



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

*Brussels, 11.6.2018
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Dear Chair,

The Commission would like to thank the Assembleia da República for its Opinion on the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council for a renewed impetus of the Africa-EU Partnership {JOIN(2017)17 final}.

The Joint Communication sets out a proposal for a revitalised framework for joint action, to build a stronger strategic partnership between Europe and Africa for more prosperity and stability on the two continents in response to a rapidly changing global landscape. It is structured along two main strands, namely (1) building more resilient states and societies and (2) creating more and better jobs especially for youth. It also identifies joint policy priorities and concrete initiatives in key areas of the relationship between Europe and Africa – such as peace and security, governance, migration, job creation or energy – in line with Africa's own Agenda 2063, the Global Strategy for the European Union's Foreign and Security Policy, the European Consensus for Development and the United Nation's 2030 Agenda.

The Joint Communication was welcomed at the 19 June 2017 Foreign Affairs Council and contributed to the discussions and the successful outcome of the 5th African Union-European Union Summit that took place on 29 and 30 November 2017 in Abidjan.

The Commission looks forward to future contributions by the Assembleia da República to the discussions on the partnership between the two continents and to continuing the political dialogue in the future.

Yours sincerely,

*Frans Timmermans
First Vice-President*

*Federica Mogherini
Vice-President/High Representative*

*Ms Regina BASTOS
Chair of the European Affairs Committee
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*cc Mr Eduardo FERRO RODRIGUES
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