

Trade: Africa

Commitment

“The G8 in return agreed to a comprehensive plan to support Africa’s progress. This is set out in our separate statement today. We agreed: to stimulate growth, to improve the investment climate and to make trade work for Africa, including by helping to build Africa’s capacity to trade and working to mobilize the extra investment in infrastructure which is needed for business.”

- *Chair’s Summary (final press conference)*⁴¹³

Background

It is estimated that Africa needs a growth rate of approximately 8% per year in order to reach the Millennium Development Goal of decreasing poverty by one half in 2015.⁴¹⁴ Africa accounts for 2% of world trade and has insignificant shares in global manufactured exports despite some improvements in economic performance.⁴¹⁵ The Commission for Africa set recommendations for the achievement of growth and development in Africa to the G8, EU, and partner organizations on 11 March 2005.⁴¹⁶ The Commission stressed the need to make the investment climate stronger through public/private partnerships, increase the investment in infrastructure enormously such as rural roads, small-scale irrigation, regional highways and Information and Communications Technology (ICT).⁴¹⁷ In order to improve the capacity for trade, internal changes such as transport technology would be necessary. In light of these recommendations, the G8 countries set forth specific commitments to improve Africa’s capacity to trade. Specific to this commitment was the pledge by G8 leaders to accept three initiatives: stimulate growth and improve the investment climate in Africa, build Africa’s capacity to trade, and mobilize investment in infrastructure for business.

Team Leader: Sadia Rafiquddin

⁴¹³ Chair’s Summary, G8 Gleneagles Summit, (Gleneagles), July 2005.
<http://www.g8.utoronto.ca/summit/2005gleneagles/statement.html>.

⁴¹⁴ EU Strategy for Africa: Towards a Euro-African pact to accelerate Africa’s development, Commission of the European Community, (Brussels), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006.
http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/communications/docs/eu_strategy_for_africa_12_10_2005_en.pdf#zoom=100.

⁴¹⁵ EU Strategy for Africa: Towards a Euro-African pact to accelerate Africa’s development, Commission of the European Community, (Brussels), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006.
http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/communications/docs/eu_strategy_for_africa_12_10_2005_en.pdf#zoom=100.

⁴¹⁶ Launch of Commission of Africa Report, Department for International Development, (London), 11 March 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/commission-africa-report1.asp>.

⁴¹⁷ Executive Summary, Commission for Africa Report, Department for International Development, (London), 11 March 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2005. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/cfa-executivesummary.pdf>.

Assessment:

Score	Lack of Compliance -1	Work in Progress 0	Full Compliance +1
Country			
Canada			+1
France		0	
Germany			+1
Italy		0	
Japan			+1
Russia		0	
United Kingdom			+1
United States			+1
European Union			+1
Overall			0.67

Individual Country Compliance Breakdown

1. Canada: +1

Canada demonstrated successful compliance with the Gleneagles commitment to promote trade and investment in Africa. In particular, Canada launched the Canadian Investment Fund for Africa (CIFA) in Accra, Ghana on 12 October 2005.⁴¹⁸ CIFA is a significant component of the Canada Fund for Africa and a key response to Canada's commitment to the G8 Africa Action Plan and the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). CIFA aims to attract foreign direct investment in Africa by providing risk capital for private companies. The Canadian government is matching all investment dollar for dollar.⁴¹⁹ CIFA also endeavours to expand Africa's infrastructure, create jobs, and provide better access to technology. At its launch, CIFA announced that it will channel US\$162-million into Africa.⁴²⁰

At the WTO ministerial conference in Hong Kong from 13-18 December 2005, Mr. Jim Peterson, Canada's Minister of International Trade, stated that Canada's goal is "to rein in subsidies and to achieve major improvements in market access."⁴²¹ However, Canada failed to open its market to African countries during the conference, though it did confirm that it will eliminate export subsidies on agricultural goods by 2013.⁴²²

Analyst: Laura Yau

2. France: 0

France receives a grade of '0' for its achievements toward improving trade in Africa as identified at the Gleneagles Summit. While France has reaffirmed its commitment to this issue and has identified

⁴¹⁸ Canada Investment Fund for Africa (CIFA) launched in Africa on October 12, 2005, Canadian International Development Agency, (Ottawa), 13 December 2005. Date of Access: 7 January 2006. http://www.acdi-cida.gc.ca/cida_ind.nsf/vall/165F1F96BE4873F7852570990062EFA2?OpenDocument.

⁴¹⁹ Sharda Prashad, "Canada plants seed money in Africa development fund", Toronto Star, (Toronto), 26 April 2005.

⁴²⁰ US\$162 million Canada Investment Fund for Africa launched, Canada Investment Fund for Africa, 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 7 January 2006. http://www.cifafund.ca/en/news/2005/CIFA%20launch_Ghana1.pdf.

⁴²¹ Opening Plenary Statement of Canada at WTO Ministerial, Department of International Trade, (Hong Kong), 14 December 2005. Date of Access: 7 January 7 2006. <http://www.dfait-maeci.gc.ca/tna-nac/WTO/ministerial-6-en.asp>.

⁴²² Tom Grimmer, WTO averts talk breakdowns, Globe and Mail, (Toronto), 18 December 2005.

infrastructure development as one of its seven priority sectors for African development,⁴²³ there is currently little evidence of new independent funding allocated to fulfilling this commitment.

Citing Africa as one of its top three priorities for international action, France reiterated its support for the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) in order to "spur regional integration and infrastructure development in a spirit of partnership with developed countries".⁴²⁴ France participated in the fifth meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum (APF) in London on 4-5 October 2005, which aims to "record, monitor and report on delivery of all financial and policy commitments to Africa...[and] set clear, time-bound benchmarks against which progress can be measured and monitored".⁴²⁵ France also took part in the inaugural meeting of the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa, held on 6 October 2005. The Consortium seeks to work as a partnership between donors and stakeholders "to accelerate progress to meet the urgent infrastructure needs of Africa in support of economic growth and development".⁴²⁶

At the 23rd Conference of Heads of State and Government of Africa and France, held in Bamako on 3-4 December 2005, France stated its commitment to African development and its support for the Doha round of trade negotiations in dealing with development.⁴²⁷ In a statement made by HE Mrs. Christine Lagarde, Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade, at the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference this December, France said "we must put development back at the heart of the Round" and confirmed French "support [for] an increase in aid for trade" for the poorest countries.⁴²⁸ As a member of the WTO, France was represented in the Hong Kong round's Ministerial Declaration which discussed expanding aid for trade and created a task force to offer recommendations on how to 'operationalize' aid for trade.⁴²⁹

Analyst: Melissa Molson

3. Germany: +1

The German government registered a high level of compliance with the Gleneagles' trade in Africa commitment as they sought ways to make trade work for Africa as well as successfully build Africa's capacity to trade. A Ministerial Declaration released by Germany on 19 December 2005 committed to eliminating all export subsidies on cotton to Africa by 2006, thereby benefiting African cotton farmers and making trade work for Africa.⁴³⁰ There was also progress in Germany's commitment to build Africa's infrastructure. On 21 October 2005, the governments of Germany and Burkina Faso announced a comprehensive plan which would see Germany provide €54 million between 2005 and 2007 for economic development with a focus on market oriented agricultural goods and their production.⁴³¹ In addition, in a press release dated 20 December 2005, the German government pledged the government of

⁴²³ France Priorities: Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (Paris). Date of Access: 2 January 2006. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/development_2108/french-policy_2589/governmental-strategies_2670/index.html.

⁴²⁴ France's contribution to international action: three priorities, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (Paris). 25 August 2005. Date of Access: 30 December 2005. http://www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/international-organizations_1100/united-nations-1945-2005-60-years-of-history-france-and-the-un-in-2005_2077/the-urgency-of-development-needs_2079/france-contribution-to-international-action-three-priorities_1639.html?var_recherche=france+aid+for+trade.

⁴²⁵ Africa – what has been achieved in 2005, Department for International Development, (London). 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/africa/africa-2005.asp>.

⁴²⁶ Africa – what has been achieved in 2005, Department for International Development, (London). 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/africa/africa-2005.asp>.

⁴²⁷ 23rd Conference of Heads of State and Government of Africa and France: Communiqué on Trade, Office of the President of the Republic, (Paris). 4 December 2005. Date of Access: 19 December 2005. http://www.elysee.fr/elysee/anglais/speeches_and_documents/2005/communique_on_trade-23rd_conference_of_heads_of_state_and_government_of_africa_and_france.34604.html.

⁴²⁸ Statement by French Minister Delegate for Foreign Trade Christine Lagarde, at the Hong Kong Ministerial Conference, (Hong Kong), 14 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/min05_e/min05_statements_e.htm.

⁴²⁹ Doha Work Programme Ministerial Declaration, World Trade Organization, (Hong Kong). 18 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. http://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/min05_e/final_text_e.htm.

⁴³⁰ Fair Trade Between Developing And Developed Countries, Die Bundesregierung, (Berlin), 19 December 2005. Date of Access: 27 December 2005.

<http://www.bundesregierung.de/en/-/10001.936555/artikel/Fair-trade-between-developed-a.htm>.

⁴³¹ Focus on poverty reduction and good governance, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, (Berlin), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse20051021.html>.

Mozambique €68.5 million between 2005 and 2006 to develop education, rural areas, and the private sector.⁴³²

Analyst: Adrian M.T. Roomes

4. Italy: 0

Italy registered partial compliance for its achievements toward improving Africa's human, technological, and institutional capacity to trade. Since the Gleneagles Summit, Italy made a few contributions that promote trade in Africa. In December 2005, the Italian Cooperation (IC) under the Government of Italy announced that it will provide aid of over €4 million to be used in agricultural projects in Angola.⁴³³ IC also gave €1.1 million towards two projects that intend to promote computer literacy and increase technological development in Mozambique.⁴³⁴ However, Italy has yet to make any significant contributions and actions towards improving trade in Africa.

Analyst: Laura Yau

5. Japan: +1

Japan registered a high degree of compliance with respect to its commitments to improve the investment climate in Africa and to help build Africa's capacity for trade. Japan has taken and continues to take a leadership role in promoting efforts to develop trade in Africa. It will be involved in the Fourth Asia-Africa Business Forum (AABF) to take place in 2006,⁴³⁵ and will host the Fourth Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD IV) in 2008.⁴³⁶ The TICAD conferences actively promote Asia-Africa business relations and provide "one of the largest international platforms for global cooperation for African development."⁴³⁷ While Japan's official trade policy has no significant discussion of trade in Africa,⁴³⁸ the Ministry of Foreign Affairs has outlined specific measures that it will take to promote trade, business development and investment in African countries.⁴³⁹ These include promoting trade and investment between Africa and Japan by "facilitating trade investment, enhancing business exchanges and promoting product development and export to Japan."⁴⁴⁰

Japan's support of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) has helped develop income generating projects and upgrade skills through developments such as the Community Based Production Centres in Guinea.⁴⁴¹ The \$300 million annually that Japan makes available for overseas investment loans,⁴⁴² commitments to share Japanese technology and expertise through UNIDO,⁴⁴³ and

⁴³² Germany and Mozambique expand their development cooperation, Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, (Berlin), 20 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. http://www.bmz.de/en/press/pm/presse_20051220_4.html.

⁴³³ Italy Grants over 4 million euros for Management Programmes, Angola Press Agency, (Luanda), 31 December 2005. Date of Access: 7 January 2006. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200512310172.html>.

⁴³⁴ Italian Funding for Computer Projects, Agencia de Informacao de Mocambique, (Maputo), 3 January 2006. Date of Access: 7 January 2006. <http://allafrica.com/stories/200601030484.html>.

⁴³⁵ UN Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development – Policies into Practice, United Nations Public-Private Alliance for Rural Development, (New York), 2004. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.un.org/esa/coordination/Alliance/ticad.htm>.

⁴³⁶ What's new: New Electronic Platform to connect entrepreneurs from Asia and Africa, UNDP and TICAD (New York), 22 April 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. http://www.ticad.net/whats_new7.html.

⁴³⁷ TICAD III (Tokyo, 29 Sep. – 1 Oct., 2003), Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo), 2003. Date of Access: 10 January 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/ticad3/outline.html>.

⁴³⁸ White Paper on International Economy and Trade 2005, Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry, (Tokyo) July 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.meti.go.jp/english/report/data/gWT2005fe.html>.

⁴³⁹ Japan's Policy For African Development, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo), 6 July 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/policy.pdf>.

⁴⁴⁰ Japan's Policy For African Development, The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo), 6 July 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.mofa.go.jp/region/africa/policy.pdf>.

⁴⁴¹ UNIDO Community Based Production Centres in Forest Guinea supported by Japan's UN Trust Fund for Human Security, UNIDO, (Austria), June 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.unido.org/doc/38301#story1>.

⁴⁴² Japan's ODA White Paper 2003 – Part II: International Assistance Trends With Respect To Development Issues, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, (Tokyo), 2003. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. http://www.mofa.go.jp/policy/oda/white/2003/part2_1.html.

the existence of the UNIDO Tokyo office which acts as a source of information to facilitate private investment into Africa, shows that Japan is creating the conditions necessary to make their African investment promotion centres effective.

Analyst: Nathan Weatherdon

6. Russia: 0

Russia receives a score of '0' regarding its commitment to improving Africa's capacity to trade. Russia reaffirmed its commitment to this issue and played an active role in the international arena in support of African infrastructure initiatives. However, there is currently little evidence of new funding allocated towards fulfilling this commitment.

At a statement made to the Joint World Bank IMF Development Committee on 25 September 2005, Minister of Finance Mr. Aleksei Kudrin noted that Russia "strongly support[s] World Bank's Africa Action Plan...[and] welcome[s] the renewal of attention to investments in infrastructure".⁴⁴⁴ Russia also participated in the fifth meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum (APF) in London on 4-5 October 2005, which aims to "record, monitor and report on delivery of all financial and policy commitments to Africa...[and] set clear, time-bound benchmarks against which progress can be measured and monitored".⁴⁴⁵ Russia was an active participant of the APF meeting, assisting with the preparation of the APF's Draft Joint Action Plan and other documents relating to the functioning of the APF.⁴⁴⁶ Russia also took part in the inaugural meeting of the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa, held on 6 October 2005 in London. The Consortium seeks to work as a partnership between donors and stakeholders "to accelerate progress to meet the urgent infrastructure needs of Africa in support of economic growth and development".⁴⁴⁷

Analyst: Melissa Molson

7. The United Kingdom: +1

The UK has achieved successful compliance through financial support that intends to improve Africa's investment climate, capacity to trade, and infrastructure for business. Prime Minister Tony Blair and Hilary Benn, Secretary of State for International Development announced in a press release dated 17 November 2005 that the UK government will donate US\$30 million annually to the Investment Climate Facility (ICF) over three years.⁴⁴⁸ The British Prime Minister stated, "The ICF's activities will address both the real and perceived obstacles. It will be vital for investment, growth, jobs and sustainable poverty reduction in Africa".⁴⁴⁹ Supported by the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and African Heads of State, the ICF is the vehicle that the G8 and Commission for Africa proposed as necessary in order to

⁴⁴³ Asia-Africa Investment and Technology Promotion Centre (AAITPC), UNIDO, (New York), 15 December 2004. 11 January 2006. <http://www.unido.org/doc/4337>.

⁴⁴⁴ Statement by Mr. Aleksei Kudrin, Minister of Finance of the Russian Federation, to the Joint Ministerial Committee of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and the IMF and the Transfer of Real Resources to Developing Countries, (Washington, D.C.). 25 September 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005. <http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVCOMMIT/Documentation/20660025/DCS2005-0059-RussianFed.pdf>.

⁴⁴⁵ Africa – what has been achieved in 2005, Department for International Development, (London). 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/africa/africa-2005.asp>.

⁴⁴⁶ Russian Relations with Sub-Saharan African Countries in 2005, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, (Moscow). 28 December 2005. Date of Access: 29 December 2005.

http://www.ln.mid.ru/brp_4.nsf/e78a48070f128a7b4325699005bcb3/eb58723614295438c32570e6002eea64?OpenDocument.

⁴⁴⁷ Africa – what has been achieved in 2005, Department for International Development, (London). 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/africa/africa-2005.asp>.

⁴⁴⁸ Africa opening for business: Prime Minister confirms UK support for Africa's Investment Climate Facility (ICF), Department for International Development, (London), 17 November 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/investment-climate-facility.asp>.

⁴⁴⁹ Africa opening for business: Prime Minister confirms UK support for Africa's Investment Climate Facility (ICF), Department for International Development, (London), 17 November 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/investment-climate-facility.asp>.

improve investment in Africa.⁴⁵⁰ In a press release dated 3 October 2005, the UK announced it will donate £200 million to the World Bank's Africa Catalytic Fund of which a portion will be allocated towards improved infrastructure on the continent.⁴⁵¹ Officials from the Department for International Development chaired the first meeting of the Infrastructure Consortium for Africa held on 6 October 2005 in London.⁴⁵² Finally, in a speech on 14 November 2005, Prime Minister Blair committed to increasing "aid for trade" with a donation of £100 million a year until 2010.⁴⁵³ The money will help developing countries raise exports to the rest of the world, African countries are expected to significantly benefit.

Analyst: Sadia Rafiquddin

8. United States of America: +1

The United States' government registered a high level of compliance with the Gleneagles' trade in Africa commitment, with attempts to stimulate growth in Africa's economy by improving Africa's business infrastructure and investment climate. The United States Department of the Treasury reaffirmed this commitment in a press release dated 2 December 2005.⁴⁵⁴ It stated, "In the context of our shared commitments to double aid for Africa by 2010, we agree to give priority to the infrastructure necessary to allow countries to take advantage of the improved opportunities to trade".⁴⁵⁵

The United States went further towards improving African infrastructure when on 8 November 2005, Mr. Lloyd O. Pierson, Assistant Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) formally opened a new West Africa Trade Hub in Dakar, Senegal.⁴⁵⁶ USAID has opened three other hubs in Kenya, Ghana, and Botswana since President George W. Bush instated the Trade for Africa Development and Enterprise (TRADE) Initiative in 2001.⁴⁵⁷

The United States also took strides toward improving the climate for investment in Africa. On 22 December 2005, President Bush made a proclamation which added Burundi to 36 other African countries eligible for benefits under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act (AGOA)⁴⁵⁸. The AGOA was signed into U.S. law on 18 May 2000, and was intended to provide incentives for African countries to continue to open their borders to free trade.⁴⁵⁹ In addition, on 2 November 2005, USAID announced the creation of Global Commercial Microfinance Consortium, a commercial fund that will provide financing to Microfinance Institutions.⁴⁶⁰ These institutions provide credit to small entrepreneurs and poor families

⁴⁵⁰ Frequently Asked Questions about the Investment Climate Facility (ICF), Department of International Development, (London). Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/investment-climate-facility-faqs.asp>.

⁴⁵¹ UK to give £200 million to new World Bank Fund for Africa, Department for International Development (London), 3 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/wb-fund-africa.asp>.

⁴⁵² Africa- What has been achieved in 2005, Department for International Development, (London), 15 November 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/countries/africa/africa-2005.asp>.

⁴⁵³ UK to give £100 million a year to help poor countries trade their way out of poverty, Department for International Development, (London), 14 November 2005. Date of Access: 11 January 2006. <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/news/files/pressreleases/trade-poverty.asp>.

⁴⁵⁴ Statement by G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, United States Department of the Treasury, (Washington, D.C.), 3 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/js3062.htm>.

⁴⁵⁵ Statement by G7 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, United States Department of the Treasury, (Washington, D.C.), 3 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.treasury.gov/press/releases/js3062.htm>.

⁴⁵⁶ New Gateway For Trade Opens in Dakar, Senegal, U.S. Agency for International Development, (Washington, D.C.), 8 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2005/pr051108.html>.

⁴⁵⁷ New Gateway For Trade Opens in Dakar, Senegal, U.S. Agency for International Development, (Washington, D.C.), 8 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2005/pr051108.html>.

⁴⁵⁸ Proclamation by the President: To Take Certain Actions Under the Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, 2005, The White House, (Washington, D.C.), 22 December 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.whitehouse.gov/news/releases/2005/12/20051222.html>.

⁴⁵⁹ Summary of AGOA, Africa Growth and Opportunity Act, (Washington, D.C.). Date of Access: 5 January 2006. http://www.agoa.gov/agoa_legislation/agoa_legislation.html.

⁴⁶⁰ USAID, Private-Sector Partners Create Global Fund for Small Entrepreneurs And Low-Income Families, (Washington, D.C.), 2 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2005/pr051103.html>.

globally, and an undisclosed portion of USAID's initial US\$75 million endowment was set aside for Mozambique.⁴⁶¹

Analyst: Adrian M.T. Roomes

9. European Union: +1

The European Union has successfully fulfilled the trade in Africa commitment as outlined at the 2005 Gleneagles Summit. In a report titled "EU Strategy for Africa: Towards a Euro-African Pact to Accelerate Africa's Development" the EU set forth its commitment to help meet Africa's growth potential, foster integrated markets, and improve infrastructure on the continent. In a press release dated 12 October 2005, the European Council adopted the "European Union Strategy for Africa" which will launch the new Partnership for Infrastructure initiative.⁴⁶² Under the Partnership for Infrastructure, "the EU will support programs that facilitate interconnectivity at the continental level to promote regional trade, integration, stability and development".⁴⁶³ In order to have more integrated markets, the EU is currently negotiating with four Sub-Saharan African countries through the Economic Partnerships Agreements (EPAs).⁴⁶⁴ The EU's most significant donation thus far, announced December 2005, is an increase in its annual contribution to "Aid-for-Trade" by €1 billion to a total of €2 billion per year by 2010.⁴⁶⁵

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⁴⁶¹ USAID, Private-Sector Partners Create Global Fund for Small Entrepreneurs And Low-Income Families, (Washington, D.C.), 2 November 2005. Date of Access: 5 January 2006. <http://www.usaid.gov/press/releases/2005/pr051103.html>.

⁴⁶² European Commission adopts "European Union Strategy for Africa, European Commission, (Brussels), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006.

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/1260&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

⁴⁶³ European Commission adopts "European Union Strategy for Africa," European Commission, (Brussels), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006.

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/1260&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

⁴⁶⁴ EU Strategy for Africa: Towards a Euro-African pact to accelerate Africa's development, Commission of the European Community, (Brussels), 12 October 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006.

http://europa.eu.int/comm/development/body/communications/docs/eu_strategy_for_africa_12_10_2005_en.pdf#zoom=100.

⁴⁶⁵ EU, U.S. Push Aid to Help Poor Nations, DATA, (Washington, D.C.), 13 December 2005. Date of Access: 20 January 2006. <http://www.data.org/archives/000762.php>.