



BRUSSELS
AFRICA
HUB

Brussels-Africa Hub's Business & Diplomatic Dialogues

Date: June 26th, 2026

Venue: The Van Eetvelde House, part of Victor Horta's UNESCO World Heritage ensemble (*Avenue Palmerston 4 - 6, 1000 Brussels*)

Theme: *The EU-US Critical Minerals Partnership: implications for Africa*

In April 2026, the European Union and the United States signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding establishing a strategic partnership on critical minerals, accompanied by a joint Action Plan for supply chain resilience. This agreement marks a significant shift in transatlantic cooperation on supply chain resilience - with profound implications for Africa, home to vast reserves of minerals essential for the global green and digital transitions.

The MoU formalizes bilateral cooperation across the full value chain - from exploration and extraction to processing, refining, recycling, and recovery, while supporting innovation, investment, and geological mapping. The Action Plan explores trade policies including border-adjusted price floors, standards-based markets, price-gap subsidies, and offtake agreements, aiming to develop a plurilateral trade initiative with global partners.

- In this context:
 - a. How does mineral rich African countries like South Africa read this EU-US partnership?
 - b. Until recently the **defense** and **mining** sectors were uninvestable asset classes and **Africa** an uninvestable geography. Are European Sovereign Wealth Funds with defense mandate ready to invest in African critical minerals value chains?

The roundtable will address these critical questions.

Objectives of the event

- **Analyze** the implications of the EU-US Critical Minerals MoU and Action Plan for African countries
- **Examine** investment models, de-risking instruments, and financing mechanisms that support on-continent processing capacity
- **Foster dialogue** on trilateral frameworks that deliver both EU-US supply chain resilience and African industrialization

This event continues our strategic dialogues series on sustainable & responsible investment in Africa, building on previous discussions around localizing value chains and EU-Africa collaboration in a changing world.

Agenda

10.00	Guests arrival	
10.30	Welcome	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Sir Paul Dujardin, Brussels-Africa Hub• Mouctar BAH, Brussels-Africa Hub
10.35	Keynote address	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Xasa Tokozile South African Ambassador to the EU & Belgium and Luxembourg
10.45	Facts & Figures	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Frank Bekaert, Senior Partner, McKinsey & Co
11.00	Role of European Sovereign Wealth Funds	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Tom Feys, Chief Investment officer, SFPI-FPIM
11.15	Conversation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Xasa Tokozile and Jean-Van Wetter, CEO Enabel
11.45	Moderated roundtable discussion with all participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Annie Mutamba, Brussels-Africa Hub
12.15	Closing remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mouctar BAH, Brussels-Africa Hub• Sir Paul Dujardin, Brussels-Africa Hub
12.20	End	

About the strategic partnership: https://ec.europa.eu/commission/presscorner/detail/en/ip_26_862

About the Brussels-Africa Hub : <https://brusselsafricahub.eu/>