

**Press invitation:****Launch of a White Paper:****Africa-Europe higher education cooperation for development:  
meeting regional and global challenges**

28 September 2010, the Belgian Senate, Rue de Louvain 21, Brussels

An international consortium consisting of African and European higher education organisations will present a new White Paper with a series of recommendations for strengthening higher education cooperation between Africa and Europe, both as a response to global challenges and to contribute to African development. The conclusions and recommendations in the White Paper are aimed at policy makers in Africa and Europe, development cooperation agencies and regional political bodies such as the European and the African Unions, as well as higher education institutions.

The paper (published in English and French) is based on the outcomes and findings of a major two-year project, led by the European University Association and the Association of African Universities, "Access to Success - Fostering Trust and Exchange between Europe and Africa" (2008-2010), which was funded by the European Union's Erasmus Mundus programme. Through bi-regional university surveys, a series of workshops and focus groups, the project examined the underlying need for increased capacity in African higher education and considered bi-regional university cooperation and inter- and intraregional academic mobility as a means to address this. The project provided a unique platform for universities, donors, higher education organisations and regional government actors to examine issues ranging from donor coordination in capacity building, academic mobility within Africa and between Africa and Europe, brain drain and the role of higher education in bi-regional policy processes.

The recommendations of the White Paper will be timely, given the upcoming 3<sup>rd</sup> Africa-EU Summit (taking place from 29 – 30 November 2010 in Libya) and the various initiatives launched in the framework of the Africa-EU strategic partnership, a bi-regional policy mechanism.

Please note that **prior registration is necessary** for journalists to access the Belgian Senate. To register, please send an email to [andrew.miller@eua.be](mailto:andrew.miller@eua.be)

**PRACTICAL INFORMATION**

A press conference will be held at 14.00h at the Belgian Senate, Rue de Louvain 21, Brussels.

**The following people are due to attend:**

- o *Marleen Temmerman, Member of the Belgian Senate*
- o *Lesley Wilson, Secretary General, European University Association*
- o *Pascal Hoba, Head of Communication & Services, Association of African Universities*
- o *Kristien Verbrugghen, Director, Flemish Interuniversity Council for Development Cooperation (VLIR-UOS)*

**Following the press conference, there will be a dissemination event involving stakeholders which the press can attend.**

The full programme is available on the Access to Success website. Please click [here](#)

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