



COHERENCE	OPPORTUNITIES
SOLIDARITY	COORDINATION
MDGS	DEVELOPMENT
PEACE	MULTILATERALISM
DEMOCRACY	COMMITMENT
CHALLENGES	DYNAMISM
EFFECTIVENESS	GENDER
RIGHTS	ENVIRONMENT
INTEGRATION	JUSTICE
ACTION	DIPLOMACY

2009

Africa Plan

2012



GOBIERNO
DE ESPAÑA



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Africa Plan
2012



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Presentation

Africa has become a strategic and political priority for Spanish action overseas. We have designed bilateral strategies with the continent for social, economic and institutional development, while collaborating in multilateral spheres and bodies. Policy on Africa is an identifying feature of this country's new international action, to foment effective multilateralism and implement Spanish society's joint responsibility and its commitment to the International Community. This policy is coupled to the solidarity which is a Spanish characteristic, by parliamentary consensus and action coordinated with all the Autonomous Communities, and the political impulse which has led to the opening of six new Embassies, Consulates, AECID Centres and Cervantes Institute Classrooms.

The wish to assign preferential attention to Africa has been a constant of the foreign policy of the governments of Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, illustrated by the figures for Official Development Assistance (ODA). While the annual average for Africa between 2001 and 2004 was 150 million euros, in 2007 alone the figure was 1.19 billion, nearly 40% of Spanish Official Development Assistance.

Africa is a storehouse of major capacities and opportunities for confronting future challenges and demands in overcoming its structural barriers, meaning that Spain's focus must be all-embracing in projecting our profile and activity in the region. This neighbour is gradually

structuring itself and creating a multilateral architecture of growing importance as it becomes aware of the global challenges linked to human security. The fight against hunger and poverty, sustainable development, climate change, promotion of international law and the geostrategic and political location of Africa in a context of globalisation and interdependence all favour the extension and enhancement of this country's political, diplomatic, social, cultural and economic relations with Sub-Saharan Africa.

To manage and plan the growth of our profile and relations with this region, the Spanish Government approved the drafting and implementation of the first Africa Plan, whose results exceeded initial forecasts and which attained its objectives satisfactorily. Thus the second Africa Plan, 2009-2012, renews the drive in terms of Spanish society's commitment and that of its government with this neighbouring continent, at the same time as proposing new strategies and objectives.

This new instrument is borne of an evaluation of the first Plan, 2006-2008 and, like it, is the upshot of a comprehensive process of deliberation and consultation. Input has been received from various Departments, and from those engaged in Spanish civil society. May I here in the first place sincerely acknowledge the contributions received from all Ministries and civil society, and their future involvement in the implementation of the Plan.

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan has been debated in the Foreign Affairs Commission in Parliament, and takes up the contributions of the various political groups, and those from the Panel for Africa which brings together representatives from civil society, the private sector and from the regional cooperation system. The whole process has been enriched with meetings and debates such as Casa Africa's Seminar for Reflection on Relations between Spain and Africa, held in October last year. Representatives from regional and multilateral bodies, the private sector and civil society – Africans and Europeans – travelled to the Canary Islands and the city of Las Palmas to give thought to and propose lines of action, and incorporate new focuses and criteria, which do involve the consolidation and furtherance of some of those contained in the first Plan, 2006-2008.

We continue to be committed to the principles of coordinating those involved, and to policy coherence, while enhancing the regional approach and the role of the Alliance of Civilisations, and the promotion of citizens' rights. The plan's three mainstream objectives respond to these commitments: to protect human rights, gender equality and environmental sustainability, the main forces behind each of the lines programmed for our international action in this region.

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan is structured into six operational principles designed around support for peace and security, consolidating democracy and institutions, combating hunger and poverty, promoting investment and trade relations, sustainable socioeconomic development, partnership on migration, reinforcing the multilateral relation between Spain and Africa and with the European Union, consolidating the political and institutional profile, and nurturing this country's public diplomacy through Casa Africa.

Spain is creating a new sense of neighbourhood with Africa and, with this second Plan, extends and enhances the mechanisms for dialogue and effective coordination. The Plan sets out new actions and responses to the shared challenges and expresses the commitment of Spanish society and government, while responsibly defending Spain's interests as a European country with an intense Mediterranean and Atlantic vocation and as a bridge between continents.

Miguel Ángel Moratinos
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation

Introduction



The 2009-2012 Africa Plan, drawn up on the basis of experience acquired over these years in a comprehensive and balanced process of consultations, is conceived as a flexible, dynamic plan facilitating the development of foreign policy which is consistent for Africa and which advances in meeting the Millennium Development Goals. Thus this Plan aims to provide a tool which, aligned with the international agenda, contributes to the planning, prioritisation and coordination of Spanish policy and strategy in the region.

1.1. Consolidating the lessons learned

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan renews Spain's commitment to building a global policy of solidarity toward and above all with Sub-Saharan Africa. Africa policy was perhaps one of the defining elements of the Government's overseas action during the previous legislature (2004-2008) and must translate into a sustained long-term drive. Consolidation of democracy, peace and security, the fight against poverty, promotion of economic relations and African development, together with the creation of coordinated, coherent migration policies, all objectives of Spanish foreign policy in Africa, can be attained only medium- and long-term and on the basis of joint and constant work.

This Plan is in good measure the result of analysis and of thinking about the experience acquired during the term of the previous Africa Plan 2006-2008. Among the good practices incorporated into the main activities of the previous plan and included in the Annex to this one, emphasis may be placed on the high level of cooperation and political dialogue reached with regional organisations like the AU and ECOWAS, increased Official Development Assistance (ODA), more active and effective multilateralism with the promotion of specific Funds for the region, or the initiation of a comprehensive migration policy.

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan seeks to consolidate these advances while updating each objective and introducing specific improvements, such as reinforcing a regional

approach in Africa or the inclusion of three new mainstream objectives (human rights, gender equality and environmental sustainability). The Plan is also committed to promoting the principles of coordinating those involved, and the consistency of development policies, introducing advances through the Africa Panel in systematising the tools and mechanisms for monitoring and social participation.

The Africa Plan is designed as a global action plan with a mainstreaming and integrating focus which seeks to provide an effective tool to reflect, foment and help to coordinate initiatives implemented - or planned - by the various ministerial departments in Sub-Saharan Africa. This approach demands a sustained drive, renewed long term, in the financial realm too, making it possible to help promote both national and international initiatives and economic commitments. Thus inter-ministerial coordination will include periodic review of compliance with commitments, thereby guaranteeing balance and coherent overseas action in Sub-Saharan Africa.

1.2. Coordinating players, and the coherence of policy and development goals in Africa

The continent's complex situation, with its structural difficulties but also with enormous potential, means that an integrating focus must not be lost in dealing with specific objectives and lines of action, especially fomenting possible synergies arising from the interrelations and the coordination of participants, and their policies, both nationally and multilaterally.

There are many sector initiatives, strategies and policies which the various fields of the central and decentralised Spanish administrations, the private sector and civil society in this country are implementing in Sub-Saharan Africa. This Plan must assist in fomenting the positive effects of all these, while generating



His Majesty the King receives the Mali President Amadou Toumani Touré in the Zarzuela Palace in January 2007. FOTO EFE/JUANJO MARTÍN

synergies among them, ultimately promoting coherence in implementing the Millennium Development Goals in Africa. Thus, in Sub-Saharan Africa, promotion of the principle of development policy coherence taken on by Spain since the end of the nineties¹ becomes particularly relevant, as defined in the EU since the Maastricht Treaty, the Cotonou Accord and, subsequently, in the 2005 European Development Consensus as “the commitment whereby non-Development Assistance policies may help developing countries to attain the Millennium Goals”. Notable at the national level has been the creation in 2008 of the Delegate Cooperation Commission, constituting an effective mechanism to contribute to moving forward in this area.

The policies, strategies and initiatives developed in and with Sub-Saharan Africa by the central and regional administrations, the private sector, civil society and the other Spanish public and private players have generated a rich experience which must be kept in mind for the coming years. On the basis of the lessons learned, the Africa Plan aims to foment coordination and consistency with development goals in Africa among all those involved, acknowledging and enhancing the added value of each.

Together with Embassies, Technical Cooperation Offices, Councils or Attachés Offices, the stable profile of Spanish companies, trade union organisations and NGOs in Sub-

¹ International Co-operation Act, Act No. 23/1998 of 7 July (Article 4)..

Saharan Africa has been enhanced in recent years. The presence of NGOs, still incipient in some countries such as Mali or Niger, is fully consolidated for example in Angola, Mozambique or Senegal.

Religious congregations, some of which have been present for decades in the most complex and conflictive parts of the continent, e.g. in the area of the Kivus in the Democratic Republic of Congo, are also engaged in fundamental work in favour of the most vulnerable. There are numerous congregations of eminently Spanish origin in countries such as Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique, Angola, Kenya, Tanzania or Mali, making invaluable contributions in key fields like literacy, training and professional preparation.

In the framework of active, selective and effective multilateralism, Spain has in recent years entered the group of the main donors to Global Initiatives which have targeted Sub-Saharan Africa as a priority, together with specific Funds addressed to the region. This increase in multilateral resources has been accompanied by a progressive reinforcement of Spain's profile and active involvement in these bodies, particularly in the United Nations system.

Multilaterally, Spain will also attempt to enhance coordination with other key international players present in Africa, along with other EU countries, the United States or China, helping to create a space for dialogue and rapprochement between Africa, Latin America and Europe in the “South Atlantic” framework. Spain will also back initiatives for triangulation with Africa, Europe and Latin America.

In the EU, the main partner of Sub-Saharan Africa in both Official Development Assistance and commercial exchange, Spain has been one of the driving forces behind the Global, long-term Strategy between Europe and Africa approved by the December 2005 Council of Europe, and the Second EU-Africa Summit in December 2007 in Lisbon. This Summit approved a Joint Strategy and an Action Plan establishing eight partnerships which will surely also help guarantee the principles of coordination, complementarity and policy coherence.

As with other of the Spanish Administration's programmatic documents, the 2009-2012 Africa Plan was prepared following diverse consultations in rounds within and between ministries and with private sector and civil society representatives on the Africa Panel.

At the same time, this drafting process has also benefited both from international debates on Africa in recent years in which Spain has participated, and from national meetings and exchanges. Of note here was the Seminar for Reflection on Relations between Spain and Africa held on 22 and 23 October 2008 in Casa Africa (Las Palmas de Gran Canaria), which brought together African, European and Spanish representatives from the administration, regional and multilateral bodies, and from the private sector and civil society.

1.3. Challenges and opportunities in the new cycle

Recent trends on the continent make it clear how the main challenges for the future are directly related to complex problems of a global nature, whose solution requires the coordinated and joint effort of a variety of agents. The challenges the specific objectives of this Plan seek to respond to – consolidating peace and security on the continent, furthering and revitalising democracy and the effective application of human rights, fulfilling the MDGs, the creation of substantial, stable economic frameworks which favour economic development, orderly management of migration, gender equality or adaptation to climate change – are all to a large extent global challenges thus shared by Spain and African countries as members of the International Community.

> Toward a regional focus in Africa

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan considers it a priority to adopt a

regional approach in Africa. This attitude, which has formed part of the continental agenda since independence, is progressively “returning” at present, to play a leading role in the international context as a means for driving socioeconomic development and to enhance national stability and security².

The establishment of the new African Union in 2002 represented a major effort to speed the integration process. In parallel, regional economic communities (RECs) are consolidating, with new institutional structures and the aim of regional economic integration as a preliminary step to a future continental union. Spain is backing this integrating process, intensifying its cooperation with both the AU and the various RECs, as an opportunity to effectively and strategically ensure that the continent is a partner in globalisation.

However, the variety of regional organisations and the institutional weakness of some make this into a long-term process in which actions will be evaluated as a function of the goals pursued and REC response capacity for their implementation.

This regional focus will also help to guarantee the flexibility and dynamism of Spain’s action overseas which must, in a space of four years, confront not just the existing challenges but also those new ones which may arise in Sub-Saharan Africa. This means that many situations require measures which exceed the strictly national sphere and demand regional intervention, also taking account of the social dimension of these regional integration processes.

> Promoting key initiatives: the role of the Alliance of Civilisations

The Alliance of Civilisations deserves special mention as a mainstream instrument of preventive diplomacy whose

ownership and use will be fomented during the coming years. The Alliance may play a fundamental role in Africa as a tool to prevent conflict and consolidate peace in post-conflict scenarios, as an instrument of political and social dialogue allowing for greater rapprochement between African governments and societies and between them and other geographical areas such as Europe, North Africa, Latin America or Asia, on renewed bases for dialogue and shared values. It may also become a common instrument of governments to confront the threat of extremism in some regions, or a useful element as part of public policies on education, youth, the media or migration.

As a United Nations tool, the Alliance also seeks better understanding and rapprochement of peoples, helping to guarantee mutual respect between societies with different cultural and religious traditions. Africa has fundamental experiences to contribute to the dialogue fomented by the Alliance of Civilisations, for example the peaceful coexistence of Christian and Moslem populations in some countries.

In line with Spain's multilateral commitment, this Africa Plan chooses to assign a mainstream and significant role to promoting ownership of the Alliance of Civilisations, its use and consolidation in Africa, through the following measures:

To promote the entry of new countries and African bodies to the Group of Friends of the Alliance³ and help to take the Initiative to African continental and regional bodies and processes like the AU or ECOWAS.

Among African members of the Group of Friends, to promote the preparation of national Alliance of Civilisations plans and the appointment of National Coordinators, and foment the startup of projects in African countries, including central, regional and local government and the

² BENAVIDES DE LA VEGA, L (2008). “Regional and subregional players in Sub-Saharan Africa. Partners and potential lines of work for Spanish cooperation”. Carolina-CeALCI Foundation, MAEC-DGPOLDE.

³ Nine African countries currently belong to the Alliance of Civilisations Group of Friends: Algeria, Egypt, Ethiopia, Morocco, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania and Tunisia



The Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Miguel Angel Moratinos during the bilateral meeting with the Senegalese President Abdoulaye Wade at the 2007 EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon. FOTO EFE

private sector and civil society - the young, the media, and business, academic, university, religious and cultural representatives.

> Commitment to inter-cultural rapprochement and improved mutual understanding

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan must help to overcome the relative misunderstanding between Spanish and African societies, improving the image each has of the other and promoting an approach through cultural exchanges. Cultural exchange is the base of mutual understanding, of integration and of coexistence. Together with key players and the central and decentralised Administration, Casa Africa or civil society organisations which help to bring Spain closer to African cultural diversity, new players such as the media must be added, to spread a plural and contemporary image of the wealth and diversity of both realities.

Language is a key vector in rapprochement and mutual understanding of cultures, and a factor of cultural wealth and identity. This Plan must help to promote and respond adequately to the interest in the study of Spanish language in Africa, drawing on the collaboration of Equatorial Guinea, the continent’s only Spanish-speaking country. At the same time, it will seek to promote respect for and protection of African linguistic richness and variety, part of Humanity’s cultural heritage.

On the other hand, the coming years will also see a commitment, among other things, to innovation and scientific cooperation between Spain and Africa, promoting collaboration and exchanges between the two while strengthening national scientific research systems on the sub-Saharan continent.

‘Africa Vive’ is an initiative promoted by Casa Africa to celebrate Africa Day (25 May) throughout May and all over Spain, in cultural, political, economic, social and sporting activities. This initiative will be consolidated as an annual reference and

catalyst of the African reality in all spheres, in an event which brings Africa closer to Spain with the wish to enhance the generally distorted image of Africa, rarely a reflection of the continent's wealth and potential.

> **The Spanish presidency of the European Union**

In this framework, the forthcoming Spanish EU presidency during the first half of 2010 is being seen as a fundamental opportunity to move forward on the EU's challenges in Africa and to help meet the objectives in the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. To this end, Spain will lead the EU-Africa political dialogue at three levels: bilateral with the countries of Africa in the context of the Cotonou Accord, continental, fomenting the EU-Africa Lisbon Strategy and with the preparation of the Third EU-Africa Summit, and regional and subregional with African Integration Organisations, particularly the AU, ECOWAS, ECCAS , IGAD and SADC, also encouraging meetings between socioeconomic agents and civil society.



Recent Developments in the Situation in Sub-Saharan Africa



Africa has in the last decade made major efforts to face the changes of the new millennium and has had to confront a whole series of new global challenges. An assessment of recent trends in Sub-Saharan Africa proves complex because of the region's enormous diversity and the great variety of situations and responses. It is however possible to identify a number of key trends which will define the immediate future of this region.

> Political reform and the need to revitalise and further democratic processes and respect for Human Rights

There have in the last decade been significant advances in consolidating transitions to democracy which took place during the nineties, by reinforcing institutions, the rule of law, multiparty elections, opening up to citizen participation and to press freedom. These national efforts translated at the continental level into innovative initiatives such as NEPAD's African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), a positive factor for exchange and the spread of good democratic practice among African countries. While the achievements are many, recent political developments in some African countries make clear the need to continue, in renewed form, to foment the transition to democracy, reinforcing its social and economic dimensions so that it does not remain limited to a vision exclusively linked to the holding of elections.

In fact, instability during elections not long ago in various countries or, as has happened very recently, difficulties of stabilisation, sometimes leading to military coups show that, beyond elections, there are questions of substance about the nature of political participation and the redistribution of political and economic power which must be taken further, transparently and openly, with support for processes of social and political understanding.

Despite the progress of recent years in Sub-Saharan Africa in the field of respect for human rights, various countries such

as Zimbabwe, Somalia, Sudan or the Democratic Republic of Congo (the Kivu region) have recorded practices which are incompatible with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. 2007 was significant for the death penalty, confirming the tendency of African States to abolish it in practice or in legislation. In July that year, Rwanda abolished the death penalty and, in September, Gabon announced that it would do the same. In October, the Mali Government tabled a bill in Parliament for its abolition, and in several countries death penalties were commuted to life imprisonment as in Ghana, the Republic of Congo and Zambia. In the vote held in December 2007 at the United Nations General Assembly to pass a resolution calling for a worldwide moratorium on the death penalty as a preliminary step to abolition, seventeen African States voted in favour of suspension and twenty abstained⁴

There have been advances in recent years against the recruitment of children in conflicts, and smaller numbers of children were recorded at the beginning of 2008 than in 2004. However, much remains to be done, particularly in countries like the Democratic Republic of Congo or Sudan. Both the UN, basically through the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Children in Armed Conflicts and several Security Council Resolutions (1539 in 2004 and 1612 in 2005) and the EU – which has Directives on Children and Armed Conflict – are significantly engaged in this field in Sub-Saharan Africa. Programmes for disarmament, demobilisation and the reintegration (DDR) of boys and girls affected, and support for organisations which protect children's rights in armed conflict are key areas of work on the continent.

Actions against use of child soldiers have also been recently reinforced with the significant work being done by the International Criminal Court which, for the first time in history, charged someone for forced recruitment of children, in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a milestone against impunity in the international sphere.

Of note in the recent development of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions in Africa has been the work of the Commission set up in Liberia to investigate atrocities committed since the end

⁴ Amnesty International (2008). "The State of Human Rights in the World". .

of 2003 in the civil war. A drive is under way in Sierra Leone to implement the recommendations of its Truth and Reconciliation Commission. The Rwanda Criminal Court's historic 1998 decision continues to stand out for finding for the first time that rape and other acts of sexual violence can be brought to court as actions constituting genocide, an essential element in recognition of sexual violence as a war crime and a crime against humanity.

> **The slow but inexorable building of peace and security in Sub-Saharan Africa**

There is a direct relation between development, security and respect for human rights which becomes especially patent in Africa. As the United Nations Secretary-General said in 2005, “we will not enjoy development without security, or security without development ... we will not enjoy either without universal respect for human rights. Unless all these causes are advanced, none will succeed”.⁵

Of the 30 armed conflicts registered worldwide in 2007, 10 were in Africa and seven of these were internationalised conflicts, making clear their regional character and the role of neighbouring countries in such conflicts. Of note in this sense are the links between the conflicts in the Central African Republic, Chad and Sudan; the border conflict between Ethiopia and Eritrea and between Eritrea and Djibouti in the Doumeira region; Ethiopia's involvement in Somalia - in 2006, aimed at helping to end the crisis situation; or that of Rwanda in the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo. This internationalisation of African conflicts makes it necessary to adopt regional approaches when it comes to the search for solutions⁶.

Along the same lines, the AU has focused major effort on the construction of the African Peace and Security Architecture since the creation in 2002 of the Organisation's Peace and

Security Council, with the adoption of the Declaration on a Common African Defence and Security Policy in 2005 and the creation of the “African Standby Force” (ASF), the Early Warning System and the Panel of the Wise. In this context, supported by existing structures of the Regional Economic Community (RECs)⁷ in this field, the AU has been engaged in actions such as support for the United Nations in stabilising countries like Burundi, the hybrid operation with the United Nations in Darfur (UNAMID), or the missions in Darfur itself (AMIS I and II, 2004-2007) or in Somalia (AMISOM). The AU is also involved in major work in mediating in conflict situations as a tool for peace and security.

However, the African Peace and Security Architecture continues to reflect weaknesses, caused on the one hand by limitations on its capacities – the EU, among others, has created the African Peace Facility as backing to the AU in this realm and, with the launch at the end of 2008 of the “Amani Africa” cycle, it is hoped to contribute to training in the field of planning and crisis management at a continental level – and, on the other hand, by the very situation of poverty and instability in many of its member countries.

Cases like the 1994 Rwanda genocide and others of a similar nature in Africa were the source of the development of the humanitarian principle of Responsibility to Protect populations from genocide, ethnic cleansing and large-scale massacres, formally adopted by the UN in 2005. Here, the responsibility to protect represents a significant empirical and regulatory advance, not just shifting from States' right to their responsibility, but also making clear some principles of humanitarian intervention, such as the proportionality of resources and the perception of military intervention as a last resort, the preventive dimension being the most significant part of the responsibility to provide protection. Nonetheless, the complexity of invoking responsibility to protect was made clear by the previous Secretary-General, Kofi Annan, when he said: “When I look at the murder, rape and starvation to which

the people of Darfur are being subjected, I fear that we have not got far beyond lip service. The lesson here is that high-sounding doctrines like the "responsibility to protect" will remain pure rhetoric unless and until those with the power to intervene effectively - by exerting political, economic or, in the last resort, military muscle - are prepared to take the lead.”⁸.

Following this regional approach, of note in West Africa is the final emergence from the crisis begun in Ivory Coast following the signing of the Ouagadougou Political Accord on 4 March 2007. In other countries in the region such as Liberia, the current challenge involves the effective reintegration of thousands of ex-combatants following disarmament, while periodic insurgent attacks are continuing on the Niger River Delta in Nigeria for control of land and energy resources. Violent forces are also in action in the Gulf of Guinea, making security in the region difficult.

In West Africa, peace and security are also compromised by factors such as the terrorist threat and illegal trafficking in people, arms and drugs in the region and to Europe. The conflict between Tuareg populations and the governments of Mali and Niger, and increased crime, illegal trafficking – and their link to clandestine migration – and the threat of the installation of terrorist cells aggravated by the creation of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), all demand preventive and multidimensional policy.

In West Africa and the Horn of Africa, the international community's efforts are centred on various pockets of instability. On the one hand, the levels of violence in the conflict in the Sudanese region of Darfur remain high despite the startup of the UNAMID peace-keeping mission. The on-going effects of armed conflict in Sudan and in Somalia have unleashed more serious world humanitarian crises, causing displacement - 1.3 million in Somalia⁹ and 2.7 million (a third of its population) in Darfur¹⁰, while also preventing the sowing of crops and impeding the deployment of humanitarian action.

In Kenya, tension rose considerably following the December 2007 legislative and presidential elections, culminating in over 500 deaths and more than 250,000 displaced persons. On the other hand, in Uganda, progressive consolidation of security brought 1.1 million internally displaced people home.

Instability in Somalia has encouraged the proliferation of sea piracy in the zone. The hijacking of ships of various nationalities in the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean, including the Spanish fishing boat “Playa de Bakio” in April de 2008, has increased in recent months, threatening the very survival of this commercial sea route, now one of the world's most dangerous. The international community and in particular the bodies most directly involved, such as the International Maritime Organisation, are seeking urgent and effective measures to help preserve maritime security in the zone. This is clearly evidenced with the launch of Operation “Atalanta” at the end of 2008, the EU's first naval operation, joining the multilateral force which has been trying since August 2008 to ensure World Food Programme ships safe passage in the area.

In Central Africa and the Great Lakes Region, instability is to a large extent defined by the conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo where significant advances had been made in its process of normalisation, with the passage of a new Constitution in February 2006 and the elections at the end of that year, in addition to improvements in the country's economy. Despite the Nairobi Process and the Goma Accords signed in January 2008 by all the North and South Kivu militias, the conflict in the East of the country has intensified, unleashing a humanitarian crisis which has led among other things to the reinforcement of the United Nations mission in the zone (MONUC). The threat to the stability of the country as a whole may open the way to an internationalisation of the conflict in the region, with the involvement of Rwanda and Uganda in the Kivus and Angola in the Lower Congo, and for the stability of Cabinda and of

⁵ Kofi Annan, United Nations Secretary-General (2005). “Toward larger freedom: development, security and human rights for all”..

⁶ Escola de Cultura de Pau (2008). “Alert 2008! Report on conflicts, human rights and peace-building”.

⁷ In particular, ECOWAS, IGAD, SADC, ECCAS and the UMA (Arab Maghreb Union).

⁸ Kofi Annan (2006). Address at the Truman Presidential Museum and Library. Missouri, 11 December 2006 .

⁹ UNHCR (2008). “Population Movement Tracking”. January 2008.

¹⁰ OCHA (2008). “IDP Sites”. October 2008.

Zimbabwe in the Katanga region, thereby substantially repeating the 1998-2003 scenario.

On the other hand, the conflict since 2003 in the Sudanese region of Darfur has helped worsen the internal situation already affecting countries like Chad and the Central African Republic. Given the rising violence, the United Nations Security Council approved the creation of a peace-keeping mission on the border between Chad and the Central African Republic, led by the EU (EUFOR RCA/CHAD), whose specific mandate ended on 15 March 2009.

In Southern Africa, Zimbabwe has been the country which has recently deteriorated most, because of the worsening humanitarian situation and the political crisis, especially following the March 2008 elections. The facilitating and mediating role of the AU and SADC has been significant in the search for a stable and lasting political situation. The inclusive government agreement concluded on 15 September 2008 was also made possible by the backing of these two regional bodies. The area also includes countries like Angola which, following extended civil war, are securing major advances in consolidating peace, together with others like South Africa which, as well as being the region's leading economic power, has been involved in a number of processes to resolve conflict and establish peace on the continent.

> In some cases, high levels of economic growth still fail to produce clear dividends in combating poverty and attaining the Millennium Development Goals, and they are threatened by the impact of the food crisis and the international financial crisis

In economic terms, at present and globally speaking, according

to the OECD's last report with the AfDB in April 2008, African GDP grew by more than 5% and there have been notable advances in the continent's economic development, thanks basically to oil exports, so consolidating the line of growth posted in the last four years. Also according to the report, 12 of the 35 countries analysed raised exports by more than 5%, and the tourism-related economy has grown in countries such as Cape Verde, Kenya, Mauritius or Tanzania, while agriculture has been significant in Benin, Cameroon, Ethiopia, Kenya and Liberia. However, the report worryingly emphasises that Africa loses 23,000 qualified persons a year. The general improvement in macroeconomic management and economic governability in Africa have been key to encouraging both national and foreign investment¹¹.

The reality is however that most of the countries with the lowest development indices and levels are the concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa. According to recent data, the 22 countries with the lowest human development indices are in this part of the world, the last (in 177th place) being Sierra Leone. The countries with the lowest per capital income are also in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly Burundi, Malawi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Niger. Life expectancy is shortest in Zambia (40.5) followed by Swaziland (40.9) and Zimbabwe (40.9), largely the result of the ravages of diseases such as AIDS, health conditions or armed conflict¹².

The gap separating men and women in the poverty cycle has a major impact on development in Sub-Saharan Africa because of the large number of homes headed by women. The acknowledgement at the Beijing Conference that some aspects of poverty are gender-related, and the so-called feminisation of poverty, have helped to redirect efforts so that policies to eradicate poverty deal with the specific needs of women. Of note here is the work of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM).

At the end of 2001, 70% of the world's population infected by HIV was in Sub-Saharan Africa, and 2.3 million people die each

year from illnesses associated with this virus. A progressive increase has been recorded of the rate of HIV in women, 58% of those affected. Africa also has the greatest number of deaths associated with the tuberculosis bacillus, where the particular incidence of HIV increases individual vulnerability. Of the more than one million malaria-related deaths which occur annually, 90% are in Sub-Saharan Africa, most of them among children and adolescents. Although not the reserve of Sub-Saharan Africa, as it is also the case in other regions and states, a number of countries in this area have adult literacy rates of less than 25%, specifically Mali, Burkina Faso or Chad.

Progress in reducing hunger is still insufficient. In 2006, 28% of children under five suffered from under-nutrition (32% in 1990). The world food security crisis threatens to raise these figures in the coming months. In 2007-2008, increasing food prices raised the number of those under-nourished by nearly 100 million, mostly in Sub-Saharan Africa

Eradication of poverty in Africa is one of the international community's main global challenges. Despite advances made in recent years, full attainment of the MDGs, by their deadline, faces many obstacles on this continent. These difficulties are accentuated by certain factors such as rising fuel prices, the food crisis (remembering in particular that Sub-Saharan African homes spend on average half their income of food) or the world financial crises, whose impact in Africa reduces even further the region's commercial opportunities, access to financing, direct investment, or the transfer of immigrant remittances, and so also reduces the possibilities for eradicating poverty and attaining the MDGs.¹³

The meeting of African Finance and Planning Ministers and of African Central Bank Governors held in November 2008 under the auspices of the AU, UNECA and the AfDB made clear the worry that the effect of the international financial crisis would compromise advances made on the continent in recent years and accentuate the rise in food prices and the volatility of the oil markets. Together with advancing national economic reforms

and governability structures, and the intensification of the drive to regional integration by African countries, the commitment of the international financial institutions is essential.

"(...) Concerned over the fact that the development and scope of this crisis continue to slow down economic growth, further worsen our balance of payments situation, aggravate our budget deficits and turn round our efforts to achieve the Millennium Development Goals, We call for equally vigorous, flexible and innovative action to be taken to address the threats posed by the current crisis to growth and Africa's development (...). We reiterate our call for an in-depth reform of the global financial system, based on an inclusive approach which fully integrates, in all legitimacy, the voice of Africa (...)" African Union Declaration on the international financial crisis, 12th AU Conference (Addis Ababa, 3 February 2009)

In this context, the efforts of the AfDB are notable, in collaboration with the other international financial institutions, in launching a financing programme for the period 2008-2012 with five priority areas: infrastructures, governance, the private sector, farming and higher education, and professional techniques and training.

From the standpoint of the African players at the continental level, the AU's driving and coordinating role stands out in areas such as healthcare (the Africa Health Strategy 2007-2015 and the Johannesburg Declaration on Heath and Sustainable Development, passed at the Accra Summit in July 2007), education (the Second Decade of Education in Africa 2006-2015, water (Africa Water Vision for 2025, led by the AU, the AfDB and UNECA) or in gender equality. On the other hand, the NEPAD is encouraging the focussing of efforts to achieve sustainable development in fundamental spheres such as agriculture and market access, human development (health and education), gender (via the specific Spain-NEPAD Gender Fund), infra-structures (energy, water and sanitation, transport, and ICT) and the environment and tourism.

Regionally, ECOWAS and SADC and to a lesser extent CEMAC

¹¹ OECD and AfDB (2008). "African Economic Outlook 2008". 11 May 2008.

¹² Centre for International Relations and International Co-operation (CIDOB) (2008). "CIDOB 2008 International Yearbook".

¹³ Final Communiqué of the meeting of African Finance and Planning Ministers and of African Central Bank Governors on the initiative of the AfDB, the AU and UNECA (Tunis, 12 November 2008).

also have main working lines in the healthcare field (notable for SADC was the 2003 Maseru Declaration on HIV/AIDS, as well as a Strategic Framework and a Regional Fund), education, water and gender. However, the limited effectiveness of many of these efforts remains patent, whether because of lack of appropriate financing or the still limited institutional capacity of continental and regional organisations.

Likewise, the realisation that international development agendas needed to be renewed and their effectiveness enhanced led to commitments made in the field of development financing, contained in the 2002 Monterrey Consensus and reviewed and reaffirmed at the Doha Conference (29 November-2 December 2008) and, on the effectiveness of development aid, in the Paris Declaration in 2005 and the Accra Action Agenda approved at the High-Level Forum on Aid Effectiveness held in September 2008 in Ghana. The Accra Action Agenda emphasises the need for developing countries and donors to apply the fundamental principles of the Paris Declaration: ownership, alignment, harmonisation, results, mutual responsibility and accountability.

The “MDG Africa Steering Group” was set up in September 2007, led by the United Nations Secretary-General. It brings together the Chairpersons of the AfDB, the AU Commission, the European Commission, the IMF, the Islamic Development Bank, the OECD and the World Bank. Its objectives include the reinforcement of international mechanisms for implementing policies on health, education, agriculture and food security, infrastructures and statistical information; to enhance aid predictability and to increase coordination on the ground.

> Increased migration and forced displacement have raised major challenges for African States and their European partners, both in development and in the integrated and coordinated management of flows

Most African migration is South-South, within a region and between neighbouring countries and, in this context, migration in search of work and by season plays an important role, following the geography of farming campaigns. Data are however significantly lacking, both because of the frequent absence of adequate border controls and the fragility of national or regional data-compilation agencies. On the other hand, studies show that it is costly to migrate, suggesting that while those who choose to migrate to Europe and North America have more resources than those emigrating to other African countries, the poorest populations in these countries do not emigrate¹⁴.

Recent studies have also made clear the increasing tendency for migratory flows to feminise. Around 2005, of the 17 million immigrants in Africa, approximately 47% were women. While most African women move within their region, they are increasingly travelling to Europe and North America. An elevated number of African women who migrate to other continents are qualified¹⁵.

While it is true that migration may have highly positive effects in the development of countries (of origin, of transit and destination), the feature of migration in Africa has been that it is generally unregulated, frequently meaning that migrants and their families are unprotected – and vulnerable to transmissible diseases – that a country loses significant human capital, or phenomena like migrant trafficking and networks exploiting women and children are able to proliferate.

¹⁴ World Bank (2007). “Migration in Africa: A Review of the Economic Literature on International Migration in 10 Countries”. William Shaw, Development Prospects Group. April 2007.

¹⁵ UNFPA (2006). “Report on the state of world population 2006. A passage to hope. Women and international migration”.



In recent years, in line with international debates on migration, such as the United Nations High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development (14 and 15 September 2006) and with the EU's Global Approach to migration, African countries have concentrated on seeking a common regional view, notably with the AU and ECOWAS Common Position on Migration and Development.

Together with migrants who move in the search for work, within their region or to Europe or other places, conflicts and natural disasters continue to displace people from their homes. It is estimated that at present 90% of all refugees live in developing countries and most have sought protection in bordering states. More than 42 million people have been displaced by conflict or persecution, 16 million of them refugees and the other 26 million internally displaced in their own countries. Thus it is estimated that since 2004 more than 730,600 Sudanese refugees have fled to Chad, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Ethiopia and Uganda. In Somalia, one of every ten persons is internally displaced.

According to the UNHCR, Africa is the continent most affected by conflicts and crisis which cause displacements, although in 2007 the consolidation of peace in some countries made it possible for thousands of refugees to return to Angola, Burundi, Liberia, Rwanda, Sudan or Togo, among others.

The UNHCR has called for a regional approach to the crisis of the displaced, and a strengthening of alliances with regional organisations and NGOs, with the example of the agreement signed with ECOWAS which has made it possible to satisfactorily foment the reintegration of refugees in West Africa¹⁶. Along with the IOM, which also has an outstanding role here, the UNHCR, the OHCHR and ECOWAS held a Regional Conference in November 2008 on the protection of refugees and internal migration in West Africa.

> Gender inequalities continue to affect millions of Africans

Promotion of gender equality and women's empowerment is, in addition to the Third Millennium Development Goal, essential to overcoming poverty, disease, lack of opportunities, or the gender violence to which a large number of women in Sub-Saharan Africa are exposed (including harmful traditional practices like genital mutilation, girl brides or obstetric fistula).

Recent years have seen major progress in this region toward reducing gender inequality in fields such as primary education or in the adaptation of legal and political frameworks in dealing with questions such as female genital mutilation or violence against women and girls in conflict situations. However, UNDP's Gender-Related Human Development Index (HDI) reveals that the situation of women continues to be particularly grave in 27 countries, 25 of them in Africa, seven in situations of armed conflict and eight engaged in post-conflict reconstruction. Despite passage of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 in 2000 and of Resolution 1820 on sexual violence against women in conflict situations in 2008, the Secretary-General's Report on women, peace and security makes it clear that much work remains to be done to effectively guarantee the presence of women in peace processes and to permanently eliminate the high levels of violence against them, especially in Armed Conflicts where sexual violence is used as a weapon of war (Democratic Republic of Congo, Liberia, Sudan or Uganda).

Promotion of gender equality is a basic AU principle, set out in Article 4 of its Constitutive Act and reflected in the Protocol on the Rights of Women in Africa attached to the African Charter on Human and Peoples Rights, in force since 2005. To comply with this principle, the AU set up the Directorate for Women, Gender and Development which reports directly to the Commission's Chair, and initiated an ambitious Gender Programme. Promotion of the role of women in social

and economic development and their participation in the continent's political and economic processes is also a key facet of the NEPAD's work, with a Gender and Civil Society Unit in its Secretariat and a Gender Working Group set up with representatives of African civil society, regional organisations and specialised United Nations agencies. For its part, the AfDB has also adopted a Gender Policy and an Action Plan designed to adopt a mainstream approach, like that of regional bodies, particularly ECOWAS and SADC.

The commitment to gender equality is firm in Africa and is one of the joint and coordinated continental working poles discerned for the coming years, as made clear in the Sixth African Development Forum held in Addis Ababa at the end of 2008 under the auspices of the AU, the AfDB and UNECA and which, among other things, plans the launch in 2009 of a three-year campaign on the continent to end all forms of violence against women¹⁷.

Another major advance has been the progressive inclusion of women into African parliaments. Twenty African countries have a figure of 30% of women members in their chambers, while Rwanda notably has 55% of women parliamentarians and countries like South Africa have a quota system where there has been an appreciable increase in the visibility of questions of gender and in the mechanisms assuring greater involvement of women in decision-making. In 2006, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf was elected President of Liberia, the first woman head of government in Africa. Although enhancing accountability toward women starts by raising their numbers in decision-making, it is not limited to that, and requires good governance.¹⁸

Achieving gender equality and empowering women is a goal in itself. It is also a condition for building healthier, better educated, more peaceful and more prosperous societies.

When women are fully empowered and engaged, all of society benefits. Only in this way can we successfully take on the enormous challenges confronting our world – from conflict resolution and peacebuilding to fighting AIDS and reaching all the other Millennium Development Goals.
Message from the UN Secretary-General to the General Assembly on gender equality and women's empowerment, 6 March 2007.

> The negative effects of climate change are seen intensely in Sub-Saharan Africa as desertification and its consequences accelerate

According to the Intergovernmental Panel of Experts on Climate Change (IPCC) created by the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in the 2007 report on Climate Change, the regional impact on Africa may be extraordinarily high, "By 2020, in some countries, yields from rain-fed agriculture could be reduced by up to 50%. Agricultural production, including access to food, in many African countries is projected to be severely compromised. This would further adversely affect food security and exacerbate malnutrition".¹⁹

The African continent is suffering large losses of biodiversity, serious erosion and desertification problems, and misuse and depletion of some natural resources, especially water. However, the goods and services produced by African ecosystems require particular attention as guarantors of sustainable agriculture and livestocking and the quality of life of local populations.

On the other hand, Ecological Footprint figures in Sub-Saharan Africa are among the lowest on the planet – less than 0.9 –contrasting with the opposite pole represented by the United

¹⁶ UNHCR (2007). "UNHCR Global Appeal 2008-2009. Africa".

¹⁷ Sixth African Development Forum (Addis Ababa 19-21 November 2008), "Action on gender equality women's empowerment and ending violence against women in Africa"..

¹⁸ UNIFEM (2009): "Progress of the world's women 2008/2009: Who answers to women? Gender and accountability". 17 March 2009.

¹⁹ IPCC (2007). "Climate change 2007: synthesis report". Report of the intergovernmental group of climate change experts. Pp. 11. IPCC.

States, Australia and northern Europe, where the figures are in excess of 5.4. Even though the region emitting least greenhouse gases, Africa is particularly exposed to the negative effects of climate change, and so far its capacity to adapt is limited. According to the UNDP²⁰, until 2015, donor countries will have to provide an additional 86 billion dollars each year (44 billion in climate-proof development investment, 40 billion to adapt poverty reduction programmes to climate change and 2 billion to enhance the disaster response system) if the food insecurity and increasing natural disasters resulting from climate change are to be dealt with.

The continent is being affected by increasing population displacements caused by food insecurity and water shortages, linked to the impact of climate change on the weakest economies. The limited capacity of Sub-Saharan Africa to mitigate and to adapt to the effects, together with the frequent scarcity and inappropriateness of their technologies for sustainable development, mean that concerted bilateral and multilateral action must be promoted, supporting the programmes of bodies like the UNEP or Global Funds like the World Environment Fund.

The international community's responses are directed to relieving the negative consequences on populations but also to generate the necessary capacities to enable the most impoverished countries to create their own strategies to deal with the impact of climate change and adopt international commitments in the matter.²¹

> The arrival of new African and international players on the scene makes it necessary to reinforce capacities and help agendas to coordinate and converge

Continent-wide, the AU and the AfDB are key players. The AU has in recent years received a significant political boost and been restructured in ways which are starting to bear fruit. However, their capacities must continue to be supported, as must the NEPAD programme, which is being integrated into the AU. Other players such as the UNECA play a fundamental role, particularly in thinking about, analysing and the formulation of continental proposals and at the level of regional integration.

Along with them, the role of regional organisations, in particular ECOWAS, SADC, CEEAC and IGAD, is currently on the increase due to a large extent to the successful inauguration of programmes and initiatives in fields like peace and security, eradicating poverty, human, economic and commercial development, gender, energy or infrastructures.

In addition to United Nations agencies – the G8 and International Financial Institutions, fundamentally the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF) – the EU is Africa's other fundamental partner, its main aid donor, top investor and recipient of more than half African exports. The EU Strategy for Africa, approved by the Council of Europe in December 2005, is a “global, integrated and long-term focused” framework for relations between the two continents. As well as the EU and member countries like Spain, France, Portugal, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Germany or Denmark which place Africa high on their foreign policy agendas, other countries such

as the United States, Brazil, China, India, Japan and Turkey are also placing increasing emphasis on their relations with the continent.

During recent years, Africa has been consolidated as a major component of United States foreign policy, particularly in security and defence, promotion of democracy, freedom and human rights, and sustainable economic development. Such objectives are reflected in a more energetic deployment in the region and in specific plans and programmes in various fields such as AFRICOM and, in security and defence, action in countering piracy on the coasts of Somalia.

Among Latin America countries, Brazil's role is a notable one in its close relations with Africa, particularly South Africa but also with Ghana or Mozambique, in trade, agriculture or cooperation in healthcare. Brazil is also among those promoting the South-South dialogue through the IBSA Forum (India, Brazil, South Africa), the ZPCAS (South Atlantic Peace and Cooperation Zone) and, more recently, the AU-South America Summit (ASA) launched with Nigeria and first held in Abuja in November 2006. The ASA brings together all countries in the AU and the Union of South American Nations (UNASUR) to open a channel for cooperation between the two regions and promote sustainable development in all the member countries.

China's broad deployment in Africa, hand in hand with substantial investment and trade agreements with more than 40 countries, culminated in the commitments made at the Beijing Summit and the Third China-Africa Cooperation Forum, given form in the “2007-2009 Beijing Action Plan” and in the “Beijing Declaration of the China-Africa Cooperation Forum”. These commitments place China third among the continent's trade partners after the United States and France. China set out the main lines of its African policy in a January 2006 document, in an attempt to deepen a cooperation framework for mutual benefit, and long term, and its growing profile in Africa has also led to the initiative for the triangulation of the EU-China-Africa dialogue.

²⁰ UNDP (2007). “Human Development Report 2007-2008. The fight against climate change: human solidarity in a divided world”.
²¹ UEuropean Union (2008). “Climate change and international security”. S113/08. According to the report, climate change means increased international insecurity, recognising that it may provoke conflicts over resources, damage and economic risks for coastal cities and vital infrastructures, loss of territory and border disputes, environment-driven migration, situations of fragility and radicalisation, energy supply and pressures on international governability.

Objectives and Lines of Action of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan

3

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan in general furthers the goals of its predecessor, at the same time restructuring and systematising some of the content in the light of international developments and of the experience and lessons learned during recent years. Also in this framework two fundamental considerations must be kept in mind. On the one hand, the importance of ensuring that lines of action contribute effectively to the fulfilment of goals and, on the other, the need to identify and promote existing interrelations between those goals.

This Plan establishes three mainstream objectives:

- Human rights
- Gender equality
- Environmental sustainability and adaptation to climate change

There are also six General Objectives:

- Objective 1: Support in consolidating democracy and building peace and security in Africa
- Objective 2: Helping to combat poverty in Africa
- Objective 3: Promoting trade relations and investment between Spain and Africa, and African economic development
- Objective 4: Strengthening the partnership with Africa in migration
- Objective 5: Reinforcing the Spain-Africa relation, multilaterally and through the European Union
- Objective 6: Consolidating Spain's political and institutional profile in Africa. Casa Africa and other forms of diplomacy

3.1. Mainstream Objectives

The three mainstream objectives, which coincide with Spanish Cooperation's horizontal priorities, are objectives in themselves and at the same time must guide the application of remaining goals. If the mainstream goals are genuinely and effectively integrated into the general objectives, they will define new lines of action.

3.1.1. Human rights

Human development and Human Rights are fundamental principles shaping all Spanish overseas public policy, with attention focused upon persons, in other words placing the capacities, choices and rights of all men and women at the heart of this country's foreign policy.

The mainstream focus of Human Rights means that their promotion and protection must be present in all the general objectives and lines of action of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, at the same time as enhancing the general goal of "Support in consolidating democracy and building peace and security in Africa". Human rights will be promoted from an indivisible and holistic standpoint, including political, economic, social, cultural and environmental rights. All intervention will respect the following principles enshrined by the DAC for promoting and protecting Human Rights:

1. To build a joint understanding of the links between human rights obligations and development priorities through dialogue.
2. To identify the areas of support for governments which are partners in questions of human rights.
3. To strengthen mechanisms for protecting human rights in State-building processes.
4. To support people and organisations demanding fulfilment and application of human rights.
5. To promote non-discrimination as the base for more inclusive and stable societies.
6. To take account of human rights in decisions on aid alignment and instruments.
7. To take account of the mutual reinforcement between human rights and the principles of aid effectiveness.
8. To avoid actions and policies which have negative or discouraging effects, albeit indirectly, on the protection and guarantee of human rights.
9. To adopt a harmonised and gradual focus in situations where human rights deteriorate.
10. To ensure that increased aid favours human rights.

The recently approved Human Rights Plan sets out a series of

objectives and measures for application overseas and which will be taken on under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. Objectives include abolition of the death penalty, the eradication of torture, gender equality, the fight against human trafficking, protection of the rights of the child, the elimination of discrimination or the fight against impunity.

Actions will also be fomented which the Human Rights Plan refers to in the EU context of priority attention in Africa, specifically the application of the joint EU-Africa Strategy and Partnerships on the MDGs, capacities for building and consolidating the Rule of Law, managing migratory flows, peace-keeping operations, the gender dimension and combating terrorism and organised crime.

In general, and in addition to the mainstream cross-cuttings incorporated into this Plan's general goals, in the fulfilment of this objective the following actions will continue to be promoted and consolidated:

- Multilaterally, the Sub-Saharan African activities of bodies specialised in human rights within the United Nations system, such as the OHCHR, the Human Rights Council, the Committee against Torture or the Committee for the Rights of the Child, together with General Assembly resolutions.
- The demand for justice and an end to impunity by support for and furtherance of the activities of the Special International Courts like that for Sierra Leone and Rwanda.
- Action which may be taken to meet this priority in some especially complex regions such as The Great Lakes.
- Implementation of the African Charter on Human Rights and its additional protocols on questions such as the fight against torture, the death penalty, gender violence and the guarantee of effective legal protection.
- Implementation of EU-AU Partnerships, particularly those for Democratic Governability and Human Rights.
- Support for African organisations that promote compliance

with and respect for human rights in Sub-Saharan Africa.

- The creation of synergies and associations with Spanish NGOs and human rights organisations to help strengthen civil society, and the creation of transnational networks.

3.1.2. Gender equality

Integration of the gender focus into Spanish foreign policy in Sub-Saharan Africa is a priority in line with the national and international regulatory framework, with Spanish Cooperation's 2009-2012 Master Plan and with the Gender Strategy in Spanish Development Cooperation.

The main goal to be fomented in Sub-Saharan African countries lies in the importance of extending action in this region in questions of gender, particularly linked to improving women's education and healthcare, their economic, political and social empowerment and full use of their rights in the framework of the MDGs.

In addition to the mainstream cross-cuttings incorporated into the aims of this Plan, in meeting this goal, support will be given to the general lines on Gender in Development contained in Objective 2 ("Helping to combat poverty") and the following initiatives, among others, will be promoted:

- The "Meetings of Women for a Better World" and the Network of women for a better world created as part of those meetings, and the specific declarations and commitments made, together with active participation in other multilateral forums helping to create consensus on matters of gender.
- Contribution to the specific gender funds of African regional organisations like Spain's Gender and Development Fund with NEPAD or the AfDB fund to promote gender equality and the economic empowerment of African women, collaborating and strengthening Gender Departments and Units in regional African institutions like the AU and ECOWAS.
- Collaboration with multilateral bodies specialised in gender



Spain's First Deputy Prime Minister, María Teresa Fernández de la Vega, greets the Liberian President, Ellen Johnson during the Second Meeting of "Women for a Better World" held in March 2007 in Madrid. FOTO EFE

such as UNIFEM, UN-INSTRAW, UNFPA or DAW.

- Creation of alliances and synergies among African and Spanish women's organisations and NGOs, including the committees of women workers in regional trade unions and their counterpart structures in Spain.

3.1.3. Environmental sustainability and adapting to climate change

Changes which are occurring in climate and their devastating effects, generally in the poorest countries, have led to the

inclusion of environmental sustainability and adaptation to climate change as a mainstream priority under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, in line with the national and international regulatory framework, with Spanish Cooperation's Master Plan and with Spanish Cooperation's Environment and Sustainable Development Strategy.

In addition to the mainstream cross-cuttings incorporated into the goals under this Plan, the implementation of this objective will support the general lines of environmental sustainability and the fight against climate change set out under Objective 2 ("Helping to combat poverty"), and the following initiatives, among others, will be fomented:

- The application in Sub-Saharan countries of the Rio Declaration

on the Environment and Development and the United Nations Conventions on Biological Diversity, to Combat Desertification and on Climate Change.

- Regional initiatives to protect the environment and manage crossborder natural resources, along with local initiatives for the sustainable management of natural resources and biodiversity.

- The creation and management of protected biodiversity areas and natural hunting and fishing reserves, together with contribution to sustainable farming development and to ecological agriculture in rural zones, taking account of the population's food requirements and fomenting the development of productive capacities.

- Use of appropriate technologies, including renewable energies.

3.2. General Objectives

3.2.1. Objective 1: Support in consolidating Democracy and building peace and security in Africa

The consolidation in Sub-Saharan countries of peace, democracy, human rights and human security is a priority for African States and societies and so for Spanish foreign policy. Spain will particularly support countries whose governments are unable to fulfil their basic functions and which the international community identifies as being in fragile situations. It is estimated that at present about 1.2 billion people live in such States, many of them on the African continent.

In the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, the Spanish Government reiterates its commitment to meeting this goal, with particular backing for strengthening African capacities to prevent, manage

and resolve conflict; to foment social cohesion and extend the spaces for political participation and accountability; and to the strengthening of public policy in specific fields like security and justice. The measures adopted in these spheres will also help to prevent and overcome fragile situations. This will all be done from a perspective of strengthened national, regional and continental bodies, attaching particular importance to political dialogue between the Spanish government and African institutions.

This is a broad objective, interconnected with other 2009-2012 Africa Plan goals. On the one hand, the consolidation of democracy must be accompanied by and directly influence States' capacity of response in moving forward to meet the MDGs and promote redistributive economic development. On the other hand, there are socio-cultural, structural, economic and environmental components in the causes of armed conflict and fragile situations.

Heads of State and Government of the ACP Countries (Africa, Caribbean and Pacific) [...] reaffirm our commitment to the establishment and preservation of durable peace, security and political stability through the strengthening of democratic processes in ACP States. Final Declaration of the Sixth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the ACP Countries "Promoting Human Security and Development", Accra (Ghana) October 2008.

Coordination of actions and players in the multilateral, regional and national spheres – both the central and regional administrations as well as civil society – is particularly relevant in ensuring the impact of this country's overseas action in this field. For actions in situations of fragility, a start is to be made on the introduction of the so-called "whole-of-government" approach and the "whole system" focus. The first of these refers to the coordination of different agents in the Spanish General Administration in such fragile situations, and the second to the coordination of countries acting in a single partner country. It is also planned to examine the possibilities of integrating decentralised cooperation into this approach, and to create a working group on action in this country's foreign development policy in fragile situations.

Lines of Action

1. Cooperating on democratic governability

Interventions will focus on strengthening State institutions and public policies, developing inclusive citizenship and enlarging the spaces for political participation, while supporting reform of specific key sectors such as justice and security. Work will also be done on preventing and overcoming situations of fragility, the main responsibility for the sector of democratic governance. Support for elections and the reinforcement of civil society are other fields which will be fomented under this Africa Plan.

Along these lines of intervention, the institutional strengthening of regional bodies like the AU, ECOWAS and the NEPAD programme will be a priority. Spain will boost its support for NEPAD's African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), the organisation's governance instrument which, following five years' operation, has shown itself to be an effective mechanism among AU countries for furthering and spreading good democratic practice, for strengthening achievements and for correcting deficiencies in governance and in socioeconomic development²². The APRM may play a significant role in the continent's collective governability, so that Spain will nurture initiatives developed in different countries.

Spain considers it necessary to create a multilateral and regional focus for overcoming situations of fragility. The 2006 European Consensus called on member countries to increase their commitment to fragile States, particularly in crisis and postconflict situations. The Portuguese EU Presidency in 2007 underlined the need to make fragile States a priority in the introduction of the EU-Africa Strategy.

Spain will on the other hand actively support other general initiatives in this realm, such as the startup of the Governance and Human Rights partnership in the EU-Africa Strategy.

Judicial cooperation and combating corruption are priorities

as part of this line of action. Overall reinforcement of judicial institutions, including various areas of the justice administration such as the Judiciary, Public Prosecution, the Judicial Police or the Bar, will be essential to consolidating democratic states, as well as facilitating citizens' access to justice, particularly for women and those living in rural zones. The judicial realm has seen major action in Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique and Cape Verde, and identification has been completed for the implementation of projects in Angola, Mauritania and Mali. Likewise, the Ministry of Justice plans to begin actions in Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Ivory Coast and Senegal during the term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan.

Action in international legal cooperation with some African countries will also be boosted with the negotiation and conclusion of conventions on judicial assistance, extradition and transfer of convicted persons.

Another relevant area will be action on Reform of the Security Sector (RSS) where the reference for action will be the OECD Handbook on security sector reform²³. Spain has major experience in this field and has been active in some Sub-Saharan Africa countries such as Angola or Mozambique, and in the EU mission in Guinea Bissau.

Where international cooperation targets the modernisation of institutions and Public Administration reform, bodies like the International and Ibero-American Foundation of Public Administration and Policies (FIIAPP) are proving effective in creating a more efficient and democratic public sector in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Together with these general actions, the Africa Plan will foment specific actions in the following areas:

a) Support for the consolidation of democracy and development of inclusive citizenship:

- Support will be given to Public Administrations which

²² APF (2008). "Emerging governance issues in Africa: Perspectives from the APRM Process". 11 Meeting of the Africa Partnership Forum (APF). Ethiopía.
²³ OECD (2007) "DAC-OECD Security System Reform Handbook: supporting security and justice".

enhance social cohesion, contributing to the creation of sustainable public institutions and state structures which guarantee democratic governance and lead to State- and peace-building. Enhanced social cohesion also prevents situations of fragility.

- Support will be given to State-building, to prevent and overcome situations of fragility. Intervention in this field must be guided by the DAC Principles for international engagement in Fragile States and situations.

- Reinforcement of the role and functions of parliaments and support for the accountability of public bodies such as public advocacy offices, courts of audit or anticorruption commissions.

- There will be further support for the proper organisation and holding of elections, particularly through the Global Programme Supporting Elections created as part of the UNDP Thematic Democratic Governance Trust Fund, in close coordination with the EC-UNDP Partnership on Electoral Assistance.

- Participation will be fostered in Electoral Observer Missions, both with contributions and by encouraging experts to become involved in the various phases of an Electoral Mission.

b) Strengthening the Justice Sector:

Development Cooperation action will be fomented in the justice sector, in collaboration with the Ministry of Justice and the AECID. During this Plan, reform will be consolidated in reform of the judicial systems in Equatorial Guinea, Mozambique and Cape Verde, and judicial cooperation actions will begin in Angola, Mauritania and Mali. It is also planned to identify and schedule cooperation activities with Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Ivory Coast and Senegal.

- Training for judges, prosecutors, clerks of court and forensic

specialists will be fomented through the Legal Studies Centre in the Ministry of Justice and the Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary in Spain, along with support for African judicial academies. Seminars, conferences, training courses and technical assistance will continue to be important tools of judicial cooperation.

- Support will be on-going for the publication of African regulations and the modernisation of justice sector bodies and institutions, while furthering international cooperation in judicial and criminal matters among African countries.

- Public security will be enhanced, along with access to justice and the promotion of human rights, paying special attention to women's rights.

c) Sector Security Reform:

- Wide-ranging security sector reform will be promoted, cooperation with police structures, penitentiary systems and emergency services. In this field, support will continue to be given to the EU's project for reform of the security sector (RSS) in Guinea Bissau.

- Priority will be given to training and the strengthening of national capacities, support for specific programmes to reform security structures or strategies and the exchange of experiences in matters of bilateral interest.

Project for Reform of the Security System in Guinea Bissau
> Primer proyecto global de reforma de los tres sectores (policía, fuerzas armadas, justicia (policía judicial)) a nivel europeo que puede servir de modelo a otros países con estados frágiles.
> The first comprehensive European-level reform project for the three sectors (police, armed forces and justice - judicial police) which may provide a model for other fragile states.
> A Spanish Head of Mission and 14 European advisors.
> First phase, identification, begun on 14 April 2008 with 5.8 million euros in EU funding.

²³ OCDE (2007) "El manual del CAD-OCDE sobre la Reforma del Sistema de Seguridad: apoyo a la seguridad y la justicia".

> Objective: to restructure the security sector.
> Needs identified: lack of resources, lack of training, absence of police, military and investigation techniques.
> A chance for Spain and other countries to implement bilateral projects in areas of interest in this matter.

d) Support for local decentralisation processes:

- Support for territorial democratic institutions and the strengthening of local bodies and, where the conditions exist, operation implemented from an integrated territorial standpoint.

- Administrative and political decentralisation processes will continue to be promoted in this field, through the AECID's MUNICIPIA programme in Mozambique or Cape Verde.

e) Strengthening civil society and encouraging political participation:

- Backing will be given to organising civil society and public participation.

- Strategies will be fomented to strengthen political parties and civil society organisations and for the creation of networks and the active involvement of NGOs, associations and employer and trade union organisations.

- Exchange of Spanish-African experiences will be promoted between trade union, employer and civil society organisations and associations.

²⁴ Participation in MONUC and MINURCAT with two observers in each, and in UNIPSIL with one police agent. .

2. Contribution to the mechanisms for prevention, management and resolution of conflict and post-conflict reconstruction

Action in this field will centre on the strengthening of African capacities to prevent crises and guarantee peace and stability. To these ends, activities will continued to be promoted for peacebuilding by the UN, EU, NATO and regional bodies. Civil management of crises, application of Resolution 1325, post-conflict reconstruction, the fight against illegal trafficking and the proliferation of firearms and humanitarian demining and assistance to victims will also be the focus of special interest in the 2009-2012 Africa Plan.

Prevention of violent conflict, and peacebuilding, one of whose main instruments is peaceful settlement of controversies, are central objectives of Spanish foreign policy. Spain has accumulated significant experience in this field in Sub-Saharan Africa, where Spanish Cooperation's Peacebuilding Strategy is a point of reference. Spain is twenty-first among countries contributing police and military resources to United Nations operations, and in Sub-Saharan Africa it is involved in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), in Chad and the Central African Republic (MINURCAT) and Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL)²⁴. This country has been involved in EU action in Chad and the Central African Republic, in the Democratic Republic of Congo, in the ATALANTA naval operation against piracy in Somalia, and in Reform of the Sector Security in Guinea Bissau.

Spain is also one of the largest contributors to the AU Peace Agenda, increasing its input from time to time through the project run by the UNDP with the AU, directed fundamentally to the various elements of the Peace and Security Agenda (the Conflict Management Centre, the Peace and Security Council and the African Stand-by Force), at the same time as supporting UN liaison offices in the area, particularly that in Juba (Sudan).

The Minister of Defence Carme Chacón and the Chief of General Staff General Julio Rodríguez during their visit in October 2008



The Minister of Defence Carme Chacón and the Chief of General Staff General Julio Rodríguez during their visit in October 2008 to the Spanish military personnel posted to Camp Europa in N'Djamena (Chad). FOTO EFE/EMILIO NARANJO

to the Spanish military personnel posted to Camp Europa in N'Djamena (Chad).

During the term of this Plan, Spain will maintain its active civil and military support for multilateral and European peacekeeping missions in Sub-Saharan Africa, while continuing its backing for the AU Peace and Security Agenda based on the Memorandum of Understanding signed by Spain and the AU in 2006 and boosted by the visit of the Minister Miguel Ángel Moratinos to the organisation's head-quarters in 2008.

Support will also be consolidated for the ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme (ECOSAP). Spain makes a financial contribution with ECOSAP and supports the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC) based in Accra, with a liaison officer working as an instructor in that centre.

As part of peacebuilding, Spain will continue to promote programmes both multilaterally through United Nations agencies (UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA or UNDP) and bilaterally, including support for projects by NGOs specialised in humanitarian action, human rights and protection of refugees. Here, special attention will be paid to disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) and to humanitarian demining, to which Spain is committed through voluntary contributions to Trust Funds of International Bodies like the United Nations Trust Fund for Assistance in Mine Action, including funding for projects in Eritrea/Ethiopia, Mauritania, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sudan, or by financing NGO projects for humanitarian action against anti-personnel mines and explosive devices in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Courses will also continue for demining instructors, the benefits of which have so far been felt by instructors in Angola, Mauritania, Mozambique and Senegal.

Particular attention will also be paid to fomenting Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and to the Spanish Government's Action Plan for application of that 2000 Resolution as well as to Resolution 1820 on sexual violence against women in conflict situations. Promotion of these resolutions, which incorporate the gender perspective into all stages of armed conflict, will be a priority in Sub-Saharan Africa in the coming years.

Together with these general actions, the 2009-2012 Africa Plan will boost specific actions in the following areas of intervention:

a) Prevention of Violent Conflict:

- The European Union's Conflict Prevention Programme will be fomented, with its aim of including the preventive dimension in EU action.
- The National Violent Conflict-Prevention Plan approved by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in 2002, and which provides for the elaboration of reports and analysis of different countries' risk indicators, will continue to be promoted internationally.
- Coordination will be strengthened among all the players involved to enhance early-warning mechanisms and the related rapid response, and suitable channels will be promoted for response to humanitarian crises, together with early-warning instruments to prevent or minimise conflicts which may arise during the implementation of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. Support will continue to be given to the action of the UNDP's Bureau for Crisis Prevention and Recovery (BCPR).
- Specific actions will be fomented (mediation, negotiation, facilitation) as a means to attain lasting peace and to encourage capacities in this area. Dialogue and national reconciliation must also be fostered.
- Support will be furthered for the implementation of international initiatives and instruments designed to combat illegal trade in and the proliferation of small arms and light

weapons among civilians, in order to reduce armed violence and promote an environment of human security, like the United Nations Action Programme to prevent, combat and eliminate all aspects of illegal traffic in small arms and light weapons, the firearms Protocol annexed to the Convention on Transnational Organised Crime or the instrument for marking and tracing arms.

b) Conflict management and resolution:

- Collaboration will be reinforced with the UN Peacebuilding Commission to which contributions are made through the Peacebuilding Fund and which is currently operating in Burundi, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia and the Central African Republic. Spain makes a major contribution to the fund and is engaged in the specific action in Guinea Bissau.
- There will be a special drive to reinforce the African Peace and Security Architecture by encouraging a Joint Action Plan between the EU, the AU and the UN, to come into effect in 2010.
- Spain will contribute to the European Union's reinforcement of African crisis-management capacities and in particular to the startup of the African Peace Facility, while supporting the EU Instrument for Stability (IFS) which has been operating since 2007 in conflict-prevention, crisis-management and peacebuilding in countries like Somalia, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Guinea or Zimbabwe.
- Collaboration will be intensified with United Nations and regional bodies, especially with the EU for training and instructing African teams by active engagement in EC crisis-management training projects and, more recently, in the context of the European Security and Defence School and in bilateral projects for crisis-management training in Spanish military centres.
- Encouragement will be given to the involvement of Spanish personnel in Peacebuilding Missions in Sub-Saharan Africa. This will be done by upgrading the system for announcing existing vacancies and training. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs

and Cooperation's Peacekeeping Operations Unit (OMP) has organised pre-mission courses through the National Institute of Public Administrations (INAP), the Legal Studies Centre of the Ministry of Justice and the Judicial School of the General Council of the Judiciary. Courses have also been held in the Army's War School. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation will boost training and, in particular, introductory courses to peace missions held in the Diplomatic School, and will appoint panels of experts in areas of interest such as the administration of Justice in post-conflict situations.

- Exchange of experiences will be encouraged with African Research Centres (think tanks, universities) in matters related to peace and conflict-resolution missions, and research on Africa will be boosted in their counterpart Spanish centres.

c) Post-conflict reconstruction:

- Actions will be promoted including humanitarian demining (cleaning, removal and elimination of mines and the remains of war explosives), assistance for victims and their families and their communities, and training in humanitarian demining.

- Support will be given to the return of displaced persons and refugees when conditions for this – particularly those related to security – are met in line with UN principles and standards in the field, basically through the UNHCR, in crises such as those in the Great Lakes, Sudan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of Congo or Somalia.

- Actions will be backed for the prevention, demobilisation and rehabilitation of child soldiers under the EU's Guidelines on children in armed conflict.

- The fight against impunity will be fomented through support for the Special Courts such as that created in Sierra Leone.

3. 3. Cooperation in Defence, combating organised crime, illegal trafficking, terrorism and piracy

Actions are to be furthered which help to strengthen the security systems of Sub-Saharan Africa countries to develop their capacities and enhance the structures for response to threats. This will be done by analysing local/regional security priorities and needs through bilateral and/or multilateral cooperation, adopting appropriate tools to combat terrorism, illegal trafficking, organised crime and piracy.

Recent years have seen considerable intensification of police and military cooperation with Sub-Saharan Africa in areas of special interest like counter-terrorism, illegal trafficking, organised crime and piracy. Risks related to insecurity in this area raise a regional and international challenge in which Spain has been active in its collaboration with such countries as Cape Verde, Mozambique, Mauritania, Senegal, or Ghana among others, in bilateral agreements, joint commissions and various cooperation programmes.

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan will prioritise the enhancement of capacities in Sub-Saharan Africa countries' fight against terrorism and cooperation with continental and regional African organisations like the AU or ECOWAS. Both have launched key counter-terrorism initiatives and against other grave threats and have specific structures in certain areas such as the ECOWAS Intergovernmental Anti-Money Laundering Group in Africa (GIABA) and in activities combating the financing of terrorism.

a) Cooperation in Defence:

- Bilateral security and defence Cooperation Agreements will be negotiated, bilateral contacts will be fostered between Ministries of Defence, joint commissions with the countries of the Gulf of Guinea, and the level of cooperation with Southern African countries, especially with the South African armed forces, will be raised.

- The Military Training Cooperation Programme will be boosted

to enhance this country's regular training of African military personnel in various military specialisations. Fifty scholarship courses will continue to be offered under the Programme to at least nine Sub-Saharan countries.

- The Ministry of Defence's activities will be consolidated in military sanitary cooperation, boosting support for the Telemedicine Service of the Military Healthcare Detail in various African hospitals, military healthcare training or the donation of materials.

b) Cooperation against illegal trafficking and organised crime:

- Initiatives in the fight against organised crime and illegal trafficking being pursued by regional bodies like ECOWAS will be encouraged, specifically, "the Regional Action Plan to confront the growing problem of illegal trafficking in drugs, organised crime and drug-abuse in West Africa 2008-2011".

- Spain will collaborate with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in its regional activities in the fight against organised crime and drug-trafficking.

c) Counter-terrorism cooperation:

- There is to be collaboration with initiatives implemented by the AU in the fight against terrorism and specifically for those on fulfilment of the goals of the Action Plan for preventing and combating terrorism adopted in September 2002.

- Support will be given to the Sub-Saharan African activities of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED).

- Spain will continue to help provide Sub-Saharan African countries with adequate counter-terrorism legal frameworks, and to ratify and apply the international legal framework. Thus collaboration will continue with the programme to strengthen the UNODC's legal counter-terrorism regime and with other counter-terrorism activities identified by UNODC regional offices in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in West and Central Africa.

- Technical and financial support for the African Union Counter-Terrorism Research Centre (CAERT) based in Algiers will be consolidated, along with the IGAD Capacity Building Program against Terrorism (ICPACT), contributing to the development of their operational and strategic capacities to make them regionally more effective in counter-terrorism.

- Areas of technical assistance (financing of terrorism, documentary security, border controls, judicial cooperation) will be identified and fostered, and in which Spain's counter-terrorism experience may make an invaluable contribution to better the capacities and structures of Sub-Saharan African countries' security forces.

- In particular, bilateral contacts/ consultation and exchange of information and intelligence will be enhanced with countries whose geographical proximity or because of special circumstances are Spanish priorities in counter-terrorism.

d) Cooperation against piracy:

- Spain undertakes to boost and participate actively in UN, EU and NATO counter-piracy initiatives. Spain has clearly fomented and supported passage of all United Nations Security Council Resolutions on piracy off the Somali coast as well as action by the international community for the effective implementation of those Resolutions. Thus Spain has been involved since the outset in EU initiatives in this field, particularly in the approval and launch of Operation ATALANTA.

- Spain will intensify its efforts to coordinate action against the problem of piracy in waters adjacent to the Somalia coast, and will reinforce support for regional bodies and the Transition Government in its work to stabilise Somalia, deploying resources for projects to reform the security system being put in place by the European Commission.

Spain is significantly involved in "Operation Atalanta" approved by the EU in December 2008 to fight piracy in Somalia. This aerial-naval mission is intended to dissuade



The Interior Minister Alfredo Pérez Rubalcaba during a meeting with the Somali Prime Minister Nur Hassan Hussein, in June 2008. FOTO EFE/MONDELO

and prevent acts of piracy on the coasts of Somalia, and to protect UN World Food Programme (WFP) vessels. The Spanish contribution, which will be coordinated in time with those of other European countries, consists of a patrol aircraft, a frigate and a logistics vessel.

CROSS-CUTTING WITH MAINSTREAM GOALS	
Human rights	● To foster national and regional public policies to respect and promote human rights and the institutions monitoring their fulfilment. ● To help reinforce civil society organisations which defend human rights, and human rights education for civil society and State Law Enforcement Agencies. ● To promote democratisation processes by participating in EU election observer missions. ● To foment application of EU Directives on children in armed conflict and boost programmes facilitating their rehabilitation and reintegration.
Gender equality	● To contribute to the eradication of all forms of violence against women, in close collaboration with multi-lateral bodies such as UNIFEM, African regional bodies, African States and women's associations. Application will be promoted of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and of Resolution 1820, and eradication of harmful traditional practices like female genital mutilation. ● Work will be done on implementing the "Spanish Government Action Plan for application of Resolution 1325" passed in 2000, and Spanish Cooperation's Plan for the application of Resolution 1325. ● To help strengthen the participation of women and women's associations in civil society and foment institutional mechanisms for gender equality such as women's institutes or women's offices.
Environmental sustainability	● Environmental governance will be encouraged with backing for national, regional or local institutions and policies for the protection and sustainable management of services yielded by ecosystems. ● To promote use of crisis-prevention and early warning mechanisms to alert and mitigate effects arising from natural disasters and conflicts over natural resources and border territories. ● To support Sub-Saharan African social organisations which defend and are committed to respect for the environment.

3.2.2. Objective 2: Contribution to the fight against poverty in Africa

Following international commitments and in particular fulfilment of the MDGs, Spanish Cooperation has made a clear commitment to Africa which has translated into a quantitative and qualitative leap in the development aid destined to the region. Africa was for the first time in 2007 the main beneficiary of ODA, receiving 40.39% of the total, of which 28.33% (834,151,264 euros) went to Sub-Saharan Africa. From 2009 to 2012, Africa will continue to be a development aid priority, with the continuing goal of increasing the amount and quality of assistance destined for Less Advanced Countries (LACs) and the most vulnerable sectors.

Spanish Cooperation's 2009-2012 Master Plan is, along with other Spanish annual planning instruments (Annual International Co-operation Plans – PACI), sector tools (Sector Strategies – DES) and those guided by geography (Country Partnerships), the essential guide for those engaged in Spanish Cooperation in Africa during the coming four years.

Using these tools, Spain will embark on a comprehensive development policy which surpasses the assistance model, and will work to define policies and participants while seeking effective results in reducing poverty.

The aim in the first instance will be to enhance the effectiveness of commitments made under the International Development Agenda, the MDGs, the March 2005 Paris Declaration on the effectiveness of development aid, the 2008 Accra Action Agenda or, in the European context, the EU Code of Conduct on complementarity and division of the work of donors.

In tackling a comprehensive development policy in Africa, work will be done in various clearly defined strategic fields:

- Bilaterally, via effective aid on the ground;
- Multilaterally, in selective and strategic form;

● In the area of policy coherence, to ensure within the General State Administration that policies influencing Africa actively seek positive impacts in development goals;

● In coordinating and ensuring the complementarity of all those engaged in cooperation (including the General State Administration, the Autonomous Communities, Local Bodies, NGOs, universities, business organisations and companies and trade unions) around shared goals.

Work will also be done to:

- Start a development education strategy promoting citizenship which generates a culture of solidarity with development aims on the African continent;
- Provide Spanish Cooperation with a research flow on development and its impact in Africa, and appropriate institutional and human capacities to tackle this qualitative leap against poverty.

In line with the commitments under the 2008 Accra Action Agenda, at the bilateral level, the creation will be nurtured of an association with partner countries which guarantees effective, quality assistance. This implies the initiation of an aid effectiveness plan of action which defines the frames for association with each country, identifying the strategy priorities for the action of Spanish Cooperation. Partnership frameworks will enhance the concentration of Spain's Cooperation by sector, defined in each particular country in close dialogue with the partner country itself and with donors present, in compliance with the EU Code of Conduct. This dialogue on policy and planning will help to identify each country's specific lines of intervention, optimising aid effectiveness and its impact.

²⁵ Monitoring of the 2007 PACI (2008). To improve the effectiveness of aid by harmonisation, increasing the allocation to cover social needs. MAEC-SECI-DGPOLDE.

Lines of action: Sector Development Policies in Africa

SPANISH COOPERATION'S SECTORS OF INTERVENTION	EXPECTED EFFECTS OF THE MASTER PLAN IN 2012
Democratic governability	To promote the quality of democracy and respect for fundamental rights with true and effective citizen participation, exercise of human rights and capacities for promoting development
Rural development and combating hunger	To help to make effective the human right to food and improve the living conditions and food security of rural and urban populations
Education	To help attain right to basic, inclusive, free and quality education by strengthening public education systems and those of civil society organisations in countries and groups with lower education rates
Healthcare	To contribute effectively to creating conditions to improve people's health, particularly those suffering greater poverty and vulnerability, fomenting sustainable human development
Water and sanitation	Promoting human right to water, improving and extending cover and access to drinking water and basic sanitation, ensuring their sustainability and integrated management of the hydrological cycle
Economic growth for reducing poverty	To support and promote inclusive, equitable and sustained economic growth which respects the environment, based on the creation of an economic, business and associative fabric in partner countries, with the criteria of decent jobs, and economic policies which favour poverty reduction and social cohesion
Environmental sustainability and fighting climate change	To contribute to sustainable management of natural capital and development models making it possible to improve the population's wellbeing and quality of life
Science, technology and innovation	To favour processes for the generation, ownership and use of scientific and technological know-how to improve living conditions, economic growth and social equity
Culture and development	To promote openings and the tangible and intangible cultural capacities of people and communities as substantive elements of sustainable human development
Gender in development	To help attain full exercise of women's Human Rights and citizenship by empowerment, seen as a mechanism to overcome poverty and the inequality gap and injustice suffered by women in their gender relations
Migration and development	To promote reciprocal positive effects between migration and development, by encouraging codevelopment, empowerment of diasporas and support for the design and startup of adequate and coherent public migration policies in countries of origin, transit and destination, protecting migrants' rights at all stages

The specific objectives of each of these sector priorities must guide both the specific partnership frames set up with African partner countries and Spain's position in multilateral bodies and forums:

1. Democratic governability:

The specific aims of this sector priority are included in the First Line of Action under Objective I in this Plan.

2. Rural Development and Combating Hunger:

The Madrid High-Level Meeting on Food Security for All (26 and 27 January 2009) convened by the Spanish Government and the United Nations brought together representatives from 162 countries – Governments, civil society, trade unions, the private sector, universities, donor agencies and multilateral bodies. In a global context defined by the financial and economic crisis, the Meeting recalled that the food crisis remains unresolved and that additional efforts and resources are required to meet the enormous existing financial requirements.

As a result of the Meeting, support will be given to the creation of a broad and inclusive Global Alliance for Agriculture, Food Security and Nutrition involving all players: producer organisations, trade unions, NGOs, multilateral bodies, universities, the private sector, civil society, and donor and partner countries. The involvement will be encouraged of producer organisations, regional bodies, women's networks and civil society organisations from the region.

- Access to decent food will be fostered which is appropriate to local diversity and the nutritional needs of each sector of the population and of the most vulnerable urban and rural sectors, paying particular attention to boys and girls in first infancy.
- Sustainable production systems will be promoted, with support for small producers.
- Support and incentives will be given to rural development with a territorial focus, incorporating the vulnerable population

and all players to make the most of the potential of rural zones.

- The necessary international agreements will be promoted to exercise the right to food and improvement of the population's living and food conditions, particularly the most vulnerable groups.
- Through universities and other research centres, food and agriculture and rural scientific and technological research will be promoted in the development field, and local understanding will be boosted in combating hunger.

Among other actions, during this Plan the creation will be fomented of an observatory in the form of a healthcare network for the understanding, control and prevention of crossborder diseases in African countries, with multilateral bodies like the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE) and the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO). This observatory will make it possible to establish coordinated strategies to prevent and control animal diseases and design future animal health policies based on synergies between different actions of States and regions in the fight against disease, while helping States to adjust their policies to OIE standards, particularly those concerning disease notification. The observatory will include creation of a laboratory diagnosis network.

3. Basic Social Services:

a) Education

- Basic, inclusive, intercultural and free education and training for all will be fostered.
- Quality education and training will be fomented by building and strengthening public policy.
- Entry to and permanence in the education system and the completion of educational cycles will be encouraged, based on equity and gender equality.
- Education systems will be helped to be phased and flexible so that they can provide the population with opportunities for lifelong learning and access to productive activities and decent employment.

With Basic Education applied in the region as the point of departure, Spanish Cooperation's Education Strategy includes in its goals for Sub-Saharan Africa backing for universalisation with equal access to primary education, eradication of illiteracy, a minimum of nine or ten years at school, support for the first cycle of secondary education including occupational training, and promoting initial education.

Spanish Cooperation's major support for the Fast Track Initiative-Education for All must be highlighted, facilitating universal primary education and directing most of its funds and actions to Sub-Saharan African countries.

b) Healthcare

- Contributions will be made to the design, consolidation and sustainability of effective and equitable Healthcare Systems.
- The development of sufficient and motivated human resources will be aided.
- Public participation will be encouraged in the design and

direction of an equitable Healthcare System taking account of cultural characteristics ensuring gender equality and committed to human rights.

- Contributions will be made to availability, accessibility, acquisition and use of healthcare technology and supplies needed to provide essential healthcare resources and services.
- Help will be given to reducing the burden of disease, particularly the most prevalent conditions, supporting the population, those suffering most discrimination (children, women, the young, indigenous populations, the disabled and rural population) with a priority Public Health focus.
- The development of public policies will be assisted to ensure health habitats guaranteeing the hygiene conditions of populations exposed to poverty.
- Aid will be given in the development of Research and Development systems.

The CISM (Centro de Investigação em Saúde) in Mozambique won the 2008 Prince of Asturias Prize for International Cooperation. This is a malaria research centre led by the Hospital Clinic in Barcelona and which, together with the Mozambique Ministry of Health and Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo, has shown that the candidate product for a malaria vaccine, called RTSS/ASO2A, protects a significant percentage of children against slight episodes of the disease, new infections and severe forms, for at least six months. This clinical trial, run in Mozambique, is the largest so far in Africa and received financing from the AECID, the Carlos III Health Institute and the Gates Foundation, among others.

The fight against diseases like malaria, AIDS or tuberculosis is a priority in Sub-Saharan Africa. Spanish Cooperation has experience in support for institutions researching these diseases, in projects in Mozambique and in Equatorial Guinea, where the Ministry of Health's Carlos III Health Institute is playing a significant role through the Endemic Disease Research Centre.

c) Water and Sanitation

● Support will be given to the public, integrated management of water, ensuring right of supply and sustainable sanitation, conserving the water cycle and promoting responsibility in its proper use.

● Water and sanitation services will be upgraded and extended efficiently and fairly, as indispensable elements of basic habitability, focusing particularly on vulnerable groups and hygiene policy.

● The capacities of local institutions and communities will be strengthened for their active involvement in water and sanitation services.

4. Science, technology and research for human development:

Research and access to knowledge are significant elements in development processes. Long-term sustainable growth depends on fields like science, technology and research, decisive to countries’ development and learning processes and the accumulation of human capital. If generated, transferred and applied adequately, they have great potential in combating poverty, and for human development.

Universities can contribute effectively to development processes with their critical mass and experience as centres specialised in higher education and research. Spanish universities are increasingly involved with their African counterparts, analysing their role as development factors in their countries, and their relations with their social, economic and cultural surroundings.

● The periodic “Universities with Africa” meetings will be fomented, to strengthen relations and boost the role of the universities in Africa’s development. The Third will be sponsored in 2010 in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

● University cooperation programmes will be developed to

train PhDs and for scientific exchange between Universities and Research Centres. The Interuniversity Scientific Cooperation Programme will be extended with more MAEC-AECID grants for African researchers.

● The creation and enhancement of political, institutional and human capacities for research and innovation in partner countries will be assisted. The establishment of national R+D+i systems will be fostered, including involvement in the diagnosis and design of policies and tools and the training of specialists in scientific and technology policy and management of research and innovation.

● Projects will be promoted to transfer technology and for bilateral programmes in technological cooperation and to create scientific and technological infrastructures via projects in national development strategies. The development will be promoted of cooperation networks, platforms and technological initiatives by sector. Support will be given to interuniversity cooperation with African countries.

● The creation, spread and transfer of know-how and technologies will be promoted to deal with critical problems in human, social and economic development.

● The involvement of universities, research institutions and Spanish research personnel will be encouraged in multilateral programmes and international bodies.

● In training programmes which include stays at Spanish universities and public research centres, the inclusion of complementary measures will be promoted which target reinstatement in beneficiaries’ countries of origin, to avoid a brain drain.

Help will be given in improving African Meteorological Services through the African Meteorological Co-operation Programme in collaboration with the WMO, and support for the African Centre for Meteorological Applications for Development (ACMAD) along with participation in regional technical projects.

5. Economic Growth to Reduce Poverty:

The specific objectives of this sector priority are included in the line of action 3 of Objective III of this Plan.

6. Environmental Sustainability and Combating Climate Change:

● African institutional capacities will be enhanced for environmental management, participation in reducing the impact of climate change and the population’s ecological vulnerability, favouring environmentally sustainable human development.

● Conservation and sustainable use of services yielded by ecosystems will be promoted to enhance the population’s living conditions and basic habitability.

● Diversification will be promoted of economic initiatives which are respectful of the environment and which favour sustainable development, conservation of ecosystems and increased human development capacities.

● The basic habitability conditions of the population will be guaranteed, and help will be given to the construction of an environmentally sustainable habitat integrated into its surroundings.

7. Culture and Development:

● Consolidation of the political dimension of culture will be promoted in its contribution to development by reinforcing the value of culture in building democratic governance, social cohesion and the participation of civil society, particularly stimulating the local realm and fragile or post-conflict states, promoting the recuperation and revitalization of public spaces as environments for cultural development, and facilitating access to culture, particularly among excluded groups.

● Training of human capital for cultural management will be encouraged, emphasising cultural and development projects to facilitate the creation and improvement of professional cultural

agents as part of development cooperation.

● The economic dimension of culture will be promoted in its contribution to development by fomenting cultural enterprises, and industries and institutions, favouring job-creation and connection with other productive sectors, backing creators and entrepreneurs in cultural life and promoting women in non-traditional trades.

● The relation and complementarity of education and culture will be enhanced by designing school programmes which extend the cultural content of basic education, supporting new forms of learning in terms of creativity and cultural diversity, especially with children and young people and groups at risk of social exclusion.

● Sustainable management of cultural heritage for development will be boosted with support for conservation, restoration, social use of tangible and intangible heritage assets from an economic and cultural standpoint and for public and local participation, supporting intervention in emergency and post-conflict situations.

● Relations between communication and culture with impact on development will be strengthened by promoting processes and networks for communication through ICTs which advance the formation of audiences, improved distribution and the generation of new cultural industries, along with social awareness of the impact of culture on development.

● Processes will be encouraged for the recognition of cultural rights based on advances in the international standards and which succeed in enhancing action for social inclusion and intercultural dialogue, reinforcing cultural legislation with a focus on freedom and constructive dialogue between cultural agents and sectors not traditionally linked.

In line with Spanish Cooperation’s Culture and Development Strategy, the coming years will continue to see a reinforcement of national Culture Ministries or Institutes in Africa such as the Mali Ministry of Culture, that in Niger and the “College of Arts” in Namibia, through the training

of technicians and specialised personnel, the provision of equipment and support for the design of cultural plans and policies.

8. Gender in Development:

- Support will be given to initiatives which contribute to the full exercise of women’s economic rights in Sub-Saharan Africa to reduce poverty, together with gender equality, social equity and environmental sustainability.
- Help will go to strengthening processes of change toward formal and real equality, guaranteeing full exercise of the social, civil and political rights of women and girls, with special priority in eradicating gender violence and for peacebuilding as an inevitable step toward their full citizenship. This will take the form of support for public policies and mechanisms which reduce and monitor the various forms of discrimination against all women’s groups, while linking to processes which ensure their effective involvement in international, national and local decision-making.
- Full exercise of Women’s Sexual and Reproductive rights will be spread throughout Sub-Saharan Africa countries, regions and cultures as an integral facet of human rights.
- Respect for cultural and other forms of diversity will be made known and promoted with the focus of gender in development (GED), facilitating free use of women’s cultural rights to reduce the various forms of discrimination against all women, however they may be identified, by habit or by themselves.

9. Migration and Development:

The specific objectives of this sector priority are included in Objective IV, Line of Action 3, in this Plan.

CROSS-CUTTING WITH MAINSTREAM OBJECTIVES	
Human rights	● Inclusion of a human rights focus in cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa using tools appropriate to the context of the country where this is implemented. ● Promoting refugee support policies in Chad, Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Somalia.
Gender equality	● To include the GED focus in cooperation in Sub-Saharan Africa, adopting instruments appropriate to the context of the economic and socio-cultural reality of African women. ● To promote specific education and health actions to improve the health of mothers and children, sexual and reproductive healthcare, and for girls’ and women’s education in the context of the MDGs.
Environmental sustainability	● Integrating environmental aspects into development and poverty-reduction strategies in Sub-Saharan Africa. ● Helping reduce the vulnerability of people in their surroundings via initiatives in environmental education, good use of environmental assets and services and productive diversification programmes ● To promote training in specific key areas such as sustainable forest management, certification lines and responsible trade.



The Secretary of State for International Cooperation, Soraya Rodríguez, during a visit to a workshop in the Democratic Republic of Congo . FOTO AECID

3.2.3. Objective 3: Promoting trade relations and investment between Spain and Africa, and African economic development

Despite advances in recent years, the strengthening of this country’s economic and commercial relations with Sub-Saharan African countries remains an unfinished task. Business cooperation has been promoted, along with Spain’s institutional profile in Africa, and the tools for financial backing to Spanish companies have been strengthened, along with contributions to various multilateral funds and bodies.

This support has been seen in growing exports – and imports – in the last five years, and has helped consolidate the rising trend in Spanish investment in Sub-Saharan Africa in recent

decades. However, Spanish business activity in Africa remains significantly lower compared with the rest of Europe and continues to be concentrated in a limited number of sectors and countries. Promoting commercial exchange and Spanish investment in Africa, in line of course with the development of the African economies, is fundamental to propelling Spain’s role and relevance on the continent.

At the same time, protecting and promoting Spanish business interests in Africa is especially important in a situation of international economic crisis and the growing competition of other players on the continent, and must be made compatible with the development of the local economies in the terms of the Spanish Administration’s commitments on the coherence of development policy.

Spanish companies have significant potential for generating development in African economies by creating wealth, as sources of decent jobs and via technology transfer. They can

also play a significant role in enhancing local business networks, in transit from the informal to the formal economy, and as a key factor in environmental sustainability and in the establishment of infrastructure networks.

The support the Spanish Administration will provide through the different instruments takes place in turn in a changing environment of European trade and development policy. The startup of EPAs – Economic Partnership Agreements – between the EU and African countries and trade agreements with development and anti-poverty objectives modify the regulatory framework of the economic relations of European companies in Africa and create a new scenario for Spanish trade relations and investment in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Attempts will be made during the term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan to consolidate and propel rising Spanish exports and investment, in line with local and regional development in Africa and in the context of the new regional and international economic scenarios.

The EPAs involve implementation of commitments under the economic-commercial facet of the 2000 Cotonou Agreement. Those begun from 2008 between the EU and some African countries are commercial agreements with the fundamental objectives of cutting poverty, sustainable development and the gradual inclusion of African, Caribbean and Pacific countries into the world economy.

These arrangements have arisen as one of the potentially viable possible alternatives for the economic and commercial cooperation the Cotonou document refers to, in this case compatible with WTO rules. To adapt to WTO standards, it was chosen to replace the system of unilateral preferences favouring ACP countries by reciprocal trade preferences implemented progressively through the Agreements. Thus the Cotonou Agreement considers it necessary to allow asymmetric treatment for ACP countries which is “as flexible as possible in establishing the duration of a sufficient

transitional period, the final product coverage, taking into account sensitive sectors, and the degree of asymmetry in terms of timetable for tariff dismantlement, while remaining in conformity with WTO rules then prevailing”.

Lines of Action:

1. Promoting trade relations between Spain and Sub-Saharan Africa

Bilateral and regional frameworks appropriate for fomenting economic relations with Sub-Saharan Africa will be established or upgraded.

- Business financing bodies and instruments which promote trade relations and exchange will be strengthened, and intergovernmental actions coordinated to direct effort in this area effectively.

- Trade missions will be promoted in sectors with strategic potential for the Spanish economy and for Sub-Saharan countries with potential for growth, technology transfer and job-creation, along with Spanish companies' attendance at the continent's main fairs (and vice-versa) and events like the EU-Africa Business Forum in 2010.

- Specific economic promotional platforms will be boosted, such as the Advisory Council for Trade Promotion with West Africa (CAPCAO)²⁶ or the Casa Africa Economic Council.

- The development of Spanish companies' projects and those in consortium with African companies will be fomented, and the Financial Cooperation Protocols concluded with Angola, Cape Verde and Ghana will be implemented. In general, particular attention will be paid to infrastructures in Sub-Saharan African countries, using the internationalisation tools available.

- Analyses will be promoted to evaluate the effectiveness

and flexibility of existing tools for formation, information and promoting trade relations specifically in the African context, and possible improvements to them.

- The inclusion of pro-development criteria will be encouraged in access to financing and for the selection of projects for different financial instruments supporting and promoting Spanish companies' exports.

2. Fomenting Spanish investment

Investment in infrastructures which fit into African States' investment plans and regional African multilateral cooperation projects will be made particular priorities. Incentives will be provided for activities enabling the regional business fabric to develop, and the role of companies will be promoted as a factor driving change and improving living conditions in African countries by among other things creating jobs, reinforcing the African business fabric and encouraging sustainable development.

- Spain's input to the EU-Africa Infrastructures Trust Fund and the Africa Catalytic Growth Fund (ACGF) will be raised, and support for bilateral and regional infrastructure investment projects will also be encouraged.

- Between 2009 and 2012, passage of Tax Treaties will be pressed forward, along with the Agreements for the Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (APPRI) concluding during the term of the previous plan. It is also expected to start negotiations with Ivory Coast, Kenya, Mali, Sao Tome and Principe, Mauritius and Cape Verde.

- The importance is acknowledged of mobilising resources into Africa which are available from the Spanish Development Financing Corporation (COFIDES), the Feasibility Study Fund (FSF) line and DAF credits among others, completing the channels for coordination and boosting business initiatives and investment through the Central and Decentralised Administrations in this area.

- Initiatives like the Spanish Overseas Trade Institute (ICEX) Sub-Saharan Africa Programme will be expanded, along with

trade missions and cooperation committees promoted by Chambers of Commerce.

- Spanish participation will be extended in European Investment Bank (EIB) and COFIDES Africa investment lines.

3. Economic growth to reduce poverty:

Policies and actions will be encouraged which contribute to the economic development of Sub-Saharan African countries.

- Contribution will be made to African States' initiatives for creating and consolidating a stable institutional and legal framework agreed with social agents and which generates economic and business activity with positive impact on reducing poverty.

- Active public policies will be boosted which are designed to reduce social and regional disparities and contribute to greater economic and social cohesion in African countries.

- Support and incentives will be given to public policy which creates jobs in African countries and helps reduce informal employment and recognise labour rights.

- Support will be given to incorporating African countries into the international economy by promoting export capacities and negotiating international agreements along the lines of the commitments taken on in the EU with the “Aid for Trade” initiative.

- Spaces for dialogue will be encouraged and supported, along with coordination and joint action involving the private sector, the public sector, trade union organisations and other civil society organisations in African countries.

4. Fishing

Integrated activity will be increased to help enhance and consolidate relations and cooperation in fishing with Sub-Saharan Africa.

²⁶ With the participation of the public sector (the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade's State Secretariat for Trade, the Canary Islands Autonomous Community, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation-Casa Africa) and the Canary Islands Chamber of Commerce and Business Associations.



FOTO ARCHIVO DGCE

- Spanish investment in fishing will be promoted in Sub-Saharan African countries with support for initiatives with this objective, such as the Cluster of Fishing Companies in Third Countries (CEPPT) or the Spanish Fisheries Confederation, which contribute to sustainable development and respect for the environment.
- Maintenance and renewal of fisheries agreements will be analysed and memorandums of understanding and statements of intent signed with countries which are priorities for Spain in this productive activity.
- Community and bilateral actions will be encouraged which help to develop the African fishing sector, local fisheries industries and the productive infrastructures needed.
- Bilateral visits and exchanges will be intensified which consolidate bilateral relations with the countries of greatest interest in this field.
- Action will continue to be promoted in the NAUTA Programme, jointly with decentralised cooperation bodies like the

- Governments in the Canary Islands, Andalusia and Galicia. This programme contributes to the formation and strengthening of the fishing sector in Africa, and to marine and fisheries resource research.
- Scientific-technical fisheries and aquaculture cooperation will be consolidated with the formation of high-level teams and investigation into the state of fishing resource populations.
 - New oceanographic campaigns will be run using the ship the Vizconde de Eza in Namibia, Mozambique, Mauritania and Guinea Bissau, and training using the new cooperation and training vessel will begin.
- 5. Actions to enhance energy security**
- Measures will be taken to increase Spanish involvement in the sustainable and environmentally respectful exploitation of energy resources in Sub-Saharan African countries which have fruitful relations with this country in the field, such as Nigeria, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome and Principe or Angola. The intention will be to encourage these countries to adopt

efficient energy policies, including diversification of sources of supply and promoting renewable energies.

- An energy consultation mechanism will be proposed to interested countries targeting design of energy policy, particularly emphasising advice on regulation.
- Spanish companies in the sector will be encouraged to collaborate actively in the transfer of technology, essential to enhancing energy security. Moreover, the profile of Spanish companies in Sub-Saharan African countries will continue to be promoted, particularly those leading in renewables, especially photovoltaic, thermosolar and wind power.
- Special emphasis will be placed on promoting renewable energies, a field of key interest to Spain. Here, the International Renewable Energies Agency (IRENA), in which Spain is providing a fundamental impulse, is an essential tool which has raised great interest on the African continent.
- Spain will actively encourage African oil and gas producers to join the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). As part of this scheme, Spain will help these countries to design and implement responsible and transparent policies for management of their resources, and for accountability to their citizens.

CROSS-CUTTING WITH MAINSTREAM OBJECTIVES	
Human rights	● Promotion of equal economic rights and economic policy. ● Facilitating support for employment policies facilitating job market access in conditions of equality.
Gender equality	● Promoting projects to empower African women economically, like those under the Spain-NEPAD Fund. ● To promote inclusion of the gender perspective and the special needs of women in entering into economic agreements, trade and investment in Africa.
Environmental sustainability	● To promote environmentally respectful revenue-generating economic initiatives to favour sustainable development, ecosystem conservation and enhanced human capacities for developing tourism, fisheries or sustainable farming ● To promote fair and equitable trade, respecting the environment, with low emissions and without impact on the ecosystem. ● To promote the inclusion of the environmental component in economic development plans. ● To help initiatives by Multilateral Financial Institutions to which Spain contributes (the World Environment Fund, the Carbon Fund or the World Bank's Clean Technology Fund) to reduce Sub-Saharan countries' vulnerability to climate change while boosting the investment needed to foment energy efficiency and the development of low-carbon-intensive productive systems.

3.2.4. Objective 4: Consolidating the Partnership with Africa on Migration

“Migration is a challenge which, well managed, provides an excellent opportunity for development, rapprochement and the mutual enrichment of our societies”.

The First Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development, held in Rabat on 11 and 12 July 2006, allowed a dialogue to open up for the first time among the countries of origin, transit and destination of migration in Central and West Africa and Europe, to build together a model for migration able to confront the diverse aspects of this question in a balanced and coherent way.

During recent years, Spain's active commitment in both Europe and Africa has been essential to the development of a shared, integrated approach to migration (adopted by the European in 2005, 2006 and 2007) in a context of respect for human rights and according to which it is necessary to deal in a consistent and coordinated way with the various facets of the phenomenon, including joint organisation of legal migration, combating illegal immigration and the mafias trafficking in people, and enhancing the synergy between migration and development.

In line with Spanish Cooperation's 2009-2012, Master Plan, Spain will continue during the coming years to foment its focus in migration and development, both at the United Nations (where it was presented, for the first time, during the High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Development in September 2006 in New York) and in the EU and the Euro-African context. Here, application will be furthered and assisted of the Global Approach agreed at the 2007 EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon and in the Final Declaration and the Triennial Cooperation Programme (2009-2011) approved at the Second Euro-African Ministerial Conference on Migration and Development held in Paris on 25 November 2008.

As part of the Global Approach, Spain will continue to support EU Missions to African countries for political dialogue on

migration, Platforms for Cooperation on migration, and Mobility Partnerships. Continued support will be given to the effectiveness in West Africa of the work of FRONTEX, the European Agency for managing operational cooperation on EU Member States' external borders, particularly reinforcing institutional capacities to manage migratory flows and control borders. On the other hand, Spain will help to intensify the application in coming years of the EU-Africa partnership for “Migration, Mobility and Employment”, part of the Global Approach to migration referred to.

Bilaterally, during the effective term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, effective application will be monitored of bilateral Framework Agreements for Cooperation on Migration with countries where these have been concluded – for the time being, the Republic of Guinea, Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Niger, Cape Verde and Mali – and those concluded in the future with other African countries.

Lines of action:

1. Organizing legal migration

Existing mechanisms will be consolidated and improved, and hiring of workers at source will be dealt with according to Spanish job market capacity, fulfilling the Agreements entered into with Sub-Saharan African countries.

Support will be given to employment services in countries of origin in order to manage national, regional or international migratory flows properly.

- The creation will be encouraged of adequate public employment services in African countries which do not yet have them, and those already in place will be reinforced to manage adequately the connection between supply and demand, nationally and internationally, job intermediation, job-promotion and training for employment.

- Hiring mechanisms put in place in recent years between Spain and Sub-Saharan Africa will be consolidated, progressively improving their operation and effectiveness.

This goal will be particularly aided by possible measures such as accreditation in other countries of the region, the work of the Job and Immigration Council in the Embassy of Spain in Dakar, or conclusion of Framework Migration Cooperation Agreements.

- Support will be given to job-offer attraction strategies started up by Sub-Saharan African countries of origin. At the same time, active participation by Spanish business in employee selection processes in the countries of origin will be encouraged and facilitated.

- There will be support for the organisation of awareness campaigns against illegal immigration and for information campaigns on legal migration channels.

2. The coordinated fight against illegal immigration and people-trafficking mafias

Cooperation in this field with European and African countries will be intensified, and national capacities and structures and the actions of international bodies which aid in reaching this goal will be increased. Within its budget possibilities, Spain will increase the funding of instruments for combating illegal migration in African countries of origin and transit.

- Support will be given to national and regional African policies, structures and services in fighting illegal immigration and to initiatives for legislative and regulatory reform in key fields like combating slavery and people trafficking.

- The institutional and material capacities of Interior, Security and Civil Defence Ministries and marine search and rescue will be strengthened and developed.

- Processes will be stimulated which are designed to enhance police cooperation between Spain and the countries of origin and transit of migration, particularly in terms of information flow, training, instruction and institutional reinforcement in dealing with clandestine human trafficking networks. In the same way, international cooperation will be enhanced to improve and guarantee land, sea and air border controls.

- Special attention will also be paid to promoting joint programmes and initiatives to prevent the irregular immigration of unaccompanied minors, by developing programmes which guarantee their assistance, protection, repatriation, reception and social rehabilitation, always in accordance with the minor's higher interest and States' international commitments. In relation to return to the country of origin, there will be cooperation on establishing adequate reception facilities and guaranteeing the conditions for a minor's effective family reunification or their delivery to an institution for their protection.

3. Migration and Development

Among other actions, backing will be given to strengthening institutional capacities for the design and implementation in the countries concerned of public migration policies, with support for national and regional strategies for creating wealth, training and the fomenting of employment and improving living conditions in the most impoverished zones.

- Support will be given to African countries of origin and transit in creating frameworks and public mechanisms for management and data on migration to maximise the positive effects and minimise the negative consequences of migration on development while assuring respect for and promotion of human rights.

- Spaces will be opened up for dialogue, coordination and the formation of joint action on migration and development between the public sector, the private sector, migrants' associations and civil society organisations in the countries of origin and in Spain, focusing particularly on the creation of transnational partnerships and local initiatives to start up codevelopment initiatives.

- Training will be promoted in African countries of origin to create and improve professional openings, to enhance capacities and opportunities and designed for effective inclusion in the job market, in coordination particularly with sector policy promoting the economic business fabric.

- The coherence and positive contributions which Spanish

CROSS-CUTTING MAINSTREAM OBJECTIVES	
Human rights	● Support to design and implement migration policies consistent with respect for human rights.
Gender equality	● To boost the integration of women displaced in development processes and promote their access to basic services and economic self-sufficiency, guaranteeing their security.
Environmental sustainability	● To contribute to the work of international and regional bodies in the most vulnerable parts of Sub-Saharan Africa to alleviate migration driven by climate change.

State public policies not specifically for ODA may have on development objectives in countries of origin and transit of migration will be boosted.

● Know-how will be generated and managed and Spanish Cooperation's available capacity in human capital will be improved to identify, analyse and foment areas of action and specific initiatives as part of migration and development. Support will also be given to know-how generated in countries of origin and immigrant associations in this country.

The creation of the Migration and Development Fund with ECOWAS, with an initial budget of 10 million euros, must help to enhance the institutional capacities of member countries in designing and implementing public migration policies.

“The root causes of international migration must be dealt with to ensure that people migrate by choice and not by need”. High-Level Dialogue on International Migration and Development, New York 14-15 September 2006.

“Recognising that planned migration constitutes an opportunity rather than a threat for development and economic growth in both developing and developed countries, effective national migration systems must be established, including appropriate consultative mechanisms

with development policy makers, government labour market experts, the private sector and non-governmental entities”. First Global Forum on Migration and Development, Brussels 9-11 July 2007.

3.2.5. Objective 5: Reinforcing the Spain-Africa relation multilaterally and via the European Union

Spain's backing for and commitment to active, effective and selective multilateralism means fomenting cooperation policies and strategies with Sub-Saharan Africa in multilateral and regional African bodies and in the EU, as well as processes and initiatives coordinated among European and African countries and in other regions. With this instrumental Objective V, Spain aims to help attain the other goals in this Plan – including mainstream objectives, in line with and complementary to the bilateral work under way with Sub-Saharan Africa.

The UN is an outstanding player in meeting the MDGs in Sub-Saharan Africa, increasing its drive in significant fields like promoting peace and security and sustainable development. Africa remains a priority continent for the United Nations, as made clear by the Secretary-General Ban Ki-Moon during the High-Level Meeting on Africa's Development Needs at the September 2008 General Assembly.

This country's promotion and active profile in international bodies working for Africa, needed to meet the goals and objectives established in the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, will be aligned with Spanish Cooperation's Multilateral Strategy.

Backing for regional organisations which are priorities for Spain, such as the AU, ECOWAS and the NEPAD programme, will continue to occupy an outstanding position under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the AU in April 2006 during President Konaré's visit to Madrid establishing a mechanism for periodic bilateral consultations and the categories of cooperation between Spain

and the AU in areas such as peace and security or cooperation on migration. The speech by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Miguel Ángel Moratinos, at the meeting of the AU Executive Council in January 2008, announcing 30 million euros for its operations under the Union's new 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, confirms that the Organisation will continue to be a priority partner for Spain in the coming years.

In Europe, the Africa Strategy adopted by the 2005 Council of Europe, agreed two years later with Africa to convert it into a joint strategy, has been a turning point in EU-Africa cooperation. The Strategy made it clear that the European Union can do significant work in developing Sub-Saharan Africa and strengthening democracy there.

Spain's participation in this EU Africa Strategy takes on a priority interest in this Plan. The 2008-2010 Action Plan, the practical facet of the Strategy and providing for the creation of the eight partnerships, represents a joint Europe-Africa approach superseding the donor-recipient relation and focusing on the common challenges facing Africa and Europe such as energy security, the MDGs, peace and security, democratic governance and human rights, science and the Information Society, immigration or climate change. Spain's full commitment to the Strategy has been demonstrated with the promotion of the Second EU-Africa Summit or through other channels such as its increased input to EDF 10. The fact that this Africa Plan coincides with the Spanish EU Presidency in the first semester of 2010 provides an exceptional situation in which to foment a true partnership between Europe and Africa.

Lines of action

1. Reinforcing Spain's role in multilateral and regional bodies and spaces related with Africa

Actions will be included to raise this country's involvement in international and regional bodies, promoting the coordination of those involved, and triangulation initiatives.

● Greater support will be given to multilateral bodies,

programmes and global and specific funds working with Africa, and Spain's participation and active promotion of their decision-making will be promoted.

● Support will be enhanced for continental and regional African bodies, in particular the AU, the NEPAD programme and the AfDB, ECOWAS and IGAD. In addition, possible channels of collaboration with ECCAS and SADC will be explored.

● Regional integration in Africa will receive special backing, in line with the Second Pillar of the AU 2009-2012 Strategy, along with the institutional strengthening of regional African organisations.

● In International Bodies, particularly those in the United Nations system, moves will be made to foment the launch of Sub-Saharan Africa initiatives, seeking consensus in the international community and particularly focusing on backing for shared alliances and positions with African countries.

● Coordination will be enhanced with other key international players in Africa and with EU countries, and support will be given to triangulation initiatives with Africa, Europe and Latin America.

● The creation will be encouraged of a space for dialogue and approach between Africa, Latin America and Europe in the context of the “South Atlantic” initiative.

2. Active participation in European Union policy on Africa

Actions will be included which foment the integration of European policy on Africa and implementation of the 2008-2010 Action Plan from the 2007 Lisbon Summit, furthering construction of a true strategic partnership between the two continents.

● Startup will be promoted of the partnerships under that 2008-2010 Action Plan, especially the three in which Spain has undertaken to participate most actively – Migration, Mobility and Employment, Governance and Human rights and the Millennium Development Goals.

- Spain will promote the third EU-Africa Summit, to be hosted by Libya in 2010.

- The Strategic Partnership between the EU and South Africa, the special EU-Cape Verde Partnership, the EU-AU Human Rights Dialogue or joint programming initiatives and exercises will receive backing.

- Specific initiatives such as the Grand Neighbourhood Plan of Action with the Canary Islands government will receive support.

3. Spanish Presidency of the European Union in 2010

The Spanish Presidency will represent a stimulus to reinforce EU and Spanish relations with Africa, for which actions will be identified making it possible to move forward on shared interests and in fulfilment of the 2007 Lisbon Summit Action Plan. In particular, political dialogue will be promoted on three fronts:

- Bilaterally: with Sub-Saharan African countries, under the Cotonou Agreement. Notable here is that May 2010 will probably see culmination of the second revision of this Agreement, the cornerstone of EU-ACP relations. This second revision, which must incorporate the changes which have occurred in the EU-ACP panorama, is for a five-year term.

Likewise, the Joint EU-ACP Council meeting will take place (in principle in an African country) during the semester of the Spanish EU Presidency.

Similarly, it is likely that negotiations will continue on the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs) to reach complete Agreements (taking in trade in goods and services).

- Regionally and subregionally: with African Integration Organisations, especially the AU, ECOWAS, ECCAS, IGAD and SADC. A number of EU Ministerial Troikas will take place under the Spanish Presidency, as well as the EU-South Africa Joint Cooperation Council.

- Continentally: the Third EU-Africa is likely to be held during the second semester of 2010, under the Belgian Presidency, taken over in team form with Spain. Spain will thus be engaged in preparing this Summit at the highest level. This will be the time to take stock of the 2008-2010 Action Plan and to prepare the new two-year Action Plan.

Moreover, during the Spanish Presidency, the partnerships approved at the 2007 Lisbon Summit will receive a boost.

- The Spanish Presidency will see advances in political relations with countries and areas of interest to the EU, and the situation in fragile countries or those in conflict such as Somalia, the Democratic Republic of Congo or Sudan will be monitored and receive special attention.

- EU-Africa Strategy documents and joint Plans of Action on questions of special interest will be moved forward.

4. Raising the Spanish profile in Community institutions and International Bodies in Africa

The involvement and profile of Spaniards in international and regional bodies will remain a priority of Spanish policy in the region.

- The presence of Spanish experts and officials at the Community level, in multilateral bodies working with Africa and in regional African bodies will be encouraged, adopting the appropriate channels of information, support for and promotion of candidacies.



Miguel Ángel Moratinos, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, addressing the 2008 Annual African Union Summit at AU headquarters in Addis Ababa (Ethiopia). FOTO MAEC/JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ

3.2.6. Objective 6: Consolidating Spain's political and institutional profile in Africa. Casa Africa and other forms of diplomacy

During this new phase, the government's notable drive to adapt the Spanish profile in Sub-Saharan Africa to current challenges and priorities will be consolidated, with the opening of new Embassies, permanent diplomatic antennas, Technical Cooperation Offices and antennas, Economic and Commercial Councils and sector Attaché Offices for Interior, Defence and Labour created under the 2006-2008 Africa Plan. It is planned in coming years to open new Embassies and sector Attaché's Offices in countries where it is felt necessary to raise this country's profile and level of dialogue.

Multiple accreditation is a source of Spanish institutional profiling which will be enhanced during the coming years in this geographical area. The scale of Sub-Saharan Africa and the adjustment to the criteria of rationality and effectiveness have meant that multiple accreditation has become a satisfactory way of confronting the challenges and priorities raised on the continent.

To continue to strengthen the Sub-Saharan political agenda, in coming years the permanent institutional profile will go hand in hand with intense activity in the form of two-way meetings and official visits between Spain and Africa. Trips will be promoted by senior State institutions and visits by Spanish ministerial or trade delegations essential to consolidating bilateral relations.

Casa Africa, created under the 2006-2008 Africa Plan, is consolidated in this Plan as an essential tool of Spanish and European public diplomacy in African countries. With its high

potential and capacity to provide an unparalleled place of encounter, dialogue and mutual understanding between Africa, Europe and Spain. Casa Africa's profile is raised and its content enhanced under this 2009-2012 Africa Plan.

The Cervantes Institute is an outstanding official Spanish channel for teaching and promoting Spanish language. Interest in studying Spanish in Sub-Saharan Africa will be encouraged, particularly in collaboration with Equatorial Guinea, the only Spanish-speaking country in the region.

This country's influence in Sub-Saharan Africa also finds a space in other forms of diplomacy such as parliamentary diplomacy, social diplomacy or that generated by the media.

The parliamentary sphere has undergone significant advances in recent years with travel and visits by parliamentary delegations, the creation of Parliamentary Friendship Groups such as that between Spain and Namibia, the Inter-parliamentary Encounter organised by the Congress of Deputies and Casa Africa, or election observation missions by Spanish parliamentary representatives to such countries as Nigeria, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo or Ghana. Promotion of these activities, consolidated and acknowledged in other regions like Latin America, will go forward under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan.

While Spanish society has shifted considerably in its grasp of the African reality, there remains a profound misunderstanding and bias in relation to certain countries or to problems ravaging the region. Help in better understanding and knowledge of Sub-Saharan Africa is the work of many, very notably the media whose influence in a globalised society is enormous.

Earlier, under the 2006-2008 Africa Plan, the Africa Panel was created as a forum for dialogue, coordination and the exchange of information in matters relative to Sub-Saharan Africa. The mechanism for involving civil society in overseas action in Africa will be enhanced particularly in coming years as an active and positive framework reflecting Spanish society's solidarity and commitment to Africa.

As the main tool of public diplomacy, Casa Africa will enrich its role as a not-for-profit facilitator and lobby at the service of Institutions and public policy targeting the Sub-Saharan continent. Casa Africa will implement broad programming in the academic, social, economic and cultural worlds, designed around the goals of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan from two general and complementary perspectives:

Casa Africa will help to bring Africa closer to Spanish public opinion – at all levels, universities, specialists, business, politicians, the media and the public in general – to offer an updated image of the African continent, its wealth, diversity and potential, through activities in all spheres, especially the cultural, social and economic realms. Inclusion of understanding and participation by Africans and their institutions will predominate in this.

Casa Africa will operate in proximity to African institutions and societies to learn of their interests and priorities in Spain and the EU, also helping to identify potential counterparts and help them to meet.

Lines of action:

1. Consolidating Spain's political and institutional profile in Africa

Actions will be scheduled which help to consolidate bilateral relations between Spain and Sub-Saharan countries, extending or strengthening institutional structures created.

- Embassies will adapt to the new challenges and needs arising during the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. New Embassies will be opened, particularly in Gambia, and consideration will be given to reinforcing this country's Representations in Sub-Saharan Africa diplomatically and materially.

- The system for multiple accreditation of Spanish Embassies in the region will be reviewed and boosted.

- Consular services will be upgraded in Sub-Saharan African

countries where this is deemed necessary.

- Technical Co-operation Offices (OTC) and sector Attachés Offices will be helped to adapt to the new reality, with analysis of priorities and the appropriate instruments for meeting the challenges.

- In the State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, the role will be consolidated of the recently-created Directorate-General of Foreign Policy for Africa as the unit to foment and coordinate foreign policy in the region, together with this Africa Plan.

2. Fomenting political dialogue, official trips, meetings and visits

Actions helping strengthen and consolidate relations and bilateral contacts with Sub-Saharan countries are included.

- Joint Cooperation Commissions, High-Level Meetings, formal agreements and informal encounters will be promoted which allow for advances in partnerships and reinforce bilateral relations.

- Spanish delegation trips to Sub-Saharan Africa will be encouraged in different areas of action and at different levels of the State, the private sector and civil society.

- Trips to Spain by African leaders and delegations to Spain will be fomented.

- Regular political dialogue mechanisms will be developed with countries requiring a high level of dialogue.

- African involvement in Spanish initiatives like the Alliance of Civilisations or the work of Casa Africa will be nurtured.

3. Promoting rapprochement and mutual understanding

The 2009-2012 Africa Plan must go some way to improving mutual understanding between Spanish and African societies,

encouraging the spread of a plural and contemporary image of each and promoting exchange and collaboration between their cultures.

- Support will continue for joint production, diffusion and exhibition of African film, jointly with African Film Festivals, both in Africa – such as the Pan- African Film and Television Festival in Ouagadougou (FESPACO) – and in Spain.

- Collaboration will be maintained with African artistic Biennials such as the Luanda Triennial, the Photographic Biennial in Bamako or Dak'art, encouraging the involvement of Spanish artists, and of African artists in cultural activities in Spain.

- Spanish media will be helped and facilitated in their approach to Sub-Saharan Africa, as will African media in Spain, to enhance mutual understanding of the richness and plurality of both realities.

- Support will be given to reflection on the role of the media in Africa, particularly promoting training and exchange initiatives between African and European media, and creating professional networks e.g. of news agencies in Africa.

- Education for development will be included among tools which can help in bringing Spanish society closer to Africa and understanding it better.

- The role of African Embassies in Madrid will be boosted as players in the approach to and better mutual understanding of Spain and Africa by encouraging them to participate in round tables and seminars for cultural diffusion and exchange in places like universities and education centres.

The Arte Invisible Programme. Presented for the fourth consecutive year in 2008 at the International Contemporary Art Fair ARCO, the "Invisible Art" programme aims to raise the profile of African creators and place their work in international spheres for the promotion of art. In its three years of existence, Arte Invisible has promoted the work of more than 30 artists from eight African countries, and will



Angel Lossada, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, during an interview with the President of Burkina Faso, Blaise Campaore, in March 2009. FOTO MAEC

continue to encourage African art at other international events and in its own creative spaces. The response to this wish is seen in increasing involvement and quality of proposals from artists and curators, and this wish to continue is committed to thinking and debate about contemporary African artistic practices, and bringing artists into closer contact with galleries and museums.

4. Fomenting Spanish language

Actions will be furthered which help to enhance and foment interest in and study of Spanish in Sub-Saharan Africa, collaborating with Equatorial Guinea and, among other measures, facilitating access to programmes on the understanding of Spanish through new technologies and television and radio.

- The institutional profile of the Cervantes Institute will be raised, with the opening of three new Cervantes Classrooms in the region including that in Senegal and possibly a fourth in the area.
- The Cervantes Institute will explore the creation of a special Spanish learning programme for AU and NEPAD officials and, through the Embassies, will promote Spanish language among officials in countries of priority interest for Spain.
- Technical and financial backing will be given to the creation of a department of Spanish translators and interpreters in the AU Commission.
- Spanish studies will be promoted in African Universities through Spanish lectureships, facilitating access to the Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE).

- Use of new technologies will be encouraged in imparting official Spanish courses on-line in Sub-Saharan African countries.
- A boost will be given to the creation of programmes which spread Spanish language on community television or radio.

5. Other forms of diplomacy

This will include public, parliamentary and social diplomacy in the form of seminars, trips or encounters.

- Visits and meetings of African and Spanish parliamentarians will be fomented, as will Parliamentary Friendship Groups.
- Spanish parliamentarians will be encouraged to participate in EU electoral observation missions in Sub-Saharan Africa and in elections in 2009 in Angola, Equatorial Guinea and Mozambique, and Spanish members of the European Parliament will be persuaded to participate in working trips to the region.
- Technical assistance and meetings of parliamentarians or those from other institutions such as the Ombudsman will be coordinated, to compare experiences and parliamentary and democratic practice.
- Economic and Social Council (CES) visits and collaboration will be fostered in Sub-Saharan countries where consolidating social cohesion is a priority, and collaboration agreements will be concluded with counterpart bodies in the countries of the region.
- The participation of heads of African scientific, university and cultural institutions will be promoted and facilitated in meetings and seminars held in Spain to make this country's reality known, along with its possible contributions and needs.

Geographical Priorities

4

The geographical priorities in this Plan are regionally-focused, based on the experience of recent years and without rupturing the underlying logic of the 2006-2008 Africa Plan – which, while applied in all Sub-Saharan African countries, classified them into “priority interest”, “specific interest” and “for special monitoring”, together with priority regional organisations.

A regional logic as part of geographical priorities does not just enhance the role of regional bodies; the 2009-2012 Africa Plan both allows and foments action in countries which, while within a single region, were not classified under the previous Plan but which may, however, prove key to the security, stability and prosperity of the zone.

At the same time, the Africa Plan’s regional, and open focus must also help guarantee coherence with geographical priorities which may have been created in Spanish Administration sector planning instruments like the 2009-2012 Spanish Cooperation Master Plan.

1. The continental dimension: the African Union

Spain will intensify its relation with the AU, the continent’s key multilateral body and with which it has been cooperating on initiatives like the Agenda for Peace and Security and the NEPAD programme, and its future development agenda.

2. The regional dimension

In this context and in line with the international community, Spain will focus its efforts on reinforcing regional African organisations and supporting their agendas, with special and priority attention for ECOWAS, the Economic Community of West African States, with which it has intensified its relation in recent years.

Spain will advance its relation with the remaining Regional Economic Communities (REC), in particular with IGAD (the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development), an inter-governmental organisation in the Horn of Africa, SADC (the Southern African Development Community) and ECCAS (the Economic Community of Central African States). In this context, during its EU presidency Spain will contribute decisively to promoting and consolidating Union dialogue with these organisations²⁷.

3. The focus by country

The following may be the reasons underlying specific interest in countries:

- a long-standing, special relation with Spain,
- status as natural “neighbours” of Spain,
- level of commitment to the MDGs,
- capacity as driving forces for regional integration, opening the way to Spain for future regional cooperation,
- or specific monitoring in certain cases because of conflict situations and instability.

In West Africa, in addition to Mauritania, ECOWAS countries, particularly Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Niger, Nigeria, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Ghana and Cape Verde.

In the Horn of Africa: the IGAD countries, particularly Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan.

In Central Africa: the CEEAC countries, particularly Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe.

In Southern Africa: the SADC countries, particularly South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Tanzania and Democratic Republic of Congo.

²⁷ ECOWAS: Burkina Faso, Benin, Cape Verde, Ivory Coast, Ghana, Gambia, Republic of Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Nigeria, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo. IGAD: Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Djibouti, Sudan and Uganda. SADC (Southern African Development Community): Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia, Zimbabwe. ECCAS Economic Community of Central African States: Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe and Angola.

Monitoring and evaluating the Plan

5

The Monitoring Procedure

Fulfilment of the proposed goals demands adequate monitoring, to learn from time to time about progress on each line of action. The 2006-2008 Africa Plan created a monitoring system based on reports on the degree of implementation of actions planned with each country and regional organisation, including possible difficulties and needs.

Monitoring of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan calls for Embassies in countries where the plan is applied, acting in coordination with the OTC and sector offices, to deliver annual reports to the Directorate-General of Foreign Policy for Africa in the State Secretariat for Foreign Affairs, which will compile and process the information in a public annual report.

A final report will be drawn up at the end of the effective term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan on the extent to which goals and lines of action have been fulfilled, and their impact. As part of that and to facilitate analysis and evaluation, during the first part of the term of this Africa Plan, it is planned to design a results framework with general indicators for each objective.

Coordination and monitoring mechanisms

It is proposed to convene an interministerial Technical Working Group to coordinate and monitor each goal in the Africa Plan, which will meet a minimum of once annually, on request from the Directorate-General of Foreign Policy for Africa – which will act as its Secretariat – or from any member.

These meetings will review progress on each Ministry's initiatives, exchanging information on activities under way and on possible variations or adaptations in working lines and the degree of fulfilment of objectives, together with the ministerial departments most directly involved in each, based on the annual monitoring report. Thinking about the interrelations between the objectives of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan and policy, strategy and specific Spanish initiatives impacting in the region will also help to make policy and the coordination of players more coherent.



The Africa Panel at a meeting in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in March 2009. FOTO MAEC

The Africa Panel will meet, as a Working Group with representatives from the central and regional administrations, the private sector and civil society, at least once a year, to further coordination and the exchange of information on matters related to Africa and the implementation and monitoring of this Plan.

Main instruments of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan

6

Objective 1. Support in consolidating democracy and building peace and security in Africa

- Financial contributions to multilateral bodies and international agency programmes
- Contribution to continental and regional bodies' programmes
- Participation in peacekeeping operations with civil and/or military personnel
- Participation in Election Observer Missions with electoral observers
- Bilateral cooperation (security and defence accords/agreements and accords/agreements in the justice sector)
- Projects through NGOs
- Trips and visits
- Technical assistance
- Training seminars

Objective 2 To help combat poverty in Africa

- Budget support (general and sector) and common funds
- Contribution to multilateral bodies' Global Funds and to specific Funds and multi-bilateral programmes
- Delegated cooperation
- Triangular and South-South Cooperation
- Projects
- Programmes
- Technical Cooperation
- Subsidiaries to NGOs
- Public-private Alliances
- Development Promotion Fund (FONPRODE)
- Fund for Concession of Microcredits (FCM)
- Humanitarian and emergency aid
- External debt management
- Inter-University Cooperation Programmes (PCI), scientific-technical cooperation and grants

Objective 3. To promote trade and investment relations between Spain and Africa, and African economic development

- Development Promotion Fund (FONPRODE)
- Business Internationalisation Fund (FEIM)
- FSF line
- COFIDES
- APPRIs and Tax Treaties
- EFP (European Financial Partners) line
- EIB Investment Facility
- Business encounters in Africa and Spain
- Memorandums of Understanding (MOU)
- Trips and visits
- Trade missions

Objective 4. To consolidate the partnership with Africa on migration

- Migration Cooperation or "new generation" Framework Agreements
- Memorandums
- Training, technical assistance and support in equipping
- Participation in European projects
- Financing and collaboration in regional body programmes
- Visits and meetings

Objective 5. To strengthen the Spain-Africa relation multilaterally and via the European Union

- EU-Africa Strategy
- EDF funding
- Funding multilateral body initiatives

Objective 6. Consolidating the Spanish political and institutional profile in Africa and other forms of diplomacy

- Opening/adaptation of diplomatic and cooperation representations and sector offices
- Trips and visits
- Casa Africa programmes and activities
- Seminars and meetings

Annexes



7.1. Main Activities under the 2006-2008 Africa Plan

7.1.1. Spanish participation in stabilising Democracy, Peace and Security in Sub-Saharan Africa

Cooperation on democratic governability and strengthening institutions

Spain has particularly striven to contribute to peacekeeping and security, democracy and conflict-prevention on the continent by supporting the consolidation of democracy and the strengthening of institutions.

Collaboration has been reinforced with the main African bodies like the AU, ECOWAS and the NEPAD programme.

- Participation in EU Election Observer Missions (Mauritania, Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Ghana, Uganda, Zambia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau and Togo) and in the ECOWAS Regional Parliaments Programme for Training of Lawyers.
- Support in enhancing the technical capacities of senior public servants, judges and assistances in the justice sector, and local administration teams as part of administrative decentralisation through the AECID's specific MUNICIPIA programme.
- Monitoring of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in October 2006 in Malabo by the Spanish and Equatorial Guinea Justice Ministers.
- Signing of Memorandums of Understanding with the AU in

April 2006 and with ECOWAS in December 2005, for Spanish backing in operation and some of these two bodies' main programmes.

- Start of a specific gender programme in the NEPAD and enhanced support for the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). Participation in meetings of the Africa Partnership Forum (AfrPF) monitoring the APRM, and help in maintaining its support unit.
- Contribution to start of the ECOSOCC, the AU's consultative body representing African civil society.

Supporting respect for and promotion of Human Rights

- Participation in the OHCHR Great Lakes Project in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Financial contribution to the Special Courts for Sierra Leone and Rwanda in the period 2006-2007.
- On-going support for reconciliation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (2005–2008) with 1.5 million euros, in coordination with the MONUC Human Rights Division.
- Backing for initiatives to improve human rights in Sub-Saharan Africa at both the EU Human Rights Council and the UN General Assembly. Spain is actively involved in the Universal Periodic Review Mechanism (UPR) where, with objective data, each country tables a document on compliance with human rights obligations and commitments. Spain has formulated queries to some Sub-Saharan African countries which have been reviewed. Consideration has also been given to human rights-related matters in bilateral relations with Sub-Saharan countries.
- Intensification of contacts with NGOs and Spanish civil society associations active in human rights in Africa, with a monographic meeting in February 2006 in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation to deal with human rights in the Great Lakes Region.

Active contribution to peacebuilding

● Participation in nine Peace Missions in Sub-Saharan Africa, notably in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Chad.

● Participation in the EUFOR RDC European peacekeeping mission (June-December 2006) supporting the first democratic elections in the history of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

● Contribution with two transport aircraft and military support personal needed for the EU EUFOR-Chad mission to protect victims and those displaced from the Darfur conflict in the neighbouring regions of Chad and the Central African Republic.

● Participation in the following peace missions in Africa:

Country	Contribution	
Burundi	ONUB (2004-2005)	1 Colonel
Sudan	UNAMIS (2005)	1 Officer
Sudan	UNMIS (2005)	1 Military Observer
Sudan-Darfur	AMIS II (2005-2007)	8 Observers
Sierra Leone	UNIOSIL (2006)	3 Police Officers
Ethiopia-Eritrea	UNMEE (2000-2008)	3 Observers
Rep. Dem. Congo	MONUC (2001-2008)	2 Observers
Chad and RCA	MINURCAT (2008)	2 Officers

● Increased levels of emergency humanitarian aid, with 50 million euros during the current period. The new hangar ceded by the Ministry of Defence to the AECID at Torrejón Air Base has enhanced the response capacity.

● Support for the UNHCR to which Spain’s general contribution exceeds 10 million euros a year in activities including collaboration with the programme for the return and reintegration of Mauritanian refugees in Senegal and Mali.

● Participation in the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region, attending the Summits in Dar es Salaam in November 2004 and Nairobi in December 2006.

● Training seminars on conflict-resolution and prevention, as in Gabon, on the composition and operation of the Military Emergency Unit, participation in Peacekeeping Operations and

programmes to reintegrate military personnel into jobs at the end of their service in the Armed Forces.

● Active collaboration in organising courses and programmes on humanitarian demining in Senegal, Mozambique, Ivory Coast and Angola.

● A Spanish liaison officer was sent as instructor to ECOWAS’s Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC).

● Inclusion in the Working Group of the United Nations Peace-Consolidation Commission in Guinea Bissau, and backing for the deployment of a EUFOR mission to reform the security sector in that country.

● Special monitoring of the Darfur crisis. In 2007, contribution to the World Bank’s Multidonors Fund for Reconstruction and Development in Sudan. The reopening in 2006 of the Spanish Embassy in Khartoum provided greater capacity for mediation and observation on the ground and enhanced support for the Spanish colony, made up mostly of humanitarian workers.

Cooperation on security, combating illegal trafficking, organised crime and terrorism

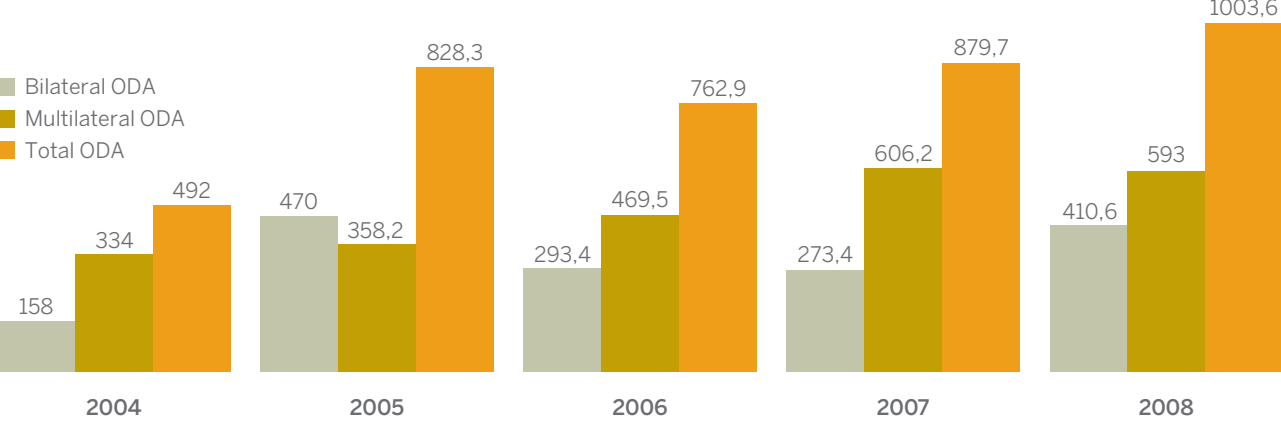
● Defence Cooperation Agreements concluded with Cape Verde, South Africa and Mozambique. Those with Namibia, Angola, Senegal and Gabon are being negotiated.

● Joint Defence Commissions with Cape Verde, Mauritania and South Africa, and conclusion of a Counter-Crime Cooperation Agreement with Senegal.

● Opening of new Interior Councils in Mauritania, Cape Verde, Mali, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry and Gambia, and of Defence Attaché’s Offices in Mauritania, also accredited in Senegal and Cape Verde. The Defence Attaché in South Africa, accredited in Mozambique, Namibia and Angola, was also accredited to Lesotho.

● As part of the Military Training Cooperation programme,

TRENDS IN OFFICIAL DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE IN SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (MN €)



scholarship courses have been taught in nine Sub-Saharan countries.

● Collaboration with various regional bodies' programmes such as the ECOWAS Small Arms Control Programme, the IGAD Capacity Building Program against Terrorism (ICPACT) and the African Center for Studies and Research (CAERT) based in Algiers and reporting to the AU.

● Boost to the Action Plan approved at the Ministerial Round Table for West and Central African countries on the legal framework for combating terrorism, held in Madrid in May 2006.

7.1.2. Helping to combat poverty, and the development agenda in Africa

Official Spanish Assistance to Sub-Saharan Africa has grown significantly in budgetary terms, both multilaterally and bilaterally, and the quality of action has been raised notably. As part of the Government's firm commitment to assign 0.5% of GDP to ODA in 2008 and 0.7% in 2012, with at least 20% going to Less Advanced Countries (LACs) concentrated in Sub-Saharan Africa, Spanish ODA has risen from 492 million euros in 2004 to the 1.003 billion budgeted for 2008. Assistance channelled by the AECID averaged 35 million euros in 2000-2003 but totalled 149.6 million euros in 2007.

The elaboration of a multi-year Country Strategy Document (DEP) for each partner country for Cooperation in Africa helps improve the quality, planning and effectiveness of Spanish cooperation in Sub-Saharan countries.

● The Technical Cooperation Offices opened in Cape Verde, Ethiopia, Mali and Niger were added to the existing six in 2004 (Equatorial Guinea, Mauritania, Senegal, Angola, Mozambique and Namibia). Moreover, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Sudan, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria (also following the cooperation initiatives with ECOWAS) and South Africa have permanent cooperation antennas.

● Conclusion of Basic Development Cooperation Agreements with Mali, Niger, Senegal, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia, and ten Joint Cooperation Mission meetings.

● The following multilateral contributions went to International Programmes and Global and Specific Funds for the region:

Global Funds	
150 M€	International Development Association (14th replenishment, 2008)
171 M€	Global Fund for the Fight Against HIV/AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis, World Bank (2006/08)
105 M€	Fast Track Initiative–Education For All (2007/08)
28 M€	FIDA-Remittances Fund (2007/08)
27.5 M€	International Financial Facility for Immunisation (2006/08)
45 M€	Central Emergency Response Fund (2007/08)
20 M€	UN-HABITAT (2007/08)

Specific and Regional Funds	
68 M€	African Development Fund, AfDB. 9th Replenishment 2005-2007
10 M€	Spain-NEPAD Gender Fund (2006)
20 M€	World Bank Catalytic Fund for Infrastructures (2007)
12 M€	UNDP Regional Social Cohesion and Employment Policy Programme in West Africa (2007)
10 M€	EIB Africa Infrastructures Fund (2006/07)
10 M€	UNDP Governance Fund for Africa (2008)
10 M€	Spain-ECOWAS Migration and Development Fund (2007)
11 M€	Spain-UNFPA Fund to provide sexual and reproductive health supplies in Africa (2007/08)
1 M€	African World Heritage Fund
10 M€	Fund for support in Provision of Public Basic Services (PBS), Ethiopia (2008)
19 M€	Emergency food programme in the Horn of Africa and the RDC (2008)
12 M€	World Bank contribution to Sudan (2007/08)

● Increased cooperation through NGOs in both project volume and in profile away from countries traditionally targeted

by Spanish Cooperation, enhanced in 33 Accords with NGOs for Sub-Saharan Africa, and with a 70.7 million euro budget for 3-4 years.

● Use of new cooperation instruments: budgetary and sector (SWAP) support in healthcare and education in Mozambique, and the start of actions in Ethiopia and Guinea Bissau (budgetary), Namibia (sector - education) and Cape Verde (sector - environment).

● Start of the Fund for Concession of Microcredits with a first programme in Angola and others being prepared in Mozambique, Senegal and South Africa.

● Backing with a budget of more than 50 million euros for response mechanisms in crisis situations in the region, whether arising from natural disasters (West Africa and the Horn of Africa) or from conflict (Darfur) or post-conflict (Angola, the Democratic Republic of Congo).

● Promotion of a programme with the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) to strengthen national societies in West African countries.

● Extension of cancellations granted by Spain to Heavily Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC) with the passage in 2006 of the Foreign Debt Management Act, extended to debt contracted prior to 31 December 2003²⁸.

● Since 2004 the following debt cancellations have been granted for Sub-Saharan Africa as part of the HIPC initiative, with the Paris Club or in conversion programmes:

DEBT CANCELLATIONS 2004-2008 (mn. euros)		
Country	Amount	Type
BURKINA FASO	5,5	Conversion
	3,2	HIPC
CAMEROON	1,5	HIPC
	21,3	Conversion
R. CONGO	128,8	HIPC
ETHIOPIA	6,6	Conversion
GHANA	39,4	HIPC
GUINEA CONAKRY	0,9	HIPC
MADAGASCAR	150,9	HIPC
MALAWI	6,5	HIPC
MAURITANIA	21,2	Conversion
NIGER	15,7	HIPC
NIGERIA	106,8	Paris Club
LIBERIA	12,7	HIPC
S. TOME AND PRINCIPE	3,1	HIPC
	65,5	HIPC
SENEGAL	68,4	Conversion
	10,8	584,7
TANZANIA	10,8	584,7
UGANDA	27,9	Conversion
TOTAL	697,73	Conversion
In negotiation		
GHANA	30,3	Conversion
MOZAMBIQUE	11,8	Conversion
TANZANIA	7,6	Conversion
GUINEA CONAKRY	3	HIPC
TOTAL	52,7	

Spanish Cooperation activities by sector

Cover of Basic Social Needs

● Contribution for the first time to the “Fast-Track Initiative Education for All” (FTI – EFA) in 32 countries, 18 of them in the Sub-Saharan region. In 2007, Spain contributed 45 million euros, added to the 22 million euros of the two previous years.

● Increased contributions to UNICEF Funds directly targeting Sub-Saharan Africa, from a total of 3.2 million euros in 2006 to 12.5 million in 2007, for basic education and gender equality and for protecting children from violence, exploitation and abuse. In 2007, Spain began to participate in a new Fund for the Promotion of Policies and Alliances favouring children’s rights.

Support for healthcare policies and combating pandemics

● 100 million dollars were contributed in the two years 2006-2007 to the Global Fund Against AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis. Spain is committed over the coming three years to contribute 600 million dollars. The Fund’s activities are addressed particularly to Sub-Saharan Africa where most of those affected by these pandemics are concentrated.

● Participation since 2006 in the International Vaccination and Immunisation Initiative supporting mass immunisation projects in Less Advanced Countries (almost the whole of Sub-Saharan Africa) in which Spain will invest 240 million dollars in the next 20 years. Spain’s contributions in 2006 and 2007, totalling 24 million euros, helped in the complete vaccination of nearly two million children.

²⁸ Most Paris Club creditors cancel debt contracted before 20 June 1999 (date of launch of the reinforced HIPC initiative).



Fishing on the beaches of Luanda (Angola). FOTO AECID/AVELINA LÓPEZ

Gender and development policies

- Reinforcement of Spanish Cooperation’s commitment to promoting the situation of women in Africa with support for the Meetings of Women for a Better World, first held in Maputo in 2006.
- A 20 million euro contribution to the Gender and Development Fund created by Spain with NEPAD and the AfDB for the economic empowerment of African women.
- Participation in the Spain-UNFPA Fund to provide sexual and reproductive health supplies in Africa, with five million euros in 2007.

The environment

- Increased active Spanish involvement in the work of the UNEP (the UN Environment Programme) and UN-HABITAT. The input has particularly aimed at reinforcing capacities, promoting the fight against desertification and protecting the environment in

general, and promoting specific areas of work such as water and sanitation, solid waste treatment and access to a decent home. Contribution has also been made to the Great Ape Survival Project (GRASP) for the conservation of two National Parks in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

- Allocation to the Programme for Reducing Urban Poverty by the Development of Planning Capacities and Participative Budgets with a Gender Focus, in Mozambique, Senegal and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Meetings of African and Spanish Women for a Better World. The 2006 Mozambique Declaration and those following in Madrid in 2007 and Niamey in 2008, passed by consensus, create a set of specific measures and commitments to advance in improving the situation and opportunities of women in Africa. Of note has been the creation of a network of Spanish and African women for a better world, and action in health and education and support for women entrepreneurs. Spain has also promoted the constitution of a Centre for Training

Women in Maputo. The third Meeting of Spanish and African “Women for a Better World” took place in May 2008 in Niamey, coinciding with African Women’s Day.

7.1.3. Promoting cooperation in regulating migratory flows

The July 2006 Rabat Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development established the global model for managing migration as moved by Spain and which has taken bilateral form in Framework Migration Cooperation Agreements also referred to as “new generation” arrangements.

Spain has been one of the main countries promoting launch and continuation of this regional dialogue. Virtually a year following the first Rabat Conference, in June 2007, a meeting was organised in Madrid of the Committee Monitoring the Euro-African Migration and Development Conference. In 2008, with support of the FIIAPP and the European Commission, Spain contributed actively to the start of the Rabat Action Plan, basically by organising meetings of experts on the three fundamental pillars: Legal Migration, jointly chaired by Morocco and Italy; Irregular Migration, jointly chaired by Burkina Faso and France; and on Migration and Development, jointly chaired by Senegal and Spain. The conclusions of these three meetings, in Rabat, Ouagadougou and Dakar, fed into the debates of the Second Euro-African Migration and Development Conference held in Paris on 25 November 2008.

- Signing of Framework Migration Cooperation Agreements with Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Conakry, Mali and Niger, together with a Memorandum with Senegal and an Agreement on the Regulation and Ordering of Employment Migration Flows with Mauritania. The commitment in the 2001 Agreement with Nigeria has been renewed.
- Support in reinforcing African capacities in combating irregular migration, on control and surveillance of jurisdictional waters and joint patrols with Mauritania, Senegal, Cape Verde, Gambia, Guinea Bissau and Guinea Conakry, while promoting a

project to strengthen Mali’s border posts.

- Establishment of the Regional Coordination Centre in Canarias (CCRC) for the action of all the Administrations involved in acting against irregular migration to the Canary Islands from Sub-Saharan Africa, Western Sahara and Mauritania, and promoting the work of the European External Borders Agency (FRONTEX) in the zone.
- Opening of the Employment and Social Affairs Council in the Embassy of Spain in Dakar.
- Support for creation of the Mali Migration Information and Management Centre (CIGEM).
- Start of the project by the AECID and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, through the INEM, to deploy 12 Workshop Schools in West Africa, in line with the commitment to foment professional training and job-creation for young people.

- Creation of a Spain-ECOWAS Migration and Development Fund, endowed with 10 million euros. Similarly, in 2007, Spain approved a voluntary contribution to UNODC for a project to prevent immigrant trafficking in ECOWAS countries.

7.1.4. Active participation in the European Union Strategy for Africa

The Joint Strategy and Action Plan approved at the Second EU-Africa Summit define eight specific partnerships which have already been launched: Peace and Security; Democratic Governability and Human Rights; Trade; Regional Integration and Infrastructures; the Millennium Develop-ment Goals; Energy; Climate Change, Migration, Mobility and Employment; Science, the Information Society and Space.

- Active support for the EU global, long-term Strategy for Africa approved at the December 2005 Council of Europe, and

the Second EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon on 8 and 9 December 2007.

- Increase to a 7.85% participation in EDF 10 (European Development Fund) destined mainly to Sub-Saharan countries, and further involvement in joint programming work with the Commission.

- To encourage EU dialogue and cooperation with countries particularly linked to Spain such as Equatorial Guinea or Guinea Bissau, and support for the creation of a Strategic Partnership between the EU and South Africa.

- Accompaniment to the negotiations to adapt the Cotonou regime to WTO rules by creating new EPAs combining criteria for economic and commercial integration with Sub-Saharan countries' development goals.

7.1.5. Promoting trade exchange and investment

Promoting trade relations

- In October 2006 the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade presented the “2007-2008 Plan Promoting Business in Sub-Saharan Africa”, focused on boosting cooperation in business, greater economic exchange and fomenting investment projects which create jobs. The Plan also included measures to further ICEX activity in the region, compiled in the “Programme Supporting Projects in Sub-Saharan Africa” presented in January 2008 with an annual budget of three million euros.

- Updating and relaunch of the Advisory Council to Promote Trade with West Africa (CAPCAO), decided on by the Council of Ministers in October 2005, to further trade relations with West Africa in collaboration between the Spanish Government, the Canary Islands Autonomous Community and the export sector.

- The Spanish Overseas Trade Institute (ICEX) and the Business Development Centre (CDE) organised the 2007 Spain-West Africa Business Meeting in Dakar.

- Trade missions were organised to Sub-Saharan countries, and Spanish companies played a significant role in the region's main fairs such as FILDA in Luanda, AFRICONSTRUCT in Cameroon (with 23 Spanish businesses in 2007) or the South Africa and West Africa JIMEX 2007²⁹.

- Reinforcement of the institutional profile with new Economic and Commercial Offices in Malabo, Accra and Nairobi.

- This country's Commercial Offices in Angola, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Kenya took part in EXPORTA 2007 and 2008.

Promoting Investment

Investment, particularly in infrastructures, has received a strong boost during the last three years with the consolidation of a bilateral framework and Spanish participation in major development funds. Spanish investment in Sub-Saharan Africa is nonetheless highly concentrated in South Africa which attracts more than 75% of the total.

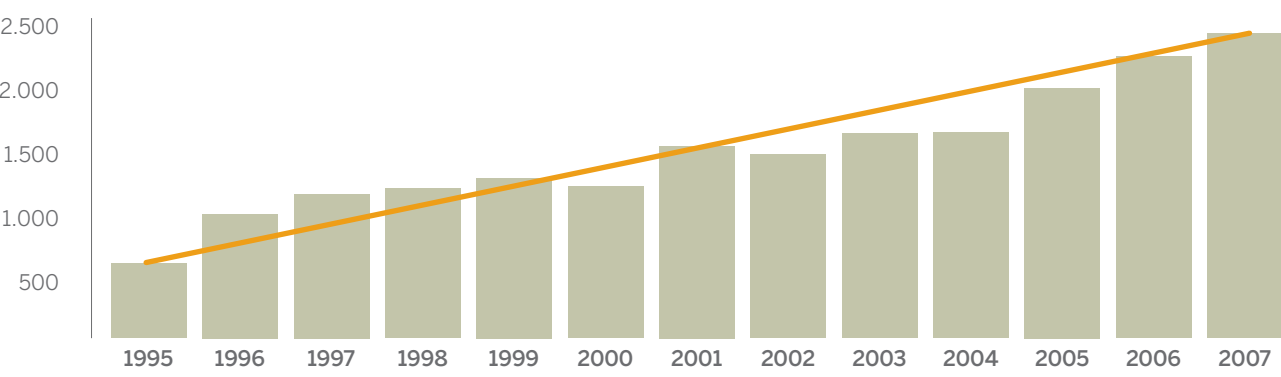
- In 2006, an Agreement on Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (APPRI) was concluded with Ghana, in 2007 with Senegal and Angola, and in 2008 with the Republic of Congo, Gambia and Mauritania. In 2008 an APPRI was also signed with Mozambique. Proposals have also been received for negotiation with Ivory Coast, Kenya, Ethiopia, Mali, Sao Tome and Principe, Mauritius and Cape Verde.

- Negotiations went forward on Tax Treaties with Nigeria, Kenya, Mali, Cape Verde and Mozambique.

- A new Financial Cooperation Protocol was signed with Angola (200 million euros) in 2007 and with Cape Verde (50 million euros)

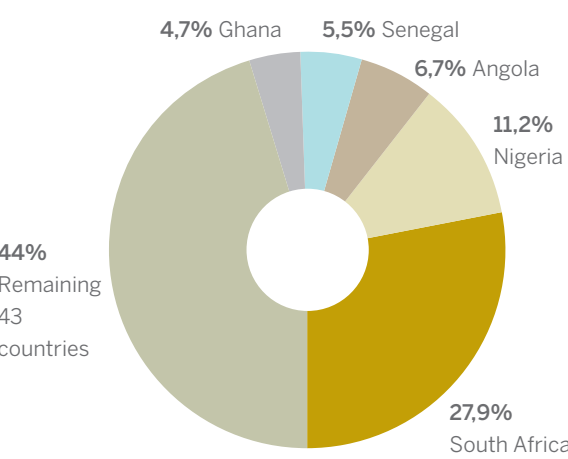
²⁹ South Africa, the continent's largest economy, is the country with the closest commercial relation with Spain. In 2007 alone, there were 16 visits and seven fairs, involving 155 companies and 34 individual entrepreneurs.

SPANISH EXPORTS TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA (mn euros)



Source: Marin, A. Lafuente, C. et al (2009): the Africa Plan and trade and investment relations. Fundación Alternativas and GEA. From Datacomex. Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade (2008)

DISTRIBUTION OF SPANISH EXPORTS TO SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA, BY COUNTRY (1995-2007 Average)



Source: Marin, A. Lafuente, C. et al (2009): the Africa Plan and trade and investment relations. Fundación Alternativas and GEA. From Datacomex. Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade (2008)

in 2008. Also the Financial Protocol with Ghana was extended for two years in 2007, and an Economic Cooperation Memorandum of Understanding was concluded in 2006 with Nigeria.

- Participation in the EU-Africa Infrastructures Trust Fund managed by the EIB, with 15 million euros between 2006 and 2007.

- Contribution to the Catalytic Growth Fund for Africa with a 20 million euro disbursement to help create a framework favouring closer trade relations, especially in infrastructures, to create jobs in Mauritania, Mali, Senegal, Burkina Faso, Niger, Guinea Conakry and Guinea Bissau.

- Close to a one million euro per annum contribution to the ITU's Information and Communication Technology Africa Trust Fund.

- Approximately 32 million euros of contributions to the AfDB in 2006 and 78 million euros of the allocation to the World Bank's International Development Association (IDA) went into programmes and projects in Sub-Saharan Africa.

SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA. OPERATIONS APPROVED AND CHARGED TO THE DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND 2004-2007(1)(4)		
Total	Country	Operation
13.5 M€	Cape Verde	7.5 MN € - Isla de Sal airport beaconing (2005) 6 MN € - Maritime control systems (2007)
17.6 MN €	Cameroon	5.3 MN € - Rural electrification (2005) 6.3 MN € - Institute of Nautical Arts and Skills (2005) 6.0 MN € - Urban property register (2005)
3.6 MN €	Burkina Faso	3.6 MN € - Photovoltaic electrification (2007)
40 MN €	Mauritania	7 MN € - Rosso-Boghé valley electrification (2004) 3.2 MN € - Supply of oil products (2005) 3.3 MN € - Nouadhibou port tug (2005) 2.3 MN €- Nouadhibou port beaconing (2005) 2.0 MN € - Rural electrification using solar energy (2006) 4.0 MN € - Generators (2007) 18.2 MN € - Enlargement of Nouadhibou fishing port(2007)
9 MN €	Mozambique	4 MN € - Rural electrification (2006) 5 MN € - Small and medium-sized projects line (2006)
26 MN €	Kenya	14 MN € – Renovation of Kenyatta National Hospital (2005) 12 MN € – Third phase rural electrification (2006)
24 MN €	Ghana	3.9 MN € – Medical equipment, hospital network (2004) 7.9 MN € – Hospital cardiology equipment (2007) 10 MN € – Hospital equipment (2007) 7 MN € - Coolstore network for artisan fishing (2007) 2 MN € - Border surveillance system (2007) 5 MN € - Supply of bridges (2007)
24.5 MN €	Senegal	4.5 MN €- Phase II solar energy electrification (2004) 10 MN € - Credit line for small projects (2006) 10 MN € - REVA Plan (Return to Farming) credit line (2006)
6 MN €	Sao Tome and Principe	6 MN € - Small and medium projects (2007)
Total DAF operations, 2004-2007: 176 mn. €		

(4) Not including the €200 mn. Credit Line with Angola approved in 2007

Fishing

● Active accompaniment in renegotiating Fishing Agreements between the EU and various Sub-Saharan countries (Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Sao Tome and Principe, Mozambique and Ivory Coast).

● Bilateral Fishing Cooperation Memorandums signed with Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Senegal and Mozambique.

● As part of the Fisheries Products Quality Plan, there have been training courses for those in charge of production quality in Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique and Mauritania.

The AECID’s NAUTA Programme to strengthen the fishing sector in Africa had a budget of approximately ten million euros for 2005-2008 and, as part of this programme, there were a number of seminars on marketing and conserving fish products, security at sea, artisan fishing, aquaculture, health at sea, statistical documents on fish products and management and regulation of marine resources.

● Reinforcement of the activities in Africa of the Vizconde de Eza oceanography vessel which has been engaged in campaigns studying fishing grounds in Mozambique, Guinea Bissau, Mauritania, Angola and Namibia.

● A Collaboration Agreement was concluded between the Secretary-General of the Sea and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) to improve the conditions of those working at sea, to promote gender equality and introduce good practice from the Spanish fishing sector in other countries. This is a pioneer Agreement among EU fisheries Administrations, and has been joined by Mauritania, Senegal, Mozambique and Guinea Bissau.

Energy security

● Promotion of the rising profile of Spanish companies in this sector in Sub-Saharan Africa, particularly in Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Liberia, Equatorial Guinea and Angola, and in Nigeria, from where Spain imports 10% of its oil and more than 20% of its gas.

Spain helps to promote good oil resource management and combat corruption through the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI). The Fourth Global EITI Conference was slated for Doha in February 2009 to review advances and compliance with the Initiative in African countries with extractive industries such as Equatorial Guinea.

7.1.6. Enhancing cultural and scientific cooperation, and placing cultural projects at the service of development goals

Cultural cooperation for development

● Promoting the Spanish profile in prestigious cultural and artistic events in Africa like the Luanda Triennial, the Maputo International Theatre Festival, the Zimbabwe International Film Festival or the Painting Biennial in Dakar.

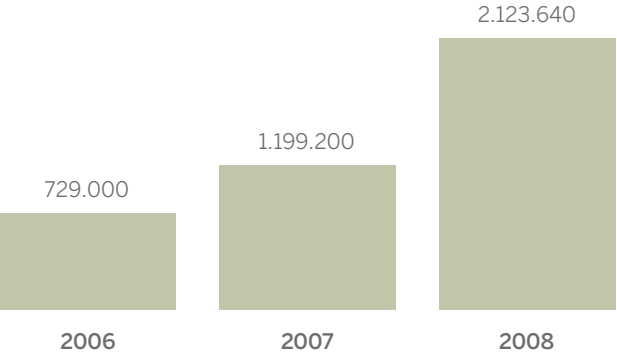
● Organisation of exhibitions on (“Culture(s). Alternatives. Diversity. Rights” or the “Positiv+” photography exhibition on the problem of HIV/AIDS in Ethiopia), or of programmes (activities in Mozambique in 2007 to mark thirty years of diplomatic relations with Spain).

● Promotion of contemporary African culture in Spain (the “Arte Invisible” Programme, “The MBINI multidisciplinary project: image hunters in Equatorial Guinea”).

● Further action by the two Spanish Cultural Centres in Malabo and Bata (Equatorial Guinea) and their reinforcement in the Network of Spanish Cultural Centres overseas.

● Promoting cultural activities as part of the Spanish-African Women’s initiative “for a Better World” (a Spanish-African seminar of writers on the subject of “Women as literary creators and protagonists” in Maputo; the “Ellas crean” (Women Create) Festival at the time of the Second Women’s Encounter in Madrid).

THE BUDGET FOR SPANISH EMBASSIES’ CULTURAL ACTIVITIES (EUROS)



- The ACERCA Seminar in 2006 on Cultural Policy and Management with African Portuguese-speaking countries and, in 2007, the Seminar on cultural, development and cooperation training in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria, targeting French-speaking West African countries.
- Contribution in 2007 to the African World Heritage Fund, fundamentally to protect African heritage and the economic development generated by World Heritage sites with their impact on tourism, the economy and local educational and cultural standards.
- As part of the UNESCO-Spain Trust Fund, there has been a major contribution to cultural and development programmes and projects like “Culture and HIV/AIDS”.
- Support for the main African film festivals: African Film Festivals in Tarifa and Barcelona, the South Cinemas Festival /Granada, Miradas DOC/Guía de Isora – Tenerife, the Mostra de Cinema Africà in Barcelona and the Madrid African Film Festival.
- A boost to academic cooperation with MAEC-AECID grants and the creation in 2008 of ten new places in the cultural management grants programme in Angola, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mozambique, Namibia, Senegal, Sudan, Zimbabwe and Mali. The number of MAEC–AECID lectureships was also increased.

Scientific Cooperation

- Bilateral scientific relations with Sub-Saharan countries have centred on specific activities in countries like Angola, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Namibia or Senegal. Scientific cooperation with South Africa nevertheless stands out as it has translated into agreements for developing joint projects like those by the Centre for Energy, Environmental and Technological Research (CIEMAT) with Pebble Bed Molecular (PTY) Limited (PBMR) in that country, providing low- and medium-grade waste services and management.
 - Grants have been assigned to boost scientific relations and international cooperation in a number of offers from the Ministry of Science and Innovation. Assistance in furthering international scientific relations has seen progressive increases in aid to Sub-Saharan countries, with eight schemes in 2005 in Cameroon and South Africa, and with action in 2008 targeting Gabon, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, Senegal, South Africa and Tanzania. Eighteen assistance grants were made in 2006 and 2007 to South Africa under the Integrated Action Programme to further scientific cooperation.
 - Assistance was granted between 2003 and 2007 to 18 Sub-Saharan researchers to spend time in Spanish centres. A researcher in Cameroon benefited from the Juan de la Cierva Programme, and one in Ethiopia received assistance from the Research Personnel Training Programme (FPI).
- Linguistic Cooperation and promoting Spanish**
- Support for creation of a Department of Spanish translators and interpreters in the AU Commission. Assistance in preserving Africa’s rich linguistic heritage given in 2007 and 2008 to the Bamako-based African Academy of Languages (ACALAN).
 - Facilitating access to the DELE (Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language). There are at present sixteen examination centres throughout the region. The Diploma is offered twice a year, in May and November, in Cape Verde, Cameroon, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Senegal, South Africa and Tanzania.



At work in the Manhica Research Centre. FOTO AECID/O. RAMÍREZ

- Start of Cervantes Classrooms activities in Malabo and Bata.

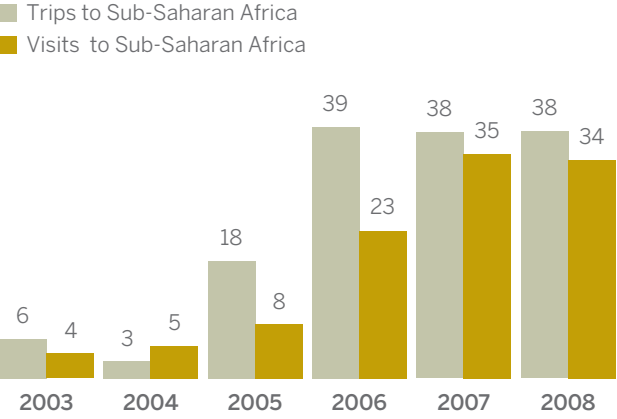
7.1.7. Reinforcing the political and institutional profile in Africa

The State Administration’s institutional deployment

- Six new Embassies have been opened in Sudan, Mali, Cape Verde, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau and Niger, and permanent diplomatic antennas have been set up in Gambia and Liberia/Sierra Leone.
- Creation of new Technical Cooperation Offices (Bamako, Niamey, Praia, Addis Ababa, and cooperation antennas in the Democratic Republic of Congo and Sao Tome and Principe), Economic and Commercial Councils (Accra, Malabo and Nairobi), and Interior sector Attaché Offices (Nouakchott, Accra, Bissau, Conakry, Bamako, Banjul), in Defence (Nouakchott) and in Labour and Social Affairs (Dakar). A Consulate-General has also been established in Dakar.

- The creation in 2007 of the Africa Panel, chaired by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, with the participation of representatives from civil society, the central and regional Administrations, the business sector, the Economic and Social Council and Casa Africa.
- Promoting Spain’s profile and capacity to influence in international bodies related to Africa**
- Links have been significantly enhanced during this period with African bodies like the AU and ECOWAS, which the Africa Plan treats as priorities.
- Conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding with the AU, during the 2006 visit to Spain by the President of the Union’s Commission, Alpha Omar Konaré. In January 2008, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, Miguel Ángel Moratinos, visited AU headquarters in Addis Ababa.
- Intensification of the link with the NEPAD programme, fundamentally to implement commitments arising from the “Women for a Better World” Meetings.

ENHANCING POLITICAL DIALOGUE: OFFICIAL TRIPS AND VISITS. HIGH-LEVEL VISITS AND TRIPS



Parliamentary and social diplomacy

- Reinforcement of this country’s parliamentary links with the main Sub-Saharan countries through initiatives such as the creation of a Spain-Namibia Parliamentary Friendship Group or the Spanish Parliament’s Observer Missions to elections in Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana and the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Other activities like the presence of the Speaker of the Senate, Javier Rojo, on Spain’s behalf at the swearing in of the Presidents of Senegal, Mali and Mauritania, or the trip by a Spanish parliamentary delegation to Equatorial Guinea.

Casa Africa

Officially inaugurated in June 2007, Casa Africa has since its inception been engaged in important actions in four fields – cultural, academic, social and development and economic cooperation. The following stand out among activities during the 2006-2008 Africa Plan:

- Framework agreements concluded with public and private social, economic and educational institutions, and

closer contacts with African State delegations, diplomatic representations and continental institutions.

- Participation in and encouragement of many academic activities, notably Summer Courses in Santander, Asturias, El Escorial and the Canary Islands, in collaboration with various foundations, universities and research centres, and participation in the Second International Meeting of Spanish and African Universities.
- Collaboration with the initiative for the Spain-Africa Women’s Meeting in its activities, and the creation at its base in Las Palmas of the Women “for a Better World” Network Secretariat.
- Jointly with NGOs, activities like those related to a grasp of the fight against disease in Africa, the situation of refugees and displaced persons, or the food crisis and the problem of water scarcity.
- Intense cultural activity including exhibitions, concerts, film cycles, music workshops, festivals and seminars. The Casa Africa Reading Club and Media Library also help to bring African culture closer to society.
- With the Congress of Deputies, the organisation in 2007 of the Inter-parliamentary Meeting with representatives from fifteen West African countries.
- Joint organisation of technical-scientific seminars (development of African Meteorological Services with the WMO and the Spanish National Meteorological Institute; sustainability of Fisheries Resources with the AFRIMAR network), promotion of courses and forums for reflection on the region’s socioeconomic reality and Spanish-African business cooperation, business meetings and participation in training for African economists and business leaders.



A seminar for reflection on Spanish-African relations in October 2008 at Casa Africa headquarters in Las Palmas de Gran Canaria. FOTO EFE/A. MEDINA

7.2. Geographical files

7.2.1. The continental dimension

The African Union

Since the African Union (AU) was created at the Durban Summit on 9 July 2002, succeeding the former OAU – Organisation of African Unity – it has grown in relevance and taken on increasing authorities in areas like conflict-resolution or coordination of development policies.

The Union’s original aim was to achieve progressive African political, economic and social integration with the creation of coordinating mechanisms able to handle and resolve African conflicts from an African standpoint.

The institutional structure comprises the Assembly of Heads of State which holds an ordinary meeting twice a year; the Executive Council formed by Foreign Affairs Ministers; the

Commission whose functions include the AU Secretariat which is made up of the Chairman, the Deputy Chairman and eight Commissioners. The Pan-African Parliament, the Court of Justice and the Economic, Social and Cultural Council complete this institutional structure.

A new development was the creation in 2004 of the Peace and Security Council to prevent and resolve conflict.

Likewise, at the 12th AU Summit in Addis Ababa in February 2009, the Programme of the NEPAD (New Economic Partnership for Africa’s Development), created in 2001, was integrated into its structure, an ambitious project to develop the continent in an integrated frame of commitments on good government and socioeconomic stimulus, managed by and for Africans.

- The AU’s 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, planned to be approved at the 13th Union Summit in Madagascar in July 2009, rests on four basic pillars:**
- peace and security,
 - cooperation, development and social integration;
 - shared values;
 - the strengthening of institutions.

In April 2006, at the time of the visit to Spain of the AU Commission Chair Alpha Omar Konaré, the AU and Spain signed a Memorandum of Understanding setting out the most outstanding areas of cooperation and dialogue, placing this country in a privileged position for dialogue with the continent. The most notable aspect of our cooperation with the AU so far has been our contribution to its Peace Agenda, which includes aspects related to the prevention, management and resolution of crises. Spain has since 2000 been contributing 100,000 euros a year, a figure which has been raised to the point where in 2007 it reached a total of 900,000 euros.

Actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- With a 30 million euro contribution over the next three years, promised by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation at the January 2008 AU Summit, support will be given to the Union's 2009-2012 Strategic Plan, helping to strengthen institutions and in the major tasks assigned in peacebuilding, security and development on the continent.
- Spain collaborates with the AU's African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism (CAERT) based in Algiers, and it is expected to enhance the legal framework for collaboration shortly.
- This country will continue to monitor the situation in countries in conflict like Somalia and Sudan which the AU, supported by its partners and the EU, will try to resolve.
- Participation will continue through the Embassy in Ethiopia and the OTC on donor coordinating mechanisms, to harmonise and align them with African Union cooperation priorities.
- Since the Union introduced Spanish as an official language in 2003, Spain has guaranteed the presence of translators and interpreters at Summits and in important meetings of the organisation's system, such as the PanAfrican Parliament. Spain currently meets interpretation requirements at Union Summits of Heads of State and Government by hiring translators and interpreters "ad hoc". The aim over the coming years is to bring the permanent Spanish translators and interpreters department

on stream. On the other hand, Spain has declared its support for the creation of an African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) based in Bamako.

- Spain will continue to fund operation of the ECOSOCC, responsible for ensuring that the voice of civil society gets a hearing in the AU, for whose startup it made a 70,000 euro contribution in 2006.
- Support will be given to bringing the Alliance of Civilisations initiative to the AU, fomenting existing positive synergies with the body's agenda.

7.2.2. The Regional Dimension

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Since it was set up in 1975, ECOWAS has been consolidating as one of the most dynamic regional organisations in the new architecture of African integration, and it currently has fifteen Member States: Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Ivory coast, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.

In the terms of its founding treaty, ECOWAS aims to promote cooperation and development in all areas of economic activity (market liberalisation, harmonisation of economic and financial policy, creation of a common tariff, monetary union, etc).

ECOWAS institutional reform was completed in 2007 with the transformation of the Executive Secretariat into a Commission comprising a Chair, Deputy Chair and seven Commissioners. In addition to a summit of Heads of State and Government and a Council of Ministers, the organisation has a Regional Parliament, an Economic and Social Council, a Regional Investment and Development Bank and a Court of Justice together with various agencies specialised in fields such as healthcare, gender and youth, and sport.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation with the then Chairman of the African Union Alpha Oumar Konaré in January 2008. FOTO EFE/PACO CAMPOS

ECOWAS has in these years registered significant achievements in political coordination and conflict resolution, and is considered an organisation of reference on the continent.

For these ends, it has a Conflict-Prevention Mechanism and a peace-keeping force, ECOMOG which, under Nigerian leadership, has recently intervened in the conflicts in Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Ivory Coast, Liberia and Guinea Conakry.

ECOWAS has announced that it will participate in the implementation of the African Stand-by Forces (ASF), scheduled for 2010, with large numbers. ASF-ECOWAS has two commands, one in the East in Nigeria, and the other in the West, based in Senegal.

In this same realm, ECOWAS has set up bodies and mechanisms like the Observation and Monitoring Centre and the Panel of the Wise. As well, the Abuja War College, the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping and Training Center and the "École de Maintien de la Paix" in Bamako are also attached to ECOWAS. On the other hand, the growing problem of drug-trafficking and organised crime in West Africa has led ECOWAS to organise a Ministerial Conference on drug-trafficking as a threat to security.

Spain is much favoured in its relation with this organisation. The Spanish Ambassador in Nigeria is also this country's Permanent

Representative to ECOWAS. Moreover, under the terms of the Africa Plan, a cooperation antenna for our relations with ECOWAS is fully operative in the Embassy of Spain in Abuja.

In the three-year term 2006-2008, Spain has helped fund the Small Arms Control Programme (ECOSAP) as well as the body's ordinary budget, it will continue to support the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping and Training Center and it has send a liaison officer with functions as instructor. The following actions are scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- A Spain-ECOWAS Summit in 2009, to confront the region's challenges together.
- Monitoring of the Spain-ECOWAS, Migration and Development Fund with an initial endowment of ten million euros destined among other things to encourage public migration policies which favour development.
- The Second Spain-ECOWAS Meeting of Parliamentarians on governance.
- Spain will not only continue its voluntary contribution to the organisation's budget but plans specific Spanish collaboration in the training of ECOWAS units, and participation in the Pool Fund of donors for Strengthening Institutions.

● The launch of new initiatives in the energy field has become a question of maximum priority for ECOWAS, which has requested Spanish collaboration, and work is under way to ready a joint seminar on renewable energies in 2009.

● The financing of NGO projects, and food aid contributions in the region, charged to the 60 million euros of the Action Plan announced by Deputy Prime Minister Fernández de la Vega in the Forum for Reflection on Climate Change held at the time of the Third Meeting of Spanish and African Women in Niamey.

Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)

The IGAD – the Intergovernmental Authority on Development – in East Africa was created in Nairobi on 21 March 1996, arising directly from IGADD – Inter governmental Authority on Drought and Development – founded in 1986. Its activities began with the Assembly of Heads of State and Government in Djibouti on 25 November 1996.

The organisation currently comprises seven countries, Djibouti, Eritrea (which has pulled out temporarily), Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Sudan and Uganda, and its Secretariat is established in Djibouti. According to the “Agreement establishing the revitalised IGAD with a new name” (25 November 1996), this body’s essential mission is, via adequate cooperation, to assist and complement the efforts of member countries to achieve food security, protection of the environment, promotion and maintenance of security and peace, and to promote economic integration and cooperation.

Most notable among its most immediate objectives, the IGAD aims to enhance joint development strategies and harmonise social, technological and scientific policies and programmes, to align customs and transport policy and promote the free movement of goods, services and people. The organisation also seeks to enhance peace and stability in the region, creating mechanisms for the prevention and solution of conflicts between States. The IGAD’s organic structure consists of an Assembly of Heads of State and Government, its senior decision-making body, the

Council of Ministers, the Committee of Ambassadors comprising member countries’ ambassadors, and the Secretariat. The IGAD Partner Forum (IPF) is a mechanism for coordination in which the IGAD community of donors participates and whose meetings are attended by Spain.

IGAD also has a special counter-terrorism programme, the “Capacity Building Programme against Terrorism” (ICPAT), and the “Conflict Early Warning and Response Mechanism” (CEWARN), both clearly illustrating the Organisation’s political priorities.

The Spanish Government collaborates financially with the ICPAT through the legislative Capacity Building Program Against Terrorism. This ICPAT contribution makes Spain an active component of the IPF.

Actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Collaboration with the IGAD in support of the revitalization under way, and the new Strategic Plan.
- Pursuit of cooperation projects to enhance the Secretariat’s capacities.
- Continuation of voluntary contributions to ICPAT to raise the region’s counter-terrorism capacities.
- Start of contacts with CEWARN as backing for its work and for preventing regional conflicts in East Africa.

Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)

The Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) was created in 1983. Its original members were the States of the Central African Customs and Economic Unión (UDEAC): the Central African Republic, Cameroon, Chad, the Republic of Congo, Gabon and Equatorial Guinea; the members of the Great Lakes Economic Community: Burundi and Zaire as it then was, now the Democratic Republic of Congo. Sao Tome and Principe and Angola joined in 1999.

ECCAS’s objectives are to raise its population’s living standards, to maintain economic stability and regional autonomy through cooperation and, ultimately to create a Central African common market.

Structurally, the organisation consists of the Conference of Heads of State and Government, the Council of Ministers, the Secretariat-General based in Libreville, and the Court of Justice which is not yet operative.

ECCAS was virtually inactive until 1999 as its members failed to pay their contributions and several were confronted in armed conflict. That year, the African Economic Community signed an agreement with the organisation which is considered a cornerstone for the continent’s economic integration.

Also that year, ECCAS Member States created the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX) which came into effect in 2004. Designed to maintain and consolidate peace in the region, the Council has put two major mechanisms in place: a regional multinational force (FOMAC) and a system for early warning, observation and monitoring of conflicts in the region (MARAC). Armed conflicts have nonetheless continued among its members, together with countries’ internal conflicts.

Economically, the region has vast natural riches, like the oil in the Gulf of Guinea, minerals in the Great Lakes region and the agricultural wealth of the entire zone. There are however major income differences from one country to another, with the consequent huge challenges to governance. Added to these challenges is an absence of strong institutions in many countries.

ECCAS’s consolidation as a Regional Economic Community of reference is a target for Spanish policy in Africa, not just for the region’s own stability but also because it includes countries like Equatorial Guinea, Angola or the Democratic Republic of Congo which are not just priorities under this Plan but also traditional focuses of this country’s presence in Africa.

Spain at present has no agreements with ECCAS. In November 2008, the EU held a first meeting with the organisation, in troika

form, which reached understandings for cooperation on peace and security, food security and backing for institutions.

Actions planned under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will accredit an Ambassador to the ECCAS Secretariat.
- A Memorandum of Understanding will be proposed for cooperation to define the lines of collaboration in fields which are regional priorities.
- Spanish cooperation with ECCAS will particularly emphasise the reinforcement of institutions, training for public servants, and peace and security.
- Spain will also make careful note of suggestions from Equatorial Guinea as a member and the only Hispanic state in Sub-Saharan Africa for developing cooperation with the organisation.

Southern African Development Community (SADC)

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) was set up on 17 August 1992. Its members are Angola, Botswana, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Lesotho, Madagascar, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Seychelles, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe, and its official headquarters are in Gaborone.

By integrating its members and developing common policies, SADC aims to promote development and economic growth, to relieve poverty, develop institutions, systems and values for coexistence, foment and defend peace and security, foster self-sustained development based on inter-state cooperation and members’ inter-dependence, to encourage productive employment and use of resources in the zone, and to consolidate the values and shared culture of the region’s peoples.

SADC’s institutional design comprises political decision-making and governing structures (Summit, Troika, Council of Ministers,

a Body on Politics, Defence and Security), an Executive Secretariat, a Tribunal, and sector institutions and national committees.

With a population of 270 million, the SADC region’s GDP exceeds by 50% that of the whole of Sub-Saharan Africa and is more than twice that of ECOWAS. However, differences among the countries within the organisation are huge. Mauritius, the most prosperous, is 42 times richer than the Democratic Republic of Congo in terms of per capita income. South Africa, Tanzania and the Democratic Republic of Congo account for two thirds of the regional population, while Lesotho, Namibia, Botswana, Mauritius and Swaziland together total just 4%.

The diversity of political situations is also considerable. While countries like South Africa or Botswana have consolidated democratic structures with high human right standards, others such as Angola are deeply engaged in consolidating following years of civil war, while armed conflict persists in other member countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo or there are grave internal problems as in Zimbabwe.

The region continues to be the most ravaged in the world by AIDS. Swaziland, with more than 30% of its population infected, Botswana or Lesotho with close to 25% or South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia with 20%, are the countries most affected. In Dar es Salaam in 2003, SADC agreed to create common policies against the pandemic.

SADC participates in the AU military structure through the “SADC Brigade”, one of the five military units on such as scale under the “Stand-by Forces” Programme for the AU's Peace and Security Architecture.

The SADC Consultative Conference held in Windhoek in April 2006 drew up an Action Plan to implement the Regional Indicative Plan and the Strategic Indicative Plan, defining the policies, strategies and priorities for meeting the essential goals set out in SADC’s founding document.

That Conference also adopted the so-called “Windhoek Declaration” on a new association between SADC and the

“International Cooperating Partners” (ICP). The central focus of this document is to identify a set of areas for common cooperation.

In this context, in 2008 the EU and SADC agreed on a regional cooperation programme centred on two basic objectives: regional economic integration and support for democratic governance and the peace and security architecture. Backing for training and the strengthening of institutions are key to this programme.

Spain has been engaged for some time in cooperation programmes with countries in the zone, but there was until now no active collaboration with this regional organisation. Actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan;

- Spain will sign a Memorandum of Understanding with SADC, to collaborate more closely in areas of common interest.

- This association will address sectors categorised as priorities in SADC’s Strategic Indicative Plan and where Spain offers a comparative edge.

7.2.3. Action by country

ECOWAS Countries (Senegal, Mali, Gambia, Ivory Coast, Niger, Nigeria, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Ghana and Cape Verde) plus Mauritania

Senegal

Capital: Dakar. **Area:** 196,720 km². **Population:** 12,379,000. **Structure of the population:** Wolof (43.3%), Peul (23.8%), Serere (147%), Diola (3.7%), Malinke (3%), Soninke (1.1%). **National Day:** 4 April. **Official Language:** French. **Other languages:** Wolof, Peul, Serere, etc. **Annual GDP growth:** 5%. **Per-capita Income:** \$1685. **HDI:** 156.

Senegal has been an example of democratic stability in West Africa, especially following the 2000 elections which ended in victory for Abdoulaye Wade’s PDS, leading to “Alternation” following 40 years of socialist government. Senegal has been involved in the international community’s main debates such as United Nations reform or the Alliance of Civilisations.

Political and economic relations between Spain and Senegal have intensified, making Senegal a strategic partner for Spain in West Africa. On-going high-level trips and visits in the last three years (from Spain Her Majesty the Queen, the Prime Minister, the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, of Justice, of the Interior, of Labour and Social Affairs among others) have made it possible to enhance political dialogue and guarantee fluid cooperation in key areas such as migration. And President Wade, who has described the Spanish cooperation model as an example to be followed for the new relation between Europe and Africa, has visited this country three times in recent years.

The legal and political framework of Spanish-Senegalese bilateral relations has been enhanced with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding and a number of agreements such as that on Cooperation Against Crime (2006), on Cooperation in Preventing Emigration by Unaccompanied Minors (2006), the

Framework Cooperation Agreement (2006), the Tax Treaty (2006) and the 2007 APPRI (Agreement on Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments).

As one of the main recipients of Spanish Cooperation funds in Sub-Saharan Africa, Senegal is in category A under the 2009-2012 Spanish Cooperation Master Plan (a country offering a broad, stable, long-term partnership framework). Notable among the main Spanish Cooperation projects in Senegal is the creation of five Workshop Schools in the Saint-Louis region; the startup of a farm school in support of the REVA Plan; the FORPEX project to back training and job rehabilitation in fishing, and the project supporting the Sebikotan training centre for vulnerable minors.

To meet the challenges of the coming years, the Embassy of Spain in Senegal has been upgraded with sector Attaché Offices (Labour and Social Affairs) and the Consulate-General in Dakar. The Dakar Technical Co-operation Office has been upgraded with the inclusion of four new programme heads and two project officers.

Senegal’s specific weight, its regional and continental importance and its proximity to Spain justifies its classification as a country of priority interest for our action overseas. Main actions planned as part of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spanish companies will be encouraged to participate in major infrastructure work planned for the Dakar region and in other sectors with potential like tourism or fishing.

- Conclusion of the First Joint Commission in Madrid in March 2009 is confirmation of Senegal’s priority place for Spanish Cooperation. The Ziguinchor region Local Socio-economic Development programme will continue and similar actions will be pursued in the region of Saint Louis.

- Under the REVA Plan, Spain has approved a ten million euro DAF credit line to finance nine turnkey “Farming Development Poles” in nine localities.

- At the multilateral level, the Spain-UNDP MDG Fund will cover the joint programmes presented by United Nations agencies and the Senegal Government on the Environment, Culture and



At school in Senegal. FOTO DCGE

Development. Senegal will also benefit from other Global Funds Spain contributes to, or from regional schemes like the FAO “Water for Africa” programme.

● Spain and Senegal will continue with high-level cooperation on migration, using the three pillars of the global approach to the question: combating illegal immigration, particularly with FRONTEX and the SEAHORSE Network’s Information Exchange System; promoting legal migration by creating procedures for hiring at source particularly in farming and fishing; and startup of migration and development initiatives. Senegal is one of the countries benefiting from the Spain-ECOWAS Migration and Development Fund.

On the other hand, along with Spain, Senegal is one of the countries promoting the Euro-African Conferences on migration

and development. The two jointly chaired the Meeting of Experts on migration and development held in Dakar in July 2008 and Spain has proposed that Senegal host the Third EuroAfrican Conference on migration and development in 2011.

● In Defence, it is planned in 2010 to run an exercise in Senegal, EMERALD MOVE, involving a contingent of about 2000 as part of the European Amphibious Initiative (EAI) launched in 2000 by Spain, France, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and Italy.

● Senegal is a special focus for promoting and spreading Spanish culture in Africa. During the term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, a Cervantes Classroom will be opened and Spanish lectureships will be reinforced in Senegalese universities.

● The Spanish Senior Scientific Research Council has reached

an agreement, through the Park for Rescue of Saharan Fauna in the Arid Zone Experimental Station in Almería, collaborating with Senegal to reintroduce the Dorcas Gazelle in that country.

Mali

Capital: Bamako. **Area:** 1,240,190 km². **Population:** 12,337,000. **Structure of the population:** Tuaregs, Maurs, African Berbers. **National Day:** 22 September. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Bambara, Senufo, Sarakole. **Annual GDP growth:** 2.5%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,031. **HDI:** 173.

Mali understands that its political stability following the re-election of President Amadou Toumani Touré on 8 July 2007 is a starting point for the poverty reduction programmes needed. The country is growing significantly in various sectors, but this is slowed by the weak business fabric, energy shortfalls and the inadequate telecommunications system.

The opening of the Spanish Embassy in Bamako and the increasingly frequent exchanges of visits by government representatives between the two states points to the qualitative leap taken by Spanish-Mali relations.

During the eighth Legislature, Spain has enhanced its links of solidarity with Mali, and Spanish Cooperation in the country has received a major boost, fundamentally since the opening of the Technical Co-operation Office in Bamako in 2008. The 2009-2012 Spanish Cooperation Master Plan places Mali in category A of countries offering a broad and long-term stable partnership framework. At the First Joint Cooperation Commitment in July 2008, the AECID committed to channelling a minimum of ten million euros per annum during the period 2008-2010.

During the Mali President’s visit to Spain in January 2008, a Memorandum of Political Understanding was concluded, together with a Framework Development Cooperation Agreement and a Framework Agreement to Manage and Regulate Migratory Flows.

In this context, Spain has, with France and the European Commission, promoted the pilot project to create a Migration

Information and Integrated Management Centre (CIGEM) in Bamako. Cooperation between the two countries on migration has included the modernisation of 17 Mali border posts. Mali will be a target country of the Spain-ECOWAS Fund for migration and development.

The Migration Information and Management Centre (CIGEM). This Centre, a Mali pilot project funded by the European Commission and backed by Spain and France, will fulfil the following functions:

- A better understanding of migration;
- Reception, information, guidelines and accompaniment of potential migrants and returnees;
- Information on the legal conditions of migration;
- Public awareness of the risks of irregular emigration;
- To make the most of human, financial and technical capital of Malians overseas.

The official opening of the CIGEM in October 2008 was attended by the Spanish Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Ángel Lossada.

Its political importance and strategic relevance as a country of origin and transit for Sub-Saharan migration to Europe mean that Mali is considered a country of priority interest for Spanish action overseas.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

● Spain plans to send parliamentary missions or missions supporting future elections in the Republic of Mali, particularly those slated for 2012.

● Mali offers investment openings for Spain, basically in infrastructures, mining and tourism, and the Spanish government plans to foster infrastructure development in West Africa.

● Help will be given to reinforce and modernise hospital



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation during the inauguration of the Chancellery in Bamako during his January 2008 visit. FOTO MAEC/ JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ

facilities in Bamako with a DAF credit. In addition, in 2009, the AECID will, together with the Mali Health Ministry, fund a reproductive health programme. Spain will foment various professional training programmes and implement a project promoting the conservation and commercialisation of agricultural products in Sikasso and to enhance agricultural productive capacity.

- The first AECID Specialised Technical Training Centre in Sub-Saharan Africa is to be set up in Bamako, intended to strengthen public administrations and their capacity for providing services.

- Support will be given to fortify the Ministry of Malians Overseas and African Integration through technical assistance from the Spanish Ministry of Labour and Immigration.

- Of note in culture is Spain’s promise of financial and technical support for the African Academy of Languages (ACALAN) fomented by the AU in Bamako. Also of importance are some pioneering actions underway, such as the programme funded by the Regional Government of Andalusia to conserve the Timbuktu manuscripts historically linking Mali to this country.

Gambia

Capital: Banjul. **Area:** 11,300 km². **Population:** 1,709,000. **Structure of the population:** Wolof, Fula, Mandinka, Jola. **National Day:** 18 February. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** Wolof, Mandinka, Jola, Seereer. **Annual GDP growth:** 7%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,326. **HDI:** 155.

Gambia, the smallest country in Africa and seen as one of the world’s poorest, became independent from the British Empire in 1965. It is in a fortunate geographical situation as a trading platform and point of passage between West Africa and Europe. Its economy is mainly agricultural (accounting for 30% of GDP). The service sector rests basically on trade and tourism. Financial services and information and communication technologies have taken on some relevance in recent years.

Gambia is of special interest to Spain in regulating illegal migration from West Africa as its departure point and a country of transit. It is estimated that more than 18,000 Gambians now reside in Spain. In recent years, reinforced bilateral political dialogue led to the signing on 9 October 2006 of the Framework Agreement for Cooperation on Migration. The First Joint Spanish-Gambian Commission under this Framework Agreement met in December 2008.

Under the 2009-2012 Cooperation Master Plan, Gambia is classified as a regional priority for development cooperation, as a focused partnership country. A Framework Cooperation Agreement was concluded during the visit of the Deputy Prime Minister María Teresa Fernández de la Vega in March 2009.

Gambia has benefited from three million euros of Spain-UNDP Funds, two million from the Regional Social Cohesion and Employment Programme and one million from the Democratic

Governance Fund. Gambia has also received financing from the NEPAD-AECID Fund for the “Strategy to reduce the precarious work of women with the provision of processing and saving mechanisms” run by the Gambian Government’s National Council of Women. Bilateral financing is being used to rehabilitate, upgrade and equip various professional training centres.

Gambia is an important destination for Spanish tourism (with some 10,000 visitors per annum), boosted by direct flights to Banjul from Madrid and Barcelona.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will continue to maintain fluid, flexible and on-going relations with the Gambian authorities, including notable multiple contacts between high-level representatives and the upcoming opening of our Embassy in Banjul, reciprocating that of the Embassy of Gambia in Madrid in December 2008.

- In the sphere of trade relations, the APPRI signed as a result of the Madrid visit of the Republic of Gambia Foreign Affairs Minister Omar Alieu Touray on 15 December 2008 will foster investment and facilitate the entry of Spanish companies to Gambia in tourism, fishing, renewable energies and telecommunications.

- Relations on migration will be intensified as part of the Global Approach defined in the First Joint Spain-Gambia Commission under the Framework Migration Cooperation Agreement. Thus Spain will collaborate with the Government of the Gambia in the fight against illegal people-trafficking networks with both material resources and through the instruction and training of specialised Gambian personnel in legal migration.

- The First Joint Commission under the Joint Cooperation Agreement will take place in 2009. Development cooperation is to focus on education, particularly occupational training, with support for the “The Gambia National Vocational Training Plan”.

- The AECID is to implement a project to create a Workshop School specialised in construction, tourism and hospitality and the integration of women into employment, with an initial one million euro total.

Ivory Coast

Capital: Yamoussoukro. **Area:** 322,460 km². **Population:** 19,262,000. **Structure of the population:** Akan, Mande, Gur, Kru. **National Day:** 7 August. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Baule, Diula, Bete, Senufo. **Annual GDP growth:** 1.6%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,716. **HDI:** 166.

Since independence in 1960, Ivory Coast has become a key state in terms of economic development in the West Africa region, thanks largely to an economy based on the export of raw materials like coffee and cocoa. However, falling prices for cocoa and other raw materials plus the internal imbalance between the north and south of the country led to civil war in 2002, submerging the country in a profound political and economic crisis. The peace process, fostered from 2002 under UN and EU supervision, has been marked by advances, retreats and continual crises (especially in 2004 and 2006). The main aims of the process are to disarm and demobilise the combatants.

Since the 2002 crisis began, Spain has backed efforts and initiatives seeking a peaceful end to the conflict. The last and in principle the final initiative was the conclusion of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement (OPA) between President Laurent Gbagbo and the Head of the New Forces Rebel Group Guillaume Soro (currently Prime Minister). Despite the advances and the climate of trust arising from the OPA, the situation remains fragile, although stable at this time.

Bilateral relations are cordial but not particularly intense, due in large part to the political-military crisis the country has suffered. Spain did however remain present, through its Embassy in Abidjan, during the five years of conflict, including the most violent phases, and reinforced the Embassy with a new diplomatic officer.

The Spanish Government has remained actively involved in multilateral forums where it has backed UN resolutions and EU declarations on Ivory Coast, specifically making a contribution to the Office of the UN High Representative in support of the 2006 elections.

This country's government has also cancelled Ivory Coast 56.8 million euro debt, to be implemented when the country reaches the "culmination point" in the multilateral HIPC initiative. At the same time, in 2008 Spain raised its input to EDF 10 for the period 2008-2013.

2008 also saw first steps in initiating collaboration with Ivory Coast on migration.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will continue to try to promote resolution of the conflict in the country by participating in multilateral forums, especially in the EU.
- Advances will be sought on the draft Accord on the Fight Against Delinquency and Organised Crime, and on a Global Agreement to Regulate Migratory Flows.
- To promote commercial exchange, Spain will continue to negotiate an APPRI with Ivory Coast and explore investment openings in the energy sector, tourism and infrastructures.
- Ivory Coast participates in development cooperation and humanitarian aid with the UNDP's Regional Programme for Social Cohesion and Employment Policy in West Africa, which is financed by Spain. The Ivory Coast project (still being defined) will receive funding of 2.5 million euros.
- A Cultural, Educational and Scientific Agreement is being negotiated, and movement will continue forward on consolidating collaboration with the country's public cultural institutions, in interuniversity cooperation and in the creation of spaces for encounter and understanding between the two countries.

Niger

Capital: Niamey. **Area:** 1,267,000 Km². **Population:** 14,226,000. **Structure of the population:** Hausa (56%), Djerma (22%), Fula (9%), Tuareg (8%) and Berber (4%). **National Day:** 3 August. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Hausa, Peúl,

Zarma, Kanuri, Tamachaq. **Annual GDP growth:** 3.2%. **Per Capita Income:** \$667. **HDI:** 174.

The Republic of Niger is a good example of an African country which, after the many political changes of the nineties, is in a situation at the beginning of the twenty-first century where democracy is consolidating and major challenges are being overcome.

According to the UNDP Human Development Index, Niger is one of the world's poorest countries, although emphasis must be placed on the effort it has made in improving basic indicators such as malnutrition, and containing food price rises. Niger has raised the number of countries it grants licences for uranium extraction, ending the French monopoly, and it is engaged in potentially successful oil prospecting. Increased revenues may favour essential investment in basic social needs like food security and healthcare which will help mid-term to alleviate poverty.

Security remains a fundamental question in Niger, recently threatened by the conflict in the north which jeopardises internal peace with the planting of mines and frequent confrontations between the army and rebels, as well as by the permeability of its borders, allowing illegal trafficking which is difficult to control.

A key element for Niger's future, in addition to democratisation and security, will be the strict application of the Strategy for Accelerated Development and Reduction of Poverty (SDRP). Here the country will draw on the support of international partners, including Spain.

Bilateral relations have been boosted notably in recent years, highlighted by recent diplomatic deployment in the country, in 2007, when the Embassy was opened and, in 2008, with the creation of a Technical Co-operation Office. Spain's commitment to Niger was made clear with the conclusion of a Framework Cooperation Agreement in 2007 and the two countries' First Joint Commission, and with a Frame-work Migration Cooperation Agreement.

The Joint Cooperation Commission promises a minimum of ten million euros a year fundamentally for Food Security, Gender

Equality, Water and Sanitation and Health, fields in which Spain focuses its cooperation in the country. The Joint Commission also provides for Spain to increase its cultural cooperation.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- The bilateral relation will be nurtured in security, cooperation on migration and the fight against illegal trafficking and terrorism, for which work is under way to design a project for border security and surveillance. Niger will be supported in the elaboration of a comprehensive National Migration Policy dealing with matters including security, good governance and respect for human rights. Spain will seek to collaborate along these lines, via funds assigned to ECOWAS.
- Development cooperation will continue to be relevant during the term of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan, Spain having set a minimum budgetary horizon of 30 million euros over the next three years. This cooperation will be implemented pursuant to the alignments established in the 2009-2012 Master Plan which grants Niger status as a "country for broad partnership". Cooperation will particularly target priority sectors, emphasising Spain's leadership during the first two years in gender equality, as leader of the thematic group. This country's commitment to food security will also be highlighted, which includes development in agriculture and livestocking, and in the health sector. Niger will benefit from the funds committed by the Deputy Prime Minister during her visit to the country (through the Action Plan on climate change and food security in West Africa), and from other regional funds financed by Spain such as those of ECOWAS or NEPAD.
- Work will be done in cultural cooperation both in promoting cultural activities and fostering the learning of Spanish through Spanish lectureships. Support will be given to the Ministry of Culture through training, the strengthening of institutions and local cultural forms, enhancing capacities and the initiation of national policy in the field. Cultural activities for development will also be nurtured.
- Economic relations and trade missions to Niger will be promoted.



The Niger River as it flows through Niamey. FOTO MAEC/JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ



Left to right: the Minister of Foreign Affairs Angel Moratinos, speaking with the Nobel Literature Laureate Wole Soyinka and the President of the Foundation for Culture of Peace Federico Mayor Zaragoza during the First Forum of the Alliance of Civilisations, in Madrid. FOTO EFE/G. CUEVAS

Nigeria

Capital: Abuja. **Area:** 923,770 km². **Population:** 148,093,000. **Structure of the population:** Hausa-Fulani, Nupe, Tiv, Kanuri, Yoruba, Igbo, Efik, Ibibio, Annang and Ijaw. **National Day:** 1 October. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** 200 (Hausa, Ibo, Yoruba, etc.). **Annual GDP growth:** 6.4%. **Per Capita Income:** \$2,035. **HDI:** 158.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria, Africa’s most populous country, is faced with the contradiction that, although an important world gas and oil producer, some indicators continue to be worrying. 60% of the population lives below the poverty line, life expectancy hardly surpasses 46 and it is one of the countries in the region most affected by HIV/AIDS.

Despite the relative solidity of its institutions, Nigeria currently suffers problems of security such as the conflicts among the different ethnic communities (mostly Hausas, Igbos and

Yorubas) and religious groups, which have led to serious outbreaks of violence in some regions – particularly in the centre – or the grave situation on the Niger River Delta.

Since President Yar’Adua took office on 29 May 2007, he has secured himself in power fundamentally focused through his so-called “Seven-point Agenda” on internal political reforms, especially in the energy sector. He has proved to be more continuist in foreign policy, conscious of Nigeria’s role as a regional and continental power.

Relations between Spain and Nigeria, which can be considered excellent, have received a great boost in recent years and political dialogue has intensified as a consequence of increased contacts, trips and initiatives between the two. Notable in this context of dialogue and trust was the meeting during the EU-Africa Lisbon Summit in December 2007 between President Yar’Adua and Prime Minister Rodríguez Zapatero, and the visit to Spain by Ojo Maduekwe, the Nigerian Foreign Affairs Minister, in February 2008, which led to the updating of the commitment in the 2001 Agreement to cooperate on migration.

The satisfactory political relations are also reflected in the economic and commercial realms. The Economic Cooperation Memorandum signed in 2006 has been added to the conclusion of an APPRI and a Tax Treaty.

Spain is also Nigeria’s second trading partner following the United States. Spanish imports exceed 3.5 billion euros, concentrated particularly in the country’s energy sector which provides around 25% of our oil and gas requirements. In the context of the Paris Club, Spain has cancelled a significant tranche of Nigeria’s debt, of more than 100 million euros.

Nigeria and Spain also cooperate actively in policing, combating illegal trafficking and terrorism. On immigration, a repatriation Agreement is in place.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Special attention will be paid to the energy sector with

support for Spanish companies’ investments and promoting mutual cooperation between the two countries. Of note here is the “trans-Sahara gas pipeline” to channel gas from Nigeria to Europe, particularly to Spain.

- Information will be exchanged on investment possibilities, in order to maintain Spanish investments in construction and renewable energies and exploring new fields for its diversification.

- In illegal trafficking and counter-terrorism, Spain and Nigeria plan to maintain a high level of cooperation on policing and to continue with exchanges and meetings in this area. High-level representatives from the National Agency for the Prohibition of Traffic In Persons (NAPTIP) will participate in future conferences in Spain.

- Spain and Nigeria will continue to arrange activities to increase mutual understanding and promote Spanish culture and language in that country. Learning of Spanish will be fostered, with the creation of a lectureship in the Nigerian Diplomatic Academy and the establishment of an Examinations Centre and a Cervantes Classroom.

- A third diplomatic officer’s post will be created in the Embassy of Spain in Abuja, which will help to consolidate the Spanish profile in Nigeria and allow greater monitoring and involvement in ECOWAS activities.

Guinea Bissau

Capital: Bissau. **Area:** 36,120 km². **Population:** 1,695,000. **Structure of the population:** Fula, Mandinka, Balanta, Papel, Manjaco, Mancanha. **National Day:** 24 September. **Official Language:** Portuguese. **Other Languages:** Creole, Mande. **Annual GDP growth:** 2.5%. **Per Capita Income:** \$484. **HDI:** 175.

Guinea Bissau, one of the smallest countries in continental Africa, is experiencing serious difficulties in consolidating a solid, stable democraticsystem. The situation has also been recently aggravated by the assassinations of President Vieira and Lieutenant-General Na Wayne on 1 and 2 March 2009 in a country where the military maintains a significant role in political development.

Guinea Bissau has received a sharp economic boost in recent years although it is one of the most fragile economies in Sub-Saharan Africa according to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Although real GDP growth was 2.5% in 2007, Guinea Bissau maintains a subsistence economy based on farming and livestock and which is threatened by political instability. One of its main problems is its external debt which has grown faster in recent years, along with lack of infrastructures, fiscal imbalance and scant diversification of its economic structure. Nearly half the population lives below the poverty threshold.

Guinea Bissau is currently seeking to confront major challenges such as the fight against drug trafficking and corruption, to foster national reconciliation, to recover the country’s credibility overseas and to maintain cooperation with international financial institutions.

Spain collaborates in and is part of the Working Group of the United Nations’ Guinea Bissau Peacebuilding Commission. This country also has observers in the EU Mission for Reform of the Security Sector in Guinea Bissau (the mission headed by a Spanish General). The Spanish government has also been involved in the UNOGBIS Mission (leading the fight against drug-trafficking), and in 2007-2008 assigned 1.5 million euros urgent general budget support to Guinea Bissau, making it the top bilateral donor.

Bilateral relations between Spain and Guinea Bissau are satisfactory, and will be fomented with the opening recently of the Spanish Embassy in Bissau. In parallel, an agenda has been created in recent years of exchanges of visits between the two countries. Premiers Rodríguez Zapatero and Vieira held a brief encounter in Lisbon alongside the Second EU-Africa Summit.

In the field of cooperation for development, following the First Joint Commission in July 2007, Spain committed itself to 15 million euros in aid for the three years 2007-2009.

A Framework Cooperation Agreement was concluded on migration in 2008. A Memorandum of Understanding has also been drawn up for surveillance of Guinea Bissau’s maritime and air space, and moves have been made to extend FRONTEX to



Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Ángel Lossada is met by his Guinean counterpart Lassana Ture, along with the Spanish Ambassador in Guinea Bissau Angel Ballesteros, during his visit to Guinea Bissau in March 2009. FOTO EFE/JUANJO MARTÍN

the Guinean coasts, completed with SEAHORSE in February 2009.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- The level of political contacts will be maintained, to further bilateral relations.
- Spain will move forward in its security collaboration with Guinea Bissau, reinforcing programmes in the fight against drug- and people-trafficking and other illegal trafficking.
- The Spanish Ministry of Justice will assign a budget allocation to activities in the Justice sector in Guinea Bissau.
- Spain will foment bilateral economic relations with Guinea Bissau, sharing interests in such sectors as fishing, tourism or transport and energy infrastructures, and will study possible formulas, both bilateral and multilateral, for infrastructure projects like the north-south highway (a feasibility study will be financed on seven roads in the south of the country) or port modernisation, to energise the economy and attract other investment.

● It is planned over the coming years to develop the collaboration agreement concluded in 2008 for the fishing sector, and the Spanish government will send the oceanographic vessel the Vizconde de Eza to support the Guinea Bissau Fisheries Ministry in the surveying and sustainable management of its fisheries resources. There will also be technological exchange via training, assistance and specialist apprenticeship programmes for Guinean officials, fishermen and fish farmers.

● In the field of migration, the project has begun to build a Workshop School in Mansoa.

Republic of Guinea

Capital: Conakry. **Area:** 245,860 km². **Population:** 9,370,000. **Structure of the population:** Fulani, Malinké, Soussou. **National Day:** 2 de October. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Soso, Maninkakan, Pulaar, Kissi, Lomagui, Mano, Kono. **Annual GDP growth:** 1.5%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,074. **HDI:** 160.

The potential of the Republic of Guinea is significant, based on its mining and agricultural resources and its abundance of water. It has close to half the world reserves of bauxite, along with iron, gold, diamond and uranium fields. Farming continues to be a major factor, employing close to 80% of the population. Despite its possibilities, Guinea suffers significant limitations in socioeconomic development, while external debt has grown considerably in the last ten years.

The country's current political situation is a delicate one. Attempted coups in recent years and the failure to advance in consolidating the Rule of Law have raised difficulties in the Guinean regime's development. The last coup d'État, on 23 December 2008 following the death of President Conté, led to the dissolution of the government and the creation of a Military Junta, the National Committee for Democracy and Development (CNDD). President Cámara and his government have undertaken to hold presidential and legislative elections at the end of 2009.

Since 2006, contacts between the Spanish and Guinean authorities have grown progressively. In general terms, current

bilateral relations are satisfactory, particularly following the opening in February 2008 of the Embassy of Spain in Conakry. With this permanent representation, Spain hopes to strengthen institutional, commercial, cultural and cooperation ties with the country. Worthy of note in this context was the visit to Conakry in 2008 by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Ángel Lossada.

The most outstanding aspect is in bilateral relations on development cooperation, seen in the first proposals to create a framework cooperation agreement. Spain has destined 1.1 million euros to the UNDP Fund for Democratic Governance in Africa. Moreover, implementation by the FAO of the "Water for Africa" project in Tougué and Dabola, funded by the Spanish Government, has drawn on two million euros in financing, and contribution has been made to a number of NEPAD gender projects in the country. There has also been a one million euro donation to promote job opportunities among the young, managed by the UNDP, the ONUDI and the ILO, together with a series of projects financed through the ICRC, the IFRC, the UNFPA or the WHO.

As part of the World Bank's ACGF Fund (Africa Catalytic Growth Fund), Spain is also financing projects amounting to 15 million dollars for productive development of mining zones, and Guinea also benefits from the Migration and Development Fund created with ECOWAS. On the other hand, the January 2008 Paris Club decision meant that Spain cancelled four million dollars of debt and restructured a further million with the Republic of Guinea.

On 7 January 2007, the Framework Agreement for Cooperation on Migration between the two countries came into effect.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- The path marked out in recent years with the Republic of Guinea will be followed, boosted with the recent opening of the Spanish Embassy in Conakry, in a quest to contribute along with the rest of the international community to the establishment of democracy in the country. To these ends, Spain participates in the International Contact Group on Guinea.

● Adequate mechanisms and instruments will be examined to promote productive investment and economic exchanges allowing Spanish companies greater participation in the country's economic development. The Spanish government's wish to fund projects through the World Bank may serve to boost the economy of the Republic of Guinea.

● Contribution will continue in the Paris Club to relieve the country of its debt burden.

● A framework agreement will be concluded on development cooperation.

● Relations for cooperating on migration will be enhanced, as part of the Global Approach. Action will include collaboration with the Guinean authorities to stimulate their capacities to combat people-trafficking mafias, in controlling sea borders, and regulating the management of migratory flows. Action will also be taken in training, as with the recently-created Workshop School in Conakry.

● Possible areas of training will be studied by the Ministry of Defence, for military cooperation.

● Cooperation between Spain and the Republic of Guinea will be intensified in combating illegal trafficking and organised crime.

Ghana

Capital: Accra. **Area:** 238,540 km². **Population:** 23,478,000. **Structure of the population:** Akan (44%), Moshi-Dagomba (16%), Ewe (13%), Ga (8%). **National Day:** 6 March. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** Akan, Ewe, Mossi, Mamprusi, Dagomba, Gonja. **Annual GDP growth:** 6.4%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,426. **HDI:** 135.

Ghana is currently a reference in the new emerging Africa. Its 50 years as an independent nation and its major achievements both in consolidating a democratic system of government and in economic policy, mean that Ghana is considered a country with significant potential. The discovery of oil and gas must be added to this and which will, medium term, permit considerable economic expansion, aiding Ghana to become a middle-income country.

The Ghanaian economy is based fundamentally on gold, cocoa and timber production, and an incipient tourist industry. Ghana nevertheless stands at the mid-point among West African countries and, despite its natural resources, depends to a large extent on international technical and financial aid.

The current Ghanaian government led by John Atta Mills (who took office on 7 January 2009) is seeking a new boost to promoting foreign investment in the country.

In Development Cooperation, Spain has contributed to the “Education For All–Fast Track Initiative” Catalytic Fund, and sent major provisions (including 11 tons of medical items) in humanitarian aid at the time of the floods which hit the north of the country so hard in September 2007. On the other hand, the Spanish government has twice cancelled bilateral debt, in 2005 and 2007, as part of the HIPC initiative. The last of these was for 44 million dollars, 40% of which will be used to fund development programmes.

Spain gives backing to the ECOWAS Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping and Training Center (KAIPTC) with headquarters in Accra, where a Spanish Army Lieutenant Colonel is academic director.

The Second Financial Protocol has been under way since 2005 under which Spain has made 60 million euros in DAF credits available to Ghana for a number of projects – artisan fishing, hospital facilities, infrastructures, irrigation, border surveillance equipment, rural electrification and water. The Protocol also provides for actions charged to the Feasibility Study Fund (FSF).

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will associate with the consolidation of democracy in Ghana by actions including mutual trips and visits, so furthering relations between the two, and support in strengthening State institutions.

- Defence cooperation will be enhanced, with the inclusion of Ghana in the Ministry of Defence’s Military Training Cooperation Programme, and Spain will maintain its profile in the KAIPTC.

- Cooperation on immigration and security will be intensified, moving toward the signing of a Cooperation Agreement against Delinquency and Organised Crime. Spain will continue to back the EU AENEAS programme and the UNODC-World Customs Organisation Container Control Programme, and collaborate closely with the Ghanaian Narcotics Control Board.

- The Workshop School project in Accra will start, as a tool for enhancing capacities and creating jobs.

- Cooperation will continue to be increased in Agriculture and Fishing. Ghana is a beneficiary of the FAO programme, with Spanish financing, on “Aquaculture Investments for poverty reduction in the Volta basin”.

- Spain will seek to raise its trade profile and investment in infrastructures, health and particularly in renewable energies and tourism, fields where Ghana is intensely engaged. Exchange of trade missions between the two countries will be encouraged, together with the conclusion of a Tax Treaty.

- Spain will promote Spanish teaching on Ghana University’s Legon Campus, and cultural cooperation as a development tool.

Cape Verde

Capital: *Praia*. **Area:** 4,030 km². **Population:** 530,000. **Structure of the population:** *Creole* (71%), *African* (28%), *European* (1%). **National Day:** 5 July. **Official Language:** *Portuguese*. **Other Languages:** *Creole*. **Annual GDP growth:** 6.9%. **Per Capita Income:** \$3,244. **HDI:** 102.

Cape Verde is a nine-island archipelago of which Santiago – site of the capital – and San Vicente account for 60% of the country’s total population. Although in a good trading location, Cape Verde suffers from a lack of resources, and its economy is impaired by a major trade deficit and frequent flooding and drought which force it to import at high levels. Yet it remains a middle-income country whose current economic situation is favourable. Most of its GDP is generated by industry and the service sector, specifically by tourism.

In the 2006 presidential elections, President Pedro Pires renewed his victory with the PAICV party, in government since 2001, enabling the country to continue and progress with improvements to infrastructures and access to basic services, especially in rural zones.

Relations between Spain and Cape Verde are close, enhanced in recent years with the opening of the Spanish Embassy in Praia (2007) and the reciprocal decision of the Cape Verde government to open a permanent Mission in Madrid, which has led to significant official visits.

The two countries have concluded a Framework Cooperation Agreement on migration, along with a Political Memorandum of Understanding, three agreements on international judicial cooperation, a Memorandum of Understanding on Joint Surveillance of Maritime Spaces, and the Second Spain- Cape Verde Defence Commission, in 2008, all pointing to the high level of bilateral cooperation.

The Fourth Joint Commission in 2007 notably enhanced development aid for the country, setting a budget horizon of 27 million euros for the period 2007-2009. To enhance monitoring and implementation of cooperation, a Technical Co-operation Office has been set up.

Spain has also begun to provide direct budget backing in the environmental sector and in aid for the recuperation of Cape Verde’s artistic and cultural heritage, with the Cidade Velha Sustainable Development Plan, Spanish Cooperation’s flagship project in the country. The plan aims not just to rehabilitate the historic and cultural heritage but also to act as a driving force in economic and cultural life and to foment tourism. Spain is also working with Cape Verde to press Cidade Velha’s candidacy as a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Spain had backed Cape Verde’s aspiration to secure a closer, preferential relation with the EU, seen in the creation of a Special “Partnership” approved by the EU Council of Ministers in 2007. The EU-Cape Verde Fishing Agreement, which came into force on 1 July 2001 with annual compensation of 680,000 euros, has been extended to 2012 and provides over the coming years for

meetings of Joint Commissions.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- The financial protocol concluded by Spain and Cape Verde will be implemented, providing aid for infrastructure projects amounting to 53 million euros over the coming two years, based on proposals submitted by Cape Verde.

- Military cooperation will continue in the fight against illegal immigration and people-trafficking, as detailed in the Joint Air-Sea Surveillance Agreement.

- It is planned to move forward on training in the field of Justice with the establishment of the On-going Training and Documentation Centre in Praia.

- Experiences will be exchanged between the two countries’ fishing industries, together with training in controls and certification of fish products.

- The profile of Spanish companies in tourism and fishing will be raised, along with other lines of investment which may interest Spain and Cape Verde.

- Spain will open the Santo Antao Workshop School in 2009, financed by the AECID and the Ministry of Labour and Immigration.

- A Casa de Canarias will opened in 2009 in Praia.

Mauritania

Capital: *Nouakchott*. **Area:** 1,025,520 km². **Population:** 3,124,000. **Structure of the population:** *Arab-Berber*, *Fulani*, *Wolof*. **National Day:** 28 November. **Official Language:** *Arabic*, *French*. **Other Languages:** *Hassaniya*, *Wolof*, *Pulaar*, *Soninke*. **Annual GDP growth:** 0.9%. **Per Capita Income:** \$2,008. **HDI:** 137.

Mauritania’s strategic importance, its proximity to the coasts of Spain and its regional political relevance make it a country of high interest for this country. Its human development index is

low but this may improve short-term if its oil and gas fields are exploited properly.

Mauritania’s political development following the 2005 military coup then that on 6 August 2008 requires vigilant support from the international community in the face of the serious difficulties and manifest fragility of the democratic transition. The presidential elections held in March 2007 and the creation of a government in May that year were decisive in the strengthening of civil society and the Rule of Law, as well as a major step toward the consolidation of the Mauritanian democratic system. These circumstances, of temporary “political stability”, were seriously overshadowed by the events of 6 August 2008.

Spain condemned that Coup from the outset and is fully involved in the process of political consultation under Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement, aimed at a return to constitutional order, recovery of the process of democratic transition begun in 2005 and obtaining a broad national consensus to consolidate democratic stability, helping the country to advance economically and socially. Added to this complex scenario is concern about the increasing terrorist activity in Mauritania of Al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM). Spain has a significant bilateral relation with the Republic of Mauritania arising from the historic and geographic link, with exchanges of high-level visits. The Spanish Embassy in Nouakchott was upgraded in 2008 with the establishment of a Defence Attaché’s Office, and recent years have seen the conclusion of a Friendship, Neighbourhood and Cooperation Treaty between the two countries.

Spain has on the other hand backed the transition process and monitored the post-transition period. This country’s involvement in stabilising democracy in Mauritania became clear with the presence of Spanish personnel in the EU Election Observer Mission during the presidential elections in March 2007, and our collaboration in the Steering Committee for the United Nations Support Project. This support is sustained in the form of funding for UNHCR actions under the Refugee Return Programme.

Of note in terms of commercial exchanges and investment is the Declaration of Bilateral Cooperation on Fishing

(Bayonne, 2006), not just for support for the Spanish fishing fleet in Mauritania but also for the sustainable exploitation of resources. In terms of fulfilment of the DAF financial programme, of the exchange of information, and the profile of companies established in Mauritania, the balance in the level of trade relations is positive, more so following the conclusion of an APPRI. Spain was actively involved in the signing of the new Fishing Agreement and in the new Protocol which came into effect on 1 August 2008.

There have been two main milestones in the fight against poverty and the Mauritanian development agenda: on the one hand, the cancellation in 2007 of the 31 million euros of debt dating from before 31 December 2003 and, on the other, the holding of the Sixth Joint Commission (2008-2010). Mention must be made of the increased level of development cooperation, now standing at approximately 11 million euros.

Cooperation on migration has also taken a significant leap both politically and in terms of material and financial support. Notable agreements have included the signing in Madrid on 16 October 2007 of a Memorandum of Understanding on Coordination and Collaboration in Combating Clandestine Migration by Sea and for Saving Lives at Sea, and the Agreement to Regulate and Order Migratory Flows for Jobs, approved on 25 July 2007.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will monitor the 2006-2012 EU-Mauritania Agreement (participation in Joint Monitoring Commissions and in the Joint Scientific Committee), and will back a consensus solution in the renegotiation of the Agreement (which came into force on 1 August 2008) for the period 2008-2012.
- There will be progress in the field of cooperation on migration and defence. Mauritanian military personnel will complete specific training courses in 2009 on the Spanish C-212 aircraft to be delivered to the country’s authorities.
- The oceanographic campaigns of the Vizconde Eza will continue, together with training in fishing. Collaboration between both countries’ Control Centres will be encouraged.

- Help will be given in creating a judicial school in Mauritania.

- In promoting culture, Spanish language will be further projected, together with activities for mutual understanding and regard, reinforced by the increased budget for cultural cooperation and by support from a cultural management grant-holder.

IGAD countries (Ethiopia, Kenya, Sudan)

Ethiopia

Capital: Addis Ababa. **Area:** 10,104,300 km². **Population:** 83.099.000. **Structure of the population:** Oromo, Amharic, Tigre, Sidamo, Shankella, Somali, Afar, Guirage. **National Day:** 28 May. **Official Language:** Amharic. **Other Languages:** Oromo, Tigrinya, Guirage, Afar, Somali, Walayta, etc. **Annual GDP growth:** 11.4%. **Per Capita Income:** \$806. **HDI:** 169.

Ethiopia, a strategic country in the Horn of Africa, has raised its continental profile as site of AU and UNECA headquarters. The country faces major challenges over the coming years, which will have to be dealt with by the current government headed by the Prime Minister Meles Zenawi.

Economic growth has averaged more than 10% of GDP over the last four years despite high inflation and external debt. Ethiopia is Sub-Saharan Africa’s second most populated state after Nigeria and one of the world’s least developed countries.

There are security problems in the country which continue to be a major national and international concern. One of these is the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea, currently stalled. The country is also subject to the threat of terrorism, especially in the Somali Regional State or Ogaden (eastern Ethiopia, bordering on Somalia) where there have been ONLF terrorist attacks.

Relations between Spain and Ethiopia have taken a qualitative leap in recent years, with many political and diplomatic contacts based on the 2004 Memorandum of Understanding, and the



FOTO ARCHIVO DGCE

conclusion in 2007 of the Basic Cooperation Agreement and that for Cooperation in Education, Culture and Youth.

The regular political consultations between the two countries took place in July 2007 with the Madrid visit of the Deputy Foreign Minister, Tekeda Alemu. And following the visit of the Spanish Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Miguel Ángel Moratinos in January 2008, the First Spain-Ethiopia Joint Commission was signed, establishing healthcare, education and rural development as priority sectors for action. Also notable was the opening in 2007 of a Technical Co-operation Office in Addis Ababa and the creation of a new diplomatic post in the Embassy of Spain in Ethiopia. Spanish ODA to Ethiopia reached 40 million euros in 2008.

Beyond this positive reality, Spain and Ethiopia have been involved in global initiatives promoted by the international community, particularly in the Alliance of Civilisations.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Consolidation of the political agenda and fluid dialogue with Ethiopia, with regular exchanges, including high-level institutional visits.

- Spain will support Ethiopia, which has joined the Group of Friends of the Alliance of Civilisations, in the design of its National Plan for the Alliance.

- Ethiopia enjoys great potential in various fields of investment (oil, gas, minerals, renewable energies, infra-structures) which may be an attractive way of enhancing bilateral economic and commercial links. The recent APPRI signed between Spain and Ethiopia will boost these relations. At the same time, given the country’s economic expansion and modernisation, an ICEX study grant holder is to be posted to the Embassy to identify openings for Spanish businesses and investment. At the same time, Spain will review renewal of Export Credit Insurance Corporation (CESCE) risk cover, and will give support to business projects through the Development Financing Corporation (COFIDES).

- A high level of cooperation will be maintained, pursuant to the First Spain-Ethiopia Joint Commission which agreed on 30 million euros’ spending for the period 2008-2010. This sum has already been exceeded, and contributions made to Ethiopia through Trust Funds managed by a variety of international bodies must be added to that.

- Spain has joined the EDF 10 Joint Programming exercise the European Commission is to develop in Ethiopia, and is also actively involved in the Donors Assistance Group (DAG).

- In the cultural realm, a new lectureship will be created in Ethiopian Universities, and MAEC-AECID Study Grants will be fomented, along with interventions designed to help divulge the country’s rich historic, cultural and natural heritage and put it to use.

Kenya

Capital: Nairobi. **Area:** 580,370 km². **Population:** 37,538,000. **Structure of the population:** Kikuyu 22%, Luhya 14%, Luo 13%,

Kalenjin 15%, Kamba 11%, Kisii 6%, Meru 6%. **National Day:** 12 December. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** Swahili, Kikuyu, Luo, Luhya, Kamba. **Annual GDP growth:** 7%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,699. **HDI:** 148.

The Republic of Kenya’s great potential places it on a positive path to overcome structural problems and attain sustainable growth. Nairobi is the site for specialised United Nations programmes (UNEP and HABITAT) and is East Africa’s financial and business centre.

Since the Poverty Reduction Facility was signed with the International Monetary Fund in November 2003, the Kenyan economy has grown strongly, reflected in its constantly rising GDP, combined with the government’s “Vision 2030” programme to cut poverty and improve quality of life.

Spain took part in the observation of the difficult December 2007 elections which were won by the current President Kibaki. To confront the consequences of the wave of violence which swept the country following announcement of the election result, Spain contributed with a budget allocation to the OCHA call to distribute emergency family accommodation “kits” and with funding through the Kenyan Red Cross of a project to distribute supplies of first necessity.

Bilateral political relations between Spain and Kenya are good, though there is much room for improvement. They were boosted greatly with visits by the Kenyan Health and Education Ministers (Madrid, 2007), and fundamentally that of Spain’s Deputy Prime Minister María Teresa Fernández de la Vega to Kenya in 2006.

Kenya is a preferred destination for Spanish tourists, making it one of the countries on the continent which is most familiar and with the best image among the people of Spain. Thus the authorities in both countries have worked and continue to engage to facilitate and promote the development of their tourist sectors (with the signing in November 2008 of a Memorandum of Understanding by the Spanish Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade and the Kenyan Tourism Ministry). At the same time, many Spanish companies choose Kenya as a point of entry in East Africa. Added to that is the significance of Spanish fishing activity in the zone.

Notable in development cooperation was the 60 million euro Spanish contribution to the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in 2008, and the 12 million euros for the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (HABITAT), both based in Nairobi. In addition, a million euros was assigned to fight drought in the north of the country. On the other hand, attempts have been made in bilateral cooperation to strengthen institutions in key sectors such as healthcare, fomenting financing for the renovation of Kenyatta National Hospital in Nairobi (opened at the end of 2008). At the same time, the third rural electrification project financed by Spain in Kenya is under way.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- To consolidate political dialogue and bilateral relations with Kenya, increased in recent years with official visits.

- To foment the conclusion of an Agreement on Promotion and Reciprocal Protection of Investments (APPRI) and a Tax Treaty.

- To encourage Spanish companies to participate in consultancy tenders called in Kenya.

- The Spanish government will continue to back projects to consolidate peace, security, democracy and the Rule of Law in Kenya.

- Spanish contributions to United Nations programmes based in Nairobi (PNUMA and HABITAT) will be given financial stability in pluriannual agreements which contemplate the goals of the Africa Plan. Specific collaboration agreements will be encouraged in other environmental fields covered by International Arrangements under the UNEP, such as the Convention on Biological Diversity. Relations will be boosted between ministerial departments in both countries with responsibility for management of the natural heritage and natural resources.

- Spain will foster cultural cooperation as a factor of development by supporting artistic exchanges between the two countries and via the teaching of Spanish by increasing the number of Study Grants for Kenyan students.

Sudan

Capital: Khartoum. **Area:** 2.505.810 km². **Population:** 38.560.000. **Structure of the population:** Kababish, Ga’alin, Rubatab, Manasir, Shaikia, Fur, Negro Races. **National Day:** 1 January. **Official Language:** Arabic. **Other Languages:** English, Dinka, Nuer, Shilluck, etc. **Annual GDP growth:** 11.8%. **Per Capita Income:** \$2,172. **HDI:** 147.

Difficulties in stabilising Sudan remain a challenge for the authorities there and for the international community, taking account as well of the implications for the entire region. The Global Peace Accord signed in 2005 between the North and South ended a vicious two-decade-old war and led to the formation of the Government of National Unity (GONU) between North and South, and the Government of South Sudan (GOSS). Since then, the United Nations Mission to Sudan (UNMIS) has, with the international community, been supervising application of the Global Peace Accord.

Sudan is Africa’s largest country, and 80% of the population is engaged in farming. It has its own natural resources, such as oil, gold or zinc, which has allowed it to grow economically in recent years, and a GDP of 62,189,000 dollars.

The international community, particularly the UN and the EU, are deeply involved in the search for a political solution to the conflict in the country and in relieving the humanitarian crisis in Darfur. The upshot of these commitments was the 2005 Oslo Donors Conference, the UN mission in Sudan for the application of the Global Peace Accord, and AMIS, the AU’s mission in Darfur, which is backed by the EU. On the other hand, swift and satisfactory resolution of the conflict in Darfur and of the Abyei dispute would be the best stimulus for moving forward in Sudan’s democratisation – especially with an eye on the planned 2009 elections – and for the country’ cohesion, in the light of the referendum on self-determination in the South scheduled for 2011.

Re-opening of this country’s Embassy in Khartoum (closed in 1992) represents a new starting point in bilateral relations between the two countries. There have in recent been a number



Distributing humanitarian aid in Sudan. FOTO AECID/PABLO MUELAS.

of high-level bilateral visits and these are planned to increase progressively.

Following the signing of an agreement in December 2008 between Spain and the UN, work was begun by ISDEFE, a Spanish company designated to provide consultancy services on advanced systems to UNAMID in Darfur. This has been a major qualitative leap in the provision of Spanish services to peacekeeping operations around the world.

With its current process of “national reinvigoration” through the three Peace Accords in place (with the South, Darfur and the East), the Republic of Sudan requires the international community’s impetus to achieve stability and alleviate the serious humanitarian crisis in Darfur. With this in mind, the Spanish government is present as eighth donor in Sudan and a component in various cooperation mechanisms: the World Bank’s Multi-donor Trust Fund for North and South (MDTF) (accounting for 31 million dollars between 2005 and 2008), the Common Humanitarian Fund (13 million dollars 2007-2008), and cooperation projects through various agreements with NGOs.

Creation of the AECID antenna in Khartoum in December 2007 and the Framework Cooperation Agreement (approved by the Council of Ministers, meeting on 3 October 2008) will mean assistance can be better channelled and monitored. A study-grant holder joined the Embassy’s Culture Office in 2008 to coordinate cultural programming.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Commercial exchanges with Sudan will be intensified, and Spanish investment in the country encouraged. Support for small and medium-sized enterprises is a key to its development, together with irrigation, water treatment, and the construction of infrastructures and services.
- In promoting human rights, collaboration will continue with international bodies and NGOs in priority areas like the rights of women and children, in the “Human Rights Defenders” programme coordinated with the EU, and in periodic meetings for consensus on these matters.
- Cooperation will continue in projects and arrangements with NGOs to cover basic social needs: water and sanitation, food security, reproductive health and education. It will also be sought to strengthen the capacities of the country’s administrations.
- An electoral assistance group has been created to support the 2009 elections, and it is expected that Spain will participate with financial aid and technical assistance. It is also planned to start the DDR Programme (Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration).
- Spain will collaborate with programmes engaged on national reconciliation and promoting peace in Sudan, and so is present on the support committees for the Three Áreas (Abyei, Blue Nile

and South Kordofan) and in support of Eastern Sudan (Gedaref, Red Sea and Kassala).

- The Spanish Embassy in Khartoum will further implement its cultural action plan in 2009-2012, and will in 2009 for the first time have a specific budget for cultural activities.

ECCAS countries (Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe)

Equatorial Guinea

Capital: Malabo. **Area:** 28,050 km². **Population:** 507,000. **Structure of the population:** Fang (72%), Bubi (15%), Fernandino, Bisio, Annobonese. **National Day:** 12 October. **Official Languages:** Spanish and French. **Other Languages:** Bantu group languages, Creole. **Annual GDP growth:** 12.4%. **Per Capita Income:** \$12,895. **HDI:** 127.

Given the traditional historic and cultural links joining the two countries, Equatorial Guinea remains one of Spain’s top priorities in Africa.

During recent years, the economy has grown at rates unmatched in the region and in Equatorial Guinea’s own history, thanks particularly to the exploitation of oil reserves. This growth is generating evident transformations, particularly in infra-structures, home construction and the expansion of public services. There nonetheless remains a long way to go to substantially improve the population’s living conditions.

There have been some political advances in respect for human rights, the enlargement of the spaces for freedom and improvement to the mechanisms for democratic participation. The international community encourages and accompanies the Equatorial Guinea authorities in ensuring that this transition takes place as quickly as possible and with maximum guarantees for peace, security and people’s wellbeing.

Spain has in recent years engaged in dialogue with the Government of President Teodoro Obiang, both politically and in cooperation in support for democratic reforms, enhancing the consolidation of institutions and promoting genuine respect for the rights of all.

There has at the same time been renewed interest among Spanish companies in the Equatorial Guinea market, and the inauguration in 2007 of an Economy and Trade Council in Malabo is helping to intensify commercial exchanges and Spanish investment in the country. On the other hand, rising income in Equatorial Guinea, with a significant increase in public and private expenditure, is transforming Spanish cooperation from aid-based engagement into one driven by technical assistance, joint financing and support in strategic sectors.

Spain is Equatorial Guinea’s number one cooperation partner, with approximately 12 million euros in ODA each year. A programme is also under way to convert debt into Projects of Social Interest, and Private Investment.

At an institutional level, the visits to Spain by President Obiang in November 2006 and by Prime Minister Ignacio Milam Tang in 2008 stand out. Spain has in recent years sent the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation and of Justice to Equatorial Guinea, and a number of delegations of Spanish parliamentarians.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Increased exchanges of trips and visits in various sectors of common interest to the two countries.
- Major trade openings for Spanish investment are being offered in various fields (infrastructures, telecommunications, banking) and the expected results are satisfactory. The opening in 2007 of an Economy and Trade Office in Malabo is helping reinforce these exchanges.
- Spain will defend Equatorial Guinea with the EU which concentrates its cooperation in the field of good governance while helping to boost the dialogue provided for in Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement, which began in 2007.



The Prime Minister of Equatorial Guinea Ignacio Milam Tang accompanied by the commissioner of the Zaragoza International Expo Emilio Fernández Castaño during their visit on Equatorial Guinea Day. FOTO EFE/J.ZAPATA

● Updating and promoting Spanish Cooperation with Equatorial Guinea will materialise in the holding of the Eleventh Joint Commission.

● In culture, Spain will continue to consolidate Spanish as an official AU language while fomenting the activity of the cultural centres in Malabo and Bata (two of the largest in the world and the only ones in Sub-Saharan Africa), creating Cervantes Classrooms at both. The close historical, cultural and social links joining the two countries make Equatorial Guinea a priority partner for development in activities fostered by Casa Africa.

● In education, the profile of the National Distance Education University (UNED) in Equatorial Guinea will be raised, with its two Centres (in Malabo and Bata) and nearly 1,000 pupils enrolled. Spain will also pursue its active collaboration with the National University of Equatorial Guinea (UNGE).

Cameroon

Capital: Yaoundé. **Area:** 475,440 km². **Population:** 18,549,000. **Structure of the population:** Fang, Bamileke. **National Day:**

1 January. **Official Language:** French and English. **Other Languages:** Bassa, Duala, Ewondo, Bulu, Feefee, Medumba, Jomalu, Mungaka. **Annual GDP growth:** 3.3%. **Per Capita Income:** \$2,088. **HDI:** 144.

Cameroon stands out because of its relative political stability and its wealth in natural resources, especially oil, minerals and agriculture. The new Gulf of Guinea geopolitics, with the return to Cameroon by Nigeria of the Bakassi peninsula and the increasing interest in oil and gas exploitation, mean that Cameroon is acquiring new relevance in the zone.

Cameroon is one of the ten most developed countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Douala is the port of entry to Central Africa, and 79% of the population is literate. The Cameroon Government, headed since 1982 by President Paul Biya, does however face difficulties in meeting the basic needs of the most disadvantaged social groups.

Relations between Spain and Cameroon in cooperation have focussed fundamentally on the implementation of the Plan Nauta in the country and in the identification and approval of projects in the debt conversion programme and the Education

For All – Fast Track Initiative. Part of the resources secured from debt cancellation has been used to reconstruct and maintain road infrastructures, currently a major challenge if the country is to take off economically and commercially.

Work has begun to conclude a Framework Agreement for cooperation on migration.

Trade relations have been unfrozen, and three projects are under way to combat poverty and for the development agenda, approved in 2005 and charged to DAF credits.

There have been significant advances in cultural and scientific cooperation, seen in the new Spanish lectureship in Douala, the cultural study-grant recipient at the Spanish Embassy in Yaundé, and enhanced cooperation with Casa Africa. Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

● Balance will be sought in trade relations with Cameroon. Spain is one of Cameroon's main clients, but our exports amount to just 35-38 million euros (1.5% of imports). The opening of the Commercial Office in Malabo, which Cameroon will depend on, will help improve the trade balance between the two countries. It will also allow better exchange of information, notification of tenders and participation in specialised fairs and congresses in Cameroon and in Spain.

● Cameroon will continue to benefit from Multilateral Funds to which Spain contributes, such as the NEPAD fund for gender and development projects, the fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria or the Education for all – Fast Track Initiative global fund.

● Cultural cooperation will take in current activities with the integration of the Spanish Cultural Centre into the general network of Cultural Centres, and relations with Casa Africa will be strengthened to favour rapprochement and greater mutual understanding.

Gabon

Capital: Libreville. **Area:** 267,670 km². **Population:** 1,331,000. **Structure of the population:** Fang (35%), Bantu (29%), Eshira (25%). **National Day:** 17 August. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Bantu group languages. **Annual GDP growth:** 5.6%. **Per Capita Income:** \$14,083. **HDI:** 119.

During recent decades, Gabon has been able to draw on the invaluable resource of oil which has represented a significant factor of social and political stability in the country. Despite good results, with 270,000 barrels a day, placing Gabon in fifth place among Sub-Saharan African producer countries, the current decline in production means the country must diversify its economy. Thus Gabon seeks to develop a new industry based on ecotourism, 12% of its area being protected.

The country has significant reserves of iron mineral and fine-wood trees, it is the world's second producer of manganese, and it has uranium and other mineral deposits. The abundance of natural resources and foreign private investment have helped to make the Republic of Gabon one of the most prosperous countries in the region and amongst the continent's wealthiest in terms of per capita income. Gabon however also suffers from social shortcomings, specifically in educational and healthcare infrastructures.

Since independence from France on 17 August 1960, the Republic has been governed by two Presidents, with El Hadj Omar Bongo in power from 1967 to 2009.

Relations between Spain and Gabon are satisfactory, typically cordial. The intense bilateral relation in cooperation on security and defence, in culture and sport must be highlighted. In June 2007, the final text was negotiated for the Technical Accord on Military and Defence Cooperation, putting down the bases for the training of Gabonese military personnel in Spain, the exchange of experiences and mutual participation in military manoeuvres.

Cooperation on fishing is also important, with Spain actively involved in the meeting to monitor EU–Gabon fishing agreements

(April 2007) and in general meetings on fishing convened by the European Commission delegation, all of which included protection of the interests of Spanish fishing vessels.

Gabon has also become a African reference in the fight against the death penalty. This is a matter which will be pursued during the Spanish EU Presidency in 2010, and Gabon’s commitment has been secured for the abolition of capital punishment and its joint sponsorship of the resolution on the universal moratorium for its application, approved by the United Nations General Assembly. Gabon will also continue to participate in Spanish initiatives to hold international conferences, illustrated in the great interest shown in the meetings of Women “for a Better World” or Gabon’s first involvement in FITUR 2009.

Spanish companies’ profiles in Gabon have risen in recent times, notably with investment in infrastructures and civil engineering, rural electrification, supply of military materiel and coastal patrols, making clear the progress and maturity of the Gabonese economy, among the most streamlined and strongest in the subregion.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Intensification of the open political dialogue between Spain and Gabon.
- Enhanced institutional capacities and the training of officers, with Gabonese diplomats in the Master’s qualification in International Relations organised by the Diplomatic School. Training has also been offered for the protocol services of Gabonese Ministries with a course on basic concepts of diplomatic protocol.
- There are plans for Gabonese technicians to take part in some NAUTA Programme activities or seminars.
- Economically and commercially, the presence will be encouraged of Spanish investors engaged in economic development in key sectors like infrastructures, professional training or health.

● In security cooperation, new opportunities have been identified for investment in internal border surveillance, control of air space, upgraded airport facilities and the supply of Defence equipment.

● Cultural cooperation will continue to promote Spanish language and culture, as in the Spanish Culture Week and with sporting cooperation exchanges. A new lectureship will be included in the Senior Normal School.

Sao Tome and Principe

Capital: Sao Tome. **Area:** 960 km². **Population:** 158,000. **Structure of the population:** Kriolu, Fang. **National Day:** 12 July. **Official Language:** Portuguese. **Other Languages:** Creole, Ngola. **Annual GDP growth:** 6%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,565. **HDI:** 123.

Despite the political instability following the introduction of multi-party rule in this archipelago in the Gulf of Guinea, the situation in Sao Tome and Principe appears to be entering a phase of democratic normalisation since President Menezes formed a new coalition government on 23 June 2008 in which the country’s three main political parties (MLSTP, MDFM and PCD) are represented.

Santo Tomé and Príncipe suffers from a growing deficit because of its geographical isolation and its total dependency on imports and Official Development Assistance. Its main exports are cocoa and coffee, while it imports fuel, food and all sorts of goods.

54% of Sao Tome and Principe’s population lives below the poverty threshold, and its greatest deficiencies in terms of basic needs are focused in food security, education, habitability, health and access to drinking water.

The links of friendship and cooperation between Spain and Sao Tome and Principe go back in time although, in recent years, bilateral relations have been much reinvigorated.

The Third Joint Cooperation Commission was held in 2007 in Sao Tome and Principe and included actions in support of

governance and administrative decentral-isation, the cover of basic social needs, the strengthening of productive sectors, support for the farming and fisheries sectors, promotion of the tourist industry and environmental protection.

There have been significant initiatives in enhancing institutional capacities and the training of public servants, such as the participation of diplomats from the country in the Master’s Qualification in International Relations organised by the Diplomatic School, training of personnel from the Directorate-General of Fisheries in seminars promoted by the NAUTA programme of the AECID and the Regional Government of Galicia, or reinforcement of the Directorate-General of Tourism to facilitate its presence in international forums promoting the Archipelago’s tourist industry.

On trade, in November 2007 the Council of Ministers approved a DAF credit to fund small and medium-sized projects of national interest which contribute to the country’s development, and which was converted to a donation in October 2008. And in August 2008, the Council of Ministers approved the refinancing of 1.36 million dollars of debt contracted by Sao Tome and Principe, as part of the agreements reached by the Paris Club under the HIPC initiative.

Main actions scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will continue to accompany Sao Tome and Principe in its effort to complete its political and institutional consolidation, economic development and combat poverty.
- Visits and meetings of representatives from both countries will be fostered, to further bilateral relations.
- Spain plans to finance the construction of a structure to grade, treat and recycle solid urban waste in a number of municipalities, and to provide technical assistance to upgrade urban waste management capacities. Contribution will also be made with technical and financial assistance to install hospital waste incinerators in Sao Tome and on the island of Principe.
- Spain is committed to supporting the Strategic Tourism Development Plan of the Sao Tome and Principe Government,

supporting the Directorate-General of Tourism and Hospitality in designing projects to develop sustainable tourism, for the most part ecotourism.

● In the commercial sphere, Spanish companies interested in participating in projects which contribute to the country’s socioeconomic development will be helped to set up.

● As an upshot of the good relation between Spain, Sao Tome and Principe and Portugal, proposals will be made to foment triangular cooperation projects in areas of common interest.

SADC countries (South Africa, Namibia, Mozambique, Angola, Zimbabwe, Tanzania, Democratic Republic of Congo)

The Republic of South Africa

Capital: Pretoria. **Area:** 1,221,040 km². **Population:** 48,577,000. **Structure of the population:** Zulu, Xhosa. **National Day:** 27 April. **Official Language:** English, isiZulu, isiXhosa, Afrikaans. **Other Languages:** Zulu, Xhosa, Northern Sotho, Setswana, Sesotho, Tsonga, Venda, Swazi, Ndebele. **Annual GDP growth:** 5.1%. **Per Capita Income:** \$9,761. **HDI:** 121.

The Republic of South Africa is the main power south of the Sahara and one of the continent’s consolidated democracies. Following its successful transition, South Africa has been the force behind all aspects of the so-called African Renaissance (including, democracy, support for peace processes, development, and a new institutional fabric).

South Africa represents the international vision of the New Africa, its protagonism on the rise as its makes its voice constantly heard. As the outcome of this significant regional leadership, in 2008 the EU signed a strategic partnership accord with South Africa, the only one with an African country.

South African civil society is active and influential, and the media, Universities, NGOs, trade unions and think tanks

are widely recognised regionally. South Africa also stands out as mediator in regional conflicts such as in Sudan, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Zimbabwe, Burundi or Ivory Coast.

With nearly half the GDP of all the countries included in the Africa Plan, South Africa is the continent's most powerful economy and the country of reference in promoting trade relations and investment. But also, because of its continental importance, collaboration with South Africa will be essential to the startup and success of many of the actions included in 2009-2012 Africa Plan goals.

Bilateral relations between Spain and South Africa are close, and a high-level meeting is held each year, dealing with bilateral interests in matters as relevant as security, trade or regional integration.

The World Football Championship will take place during the term of this Plan in South Africa, in 2010 – the first in the continent's history – and, prior to that, the Federations Cup in which Spain will participate. Both sporting events represent a great opportunity to bring Spain's image closer to that country, and so to all of Africa, where the South African media will highlight all the sporting and other activities taking place.

Thus South Africa becomes not just a priority country under this Plan but also an outstanding partner for implementing its actions.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- To enhance the mechanism for annual consultation between Spain and South Africa, fomenting high-level institutional visits.
- In preventing conflict in Africa, combating corruption, reconstruction, training African crisis-management teams, Spain and South Africa will initiate triangular cooperation programmes with other countries in the region.
- The football Federations Cup and World Cup provide an opportunity for Spanish investment and for this country's profile

in South Africa. Encouragement will be given to identifying investment in sectors like renewable energies, tourism and construction and infrastructures.

- Existing contacts will be maintained with South Africa with a view to enhancing the management of flows, both South-North and North-South. Bilaterally and in the EU-Africa context, programmes will be set up to study the mechanisms for reception, admittance, stay and return of refugees.
- Spain will cooperate with South Africa in reinvigorating new AU and NEPAD initiatives and will promote joint projects in the EU-Africa context.

- Casa Africa will raise South Africa's profile in its activities while fomenting Spanish culture and the learning of Spanish language and boosting public diplomacy, also helping to enhance this country's political and institutional profile in the Republic of South Africa.

Namibia

Capital: Windhoek. **Area:** 824,290 km². **Population:** 2,074,000. **Structure of the population:** Ovambo, Herero, Himba, San or Nama, Baster, Afrikaner. **National Day:** 21 March. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** Ovambo, Afrikaans, Khoisan. **Annual GDP growth:** 4.4%. **Per Capita Income:** \$5,189. **HDI:** 125.

Namibia's political and social stability have enabled it to advance significantly since independence. The current President of the Republic, Hifikepunye Pohamba, won the 2004 elections held following the Extraordinary Congress of Swapo (the country's majority political party) in November that year. This Congress marked the start of a new era in the history of the party and of Namibian politics, with the withdrawal of former President Sam Nujoma following those elections, and completed in 2007 with his resignation as well as President of Swapo.

The country has grown notably in recent years thanks to the export of diamonds, uranium and other raw materials. However, the repercussions of the international crisis due to the fall in price and demand for raw materials cut growth by about 3% in 2008.

The economy does confront some obstacles such as more than 10% inflation, the result of the recent increase in energy prices and transport, uneven income distribution (among the highest rates in the world), the unemployment rate (36.7%) and the high levels of HIV/AIDS infection (19.7%).

The Namibian government's immediate plans include reaching optimal socio-economic development in the country and continuing to combat poverty, with the aim of reaching the "Vision 2030" goals.

Relations between Spain and Namibia are well-consolidated as seen in the contacts and understandings between the two. Notable among these have been the creation in the Spanish Congress of Deputies of the Parliamentary Friendship Group with Namibia, and the corresponding creation of the Parliamentary Friendship Group with Spain in the Namibian National Assembly.

Spain forms a part of UNTAG (the United Nations operation to secure the transition). Accumulated gross investment in Namibia since 1993 amounts to 236 million euros. This spending, fundamentally in the fishing sector, has benefited this African country by job-creation and technology transfer. Spain is Namibia's main purchaser of fish, acquiring nearly 90% of some catches.

Following signing of the Fourth Joint Commission (2006-2008) in June 2006, the Spanish Government has set a volume of assistance provided through the AECID at 12 million euros, one quarter slated for education. These provisions have in practice been considerably exceeded, a total of 18 million euros having been allocated by the AECID during the last three years. At the same time, in the cultural sphere, two Spanish lectureships remain in place.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will continue to collaborate with Namibia in its economic development and combating poverty by funding development cooperation projects.
- It is planned to raise security cooperation with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding on Defence cooperation,



The Secretariat-General of Marine Fisheries' vessel the Vizconde de Eza before sailing from Tenerife en route to Namibia to work on a scientific cooperation programme, in February 2009. FOTO EFE/C. GARCÍA

whose text has been agreed between the two parties.

- The signing of a Tax Treaty in the near future between Spain and Namibia will mean that Spanish investment in that country can continue to be encouraged.
- Spain considers Namibia a fundamental partner in fishing. Frequent contacts in this field will help to enhance existing relations between the two. Along with the AECID, the Regional Government of Galicia continues to provide support to aquaculture and training projects.
- Scientific cooperation campaigns will continue in Namibian waters with the Spanish oceanographic vessel the Vizconde de Eza. Spanish archaeological experts will cooperate with Namibians in studying and preserving a wreck discovered on the Namibian coast.

Mozambique

Capital: Maputo. **Area:** 801,590 km². **Population:** 21,397,000. **Structure of the population:** Makua, Sena, Ndau, Shangaan. **National Day:** 25 June. **Official Language:** Portuguese. **Other Languages:** Macualomué, Maconde, Chona, Tonga, Chichewa. **Annual GDP growth:** 7%. **Per Capita Income:** \$830. **HDI:** 172..

The government of President Guebuza has made considerable effort in further combating poverty and consolidating democracy. Despite recent positive economic trends, Mozambique’s basic indicators remain low.

Mozambique belongs to the Group of Friends of the Alliance of Civilisations, it is a pilot country in “One UN” reform, and it is committed to promoting major international initiatives such as compliance with the MDGs or the meetings of “Women for a Better World” which were launched in Maputo in March 2006.

The degree of consolidation and diversification of bilateral relations in matters like cooperation or fishing can be emphasised, Mozambique being a strategic partner in the Sub-Saharan Africa context. In political terms, Spain and Mozambique maintain an excellent relation, seen in the constant exchange of visits at all levels.

Development cooperation is a key component of this country’s profile in Mozambique. In recent years, AECID funds have doubled, making Mozambique one of the largest Sub-Saharan recipients, so that the achievements of the Sixth Joint Commission (2005-2008) have been considerable, including a non-refundable assistance commitment of 60 million euros. Spain’s contribution has been channelled progressively through “new instruments” such as general and sector budget backing (in health and education), nearly 40% of all aid in 2008. Support for NGOs, at nearly 45%, continues to be the main target of AECID financing.

Significant Spanish cooperation in healthcare became clear when the Centro de Investigação em Saúde won the Prince of Asturias Award for Cooperation in 2008. This is a malaria

research centre led by the Hospital Clinic in Barcelona which, together with the Mozambique Health Ministry and Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo and with Spanish financing, is engaged in significant research work.

Health and education plus governance (decentralisation, justice and support for territorial development) are the priority main lines for cooperation in Mozambique. Notable as part of the Spain-UNDP Fund for meeting the MDGs has been clearance for a project to combat climate change in Mozambique (seven million dollars), a project to promote creative cultural industries (five million dollars), and a further allocation, of four million dollars, for “One UN” reform.

The ground-breaking nature of Spanish investment in Mozambique in fishing has materialised in fruitful fisheries relations as part of the bilateral agenda, with the signing in April 2007 of a Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in Fishing and Aquaculture.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Advances will be made during these years in signing the APPRI and the Memorandum on security and public order, and in negotiating the Tax Treaty and the Memorandum of Political Understanding, providing a new framework for formalising a system of periodic bilateral consultations.
- Mozambique continues to stand out in Spanish Cooperation, so that the AECID is to raise its programmed assistance with a seven million euro contribution (2009) to finance the country’s general budget and common funds for healthcare (three million) and education (two million). Likewise, NGODs will continue to be a significant channel for AECID resources, with action mainly in health and education. The Seventh Joint Commission, to be held in 2009, will confirm Mozambique’s priority status for this country’s cooperation, with the approval of a new Country Strategy Document for the coming years.
- In promoting commercial exchanges, a five million euro DAF credit line was approved in 2007 for projects to be developed



Representatives of the Centro de Investigação em Saúde in Manhica, Mozambique, Spaniards Pedro Alonso and Clara Menéndez, after receiving the Prince of Asturias Award for Cooperation in 2008, in the Campoamor Theatre in Oviedo. FOTO EFE

by Spanish companies. These included the creation of a Marine Biotechnology Institute, weather forecast systems, the rehabilitation of TV broadcast facilities and scaled territorial mapping, to be carried out during the coming years.

- Spain will continue to be involved in Mozambique’s democratic consolidation, sending election observers as part of the EU mission.
- For fishing relations, forthcoming campaigns by the oceanographic vessel the Vizconde de Eza will take place off the Mozambican coasts.
- Action by the Spanish Ministry of Equality and the Ministry for Coordinating Environmental Action in Mozambique to enable women to manage and conserve natural resources, and for their empowerment, will also be a bilateral line of action.

- Intense cultural cooperation will continue, with the inclusion of a “cultural” chapter for the forthcoming Seventh Joint Commission, and Spanish-teaching will be promoted: 2009 will be the first year in which Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language (DELE) examinations will be held in Mozambique.
- Following the Second International Encounter of Universities with Africa, in Maputo in October 2008, university collaboration will be strengthened between Spain and Africa in general, and with Mozambique in particular. Spain was to help organise the First Euro-African Cultural Policies Campus in June 2009, also in Maputo.

Angola

Capital: Luanda. **Area:** 1,246,700 km². **Population:** 17,024,000. **Structure of the population:** Ovimbundu, Kimbundu, Bakongo. **National Day:** 11 November. **Official Language:** Portuguese. **Other Languages:** Bantu group languages: Umbundu, Kimbundu, Kikongo, Quioco, Ganguela. **Annual GDP growth:** 21.1%. **Per Capita Income:** \$5,590. **HDI:** 162.

Angola is one of the Sub-Saharan African countries with greatest growth potential, having embarked following the legislative elections on 5 September 2008 on a new phase in its history, likely to be defined by the consolidation of multiparty democracy and socioeconomic development. The substantial election victory of the MPLA will allow President José Eduardo Dos Santos to consolidate the country’s stability and direct constitutional reform.

After a long civil war, Angola now faces major challenges in addition to reconstruction itself, as part of a long-term scenario until achieving full political and social normalisation; its social indicators are very low and the country remains near the bottom of the HDI.

Constitutional reform and local elections will help to consolidate democracy and stability, while also providing the right framework for the major economic development already perceived. The abundance of natural resources (oil and diamonds) and the substantial investment required for reconstruction (infrastructures, productive sectors like fisheries and farming) make Angola continentally and regionally strategic.

Growth rates have been significantly high in recent years, with extractive industries (oil and diamonds) accounting for nearly 60% of national income, trade and services 23% and agriculture barely 8%. The present situation bears all the conditions for furthering our economic relations and facilitating productive investment and business exchanges.

The APPRI and the Financial Cooperation Programme were signed in November 2007, relaunching the uncoupled

concessional DAF credit (200 million euros) after Angola had paid the principal of the debt with Spain, while the CESCE has created a 400 million euro export credit insurance line.

The significant development cooperation in place focuses basically on healthcare, education, integral development, social protection, civil society, agriculture and food security. The Fund for Concession of Microcredits is in action in Angola which is amongst the countries with the largest numbers of Spanish fieldworkers.

In 2009, Spain celebrates the thirtieth anniversary of the opening of its resident Embassy, which has allowed Angola to be a favoured partner, with close, flexible bilateral relations in multiple areas of common interest. Visits are fluid, and economic and trade relations abound in fields like fishing or infrastructures.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- An intense political agenda will be maintained in bilateral relations, including visits and trips at all levels, so as to move forward in collaborating in areas of shared interest.
- Spain will remain committed to strengthening democratic institutions and the country’s stability. The participation of Spanish observers in the elections to Congress in May 2009, the drive to create civil society and the proliferation of cooperation programmes and agreements on security and justice will be other priorities during this Plan’s term of application.
- The Seventh Joint Cooperation Commission to be held in 2009 will define the sectors and actions for cooperation in coming years, and which will aid in reinforcing institutions.
- Support will be boosted for business activities through Spanish involvement and investment in emerging sectors like construction and services. Another important line of action will be to consolidate Spanish investment in traditional sectors of business cooperation such as fishing or oil. The Commercial Office and the ICEX will continue with their important work in

making known the openings and risks in Angola and encouraging the participation of Spanish businesses in specialised fairs held there.

- Cultural cooperation will be fomented through the OTC with on-going “Spanish Culture Weeks”, together with participation in seminars, exhibitions and other cultural activities organised by Casa Africa and Spanish Cooperation. Cultural affinity and linguistic proximity will mean that activities can be pursued to promote Spanish language.

Zimbabwe

Capital: Harare. **Area:** 390,760 km². **Population:** 13,349,000. **Structure of the population:** Shona (80 - 85%), Ndebele (8 - 10%). **National Day:** 18 April. **Official Language:** English. **Other Languages:** Shona, Ndebele. **Annual GDP growth:**-6.1%. **Per Capita Income:** \$188. **HDI:** 151.

Since the end of the last decade, Zimbabwe’s economic, social and political situation has progressively deteriorated, with the result that a third of its population has been forced to emigrate and nearly 70% depends on international humanitarian aid to subsist.

The presidential, legislative and local elections held on 29 March 2008 started a crisis triggered when, in the face of the victory of the opposition party the Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) in the local and legislative vote, the Electoral Commitment delayed publication of the presidential results for weeks which, although Morgan Tsvangirai was the eventual winner, forced a second round.

This outcome, which jeopardised the monopoly on power enjoyed by Robert Mugabe since 1981, unleashed a campaign against opposition members and supporters which forced Morgan Tsvangirai to withdraw from that second round, which Mugabe won. The scant credibility of the second round led the SADC to back a negotiation process which reached a government accord signed on 15 September 2008 in Harare, under the auspices of the South African President Thabo Mbeki. This opened up a new political framework with an inclusive government retaining



The Minister of Equality, Bibiana Aido, at a show of Angolan music and dance at Expo Zaragoza during the country’s national day on 7 August 2008. FOTO EFE/J.ZAPATA

Mugabe as President while Morgan Tsvangirai holds the post of Prime Minister.

With the highest inflation in the world and unemployment reaching 80%, the country’s economic situation is one of virtual collapse. Zimbabwe’s most advanced sectors (such as export agriculture, mining and tourism) account for close to 20% of potential capacity. The economic chaos has also provoked the exodus of qualified professionals, depriving the economy of the human capital making growth possible.

The country’s human development indicators are amongst the lowest on the planet. Life expectancy is just 34. 20.1% of the population is HIV-positive, leading to 3,000 deaths each week. In 2008, Zimbabwe suffered a cholera epidemic in which more than 4,000 lost their lives. The health crisis is aggravated by the collapse of the healthcare system which lacks resources and professionals, overstretching the hospitals which are operating (often through foreign NGOs).

Spain’s relations with Zimbabwe are affected by the Common EU Position which provides for restrictive measures against Zimbabwe (freezing of assets, an arms sale embargo and prohibition on EU entry to figures from the regime). However, the new political situation, with a coalition government including Ministers not affected by the entry ban, opens the way to greater



According to indicators, Zimbabwe will become one of the main recipients of international development aid. FOTO ARCHIVO DGCE

bilateral contact and to the normalisation of relations with the main international donors, so that Zimbabwe may become one of the main targets for international development cooperation. The political, economic and humanitarian crisis threatening Zimbabwe’s stability suggest that Spain should maintain a proactive attitude toward the African country as this Plan is implemented.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- In political terms, Spain will maintain its support for the democratisation of Zimbabwe through the Government created by the consensus of the various political forces.
- Spain will back bodies defending human rights which have in recent years promoted respect for these rights in the country.
- As a leading international donor, Spain will continue to help alleviate the difficult humanitarian situation in the country, through international bodies and NGOs working in the zone. Spain can also offer technical assistance in sectors where it may provide greater added value.

- Spain will continue to engage in an active cultural policy, disseminating the activities of Casa Africa and promoting cultural exchange between creators in both countries.

Tanzania

Capital: Dodoma. **Area:** 945,090 km². **Population:** 40,454,000. **Structure of the population:** Bantu. **National Day:** 26 April. **Official Language:** Swahili (native), English. **Other Languages:** Aasax. **Annual GDP growth:** 7.3%. **Per Capita Income:** \$1,256. **HDI:** 152.

The United Republic of Tanzania was born of the union in 1964 of Tanganyika (on the continent) and the Archipelago of Zanzibar located in the Indian Ocean. The country is currently confronting the political problem of Zanzibar where a degree of political autonomy has led to some tensions. The Tanzanian President, Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, who won the December 2005 elections, has undertaken in Parliament to adopt the measures needed to find a lasting solution to the political problem in Zanzibar. This initiative is already bearing fruit, and the Government is close to securing a climate of dialogue, to better distribute the country’s resources and power.

Tanzania is one of the main economies of the East Africa Community, its most important sectors being mining, manufacturing and tourism, representing 11.6% of the service sector in the country’s economy. Farming also stands out with its great weight in national GDP (45%) and as the main source of employment. Tanzania also has significant reserves of natural gas, on the Rufiji Delta. Despite the good data posted in recent years, inflation has continued to rise.

The Spanish Embassy backs EU action to establish political dialogue in Tanzania, and has participated in activities contributing to the consolidation of democracy, the fight against corruption, and the protection of human rights. Spain has been monitoring respect for human rights in Tanzania, and in Zanzibar discrimination on grounds of gender, religion and sexual orientation is combated through coordination and periodic meetings between Spain and EU Member States, and the collaboration of some Spanish NGOs.

The serious attack by the Al Qaeda terrorist network in 1998 against the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam considerably raised the level of threat in the country, so that counter-terrorism actions are of particular interest, and the Spanish Embassy in Dar es Salaam participates in CTAG meetings.

Furthermore, in July 2007, the Spanish government cancelled debt granted to Tanzania between 1999 and 2003. Spain has contributed four million dollars to the United Nations “One Fund in Tanzania” and, in the health sector, contributed to the regional African Medical Research Foundation (AMREF) project “Africa’s Response to AIDS (Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania)”. Also in 2007, the AECID made a humanitarian aid contribution to the World Food Programme (WFP) for a project to assist refugees in the northwest of the country. Programmes are also being funded in Tanzania as part of the VITA and NAUTA initiatives. The Malaria Research Centre in Lifakara won the 2008 Prince of Asturias Award. Malaria is the top cause of death in the country (taking 240,000 lives each year).

Bilateral relations have been boosted somewhat in recent years, notably with the visit in 2008 by the Minister of Development,

Magdalena Álvarez, to learn about the Engineers Without Borders project in Same.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Spain will remain committed to protecting Human Rights, especially in assistance to refugee camps in Tanzania.
- Support will be sought for Spanish entrepreneurs’ initiatives in tourism, and attempts will be made to strengthen the fishing sector.
- In defence of gender equality, the Embassy of Spain in Dar es Salaam will participate in the Campaign Against Gender Violence launched by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania.
- Spain will maintain an active stance in local and international counter-terrorism initiatives (organisations, forums, etc.).

- In the cultural field, learning of Spanish will be fomented through the lectureship in the University of Zanzibar, and the work of Casa Africa will be publicised.

The Democratic Republic of Congo

Capital: Kinshasa. **Area:** 2,344,860 km². **Population:** 62,636,000. **Structure of the population:** Kkongo, Luba, Mongo. **National Day:** 30 June. **Official Language:** French. **Other Languages:** Lingala, Swahili. **Annual GDP growth:** 6.3%. **Per Capita Income:** \$309. **HDI:** 168.

Situated in the heart of Africa and despite its wealth in natural resources – minerals, forest and water – the Democratic Republic of Congo has been deeply unstable since the beginning of the nineties, the consequence of successive armed conflicts in the Great Lakes region. In the wake of Peace Agreements, the progressive stabilisation of the neighbouring republics of Rwanda and Burundi has not however been reflected in the Democratic Republic of Congo where social and security conditions remain precarious and, notwithstanding democratic elections in 2006, there remains some way to go in the direction of full political stability.



The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Miguel Angel Moratinos converses with the President of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) Joseph Kabila, during his 2008 visit. FOTO MAEC / JAVIER HERNÁNDEZ

The situation in the East of the country worsened significantly from September 2008 with a strong offensive by the National Council for the Defence of the People (CNDP) in North Kivu province. The international community reacted rapidly with an energetic diplomatic mobilisation: a personal representative of the United Nations Secretary-General was appointed, there were a number of regional conferences and a structured government-CNDP dialogue began. At the beginning of 2009, Kinshasa and Kigali agreed on implementation of a joint action plan to demobilise the Rwandan-Hutu militia of the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR). At the same time, the detention by Kigali of the rebel leader Laurent Nkunda is facilitating the progressive integration of the CNDP into the Armed Forces (FARDC).

Added to this complex political setting is the extraordinarily difficult economic situation resulting from the fall in the price of raw materials – especially oil and minerals. The social situation is not more encouraging, with nearly 90% of the population living in extreme poverty.

The United Nations has its largest peace operation – MONUC – anywhere in the world deployed in the country, numbering nearly 20,000. The EU has two missions in the Democratic Republic of Congo – EUSEC for reform of the Armed Forces and EUPOL for Police reform – and is the main donor for reconstruction with nearly 600 million euros assigned to the DRC in EDF 10.

Bilateral relations between Spain and the Democratic Republic

of Congo have been significantly strengthened in recent years. Bilateral relations were significantly boosted by classification as a “country for special attention” under the Spanish Cooperation 2006-2008 Master Plan while, under this new Plan, 2009-2012, it becomes a country for focused partnership.

Spanish ODA has increased six-fold in the last four years - 30 million euros in 2008 - and this country aided the 2006 elections with both significant financial input and by sending military personnel to EUFOR, the EU Force Supporting the Election Process.

In backing respect for and promotion of human rights, Spanish efforts have been translated into financing through UNICEF of projects supporting the rehabilitation of child soldiers and combating sexual violence against women.

High-level visits have also been increased, as with that by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation in 2008 and the signing of the Framework Bilateral Cooperation Agreement, by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, and by the Secretary of State for International Cooperation who travelled to Goma, the capital of North Kivu, to evaluate humanitarian needs on the ground.

Main activities scheduled under the 2009-2012 Africa Plan:

- Cooperation for development is a priority of the 2009-2012 Africa Plan. The Framework Cooperation Agreement, in force since 18 February 2009, must lead to the preparation of the First Joint Commission and the startup of new bilateral programmes. The Technical Co-operation Office will be inaugurated in 2009 to implement these projects.
- The Spanish Government will make a new contribution to the fund created by the UNDP for electoral support, in local elections in 2009 and for the presidency in 2011. Spain also sees it as a priority to be represented in the two EU Council missions on the ground - EUSEC and EUPOL.
- The AECID will enhance the financing of projects for cultural cooperation and exchange between Spanish and Congolese

artists, and for teaching Spanish.

- Actions will be fostered to develop the socioeconomic fabric and private enterprise in the country with the launch of several projects for collaboration with business schools in Spain to train future entrepreneurs. Organisation of trade and/or business missions facilitating Spanish companies’ access to the Congolese market will be another line of action.

Acronyms

ACALAN: African Academy of Languages
UNHCR: United Nations High Commission for Refugees
AdC: Alliance of Civilisations
AECID: Spanish International Development Co-operation Agency
AfrPF: Africa Partnership Forum
APF: African Peace Facility
APRM: African Peer Review Mechanism
ASF: African Stand-by Force
AfDB: African Development Bank
BCPR: UNDP Crisis Prevention and Recovery Bureau
EIB: European Investment Bank
WB: World Bank
DAC: OECD Development Assistance Committee
ECOWAS: Economic Community of West African States
ECCAS: Economic Community of Central African States
CEMAC: Central African Economic and Monetary Community
CES: Economic and Social Council
CIGEM: Migration Information and Management Centre
COPAX: Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa
DAW: United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women
DDR: Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration
DELE: Diploma in Spanish as a Foreign Language
DGPOLDE. Directorate-General of Development Policy Planning and Evaluation
ECOSOC: United Nations Economic and Social Council
ECOSOCC: African Union Economic, Social and Cultural Council
FAO: United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation
IFRC: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies
FRONTEX: European External Borders Agency
GEF: Global Environment Facility
ICEX: Spanish Overseas Trade Institute
IGAD: Intergovernmental Authority on Development

INAP: National Institute of Public Administrations
INSTRAW: UN International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women
IRENA: International Renewable Energies Agency
IPCC: Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
MAEC: Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
NEPAD: New Economic Partnership for Africa's Development
OHCHR: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OECD: Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OCHA: UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs
UNODC: United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
IOM: International Organisation for Migration
WTO: World Trade Organisation
WMO: World Meteorological Organisation
WHO: World Health Organisation
OTC: Technical Co-operation Office
PACI: Annual International Co-operation Plan
WFP : United Nations World Food Programme
UNDP: United Nations Development Programme
UNEP: United Nations Environment Programme
REC: Regional Economic Communities
RSS: Security Sector Reform
SADC: Southern African Development Community
SECI: State Secretariat for International Co-operation
AU: African Union
CACEU: Central African Customs and Economic Union
EU: European Union
ITU: International Telecommunication Union
AMU: Arab Maghreb Union
UNECA: United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
UNFPA: United Nations Fund for Population Activities
UNIFEM: United Nations Development Fund for Women



2009

Africa Plan

2012



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