

“Second Brazil-European Union Summit Joint Statement
Rio de Janeiro, 22 December, 2008

The Second Brazil-European Union Summit was held in Rio de Janeiro on 22 December 2008 chaired by the President of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Mr. Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva, and by the President of France, Mr. Nicolas Sarkozy, in his capacity as President of the Council of the European Union, the President of the European Commission, Mr. José Manuel Durão Barroso, and Mr. Javier Solana, High Representative of the Council of the European Union.

The leaders discussed global issues, regional situations and the strengthening of EU-Brazil relations.

I. Global Issues

International financial crisis and Global economy

[EU: Leaders addressed the current international financial crisis and its severe impact on the world's economy. They welcome progress being made to respond to the crisis, and to ensure the smooth running of the financial sector and of real economy. In the wake of the Washington summit, they call on the international community to continue to demonstrate vision and resolution and to take effective economic and financial measures in a comprehensive and coordinated way in order to restore market confidence, stabilise global financial markets and promote global economic growth.

In view of avoiding a repetition of such a crisis, they stress the need to remain proactive and ambitious so as to help design a renewed financial architecture and to promote a common set of principles for reform of the regulatory and institutional regimes for the world's financial sector.

Reaffirming the fundamental values of free market and the need to fight against protectionism, they underline the importance of increasing the responsibility of all financial actors, notably along the credit chain, of extending transparency on all the segments of financial markets, of ensuring more consistency among regulatory and oversight frameworks, of seeking a better anticipation of risks and an appropriate risk management.

Brazil and the EU remain strongly committed to the successful conclusion of the World Trade Organization's Doha Development Round. Leaders confirm their willingness to reach an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced agreement that fulfils the development objectives of the Round and significantly fosters trade flows in agriculture, industrial goods and services among and between developed and developing countries, as well as promotes effective trade rules.

Climate change and energy

[EU: Brazil and the EU underline that climate change is one of the most important challenge that the international community has to tackle. The Copenhagen agreement to be reached will have to promote sustainable development and will be an opportunity for

both economic growth and improvement of social conditions. To that end, Brazil and the EU underline the need to work towards an ambitious, effective and comprehensive agreed outcome at the Climate change conference to be held in Copenhagen, Denmark at the end of 2009, taking due account of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities. They call for an ambitious long term global goal for emissions reduction, on the basis of the 4th assessment report of the inter-governmental Panel on climate change. They welcome the G8 desire to share with all the parties of the UNFCCC the vision of reducing global emissions by at least 50% by 2050.

Brazil and the EU recognize the need to work together towards achieving the global target of significantly reducing the current rate of biodiversity loss by 2010. They agree that actions to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, to reduce deforestation and forest degradation, and to promote sustainable forest management, are essential in view of mitigation and adaptation efforts as well as preservation of biological diversity].

Both Brazil and the EU recognize the importance of achieving sustainable and reliable energy supplies. The promotion of renewable energy and the efforts aimed at improving access to energy and energy efficiency are viewed by both sides as an important contribution to fulfilling sustainable development needs as well as achieving greater energy security. Summit leaders agree that such policies should also facilitate the development of more efficient, far-reaching, socially inclusive and low carbon energy technologies alternative to fossil fuels with a positive impact in terms of reduction of greenhouse gas emissions, with a particular emphasis on safety and sustainability. Leaders agree that the political commitment by Brazil and the EU to increase the use of renewable energies and the sustainable production of biofuels offers economic opportunities to both sides.

The Millennium Development Goals and the fight against poverty

Brazil and the EU are convinced that by joining their forces, they can contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and to promoting international peace and overall economic well-being. Brazil and the EU decide to cooperate in bringing sustainable development to interested developing countries in sectors such as health, energy, agriculture and education.

Both sides recognize that one of the greatest challenges of our century is the eradication of extreme poverty. Summit leaders re-affirm the commitment of both sides to continue working together in the context of the food crisis and the Global Action Against Hunger and Poverty and to [EU: encourage the scaling up of the implementation]of innovative financing mechanisms for development. They agree that optimizing available resources is necessary, as well as mobilizing new and additional, adequate and predictable resources, especially for the poorest countries. In this context, they stress the importance of building a global partnership for development and implementing the Monterrey Consensus.

II. Regional, international and security issues

Recalling that their Strategic Partnership stems from shared values and principles – such as democracy, rule of law, promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms – both Brazil and the EU agree on the importance of an effective multilateral system, centered

on a strong United Nations, as a key factor in the tackling of global challenges. In this context, they recognize the need to pursue the reform of the main UN bodies.

Leaders also expressed their shared interest in promoting regional cooperation with a view to the consolidation of stability and prosperity in their respective regions. Brazil and the EU will continue to work together to the strengthening of political, socio-economic and cultural biregional relations, particularly in the context of the EU-LAC Summit process and the Rio Group-EU Ministerial Dialogue.

The leaders consider that the EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership has a strong potential to impact positively on relations between the EU and MERCOSUR as a whole. The EU and Brazil, as a member of MERCOSUR, are committed to resuming negotiations for an Association Agreement between the two regions.

Concerning illicit drugs, they reiterate their joint commitment to fight effectively against drugs, in accordance with the principle of shared responsibility, on the basis of a balanced approach and in conformity with international law, as agreed at the last high level meeting of the Coordination and Cooperation Mechanism on drug between UE and LAC countries (Vienna, March 2008).

Summit leaders reaffirm their mutual interest in fostering the development of international standards to combat organized crime and corruption, by promoting cooperation in such matters and in particular the full implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and supplementary Protocols on the fight against organized crime and the UN Convention against Corruption.

III. EU-Brazil bilateral relations

Summit leaders welcome the completion of the Brazil-EU Joint Action Plan, which will serve as a basis for the implementation of their Strategic partnership and coordinated action for the next three years.

They agree to facilitate the exchange of information with a view to allowing both sides to take advantage of reciprocal opportunities for public and private investments. In this context, they note with satisfaction the results of the second EU-Brazil Business Round Table, held in Rio de Janeiro on 22 December 2008.

[insert a sentence on the granting of MES to new MS here]

Summit leaders welcome the advanced state of coordination between Brazil and the EU in the areas of science, technology and innovation. They welcome in particular the work carried out between Brazilian and European institutions and companies in the field of research and technological development, especially to foster innovative technologies oriented to the production of goods and services.

Brazil and the EU also emphasize the importance of promoting people-to-people exchanges. They recognise that migration is increasingly important in the context of globalization, given the large-scale movement of people from region to region, as well as the positive role of [EU: well-managed migration as a factor of integration among peoples and development in countries of origin and destination. They reiterate the need to develop a comprehensive approach on this issue, including the promotion of legal

migration, effectively addressing irregular migration, as well as the link between migration and development.] Both sides will continue to address migration issues within the framework of their bilateral contacts and the international fora where both Brazil and the EU participate.

Both sides acknowledge that all EU and Brazilian citizens should benefit from full mutual visa-free travel on the basis of reciprocal and equal treatment. To this end, Summit leaders reiterate their commitment to finalise as soon as possible a short stay visa waiver agreement between the EC and Brazil.

Brazil and the EU stress the importance of involving the civil society in their bilateral dialogue. In this context, they welcome the decision of Brazilian Council for Economic and Social Development and the European Economic and Social Committee to set up a Brazil-EU civil society Round Table.