EUROPEAN UNION – LATIN AMERICA CARIBBEAN (EU-LAC)
MINISTERIAL FORUM ON SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Madrid, Spain, 14th May, 2010

Preliminary RECOMMENDATIONS

We, the Ministers of Science and Technology of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean, gathered in Madrid on the 14th may, 2010,

Aware of the importance of promoting the "EU-LAC Knowledge Area" first mentioned in the Guadalajara Declaration in 2004,

Knowing that the current global challenges for cooperation in science, technology and innovation focused on sustainable development and social inclusion will be addressed in the EU-LAC Summit in May 2010,

Acknowledging that science, technology and innovation and higher education are vital for all societies and their sustainable development, regardless of a country's size or its inhabitants' level of income,

Considering the important role that international and bilateral cooperation plays in science and technology as tools to stimulate improved and more stable cooperation between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean,

In order to promote the triangle of knowledge consisting of education, research and innovation:

AGREE

To approve the EU-LAC Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation on the basis of the priorities established in the document about said Initiative that accompanies this Statement;

To urge Senior EU-LAC Science and Technology Officials to meet before the end of 2010 in order to draw up a road map to be able to set the Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation in motion;
WE REQUEST

EU-LAC Heads of State and Government attending the Summit in Madrid in May 2010, to include the Joint Initiative for Research and Innovation in the corresponding Declaration and Plan of Action in order to set the Initiative in motion immediately.

Madrid, 14th May, 2010