoption of policies and programs that incorporate a holistic, strengthened, balanced, and multidisciplinary approach with the objective of reducing the impact of drug abuse on public health and preventing the stigmatization, marginalization, and discrimination of drug abusers, in society, by mobilizing resources to facilitate access to national health systems.
- k) Promote initiatives to tackle the negative consequences of the world drug problem on the environment in accordance with national policies.
- l) Advance implementation of commitments adopted in the Political Declaration and Plan of Action approved at the 52nd session of the CND held in 2009, taking into account the High Level Review of 2014.
- m) Promote initiatives aimed at ensuring the availability of evidence, including the development of projects aimed at setting up traceability and profiling system of chemical precursors through an analysis of seized drugs, in full compliance with international conventions on the matter and according to national legislation and existing regional frameworks.
- n) Consider the need to develop sustainable crop control strategies consistent with domestic legal frameworks, giving appropriate attention to alternative development as an essential part of those strategies, in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Alternative Development, with a view to developing products, through alternative development, including preventive alternative development, as appropriate, identified on the basis of market demand and value-added production chains, including those referred to in Commission on Narcotic Drugs resolution 55/8 of 16 March 2012 and resolution 56/15 of 15 March 2013, entitled 'Follow-up to the Plan of Action on International Cooperation towards an Integrated and Balanced Strategy to Counter the World Drug Problem with respect to the development

of strategies on voluntary marketing tools for products stemming from alternative development, including preventive alternative development’.

- o) Continue strengthening bilateral cooperation agreements on drug precursors and explore the possibility to negotiate new ones.
- p) Enhance cooperation in order to detect, prevent and tackle new methods of precursors’ diversion used in the illicit manufacture of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- q) Promote, as appropriate, initiatives to tackle the problem of illicit synthetic drugs.

Expected results

- r) Strengthened bi-regional cooperation, coordination and exchange of information on:
 - demand reduction;
 - awareness and prevention campaigns and programmes for early intervention, treatment, rehabilitation and social integration;
 - reduction of the negative health and social consequences of drug abuse, in accordance with national law and within the national drug control strategies;



Coca leaves

- supply reduction;
 - prevention of precursors' diversion;
 - drug information systems and research;
 - alternative development, including, as appropriate, preventive alternative development;
 - law enforcement, customs and judicial matters;
 - drug related trafficking in arms and ammunition;
 - drug related money laundering;
 - judicial organization and drug legislation and institutional capacity building, at both political and technical level;
 - drug related environmental impact.
- s) Strengthened institutional capacity in reducing drugs demand and supply, and in dealing with the overall consequences of the world drug problem.
 - t) Presentation of joint initiatives in the UN framework and enhanced implementation of commitments.

7. GENDER

The main objective is to prioritise the gender issue in the context of bi-regional relations and underscore the political will in both regions to guarantee gender equality and the protection, exercise and promotion of women's rights, including: i) Political participation of women; ii) Elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, including sexual violence and iii) Economic empowerment of women and their participation in the world of work and in all decision-making processes.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Create a bi-regional space for the exchange of experiences and cooperation on gender issues aimed at promoting gender equality and women's empowerment in the different fields of the CELAC–EU dialogue.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Promote the political and popular participation of women in terms of equality.
- c) Promote actions to combat and eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, through activities such as publishing gender educational programmes and manuals and standardising protocols of investigation to prosecute and punish the perpetrators, among other actions.
- d) Continue close cooperation at the UN, including in the UN Commission of the Status of Women and in the UN General Assembly.

- e) Promote the economic empowerment of women and their participation in the economy and paid labour markets, with social security and conditions of fairness, as well as to promote policies and laws to ensure equal pay for equal work.
- f) Identify the state of play of the main working topics in each region.
- g) Identify areas of exchange and cooperation for the creation of synergies and mutual learning to optimise existing practices and lessons learned in the area of gender mainstreaming in all public policies.
- h) Identify common areas to cooperate in technical assistance, training and exchange of experiences.

Expected results

- i) Establishment of an intergovernmental bi-regional working group aimed at defining shared objectives. The main working topics at this first stage are:
 - Political participation of women.
 - Elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls.
 - Economic empowerment of women and their participation in the world of work.



Women of the Chuicutama community, Guatemala

- j) Bi-regional seminar for the exchange of experiences on gender-based violence, to share best practices and the most effective measures to prevent and combat it.
- k) Promote concrete measures for the investigation of gender-based killing.
- l) Bi-regional seminar on 'Economic empowerment of women and participation in the world of work', for exchanging experiences and best practices in the field of education and training in ICT.
- m) Exchange of information, on a voluntary basis, regarding the state of art on gender policies, including equality and empowerment of women by countries.
- n) Bi-regional seminar with State representatives, which may include experts and women's organizations, to exchange experiences on the achievements of peace, conflict resolution and participation of women in those processes, including the implementation of relevant resolutions of the UN General Assembly in this regard, as well as Resolution 1325 (Women – Peace and Security).
- o) Agreed language, when possible, to be used in common positions in international fora, especially resolutions to be negotiated at the UN General Assembly and the Commission on the Status of Women.

8. INVESTMENTS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

In line with the I CELAC–EU Santiago Declaration, the main objectives in this area are: i) to promote bi-regional investments of social and environmental quality to achieve sustained economic growth while promoting social cohesion and inclusion and protecting the environment. Such investments contribute, among others, to increased trade flows, job creation, technology transfer, stimulation of innovation, fiscal revenues, support and development of auxiliary industries; ii) to promote entrepreneurship as a driving force of economic and social development and iii) to facilitate the conditions that foster entrepreneurship and innovation, remove obstacles, build capacity and increase competitiveness of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) and new social actors of the economy.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) Set up a dialogue at an appropriate level to develop the main aspects of investments and entrepreneurship between both regions, such as the CELAC–EU Ministers of Economy Meeting, held in Puerto Varas, Chile.



The EU-Latin America submarine cable: Boosting the connection between our continents

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Encourage cooperation between investment promotion agencies of each country and the coordination of investment efforts, in order to share information on investment opportunities in our countries and exchange effective public policies in productive development.
- c) Promote open, stable, predictable and transparent regulatory frameworks to encourage investment and provide legal certainty to investors and local stakeholders, while recognising the sovereign right of states to regulate. Promote also compliance with national and international law, in particular, inter alia on taxes, transparency, the protection of environment, social security and labour.
- d) Promote the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption and, within this framework, consider participating in the work of the International Anti-Corruption Academy.
- e) Promote public policies facilitating and expediting the creation and operation of enterprises, as well as those improving their conditions and access to financing, especially in the case of MSMEs. In this regard, all available

financial instruments should be mobilized, including but not limited to public investment, investment facilities financed by Official Development Aid (ODA), private equity, venture capital, micro-credits, risk capital, business angels and guaranties.

- f) Strengthen the support of the financial institutions and international organizations – in their evaluation processes of lending – to those investment projects which respect internationally recognised social and environmental criteria within the context of sustainable development, taking into account, where appropriate, the needs of the developing countries.
- g) Promote entrepreneurship within higher, technical and vocational education and training systems, in order to adapt the skills and competences of students to labour market needs.
- h) Promote decent work inter alia through the ILO programme for sustainable enterprises.
- i) Include, when possible, the guidelines and internationally recognised principles of corporate social responsibility (CSR) in the definition of policies and national plans to promote good corporate behaviour, such as encouraging the timely payment to suppliers, particularly (MSME) by the public and private sectors.
- j) Promote public policies which encourage transparency on the part of enterprises as regards social, environmental and human rights matters.

Expected results

- k) Seminar of national investment promotion entities, aimed at exchanging experiences and promoting coordination of investment efforts.
- l) Appointment in each country, as appropriate, of an official at the highest possible political level ('Mr or Ms MSMEs') to deal with the issues related to MSMEs, exchanging best practices with their counterparts from other countries.
- m) Holding, as appropriate, of a 'week for the promotion of MSMEs' in each country simultaneously, an initiative that has already been done successfully in countries of both regions.
- n) Invite countries to consider submitting a report of national action plans on CSR – if applicable – at the next CELAC–EU Summit of Heads of State or Government, in 2015.
- o) Bi-regional meeting on model enterprises applying the concept of corporate social responsibility as regards social, environmental and human rights matters.

9. HIGHER EDUCATION

The objective is to give a new impetus to EU–CELAC cooperation in higher education and to support inclusive development of higher education sector, including equitable access and quality, by facilitating the sharing of knowledge and technology transfers through institutional strengthening, capacity building actions and mobility of students, researchers, experts, academic and administrative staff. In addition, it will promote higher education and life-long learning and inclusive education, taking into account the needs of the young population and persons with disabilities according to the specificities, priorities, development policies and academic systems in each country.

Dialogue

- a) Promote joint activities and research projects in the higher education sector, taking into account, among others, the CELAC–EU Academic Summits and the Summit of Presidents of Councils of Rectors of EU–CELAC countries, in close interaction with the EU–CELAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation (JIRI).

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) Support and contribute to the development of bi-regional, regional, sub-regional and national programmes aimed at strengthening and modernizing the higher education systems, taking into consideration the specificities and national systems.
- c) Contribute to the development of a future CELAC–EU Higher Education Area.
- d) Support EU–CELAC dialogue in terms of quality and recognition of higher education degrees and systems to contribute to building the EU–CELAC Knowledge Area as stated in the Santiago Declaration (EU–CELAC Summit 2013). Bilateral agreements for recognition of degrees and curricula, in the frame of the university autonomy, acting as an initiative to bring closer the European and Latin American and Caribbean higher education systems, should be encouraged.
- e) Foster the bi-regional dialogue between the universities and other higher education institutions especially in the framework of initiatives such as the Academic Summit and the Council of Rectors in coordination with central institutions such as the ministries in charge of higher education and their respective networks, with a view to promoting bi-regional academic cooperation.
- f) Enhance cooperation of higher education based institutions on the previous, on-going and future EU and CELAC higher education cooperation programmes in order to strengthen the higher-education pillar of the bi-

regional strategic partnership and promote mobility of students, teachers, and staff and exchanges between higher education institutions from the EU and CELAC countries.

- g) Encourage higher education exchanges drawing inter alia on previous and ongoing experiences funded by EU Member States and CELAC countries including building on the expertise and knowledge of alumni and encouraging their experience sharing.
- h) Support the development of joint programmes at Masters and Doctoral levels between the two regions on the basis of excellence, relevance and complementarity.
- i) Support higher education projects, programs and scientific meetings to enhance joint scientific and research initiatives.
- j) Support professional training through academic and administrative staff mobility and public-private partnerships in liaison with the productive and other sectors of national interest.



- k) Support CELAC and EU higher education institutions in fostering social inclusion and cohesion, technology transfers, knowledge, innovation and growth.
- l) Promote the exchange of good practices on statistical data generation, methodologies and research procedures.
- m) Support higher education projects, programs, scientific meetings and initiatives promoting gender equality in science and research.

Expected results

- n) Increase regional, bi-regional, and sub-regional integration and comparability of higher education systems to improve quality and relevance through mobility of students, researchers, staff, and academia cooperation and, exchange of experiences between EU and CELAC regions and under other national, bilateral or multilateral programmes.
- o) Encourage the development of bilateral agreements for recognition of degrees and curricula, in the frame of the university autonomy, acting as an incentive to bring closer the European and Latin American and Caribbean higher education systems.
- p) Encourage dialogue between the institutions of both regions in order to contribute to the development of higher education of quality and recognition systems.
- q) Support existing and new bi-regional projects for higher education cooperation internships and mobility under EU and CELAC higher education cooperation programmes, and under other national, bilateral or multilateral programmes.
- r) Promote capacity building actions for innovation and exchange of EU–CELAC best practice to boost knowledge and skills in order to address the development needs of both regions.

10. CITIZEN SECURITY

The main objective in this area is to support actions in order to strengthen citizen security, recognizing: i) that it is essential for the development of both regions and the improvement of the quality of life and the well-being of their citizens; ii) that progress in citizen security does not stem from a single isolated policy or action, but from a multi-sector and multi-dimensional approach and a series of social and inclusive public policies including preventive measures, promotion of culture of peace and non-violence, respect, promotion, protection and fulfilment of all human rights, institutional reforms, sufficient public investment, genuine and effective participation of local actors, including communities and, where applicable, municipalities, broad and sustained political will, and the adoption of more modern and effective systems of information; iii) that there is not a one-size-fits-all model in order to tackle the issue of citizen security and iv) that the basis and the rationale of citizen security is the protection of all human beings with full respect to the dignity and fundamental rights of the individual by enabling a safe and stable social, political and economic environment at all levels, and implementing strategies in accordance with national legislation and international law while respecting the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States.

Work Programme:

Dialogue

- a) With full respect for sovereignty and domestic legislation and according to national priorities, encourage a joint reflection on: i) how to reinforce mutual understanding; ii) cooperation, including exchange of best practices and lessons learned on citizen security and iii) the issue of the insecurity of citizens in each region as an important step in order to improve the dialogue and cooperation between both regions.

Cooperation activities and initiatives

- b) To promote and strengthen, according to national priorities and domestic legislation, actions of awareness-raising, mutual confidence and understanding concerning the issue of citizen security in each region.
- c) To support, in accordance with nationally and sub regionally defined priorities and policies, and relevant agreements, actions intended to strengthen cooperation on: i) citizen security; ii) Strengthening networking; iii) Citizen participation in the prevention of crime and violence; iv) Participation in this regard of local actors, including communities and, where applicable, municipalities; v) Development and transfer of technology and methodologies, capacity building; vi) Exchange and dissemination of information, lessons learned and best practices related, among others, to public policies, in particular on persons in conditions of vulnerability.

- d) To share experiences, according to national priorities and domestic legislation, in areas such as social policies for the prevention of violence and crime, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, law enforcement; rehabilitation, social reintegration, restorative justice, where applicable, institutional strengthening and capacity building on criminal justice systems and their institutions, fight against transnational organized crime, corruption and, as appropriate, challenges on penitentiary systems.
- e) To strengthen the role of police and security forces with full respect of human rights as relevant actors in the development and implementation of policies aimed at consolidating citizen security strategies in both regions.
- f) These actions should recognise and take into account where relevant and appropriate the complementarity with the current efforts in the EU and Latin America and Caribbean countries.



Destruction of arms

Expected results

- g) An intergovernmental seminar with a bi-regional view, open to public and private sectors, civil society and other stakeholders, aimed at identifying and addressing the issue of citizen security as an important step in order to improve the dialogue and cooperation between both regions.
- h) An intergovernmental seminar with a bi-regional view, open to public and private sectors, civil society and other stakeholders, to exchange the lessons learned and best practices on social and inclusive public policies as an important step in order to improve the dialogue and cooperation between both regions, regarding inter alia, the implementation and strengthening of programs and social policies for the prevention of violence and crime aiming at promoting a culture of peace and non-violence, particularly among the youth; institutional strengthening and capacity building on criminal justice systems and their institutions; the enhanced role of local actors, including communities and, where applicable, municipalities; law enforcement; rehabilitation, social reintegration; the reduction of social violence and as appropriate, challenges on penitentiary systems, and fight against transnational organized crime, corruption as well as on the role of the police and security forces in the implementation of policies with full respect of human rights.
- i) A Workshop with a bi-regional view, aimed at public and private sectors, civil society and other stakeholders to identify the measures that could be taken, – on a voluntary basis - in order to strengthen networking; the participation of citizens, local actors, including communities and, where applicable, municipalities and all appropriate levels of government; development and transfer of technology and methodologies, training and education – including by bi-regional exchanges, dissemination and exchange of information, lessons learned and best practices to improve the design, support and implementation of public policies concerning the citizen security.



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Council of the European Union
General Secretariat
Justus Lipsius building

Rue de la Loi/Wetstraat 175
Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË

Participants

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

CO-PRESIDENCY

EUROPEAN COUNCIL



European Council

Donald Tusk,
President



EUROPEAN COMMISSION



Jean-Claude Juncker,
President



CELAC

Rafael Correa,
Pro tempore President



ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA



ARGENTINA (Argentine Republic)

Héctor Timerman,
Minister for Foreign Affairs



AUSTRIA

Walter Grahammer,
Ambassador,
Permanent Representative



BARBADOS

Freundel J. Stuart,
Prime Minister



BELGIUM

Charles Michel,
Prime Minister



BELIZE

Wilfred P. Elrington,
Minister of Foreign Affairs





BOLIVIA
(Plurinational State of Bolivia)

Evo Morales Ayma,
President



BRAZIL
(Federative Republic of Brazil)

Dilma Rousseff,
President



BULGARIA

Rosen Plevneliev,
President



CHILE
(Republic of Chile)

Michelle Bachelet,
President



COLOMBIA
(Republic of Colombia)

Juan Manuel Santos,
President



COSTA RICA
(Republic of Costa Rica)

Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera,
President





CROATIA

Zoran Milanović,
Prime Minister



CUBA (Republic of Cuba)

Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez,
First Vice-President



CYPRUS

Nicos Anastasiades,
President of the Republic



CZECH REPUBLIC

Bohuslav Sobotka,
Prime Minister



DENMARK

Kim Jørgensen,
State Secretary for Foreign Policy



DOMINICA (Commonwealth of Dominica)

Roosevelt Skerrit,
Prime Minister





DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Andrés Navarro García,
Minister of Foreign Relations



ECUADOR

Rafael Correa,
President



ÉIRE/IRELAND

Enda Kenny,
The Taoiseach



EL SALVADOR (Republic of El Salvador)

Hugo Martínez,
Minister of Foreign Relations



ESTONIA

Taavi Rõivas,
Prime Minister



FINLAND

Juha Sipilä,
Prime Minister





FRANCE

François Hollande,
President of the Republic



GERMANY

Angela Merkel,
Federal Chancellor



GREECE

Alexis Tsipras,
Prime Minister



GRENADA

Oliver Joseph,
Minister for Economic
Development, Trade, Planning,
Cooperatives and International Business



GUATEMALA (Republic of Guatemala)

Alejandro Maldonado Aguirre,
Vice-President



GUYANA (Co-operative Republic of Guyana)

Neville Totaram,
Deputy Permanent Secretary





HAITI
(Republic of Haiti)

Michel Joseph Martelly,
President



HONDURAS
(Republic of Honduras)

Juan Orlando Hernández,
President



HUNGARY

Viktor Orbán,
Prime Minister



ITALY

Paolo Gentiloni,
Minister for Foreign Affairs



JAMAICA

Portia Simpson Miller,
Prime Minister



LATVIA

Laimdota Straujuma,
Prime Minister





LITHUANIA

Algirdas Butkevičius,
Prime Minister



LUXEMBOURG

Xavier Bettel,
Prime Minister



MALTA

Joseph Muscat,
Prime Minister



MEXICO (United Mexican States)

Enrique Peña Nieto,
President



NETHERLANDS

Mark Rutte,
Prime Minister



NICARAGUA (Republic of Nicaragua)

Denis Moncada Colindres,
Vice-Minister for External Affairs





PANAMA
(Republic of Panama)

Juan Carlos Varela,
President



PARAGUAY
(Republic of Paraguay)

Horacio Cartes,
President



PERU
(Republic of Peru)

Ollanta Humala,
President



POLAND

Ewa Kopacz,
Prime Minister



PORTUGAL

Rui Chancerelle de Machete,
Minister of State
and Foreign Affairs



ROMANIA

Klaus Werner Iohannis,
President





SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS
(Federation of Saint Christopher
and Nevis)

Timothy Harris,
Prime Minister



SAINT LUCIA

Kenny D. Anthony,
Prime Minister



**SAINT VINCENT AND THE
GRENADINES**

Ralph Gonsalves,
Prime Minister



SLOVAKIA

Miroslav Lajčák,
Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs



SLOVENIA

Miro Cerar,
Prime Minister



SPAIN

Mariano Rajoy Brey,
Prime Minister





SURINAME
(Republic of Suriname)

Wilfred Christopher,
Ambassador



SWEDEN

Stefan Lofven,
Prime Minister



THE BAHAMAS
(Commonwealth of the Bahamas)

Perry G. Christie,
Prime Minister



TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
(Republic of Trinidad and Tobago)

Margaret King-Rousseau,
Ambassador



UNITED KINGDOM

David Cameron,
Prime Minister



URUGUAY
(Eastern Republic of Uruguay)

Raúl Sendic,
Vice-President





VENEZUELA
(Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela)

Delcy Rodríguez,
Minister for Foreign Affairs



OTHER PARTICIPANTS



EUROPEAN EXTERNAL ACTION SERVICE

Federica Mogherini,
High Representative for
Foreign Affairs and
Security Policy and
Vice-President
of the European Commission



ECUADOR

Ricardo Patiño,
Minister of Foreign Relations
and Human Mobility



PREPARATORY EVENTS

- 7th meeting of the EU, Latin America and Caribbean trade unions
10–11 March 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- 8th meeting of European Union–Latin American and Caribbean organised civil society
11–12 March 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- VII EU–CELAC civil society forum
19–20 March 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- CELAC–EU youth days
9–10 April 2015, Quito (Ecuador)
- Euro-Latin American parliamentary assembly (Eurolat)
3–5 June 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- Panel debate on urban development and public space
4 June 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- EU–CELAC Academic Summit
8–9 June 2015, Brussels (Belgium)
- EU–CELAC Business Summit
10 June 2015, Brussels (Belgium)

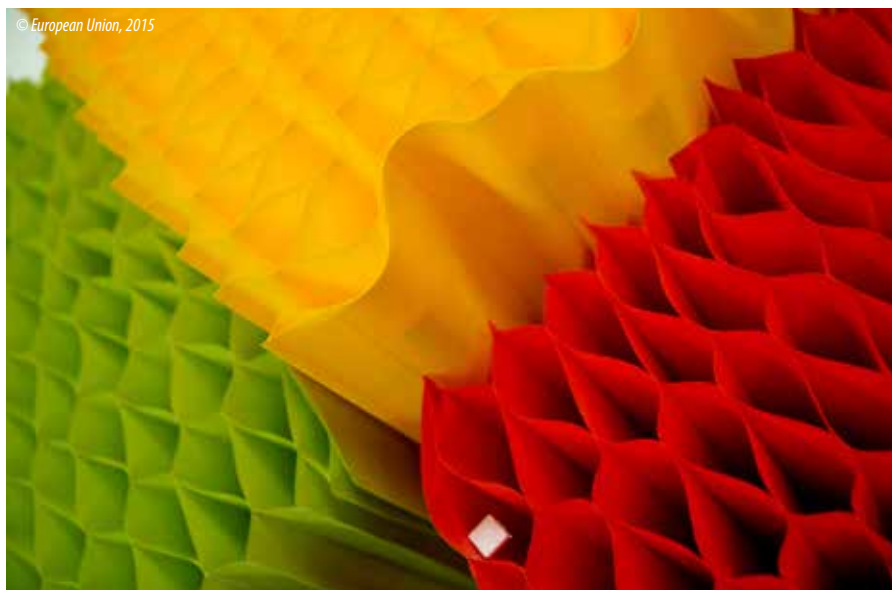


Opening of the EU-CELAC Business Summit, 10 June 2015

CHRONOLOGY OF EU-LAC AND EU-CELAC MEETINGS

- Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) – June 1999
- Madrid (Spain) – May 2002
- Guadalajara (Mexico) – May 2004
- Vienna (Austria) – February 2006
- Lima (Peru) – May 2008
- Madrid (Spain) – May 2010

- Santiago de Chile (Chile) – January 2013
- Brussels (Belgium) – June 2015





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10-11.06.2015



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1048 Bruxelles/Brussel
BELGIQUE/BELGIË
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