



Programme

EU policy seminar

Resource Governance

The ticket out of aid for resource rich countries?

Huys Clingendael, Clingendael 7, The Hague

28-29 March 2012

**Organised by the Clingendael Institute
with support of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Having an abundance of natural resources and raw materials is often considered an asset for countries. However, research has demonstrated that possessing valuable resources often proves to be a source of conflict, government corruption and environmental devastation. This phenomenon is known as the resource curse. The challenge is to govern the protection of natural resources and the sustainable extraction of natural resources in such a way that it contributes to sustainable economic growth. The resource wealth needs to be translated into tangible progress with a view to creating “new Norway’s” in Africa. In that perspective a proper governance of resources in developing countries might even be considered a decent alternative to development aid.

The question of this seminar is how the EU could assist in supporting governance capacities to better manage resource policies in African countries. In this respect, it is analysed if and how the aspects that influence sustainable resource management in developing countries are included in current EU-Africa policies, how the transparency directive might help in avoiding the resource curse, and how support to African governments on their resource policies could be best organised.

The meeting will take place under Chatham House Rule, aiming at a free and open discussion in a roundtable setting. Participants are approximately 45 senior officials from the EU Member States, Development Banks, EU institutions and international organisations as well as a limited number of established experts from universities, think tanks, NGOs and the private sector. The focus is on debating this issue between EU governments, without prejudice to the apparent need to engage in dialogue with the African countries concerned at a later stage.

Wednesday 28 March 2012

Arrival of the participants at the **Park Hotel Den Haag**,
Molenstraat 53, 2513 BJ, The Hague, +31 (0)70 362 43 71

19.00 **Dinner** with the participants at the Park Hotel, The Hague

Special words of welcome and introduction by *Louise van Schaik*, Clingendael Institute, and *Rob Swartbol*, Director-General for International Cooperation, The Netherlands

Keynote address: Towards a Natural Resource Charter?!
Paul Collier, Professor at Oxford University

Comments by
Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Member of the European Parliament and Rapporteur on Resource Efficiency

Thursday 29 March 2012

09.00 **Registration**

09.30 **Opening**
H.R.H. Prince Jaime de Bourbon Parme, Special Envoy Natural Resources, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands

09.40 **Setting the scene: presentation of the seminar paper**
Louise van Schaik, Clingendael Institute

09.50 **Introduction by the Chair**, *Paul Hoebink*, Extraordinary Professor Development Cooperation, Centre for International Development Issues, Radboud University Nijmegen, The Netherlands

10.00 **Session 1 – Provisions on resources in EU-Africa cooperation**

- Raw materials initiative and Africa
- The EU development agenda for change
- Incorporating resource aspects in Country Strategy Papers
- Protection of natural resources in trade agreements (Cotonou, EPAs, GSP+)

Introduction on resource governance and EU relations with the countries of the Great Lakes Region by *Koen Vervaeke*, Ambassador, Senior Coordinator for the Great Lakes region, European External Action Service

Comments by
Désirée Bonis, Director for Africa, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, The Netherlands
Delphine Delieux, Central Africa Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation, Belgium
Dirk Willem te Velde, Head of the International Economic Development Group, Overseas Development Institute

10.45 Coffee break

Roundtable discussion among all participants

12.00 Lunch

13.00 **Session 2 – Transparency directive as safeguard for conflict-free resources?**

- Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI)
- Commonalities and differences with the Dodd Frank Act
- Commonalities and difference with the proposed EU transparency directive

Introduction by *Jonas Moberg*, Head of Secretariat, EITI

Comments by

Paul Arlman, Chair of the Dutch Chapter of Transparency International

Karin Lissakers, Director Revenue Watch Institute

Juana de Catheu, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development

Roundtable discussion among all participants

14.45 Tea break

15.15 **Session 3 – New Players, New Rules? Different Models for Resource Extraction for the Benefit of Development**

- Competition with the emerging economies in resource governance
- Enhanced EU-Africa-China cooperation
- Which environmental and labour standards are desirable and can be enforced in Africa

Introduction by *Jasper Grosskurth*, Director Research & Strategy, Research Solutions Africa

Comments by

Max-Olivier Gonnet, Assistant-Director for Food Security and Economic Development, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, France

Deborah Bräutigam, Professor School of International Service (American University, Washington D.C.)

Alphonse Lumu Ntumba Luaba, Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, Burundi

Roundtable discussion among all participants

17.00 **Summary and policy recommendations by the Chair**

17.15 Drinks