

Registration

International Conference

Prospects for Africa – Europe's Policies

Deadline: 5th March 2007

Online: www.afrikas-perspektive.de/veranstaltungen.html

Per E-Mail: info@afrikas-perspektive.de

Catering fee: 10 Euro

Name

Organisation

Address

Phone

Fax

Email

An
VENRO
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Phone: +49 (0) 228 946 77 12, Fax: +49 (0) 228 946 77 99

Date and venue

Monday 12th March 2007

9.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Gremiensaal, Deutsche Welle

Kurt-Schumacher-Straße 3, 53113 Bonn

How to get to the venue:

Public transport:

Subway/Underground lines 16,63,66,68: Get off at
"Heussallee/Museumsmeile" stop. From there, a five
minutes walk to the venue.

From Bonn Central Station, you take a Number 610 bus
to the "Bundeshaus/Deutsche Welle" stop.
(ten-minute ride).

From Cologne-Bonn Airport, you take a Number 670 bus
to Bonn Central Station (30 minutes).

From there, take the subway or bus (see above).

www.afrikas-perspektive.de
www.prospects-for-africa.de



Federal Ministry
for Economic Cooperation
and Development

With the financial assistance of the European Union and the Federal
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EUROPE'S POLICIES
The EU Presidency Project of VENRO

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ASSOCIATION OF GERMAN
DEVELOPMENT NGOs

European NGO confederation
for relief and development
CONCORD
Confédération européenne des ONG
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Background

Africa's development is a focal aspect of Germany's and also the subsequent EU Council Presidencies of Portugal and Slovenia, and it is to play a prominent role at the informal meeting of development ministers on the Petersberg on the 13th March 2007. Immediately ahead of this, the international conference "Prospects for Africa – Europe's Policies" is to discuss the topical issues that are going to crucially influence the change in relations between the EU and the African countries.

The EU has still not succeeded in achieving policy coherence for development, i.e. the objectives of different policy areas, such as trade and agriculture, are still having a negative impact on the development goals.

The conclusion of the so-called Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs), which the German Government intends to support, is of particular importance to the development of the African states. The EPAs were originally devised as development tools. But the current state of negotiations suggests that many of the poorest African countries are not going to withstand the competitive pressure exerted by European export industry. European NGOs are strongly calling on the EU to delay the negotiations in order to ensure that EPAs are good development tools. The discussion topics are the conditions that the EPAs have to fulfil for them to ultimately be conducive to development and the contributions that the subsequent presidencies of Portugal and Slovenia have to make in order to improve political coherence.

Partnership, ownership and participation, as basic principles in the Cotonou Agreement show considerable shortcomings in practice. In December 2005 the EU presented a strategy for Africa that yet remains to be turned into a common EU strategy for Africa. Because of the shortcomings on the consultation to establish the EU Africa strategy, a new public consultation was officially launched. This is to evolve into a joint declaration at the EU Africa Summit planned for the end of 2007. The timeframe is tight. How can it be ensured that African and European NGOs will be able to participate substantially? Is the strategy going to give greater consideration to the interests of the African countries? Does this new process represent a paradigm shift in European policy vis-à-vis the NGOs?

Programme

	Moderation Dr. Claudia Warning, Chairperson, VENRO	How to improve the EU-African Partnership? The role of African and European NGOs	Part III
08:30	Arrival and Registration of the Participants	Key Note	16:00
09:00	Opening Remarks Erik Bettermann, Deutsche Welle Dr. Claudia Warning	Dr. Agnes Abuom, All African Conference of Churches (AACC)/World Council of Churches (WCC)	
Part I	Are Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) pro-development? The policy coherence for development of EU-ACP free trade agreements	Panel Discussion Dr. Agnes Abuom Justin Killcullen, President of CONCORD Louis Michel, Commissioner for European Development Policy and Humanitarian Aid Chair: Dr. Claudia Warning	
09:30	Key Note Tetteh Hormeku, Third World Network Africa	Come together	18:00
	Panel Discussion Tetteh Hormeku Honr. Dr. Aliyu Modibo, Minister of Commerce of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (tbc) Klaus Schilder, WEED/terre des hommes Heidemarie Wieczorek-Zeul, Federal Minister for Economic Cooperation and Development Chair: Petra Pinzler, die Zeit	The conference will be held in English.	
12:15	Lunch		
Part II	View on the Coherence Programme of the Forthcoming Presidencies		
13:30	Key Note Prof. Dr. h. c. Christa Randzio-Plath, Vice Chair, VENRO		
	Panel Discussion Prof. Dr. João Cravinho, Secretary of State, Portugal Prof. Dr. h.c. Christa Randzio-Plath Andrej Šter, Secretary of State, Slovenia (tbc) Chair: Susan Killick, Deutsche Welle		
15:30	Coffee Break		



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