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PRESS RELEASE

AFRICA-EUROPE DIALOGUE MEETING OF THE TROIKAS AT AMBASSADOR LEVEL: ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA:10 AUGUST 2006

The Troikas of the African Union and the European Union met in Addis Ababa on 10 August, 2006 to, among others fulfill the mandate given to them by the Vienna Ministerial Troika to politically endorse the Joint Implementation Matrix arising from the commitments made by both sides in the context of the Africa-Europe Dialogue. The Vienna Communique calls for the update of the matrix every three months and its endorsement by the Troikas of Ambassadors. The Troikas, represented by the Finland, as the Presidency of the European Union, Germany, incoming and the European Commission on the European side and the Republic of Congo, as the current Chair of the African Union, the Federal Republic of Nigeria, outgoing chair, the Republic of The Sudan as incoming chair and the Commission of the African Union.

The Troikas reviewed and endorsed the Joint Implementation Matrix, which was updated as of 16 June 2006. The Troikas emphasized the need to put more effort in the implementation of the commitments outlined in the matrix in order to give more value to the dialogue. The Troikas agreed to meet in September 2006 before the 10 October 2006 Brazzaville Ministerial Troika meeting to consider new updates to the matrix as well as the draft agenda and draft communiqué for that meeting.