

Biography

Leonello GABRICI

Date and place of birth: 28.03.1958, Asmara (Erytrea)

Nationality: Italian

Professional experience

Deep knowledge and experience in the domain of external relations and of the information and communication portfolio of the European Commission.

November 2008 - Present: European Commission, Brussels

External Relations Directorate General, Head of Unit EuroMed and Regional Issues, RELEX.F1

General coordination of Euro-Med activities with particular responsibility for the revision of community strategies, in order to oversee a smooth transition of the “acquis” of the Barcelona Process to the Union for the Mediterranean.

2002 – 2008 :

European Commission, Brussels

External Relations Directorate General, Head of Unit Maghreb. RELEX.F4

Overall responsibility for relations with Maghreb countries, in particular for policy elaboration of the European Neighbourhood Policy, including negotiations of the countries’ Action Plans, programming of bilateral financial aid and the transition from former national indicative programmes (MEDA) to those of the new financial instrument of the ENP.

1999 – 2002 :

European Commission, Brussels

spokesperson of Antonio Vitorino - Commissioner for Justice and Internal Affairs - in charge of relations with the media and the public of the Members States and third countries.

1997 – 1999 :

European Commission, Brussels

External Relations Directorate General IB; Assistant of the Director General,

In charge of general coordination and, in particular, the follow-up of political issues for Mediterranean, Latin America and Asia regions.

1996 – 1997 :

European Commission, Brussels

External Relations Directorate General - Directorate "Latin America"; Acting Head of Unit,

responsible for bilateral economic cooperation in Latin America, and for the conception and management of regional programmes in the domain of economic development with particular regard to civil society.

1993 – 1996 :

European Commission, Brussels

External Relations Directorate General, Assistant of the Director of Latin America

Responsible for horizontal files and, in particular, for liaison with the Members States.

1989 - 1993 (Brasil) : **Delegation of the European Commission (Brasilia)**
Trade, economic and political counsellor.
Follow-up of bilateral trade relations and coordination of the economic cooperation programmes.

1986 - 1989 (Ouganda) : **Delegation of the European Commission (Kampala)**
Rural development counsellor
In charge, in particular, of the establishment of the “Karamoya Authority”, a decentralised administrative office with direct liaison with the Republic’s Presidency.

1985 - 1986 (Angola) : **Head of a joint EC/UNHCR project concerning**, the reintegration of 20.000 internally displaced persons, including coordination with local civil and military authorities.

1982 - 1985 (Brésil) : **"Cobrex-Agropecuaria Malabar"**, State of Bahia
Management of a Swiss - Brazilian mixed capital company in the agro- food sector

Education

1982 : **Degree in Agricultural Engineering (High Distinction)**
Specialisation in Economy and Sociology.
Faculty of Agronomic Sciences, Gembloux (Belgium).