



Forum European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean
Fiscal policy and an environmentally sustainable economy in the context of climate change

Berlin, 10 y 11 november 2010

On 10th and 11th November, the Forum European Union – Latin America and the Caribbean (EU-LAC) took place in Berlin, with the topic “fiscal policy and an environmentally sustainable economy in the context of climate change”. Policy shapers and policy makers from the areas of politics, economics and civil society from more than 60 countries of the European Union (EU) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) were meeting here to engage in informal discussions.

The event was based on the challenge that the global community faces due to climate change and financially affected public households in recent times. It remains an important task to face climate change and to counteract it with suitable measures. As the financial crisis has meant that consolidation of public households is now at the top of the agenda in many countries, there is a risk that the issue of climate change will lose importance. How can governments ensure that public funds can be recuperated with the help of fiscal measures and at the same time contribute to solving the problem of climate change? Which fiscal instruments are available for governments in order to exercise a positive influence in environmentally-related problem areas?

The participants discussed selected topics such as energy, construction and transport in both regions. They also addressed the issue of how environmentally relevant solutions and the restoration of public households can be reconciled in order to find social acceptance. Furthermore, the participants looked at various “best practices” and proposed solutions, and discussed how these can be implemented and developed in the context of the succeeding cooperation.

The international conference provided far-reaching possibilities to establish new contacts and gain professional and policy-specific impulses. The forum builds on the existing strategic partnership between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean and will continue the process of mutual exchanges in the field of fiscal policy that began in Berlin in March 2008 and continued in Montevideo in May 2009.