



Basic information	
<p>2024/0245(NLE)</p> <p>NLE - Non-legislative enactments</p> <p>EU/Cameroon Voluntary Partnership Agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the EU (FLEGT): termination</p> <p>Accompanying procedure 2024/0245M(NLE)</p> <p>Subject</p> <p>3.10.11 Forestry policy 6.20.03 Bilateral economic and trade agreements and relations 6.30 Development cooperation</p> <p>Geographical area</p> <p>Cameroon</p>	<p>Procedure completed, awaiting publication in Official Journal</p>

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	INTA International Trade	KARLSBRO Karin (Renew)	14/10/2024
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	DEVE Development	MIRANDA PAZ Ana (Greens/EFA)	18/03/2025
Council of the European Union			
European Commission	Commission DG	Commissioner	
	International Cooperation and Development	SIKELA Jozef	

Key events			
Date	Event	Reference	Summary
02/10/2024	Preparatory document	COM(2024)0446 	Summary
18/02/2025	Legislative proposal published	05673/2025	Summary
31/03/2025	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
15/05/2025	Vote in committee		
16/05/2025	Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading	A10-0089/2025	Summary

17/06/2025	Decision by Parliament	T10-0118/2025	Summary
17/06/2025	Results of vote in Parliament		
09/07/2025	Act adopted by Council after consultation of Parliament		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2024/0245(NLE)
Procedure type	NLE - Non-legislative enactments
Procedure subtype	Consent by Parliament
Amendments and repeals	Accompanying procedure 2024/0245M(NLE)
Legal basis	Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union TFEU 207-p4 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, awaiting publication in Official Journal
Committee dossier	INTA/10/01117

Documentation gateway				
European Parliament				
Document type	Committee	Reference	Date	Summary
Committee draft report		PE766.977	14/03/2025	
Committee opinion	DEVE	PE771.837	25/04/2025	
Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading		A10-0089/2025	16/05/2025	Summary
Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading		T10-0118/2025	17/06/2025	Summary
Council of the EU				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Legislative proposal	05673/2025	18/02/2025	Summary	
European Commission				
Document type	Reference	Date	Summary	
Preparatory document	COM(2024)0446 	02/10/2024	Summary	

Additional information		
Source	Document	Date

Meetings with interest representatives published in line with the Rules of Procedure

Rapporteurs, Shadow Rapporteurs and Committee Chairs

Transparency				
Name	Role	Committee	Date	Interest representatives
KARLSBRO Karin	Rapporteur	INTA	28/01/2025	Fern

EU/Cameroon Voluntary Partnership Agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the EU (FLEGT): termination

2024/0245(NLE) - 17/06/2025 - Text adopted by Parliament, 1st reading/single reading

The European Parliament adopted, by 583 votes to 78, with 8 abstentions, a legislative resolution on the draft Council decision on the termination of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union (FLEGT).

Parliament gave its **consent** to the termination of the agreement.

The Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and timber products to the European Union (FLEGT) was signed on 6 October 2010. The VPA entered into force on 1 December 2011 for a period of seven years, tacitly renewable for periods of the same duration, unless a party notifies its intention not to renew the VPA at least twelve months before the expiry of the current period.

The Republic of Cameroon has not been able to fulfil its obligations under the VPA, namely with regard to the progress made in establishing the FLEGT licensing scheme, which aims to verify and certify, by means of a FLEGT licence, that timber and derived products exported to the Union are produced or acquired legally.

The draft Council decision aims to approve, on behalf of the Union, the termination of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union (FLEGT). The VPA will cease to apply no later than twelve months after the date of notification to the Republic of Cameroon.

In parallel, Parliament adopted a [non-legislative resolution](#) on the draft Council decision.

EU/Cameroon Voluntary Partnership Agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the EU (FLEGT): termination

2024/0245(NLE) - 02/10/2024 - Preparatory document

PURPOSE: to terminate the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement governance and trade in timber and derived products to the Union.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the EU action plan on forest law enforcement, governance and trade (FLEGT) 1 was adopted in 2003. It aims to support global efforts in tackling the problem of illegal logging and its associated trade. A key aspect of the FLEGT action plan was the conclusion of voluntary partnership agreements (VPAs) between the European Union (EU) and timber-producing countries in order to establish a legal framework ensuring that all timber exported to the EU was legally produced or acquired.

The VPA between the EU and the Republic of Cameroon entered into force on 1 December 2011.

Despite the EU's attempt, the Republic of Cameroon has not been able to fulfil its obligations under the VPA, namely in relation to the establishment of the FLEGT licensing scheme aimed at verifying and attesting by means of a FLEGT license that timber and derived products exported to the European Union are legally produced or acquired.

The governance of the forest sector has worsened despite the existence of the VPA. The Republic of Cameroon's timber exports have also shifted to Asian markets, diluting the economic incentive of the VPA, and consequently the relevance of FLEGT licence.

Regulation (EU) No 2023/1115 on deforestation recognises ongoing bilateral commitments and invites the EU (Recital 81) to work, where relevant and agreed, with current VPA partners towards them reaching that (FLEGT licensing) stage. Given that the Republic of Cameroon has not fulfilled its obligations under the VPA, the Commission considers that the VPA no longer meets the 'relevance' requirement in Recital 81 of the EU Deforestation Regulation. Consequently, it appears that the termination of the VPA with the Republic of Cameroon is the most appropriate course of action to better contribute to the implementation of the EU Deforestation Regulation and to preserve the credibility and integrity of the VPA as an EU trade instrument.

The VPA was concluded on behalf of the European Union and following its conclusion by the Republic of Cameroon it entered into force on 1 December 2011. Under Article 27 of the VPA, it will remain in force for seven years and will be renewable by tacit agreement between the Parties for periods of the same length, unless one Party terminates it by notifying the other Party of its decision at least 12 months before the period in question expires. The VPA was tacitly renewed on 1 December 2018 and the current period expires on 30 November 2025.

CONTENT : the Commission proposes that the Council approve the **termination of the VPA** between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union that entered into force on 1 December 2011.

EU/Cameroon Voluntary Partnership Agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the EU (FLEGT): termination

2024/0245(NLE) - 16/05/2025 - Committee report tabled for plenary, 1st reading/single reading

The Committee on International Trade adopted the report by Karin KARLSBRO (Renew, SE) on the draft Council decision on the termination of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union.

The committee recommended that Parliament **give its consent** to the termination of the agreement.

The Commission proposed that the Council decide to approve, on behalf of the Union, the termination of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA) between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union (FLEGT), which entered into force on 1 December 2011. The VPA will cease to apply no later than twelve months after the date of notification to the Republic of Cameroon.

At the same time, it is worth noting the adoption of a [report](#) containing a proposal for a non-legislative resolution on the Council's proposal for a decision.

EU/Cameroon Voluntary Partnership Agreement on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the EU (FLEGT): termination

2024/0245(NLE) - 18/02/2025 - Legislative proposal

PURPOSE: to terminate the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement governance and trade in timber and derived products to the Union.

PROPOSED ACT: Council Decision.

ROLE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT: Council may adopt the act only if Parliament has given its consent to the act.

BACKGROUND: the Voluntary Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade in timber and derived products to the European Union (FLEGT) was signed on 6 October 2010.

In accordance with Council Decision 2011/201/EU, the VPA was concluded on behalf of the Union. Following its conclusion by the Republic of Cameroon, the VPA entered into force on 1 December 2011 for a period of seven years, renewable by tacit agreement for periods of the same length unless one party notifies its intention not to renew the VPA at least 12 months before the expiry of the period under way.

The Republic of **Cameroon has not been able to fulfil its obligations** under the VPA, namely in relation to the progress in establishing the FLEGT licensing scheme aimed at verifying and attesting, by means of a FLEGT licence, that timber and derived products exported to the Union are legally produced or acquired.

Therefore, the Commission believes that the VPA will not enable timber and timber products from the Republic of Cameroon to benefit from the provisions of Regulation (EU) No 995/2010 of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down the obligations of operators who place timber and timber products on the market and, as of 30 December 2025, of certain provisions of Regulation (EU) 2023/1115 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the making available on the Union market and the export from the Union of certain commodities and products associated with deforestation and forest degradation.

It is therefore appropriate that the VPA should cease to apply. It should either not be renewed beyond 30 November 2025 or should be terminated as soon as possible thereafter. Due to time constraints, the Union can no longer avail itself of the possibility of notifying a non-renewal beyond 30 November 2025 pursuant to Article 27 of the VPA. Pursuant to Article 28 of the VPA, either Party may denounce the VPA by notifying the other Party. In such a case, the VPA would cease to apply 12 months after the date of such notification.

CONTENT: the Commission proposes that the Council should decide to approve, on behalf of the Union, the **termination of the Voluntary Partnership Agreement (VPA)** between the European Union and the Republic of Cameroon on forest law enforcement, governance and trade in timber and derived products to the European Union (FLEGT) that entered into force on 1 December 2011. The VPA will cease to apply no later than 12 months after the date of notification to the Republic of Cameroon.