

Statement

The EU and Japan met on 12th April in Tokyo to hold their first policy dialogue on development. The Delegations were led by Mr Stefano Manservigi, Director-General for Development and Relations with ACP States in the European Commission, and by Mr Shiro Sadoshima, Director-General of the Bureau for International Cooperation in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The EU Presidency was represented by Mr Javier de Istúriz, First Secretary of the Embassy of Spain in Tokyo.

This fulfilled the commitment at the May 2009 EU-Japan Summit when "both sides decided to hold an annual development policy dialogue ..."

At the meeting the EU and Japan exchanged information and views, especially in view of the forthcoming EU-Japan Summit and the September UN High-level Plenary Meeting in New York.

The following subjects were discussed:

- The development policies of Japan and of the EU
- Issues related to ODA including innovative financing
- Aid and development effectiveness
- Climate change financing
- MDGs / UN High-level Plenary Meeting
- Public opinion and outreach
- South-South cooperation, triangular cooperation, and emerging partners
- Regional development issues including Africa, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Myanmar
- Food Security

Both sides :

- decided to work together to ensure that the UN High-Level Plenary Meeting in September produces an action-oriented outcome enabling the MDGs to be achieved by 2015, where the aspect of human security is essential.
- recognized the need for efforts to support fragile states.
- recognized the importance of the aid effectiveness agenda and decided to work together to make the 2011 High Level Forum on Aid effectiveness in Korea a success.
- shared the commitment to support developing countries in adaptation and mitigation efforts and recognized the importance of early implementation of fast start climate funding for developing countries.
- decided to continue dialogues on the issues of mutual interest, including food security, assistance to Afghanistan and development in Africa.