

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

Committee on Foreign Affairs

2005/2142(INI)

25.10.2005

OPINION

of the Committee on Foreign Affairs

for the Committee on Development

on a development strategy for Africa
(2005/2142(INI))

Draftsman: Tobias Pflüger

PA_NonLeg

SUGGESTIONS

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

1. Welcomes the progress which has been made in recent decades, including the triumph of democracy over tyranny, colonialism and apartheid in countries such as Nigeria, Namibia and South Africa, which shows that fundamental change depends on the popular will;
2. Recommends a debate on the causes of poverty as well as the consequences resulting from it;
3. Calls for a new effort to combat poverty and social exclusion in Africa, with improved coordination and complementarity of Member States and Commission policies, adequate resources for poverty reduction in the EU budget, and bearing in mind creative solutions to fight poverty (such as micro-financing) and also the work of UN Agencies and Programmes;
4. Calls on the EU to respect basic human rights while dealing with refugees and illegal immigrants on the EU border in Africa, and to consider the option of organising an international conference on migration;
5. Calls upon the EU to support steadfastly the UN in its efforts to accomplish the decolonisation of Western Sahara, and for increased EU humanitarian aid for Sahrawi refugees;
6. Recommends initiating a debate on governmental and corporate social responsibility as an integral part of the new Africa strategy;
7. Underlines the importance of providing an optimum level of public services, and calls for a renewed focus on basic services in health, education and welfare;
8. Calls for the reversal of proposed cuts in EU funding for work on HIV/AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis and other health sector initiatives involving Africa;
9. Stresses that EU strategy in Africa must not reinforce undemocratic regimes; calls therefore for concerted efforts to channel the increased development assistance effectively in order to stabilise the respective recipient countries; expresses once more the need for a tailor-made development strategy that responds to the special needs of the respective country and that differentiates between structurally stable states and failing states;
10. Calls on the EU to assume a leading role in the implementation of the new universally accepted responsibility to protect, by improving peacemaking capacities, in support of the African Union, and by strengthening the fight against impunity through renewed support for the ICC and other International Criminal Tribunals;
11. Stresses the importance of ensuring the respect of human rights and democracy in Africa and calls on the EU to increase its support for democratic institutions, in particular national parliaments, and to strengthen the role of the European electoral observation missions and duly reflect their conclusions on European external policies;
12. Stresses the need to promote peace and the solution of African conflicts by ensuring a

strict control of arms exports, under a binding international arms trade treaty, more efficient demobilisation programmes, in particular regarding child soldiers, and de-mining assistance;

13. Calls on the EU to continue and further strengthen its cooperation with the African Union, and welcomes the inclusion of a chapter on Africa in the outcome document of the 60th UN World Summit, highlighting the importance of this continent's development.

PROCEDURE

Title	A Development Strategy for Africa
Procedure number	2005/2142(INI)
Committee responsible	DEVE
Committee asked for its opinion Date announced in plenary	AFET 8.9.2005
Enhanced cooperation	No
Draftsman Date appointed	Tobias Pflüger 20.9.2005
Discussed in committee	11.10.2005 24.10.2005
Date suggestions adopted	24.10.2005
Result of final vote	for: 37 against: 0 abstentions: 0
Members present for the final vote	Vittorio Agnoletto, Philip Claeys, Simon Coveney, Ryszard Czarnecki, Anna Elzbieta Fotyga, Jas Gawronski, Maciej Marian Giertych, Ana Maria Gomes, Alfred Gomolka, Anna Ibrisagic, Toomas Hendrik Ilves, Georgios Karatzaferis, Ioannis Kasoulides, Francisco José Millán Mon, Pasqualina Napoletano, Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck, Tobias Pflüger, Mirosław Mariusz Piotrowski, Bernd Posselt, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, György Schöpflin, Gitte Seeberg, Antonio Tajani, Charles Tannock, Geoffrey Van Orden, Ari Vatanen, Francis Wurtz, Josef Zieleniec.
Substitutes present for the final vote	Marielle De Sarnez, Árpád Duka-Zólyomi, Glyn Ford, Kinga Gál, Milan Horáček, Alexander Lambsdorff, Erik Meijer, Aloyzas Sakalas.
Substitutes under Rule 178(2) present for the final vote	Johan Van Hecke