

ZAMBIA INSIDE EU & ACP

BIMONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF THE EMBASSY OF ZAMBIA IN BRUSSELS

N° 02 MAY 2014

President Sata hold bilateral talks with President Barroso

By Musenge Mukuma

PRESIDENT Michael Sata held bilateral meeting with European Commission President Mr Jose Manuel Barroso at the Commission Offices. President Sata noted that the holding of the Summit was a reflection of the desire of the European and African countries to work together on areas of mutual interest. The President reiterated that good governance laid a strong foundation for prudent management of public affairs and ensuring development outcomes of the cooperation benefit the people of Zambia. He pointed out that the EU had been giving assistance to Zambia in key areas such as infrastructure development, health, agriculture, trade and budget support and expressed appreciation for the financial support under the 10th EDF which mostly focused on regional integration, transport infrastructure, health and general budget support – noting that the support had resulted in improved service delivery in the health sector and sustenance of economic growth. President Sata also stressed the need for the EU to continue supporting regional integration programmes in Africa aimed at boosting intra-regional trade which currently stood at 10 percent adding that other agreements would then complement this by encouraging diversification, value addition and industrialization. The President called on the EU to enhance trade and economic development in Zambia by encouraging European Companies to explore the immense business opportunities available in Zambia. He also reiterated the good policies that government was pursuing to ensure a conducive and competitive business environment in Zambia. The President also underscored the need for the private sector to set up industries in partnership with Zambian companies to ensure value addition to the raw materials, promote diversification and create jobs.

President Sata in Brussels for EU-Africa Summit



President Sata holds talks with President Barroso at EU Offices in Brussels

HIS Excellency, Mr Michael Chilufya Sata, President of the Republic of Zambia was among other heads of states that attended the 4th EU-Africa Summit held in Brussels.

The Summit that took place on 2nd - 3rd April 2014 was held under the theme “Investing in people, prosperity and peace.”

President Sata was accompanied by Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr Harry

Kalaba and Commerce Minister Mr Robert Sichinga.

Zambia's Ambassador to Belgium, Netherlands, Luxembourg and the European Union (EU) Mrs Grace M. Mutale Kabwe arranged several bilateral meetings for the president and the two ministers.

Ambassador Kabwe ensured that all programmes went smoothly.

President Sata reiterates Government's commitment to fight corruption

By Lambwe Kachali

PRESIDENT Michael Sata said the Zambian Government has put in place a comprehensive policy and legal and institutional framework to curb corruption and abuse of public resources.

In his intervention statement to the Summit, President Sata said Zambia attached importance to the issue of governance and democracy, which are key ingredients for fostering prosperity and development. President Sata said good governance promotes accountability, transparency, efficiency and rule of law in public institutions at all levels. He reiterated his Government's confidence toward zero tolerance to corruption and abuse of public resource.

And President Sata took Europe on with regard to conflicts taking place in Africa.

During a closed-door governance working session, President Sata took the West on for its double standards and fuelling wars in Africa.

This was during a discussion on the proliferation of small arms.

President Sata's frank talk impressed many African Heads of State who agreed with him while some clapped.

President Sata, who took centre stage, told the Summit that Africa did not have gun factories that fuel conflicts and it was therefore Europe that was guilty in that respect.

CONTENTS

President Sata in Brussels for EU-Africa Summit	1
President Sata hold bilateral talks with President Barroso ..	1
President Sata holds bilateral talks with Polish Premier	2
Zambia's economy in the right direction	2
EU Commissioner urges for regular dialogue with Zambia ..	2
Zambia condemns atrocities in CAR	3
Sichinga holds talks with EU chief for trade	3
Kalaba calls for stronger bilateral ties with UK	3
EU-Africa Summit in pictures	4



President Sata holds bilateral talks with Polish Prime Minister

By Musenge Mukuma

PRESIDENT Michael Sata held bilateral meeting with Polish Prime Minister Mr Donald Tusk. President Sata hailed the close relations that exist between Zambia and Poland. The President underscored the need for enhanced ties between the two countries. He urged the Polish leader to reciprocate the friendship of the Zambian people by sending Polish teachers that would help with the Zambian education system. President Sata also commended the people of Poland for their drive and determination in the area of social and economic development, which he said Zambia could learn from their experiences. He further called upon the Polish Premier to arrange for business delegations to travel to Zambia in order to impart their technical know-how with their Zambian counterparts.



President Sata with Polish Prime Minister during bilateral meeting

Zambia's economy in the right direction, says Sichinga

By Lambwe Kachali

COMMERCE Minister Mr Robert Sichinga addressed Zambians living in the Benelux region. Mr Sichinga assured the Diasporas that the Zambian economy is running very well. He said the projects the country was undertaking could not be done with the private sector only, hence the need for the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC). Mr Sichinga said the IDC would be useful in terms of empowering Zambians by complimenting the Citizens Economic Empowerment Commission (CEEC).



Hon. Kalaba having an interview with French TV English Service journalist. Sitting next is Hon. Sichinga in Brussels.

EU Commissioner urges for regular dialogue with Zambia

By Musenge Mukuma

Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr Harry Kalaba held bilateral meeting with EU Commissioner for Development Mr Andris Piebalgs. Mr Kalaba was accompanied by Her Excellency Mrs. Grace Mutale Kabwe, Senior Officials from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and the Mission in Brussels.

Commissioner Piebalgs urged for deeper and more regular dialogue from both sides. The Commissioner also expressed satisfaction with the Zambia – EU partnership and expressed hope for enhanced bilateral relations.

And Mr Kalaba reiterated that Zambia was moving away from being a donor dependent country and was eager to develop a conducive business environment and private sector in order to attract more Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) from the EU. The Minister also highlighted significant improvements in Zambia on poverty reduction and economic development and appreciated EU's support to the country in sectors such as governance, public finance management, health/transport and regional integration.

Regarding the 11th European Development Fund (EDF), Commissioner Piebalgs was hopeful that both sides would be able to improve on the use of money available under the 11th EDF so that at Mid Term Review, an increase in the allocation could be considered.

Regarding the Kariba Dam, Commissioner Piebalgs confirmed his support, adding he understood the importance of the project and the urgency to intervene on the wall. He encouraged Zambia to accelerate discussions with the EU delegation and urged both sides to go forward with the preparation of the project.



EU Commissioner for Development Mr Andris Piebalgs with Zambia's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Hon. Harry Kalaba during bilateral meeting.

Zambia condemns atrocities in CAR

By Lambwe Kachali

ZAMBIA condemned the atrocities in the Central African Republic.

Foreign Affairs Minister Mr Harry Kalaba in his intervention on peace and security during a closed door meeting of ministers of foreign affairs at the EU-Africa Summit in Brussels observed that challenges still remained in the Great Lakes region as evidenced by the regrettable situation that CAR and other countries find themselves in.

Mr Kalaba assured of Zambia's full solidarity to CAR under the leadership of Her Excellency, Catherine Samba-Panza – as she moves that country towards national reconciliation, restore peace and stability.



Her Excellency, Dr Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, chairperson of the AU Commission speaking at EU-Africa Summit in Brussels.

Kalaba calls for stronger bilateral ties with UK

By Bwalya Yombwe

MINISTER of Foreign Affairs, Mr Harry Kalaba held bilateral meeting with Mr Mark Simmonds, Minister of African Affairs for the United Kingdom on the sidelines of the EU-Africa Summit. Mr Kalaba was accompanied by the Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry Mr Robert Sichinga. Mr. Simmonds stated that the core aspect of the UK Foreign Policy was to try and ensure that every person, regardless of where they were, enjoyed the basic human rights. He mentioned of the invitation that had been extended to Zambia to attend a meeting on 12 June 2014 in the UK Summit on "Human Rights and Violence".



Zambia's Foreign Affairs Minister Hon. Kalaba & Senior Government Officials during bilateral meeting with UK counterpart Mr Mark Simmonds & his Officials in Brussels.

In his response, Mr Kalaba underscored the importance of bilateral relations between Zambia and the United Kingdom and commended the UK for its intention to open a Trade and Investment office in Lusaka later this year. Mr Kalaba, therefore, urged Mr. Simmonds to consider taking a Ministerial delegation, which could include business representatives, Trade and investment tour to Zambia. The Minister appealed to the UK Government to render the necessary assistance to Zambia so it could attain its dream of becoming an attractive destination for doing business.

Sichinga holds talks with EU chief for trade

By Bwalya Yombwe

MINISTER of Commerce, Trade and Industry, Mr Robert Sichinga held meeting with the EU Commissioner for Trade, Mr. Karel De Gucht on the sidelines of the EU-Africa Summit. Mr Sichinga was accompanied by Ambassador Kabwe and Senior Officials from the Ministry of Commerce Trade and Industry, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Zambian mission in Brussels.

Mr Sichinga and his EU counterpart discussed Trade related matters between Zambia and the EU, with specific focus on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA).

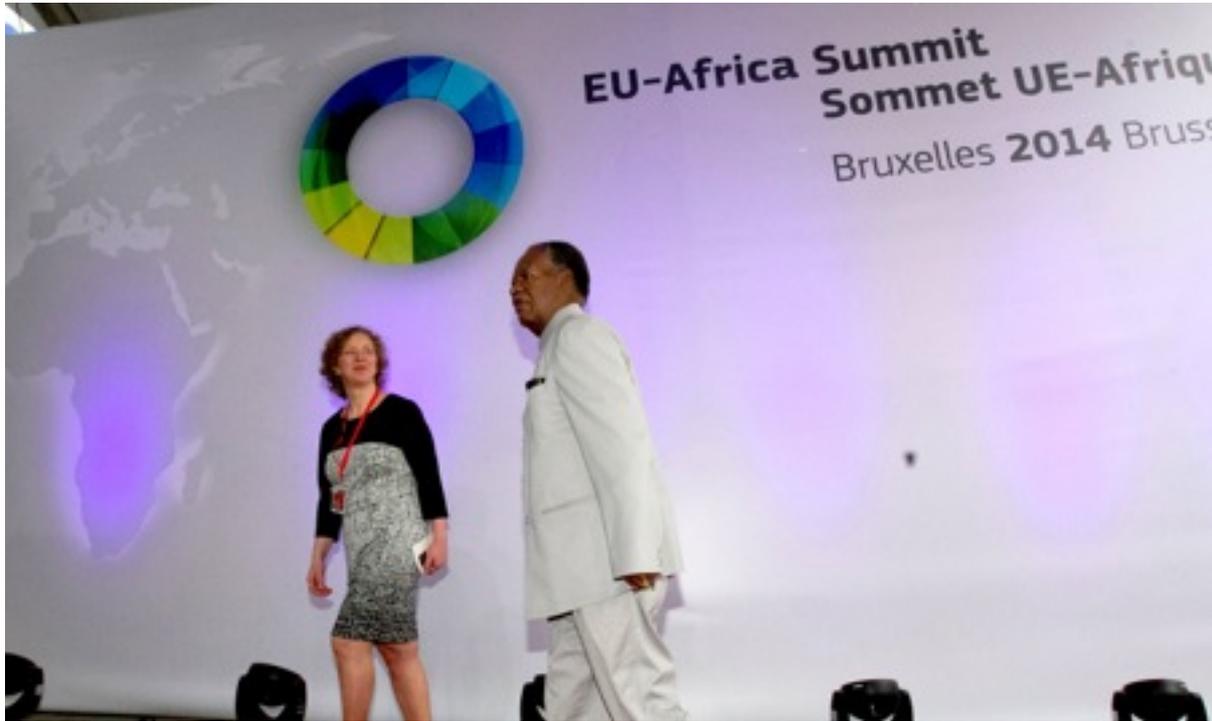
In his opening remarks, Commissioner De Gucht reminded the meeting that the East and Southern Africa (ESA) group of countries was already in the process of implementing an interim EPA, and that in 2007 Zambia had initialled the interim EPA and the Commission was looking at the possibility of Zambia's accession into the interim EPA.

And Mr Sichinga indicated that Zambia's concern and that of the countries that have not yet signed the interim EPA was about the commission's rigid thresholds of 80% market liberalisation over a period of 15 years. In his capacity as chair of the ESA region, the Minister reiterated that EPA negotiations should take into consideration the interests of both sides, including issues that are of concern to the ESA countries.

He stressed the need for a comprehensive EPA to be applied to the ESA region in order to enhance regional integration.

EU-Africa Summit in pictures

All Pictures by Eddie Mwanaleza IGRZI



President Sata at EU-Africa Summit in Brussels



President Sata welcomed by Lambwe T. Kachali Junior, Chansa Yombwe and Mrs Alice Chisala upon arrival for the 4th EU-Africa Summit in Brussels



EC President Mr Barroso (left) with UN Secretary General Mr Ban Ki MOON, during the EU-Africa Summit in Brussels.



President Sata with Polish Prime Minister H.E Mr Donald Tusk during the EU-Africa Summit in Brussels



General view of the EU-Africa Heads of States Summit



President Sata with European Commission President Mr Jose Manuel Barroso heading for bilateral talks at EU Commission Offices in Brussels

