

# **EURO-LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**



## **Message to the 5th European Union-Latin America and Caribbean Summit Lima, 16 and 17 May 2008**

Thursday, 1 May 2008 – Lima (Peru)

**Message to the 5th European Union-Latin America and Caribbean Summit  
(Lima, 16 and 17 May 2008)**

**Integrating diversity – moving forward together**

For the first time since it was swiftly brought into operation following the Vienna Summit, the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly is offering the Heads of State and Government, on this significant date of 1 May, its proposals and recommendations for the forthcoming Summit, which is to take place in Lima on 16 and 17 May 2008. They express its commitment to the new responsibilities incumbent upon it as the parliamentary arm of the Biregional Strategic Partnership and summarise its work and that of its various bodies at its first two Ordinary plenary sessions held in Brussels on 18-20 December 2007 and in Lima on 29 April and 1 May 2008. The launch of the Assembly (which will gradually incorporate all the member parliaments, the Congresses of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the European Parliament) demonstrates the benefits which in terms of mutual dialogue, knowledge and understanding and as regards the adoption of joint decisions and positions may be bestowed on the citizens represented. It also provides added value for the Strategic Partnership, the full legitimacy and influence of which are to be found in the work of ministers and of the Summit itself, in the work of Assembly as the parliamentary branch of the Partnership and in the work of a civil society which must play an ever-greater role in achieving the Strategic Partnership objectives.

On the basis of the above, the parliamentarians of both regions hereby propose and recommend the following as *principles and priorities of the Biregional Strategic Partnership*:

- to confirm as **basic principles** of the Biregional Strategic Partnership the set of shared values and interests set out in the 2002 Madrid Declaration and also the joint commitment to effective multilateralism, regional integration and social cohesion, as reaffirmed at previous Summits held in Guadalajara in 2002 and Vienna in 2004;
- to continue outlining a strategic design for the Partnership which will ultimately lead to the establishment of a **Euro-Latin American Interregional Global Partnership Area** around 2012, to include a genuine Strategic Partnership in the political, economic, social and cultural fields and in the joint search for sustainable development;
- to conclude the negotiations on the **EU-Central America** and **EU-Andean Community Partnership Agreements** by mid-2009 at the latest, based on three common pillars: a political and institutional chapter which will improve the mechanisms for dialogue and political consultation, a cooperation chapter which will promote sustainable social and economic development, and a trade chapter containing progressive and reciprocal liberalisation programmes, which takes into account the asymmetries apparent in their respective economies' levels of development on the basis of solidarity and complementarity;

*On the basis of these three pillars:*

- to conclude as soon as possible the negotiations on the **EU-Mercosur Interregional Partnership Agreement** and to apply more comprehensively the **EU-Mexico and EU-Chile Partnership Agreements**;
- to commission a viability study relating to the future **Interregional Global Partnership Agreement** (the basis for the establishment of the proposed Global Partnership Area);
- to draw up a **Euro-Latin American Charter for Peace and Security** which – on the basis of the UN Charter – would enable political, strategic and security proposals to be signed jointly;

*Concerning the Lima Agenda for the eradication of poverty, inequality and exclusion*

- to prepare specific action with a view to achieving the **Millennium Goals by 2015**, in particular those relating to the fight against poverty, the creation of stable, high-quality jobs and the social inclusion of excluded groups, especially indigenous groups, children, women and the disabled;
- to stress that means of tackling shortages and rising food prices should be sought as a matter of urgency;
- to create a **Biregional Solidarity Fund** for the purpose of financing sectoral programmes designed to increase social and economic cohesion;
- to intensify cooperation in the fields of technology, higher education and innovation, including the Galileo Programme;
- to establish a systematic biregional dialogue on **migration**, within which matters relating to illegal immigration and opportunities for legal migration will have priority status, which will protect migrant workers' human rights and which will lead to more extensive cooperation with Latin American countries of origin and transit on the basis of one and the same balanced, specific overarching criterion:
- to introduce by 2012 common general rules and provisions designed to facilitate the movement not only of goods, services and capital but also of persons through the progressive establishment of the broadest possible mutually beneficial Partnership and based on the comprehensive approach advocated by the UN as regards migration;

*Concerning the Lima Agenda with regard to sustainable development and in particular the environment, climate change and energy*

- to attach priority to cooperation in respect of **climate change** and to policies designed to prevent global warming, bearing in mind that the first victims of climate change and of environmental degradation are the very poor and in particular indigenous peoples;

- to provide mutual support for the respective **environmental initiatives** at international level; to work together with a view to ensuring that countries which produce high emissions and which have not yet acceded to the Kyoto Protocol do so; to strengthen and coordinate positions in the negotiations on international instruments relating to global warming; to give a strong boost to emissions-trading between the two regions; to support the least-favoured countries in their combined efforts to reduce polluting emissions and to speed up their progress and raise their welfare standards as a tangible expression of the need for economic development to proceed hand-in-hand with sustainable development;
- to create joint cooperation mechanisms within **international Latin American and Caribbean bodies** (such as the Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organisation) with a view to deciding upon and financing the protection and the sustainable development of the planet's major nature reserves;
- to adopt joint practical initiatives in areas such as **climate change, desertification, energy** (in particular renewable energy sources and agri-fuels), **water, biodiversity, forests and the management of chemicals** on the basis of the Roadmap established at the 13th United Nations Climate Change Conference (Bali, 15 December 2007), and also in view of the **world food crisis**;

*Concerning the strengthening of institutional, promotion and research mechanisms*

- to strengthen the Partnership's parliamentary dimension by strengthening the **Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly** in line with the praise and the expectations expressed by the current EU Presidency and by the Commission when they appeared at the 23 April European Parliament plenary sitting;
- to establish a public-private **Euro-Latin American Foundation** for the promotion of dialogue between partners, in line with the Foundations which already exist for other geographical areas;
- to establish a **Biregional Conflict-Prevention Centre** concerned with the early detection of the causes of potential violent and armed conflicts and the best way of defusing them or preventing any escalation,
- to establish a **Monitoring Centre on Migration**, the task of which would be the continuous, detailed monitoring of all matters relating to migrant flows within the Euro-Latin American area.