

# EU–Africa Relations

*“L’Europe aime voir l’Afrique saucissonné en morceaux”*

*Saïd Djinnit  
AU Commissioner  
for Peace & Security*



EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT POLICY MANAGEMENT  
CENTRE EUROPÉEN DE GESTION DES POLITIQUES DE DÉVELOPPEMENT

# Introduction

- Currently no Africa Policy in EU
- Commissioner Michel is talking about instituting one
  - *So where do we currently stand & how have we got here?*
  - *Do we know what Africa wants from Europe?*

# Policy Context

## 2 interlocking sets of policies

- Regional policies / agreements
  - eg: Asia Policy, Cotonou Agreement ...
- Sector policies
  - eg: CFSP, ESS, DPS ... ENPI ...

→ External Action = ‘Policy Mix’

# Institutional set-up also affected policy

- Delors' legacy from 1984

*"...je divisais en deux le domaine de l'aide au développement ..."*

- ACP = DG Development

- Rest of the world = Relex

- Has dogged the EC ever since

- For Delors a split of development sector

- Later seen as 2 separate sectors

- *Now a new phase in EU External Action?*



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# Context for EU-Africa Relations

- 3 EU-Africa Agreements
  - Cotonou Partnership – ACP Group
  - TDCA – South Africa
  - Euro-Mediterranean Partnership
- EU policies: DPS, CFSP, ...
- EU Member State policies on Africa
- EU-Africa Dialogue
- The rise of pan-African institutions

# Key Features of Cotonou

- Signed 2000 + runs for 20 years
- ACP Group (77 countries + RSA)
- 3 pillars: aid, trade & political dialogue
- 3 (+1) essential elements (HR+RoL+D + *WMD in CPA Review*)
- 1 fundamental element (GG)
- Principles: joint management, mutual obligations & security of funds

# Cotonou (2)

- Performance based
- National and Regional
- Multiple actors: state + non-state
- EDF9 (2000-2007)
  - Grants facility €13.5B
  - EIB resources € 1.7B
  - Balance earlier EDFs € 9.9B

# EU MS policies on Africa

- Some MS have specific policies for certain countries
- Coordination & complementarity not always easy
- EU-Africa relations often affected (Zimbabwe, Rwanda, Congo ...)

# EU-Africa Dialogue 'Cairo process'

- Cairo Declaration and Plan of Action (2000)
- Zimbabwe causes rupture
- Restarted with AU
- At troïka level & progressing better
- EC-AUC cooperation going well



# EU-Africa Dialogue: 8 priority topics

1. Human rights
2. Democracy & good governance
3. Prevention & settlement of conflicts
4. Food security
5. HIV/AIDS & other pandemics
6. Environment
7. Regional integration & trade
8. External debt
9. Return of illicitly exported cultural goods

# The African Union

- AU Constitutive Act  
(signed 2000 + entry into force 26 May 2001)
- AU launch at Durban Summit (2002)
- Replaced OAU (+AEC)
- Konaré Commission (2003-2007)
- AU to work with regional organisations & integrate NEPAD (+ APRM)
- Strategic Planning exercise in 2004

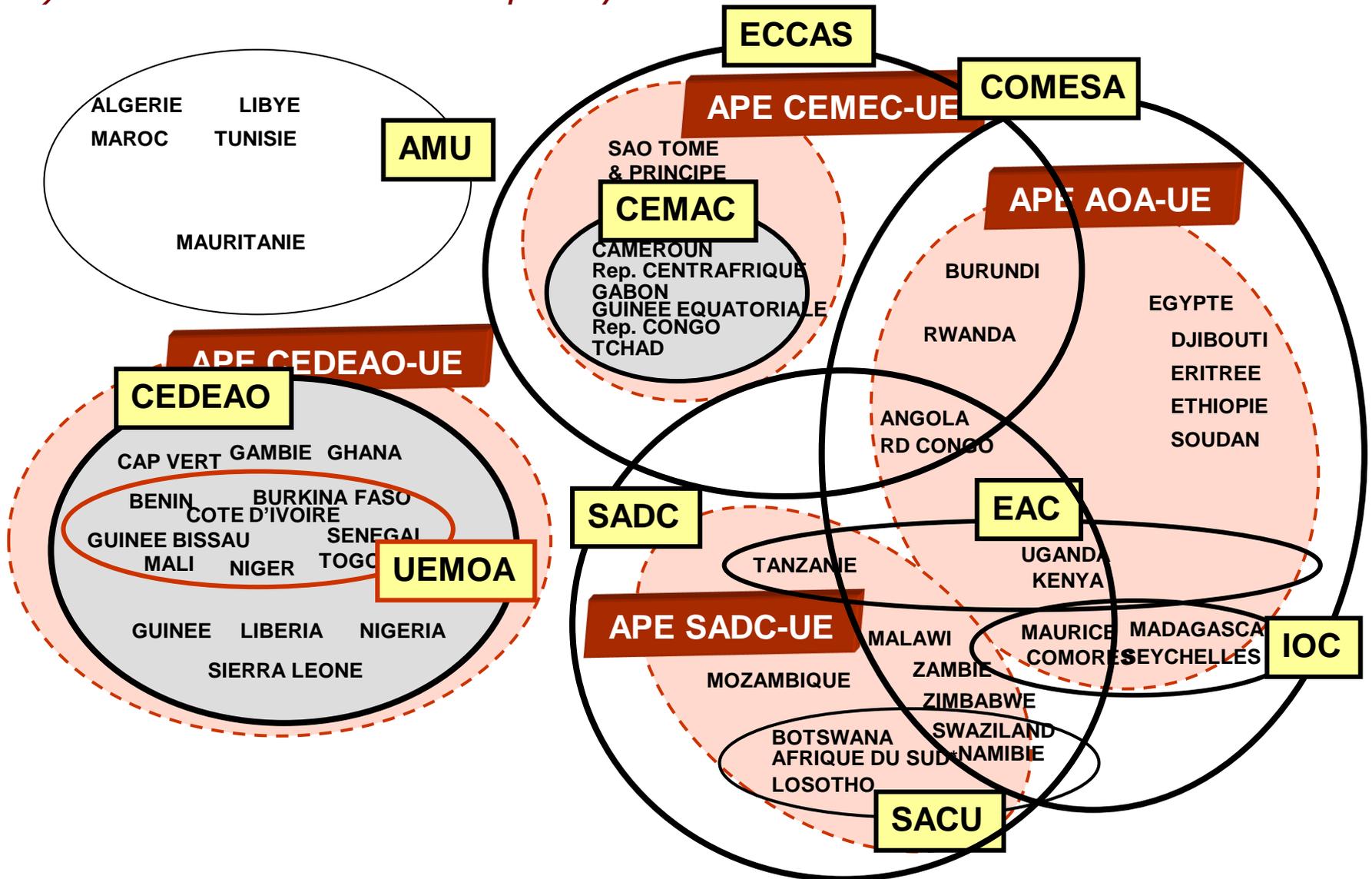
# **VISION of the AU**

**A peaceful, integrated and prosperous Africa,  
driven by its people,  
a dynamic force in the global community**

**Une Afrique en paix, intégrée et prospère,  
tirée par son peuple,  
une force dynamique dans la communauté  
internationale**

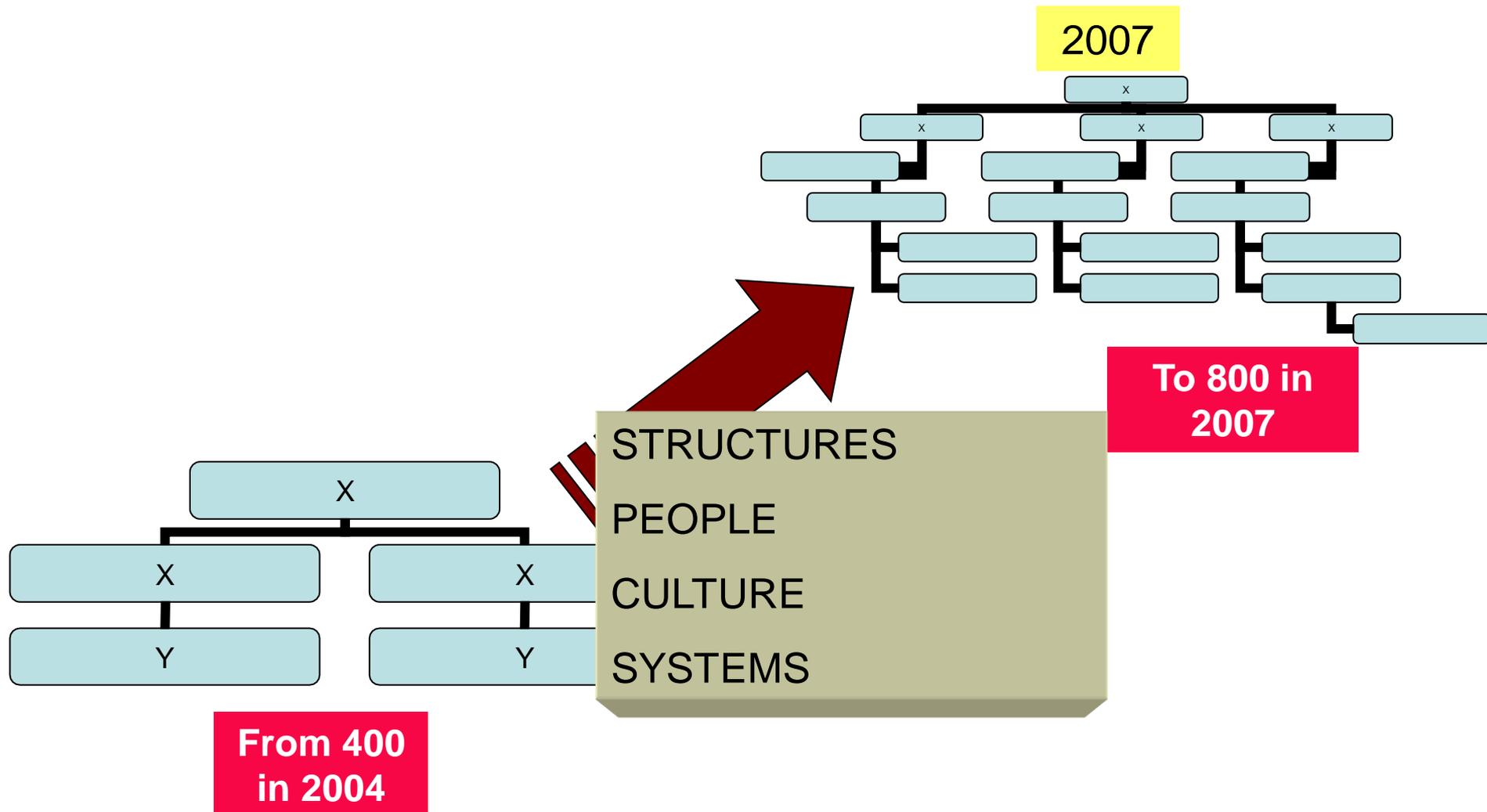
In order to implement this vision, the AU will need to address three specific obstacles to African integration:

1) The institutional « cacophony »



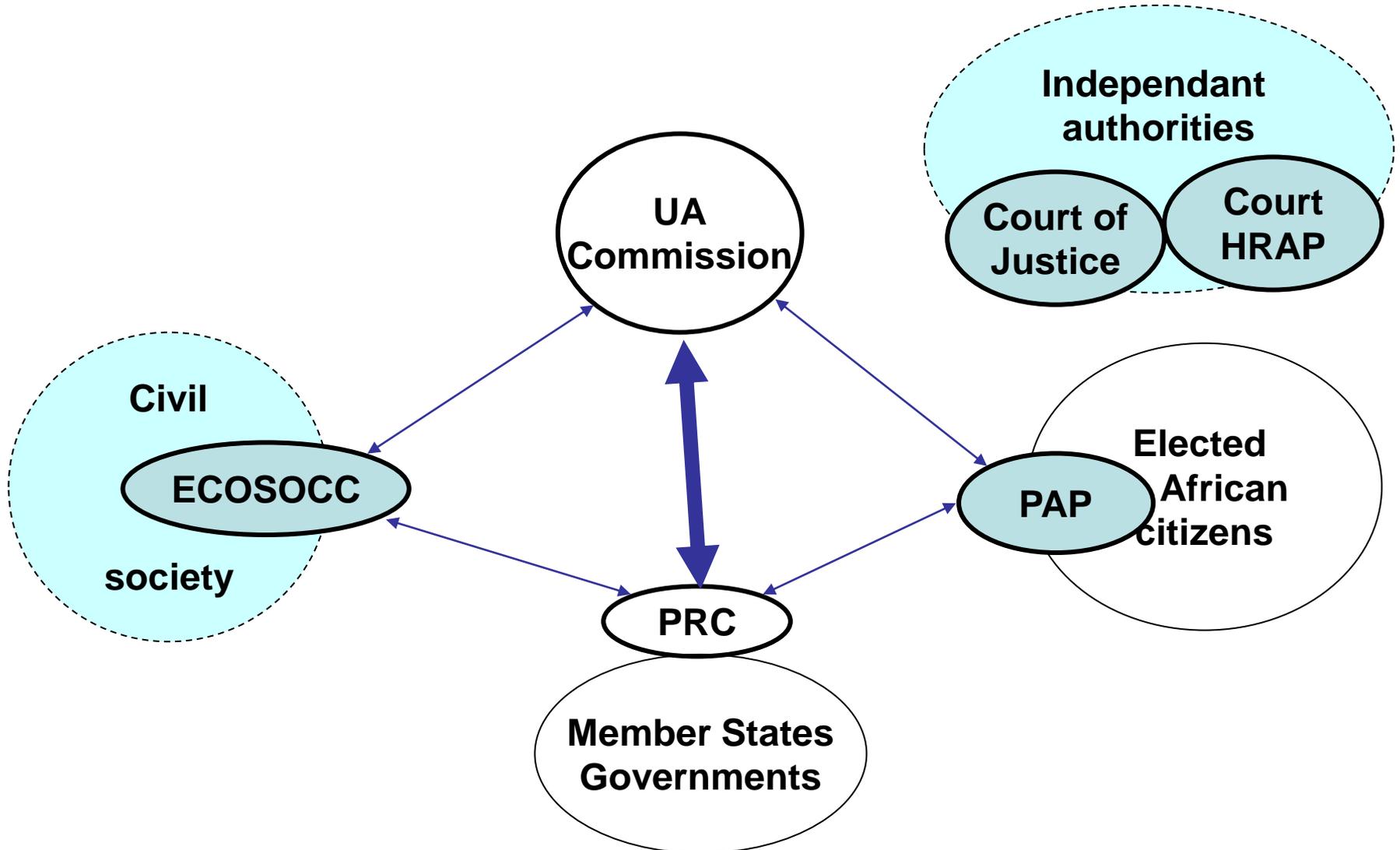
*In order to implement this vision, the AU will need to address three specific obstacles to African integration:*

*2) The weakness of the institutions*



*In order to implement this vision, the AU will need to address three specific obstacles to African integration:*

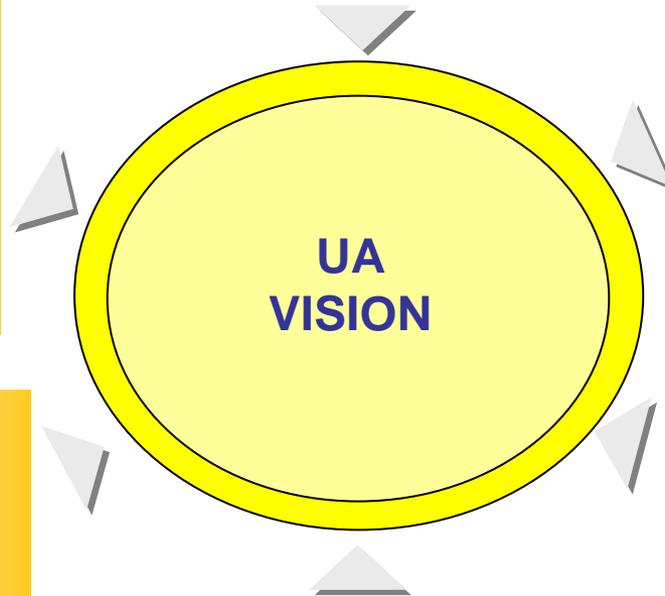
**3) Governance**



## The UA Commission has defined 6 objectives in order to face these challenges by 2007:

**To build an efficient and responsible Commission and a global performing institutional framework**

**To develop a consensus on the basis of common values and a shared vision**



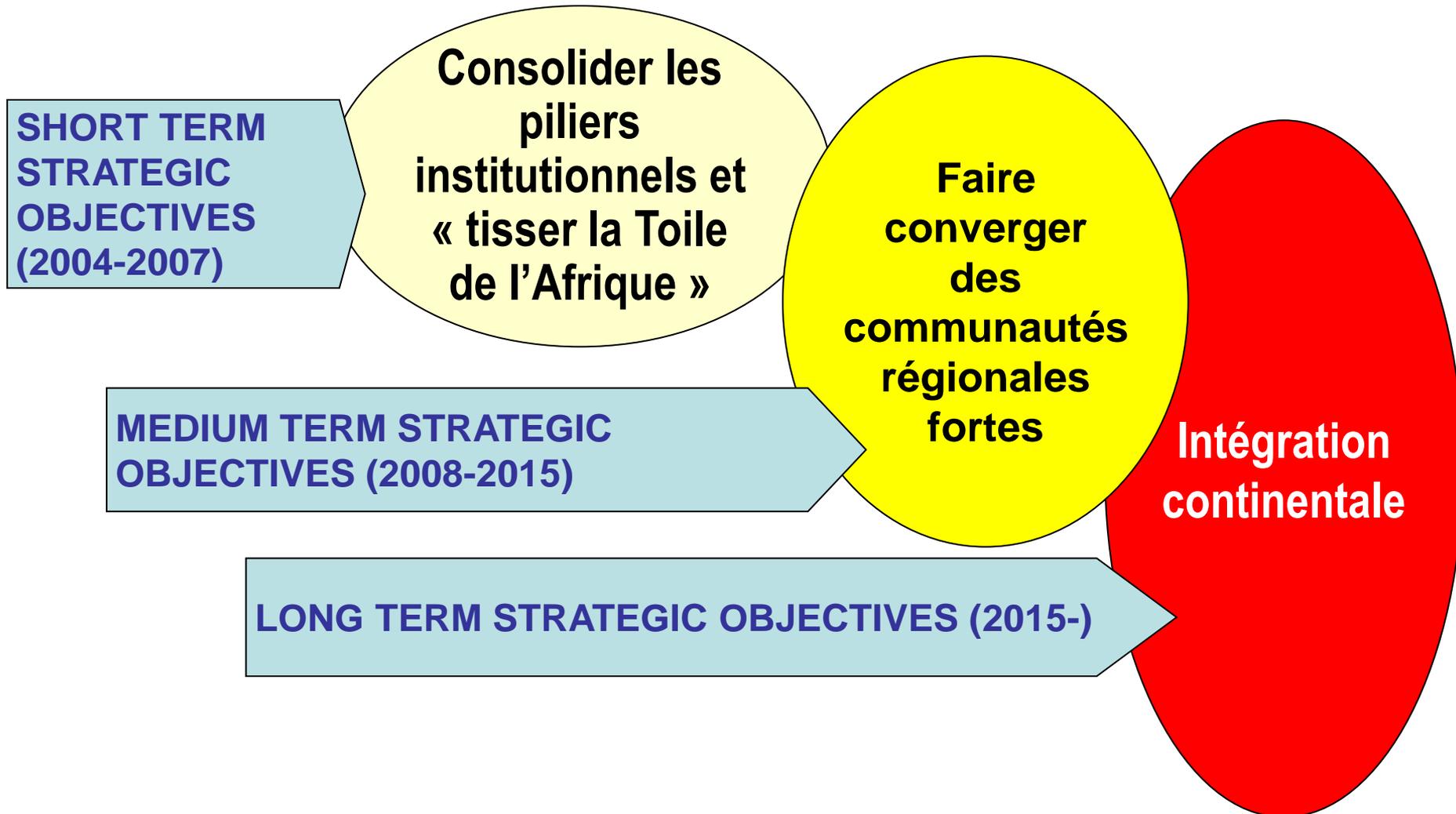
**To promote regional cooperation as the basis of an continental integration process**

**To promote peaceful societies based on governance, the rule of law and African citizenship**

**To ensure the dynamism and radiation of African culture**

**To contribute to social development and to fight against structural causes of poverty**

*Ainsi, la Commission a défini une démarche graduelle vers l'intégration continentale, la phase 2004-2007 devant permettre de consolider les piliers et de tisser la toile de l'Afrique*



# Towards a new Dialogue

- A. Dialogue at political & senior official level
- B. Bi-regional working group of officials
- C. Regular dialogue AU-HOM in Addis
- D. Brussels dialogue with African HOM
- E. AU / EU Commissions
  - Joint Working Group (December 2004)

# The EU & the AU

- Areas of cooperation
  - Peace & Security → APF
  - Institutional development of AU
  - Regional integration
- New areas
  - Trade
  - Good governance

# An EU policy on Africa?

- African states asking for it (AU, NEPAD)
  - North African states closely involved
  - Mediterranean should be an area for cooperation between 2 continents
- Poses questions for existing agreements
  - But an opportunity not to miss
- Need the instruments
  - Policy & Funding for pan-African work

# What aims for an EU Africa Policy?

- Clearly
  - Development, poverty eradication, MDG
  - Cultural + social ties
- Global stability
  - Close neighbours, migration ...
- But ultimately also
  - Trade, economic exchange ...

Thank you for your attention...

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*For more information on  
ECDPM's work on ACP-EU relations:  
[www.ecdpm.org](http://www.ecdpm.org)*



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