Basic information

1997/0108(AVC) AVC - Assent procedure (historic)	Procedure completed
4th ACP-EU Convention: Protocol governing the accession of the Republic of South Africa **Subject** 6.40.06 Relations with ACP countries, conventions and generalities **Geographical area** ACP countries South Africa	

Key players

Council of the European Union	**Council configuration**	**Meetings**	**Date**
	General Affairs	1996	1997-03-24

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
12/03/1997	Legislative proposal published	COM(1997)0107	Summary
24/03/1997	Debate in Council		Summary
24/03/1997	Additional information		
24/04/1997	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
11/08/1997	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	1997/0108(AVC)
Procedure type	AVC - Assent procedure (historic)
Procedure subtype	International agreement
Legal basis	EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 238 EC Treaty (before Amsterdam) E 228-p2/3-a2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/4/11387

Documentation gateway

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Legislative proposal	COM(1997)0107	12/03/1997	Summary

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act
Decision 1997/0811 OJ L 220 11.08.1997, p. 0001

4th ACP-EU Convention: Protocol governing the accession of the Republic of South Africa

1997/0108(AVC) - 24/03/1997

The Council agreed to formal adoption of the Protocol on the qualified accession of South Africa to the Lomé Convention at the ACP-EC Council of Ministers on 24 and 25 April 1997. It instructed Coreper to finalize the text of the Decision to be placed before the ACP-EC Council. The Council drew attention to the fact that the Protocol formed part of an overall negotiation process covering also talks on a bilateral trade and cooperation agreement and sectoral agreements.

4th ACP-EU Convention: Protocol governing the accession of the Republic of South Africa

1997/0108(AVC) - 12/03/1997 - Legislative proposal

OBJECTIVE: to approve the protocol governing the accession of South Africa to the Fourth Lomé Convention as revised by the Mauritius Agreement of 4 November 1995. SUBSTANCE: the draft Council common position provides for South Africa to have 'qualified membership' of the revised Lomé IV, which essentially includes the following points: - South African participation in all the Lomé institutions and in all areas of ACP-EU cooperation, - its eligibility for all instruments under the Convention (including the aid referred to in Article 255 of the Convention concerning refugee assistance), except for European Development Fund resources and trade preferences, - participation by South African firms in tenders for projects financed by the EDF in all the ACP States on the same terms as European firms (in the case of South Africa, there will be no 'ACP preference' for EDF tenders, as is the case with other ACP countries). On the technical side, South Africa accepts: - the trade exclusion clause (South Africa will not benefit from the Lomé provisions regarding trade preferences), - the non-execution and human rights clause (South Africa initially wished to add a unilateral declaration in this area, but then withdrew its request), - an article on toxic waste (South Africa has fully accepted the rules imposed on the other ACP countries in this area), - an article on fisheries (South Africa confirms its willingness to negotiate a fisheries agreement with the Union), - an article on maritime transport (South Africa accepts the principle of unrestricted access to maritime transport on a commercial basis). Where cumulation of origin and access to tenders financed by the 7th EDF are concerned, a 'procedural agreement' will have to be reached at a later date. Finally, the draft common position includes a clause designed to facilitate South Africa's accession to the revised Lomé IV, which is currently undergoing ratification by all the signatory States. The aim is to avoid a new, lengthy and cumbersome approval procedure specifically for South Africa's accession to Lomé and thus to enable the protocol governing South Africa's accession and the revised Lomé IV to enter into force simultaneously.