

The XVI European Union – Brazil Joint Committee – Final Communiqué

1. The 16th Meeting of the Joint Committee, established by the Brazil-European Union Framework Agreement for Co-operation, took place on 28 April 2015 in Brasília. The European Union delegation was led by the Managing Director for the Americas in the European External Action Service (EEAS), Mr. Christian Leffler, and the Brazilian delegation was led by the Director of the Department of Europe at the Ministry of External Relations of the Federative Republic of Brazil, Ambassador Oswaldo Biato.

2. The Parties exchanged views on the status of implementation of the Joint Action Plan 2012-2014, as well as on the implementation of commitments of the 7th Brazil-EU Summit held in Brussels in February 2014. The Parties welcomed the good progress achieved in the implementation of the Joint Action Plan 2012-2014. The Parties concurred on the need to continue and further enhance the political and technical dialogues.

3. The Parties also welcomed the second meeting of the dialogue on matters pertaining to international peace and security, including peacekeeping and peacebuilding, as well as the dialogues on disarmament and non-proliferation issues and on UN matters, to take place on 29 April 2015 in Brasília. Brazil and the EU reaffirmed their commitment to working together to support and strengthen effective multilateralism.

4. The Parties expressed the importance of developing their mutual relations at the bi-regional level. They emphasized their commitment to the preparation of the forthcoming 2nd CELAC-UE Summit to be held in Brussels, on 10-11 June 2015, with the aim of ensuring that it can contribute to further enhance the strategic association embodied at that forum.

4 bis. They also expressed confidence on the conclusion of a balanced, ambitious and comprehensive Mercosur-EU Association Agreement. In this regard, they highlighted their expectation that an EU-Mercosur Ministerial Meeting in the margins of the aforementioned Summit could give new political impetus to the negotiating process.

5. Brazil and the EU discussed the state of play of negotiations on the Agreement on Air Transport and committed themselves to working together in order to overcome the remaining hurdles. The parties welcomed the important results achieved by the dialogue on maritime transport policy, in particular the progress in the negotiations of the Memorandum of Cooperation on this subject.

6. The 16th Meeting of the Brazil-EU Joint Committee also reviewed the multiple areas of co-operation, in which the Parties have launched Dialogues or joint initiatives as well as issues that show potential for deeper collaboration. In this respect, the Parties deliberated on the status of implementation of the actions included on the Ad-Hoc Working-Group on Economic Themes. The Parties reaffirmed their interest in improving the functioning of the Working-Group, in order to further promote the supply and value chains that have been developed between their economies, with a special view to including the participation of small and medium enterprises whenever appropriate.

7. The Parties stressed the importance of further strengthening contacts between SMEs, with a view to promoting bilateral trade and investment and exchanges in innovation, research and development.

8. Brazil and the EU reviewed the functioning of the dialogue on agriculture and of the consultation mechanism on sanitary and phytosanitary measures, discussed possible dates for the II meeting of the dialogue on agriculture and considered pending issues in these areas, and the need to establish enhanced co-operation. The Parties stressed the importance of these fora for debating and exchanging information in detail. The Parties reiterated their commitment to continue to achieve progress in these fields in the near future, by ensuring a high level of communication, cooperation and engagement.

9. The Parties welcomed the positive outcomes of the Dialogue on Financial Services and Finance Regulation. This dialogue allows the Parties to highlight the convergence of their views on international standards for financial regulations and on the necessary implementation of the commitments set out in the framework of the G20 and the Financial Stability Board.

10. The Parties reaffirmed their interest in further advancing co-operation on competition policy and in the effective implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2009. Brazil and the EU share the interest in fostering international co-operation in the field of competition policy and promoting a closer relationship and exchange of ideas between Brazilian and EU competition enforcers.

11. The Parties reaffirmed the importance of Science, Technology and Innovation co-operation in addressing shared economic, environmental and societal challenges within the context of the overall Brazil-EU relations. They welcomed the progress achieved at the 7th Joint Steering Committee meeting in Brasília on 19 March 2015, especially with regard to enhancing co-operation in key areas such as innovation, marine sciences, food security, sustainable agriculture and bio-economy, energy, and nanotechnologies.

12. The Parties took note of the progress and achievements made in implementation of the Co-operation Arrangement concluded between the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) and the Brazilian Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation (MCTI). Numerous joint activities were undertaken in the fields of disaster prevention and crisis management, water management, energy, sustainable agriculture and food security, nanotechnologies, forestry, human settlement mapping in Brazil and life cycle analysis. This cooperation was further supported by the 7th call for proposals of the EU – Brazil Sector Dialogue Support, where the JRC collaborated on nine selected projects with several Brazilian institutions.

13. The Parties noted the fruitful cooperation between the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC) and Brazil's National Centre for Natural Disasters Monitoring and Alerts (CEMADEN) within the Global Flood Partnership and Global Flood Awareness System.

14. The Parties also acknowledged the progress in collaboration between the JRC and the Brazilian National Institute for Space Research (INPE), which aims in mapping human settlements in Brazil, applying tools developed by the JRC. The Parties also welcomed the collaboration between the JRC and the Brazilian National Council for

Scientific and Technological Development (CNPq) under the Science without Borders programme, which will allow hosting Brazilian grant-holders in JRC in 2015.

15. The Parties also underlined the anticipated progress from reinforcing the Brazil-EU co-operation on nuclear fusion research.

16. The parties reiterated their intention to start shortly a structured dialogue on space co-operation and to identify specific areas of common interest within space technologies and civilian space applications, acknowledging the potential mutual benefits for their economies and industrial competitiveness.

17. On educational co-operation, the Parties noted with satisfaction the effective implementation of the Science without Borders Programme and reiterated their satisfaction with the increase of the bilateral academic mobility under EU flagship programme Erasmus Mundus and Marie Skłodowska-Curie actions and expressed the wish to support this positive trend under the new programme ERASMUS+.

18. The Parties, being aware of the important contribution of mobility and migration to the economic and social development of their societies, will continue working to promote internationalisation of higher education and the transparency and comparability tools to facilitate mobility and academic cooperation between Brazil and the EU Member States.

19. The parties welcomed the dialogue on culture, for its ability to promote a positive agenda and its potential to foster diversity. The parties committed themselves to consider future initiatives on the basis of common interest and available resources on both sides.

20. On employment and social issues, the Parties expressed their interest to further develop the dialogue established since 2008 and welcomed the organization of various activities in the framework of the Project of Support to the Bilateral Sector Dialogues.

21. The Parties welcomed the second meeting of the dialogue on drugs which took place in Vienna on 18 March 2015. The meeting proved to be a useful platform for the exchange of best practices and important information with regard to drug prevention and control as well as for the exchange of views on the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on the World Drug Problem - UNGASS 2016. The Parties reiterated their expectations to intensify the cooperation between drug observatories in the EU (the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addictions) and Brazil. The Parties underlined the usefulness of organizing the dialogue regularly.

22. The Parties highlighted the importance attached to the Brazil-EU Regular Dialogue on Energy Policy, and in particular to the possibilities of expanding bilateral co-operation in research and development in renewable energy, joint initiatives in energy efficiency, as well as to continuing the bilateral dialogue on respective legislations concerning sustainable production of biofuels. The Parties indicated the importance of achieving progress in these fields and reiterated their decision to advance cooperation in these sectors as agreed in previous EU-Brazil Summits. The parties also stressed the need to deepen the exchange of information on projects and initiatives about smart grids, smart cities and energy efficiency. They recalled the successful fifth Energy

Policy Dialogue meeting held in January 2014 and confirmed that the sixth Dialogue will take place this year in Brasília.

23. The Parties noted with satisfaction the outcome of the 7th Brazil-EU dialogue on Information Society, held in Brussels on 10-11 November 2014 and following events. These events allowed for enhancing the bilateral co-operation, in the fields of, cloud computing, internet governance, internet security, information and communication technologies for society and media, economic regulation of telecommunications, competition and investment in broadband markets, ICT research, development and innovation, namely through the implementation of the third coordinated call and definition of the fourth call, the implementation of open cyber platforms and start-ups programmes cooperation. The parties committed themselves to co-operate in the follow-up of the Global Multi-Stakeholder Meeting on the Future of Internet Governance held in São Paulo on April 2014. The parties took note of the progress in the implementation of the direct EU-Brazil broadband interconnectivity (Submarine Cable).

24. The parties welcomed the future establishment on a Brazil-EU dialogue on international cyber policy, which will address, among other topics, international security, the right to freedom of expression and privacy and capacity building.

25. Brazil and the EU expressed contentment with the on-going dialogue on environmental aspects of sustainable development. Both parties expressed their commitment to continuing to enhance co-operation in areas such as biodiversity conservation, sustainable use and access to genetic resources and benefit sharing (ABS), disaster risk reduction and resilience, sustainable forest management, sustainable trade in wildlife and wildlife products, sustainable consumption and production and clean technologies, as well as, co-operation on sustainable use and water management, thus contributing to the protection and rational use of natural resources and sustainable development. The European side expressed its desire to host the seventh edition of the dialogue this year.

26. The Parties reaffirmed their strong common interest to work together on an ambitious and transformative post-2015 development agenda. This agenda should build on the foundations laid by the Millennium Development Goals, complete unfinished business and respond to new challenges. The post-2015 agenda should furthermore provide a comprehensive follow-up to Rio+20 and address the structural challenges to sustainable development. It should be truly global and universal, with all countries and stakeholders playing their full part. The Post-2015 agenda presents a great opportunity to address the interlinked challenges of poverty eradication and sustainable development. To implement such a far-reaching agenda, a global partnership for poverty eradication and sustainable development is required. It should transform and strengthen the way in which the international community works together. The Parties also undertook to work together for a successful outcome of the Third Financing for Development Conference in Addis Ababa in July which should be a critical contribution to the global agreement on the Post-2015 Agenda.

27. The Parties agreed to intensify the Dialogue on Public Sector Governance, which will now include topics such as reducing bureaucracy, e-government, public procurement and personnel management, as well as public-private partnerships.

28. Brazil and the EU stressed the importance of dealing with regional disparities and of enhancing their co-operation through the dialogue on regional development policies supported by the Working Plan 2012-2015. The Parties welcomed the participation of Brazilian representatives at the "Open Days 2014: 12th European Week of Regions and Cities", held in Brussels, in October 2014.

29. The Parties agreed to enhance the dialogue between the IBGE and Eurostat, particularly with regard to good practices for strengthening statistical systems.

30. The Joint Committee, having been preceded by discussions on economic and trade-related issues on 27 April, allowed for the exchange of ideas and information on trade and investment flows between Brazil and the EU, on existing difficulties and ways to overcome them. The Parties agreed to explore ways to make their joint work on trade and investment issues more efficient and result-oriented. The Parties also welcomed the outcome of the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2013. The parties committed to coordinate positions having as a common goal the success of the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference in December 2015, in Kenya. Furthermore, the Parties committed to an early ratification of the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement, with the view of its prompt entry into force

31. The Parties exchanged information on the co-operation programmes that were successfully carried out in the past period. The EU gave an overview on the perspectives for future cooperation, including under the new Partnership Instrument. Brazil and the EU reiterated their wish to develop jointly trilateral cooperation actions. With this in view, the Parties stressed the importance of identifying suitable co-operation mechanisms.

32. Parties agreed to explore the possibilities for enhancing dialogue in new areas of cooperation, namely transport by land, tourism and migration. EU highlighted the importance it attaches to the ongoing discussions towards the establishment of a Common Agreement on Migration and Mobility.

33. Brazil and the EU welcomed the success of the Joint Action Plan 2012-14, leading to progress in a number of initiatives of mutual interest and the fulfilment of the Joint Action Plan commitments. The parties agreed to explore in the next Joint Action Plan, for the period 2015-20, the untapped potential in various thematic areas. The parties committed to adopt the next Joint Action Plan at the next annual Summit later this year.

34. The Parties concurred on the importance attached to the work in preparation for the VIII Brazil-EU Summit.

For the European Union

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