

India-EU Joint Statement November 2009

1. The Tenth India-European Union Summit was held in New Delhi on 6 November 2009. The Republic of India was represented by the Prime Minister, Dr Manmohan Singh. The EU was represented by Mr Fredrik Reinfeldt, Prime Minister of Sweden, in his capacity as President of the Council of the European Union, and Mr. Jose Manuel Durão Barroso, President of the European Commission. The leaders discussed regional and global issues, and the means to prioritise, rationalise and strengthen EU-India relations. The leaders expressed satisfaction with the rapid expansion of the relationship between the EU and India since the first Summit in 2000, which is now deeper and stronger, founded on a global, strategic and mutually beneficial partnership.

I. GLOBAL ISSUES

Strengthening the multilateral system

2. Recalling that their Strategic Partnership is rooted in shared values and principles – democracy, rule of law, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms – both India and the EU agreed on the importance of an effective multilateral system, centred on a strong United Nations, as a key factor in tackling global challenges. In this context, they also recognized the need to pursue the reform of the main UN bodies, among them the General Assembly, ECOSOC and the Security Council, with a view to enhancing the representativeness, transparency and effectiveness of the system.

Climate change and energy

3. India and the EU underlined that climate change is one of the most important global challenges. They reaffirmed the provisions and principles of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), including that of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, and underscored the importance of its full, effective and sustained implementation.

They recognised the scientific view that the increase in global average temperature above pre-industrial levels ought not to exceed 2 degrees Celsius. They recognised that this objective should take into account the overriding priority of poverty eradication and social and economic development of the developing countries. They will work together to achieve an ambitious and globally agreed equitable outcome of Copenhagen based on the principles and provisions of UNFCCC and the Bali Action Plan.

In this context, they expressed determination to step up the pace of negotiations. They agreed that, in the fight against climate change, equal priority had to be given to mitigation and adaptation, and recognised the critical role of enabling financial and technological

support to developing countries to this end. The EU highlighted the importance of the EU Energy and Climate package. India highlighted the importance of its National Action Plan on Climate Change. These are significant contributions to global action to addressing climate change and in meeting the ultimate objective of the Convention. Both parties acknowledged the right to development and growth of developing countries and recognized that enhancing the implementation of UNFCCC represents an opportunity to promote continued climate-friendly economic growth, sustainable development and the fight against poverty. In this context they expressed hope that a global goal of significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 compared to 1990 levels would be reached at Copenhagen. They will prepare ambitious, credible and country-owned climate-friendly plans including adaptation and mitigation actions and will work together to implement the agreed outcome at Copenhagen.

4. Both India and the EU underline the importance of achieving security, sustainability and reliability of energy supplies. The increased production and use of renewable energy and the efforts aimed at improving access to energy and increasing energy efficiency are viewed by both sides as an important contribution to fulfilling sustainable development needs as well as achieving greater energy security. To this end the leaders welcomed the launch of the International Partnership for Energy Efficiency Cooperation (IPEEC) in May 2009 at the G8+5 Energy Ministerial Meeting in Rome and looked forward to a close EU-India cooperation in the framework of IPEEC. They also welcomed the ongoing establishment of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) to which both parties adhere and will join efforts for a rapid transition towards the widespread and sustainable use of renewable energy worldwide.

International financial crisis and global economy

5. Leaders addressed the current international financial and economic crisis and its severe impact on the world's Economy. They repeated their commitments to the decisions taken at the London and Pittsburgh G20 Summits to continue to sustain a strong policy response until the recovery is secured, to prepare internationally coordinated and cooperative exit strategies to be implemented once the recovery has taken hold, to strengthen and reform financial regulatory and supervisory systems to ensure global financial stability and prevent future crises, and to ensure that the International Financial Institutions reflect contemporary economic realities.

6. They called for strengthening the signs of recovery through an inclusive and global approach and for maintaining adequate flow of finance to the developing countries. They welcomed progress being made to respond to the crisis, and to ensure the smooth running of the financial sector and to support global demand so as to revive the real economy. They called on the international community to continue

to demonstrate vision and resolution and to take effective economic and financial measures to promote strong, sustainable and balanced global economic growth. In order to avoid a repetition of such a crisis, they stressed the need to address systemic failures, to reform the global financial architecture and to promote an international framework of reform of the regulation of the financial markets.

Both sides underlined the importance of the financial services reforms that have been implemented in India. In this context, both sides agreed to develop a deeper dialogue on financial services.

7. India and the EU reconfirmed their adherence to the G 20 commitment to refrain from adopting protectionist measures in all its forms covering trade in goods and services, investments and financial flows. They committed to rectify any such measures so as to avoid a further deterioration of international trade. They underlined the importance of successfully concluding in 2010 multilateral negotiations at the WTO for an ambitious, comprehensive and balanced agreement that fulfils the development objectives of the Round and welcomed the renewed momentum exerted by the Delhi Ministerial meeting in September 2009. Such an agreement should significantly foster trade flows in the agriculture, industrial goods and services among and between developed and developing countries, as well as promote transparent and simplified rules and procedures and address all other remaining issues. India and the EU remain committed to engage constructively and endeavour to find solutions that promote the successful and balanced conclusion of the Round. India and the EU believe that closure of the Doha Round in 2010 should take place on the basis of progress already made, including with regard to modalities. India and the EU further called on all WTO members to work unitedly to close the round in 2010, indicating any specific demands they may have where necessary.

The EU and India underlined that in the absence of progress within this timeframe, the objective of closing the Round in 2010 will be at risk. India and the EU agreed that WTO Members should from now until the time of the WTO Ministerial Conference engage in constructive discussions, including at the level of Ministers.

Food Security and Rural Poverty

8. Both sides recognize that eradication of poverty and food insecurity is one of the greatest challenges of our times, especially in view of achieving the MDG-1 and the eradication of hunger worldwide. They furthermore recognize that the food crisis, which peaked during mid-2008, remains sensitive to a number of factors including the financial and economic crisis, and commodity prices fluctuations. The EU and India express their concern and will work closely together to enhance food security and fulfil the objectives of the Global Action Against Hunger and Poverty and to promote increased investments in

agriculture, rural development and food security. They agreed that the international community needs a fully coordinated response and a comprehensive strategy to address this issue in a comprehensive manner, from short to medium and long term. They recognize the importance of the work which is being done on this issues in FAO as well as UN HLTF and thus, they look forward to the World Summit on Food Security, to be held in Rome, on the 16th - 18th November 2009. They also declared that a high level of priority should be given to rural development policies, technology transfer and development in particular with a view to enhancing agricultural productivity. They stress the importance of building on and implementing the global partnership for development as agreed in the Monterrey Consensus.

Human Rights

9. As both the EU and India are committed to respecting, protecting and promoting human rights, fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law, they are reinforcing cooperation within the UN Human Rights Council. The Leaders reiterated that there should be no impunity for the perpetrators of genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Terrorism

10. India and the EU stand united in combating the challenge of terrorism, which constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security. The leaders condemned terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, committed by whomever, wherever and for whatever purpose.

11. The EU expressed strong condemnation of the terrorist attacks in Mumbai last year and reiterated the need for intensifying global cooperation in combating international terrorism. The two sides emphasised the utmost importance of bringing the perpetrators of this heinous crime to justice and acknowledged the contribution this would make to the success of the global fight against terrorism.

12. The EU and India are convinced that the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism should become a vital law enforcement instrument in our joint counter-terrorism efforts. India and the EU attach great importance to counter-terrorism cooperation in the framework of the United Nations, and share a commitment to universal ratification and full implementation of all UN counter-terrorism conventions and related protocols, as well as supporting the work of the Counter Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF). The EU and India committed themselves also to the implementation of the UN global counter-Terrorism Strategy in all its aspects. Efforts to counter terrorism can only be successful with a sustained and comprehensive approach. They should be pursued in full respect of international law.

The EU and its member-states extended full support to India's bid for membership of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), which will further reinforce India's commitment to combat terrorist financing and money laundering. At the bilateral level, India and EU looked forward to advance the negotiations between Europol and the Indian authorities in order to conclude an agreement that will reinforce cooperation in the field of counter terrorism.

Disarmament and non-proliferation

13. India and the EU welcome the renewed momentum in global disarmament efforts. India and the EU reaffirmed their shared interest in working together for disarmament and for countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems. In this context, they stressed the importance of strengthening national export control laws.

India and the EU have supported the adoption of a programme of work for its 2009 session by the Conference on Disarmament including the negotiation of a Fissile Material Cut-off Treaty. They look forward to the early commencement of substantive work, including negotiations, at the next CD session.

India and the EU share the understanding that the development of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes should take place in conformity with the highest standards of safety, security, and non-proliferation.

Peace-keeping

14. The EU and India agreed to further intensify dialogue on peace-keeping, peace-building and post-conflict assistance, in accordance with the provisions of the Joint Action Plan of 2005.

International Centre for Promotion of Enterprises (ICPE)

15. The EU and India took note of the work carried out by the International Centre for Promotion of Enterprises (ICPE) within the UN framework to promote cooperation in areas of entrepreneurship and SME development, corporate governance, trade and knowledge-based society through research consultancy.

II. REGIONAL ISSUES

SAARC

16. The Leaders reaffirmed their strong willingness to strengthen cooperation between the SAARC and the EU. They also noted the SAARC Delhi Statement on Environment, including Climate Change, the Fifteenth SAARC Summit statements on Global Economic Crisis

and Cooperation on Fighting Terrorism, crucial issues that are being addressed in both SAARC and the EU.

Afghanistan

17. The Leaders welcomed the conclusion of the Presidential electoral process and congratulated President Hamid Karzai on a second term in office. They welcomed the statement of the President on his intention to constitute a national unity Government and on setting a comprehensive agenda to promote the stability and development of Afghanistan.

India and the EU acknowledged each other's significant contribution towards Afghanistan's stabilisation, reconstruction, and development and expressed their commitment to a democratic, pluralistic and stable Afghanistan. They stressed the need for the international community to maintain its commitment to render assistance to the Government and people of Afghanistan in support of the efforts of the UN in Afghanistan. They acknowledged UNAMA's coordinating role and its efforts for the comprehensive development of Afghanistan.

The Leaders strongly condemned the terrorist attacks in Kabul, including those targeting the Indian Embassy and highlighted the need to bring the perpetrators of these and other terrorist attacks to justice. The Leaders expressed serious concerns over the continuing deterioration of the security situation in Afghanistan and agreed that all parties concerned should continue the fight against terrorism.

Burma/Myanmar

18. India and the EU discussed the situation in Burma/Myanmar. They agreed on the need to strengthen efforts towards democracy and national reconciliation and, in this context, reaffirmed the need for an inclusive dialogue, including with Daw Aung San Suu Kyi and ethnic groups. They welcomed the signs of greater engagement between Myanmar and the international community.

India and the EU reiterated their support for the Good Offices Mission of the UN Secretary General and his Special Advisor, and called upon the authorities of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the UN.

Nepal

19. The leaders expressed their concern at the faltering peace process in Nepal. They stressed that rebuilding trust and confidence among all stakeholders was essential to conclude the peace process and draft a new inclusive Constitution within the stipulated timeframe. They were distressed that the legislature-Parliament has not been allowed to function and called upon all political parties, in a spirit of accommodation, to resume the process soon. They stressed that economic progress would contribute to sustainable peace.

Iran

20. The Leaders welcomed the recent talks between China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, the United States, Germany, the EU and Iran on the Iranian nuclear programme. They agreed on the need for an intensive and constructive dialogue, aiming at practical steps and confidence building measures, and stressed their commitment to seeking a negotiated solution to the Iranian nuclear question. While recognising Iran's right to peaceful use of nuclear energy, the leaders also underlined the need for Iran to meet all international obligations.

ASEM

21. Both sides underlined their common wish to strengthen the political dialogue between Asia and Europe and agreed that its enhancement within the ASEM framework was necessary and fruitful. As they are both ASEM facilitators, they expressed their commitment to further engage actively in the ASEM partnership to maintain peace and stability as well as to promote conditions conducive to sustainable economic and social development.

III. BILATERAL ISSUES

22. The Leaders underscored that the successive Summit meetings have provided a solid ground for nurturing the strategic partnership between India and the EU. The Leaders affirmed their determination to further strengthen the Strategic Partnership and to cooperate both at the bilateral and global levels for the cause of peace, security and sustainable development for all. The Joint Action Plan (JAP), which was reviewed by the 2008 summit in Marseilles, and which has expanded to include diverse areas, is an important element of this partnership. The EU and India have the ambition to build on this to further deepen their dialogue, including on a political level.

23. The EU and India confirmed the shared objective of concluding an ambitious and balanced Broad Based Trade and Investment Agreement, which will bring significant economic benefits to both sides and further strengthen the bilateral economic relationship. The EU and India took note of the progress made so far and agreed to intensify the negotiations with a view to concluding the Agreement as swiftly as possible.

24. In the field of climate change and energy, they underlined the importance of an early implementation of the Joint Work Program on Energy, Clean Development and Climate Change, especially cooperation in solar energy, development of clean coal technology and increase in energy efficiency. In this context, they also welcomed the launch of call for proposals focusing on solar power technologies amounting to € 10 million, and the two EIB loans totalling € 250 Million.

25. Both sides noted the ongoing cooperation under the India-EU energy panel and underlined the need also in this context to focus on energy efficiency, clean coal technology, energy conservation and renewable energy, and expressed their intent to develop expeditiously their cooperation efforts in these areas.

26. They expressed satisfaction at the conclusion of the agreement between the EU and India in the field of fusion energy research and look forward to the early conclusion of the agreement on research and development in the field of peaceful use of nuclear energy.

27. Reaffirming the importance of their dialogue on migration and consular issues, the EU and India agreed that further effort was needed to facilitate the movement of persons, based on a comprehensive approach.

28. In the field of transport, both India and the EU expressed the hope that they will be able to resume their negotiations on a maritime agreement with a view to finalise them rapidly.

29. India and the EU agreed that an urgent global effort was required to meet the MDGs and expressed their readiness to enhance their efforts to reduce global poverty. In the context of the EC-India development cooperation, both sides welcomed the preparations that are underway for agreeing on a new Multi-Annual Indicative Programme covering 2011-13 for which an indicative envelope of € 210 million will be made available, aimed at strengthening the social sectors, in particular education and health, as well as the continuation of activities identified under the EU-India Joint Action Programme. The EU has been a partner to India's developmental efforts including especially in the social sector.

30. The EU and India firmly share values of democracy, fundamental freedoms, pluralism, and rule of law, and believe strongly in the universality of Human Rights, as reflected in their dialogue on the same.

31. India and the EU expressed the wish that the Joint Working Group on Agriculture pays particular attention to joint efforts towards agricultural productivity, economic growth and eradication of rural poverty and food insecurity. The Leaders also welcomed the launch of a joint call for proposals in the field of biotechnologies.

32. The Summit welcomed the India-EU efforts in supporting joint research projects in solar energy launched within the 7th EU Research Program and the India-EU agreement in Science and Technology, as an important step to strengthen strategic cooperation in the area.

33. In the field of Space, India is actively pursuing with the European Space Agency, the French National Space Agency and various other players in EU for developing, launching and operating Earth Observation and Communication satellites through appropriate bilateral relations.

34. India and the EU recognised the importance of promoting people-to-people exchanges through the medium of culture and education and welcomed the signing of the India-EU Joint Declarations on Multilingualism and Education. The parties hope to advance negotiations regarding their Joint Declaration on Culture, aimed at establishing a policy dialogue on culture between the EU and India.

35. The Leaders noted with appreciation the role of Indian and European civil society and of the EU-India round table, and agreed on the need to review its role in India-EU relations and to decide on its future activities.
