## Basic information

| | |
|---|---|
| **2000/0124(AVC)**<br><br>AVC - Assent procedure (historic) | Procedure completed |
| EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States<br><br>**Subject**<br><br>6.40.06 Relations with ACP countries, conventions and generalities<br><br>**Geographical area**<br><br>ACP countries<br>Caribbean islands | |

## Key players

### European Parliament

| Committee responsible | Rapporteur | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| DEVE Development and Cooperation | ROD Didier (V/ALE) | 27/06/2000 |

| Committee for opinion | Rapporteur for opinion | Appointed |
|---|---|---|
| AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense | DYBKJÆR Lone (ELDR) | 12/07/2000 |
| ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy | DÉSIR Harlem (PSE) | 19/09/2000 |

### Council of the European Union

| Council configuration | Meetings | Date |
|---|---|---|
| General Affairs | 2425 | 2002-05-13 |
| Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) | 2477 | 2002-12-19 |

### European Commission

| Commission DG | Commissioner |
|---|---|
| Development | |

## Key events

| Date | Event | Reference | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| 23/05/2000 | Initial legislative proposal published | COM(2000)0324 | Summary |
| 07/06/2000 | Legislative proposal published | 02117/2000 | Summary |
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|---|---|---|---|
| 04/09/2000 | Committee referral announced in Parliament | | |
| 20/11/2001 | Vote in committee | | Summary |
| 20/11/2001 | Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | A5-0412/2001 | |
| 17/01/2002 | Decision by Parliament | T5-0013/2002 | Summary |
| 13/05/2002 | Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council | | Summary |
| 19/12/2002 | Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament | | |
| 19/12/2002 | End of procedure in Parliament | | |
| 08/03/2003 | Final act published in Official Journal | | |

## Technical information

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|---|---|
| **Procedure reference** | 2000/0124(AVC) |
| **Procedure type** | AVC - Assent procedure (historic) |
| **Procedure subtype** | International agreement |
| **Legal basis** | EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 300-p2/3-a2<br>EC Treaty (after Amsterdam) EC 310 |
| **Stage reached in procedure** | Procedure completed |
| **Committee dossier** | DEVE/5/13491 |

## Documentation gateway

**European Parliament**

| Document type | Committee | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading | | A5-0412/2001 | 20/11/2001 | |
| Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading | | T5-0013/2002<br>OJ C 271 07.11.2002, p. 0066-0393 E | 17/01/2002 | Summary |

**Council of the EU**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Legislative proposal | 02117/2000 | 07/06/2000 | Summary |

**European Commission**

| Document type | Reference | Date | Summary |
|---|---|---|---|
| Initial legislative proposal | COM(2000)0324<br>OJ C 240 28.08.2001, p. 0005 E | 23/05/2000 | Summary |

## Additional information

| Source | Document | Date |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| European Commission | EUR-Lex | |

| Final act |
|---|
| Decision 2003/0159<br>OJ L 065 08.03.2003, p. 0027-0028 Summary |

# EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States

2000/0124(AVC) - 17/01/2002 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted the resolution by Mr Didier ROD (Greens/EFA, F).

# EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States

2000/0124(AVC) - 13/05/2002

The Council welcomed the Commission's proposal for a mandate to negotiate Economic Partnership Agreements with the ACP countries and regions. It recalled that the objectives of the future trading arrangements with the ACP States under the Cotonou Agreement are smooth and gradual integration of the ACP states into the world economy and the eradication of poverty. In addition, the Council held an orientation debate on the draft negotiating directives, addressing in particular the questions of market access to WTO compatibility and flexibility with a view to the objectives of the Cotonou Agreement. It stresses in particular that the envisaged Economic Partnership Agreements should be regarded as a tool for development and, by the same token, be WTO compatible. Lastly, the Council instructed the Permanent Representatives' Committee to continue its discussion, in the light of this debate and to report back to the Council at its next session with the view of adopting the mandate, bearing in mind that the negotiations will be formally launched on 27 September 2002.

# EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States

2000/0124(AVC) - 19/12/2002 - Final act

PURPOSE : on the conclusion of the Cotonou Agreement. COMMUNITY MEASURE : Council Decision 2003/159/EC concerning the conclusion of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP countries and the EC and its Member States, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000. CONTENT : This Decision contains the following main provisions: - the Cotonou Agreement is approved on behalf of the EC; - if the Council considers that an ACP State has failed to fulfil one of the essential elements referred to in Article 9 of the Agreement, or in serious cases of corruption, the ACP State must hold consultations in accordance with Articles 96 and 97 of the Agreement. The Council will act by qualified majority. If no solution is found, the Council may decide by qualified majority to take measures that may include partial suspension. In case of a full suspension, the Council must act unanimously. The European Parliament must be fully informed of any decision. The Council must review its decision regularly and at least once every six months.

# EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States

2000/0124(AVC) - 07/06/2000 - Legislative proposal

On the 27 July 2000, the Council requested an opinion from the European Parliament in view of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP and the Community. Between this time errors had been detected in this document. It is for this reason that the revised draft Agreement is proposed. Its contents remain the same in principle to those proposed in the draft Commission proposal in the month of May 2000 (refer to the preceding initial proposal). Some amendments should however be outlined: - technical amendments relating to the annexes (repartition of the quantities of sugar before being delivered every year by the ACP to the Member States); - the date of the signature of the Agreement between partners: 23 June 2000 at Cotonou; - the definitive setting up of a list of ACP concerned.

# EC/ACP agreement: partnership agreement with the African, Caribbean and Pacific States

2000/0124(AVC) - 23/05/2000 - Initial legislative proposal

PURPOSE : to conclude a Partnership Agreement between the African Caribbean and Pacific States and the European Union. CONTENT : the new Agreement marks a fundamental reform of the relationship between the ACP States and the Community and its Member States, building on the acquis of the previous successive Lomé Conventions. The Agreement is to be concluded for a period of 20 years, with a possible revisions every 5 years, and a financial protocol for each 5 year period. Some components of the Agreement such as implementation procedures for financial support or sectoral policy guidelines will be reviewed and adapted, if necessary by the ACP-EC Council of Ministers, which as a rule will meet once a year. This new approach should allow for more flexibility and give the opportunity to adapt to the cooperation system to changing realities. With regard to the content of the new Agreement, it combines politics, trade and development. It is based on 5 independent pillars: 1) a comprehensive political dimension: the agreement contains provisions for an enhanced political dialogue between the parties. The respect for human rights, democratic principles and the rule of law are essential elements of the partnership. A consultation procedure has been drawn up in cases of violation of these essential elements. In cases of special urgency appropriate measures may taken without prior consultation. It also contains a commitment to good governance as a fundamental element of the partnership and a consultation procedure in serious cases of corruption. 2) the promotion of participatory approaches: the agreement contains innovative provisions to promote participatory approaches with a view to ensuring the involvement of civil society and economic and social players by providing them with adequate information on the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement, in particular within the ACP countries. 3) a strengthened focus on the objective of poverty reduction : poverty reduction is the central objective of the new partnership as formulated in the general provisions of the agreement and the provisions will guide development strategies. Cooperation strategies will reflect international commitments including conclusions of UN conferences, international development strategies, in particular the OECD DAC strategy. 4) the setting up of a new framework for economic and trade cooperation : the EU and the ACP States have agreed on a process to establish new trading arrangements that will pursue trade liberalisation between the parties and formulate provisions in trade-related matters. The negotiations on economic partnership agreements will start by September 2002 at the latest. The present regime will be maintained during the preparatory period (2000-2008 at the latest). 5) and a reform of financial cooperation : development finance cooperation will be implemented on the basis of and be consistent with the development objectives, strategies and priorities established by the ACP States, at both national and regional levels. The instruments have been regrouped and rationalised. Thetoality of EDF resources available will be channelled through two instruments - one envelope for providing grants and one for providing risk capital and loans to the private sector. Lastly, since this Agreement is a mixed Agreement it will also have to be ratified by the Member States according to their constitutional provisions. It should be noted that 6 countries have requested to become members of the ACP-EC Partnership Agreement (Federal States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Palau, Nauru, Cook Islands and Niue). The European Parliament will be asked to give its assent to the conclusion of the Agreement.