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*Committee on Foreign Affairs*

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**2011/2056(INI)**

20.4.2011

## **DRAFT OPINION**

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy

on an effective raw materials strategy for Europe  
(2011/2056(INI))

Rapporteur: Elmar Brok

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## SUGGESTIONS

The Committee on Foreign Affairs calls on the Committee on Industry, Research and Energy, as the committee responsible, to incorporate the following suggestions in its motion for a resolution:

1. Welcomes the proposal for EU diplomacy on raw materials and rare earths with the aim of urgently establishing an international regulatory platform and ensuring open global markets;
2. Stresses that as part of the EU's strategic cooperation with relevant key partners such as the USA, Russia and Japan, an early-warning mechanism for market distortion and supply shortage should be established and complemented by a monitoring group at EU level comprising representatives of the EU institutions, the Member States and relevant industry sectors;
3. Calls for international regulatory standards on sustainable mining and good governance which should be promoted through relevant fora, such as the G8 and the G20, the WTO, the OECD, UNCTAD, UNEP;
4. Calls on the WTO to monitor closely the impact of export restrictions and other barriers on the price of raw materials; supports the creation in the WTO of a 'Raw Materials and Rare Earths Stability Board';
5. Welcomes the inclusion of explicit guarantees on market access to raw materials in EU trade agreements and as a prerequisite for membership of the WTO; calls for the access to and sustainable governance of raw materials to be included in all EU agreements with relevant third countries;
6. Outlines the importance of bilateral cooperation on raw materials, as demonstrated by the EU and the African Union in June 2010, and encourages further efforts in the context of the Joint Africa-EU Action Plan for 2011-2013; calls for similar cooperation to be developed with other countries that are major producers of critical raw materials;
7. Calls on the Commission, when preparing the new external action instruments for the period after 2013, to include measures to support good governance and sustainable mining in the programmes for the democratic and economic stability of fragile States that are suppliers of raw materials;
8. Believes that the responsibility for a coherent and effective EU diplomacy must lie with the EEAS, which will activate all relevant Commission services, in close coordination with the Council and Parliament; believes furthermore that the strategic relevance of raw materials should be reflected in the organisation of the EEAS and in the staffing of relevant EU delegations.