Basic information

2005/2162(INI) INI - Own-initiative procedure	Procedure completed
The impact of economic partnership agreements on development **Subject** 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.30 Development cooperation	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development	MORGANTINI Luisa (GUE/NGL)	24/05/2005

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
INTA International Trade	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	2722	2006-04-10

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Development	

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
29/09/2005	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
21/02/2006	Vote in committee		Summary
01/03/2006	Committee report tabled for plenary	A6-0053/2006	
22/03/2006	Debate in Parliament		
23/03/2006	Decision by Parliament	T6-0113/2006	Summary
23/03/2006	Results of vote in Parliament		
23/03/2006	End of procedure in Parliament		

10/04/2006	Resolution/conclusions adopted by Council		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2005/2162(INI)
Procedure type	INI - Own-initiative procedure
Procedure subtype	Initiative
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 55
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/6/30178

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE367.627	11/01/2006	
Amendments tabled in committee		PE368.051	06/02/2006	
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A6-0053/2006	01/03/2006	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T6-0113/2006	23/03/2006	Summary

The impact of economic partnership agreements on development

2005/2162(INI) - 10/04/2006

The Council adopted conclusions reconfirm its commitment to the ongoing negotiations with all six ACP regions and its support to allow the timely conclusion and entry into force by 1 January 2008 of the Cotonou Agreement, of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA) as development instruments complementary to the overall development efforts in order to eradicate poverty and to achieve the Millennium Development Goals The Council is committed to an ambitious outcome of the EPA negotiations with a view to substantial improvements in regional integration and access for ACP products to EU markets. At the same time, the Council recalls its support for asymmetric and flexible EPA arrangements and the preferential market access for the ACP countries, in line with development needs and WTO requirements.

The Council confirms that to achieve the objectives of the EPAs, fostering regional integration of ACP countries as well as into the world economy, donor assistance should among others be directed to:

- assisting ACP countries to negotiate trade agreements tailored to their needs and capacities e.g. through impact assessment studies and other instruments;

- supporting ACP countries to become more active players in the framework of multilateral trade, and enhance South-South trade;

- helping the ACP countries to establish transparent and predictable rules to spur investment and growth and liberalise services that are key to their development interests;

- addressing agriculture and food security as key elements in the negotiations and supporting the development of regional agricultural markets based on an adequate market regulatory framework;

- providing financial support for building trade capacity and competitiveness and implementing supply side reforms linked to EPAs and WTO implementation;

- assisting ACP countries to comply with rules and standards and reduce non-tariff barriers to trade;

- supporting ACP countries facing adjustment needs arising from EPA implementation or regional and multilateral liberalisation efforts through adequately tailored instruments.

The Council therefore supports the Regional Preparatory Task Forces (RPTFs) as key structures to link the EPA negotiations with accompanying development assistance. Member States are invited, in coordination with the Commission and other donors, to supplement and support these EPA-related activities organised via the RPTFs with their own ongoing bilateral and multilateral development assistance.

The impact of economic partnership agreements on development

2005/2162(INI) - 23/03/2006 - Text adopted by Parliament, single reading

The European Parliament adopted a resolution based on the own-initiative report drawn up by Luisa **MORGANTINI** (GUE/NGL, IT) on the development impact of Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs). (Please see the summary of 21/02/2006.)