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Good news for business from strategic dialogue between EU and Kenya

The European Union (EU) and the Republic of Kenya have launched a strategic dialogue to strengthen EU and Kenya's regional and multiregional cooperation, democracy, trade and investment, peace, security and stability and other sectors.

The European Union and Kenya have sustained a consistent and long-term partnership over many years, share multilateral and global aims (such as fostering peace and security) and a commitment to democracy (the rule of law and human rights), which are the basis for the strong relations.

EU and Kenya have also engaged towards implementing the trade and the economic and development cooperation provisions of the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) with the East African Community (EAC).

The EPA implementation is pending because – except for Kenya - it has not been signed and ratified by the other EAC states (Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda).

The strategic dialogue may lead to a bilateral implementation between the EU and Kenya in accordance with the political agreement reached during the EAC summit of 27 February 2021, which allows the implementation of the EPA between the EU and individual countries of the region (principle of variable geometry).

EU and Kenya will focus discussions on common policy aims and real benefits including green transition, job creation and digitalisation efforts as well as the trade matters and trade-related rules such as sanitary and phyto-sanitary measures, technical barriers to trade and customs and trade facilitation, with an expected positive impact on Italian and European businesses that are active in Kenya.

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