

TODAYS NEWS

from the
European
Commission

OUTCOME OF COMMISSION MIDDAY BRIEFING

WEDNESDAY, 01 SEPTEMBER, 2010

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[The Commission and Member States join efforts to transport large relief aid to Pakistan](#)

An Antonov AN-124 cargo aircraft is leaving for Pakistan today with 100 tons of assistance provided in a joint effort by Germany, Italy, Austria and the Czech Republic, which is offering the plane on a cost-free basis. This shipment is coordinated by the Commission's Monitoring and Information Centre (MIC) which has currently a team of civil protection experts to Pakistan to monitor the distribution of EU in-kind assistance. The team will welcome the new aid delivery at the airport in Islamabad when the plane arrives.

[The EU allocates EUR 47 million to support peace-keeping operation in Somalia](#)

Today, the European Commission confirmed its support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) by providing an additional EUR 47 million to the African Union, bringing the EU allocation to AMISOM to a total of EUR 142 million funded under the African Peace Facility (APF) since 2007.

Catherine Ashton, EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/ Commission Vice-President said: "AMISOM remains crucial to prevent a severe further downfall in the security of Somalia and has proven to be key to the creation of minimum security pre-conditions for dialogue and reconciliation in Somalia

[Time for schools to enter EU Young Translator Contest](#)

Secondary schools wishing to enter pupils for the 2010 EU Young Translator Contest can register from today at <http://ec.europa.eu/translatores>. The registration period for the contest, known as 'Juvenes Translatores' (Latin for 'young translators'), runs until 20 October. The online application form is available in all official EU languages. The competition, which is open to pupils born in 1993, will be held on 23 November, at the same time in all selected schools.

[Europe's seas: Commission sets out criteria for good environmental status](#)

The European Commission today adopted a decision outlining the criteria necessary to achieve good environmental status for Europe's seas. This will help Member States to develop coordinated marine strategies within each regional sea, ensuring consistency and allowing progress to be compared between regions. The definition of the criteria is a requirement under the Marine Strategy Framework Directive which aims to achieve good environmental status in all EU marine waters by 2020.

[The European Commission green lights the exchange of audit working papers with Australia and the United States of America](#)

The European Commission has adopted today a decision recognising the adequacy of the auditor oversight authorities of Australia and the United States of America. Adequacy refers to the ability of a third country

authority to fulfil the requirements set out in the EU's Statutory Audit Directive (2006/43/EC) and, in particular, its capacity to enter into reciprocal working arrangements with the EU Member States on the exchange of audit working papers or other relevant documents between competent authorities. This also covers the preservation of the confidentiality of any such documents that authorities from third countries may receive from EU Member States. The Commission decision will enable the exchange of audit working papers between the EU Member States' oversight authorities and their Australian and US counterparts. This will contribute to reinforcing international co-operation on audit oversight which will ultimately lead to increased investor protection.

Commission clears acquisition by Compagnie Plastic Omnium of sole control of Inergy Automotive Systems

The European Commission has granted clearance under the EU Merger Regulation to the acquisition by Compagnie Plastic Omnium (France) of sole control of Inergy Automotive Systems (France). Inergy Automotive Systems was previously jointly controlled by Compagnie Plastic Omnium and Solvay (Belgium). Compagnie Plastic Omnium is active in the supply of plastic automotive components and environmental products and services (waste containers, street and road signs, urban furniture). Inergy Automotive Systems supplies fuel systems to motor vehicle manufacturers. The operation was examined under the simplified merger review procedure.

OTHER INFORMATION

- [Memo "Exchange of audit working papers with Australia and the United States of America – Frequently Asked Questions"](#)
- [Speech by Commissioner Georgieva "Impressions on Pakistan situation" – en rediffusion](#)
- [Speech by Commissioner Šemeta "EU-China – Modern Customs Building Bridges to Facilitate Legitimate Trade and Protecting Citizens"](#)
- [Statement by President Barroso following his meeting with Mr Bronislaw Komorowski, President of Poland](#)

Source: European Commission - News from the Communication Directorate General's midday briefing