

THE CLIMATE CHANGE DIALOGUE BETWEEN AFRICA AND THE EUROPEAN UNION REINFORCED BEFORE CANCUN

Addis Ababa- 12 October 2010- The need to adopt a legally binding agreement for the post-2012 climate regime was clearly reaffirmed during the Africa regional Conference of the Global Climate Change Alliance (GCCA) that took place on 12 October in Addis Ababa within the framework of the African Development Forum organized by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.

Africa and the EU share common positions in the climate debate. The GCCA African Regional Conference was part of a series of dialogue events between the European Union and its developing partners more affected by the perverse effect of the climate change. Regional organizations were strongly represented such as COMESA, ClimDev Africa, ECOWAS, CILSS and IOC, some of which are already long-term partners with the GCCA.

"Togetherness is indispensable to tackle Climate Change challenges as atmosphere is a global public good", said the Chair of the conference, Honourable Minister of Forestry and Environment of The Gambia, Jato Sillah.

The GCCA is a pillar of the EU-Africa Strategic Partnership on Climate Change endorsed at the EU-Africa Summit in Lisbon in 2007. The upcoming new Action Plan (2011-2013) is part of the European response to make available financial resources to address climate change challenges faced by Africa. The GCCA is a channel of the European concrete funding following the pledges on the fast start finance as agreed on the Copenhagen Accord (for example, the European Commission has already made available €25 million in 2010).