Basic information

2011/0207(NLE) NLE - Non-legislative enactments Decision	Procedure completed
EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement **Subject** 6.20.05 Multilateral and plurilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.40.06 Relations with ACP countries, conventions and generalities	

Key players

European Parliament

Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
DEVE Development	CASHMAN Michael (S&D)	22/09/2011
	Shadow rapporteur STRIFFLER Michèle (PPE) MICHEL Louis (ALDE) JOLY Eva (Verts/ALE)	

Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
INTA International Trade	CASPARY Daniel (PPE)	11/10/2011

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
Environment	3522	2017-02-28

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
International Cooperation and Development	PIEBALGS Andris

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
26/07/2011	Preparatory document	COM(2011)0469	Summary

01/12/2011	Legislative proposal published	16894/2011	Summary
13/12/2011	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
19/03/2013	Vote in committee		
22/03/2013	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A7-0110/2013	Summary
13/06/2013	Decision by Parliament	T7-0273/2013	Summary
13/06/2013	Results of vote in Parliament		
13/06/2013	Debate in Parliament		
28/02/2017	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		
28/02/2017	End of procedure in Parliament		
14/03/2017	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information

Procedure reference	2011/0207(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Legislative instrument	Decision
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 217 Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 218-p6a
Other legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 165
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	DEVE/7/06686

Documentation gateway

European Parliament

Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee opinion	INTA	PE475.946	26/01/2012	
Committee draft report		PE480.585	04/02/2013	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A7-0110/2013	22/03/2013	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T7-0273/2013	13/06/2013	Summary

Council of the EU

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Document attached to the procedure	09565/2010	07/06/2010	
Legislative proposal	16894/2011	01/12/2011	Summary

European Commission

Document type	Reference	Date	Summary
Preparatory document	COM(2011)0469	26/07/2011	Summary

Additional information		
Source	**Document**	**Date**
National parliaments	IPEX	
European Commission	EUR-Lex	

Final act	
Decision 2017/0435 OJ L 067 14.03.2017, p. 0031	Summary

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 22/03/2013 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on Development adopted the report by Michael CASHMAN (S&D, UK) on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as first amended in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005.

The committee recommends the European Parliament to **give its consent** to the conclusion of the Agreement. It expresses its strongest reservations about parts of the Agreement which do not reflect the position of the European Parliament and the values of the Union.

Members urge all parties to revise the unsatisfactory clauses accordingly during a third revision of the Agreement, including the explicit introduction of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation within Article 8(4) (non-discrimination clause in policy dialogue).

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 13/06/2013 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the conclusion of the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as first amended in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005.

The European Parliament gives its consent to the conclusion of the Agreement **but it expresses its strongest reservations about parts of the Agreement which do not reflect the position of the European Parliament and the values of the Union**.

Parliament urges all parties to revise the unsatisfactory clauses accordingly during a third revision of the Agreement and to **include an explicit mention of non-discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation** within Article 8(4) (non-discrimination clause in policy dialogue) of the Agreement.

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 26/07/2011 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement amending for the second time the Cotonou Agreement signed on 23 June 2000.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: by decision of 23 February 2009, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States ('the ACP States') with a view to undertaking the second revision of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part ('the Cotonou Agreement').

In line with Article 95 (3) of the Cotonou Agreement, the negotiations were successfully concluded by an extraordinary Joint Ministerial meeting on 19 March 2010 with the negotiators initialling the texts which aimed at amending the Agreement, the parties thus endorsing the outcome of the negotiations.

By Decision 2010/648/EU of 14 May 2010, the Council authorised the signing of the agreement. The Amending Agreement, which is the result of the negotiations, was consequently signed by both sides on 22 June 2010 at the ACP-EU Council of Ministers held in Ouagadougou, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

Article 95(3) of the Cotonou Agreement authorised the Joint Council to adopt transitional measures in respect of the amended provisions until they come into force. By Council Decision 2010/614/EU of 14 June 2010, the Council approved the position to be adopted by the European Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers concerning the transitional measures, and by Decision No 2/2010 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers of 21 June 2010, the amending provisions are provisionally applied, **as from 31 October 2010**. This decision also calls on Parties to complete all the necessary procedures to ensure the full entry into force of the Agreement within two years from the date of its signature.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact was carried out.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218 paragraph 6, 2nd subparagraph, littera (a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as amended for a first time in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, is hereby concluded on behalf of the Union.

To recall, the Cotonou Agreement is the most comprehensive partnership agreement between developing countries and the EU. Since 2000, it has been the framework for the EU's relations with 79 ACP countries. The first revision took place in 2005. It prepared the ground for the second revision which **adapts the partnership** to changes which have taken place over the last decade, in particular:

- **The growing importance of regional integration in ACP countries and in ACP-EU cooperation is reflected**: its role in fostering cooperation and peace and security, in promoting growth and in tackling cross-border challenges is emphasized. In Africa, the continental dimension is also recognized, and the African Union becomes a partner of the EU-ACP relationship.
- **Security and fragility**: no development can take place without a secure environment. The new agreement highlights the interdependence between security and development and tackles security threats jointly. Attention is paid to peace building and conflict prevention. A comprehensive approach combining diplomacy, security and development cooperation is developed for situations of State fragility.
- Our ACP partners face major challenges if they are to meet the Millennium Development Goals, food security, HIV-AIDS and sustainability of fisheries. The importance of each of these areas for sustainable development, growth and poverty reduction is underlined, and joint approaches for our cooperation are now agreed.
- **Climate change**: For the first time, the EU and the ACP recognize the global challenge of climate change as a major subject for their partnership. The parties commit to raising the profile of climate change in their development cooperation, and to support ACP efforts in mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
- **Trade**: the trade chapter of the Agreement reflects the new trade relationship and the expiry of preferences at the end of 2007. It reaffirms the role of the Economic Partnership Agreements to boost economic development and integration into the world economy. The revised Agreement highlights the challenges ACP countries are facing to integrate better into the world economy, in particular the effects of preference erosion. It therefore underlines the importance of trade adaptation strategies and aid for trade.
- **More actors in the partnership**: the EU has been promoting a broad and inclusive partnership with ACP partners. The new agreement clearly recognizes the role of national parliaments, local authorities, civil society and private sector.
- **More impact, more value for money**: this second revision is instrumental in putting in practice the internationally agreed aid effectiveness principles, in particular donor coordination. It will also untie EU aid to the ACP countries to reduce transaction costs. For the first time, the role of other EU policies for the development of ACP countries is recognized and the EU commits to enhance the coherence of those policies to this end.

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 01/12/2011 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement amending for the second time the Cotonou Agreement signed on 23 June 2000.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: by decision of 23 February 2009, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States ('the ACP States') with a view to undertaking the second revision of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part ('the Cotonou Agreement').

In line with Article 95 (3) of the Cotonou Agreement, the negotiations were successfully concluded by an extraordinary Joint Ministerial meeting on 19 March 2010 with the negotiators initialling the texts which aimed at amending the Agreement, the parties thus endorsing the outcome of the negotiations.

By Decision 2010/648/EU of 14 May 2010, the Council authorised the signing of the agreement. The Amending Agreement, which is the result of the negotiations, was consequently signed by both sides on 22 June 2010 at the ACP-EU Council of Ministers held in Ouagadougou, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

Article 95(3) of the Cotonou Agreement authorised the Joint Council to adopt transitional measures in respect of the amended provisions until they come into force. By Council Decision 2010/614/EU of 14 June 2010, the Council approved the position to be adopted by the European Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers concerning the transitional measures, and by Decision No 2/2010 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers of 21 June 2010, the amending provisions are provisionally applied, **as from 31 October 2010**. This decision also calls on Parties to complete all the necessary procedures to ensure the full entry into force of the Agreement within two years from the date of its signature.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact was carried out.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218 paragraph 6, 2nd subparagraph, littera (a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as amended for a first time in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, is hereby concluded on behalf of the Union.

To recall, the Cotonou Agreement is the most comprehensive partnership agreement between developing countries and the EU. Since 2000, it has been the framework for the EU's relations with 79 ACP countries. The first revision took place in 2005. It prepared the ground for the second revision which **adapts the partnership** to changes which have taken place over the last decade, in particular:

- **The growing importance of regional integration in ACP countries and in ACP-EU cooperation is reflected**: its role in fostering cooperation and peace and security, in promoting growth and in tackling cross-border challenges is emphasized. In Africa, the continental dimension is also recognized, and the African Union becomes a partner of the EU-ACP relationship.
- **Security and fragility**: no development can take place without a secure environment. The new agreement highlights the interdependence between security and development and tackles security threats jointly. Attention is paid to peace building and conflict prevention. A comprehensive approach combining diplomacy, security and development cooperation is developed for situations of State fragility.
- Our ACP partners face major challenges if they are to meet the Millennium Development Goals, food security, HIV-AIDS and sustainability of fisheries. The importance of each of these areas for sustainable development, growth and poverty reduction is underlined, and joint approaches for our cooperation are now agreed.
- **Climate change**: For the first time, the EU and the ACP recognize the global challenge of climate change as a major subject for their partnership. The parties commit to raising the profile of climate change in their development cooperation, and to support ACP efforts in mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
- **Trade**: the trade chapter of the Agreement reflects the new trade relationship and the expiry of preferences at the end of 2007. It reaffirms the role of the Economic Partnership Agreements to boost economic development and integration into the world economy. The revised Agreement highlights the challenges ACP countries are facing to integrate better into the world economy, in particular the effects of preference erosion. It therefore underlines the importance of trade adaptation strategies and aid for trade.
- **More actors in the partnership**: the EU has been promoting a broad and inclusive partnership with ACP partners. The new agreement clearly recognizes the role of national parliaments, local authorities, civil society and private sector.
- **More impact, more value for money**: this second revision is instrumental in putting in practice the internationally agreed aid effectiveness principles, in particular donor coordination. It will also untie EU aid to the ACP countries to reduce transaction costs. For the first time, the role of other EU policies for the development of ACP countries is recognized and the EU commits to enhance the coherence of those policies to this end.

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 29/03/2012

PURPOSE: to conclude the Agreement amending for the second time the Cotonou Agreement signed on 23 June 2000.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

BACKGROUND: by decision of 23 February 2009, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States ('the ACP States') with a view to undertaking the second revision of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part ('the Cotonou Agreement').

In line with Article 95 (3) of the Cotonou Agreement, the negotiations were successfully concluded by an extraordinary Joint Ministerial meeting on 19 March 2010 with the negotiators initialling the texts which aimed at amending the Agreement, the parties thus endorsing the outcome of the negotiations.

By Decision 2010/648/EU of 14 May 2010, the Council authorised the signing of the agreement. The Amending Agreement, which is the result of the negotiations, was consequently signed by both sides on 22 June 2010 at the ACP-EU Council of Ministers held in Ouagadougou, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

Article 95(3) of the Cotonou Agreement authorised the Joint Council to adopt transitional measures in respect of the amended provisions until they come into force. By Council Decision 2010/614/EU of 14 June 2010, the Council approved the position to be adopted by the European Union within the ACP-EU Council of Ministers concerning the transitional measures, and by Decision No 2/2010 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers of 21 June 2010, the amending provisions are provisionally applied, **as from 31 October 2010**. This decision also calls on Parties to complete all the necessary procedures to ensure the full entry into force of the Agreement within two years from the date of its signature.

IMPACT ASSESSMENT: no impact was carried out.

LEGAL BASIS: Article 217, in conjunction with Article 218 paragraph 6, 2nd subparagraph, littera (a) of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

CONTENT: under this proposed Decision, the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as amended for a first time in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, is hereby concluded on behalf of the Union.

To recall, the Cotonou Agreement is the most comprehensive partnership agreement between developing countries and the EU. Since 2000, it has been the framework for the EU's relations with 79 ACP countries. The first revision took place in 2005. It prepared the ground for the second revision which **adapts the partnership** to changes which have taken place over the last decade, in particular:

- **The growing importance of regional integration in ACP countries and in ACP-EU cooperation is reflected**: its role in fostering cooperation and peace and security, in promoting growth and in tackling cross-border challenges is emphasized. In Africa, the continental dimension is also recognized, and the African Union becomes a partner of the EU-ACP relationship.
- **Security and fragility**: no development can take place without a secure environment. The new agreement highlights the interdependence between security and development and tackles security threats jointly. Attention is paid to peace building and conflict prevention. A comprehensive approach combining diplomacy, security and development cooperation is developed for situations of State fragility.
- Our ACP partners face major challenges if they are to meet the Millennium Development Goals, food security, HIV-AIDS and sustainability of fisheries. The importance of each of these areas for sustainable development, growth and poverty reduction is underlined, and joint approaches for our cooperation are now agreed.
- **Climate change**: For the first time, the EU and the ACP recognize the global challenge of climate change as a major subject for their partnership. The parties commit to raising the profile of climate change in their development cooperation, and to support ACP efforts in mitigating and adapting to the effects of climate change.
- **Trade**: the trade chapter of the Agreement reflects the new trade relationship and the expiry of preferences at the end of 2007. It reaffirms the role of the Economic Partnership Agreements to boost economic development and integration into the world economy. The revised Agreement highlights the challenges ACP countries are facing to integrate better into the world economy, in particular the effects of preference erosion. It therefore underlines the importance of trade adaptation strategies and aid for trade.
- **More actors in the partnership**: the EU has been promoting a broad and inclusive partnership with ACP partners. The new agreement clearly recognizes the role of national parliaments, local authorities, civil society and private sector.
- **More impact, more value for money**: this second revision is instrumental in putting in practice the internationally agreed aid effectiveness principles, in particular donor coordination. It will also untie EU aid to the ACP countries to reduce transaction costs. For the first time, the role of other EU policies for the development of ACP countries is recognized and the EU commits to enhance the coherence of those policies to this end.

EU/ACP Agreement: second revision of the EC/African, Caribbean and Pacific States' 2000 Cotonou Partnership Agreement

2011/0207(NLE) - 28/02/2017 - Final act

PURPOSE: to conclude an agreement amending, for the second time, the Cotonou Agreement of June 2000.

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACT: Council Decision (EU) 2017/435 on the conclusion of the Agreement amending for the second time the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States, of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000, as first amended in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005.

BACKGROUND: In its decision of 23 February 2009, the Council authorised the Commission to open negotiations with the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP States) with a view to the second revision of the Partnership Agreement between the ACP States and the European Community and its Member States of the other part (the Cotonou Agreement).

In accordance with Council Decision 2010/648/EU, the Agreement amending the Cotonou Agreement for the second time was signed by the parties on 22 June 2010 at the ACP-EU Council in Ouagadougou, subject to its conclusion at a later date.

In accordance with Decision No 2/2010 of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the Agreement has been applied on a provisional basis since 31 October 2010.

It is now appropriate to approve the agreement on behalf of the EU.

CONTENT: With this Decision, the Agreement amending, for the second time, the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States of the one part, and the European Community and its Member States, of the other part, signed in Cotonou on 23 June 2000 and amended for the first time in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005, is hereby concluded on behalf of the Union.

As a reminder, the Cotonou Agreement is the most comprehensive partnership agreement between developing countries and the EU.

Since 2000, it has been the framework for EU relations with all ACP countries.

Main provisions of the 2nd revision of the Cotonou Agreement: this revision of the Cotonou Agreement adapts the existing partnership in the following ways:

- **the increasing importance of regional integration in ACP countries and in EU-ACP cooperation:** the role of the EU in promoting cooperation, peace and security, in growth development and in the resolution Cross-border issues is highlighted;
- **security and fragility:** the amended agreement aims to focus on the interdependence between security and development and to jointly address security threats. It pays special attention to peacebuilding and conflict prevention. It provides for a comprehensive approach, combining diplomacy, security and development cooperation for situations of state fragility;
- **ACP challenges:** food security, fight against HIV/AIDS and sustainability of fisheries resources are the main challenges in the context of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). These are addressed in the renewed agreement. The importance of each of these areas for sustainable development, growth and poverty reduction is highlighted and common approaches to cooperation have been endorsed;
- **climate change:** for the first time, the EU and ACP countries recognise that the global challenge of climate change is an important aspect of their partnership. The Parties undertake to place greater emphasis on climate change in their development cooperation and to support ACP efforts to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change;
- **trade:** the trade chapter of the agreement reflects the new trade relationship and the expiry of preferences at the end of 2007. It reaffirms the role of the Economic Partnership Agreements in promoting economic development and the global economy. The revised agreement highlights the challenges faced by ACP countries in integrating into the global economy, including the effects of the expiry of preferences. It therefore stresses the importance of trade adaptation strategies and Aid for Trade;
- **more actors in the partnership:** the EU promotes a broad and solidarity-based partnership with the ACP countries. The renewed agreement clearly recognises the role of national parliaments, local authorities, civil society and the private sector in this regard;
- **more impact, more value for money:** the revision of the Cotonou Agreement finally makes it possible to put into practice the internationally agreed principles on aid effectiveness, in particular **donor coordination**. It also unlocks EU aid to ACP countries to reduce transaction costs. For the first time, the role of other EU policies in the development of the ACP countries is recognised and the EU commits itself to reinforcing the consistency of policies to this end.

ENTRY INTO FORCE: the Decision enters into force on 28.2.2017.