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TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

(Second Session)

REPORT OF THE 51st SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY AND
INTER-SESSIONAL MEETINGS OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY
ASSEMBLY

Brussels, Belgium

9th to 11th October, 2018

THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
PAPERS LAID

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BY:

Hon. Dido Raso

on behalf of chair

CLERK-AT

THE TABLE:

Miriam Mado

Clerks Chambers
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NAIROBI

October, 2018

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ABBREVIATIONS

ACP: African, Caribbean and Pacific

ACP-PA: African, Caribbean and Pacific Parliamentary Assembly

AU: African Union

AfCFTA: African Continental Free Trade Area

EC: European Commission

EU: European Union

JPA: Joint Parliamentary Assembly

ACP-EU JPA: African, Caribbean and Pacific – European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly

EPAs: Economic Partnership Agreements

EDF: European Development Fund

MSMEs: Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

PREFACE

Mr. Speaker,

The Inter-Sessional meetings of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) and European Union Joint Parliamentary Assembly (ACP-EU JPA) took place in Brussels, Belgium, on 11th October 2018. The Session was preceded by meetings of the three Standing Committees and the plenary of the 51st Session of the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Parliamentary Assembly between 9th and 10th October 2018.

The Sessions and meetings were a follow-up to the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly and the 35th session of ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly that was held in June in Brussels, Belgium.

Mr. Speaker,

The Kenya delegation to this meeting comprised of the following -

- i) The Hon. Moses Cheboi, CBS, M.P. – Leader of Delegation
- ii) The Hon. Dido Ali Rasso, M.P.
- iii) The Hon. (Dr.) Christine Ombaka, M.P.
- iv) Sen. (Prof.) Margaret Kamar, EGH, M.P.
- v) Sen. Mohamed Faki Mwinyi, M.P.
- vi) Mr. Kipkemoi arap Kirui – Principal Clerk Assistant (National Assembly)
- vii) Ms. Marya Adjibodou – Delegation Secretary (Senate)
- viii) Mr. Joseph Kuria – Delegation Secretary (National Assembly)

The Kenya delegation was also joined by Ambassador Prof. Jacob Kaimenyi from the Embassy of the Republic of Kenya and Mission to the European Union in Brussels. The Ambassador briefed the delegation on issues pertaining the ACP-EU negotiations, he informed the delegation that Kenya and Ethiopia were selected to represent Africa in ACP-EU negotiations on a new Partnership Agreement; he also informed the delegation that former Senator Kembi Gitura was conducting a study on impact of ACP-EU. The members of the delegation contributed actively during all committee meetings and issued statements with regards to various topics that were under discussion.

Mr. Speaker,

As mentioned earlier, the Inter-Sessional meetings for ACP-EU JPA was preceded by meetings of the three Standing Committees on Political Affairs; Economic Development, Trade and Finance and Committee on Social Affairs and Environment. The Committees adopted the Summary Record of the Committees meetings held in Brussels on 13th June 2018. During the 51st session of the ACP parliamentary assembly the Chairpersons of the standing Committees presented reports on topical

issues such as *the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking; Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of Economic transformation in ACP countries; and Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking.* The reports were thereafter discussed at the Joint Assembly.

Mr. Speaker,

The JPA deliberated on various matters of concern to the Member States. Further, deliberations were conducted on a variety of topics, under various JPA committees. JPA Committee on Political affairs discussed various topics namely, *the strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU partnership, political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement, human trafficking –Legal and institutional dimension, the role of the diaspora in ACP relations, among others.*

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade considered the draft report on *Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of Economic transformation in ACP countries, The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries, and particularly to remote areas, the committee also exchanged views on Economic Partnership Agreements: state of play of negotiations and implementation among others topics.*

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment exchanged views with European Commission on *follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries, Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries, they further discussed on Promoting women's and girl's health: taking stock of commitments and progress.*

The delegation also attended High-Level Conference on the Future of International Election Observation at the European Parliament on 10th October 2018.

Mr. Speaker,

The delegation is grateful to the Speakers of the two Houses for allowing them to attend the Session, for facilitating travel and accommodation and providing logistical and technical support in liaison with the offices of the Clerks from the two Houses.

It is now my pleasant duty, on behalf of the delegation, to present and commend this report to the House for noting.


.....
HON. MOSES CHEBOI, CBS, M.P, DEPUTY SPEAKER NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

LEADER OF THE DELEGATION

DATE: 19.02.2019

1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 The ACP group

1. The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) is an organisation created by the Georgetown Agreement in 1975. It is composed of 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific states, with all of them, save Cuba, signatories to the Cotonou Agreement, also known as the "ACP-EC Partnership Agreement" which binds them to the European Union. There are 48 countries from Sub-Saharan Africa, 16 from the Caribbean and 15 from the Pacific.

Objectives

2. The ACP Group's main objectives are:

- sustainable development of its Member-States and their gradual integration into the global economy, which entails making poverty reduction a matter of priority and establishing a new, fairer, and more equitable world order ;
- coordination of the activities of the ACP Group in the framework of the implementation of ACP-EC Partnership Agreements;
- consolidation of unity and solidarity among ACP States, as well as understanding among their peoples ;
- establishment and consolidation of peace and stability in a free and democratic society.

1.2 The European Union

3. The EU was not always as big as it is today. When European countries started to cooperate economically in 1951, only Belgium, Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg and the Netherlands participated.

4. Over time, more and more countries decided to join. The Union reached its current size of 28 EU countries.

1.3 ACP/EU relations

5. The African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) is an organization that was created by the Georgetown Agreement in 1975. It is composed of 79 African, Caribbean and Pacific States, with all of them, save Cuba, signatories to the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA).

6. The ACP and the European Union (EU) have a special relationship (co-operation) premised on the framework of the successive conventions, the Yaoundé Conventions (1963 & 1968); the successive Lomé Conventions (Lomé I-IV) and the successor, the Cotonou Agreement (June 2000) and the Revised Cotonou Agreement, (June 2005) and the Second Revised Cotonou Agreement (June 2010).

7. The objective of the ACP-EU partnership remains to reduce and eventually eradicate poverty, sustainable development and the gradual integration of the ACP countries into the world economy. The partnership is based on three pillars: development cooperation, economic and trade cooperation and political dimension (dialogue).

8. The European Development Fund (EDF) which is the main financial instrument used by the EU for the ACP Group programmes was established in 1957 well before the wave of independence in Africa. The funds are disbursed in five year envelopes for National, Regional and Intra-ACP programmes based on pre-agreed criteria.

9. The joint institutions of this Agreement are the Council of Ministers (Art.15), the Committee of Ambassadors (Art.16) and the Joint Parliamentary Assembly (Art.17). The parties meet at the level of Heads of States and Government upon joint agreement.

1.4 AU/EU relations

10. The first formalization of relations between the AU (then the Organization of African Unity) and the EU was the establishment of a framework for political dialogue at a summit in Cairo in April 2000. It was cemented in 2007 with the development of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy (JAES) which sets out the shared values, interests and strategic objectives between Africa and Europe.

11. In the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, the AU is the main player as are Member States of the AU, whereas this is not the case at the ACP where AU is only an **Observer**. In the AU-EU Strategic Partnership, the AU participates as a single indivisible entity which is what the AU has always insisted upon (now that all 55 African countries are Members of the AU).

12. The 5th AU-EU Summit declaration released at the end of the summit meeting in Abidjan on 30th November 2017, focused on a stronger, deeper and more action-oriented strategic partnership for more prosperity and stability of the two continents. It spelt out policy priorities and action plans for 2018-2020 and beyond which are closely linked to the Global strategy for the EU's Foreign and Security Policy. The overall cooperation strategy is aligned to Africa Union own Agenda 2063 and

is guided by international frameworks such as the UN's 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Addis Ababa Action Agenda (AAAA) on financing for development and the Paris Agreement on climate change

1.5 The Joint Parliamentary Assembly

Role of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly

13. The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly was created out of a common desire to bring together the elected representatives of the European Union - the Members of the European Parliament - and the elected representatives of the African, Caribbean and Pacific states ("ACP countries") that have signed the Cotonou Agreement: it is the only institution of its kind in the world.

14. The role of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, as set out in the Cotonou Agreement (Article 17), is to:

- promote democratic processes through dialogue and consultation;
- facilitate greater understanding between the peoples of the European Union and those of the ACP States and raise public awareness of development issues;
- Discuss issues pertaining to development and the ACP-EU Partnership;
- Adopt resolutions and make recommendations to the Council of Ministers with a view to achieving the objectives of this Agreement;
- Advocate for institutional development and capacity building of national parliaments.

15. The ACP/EU JPA is the only international assembly in which the representatives of various countries sit together regularly with the aim of promoting the interdependence of North and South.

16. Since the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union and EU enlargement it has acquired a more prominent role. A substantial part of the work of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly is directed towards promoting human rights and democracy and the common values of humanity, and this has produced joint commitments undertaken within the framework of the UN conferences.

17. The JPA plays a unique role of parliamentary scrutiny over the other ACP/EU institutions, holding formal question time sittings with the European Commission and the ACP and EU Council Presidency every session. Moreover the European Commission is required to report to the JPA on its action undertaken to follow up on previous JPA resolutions.

18. The JPA has also obtained important powers of scrutiny over the Country, Regional and Thematic Strategy Papers for the ACP regions and countries, ensuring there is proper parliamentary discussion and analysis of current and planned EDF spending within the ACP group of countries.

19. Members of ACP States parliaments or, in cases of force majeure, representatives designated by the parliament of each ACP State, meet their European Parliament counterparts in plenary session

for one week twice a year. Once in an ACP State and once, usually, in the EU Member State which holds the rotating Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

20. The JPA institution is governed by common, democratic rules set out in its Rules of Procedure. Two Co-Presidents, one from the EP and the other from an ACP region, direct its work. Twenty-four Vice-Presidents (12 European and 12 ACP) make up its Bureau together with the two Co-Presidents.

21. The Bureau meets at least four times a year in order to ensure the continuity of the work of the Assembly and to prepare new initiatives aimed notably at reinforcing and improving cooperation. It also considers topical political questions and adopts positions on human rights cases.

22. The JPA Bureau sends fact-finding missions to ACP or EU States, publishes reports and organises election observation missions. These exploratory or fact-finding missions ensures direct contact with the situation on the ground in the various countries which are signatories of the Cotonou Agreement

23. Three Standing Committees were established in 2003. They draw up substantive proposals which are then submitted to the Joint Parliamentary Assembly. These Committees are: Committee on Political Affairs; Committee on Economic Development, Finance & Trade and Committee on Social Affairs & the Environment

24. Since 2008 the JPA has started to hold regional meetings in each of the six ACP regions, as provided for in the Cotonou Agreement. Each regional meeting addresses the ongoing (Economic Partnership Agreements) EPA negotiations/implementations for the region in question as well as discussing matters of common interest to the States in the region, such as the attainment of the (Sustainable Development Goals)SDGs, regional integration and climate change.

25. The Joint Parliamentary Assembly has made an active contribution towards implementing and reinforcing successive ACP-EU Conventions and has put forward numerous proposals:

- The upgrading of the role of women in the development process;
- The integration of environment policy in development projects;
- Promotion of Trade as a tool for development, particularly by way of the Economic Partnership Agreements foreseen in the Cotonou Agreement;
- The drawing-up of rural development programmes and micro-projects tailored to the needs of specific communities;
- The improvement of measures aimed at combating epidemics and the reinforcement of health and hygiene services;
- The creation of decentralized development policies;
- The convening of annual meetings between economic and social partners;
- The promotion of regional, political and commercial cooperation;

- Closer cooperation with non-governmental organisations engaged in development;
- Aid for indebted countries pursuing structural adjustment policies to allow them to maintain indispensable services;
- Measures to enhance the cultural dimension in North-South cooperation;
- The acceleration of aid procedures and the increase in appropriations intended for refugees and for displaced persons;
- Measures to reinforce the commitment to respect and defend human rights and human dignity.

1.6 Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA)

26. The ACP-EU **Economic Partnership Agreements (EPA)** are supposed to be special trade agreements which, like the Cotonou Agreement that spawned them, aim mainly to ensure the development of ACP countries and their gradual integration into the global economy.

27. They must be compatible with the rules of the World Trade Organisation. In addition to the gradual nature of any trade liberalisation among ACP countries, the EPAs must fulfil a second criterion, i.e. asymmetry, which means that they must take account of the difference in the levels of social and economic development between the European Union and ACP countries.

28. At the same time, the European Union will assist ACP countries and businesses to implement the necessary structural and macro-economic reforms, by building their capacities so as to enable them to better cope with the challenges of competition and globalization.

1.7 EPAs and the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA)

29. EPAs are part of a coherent drive towards enhanced economic integration of EPA countries, regionally and multilaterally. In Africa, trade integration increasingly has a continental dimension as African Union (AU) Members work to put in place an African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

30. The AfCFTA is an important framework agreement guiding ongoing AU negotiations on goods and services liberalisation, rules of origin, trade defence and dispute settlement, with further trade-related issues following in a second phase.

31. The EU is supporting this process politically, technically and financially. Most AU Members have experience negotiating the above issues under EPAs and **Free-Trade Agreement (FTAs)** with the EU, and a significant number are already implementing these agreements. There are indeed important synergies between EU trade policy and African Union policies, including AfCFTA.

32. Building on the AfCFTA, once implemented, the long-term perspective is even to create a comprehensive continent-to-continent free trade agreement between the EU and Africa.

1.8 ACP-EU trade

33. Trade with ACP countries has increased by 52% in the last ten years and represents 1.5% of EU exports and 1.4% of EU imports. The EU, in turn, is the main trade partner of ACP countries both for imports (27.9% of their imports) and for exports (20.3% of their exports). The EU is the main destination for agricultural and transformed goods from ACP countries – but commodities still represent a large share of ACP-EU trade. The EPAs intend to support trade diversification and manufacturing activity in ACP countries to create much needed jobs.

1.9 The European Development Fund (EDF)

34. The European Development Fund (EDF) is the main instrument for providing Community aid for development cooperation by the EU to the ACP States. The 1957 Treaty of Rome made provision for its creation with a view to granting technical and financial assistance, initially to African countries which at that time were still colonized, and with which some EU Member States had historical links.

35. The Intra-ACP projects will be financed using the resources allocated to the different indicative programme objectives of the 11th EDF, or through the mobilization of resources from the intra-ACP reserve, to the tune of EUR 805 million. The projects will include: Contribution to Health Systems Strengthening in ACP countries, Contribute to the improvement of ACP countries' Development Policies, Research and Innovation, and TVET Capacities, Intra-ACP Wildlife Trafficking Programme, Intra-ACP Fisheries and Aquaculture Blue Growth Programme, ACP Farmers' Organisations and Agri-tourism development, Technical Assistance to Support ACP Financial Institutions' access to Blending Resources, Minerals cluster, Spotlight Initiative, Global Partnership for Education, Support Programme for ACP SIDS and Coastal Countries and SPS and TBT Programme.

2 . MEETINGS OF THE ACP AND ACP-EU STANDING COMMITTEES

36. The ACP Committee Meetings took place on 9th and 10th October, 2018, to discuss and agree on common positions on the Agenda items scheduled for discussion by the JPA Committees. Subsequently, the JPA Committees met on 11th October, 2018, and discussed several matters -

2.1 ACP Committee on Political Affairs

37. After adopting its agenda and approving Minutes of the previous meeting, the Committee proceeded to consider the substantive agenda items as shown in Annex 1.

38. The Chair updated the Committee on unfortunate events that had taken place in several ACP States since the last meeting, she informed the members the following:

39. Mali –Islamist Militant Attacks; that on 29 June 2018 Islamist attacked the headquarters of the regional anti-terror G5 Force based in Mali. This was the first attack targeted at the office since the G5 office was set up in 2017. It was reported that six people died and many others injured.

40. Passing of the Kofi Annan –the Chair informed the Committee passing of the Kofi Annan on the 18th August 2018, who was the seventh Secretary General of the United Nations who served for two terms between 1997 and 2006. Kofi Annan is regarded as one of the peacemakers of the 20th Century and a global Statesman.

41. Tanzania –Capsized boat: The Chair informed the Committee that on 24th September, a boat capsized in Lake Victoria, in Tanzania leading to 127 deaths and many others injured.

42. Haiti-Earthquake: The Chair informed the Committee that on 6th October 2018, an earthquake of a magnitude of 5.9 hit Haiti killing 18 people and more than 500 people were injured.

43. Joint declaration of peace between Eritrea and Ethiopia: The Chair applauded the historic Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship between Eritrean President Isaias Afwerki and Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed, and commended the two leaders for choosing the courageous path of reconciliation champion for the rights of women.

44. The members considered the draft agenda for the meeting of the Joint Committee on Political Affairs, and addressed the main issues listed thereon.

45. The members deliberated at length on the draft motion for resolution on “The fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking” with the facilitation of Hon. Ousmane on behalf of the ACP Co-rapporteur who was absent. He recalled that the use of the online market, trade in drugs is not only becoming profitable activity, conducted on an ever-larger scale, but is also becoming a very difficult issue to comprehend, control and reversed. There is need to strengthen international, regional and sub-regional cooperation to effectively prevent, prosecute and punish crime, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of States through the national capacity of States through the provision of technical assistance. He called for the parliamentarians for the existing

laws be implemented. He expressed concern that little is known on drug seizures carried out on a daily basis in ACP countries. He stressed on the importance of reflecting an ACP perspective on the cybercrime and drug trafficking. He stated that the resolution has focused on an international approach but more input from the ACP especially the perceptives from the Caribbean and Pacific Region is needed.

46. Members called for the importance of having a balanced report by including the contribution of ACP countries and noted that the issue of drug trafficking could not be resolved by the law enforcement alone but also ensuring that there is proper engagement and orientation of the youth in view of unemployment. The Committee concluded that the resolution should be enriched with more ACP perceptives.

47. The Members also engaged in preliminary exchange of views on the topic of the Committee's next report, namely "The Strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU Partnership". Following which the Committee designated Hon. Sebastian Kopulande of Zambia as the ACP Co-Rapporteur.

48. In the interest of time, the Committee noted the items of exchanged of views that were to be discussed with the European counterparts during the Joint Committee meeting on Political Affairs held on 11th October 2018.

49. The members gave updates on political situation in their countries which included; Togo, Sudan, Tchad, Burkina Faso, Mali, Burundi, Haiti, Liberia, Lesotho, Ethiopia, Republic Democratic of Congo, Gabon, and Comoros.

50. As there were no matters arising, the meeting was adjourned.

2.2 ACP Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

51. After adopting its Agenda and approving Minutes of the previous meeting, the Committee proceeded to consider the substantive agenda items as shown in **Annex 2**.

52. The Chairperson informed the Meeting that pending designation by the Caribbean Region for the substantive Chair, Eritrea was continuing to preside over the deliberations of the committee in its capacity as the 1st Vice-Chair, and then proceeded with agenda.

53. The Committee approved the Summary Record of its deliberations in the last Meeting held on Thursday, 14 June 2018, at ACP Houser, Brussels, Belgium, with some corrections. Under matters arising, the Meeting-emphasised that the migrant issue from Africa to Europe is still a pertinent issue, which needs due consideration, supported by a comprehensive study.

54. The Meeting then deliberated on the items on the draft Agenda of the Meeting of JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment to be held on Thursday, 11 October 2018 at the European Parliament.

55. The Meeting considered the draft report on *Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking*. In presenting the draft report, the ACP Co-rapporteur, Hon. Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana), informed the Meeting of an important Conference on illegal Wildlife Trade which was being held in London from 11-12 October 2018, and noted that key themes of the Conference were very pertinent to the draft report. He then highlighted that the draft report takes note of the significant progress made in combating wildlife trafficking by organisations such as CITES, and Interpol. Hon. Mangole then underlined that the draft report sets a global context in which the ACP and EU calls for a global action, with strong law enforcement, to combat the supply of illegal wildlife products. During the exchange of views, the Meeting noted the need to also include the wild fauna and flora aspects of the Caribbean and Pacific regions in the draft report.

56. The Meeting also noted the need to ensure a balance of the ecosystem to accommodate human activity and the conservation of wildlife. The Meeting underlined that strong legislation is needed to support law enforcement agencies in combating wildlife trafficking. The need to engage all stakeholders, such as civil society and educators, in fighting wildlife trafficking, was also emphasised. The Meeting also recognised the for ACP countries to work with the EU to curtail the demand for wildlife products.

57. The Meeting appointed Hon. Joseph Yopy Yopy (Papua New Guinea) as the ACP Co-rapporteur on the next report on *“Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries”*

During the exchange of views on the subject matter, the Meeting noted the need for ACP countries to increase the allocation to education in their respective national budgets, to at least 12% as recommended by UNESCO. The need for political will to address the issue of out-of-school children was also underlined. The Meeting noted that many ACP countries offer free primary and secondary school education, however, many challenges remain such as; a) the provision of the needed infrastructure and facilities, b) the provision of qualified teachers, c) the large intakes as a result of free education, and d) poverty which forces families to keep their children out-of-school for domestic work.

Deliberations on this subject matter were to continue during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts, in the presence of invited guest speakers.

58. The Meeting took note of subject matter on *“Promoting women’s and girls’ health: taking stock of commitments and progress”*. Deliberations on this subject matter were to continue during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts, in the presence of guest speakers.

2.3 . ACP Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

59. The Committee met at ACP House under the guidance of its incumbent Chair, the Honourable Phel Parkies, and South African Member of Parliament. It adopted the meeting's agenda Annex 3, as well Summary Record of its previous meeting and the minutes of the last meeting of the ACP-EU Joint Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade.

60. In preparation for the meeting of the ACP-EU Joint Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade, that was scheduled to take place on 11 October 2018, ACP Committee members considered the substantive items on the meeting's agenda. This Summary Record presents the Committee's discussions and deliberations.

I. Consideration of the Draft Report on Small and Medium and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) Development at the Heart of Economic Transformation in ACP Countries

61. Under this item, Committee members considered the draft report presented by the ACP Co-Rapporteur, the Honourable Sangeet Fowdar of Mauritius.
62. The draft report recognises that the private sector is the engine of economic growth in the market economies. According to the United Nation, it presents a significant portion of the gross domestic product(GDP) of developing countries and can provide a stable basis for the mobilisation of domestic resources, which are essential to development. The draft report emphasised the crucial role that the private sector plays in investments in ACP countries in particular, the role of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in creating employment generating value chains, and the goods and services needed to transform the economies of ACP countries.
63. The report supports the implementation of strategic policies and economic and technical infrastructures for the ACP private sector, as well as the improvement of MSME access to affordable financing and the market. It focuses on job creation, in particular, for the youth, women, training for skilled workers, innovation, technology and access to digital technology, knowledge management, as well as innovative investments solutions.
64. Finally, the report makes recommendations that seek to improve the business environment and more specifically, on improving the legal framework and strengthening the institutional framework, access to flexible financing, the efficient use of European Union (EU) aid, capacity building, the promotion of partnerships between MSMEs in ACP countries and the EU, information sharing and best practices.
65. Committee members highlighted the considerable potential of the private sector's contribution to GDP and poverty reduction (job creation, revenue generation), and consequently stressed the

importance of private sector development. They also underscored the difficulties MSMEs in ACP countries face, such as access to credit, weak infrastructures, and market access.

66. Committee members underscored the public authorities' responsibility with regard to private sector development, in order to strengthen the productivity and competitiveness of ACP MSMEs and called for a strong resolution on MSMEs in the next context of ACP-EU cooperation. In light of this, the Secretariat asked the Committee members to study the report and to propose amendments in order to enhance the draft resolution.
67. The Secretariat also informed Committee members of the private sector development projects related to joint ACP-EU cooperation, under 11th EDF intra-ACP cooperation.

II. The Opportunities provided by Renewable Energies to bring Sustainable Economic Development to ACP Countries, and particularly to Remote Areas

68. The 31st report of the ACP-EU Joint Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade will address the issue of the opportunities provided by renewable energies they relate to sustainable economic development in the ACP countries, and more specifically, in rural areas. Energy is critical to sustainable development and economic growth, especially in ACP countries, which suffer from an energy deficit. ACP countries need sources of sustainable energy to provide their growing populations with the basic goods and services needed to develop their economic potential, especially in remote rural areas, where there is either no or very little infrastructure available.
69. The report on this topic, will give the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly an opportunity to discuss and to reflect on how renewable energies can help to improve the energy supply to and sustainable development of ACP countries, and to take into consideration the relationship between the use of energy sources and the effects on the environment.
70. Under this item, Committee members proceeded with the appointment of the ACP Co-Rapporteur responsible for the drafting the report. To this end, the Honourable Clifford Andre, Seychelles Member of Parliament, was appointed ACP Co-Rapporteur.

III. Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027: Impact of the Budgetization of the European Development Fund (EDF) on ACP-EU Cooperation.

71. In May 2018, the European Commission (EC) presented the draft of the European Union's (EU) Multiannual Financial Framework for the period 2021-2027. Under the heading "Neighbourhood and the World," which deals with the EU's external action, the EC justifies its proposal by citing the need to streamline and ensure the effectiveness of its development finance instruments. However, given the current situation, the EDF's integration into the EU budget,

which involves applying the EU's internal budgetary principles and financial procedures, will have negative consequences for ACP-EU financial cooperation.

72. In order to inform Committee members of this important matter that affects the effectiveness of development finance cooperation, the Secretariat gave a presentation on the impact of budgetizing the EDF. The idea of budgetizing the EDF is not new, but it has never managed to garner the unanimous support needed for its approval. However, the political and economic contexts have changed. The European Parliament's willingness to take effective control of all of the EU's external action, including the EDF, the EC's willingness to increase its management responsibilities, as well as the EU Council's efforts to increase control over the EC's external actions, could encourage EDF budgetization.
73. The budgetization of the EDF, which involves applying the EU's budget principles and the EC's internal procedures, would make ACP countries lose the gains and benefits of EDF, more specifically, the predictability, co-management, and flexibility of the resource allocation system and intra-ACP cooperation. In addition, it would no longer be a financing instrument that is specific to and a historic part of ACP-EU relations.
74. In their discussions, Committee members underscored the importance of the EDF, which has made considerable contribution to development financing in ACP countries and indicated their commitment to the EDF, in keeping with the ACP Group's negotiating mandate for a post-Cotonou agreement. Because of the effectiveness of development cooperation and the uniqueness of the ACP-EU relationship, they also requested that the EDF be kept off the EU budget, as a special ACP-EU cooperation financing instrument.

75. Committee members lamented that they were not involved in the discussions of EDF financing actions, in general, nor in the post-Cotonou development financing negotiations, in particular.

IV. Economic Partnership Agreements: State of Play of Negotiations and Implementation

76. The Secretariat presented the state of play of the EPAs in the negotiating regions. There were no new developments since the last Committee meeting in June. Committee members were informed that the ACP Trade Ministers would meet at the end of October 2018 and the conclusions of this meeting would be presented to them at the next session of the Committee in Cotonou, Benin, in November, 2018.
77. The Secretariat also informed Committee members of its plan to conduct a study on the consistency of the current EPA process with the ACP Group's development objectives and principles. The terms of reference of this study were presented.
78. The general objective is to determine to what extent the EPAs help to achieve the development goals of countries, and to strengthen ACP-EU trade relations. More specifically, the study must generate a comprehensive report on the different EPA processes, focusing on the legal, trade,

regional integration, and development aspects. It must also produce an analytical report that will provide the ACP Group with the relevant elements needed to determine whether these processes are in fact consistent with the objectives and principles established at the start of the negotiations, as well as the next steps in the post-2020 process.

79. Committee members welcomed the study project and expressed the hope that it would increase the visibility of the EPAs “impact on ACP economies and peoples”.

2.4 ACP-EU Committee on Political Affairs

80. The ACP-EU JPA Committee on Political Affairs was held on 11th October 2018 and was chaired by Charles Goerens.

81. The Co-Chair announced the language regime (English, French, German, Italian). The agenda was approved Annex 4.

82. The members approved minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2018.

83. A draft report on the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking by Co-rapporteurs Deirdre Clune and Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d’Ivoire) was considered.

Joachim Zeller, replacing Deirdre Clune, and Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso), replacing Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d’Ivoire), presented the draft report. They considered cybercrime as a major transnational threat due to its anonymity. They insisted on enhanced cooperation on streamlining legislation, on technical research, on capacity building and on consumer education.

Speakers: Carlos Zorrinho, Carl Greenidge (Guyana), Price Cyprien (Haiti), Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Juan Fernandez López Aguilar, Moses Cheboi (Kenya), Tsoinyana Samuel Rapapa (Lesotho), Phumzile Van Damme (South Africa), William Nokrach (Uganda) and Floriana Sipala (EC).

84. The strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU partnership

Co-rapporteurs: Maria Arena and Sebastian Kopulande (Zambia), Ludger Kühnhardt, Director at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) and Professor of Political Science at the Institute for Political Science and Sociology at the

University of Bonn, stressed that the EU-ACP Partnership needs to be innovative in order to be recognised as strategic.

Speakers: Maria Arena, Sebastian Kopulande (Zambia), Charles Goerens, Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso), Carl Greenidge (Guyana), Weidou Adjedowe (Chad), Rigo Belpaire (EC) and Stefan Forester (SEAE).

Members considered the ACP-EU partnership as an important North-South platform, with a large potential to achieve common and global objectives through a multilateral approach. Members

recognized that the ACP-EU institutions play an important and symbolic role on the international scene, but that Member States often fail to follow upon the discussions.

85. Political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement

Exchange of views with the European External Action Service

Speakers: Joaquín Tasso-Vilallonga (EEAS).

86. Follow-up by the Commission/EEAS on the resolution adopted by the JPA on "ACP-EU relations post-Cotonou: A strong parliamentary dimension" and "The humanitarian crisis in South Sudan"

The Commission and the EEAS reported on their follow-up on two previous reports

Speakers: Rigo Belpaire (EC), Dominique Albert (EC) and Stergios Varvarousis (EEAS)

Vicky Katumwa (RDC) (Co-Chair) presided over the session.

87. Human trafficking – Legal and institutional dimension

Ruth Nordström, Senior Legal Counsel at Scandinavian Human Rights Lawyers in Uppsala, Sweden, provided lively insights into the world of human trafficking and proposed a new approach to this problem.

Speakers: Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Sebastian Kopulande (Zambia), Mémounatou Ibrahima (Togo), Tsoinyana Samuel Rapapa (Lesotho), Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso), Yohannes Abraha Teklehaimanot (Ethiopia), Hon. Dido Ali Rasso (Kenya), William Nokrach (Uganda), Michael Gahler, Floribert Luhonge Kabbinda Ngoy (DRC), Maria Madrid (EC) and Doreen Walsweer (ACP Secretariat).

Members advocated for a holistic approach to migration and allowing refugees to settle in Europe and stressed the importance of tackling the root causes of trafficking and migration more generally.

88. The role of the diaspora in ACP-EU relations

Jenny Maggi, Senior lecturer and researcher at the department of sociology of the University of Geneva, focused on the link between migration and development, arguing that a better integration of migrants in host societies leads to better development opportunities in countries of origin. She explained the role of the diaspora as human and social capital and in terms not only of transfers of remittances but of skills and cultural practices, and pointed out that migration had become a catalyst.

2.5 ACP-EU Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

89. The ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment committee meeting was held on 11th October 2018, it was presided by Musa Hussein Naib (ACP 1st Vice Co-Chair).

90. The Co-Chair announced the language regime and informed Members that the meeting was being web streamed. The Agenda of the meeting was adopted Annex 5.

91. The members approved minutes of the meeting held on 16th June 2018.

92. Co-Chairs' announcements

The Co-Chair informed the Committee that the Bureau had decided on the following for the 36th ACP-EU JPA Session to be held from 3 to 5 December 2018 in Cotonou (Benin):

Topics for the urgent motions for resolution: "*The impact of the rise of populism on globalization*" and "*The impact of climate change, in particular on small, developing island states*"; for the keynote debate: "*Post-Cotonou, the future partnership of the ACP-EU after 2020*"; for the debates without resolution: "*The concrete involvement of the international community in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel*", "*The political situation in Cameroon*" and "*Young people with disabilities in the context of sustainable development*"; for the Youth Conference: "*Employment possibilities for young people*".

The deadline for tabling urgent motions for resolution was set for 8 November 2018 at noon.

The deadline for submitting questions for oral answer to the Commission and Council was set for 15 October 2018 at noon.

The Co-Chair informed Members that the Newsletter was available in English and French.

93. Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking

Co-rapporteurs: Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) and Catherine Bearder

The ACP co-rapporteur Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) and Thierry Cornillet, replacing EP Co - Rapporteur Catherine Bearder, highlighted the main points in the draft report.

These included a need for:

- a) a powerful approach with a strong law enforcement component to combat the supply of illegal wildlife products by criminal networks;
- b) ACP countries to draw up a joint Action Plan against wildlife trafficking;
- c) a recognition of the significant progress made in combating wildlife trafficking by organisations such as CITES and Interpol;
- d) a need to make wildlife trafficking stand-alone priority of the new Post-Cotonou ACP-EU Partnership;
- e) ACP countries to be encouraged to empower local populations to sustainably manage their natural resources; and
- f) the EU to be urged to increase financial support for ACP countries and projects.

Speakers: Ricardo Serrão Santos, Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Maha Hussein Feraigon Babikir (Sudan), Michèle Rivasi, B.A. Banda (Ghana), Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Mathew Sahr Nyuma (Sierra Leone), Gibson Kanai (Palau), Musa Hussein Naib (Eritrea) and Mayaux Philippe (European Commission).

Members noted the need to also consider the trafficking of marine organisms and other species, which are sold and bought on the internet. Members underlined the need to impose sanctions with respect to the demand for illegal wildlife products, noting that wildlife trafficking is an environmental crime, which should be in the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC). Members then spoke in favour of the promotion of education in environmental conservation in schools, as well as involving local authorities. They also encouraged the strengthening of national and regional legislation, which is consistent with international laws in fighting wildlife trafficking in ACP countries.

The European Commission representative, Mr. Philippe Mayaux, underlined the role of all stakeholders, particularly local communities, in fighting wildlife trafficking.

Mr. Mayaux highlighted the support and commitment of the Commission towards ACP countries with respect to sustainable wildlife management.

Mr. Gilbert S. Mangole wound up the debate.

Decision: The deadline for tabling amendments was set for 23 October 2018 at noon.

94. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries.

Exchange of views with the European Commission

The European Commission representative, Mr. Lars Gronvald, reported on the follow-up to the resolution on the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries.

He noted that the recommendations in the resolutions will guide the Commission's work in promoting sustainable cities. Mr. Gronvald highlighted the Commission's support for partner countries, particularly with respect to waste management. He stressed the link between waste management and climate change.

Speakers: Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Michèle Rivasi, and Lars Gronvald (European Commission).

Members urged that the resolution be sent to national Parliaments for follow-up action. Members further lamented the exportation of toxic waste to ACP countries. They then welcomed the steps taken by several ACP countries in banning the use of plastic bags, and encouraged EU Member States to assist ACP countries in this effort.

95. Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries.

Appointment of co-rapporteurs

Exchange of views with Angel Gudiña, Executive Secretary of Don Bosco International, and Filip Lammens, Managing Director of VIA Don Bosco NGO.

Decision: Mr. Joseph Yopy Yopy (Papua New Guinea) and Ms. Laura Agea (European Parliament) were appointed as Co-rapporteurs.

The meeting then heard presentations from Mr. Angel Gudiña, from Don Bosco International, and Mr. Filip Lammens, from VIA Don Bosco NGO, on "*Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries*". In their presentations, they highlighted the work of the Don Bosco Movement in fighting against the high number of school drop-outs in ACP countries, particularly in Africa, through Technical and Vocational education and Training (TVET). They informed Members that the Don Bosco Tech Africa, an umbrella organisation that coordinates all the Don Bosco TVET centres in Africa, aims to work towards the advancement of marginalised youth through the capacity-building facilities in the Don Bosco training institutions.

In his remarks, the ACP Co-rapporteur, Mr. Yopy Yopy (Papua New Guinea), stressed the importance of ensuring that children are in school, and that after training, youths are guaranteed employment.

Speakers: Musa Hussein Naib (Eritrea), Mathew Sahr Nyuma (Sierra Leone), Michèle Rivasi, Maha Hussein Feraigon Babikir (Sudan), Amadou Dioffo (Niger), Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Nobert Neuser, Raphael Mhone (Malawi), Prim Pujals Nolasco (Dominican Republic), Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana), B.A. Banda (Ghana), Anna Záborská, and Konstantinos Berdos (European Commission).

Members noted the challenges involved in ensuring that all children go to and stay in school. These include lack of infrastructure and qualified teachers, the need for the adoption of appropriate inclusive education policies, poverty, as well as cultural impediments. Members underlined the role of governments in ACP countries in providing education to all, particularly to girls, since education is a cornerstone sustainable development.

The European Commission representative, Mr. Konstantinos Berdos, noted that the EU is committed to the attainment of the targets of Sustainable Development Goal 4 of the 2030 development agenda. Through bilateral and global initiatives such as the Global Partnership for Education (GPE), the EU supports partner countries in addressing the challenges of enrolment at primary and secondary school levels.

96. Promoting women's and girls' health: taking stock of commitments and progress

Exchange of views with Anouka van Eerdewijk, Senior Advisor on gender equality and social justice at the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), and affiliated researcher at the Institute for Management Research of Radboud University Nijmegen, and Vitalis Mukhebi, International Advocacy Officer at Faith to Action Network (Kenya)

The meeting then heard presentations from Ms. Anouka van Eerdewijk, from the Royal Tropical Institute, and Mr Vitalis Mukhebi from Faith to Action Network (Kenya) on "*Promoting women's and girls' health: taking stock of commitments and progress*". In their presentations they highlighted the key findings of the State of African Women Report. These included unfinished business under the following:

- a) the implementation of the Maputo Protocol, signed by fifty-two countries, forty-one of these having ratified it and seven countries having ratified it with reservations,
- b) gender-based violence against women (GVAW), which is an expression of and perpetuates gender inequalities and male domination,
- c) harmful practices, particularly female genital mutilation (FGM) and child marriage, d) reproductive rights and sexual and reproductive health (SRH), the right to the highest standard of health, including SRH, and e) HIV& AIDS, which affect women and girls disproportionately across the continent.

Speakers: Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Anna Záborská and Kevin McCarthy (European Commission).

Members noted the role of the faith community in promoting women's and girls' health in Africa. Members further underlined the need to invest in the health of women and girls, particularly in the provision of primary and specialised care.

The European Commission representative, Mr. Kevin McCarthy, highlighted the EU's support for partner countries in Africa with respect to the promotion of women's health.

97. Any other business

- Urgent and topical subjects

Under this item, Members noted the need to re-visit the question of migration. Members also received a clarification from Mr. Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana), regarding media reports on the mass killing of elephants in Botswana.

2.6 ACP-EU Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

98. The ACP-EU Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade meeting was held on 11th October 2018 and presided by Laura Ferrara (EP Co-Chair).

99. The Co-Chair announced the language regime and informed Members that the meeting was being web-streamed. The agenda of meeting was adopted Annex 6.

100. The minutes of meeting held on 16th June 2018 were adopted.

101. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries

Co-rapporteurs: Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) and Nicolas Bay.

Exchange of views with the European Commission

The ACP co-rapporteur Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) (the EP Co-Rapporteur Nicolas Bay was absent) presented the draft report, underlining in particular the importance of micro, small and medium enterprises as engines of wealth creation in ACP countries.

The report notes that it is essential to define an effective political framework for actions by public authorities and developing partners. It recommends investing in people and providing funding so as to digitalize and bring innovation to the ACP economies, making them competitive and integrating them into the global economy. The report appeals for the creation of an environment conducive to the development of SMEs and for the promotion of partnerships between SMEs in ACP countries and in the EU.

Speakers: Marlene Mizzi, Laura Ferrara (on behalf of Dariusz Rosati), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Dickson Momoh Rogers (Sierra Leone), Thierry Cornillet and the European Commission.

In the debate that followed, Members welcomed the recommendations in the draft report and supported the main conclusions of the report, namely the importance of the private sector, in particular of MSMEs, as essential partners to trigger sustainable growth and transform ACP economies. They emphasised how vital it was that the report takes into account the need to include specific needs of women and youth as well as harvesting the dividends of the on-going digital revolution.

The European Commission pointed out to the private sector, in particular MSMEs, as being essential to the triggering of sustainable growth. The European Commission outlined the opportunities offered by the new EU External Investment Plan, which includes a specific SME window.

Co-rapporteurs Sangeet Fowdar wound up the debate.

Decision: The deadline for tabling amendments was set for 23 October 2018 at noon.

102. Follow-up by the Commission to the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP Countries' economies

Exchange of views with the European Commission

The European Commission, noting the existing constraints regarding lack of data and insufficient human and financial resources, reported on the follow-up of the resolution.

Speakers: Michel Kamano (Guinea), Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Maria Arena and the European Commission.

Members questioned the European Commission on the follow-up given to this report, in particular on agro-ecology, training and on assessing food security, human health and relevant enforcing mechanisms.

The co-rapporteur asked the European Commission to report back to the Committee on the follow-up to this report in future meetings.

103. Economic Partnership Agreements: State of play of negotiations and Implementation.

Exchange of views with the European Commission

The European Commission noted that currently 29 countries (13 of them African) were implementing EPAs. Another 21 have concluded negotiations and others have expressed interest in. The European Commission outlined the overall progress and implementation of EPAs by regions, pointing out that each regional EPA had specific characteristics.

The EPAs all allow for the monitoring of implementation, which should be done jointly with the relevant stakeholders, including civil society.

Speakers: Maria Arena, Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Liuga Faumuina, (Samoa), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Lillian Achieng Gogo (Kenya), Andre Misiekaba (Suriname), Nathalie Griesbeck, Bacai Sanha Jr (Guinea Bissau), Lord Tuilakepa (Tonga), Phel Parkies (South Africa), Oumouri Hassani Mmadi (Comoros) and the European Commission.

In the lengthy debate that followed, diverging views on the benefits and risks of the EPAs were expressed. Members called for the launch of independent impact assessments and for an evaluation of the initial results in countries that already have an EPA in place.

The Commission responded to questions raised.

The meeting continued in the afternoon with Phel Parkies (ACP Co-Chair) presiding.

104. Co-Chairs' announcements

The Co-Chair informed the Committee that the Bureau of the ACP-EU JPA had decided on the following topics for the 36th ACP-EU JPA Session to be held from 3rd to 5th December 2018 in Cotonou (Benin):

Urgent motions for resolution:

- 1) "The impact of the rise of populism on globalisation" and
- 2) "The impact of climate change, in particular on small, developing island states";

Keynote debate: "Post-Cotonou, the future partnership of the ACP-EU after 2020";

Debates without resolution:

- 1) "The concrete involvement of the international community in the fight against terrorism in the Sahel" and

2) "The political situation in Cameroon";

Youth Conference: "Young people with disabilities in the context of sustainable development".

105. The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries, and particularly to remote areas

- Appointment of co-rapporteurs
- Exchange of views with Philipp Trotter, Research Associate in Renewable Energy in the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford
- Exchange of views with Alfredo Cestari, President, Camera di Commercio ItalAfrica Centrale
- Exchange of views with the European Commission

Decision: Clifford Andre (Seychelles) and Željana Zovko were appointed co rapporteurs.

Co-Rapporteur Clifford Andre (the EP Co-Rapporteur Željana Zovko was absent) invited all Members to send in contributions in order to include these in the draft report.

The Co-Chair commented on the low attendance of EP Members at the afternoon session and on punctuality.

The meeting then heard from Philipp Trotter, an expert from the University of Oxford, who made a presentation on the connection between electrification and sustainable development. He added that in Africa, due to demographic growth, more people were living without electricity today than in 1990. He noted that electricity alone was not enough to bring economic development, as it requires many other inputs such as education, training and access to finance. The expert lamented the fact that most national electrification policies in ACP countries heavily favour grid extension to the detriment of renewable energies, which offer a diversity of supply options. The expert also called on the public sector to help create a business case for electrifying remote areas.

The exchange of views also benefited from a second presentation by Alfredo Cestari, President of the Camera di Commercio ItalAfrica Centrale, an engineer, experienced in several industrial sectors such as design, project management and management of installations powered by renewable energy. Mr Cestari confirmed the largely untapped potential of renewable energies in Africa and called for an increase in co-operation from new EU and ACP private companies to increase sustainable energy production, especially small-scale production systems in small remote rural areas.

The European Commission stressed the importance of energy being not only an end product but also an enabler, facilitating health, education and employment, even in remote rural areas. The European Commission emphasized the need to accelerate efforts in promoting, developing and reforming the renewable energy sectors so as to be able to reach the Sustainable Development Goals, with particular attention paid to gender and youth.

Speakers: Oumouri Hassani Mmadi (Comoros), Maria Arena and Lord Tuilakepa (Tonga).

Members raised questions on the local markets' ability to produce efficient renewable energy and on the lack of sufficient funding.

Co-rapporteurs Clifford Andre wound up the debate.

106. Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027: impact of the EDF budgetisation on ACP-EU cooperation

- Exchange of views with the European Commission

The European Commission representative outlined the expected benefits of the global approach of the new proposed Neighborhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument, which integrates the EDF into the EU budget “budgetization”).

The expected benefits include stronger democratic legitimacy, increased effectiveness, enhanced transparency and higher predictability of funds.

Speakers: The European Commission, Clifford Andre (Seychelles) and Michel Kamano (Guinea).

Most ACP Members were not in favour of the proposed budgetization of the EDF and clearly expressed their preference for keeping the EDF outside the budget.

107. Any other business

- Urgent and topical subjects

Under this point, the Chair informed Members that the Co-Chairs had agreed that the draft agenda of the next Committee meeting, scheduled to take place in December in Benin, would include, among other topics for debate, the following: “The impact of corruption on the ACP-EU economic partnership”. **Speakers:** Phel Parkies (South Africa).

3 The 51st Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly

108. The 51st Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly was held on 10th October 2018 and was chaired by Hon. Joseph Hyacinthe Owona Kono, President of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly.

109. The President welcomed Members to the meeting and announced the linguistic regime for the meetings as follows: active interpretation for English and French and passive Spanish and Portuguese. He also informed the Assembly that the seating arrangement around the table was rotated at each occasion to prevent Members from seating in the same place all the time.

110. The agenda as presented in document with reference ACP/23/080/18 (Annex 7) was adopted with an amendment to include; 7(iv) Climate Change

111. The Summary Record of the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly held in Brussels as presented in document with reference ACP/23/081/18 was adopted with some amendments.

112. The President thanked the Members for good attendance and their valuable discussions that contributed to the success of the meeting. The Communiqué of the meeting was made available to

Members. The Meeting was informed of the presence of consultant carrying out the Impact Assessment of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and the ACP Parliamentary Assembly study and that arrangement have been made for him to have an interaction with the ACP PA Working Group on Post-Cotonou, during the course of the Sessions.

113. The Secretary-General joined the President condolences to countries that have in the recent months suffered loss of lives and destruction of property, mostly due to natural disasters and horrific accidents. He also extended a warm welcome to all delegations attending the Assembly.

114. The Secretary General updated the Assembly on the negotiation process for Post-Cotonou Partnership Agreement. He informed the meeting that a few days after the conclusion of this Session, the first round of the ACP-EU Post-Cotonou negotiations will start. On ACP Group's state of preparedness, he informed the Members that with the guidance of the Committee of Ambassadors the guidelines of the work of the Central Negotiating Group and the Technical Negotiating Teams were in place. That will be followed by the negotiating briefs prepared by the Technical Negotiating Teams to provide clear and precise directives to the ACP lead negotiators.

115. The Assembly then received and considered reports from the three Standing Committees of the ACP-PA, on the agenda items scheduled for discussion during meetings of the Joint Parliamentary Committees.

Recommendation

The Delegation recommends this report to the Houses of Parliament for information and noting.

END

Annexes

Annex 1: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP Committee on Political Affairs

Annex 2: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

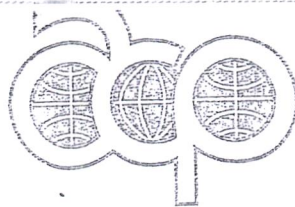
Annex 3: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

Annex 4: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Political Affairs

Annex 5: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

Annex 6: Agenda for the meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

Annex 7: Agenda for the 51st Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly



REFERENCE

ACP/23/074/18 Rev.1
PAHD Dept: JPA/MMM/bm

Brussels, 1 October 2018

ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS¹

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

11:00 - 13:00

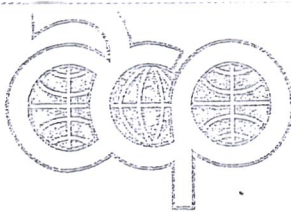
ACP HOUSE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the draft agenda [ACP/23/074/18 Rev.1].
2. Statement from the Chair.
3. Draft Summary Record of the previous meeting [ACP/23/075/18].
 - Adoption; and
 - Matters arising.
4. Consideration of items on the agenda for the meeting of the Committee on Political Affairs of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly to be held on 11 October 2018 at the European Parliament.
5. The political situation in ACP States.
6. Any other business.

¹ Members:

Central Africa: Democratic Republic of Congo (Chair), Tchad, Sao Tomé & Principe
West Africa: Mali (2nd Vice-Chair), Côte d'Ivoire, Burkina Faso, Liberia, Togo, Benin
Pacific: Cook Islands, Nauru, Timor-Leste, Vanuatu
Caribbean: Haiti, Guyana, Jamaica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines
East Africa: Ethiopia, Djibouti, Uganda, Burundi, Kenya
Southern Africa: Zimbabwe, Zambia, Lesotho



REFERENCE

ACPI/23/075/18
PAHD Dept. JPA/DW/bri

Brussels, 27 September 2018

ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

DRAFT

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE ACP MEMBERS
OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS
HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2018

DRAFT
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF THE ACP MEMBERS
OF THE COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS
HELD IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM
ON WEDNESDAY, 13 JUNE 2018

1. The ACP members of the Committee on Political Affairs of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) met in Brussels, Belgium, on Wednesday 13 June 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., under the chairmanship of the Honourable Vicky Katumwa, Chair of the Committee.
2. The objective of the meeting was to prepare for the joint meeting and enable the ACP members to exchange views on issues of particular interest to ACP States.

Adoption of the draft agenda [ACP/23/044/18]

3. The members adopted the draft agenda as set out in document **ACP/23/044/18**.

Statement from the Chair

4. The Chair updated the Committee on unfortunate events that had taken place in several ACP States since the last meeting held in March 2018. She informed them of the following:

South Africa: Winnie Mandela

5. On 2 April, South Africa lost a fearless freedom fighter, the iconic South African anti-apartheid leader, Winnie Madikizela-Mandela, at the age of 81 years. Winnie Madikizela-Mandela was a woman who never wavered in her commitment, despite being imprisoned and banished. She opened up the way for women in the fight to end apartheid and fought tirelessly for their rights and welfare in her homeland. The Chair expressed heartfelt condolences to the people of the Republic of South Africa.

South Africa: seven fatalities in an earthquake

6. On 4 May, an earthquake took place in a South African gold mine, resulting in a total of seven fatalities. The deceased were among 13 miners found in the Sibanye-Stillwater's Masakhane mine, located to the west of Johannesburg.

Congo: Ebola epidemic

7. On 8 May, an Ebola epidemic was declared in the Equateur Province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where it killed 27 persons. A total of 62 persons, including health workers, were affected. The spread of the epidemic is now under control, and the World Health Organisation has declared the disease contained and its progression stopped.

- Kenya: collapse of the Solai dam**
8. On 9 May, in the North-West of the capital, Nairobi, 48 persons lost their lives and 5,000 others were displaced, following the collapse of the Solai dam, after weeks of torrential rains.
- Cuba: fatal plane crash**
9. On 18 May, a Boeing 737-201 crashed after taking off from Havana on a domestic flight bound for Holguín. In total, 111 persons perished in this accident.
10. The Chair invited attendees to stand and observe a minute's silence in memory of all the victims.
- Barbados: Mia Mottley, first woman appointed Prime Minister**
11. On 25 May 2018, Barbados elected the first ever female Prime Minister in its history, since gaining Independence in 1966. The Barbados Labour Party, which is led by Ms. Mottley, won all 30 seats in the House of Assembly. The Chair expressed her congratulations to the people of Barbados.

Draft Summary Record of the previous meeting of the Committee on Political Affairs [ACP/23/045/18]

12. The Summary Record of the Committee's previous meeting was considered and adopted, with the following amendments:
- Para. 18 (g) to include the following words – imposition by the EU on the ACP that there must be.....
 - Para. 27 to add the words – against the country headquarters

PREPARATIONS FOR THE MEETING OF THE JPA'S COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS

13. The members considered the draft agenda for the meeting of the Joint Committee on Political Affairs, and addressed the main issues listed thereon.
14. They considered the amendments to the Resolution on "ACP-EU post-Cotonou relations: a strong parliamentary dimension," with the assistance of the Honourable Jacob Oulanyah of Uganda, the ACP Co-Rapporteur. The latter presented the 70 proposed amendments to the draft Resolution. He underscored that these amendments reflected the discussions held at the intersessional meetings in March, and that some of them made reference to the outcomes of the Kigali Summit. The Committee decided to exclude these references, with a view to preserving a text prescribing a common approach. The Co-Rapporteur also highlighted proposed amendments that were in line with the interests of the European side only. After the presentation of the amendments, the Committee rejected 20 of them, kept 3 in their original versions, and accepted the remaining 47.

15. The Co-Rapporteur once again invited the Committee members to propose other amendments aimed at enriching the Resolution, before its adoption, which was scheduled for Wednesday, 20 June 2018. He reminded them that the deadline for submitting amendments was set at 12:00 p.m. on 18 June.
16. With regard to the Committee's report on the "**Fight against Cybercrime and Drug Trafficking**," a working paper was presented by the ACP Co-Rapporteur, the Honourable Alain Michel Lobognon. The latter indicated that the report focused more on the EU than on the ACP Group, and that it would be fleshed out before its next presentation. He highlighted the Internet's impact on the proliferation of criminal activities linked to drug and human trafficking. He also informed the Committee members that Africa had become a transit zone for drug trafficking, and stressed the need for closer collaboration between national police services and Interpol. Following his presentation, the Committee pointed out that a clearer definition was needed of the notion of cybercrime and its role in the trafficking of arms and human beings. It was indicated that discussions on this issue would be continued with the European side on the following Saturday.

Title of the next report

17. The Committee considered the following three titles proposed by the Secretariat for the next report:
 - Parliament's role in the fight against gender-based violence;
 - Impact of social media and misinformation on democracy;
 - Technology and democracy - challenges and opportunities.
18. After having considered these proposals, the Committee decided on the second theme, but reformulated it as follows: "Social media and the protection of democracy." It also agreed to address the theme of Parliament's role in the fight against gender-based violence at a later stage, and to propose the title "Social media and the protection of democracy" for the next report, to the European side.

Items for discussion

19. The Committee was informed of the items to be submitted for discussion, namely:
 - Water governance as a means of conflict prevention;
 - Political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement;
 - The political situation in ACP countries and European Union Member States.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN ACP STATES

20. With regard to the political situation in ACP States, participants received updates on the following countries:

Togo

21. The representative of Togo informed members that the political dialogue among Togolese stakeholders began on 15 February 2018 and is continuing under the auspices of H. E. Mr. Nana Akufo-Addo, President of the Republic of Ghana.
22. In addition, she indicated that Togo's situation was also addressed at a Special Summit of Heads of State of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), focused on the crisis in Guinea Bissau, which was held in Lomé, on 14 April 2018. On that occasion the Summit reaffirmed its confidence in the President of Ghana, H. E. Mr. Nana Akufo-Addo, and mandated him, along with the President of the Republic of Guinea (Conakry), H. E. Mr. Alpha Condé, to continue to facilitate the dialogue in Togo, and to submit recommendations to the next ECOWAS Summit.

Tchad

23. The representative of Chad informed members that, following the political process whereby His Excellency Idriss Deby Itno was elected, he had set up an Inter-ministerial Committee and a high-level Committee to conduct in-depth reflections on institutional reforms for more than six months. The work of these bodies led to the setting up of an Organising Committee for the Inclusive National Forum from 19 to 27 March 2018. Relevant resolutions were adopted leading to the adoption of a new Constitution through a parliamentary process, which was promulgated and sanctioned the 4th Republic. Legislative elections are scheduled for November 2018. In addition, a National Framework for Political Dialogue [Cadre National de Dialogue Politique (CNDP)] has also been established, comprising members of the opposition and the majority. The members of the Permanent Bureau in charge of the elections have also been appointed.

Côte d'Ivoire

24. The representative of Côte d'Ivoire informed members of the upcoming elections scheduled for 2020, and called on ACP Member States to show their support at that time. He reiterated the need for the ACP Group to remain vigilant so that the elections would be held under favourable conditions and Ivoirians would give their votes and not their lives.

Burkina Faso

25. The representative of Burkina Faso informed members of the establishment of the High Council for Social Dialogue and the High Council for Reconciliation and National Unity. The role of these two institutions is to help to consolidate social peace in the country.

26. He reminded members of the security situation facing G5 Sahel countries because of financial and logistical constraints. He requested the support of ACP countries in obtaining adequate assistance from European countries for the G5 Sahel, by setting up an emergency plan for the region, using structured projects focused on job creation.

São Tomé and Príncipe

27. São Tomé and Príncipe, a country situated in the Gulf of Guinea, organised elections that led to a democratically elected government taking office, political and economic stability, and the reform of the legal system. Despite some difficulties, there is light at the end of the tunnel. The representative of São Tomé and Príncipe drew members' attention to the political maturity that his country has achieved over the years. Although safeguarding democracy is not without its challenges, the country's stability and democratic institutions have been beneficial for the nation, both at the social and financial level.

Zimbabwe

28. The representative of Zimbabwe informed Committee members of the signing, on 30 May 2018, of a decision to hold elections and set up a Commission responsible for examining candidacies. She informed the Committee that an invitation was sent out to international bodies [European Union (EU), African Union (AU), Southern African Development Community (SADC)] to observe the elections. She also shared the amendments made to the electoral laws and said that the police were called into ensure peace before and after the elections. Following the announcement of the election dates, all the political parties will receive media coverage to ensure that the elections are free and transparent.

Ethiopia

29. The representative of Ethiopia informed the Committee of some privatisation reforms undertaken by the Prime Minister, Dr. Abiy Ahmed, which should improve the production capacity and productivity of the agricultural and industrial sectors, with special emphasis on exports.
30. With regard to relations between Ethiopia and Eritrea, the representative indicated that Ethiopia had decided to accept, unconditionally, the Algiers Agreement and the decisions of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC). Following deep consideration of the current situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea, the Government has fully committed to the effective implementation of the Algiers Agreement through the relevant international legal instruments.
31. The representative also mentioned the lifting of the state of emergency declared six months ago when Oromo Democratic Front (ODF), a party exiled abroad, returned to partake in peaceful elections. She also said that the charges against two foreign-based media outlets were dropped, as well as those against the leader and activists of a foreign-based political party.

Lesotho

32. The representative of Lesotho stated that his country had organised national elections in June 2017, which gave rise to a coalition government composed of 4 political parties, which took office in June 2017. He also indicated that Lesotho was facing serious security problems. SADC sent a peacekeeping force of 200 men, who were placed under the supervision of six eminent persons from SADC member countries. In addition, 18-month long reform programmes have been undertaken. A status report would be submitted to the SADC Summit scheduled for August 2018.

Sudan

33. The representative of Sudan informed the Committee that he would submit a statement on his Government's efforts to combat terrorism, and regarding migration and national dialogue.

Burundi

34. The representative of Burundi informed members that the Burundian people had adopted a new constitution by referendum, which was promulgated by the President of the Republic, on Thursday, 7 June 2018. Based on the final results of the constitutional referendum of 17 May 2018, announced by the Constitutional Court, 73.24% people voted yes, and 19.37% voted no, based on a 96.19% rate of participation.
35. She added that at the end of the 72nd session of the Executive Committee held in Bujumbura on 22 and 23 May 2018, the African Parliamentary Union lamented the fact that the political, social, and security situation in Burundi was poorly understood and assessed due to misinformation campaigns. She reiterated the need for the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly to visit the country to take the positive developments in Burundi into account and lift the sanctions against its people. She informed members that the President would be leaving office after 2020 and would not be seeking re-election.

Democratic Republic of Congo

36. The representative of the Democratic Republic of Congo updated the Committee on the country's upcoming elections, stating that President Joseph Kabila would not be seeking re-election. She also informed Committee members that the other members of the delegation had been refused visas, notably the Head of Delegation. She added that her country was pleased with the release of Jean-Pierre Bemba.

Any Other Business

37. As there were no matters arising, the meeting was adjourned.

List of Participants

Members of Parliament/Senators

1. Hon. Vicky Katumwa Mukalay, Deputy- DR Congo
2. Hon. Vigilio da Ressureição B. TYOVA, Deputy – Angola
3. Hon. Clarice Mukinda, Member of Parliament – Angola
4. Hon. José António Lopes Semedo, Deputy – Angola
5. Hon. Maria Ornelas, Deputy – Angola
6. Hon. Robert Gbian, Deputy – Benin
7. Hon. Dahoga Barthelémy Kassa– Member of Parliament – Benin
8. Hon. Gilbert Mangole – Member of Parliament – Botswana
9. Hon. Edwin Batshu – Member of Parliament – Botswana
10. Hon. Alpha Ousmane – Deputy (Chef de delegation) – Burkina Faso
11. Hon. Toungnine Anselme Some – Deputy – Burkina Faso
12. Hon. Emmanuel Lahkoande – Deputy – Burkina Faso
13. Hon. Spès Caritas Njebarikamuye – Burundi
14. Hon. Salvator Bigirimana, Deputy– Burundi
15. Hon. Gberi Kombo Member of Parliament & Head of Delegation, Cameroun
16. Hon. Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon, Deputy – Cote D'Ivoire
17. Hon. Oumma Mohammed Hamid, Member of Parliament, Djibouti
18. Hon. Mohammed Abdallah Ali, Member of Parliament - Djibouti
19. Hon. Musa Hussein Naib, Member of Parliament, Eritrea
20. Hon. Muferihaj Ahmed, Speaker,- Ethiopia
21. Hon. Tesfaye Daba Wakjira Member of Parliament - Ethiopia
22. Hon. Ashneel Sudhakar, Member of Parliament, Fiji
23. Hon. Lucie Milebou-Aubusson, Sénateur – Gabon
24. Hon. Kaddy Camara, Member of Parliament – The Gambia
25. Hon. Momodou S Ceesay, Member of Parliament – The Gambia
26. Hon. Madi M. K Ceesay, Member of Parliament – The Gambia
27. Hon. Alhagie H. Sowe, Member of Parliament – The Gambia
28. Hon. Zavia Taze Mayne – Member of Parliament – Jamaica
29. Hon. Moses Cheboi – Member of Parliament – Kenya
30. Hon. Prof. Margaret Kamar – Senator, Kenya Parliament – Kenya
31. Hon. Mr. Samuel Rapapa, Member of Parliament, Lesotho
32. Hon. Acarous Gray, Representative – Liberia
33. Hon. Raphael Mhone, Member of Parliament - Malawi
34. Hon. Mohamed Zamel, Deputy – Mauritania
35. Hon. Palikuva Wily, Senator - Micronesia
36. Hon. Michel Rugema, Senator – Rwanda
37. Hon. Louis Straker, Deputy PM and Minister of Foreign Affairs – Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
38. Hon. Carlos Manuel Cassandra Correia, Member of Parliament – São Tomé and Príncipe
39. Hon. Mamadou Dian, Depute, Senegal
40. Hon. Waven Winslow William , Member of Parliament – Seychelles
41. Hon. Saa Emerson Lamina, Member of Parliament- Sierra Leone

42. Hon. Ibrahim Ben Kargbo, Member of Parliament – Sierra Leone
43. Hon. Aaron Koroma, Member of Parliament – Sierra Leone
44. Hon. Dickson Rogers, Member of Parliament – Sierra Leone
45. Hon. Mathew Nyuma, member of Parliament – Sierra Leone
46. Hon. Phel Parkies, Member of Parliament – South Africa
47. Hon. Amos Fish Mahlalela, Member of Parliament – South Africa
48. Hon. Semokoleng Patricia Kopane, Member of Parliament – South Africa
49. Hon. Naftie Ali N Ahmed, Member of Parliament – Sudan
50. Hon. Tageltion Osman, Member of Parliament – Sudan
51. Hon. Abakar Adji Ali, Member of Parliament - Sudan
52. Hon. Mémounatou Ibrahima, Member of Parliament – Togo
53. Hon. Petik- Abalo Abiguime, Deputy – Togo
54. Hon. Jacob L'Okori Oulanyah, Deputy Speaker – Uganda
55. Hon. William Wilson Nokrach, Member of Parliament– Uganda
56. Hon. Jack Wamai Wamanga, Member of Parliament – Uganda
57. Hon. Sebastian C. Kopulande, Head of delegation – Zambia
58. Hon. Irene Zindi, Member of Parliament - Zimbabwe

Accompanying Officers

1. Mr. Pedro Simba, Senior Technical Adviser – Angola
2. Mr. Antonia Cordeiro – Assistant National Assembly – Angola
3. Mrs Isabel de Fonseca – Assistant National Assembly - Angola
4. Mr. Goncalves Guim – Second Secretary Embassy of Angola
5. Mr. Herman Sasse Official, National Assembly, Benin
6. H.E Mr. Samuel Outlule – Ambassador, Botswana
7. Mr. Zoewemdben Adele Kiembe – Assistant National Assembly – Burkina Faso
8. Mr Marius Nzessioue, Counsellor – Embassy of Central African Republic
9. Mr. Magloire Serge Moussa, First Counsellor, Embassy of Central African Republic
10. Ms Manoka Nzuzi, Embassy of the Democratic Republic of Congo
11. H. E Mr. Omar Abdi Said, Ambassador – Embassy of Djibouti
12. Mr. Mohammed Ali Bourhan, First Counsellor, Embassy of Djibouti
13. Mr. Bourhan Daoud Ahmed, Administrative Secretary, National Assembly - Djibouti
14. Mr. Michael Tesfai Hagos, First Secretary, Embassy of the State of Eritrea
15. Mr. Lalisa Geleta, Second Secretary- Embassy of Ethiopia
16. Mr. Darnelle Ditengon, Assistant – Senate
17. Mr. Jean-Pierre Mba- Alloumba, Conseiller Juridique et ACP – Gabon
18. Mr. Fernard Cyrille Yalis, Conseiller, Embassy of Gabon
19. H.E Mr. David Hales, Ambassador,- Embassy of Guyana
20. Mr. Leeroy Adophs, First Secretary, Embassy of Guyana
21. H.E Mr. Johnson Weru, Ambassador Embassy of Kenya
22. Mr. Innocent Mbaya Mghanga, Parliament Officer – Kenya
23. Mr. Denis Wamalwa, Counsellor, Embassy of Kenya
24. Ms Dorothy Nthiwa, First Secretary, Embassy of Kenya
25. Mr. Neo Bulane, Counsellor – Lesotho
26. Mr. Likotsi Ramothello, First Secretary- Lesotho
27. Mr. Rethabile Ramalefane-Matobo, First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
28. Mr. Matebellow Moqolo, Civil Servant, Lesotho

29. Mr. Matsobotsi Phakisi, Delegate, Lesotho
30. Mr. Alfred Koiwood, Delegate, Liberia
31. Mr. James Woods, Counsellor, Embassy of Malawi
32. Mr. Alik Jackson, Staff Attorney - Micronesia
33. Mr. Olamide Adediran, First Secretary, Embassy of Nigeria
34. Mr. Karmoh Conteh, Secretary to the delegation – Sierra Leone
35. Mr. Davia Madlala, Parliamentary Official – South Africa
36. Mr. Devan Moodley, Counsellor, Embassy of South Africa
37. Mrs Lebogang Nataly Ntsimane, 3rd Secretary, Embassy of South Africa
38. Mr. Osman Ahmed, Deputy Ambassador, Embassy of Sudan
39. Mr. Juma Salum, Counsellor, Tanzania
40. Mr. Boukar Guelpina, Administrator, Tchad
41. Mr. Jose-Luis Lopes da Cruz, Counsellor – Embassy of Timor-Leste
42. Ms Joana Paulina Pereira, Advisor to Ambassador – Embassy of Timor-Leste
43. Mr. Fonciana Luroes De Deus, Third Secretary Embassy of Timor-Leste
44. Mr. Koffi Azilan, 2nd Counsellor – Togo
45. Mr. John Bosco Kagoro, Principal Clerk – Uganda
46. Mr. felix Ekitui, Protocol Officer, Parliament of Uganda
47. Mr. Daniel Oyei, Personal Assistant – Uganda
48. Franklin Kahingwe, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Uganda
49. Mr. Kabwibwi Mubanga, Accompanying Officer, Zambia
50. Mr. Henry Ngalazi, Chargé d'Affaires a.i. – Zambia
51. Mrs. Phyllis Chilekwa, First Secretary, Embassy of Zambia
52. Mr. Mukuka Kangwa, First Secretary, Embassy of Zambia
53. Mrs. Mwansa Chali Ngulube, First Secretary, Embassy of Zambia
54. Mr. Rudo N.E. Doka, Acting Principal Director of External Relations – Zimbabwe
55. Mr. Michael .C. Mukura, Minister Counsellor – Zimbabwe
56. Mrs Irene M. Juru, Counsellor – Embassy of Zimbabwe

Regional Organisations

57. H.E. Dr. Gervai Nkanagu, Ambassador–COMESA Representative to EU and ACP
58. Mr. Philip Jusu, Socio-Economist – African Union
59. Mrs Amine Chergui, Trainee – African Union

50^{ème} session de l'assemblée parlementaire ACP et 35^{ème} session de
l'assemblée parlementaire paritaire ACP-UE

13 au 20 juin 2018, Bruxelles (Belgique)

Situation politique au Togo

Le dialogue politique entre les acteurs togolais commencé le 15 février 2018 s'est poursuivi sous l'égide du facilitateur SEM Nana Akufo-Addo, président de la république du Ghana.

Toutefois, lors du sommet extra ordinaire des chefs d'états de la CEDEAO tenu à Lomé le 14 avril 2018 sur la crise en Guinée Bissau, le cas du Togo a été abordé. Ainsi, tout en renouvelant leur confiance au Président du Ghana SEM Nana Akufo-Addo, le sommet le désigne ainsi que son homologue de la république de Guinée (Conkry) SEM Alpha KONDE pour poursuivre la facilitation du dialogue au Togo et leur demande de proposer des recommandations pour son aboutissement lors du prochain sommet de la CEDEAO qui devrait avoir lieu au mois de juin 2018.

Madame la Présidente

Honorables députés

Chad

Je voudrais saisir l'occasion, comme l'ont fait les autres collègues par jadis à la connaissance de membres, la situation politique dans un pays le Tchad.

Sur la base du programme politique à l'issue de quel il a été élu, son Excellence Idriss Deby Itno a mis en place un Comité interministériel et un Haut Comité chargés de mener des réflexions profondes sur les réformes institutionnelles pendant plus de six mois. Les travaux de ces organes ont conduit à la mise en place d'un Comité d'organisation du forum national inclusif tenu du 19 au 27 mars 2018. Des résolutions pertinentes ont été adoptées conduisant à l'adoption d'une nouvelle Constitution, adoptée par voie parlementaire laquelle est promulguée et consacrant la 4^e République. Les élections législatives ont été programmées pour le 1^{er} novembre 2018.

Par ailleurs, il a été mis en place un Cadre National de Dialogue Politique (CNDP) composé de l'opposition et de majorité. Les membres du Bureau Permanent chargé des élections ont été également nommés.

BURKINA FASO

Le Représentant du Burkina Faso informe l'Assemblée de la mise en place du Haut conseil du dialogue social et du Haut conseil pour la réconciliation et l'unité nationale. Ces Institutions vont contribuer au renforcement de la paix sociale dans le pays.

Il rappelle les défis sécuritaires que le G5 Sahel peine à relever faute de financement et de logistique. Il sollicite par ailleurs le soutien des pays ACP en vue d'un plaidoyer soutenu auprès de pays européens pour les appuis adéquats au G5 Sahel.

• Le représentant du Burkina - Faso informe l'assemblée de la mise en place du Haut Conseil du dialogue social et du Haut conseil pour la réconciliation et l'unité nationale. Ces deux institutions vont contribuer au renforcement de la paix sociale dans le pays.

• Il rappelle les défis sécuritaires que le G5 sahel peine à relever faute de financement et de logistique. Il sollicite par ailleurs le soutien des pays ACP en vue d'un plaidoyer soutenu auprès des pays européens pour les appuis adéquats au G5 sahel.

Merci

Situação Política de São Tomé e Príncipe
Pelo Deputado Carlos Correia na Reunião dos ACP
em Bruxelas 13-06-2018

Senhor Presidente muito obrigado,
Caros senhores e senhoras deputados e deputadas,
Minhas Senhoras e meus Senhores

É com enorme prazer que tomo palavra nesta augusta assembleia para vos relatar acerca da situação política no meu país

Caros colegas,

São Tomé e Príncipe é um pequeno país situado no Golfo da Guiné.

Apesar de São Tomé e Príncipe ser um país pequeno, há algum tempo a esta parte, tem demonstrado uma elevação política.

Aproximando-se as eleições legislativas, autárquicas e regionais, que em princípio terão lugar em Outubro do corrente, é com enorme satisfação que iremos presenciar pela primeira vez em São Tomé e Príncipe um governo eleito democraticamente cumprindo a sua legislatura de 4 anos, conforme reza a nossa constituição graças ao nosso Primeiro-ministro e a sua liderança.

De realçar que após a abertura ao regime democrático em 1991, São Tomé e Príncipe registou várias instabilidades políticas, que tiveram impactos sérios na nossa economia.

Neste momento caros colegas deputados, São Tomé e Príncipe conhece uma enorme evolução, tendo melhorado vários indicadores políticos, económicos e sociais, que poderão dar os seus frutos num futuro próximo, com realce pela nossa posição no ranking das instituições credíveis de avaliação.

Esta estável legislatura que anteriormente vos falei não tem sido de todo fácil ou pacífica, na medida em que o XVI Governo Constitucional de São Tomé e Príncipe, liderado por S.E Senhor Dr. Patrice Emery Trovoada Primeiro-ministro e Chefe do Governo santomense, tem levado a cabo várias reformas, com particular impacto no sector da justiça e o combate a corrupção.

Porem excelências, é de frisar que apesar dos obstáculos, podemos ver uma luz ao fundo de túnel e por isso a maioria acredita.

Nesta ordem de ideia aproveito para vos pedir que continuem a nos apoiar, para que continuemos a ser de facto bons ACPs, bons irmãos e que pautemos por mútua ajuda, com objetivo de avançarmos rumo ao desenvolvimento dos nossos países.

Ao terminar excelências, gostaria de realçar sobre a missão dos consultores das Nações Unidas à São Tomé e Príncipe, com o objetivo de certificar a veracidade do sistema de base de dados, recentemente criada pela Comissão Nacional Eleitoral que culminou com uma avaliação positiva. Aproveito para endereçar os nossos agradecimentos aos nossos irmãos da Republica do Timor Leste aqui presentes pelo apoio financeiro e material à Comissão Nacional Eleitoral em todo esse processo.

Excelência resumindo e concluindo deixo-vos aqui a garantia que São Tomé e Príncipe está estável e confiante no futuro apesar das dificuldades que são enormes.

Muito obrigado pela vossa atenção.

Talking points for Hon. Irene Zindi on the Political Situation
on Zimbabwe: Committee for Political Affairs, 13 June 2018

- Inform that the report is an update on the political situation in Zimbabwe.
- The President, H.E. Cde E.D. Mnangagwa on 30 May 2018 signed the proclamation that elections will be held on 30 July 2018.
- The Nomination Court will sit on 14 June 2018 to consider all candidates who will be contesting the election: Presidential, Parliamentary and Council.
- Special courts have been set up to deal with election related cases.
- Zimbabwe has invited international observers to observe the elections. SADC, the African Union and the European Union have confirmed that they will send observers.
- Parliament has since passed amendments to the Electoral Law which were signed into law.
- The Zimbabwe Republic Police is ready to maintain peace during this period.
- After the proclamation of the date, all political parties are receiving coverage from the public media as stipulated in the electoral law.

Lesotho's Interventions in the Political Affairs Committee

Political situation for submission to the ACP Political Affairs Committee on the 13th June 2018, Brussels, Belgium; submitted by Hon S.T. Rapapa, MP.

1. It should be noted that Lesotho held national election in June 2017 and a new Coalition Government comprising of (four) 4 political parties was inaugurated in June 2017
2. The country has faced serious security challenges in the last (two) 2 years where (two) 2 Army commanders were assassinated by fellow army officers in June 2015 and August 2017 respectively.
3. A former army commander, Lt. General Kennedy Tlali Kamoli who retired in December 2016 is now in prison accused of murder of police officers and also accused of treason.
4. SADC has sent a contingent of approximately 200 Peace Keeping Force under the supervision of an oversight committee made up of 10 eminent persons from (six) 6 SADC Countries. The force is expected to be in Lesotho for the next (six) months to November 2018.
5. The Country is undergoing a serious political challenge since the former Deputy Prime Minister, who is a Member of Parliament and a leader of a political party which forms part of the opposition, is now in exile in South Africa for fear of his life. Opposition parties have decided to boycott the reforms process.

The Update Political Situation in Sudan

Peace :

The government got involved in recent rounds of talks and dialogue with the both the armed groups and the political opposition. After the late meetings of these two groups in Paris hopes are renewed that soon the high-level Committee of AU (AUHLIP) will call for joint talks between the government and the opposition with a hope of a break through.

National Dialogue:

The high-level steering committee for the implementation of the resolutions of the dialogue held several meetings in which they agreed on the names of the members of the constitution commission, passed it to the council of Ministers which agreed on it and forwarded to the National Assembly for endorsement. The high-level steering committee also amended the electoral law, also endorsed by the council of ministers and now tabled to the National Assembly.

Migration:

The Government is involved with some of the neighbouring countries as well as the EU in fighting and combating the human trafficking and smuggling groups to prevent illegal migration. Various measures has been taken by the government in collaboration with the international organisations to realize sustainable development and the creating jobs as one of the most primordial factor of addressing the root causes of illegal migration, the government is deploying its troops along its borders with neighbouring countries particularly with Libya to stop illegal migration and illicit criminal groups and networks.

The government continued its successful cooperation with the international community in fighting and combating violent extremism and terrorism.

DECLARATION DE LA DELEGATION
PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA REPUBLIQUE DU
BURUNDI LORS DE LA 50^{ème} SESSION DE
L'ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE ACP ET
REUNIONS INTERSESSIONS DE L'ASSEMBLEE
PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

BRUXELLES DU 13-20 JUIN 20218

1. Le peuple burundais vient de se doter d'une nouvelle constitution adoptée par voie référendaire et promulguée par le Président de la République le jeudi 07 Juin 2018. Selon les résultats définitifs du référendum constitutionnel du 17 Mai 2018, proclamés par la Cour Constitutionnelle, le oui a remporté 73.24%, le non exprimé à 19.37% sur un taux de participation de 96.19%.
2. L'Union Parlementaire Africaine, dans sa déclaration de soutenir le Burundi qui a sanctionné la clôture de sa 72^{ème} session du comité Exécutif tenue à Bujumbura les 22 et 23 Mai 2018, regrette la mauvaise compréhension et appréciation de la situation politique, sociale et sécuritaire du Burundi, suite à des campagnes de désinformation ; salue les mesures prises par le Gouvernement de la République du Burundi pour lutter contre la criminalité, le terrorisme et autres atteintes aux droits de l'homme ; félicite le Gouvernement de la République du Burundi pour avoir organisé avec succès le référendum constitutionnel du 17 Mai 2018 ; s'engage à renforcer les actions de coopération entre les institutions parlementaires membres de l'Union Parlementaire Africaine

3. Le Parlement du Burundi est profondément préoccupé par l'hostilité de L'union Européenne envers les institutions républicaines du Burundi et particulièrement la position de la France à travers la déclaration divisionniste de son Ministre des Affaires Etrangères qui accuse la constitution nouvellement élu d'exclure les tutsi sans toutefois pointer du doigt une seule de ses dispositions.
4. Le Parlement Burundais invite encore une fois une délégation parlementaire paritaire ACP-UE de venir visiter le Burundi pour se rendre compte de l'évolution significative positive de la situation politique et sécuritaire qui a poussé l'Union Parlementaire Africaine à sortir une déclaration de soutenir le Burundi, plutôt que de vouloir travailler sur des rapports et allégations mensongers des détracteurs des institutions du pouvoir du Burundi.
5. Le parlement de la République du Burundi demande, enfin, à l'Union Européenne de lever les sanctions prises contre le peuple burundais et de privilégier une large coopération institutionnelle.



REFERENCE

ACP/23/072/18
PAHD Dept : JPA/MMM/bm

Brussels, 27 September 2018

ACP- EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE
ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT¹

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

09:00 - 11:00

ACP HOUSE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

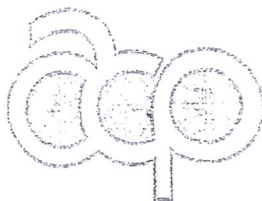
DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the draft agenda [ACP/23/072/18].
2. Statement from the Chair.
3. Approval of the Draft Summary Record of the Previous Meeting and matters arising therefrom [ACP/23/073/18].
4. Consideration of items on the agenda for the meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment to be held on 11 October 2018 at the European Parliament.
5. Any other business.

¹ Members:

Pacific: Samoa, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau
Caribbean: Antigua & Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, the Bahamas, Cuba
Southern Africa: Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique
Central Africa: Central African Republic, Cameroon
East Africa: Eritrea (1st Vice-President), Somalia, Rwanda, Sudan
West Africa: Gambia, Niger, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Ghana

Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
[Groupe ACP]



African, Caribbean and
Pacific Group of States
[ACP Group]

REFERENCE

ACPI23/073/18
PAHD Dept: JPA/JFK/DM

Brussels, 27 September 2018

ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

DRAFT

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF ACP MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Held on Thursday, 14 June 2018

ACP House, Brussels, Belgium

DRAFT
SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF ACP MEMBERS OF THE
COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT OF THE
ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY HELD ON
THURSDAY, 14 JUNE 2018

The Meeting was opened at 10.00 a.m. by the Hon. Naib Musa Hussein (Eritrea) as the 1st Vice-Chair of the Committee, He welcomed Members to the Meeting and wished them successful deliberations.

1. Draft Agenda

The Meeting adopted its agenda as drafted.

2. Statement from the Chair

The Chairperson informed the Meeting that pending the designation by the Caribbean Region for the substantive Chair, Eritrea was continuing to preside over the deliberations of the Committee in its capacity as the 1st Vice-Chair. He also informed the Meeting that at the Joint Meeting the European Parliaments will only provide documents to the Heads of Delegations, as such other participants were advised to go with the copies of the relevant documents received at the Meeting. The Chairperson then proceeded with the agenda.

3. Summary Record of last ACP Meeting held on Tuesday, 20 March 2018, Brussels, Belgium

The Meeting approved the Summary Record of its deliberations in the last Meeting held on Tuesday, 10 October 2017, at ACP House, Brussels, Belgium, with a correction in Paragraph 10..*promoting the **implementation** of the external...*, and the name of the Member of Parliament (Tuvalu) as Hon Otinielu Tauteleimalae Tausi.

Under matters arising, the Meeting noted that the migrant issue from Africa to Europe is still a pertinent issue, which needs serious treatment under the post-Cotonou Negotiations.

4. Draft Agenda of the Meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment, Saturday, 16 December 2017, at the Karibe Hotel Convention Centre, Port-au-Prince, Haiti

The Meeting then deliberated on the items on the draft Agenda of the Meeting of the JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment to be held on Saturday, 16 June 2018 from 10h00 to 13h30 at the European Parliament.

5. Minutes of the Meeting of 22 March 2018, Brussels, Belgium

The Meeting took note of the minutes of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment held on 22 March 2018, as drafted.

6. The social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries

With the facilitation of the ACP Co-rapporteur, Hon. Halifa Sallah (Gambia), the Meeting extensively considered the 78 Amendments submitted to the draft report entitled "*The social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries*". The Meeting then adopted the ACP voting positions on these Amendments, with some oral amendments.

Deliberations on this subject matter were to continue during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts.

7. Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implantation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking

The Meeting considered the Working Document on the subject matter of the next report entitled *Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking*. In presenting the Working Document, the ACP Co-rapporteur, Hon. Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana), noted that many fragile ecosystems already face large challenges owing to climate change, natural disasters, land use, as well as the increasing and profitable illegal trade of plants and animals, among others. He underlined that wildlife trafficking is happening at an alarming rate threatening the welfare and prosperity of countries at all tiers. Mr. Mangole further noted that organised crime is fuelling the demand and supply for wildlife products supporting corruption and creating a market of novel products. He, however, noted that globally, major efforts have been made to curb this trade, particularly through the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) and the UN Sustainable Development Agenda 2030. As part of the way forward on tackling wildlife trafficking, Mr. Mangole then underlined that the ACP-EU relations should focus on dialogue and coordinated action towards a stronger legal framework, and better law enforcement, to effectively tackle the trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna operated by international criminal organisations, crushing the demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.

During the exchange of views, the Meeting noted that conflict is one the means which encourages the trafficking of wildlife products, as such there is need to promote peace in conflict situations. The Meeting also noted the need for stiffer punishment regimes for traffickers in wildlife products, similar to those for drug traffickers.

Deliberations on this subject matter were to continue during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts.

8. Decision on the title of the next report

With respect to title of the next report, the Meeting exchanged views on the two topics proposed by the Secretariat, namely:

- a) Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth, in ACP countries;
- b) The social and environmental consequences of substance abuse including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

The Meeting then agreed to share these proposals with the EU counterparts during the Joint Meeting.

9. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on improving the access to basic health systems, notably to medicines in the fight against infectious diseases.

The Meeting took note of the subject matter as the European Commission was to make its presentation during the Joint Meeting.

10. Climate change: threats and opportunities for life and sustainable development
Child labour in ACP countries

The Meeting took note of the subject matter, noting that an exchange of views was to take place with Prof. Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, former Vice President of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and Professor of climatology and environmental sciences at the University of Louvain, during the Joint Meeting.

11. Urgent and topical subjects

The Meeting took note of the subject matter, as no topical subjects were suggested. Deliberations on this subject matter were to continue during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts

12. Any other business

There were no other matters under this item.

13. Date and place of next Meeting

The Meeting noted that the next Meeting of the Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment was to take place in October 2018 in Brussels, Belgium, the date was to be communicated later.

The meeting adjourned at 12.40 p.m.

ANNEX

RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Hon.	Ornelas Maria	Member of Parliament (Angola)
Hon.	Tyova Vigilio	Member of Parliament (Angola)
Hon.	Semedo Jose	Member of Parliament (Angola)
	Jesus Angelica	(Embassy of Angola, Brussels)
	Guim Goncalves	(Embassy of Angola, Brussels)
Hon.	Batshu Edwin	Member of Parliament (Botswana)
Hon.	Mangole Gibert	Member of Parliament (Botswana)
	Mosinki Kgopodiso	(Embassy of Botswana, Brussels)
	Matambo Sefalana	(Embassy of Botswana, Brussels)
Hon.	Njebarikaniye Spes-coutas	Member of Parliament (Burundi)
Hon.	Bigirimana Salvator	Member of Parliament (Burundi)
	Mbongue Eteky Jean H.	(Ministry of External Relations, Cameroon)
Hon.	Kombo Gberi	Member of Parliament (Cameroon)
Hon.	Yama Davy Victorien	Member of Parliament (CAR)
	Moussa Magloire Serge	(Embassy of CAR, Brussels)
Hon.	Pujals Prim	Member of Parliament (Dominican Republic)
	Mukendi Kanambi B.	(National Assembly, DRC)
Hon.	Naib Musa Hussein	Member of Parliament (Eritrea)
	Hagos Michael Tesfai	(Embassy of Eritrea, Brussels)
Hon.	Milebou-Aubusson Lucie	Member of Parliament (Gabon)
	Tsiaba Marse Nicole	(Embassy of Gabon, Brussels)
	Ditengou Darnelle	(National Assembly, Gabon)
Hon.	Halifa Sallah	Member of Parliament (The Gambia)
Hon.	Ceesay Momodou S.	Member of Parliament (The Gambia)
Hon.	Camara Kaddy	Member of Parliament (The Gambia)
Hon.	Sowe Alhagie H.	Member of Parliament (The Gambia)
Hon.	Ceesay Madi M. K.	Member of Parliament (The Gambia)
Hon.	Banda Ben Abdallah	Member of Parliament (Ghana)
	Armah Abiel	(Embassy of Ghana, Brussels)
	Boateng Felix Osei	(Embassy of Ghana, Brussels)
	Nsiah Cyril K. Oteng	(National Assembly, Ghana)
Hon.	Sylla Abdoulaye	Member of Parliament (Guinea)
	Adolpus Leroy	(Embassy of Guyana, Brussels)
Hon.	Kamar Margaret J.	Member of Parliament (Kenya)
Hon.	Cheboi Moses	Member of Parliament (Kenya)
	Nthiwa Dorothy	(Embassy of Kenya, Brussels)
	Mghanga Innocent Mbaya	(National Assembly, Kenya)
Hon.	Rapapa Samuel T.	Member of Parliament (Lesotho)
Hon.	Razafindravelo Hermann	Member of Parliament (Madagascar)
Hon.	Mhone Raphael	Member of Parliament (Malawi)
	Makande Moffat	(National Assembly, Malawi)
Hon.	Zamel Mohamed Mokhtar	Member of Parliament (Mauritania)
Hon.	Marrakchy Abderrahmane	Member of Parliament (Mauritania)
Hon.	Welly Paliknoa	Member of Parliament (Micronesia)
	Jackson Alik	(National Assembly, Micronesia)
Hon.	Sithole Ana Rita Geremas	Member of Parliament (Mozambique)
	Dava Luis Junior	(National Assembly, Mozambique)
Hon.	Vaquina Alberto C.A.	Member of Parliament (Mozambique)
	Namburete Antonio	(National Assembly, Mozambique)

Hon.	Sibungo Heather Mwiza	Member of Parliament (Namibia)
Hon.	Venaani Mc Henry	Member of Parliament (Namibia)
Hon.	Caley Faustina N.	Member of Parliament (Namibia)
	Shikwambi Latungika Loide	(Embassy of Namibia, Brussels)
	Meroro Annalisa	(National Assembly, Namibia)
Hon.	Chekou Kore Hassane	Member of Parliament (Niger)
	Issifou A. Abdouramane	(National Assembly, Niger)
	Idi Adamou M.S.	(National Assembly, Niger)
	Issoufou Aïcha	(Embassy of Niger, Brussels)
Hon.	Ibrahim Alassane M.	Member of Parliament (Niger)
Hon.	Dioffo Amadou	Member of Parliament (Niger)
	Adediran Olamide	(Embassy of Nigeria, Brussels)
Hon.	Rugema Michel	Member of Parliament (Rwanda)
Hon.	Faumuina Liuga	Member of Parliament (Samoa)
Hon.	William Waven W.	Member of Parliament (Seychelles)
	Couteh Kormoh K.	(National Assembly, Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Rogers Dickson	Member of Parliament (Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Lamina Saa Emerson	Member of Parliament (Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Koroma Aaron A.	Member of Parliament (Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Nyuma Mathew	Member of Parliament (Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Kargbo Ibrahim Ben	Member of Parliament (Sierra Leone)
Hon.	Kopane Semakalens Patricia	Member of Parliament (South Africa)
Hon.	Mahlalela Fish	Member of Parliament (South Africa)
	Madlala David	(National Assembly, South Africa)
Hon.	Parkies Phel	Member of Parliament (South Africa)
Hon.	Salah Suhair Ahmed	Member of Parliament (Sudan)
Hon.	Bolis Salwa	Member of Parliament (Sudan)
Hon.	Osman Tajeldien	Member of Parliament (Sudan)
	Ibrahim Hassan Mai	(Embassy of Sudan, Brussels)
	Abdalla Wedad	(Embassy of Sudan, Brussels)
	Salum Juma Ali	(Embassy of Tanzania, Brussels)
Hon.	Weidou Adjedoue	Member of Parliament (Tchad)
	Simati Aunese Makoi	(Embassy of Tuvalu, Brussels)
Hon.	Nokrach Wilson William	Member of Parliament (Uganda)
	Kagoro John Bosco	(National Assembly, Uganda)
	Doka Rudo N.E.	(National Assembly, Zimbabwe)
	Mukura Michael C.	(Embassy of Zimbabwe, Brussels)
Hon.	Khumalo Thabitha	Member of Parliament (Zimbabwe)
Hon.	Irene Zindi	Member of Parliament (Zimbabwe)
	Jusu Philip Bob	(African Union)
	Chergui Amine	(African Union)
	Nkanagu Gervais	(COMESA)



REFERENCE ACP/23/072/18
PAHD Dept : JPA/MMM/bm

Brussels, 27 September 2018

ACP- EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND THE ENVIRONMENT¹

TUESDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2018

09:00 - 11:00

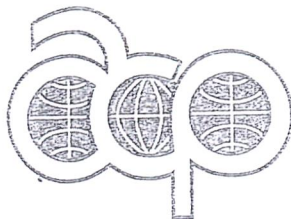
ACP HOUSE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the draft agenda [ACP/23/072/18].
2. Statement from the Chair.
3. Approval of the Draft Summary Record of the Previous Meeting and matters arising therefrom [ACP/23/073/18].
4. Consideration of items on the agenda for the meeting of the ACP-EU JPA Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment to be held on 11 October 2018 at the European Parliament.
5. Any other business.

¹ Members:

Pacific: Samoa, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, Vanuatu, Federated States of Micronesia, Palau
Caribbean: Antigua & Barbuda, Dominican Republic, Belize, Dominica, Grenada, the Bahamas, Cuba
Southern Africa: Malawi, Botswana, Mozambique
Central Africa: Central African Republic, Cameroon
East Africa: Eritrea (1st Vice-President), Somalia, Rwanda, Sudan
West Africa: Gambia, Niger, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Ghana



REFERENCE

ACP/23/070/18
MDFIP/BL/gn/13/

Brussels, 1st October 2018

ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND TRADE¹
MEETING OF TUESDAY, 09 OCTOBER 2018 FROM 9:00 TO 11:00AM
ACP HOUSE (BRUSSELS)

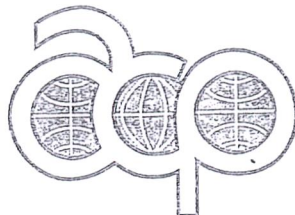
DRAFT AGENDA

1. Adoption of the draft agenda [ACP/23/070/18]
2. Statement from the Chair
3. Adoption of the Summary Record of the Committee meeting held in Brussels on 13 June 2018 [ACP/23/071/18]:
 - Approval of the Summary Record;
 - Matters arising.
4. Consideration of the draft agenda for the joint Committee meeting to be held on 11 October 2018 [AP102.612v01-00]
5. Any other business.

¹ Members of the Committee:

Southern Africa	: South Africa (Chair), Angola, Namibia, Swaziland
Central Africa	: Republic of Congo, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea
East Africa	: Comoros (2 nd Vice-Chair), Madagascar, Mauritius, Seychelles, Tanzania
West Africa	: Cape Verde (1 st Vice-Chair), Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Nigeria, Senegal
Caribbean	: Barbados, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago
Pacific	: Fiji, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga

Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and
Pacific Group of States
(ACP Group)

REFERENCE ACP/23/071/18
MDFIP/BL/gn/12

Brussels, 13 June 2018

50TH SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
OF THE AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC (ACP) GROUP OF STATES

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE MEETING OF
THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND TRADE

BRUSSELS, 13 JUNE 2018

1. The Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade of the Parliamentary Assembly of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP Group) met at ACP House on 13 June 2018, from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., under the chairmanship of the Honourable Fish Phel Parkies, South African Member of Parliament. It adopted the meeting's agenda, as well as the Summary Record of its previous meeting and the minutes of that of the Joint ACP-EU Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade.
2. In preparation for the next meeting of the Joint ACP-EU Committee scheduled to take place on 16 June 2018, the ACP Committee members considered the substantive items on the meeting's agenda. This Summary Record presents the Commission's discussions and deliberations.
 - I. Consideration of the Amendments to and Vote on the Draft Report on the Impact of the Illegal Trade in Phytosanitary Products, Seeds, and Other Agricultural Inputs on ACP Countries' Economies
 3. The Committee's members considered the proposed amendments to the draft resolution on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds, and other agricultural inputs on ACP countries' economies. Based on the presentation, arguments, and guidance of the Co-Rapporteur, Mrs. Lucie Mboussou, née Milebou Aubusson, President of the Senate of Gabon, they discussed and adopted a voting position on the different amendments.
 4. Following their deliberations, the Committee's members recommended voting in favour of both the amendments, in keeping with the adopted voting position, and the resolution as a whole.
 - II. The Development of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (SMEs) at the Heart of the Transformation of ACP Countries' Economies
 5. Under this item, Committee members considered the working document prepared by the Co-Rapporteurs. In the absence of the Co-Rapporteur, the Honourable Sangeet Fowdar of Mauritius, the working document was presented by the Secretariat.
 6. According to the working document, the private sector is an engine of wealth creation and economic growth in market economies, and contributes significantly to generating employment and revenue in developing countries. According to the United Nations, the private sector represents almost 84% of the gross domestic product (GDP) in developing countries and has the economic and social potential capacity to provide a sustainable basis for the production of basic goods and services, job creation, and the mobilisation of domestic resources for development finance.

7. The working document calls for the development of micro-enterprises and SMEs, which are key private sector players in the sustainable transformation of the ACP countries' economies, and underscores the need to increase their role and responsibility in ACP-EU development cooperation policies. In light of this, the specific structure of the private sector in ACP countries, which mainly comprises micro-enterprises operating in the informal sector, must be recognised and taken into consideration. This will make it possible to understand the latter's specific needs and gradually integrate them into the formal economy.
8. The document focuses on three areas:
 - the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) as the basis for the economic and social transformation of ACP countries;
 - the challenges impeding the development of SMEs in ACP countries, and the specific obstacles and constraints preventing the creation and development of SMEs; and
 - the recommendations which, when implemented, should help to promote micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, capable of contributing to economic transformation in ACP countries.
9. In their discussions, the Committee's members underscored the relevance of SME development, the strengthening of their role in the current context, and the prospects for medium and long-term political, economic, and social development in ACP countries. While acknowledging that ACP-EU cooperation can help to support SME development in ACP countries, they recognised nonetheless that the primary political responsibility lies with the governments of ACP countries, which must demonstrate greater political will, by creating a private sector development strategic framework, in order to transform MSMEs into true endogenous development tools. The ownership of private sector development policies and MSME promotion is critical, and must not be influenced by the political conditionalities of cooperation development contributing partner countries.
10. Members also called for the strengthening of public-private partnerships, as an innovative means of development finance, and for the experiences of other developing countries to serve as inspiration, through South-South and Triangular Cooperation, especially among ACP Member States.

III. Decision on the Title of the Next Committee Report

11. The Committee's members were unable to make a decision on the title of their next report. They invited the Chair, in collaboration with the Secretariat, to propose a title that would be examined and adopted during the plenary session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly on 15 June 2018.

12. Following discussions at the Parliamentary Assembly, two titles were proposed:

- Migration's contribution to economic development; and
- Development finance challenges in middle-income countries.

IV. Prospects for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): lessons to be drawn from other regional integration examples

13. In the absence of the invited African Union representative, who could not attend, the Secretariat gave brief introductory remarks on the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), and provided members with the text of the Agreement establishing the AfCFTA. It should be noted that this Agreement was signed by 44 countries on 21 March 2018, in Kigali, Rwanda, following an extraordinary Summit of African Union leaders. The AfCFTA is part of a coordinated strategy, covering 55 countries, to boost intra-African trade and develop an integrated market of over 1 billion people, with a GDP of US\$2.5 trillion.
14. It was established in keeping with an integrated development approach, which combines market integration with industrial and infrastructure development, with a general view to addressing Africa's production capacity and supply side constraints. It also aims to promote the diversification of African exports, so that the continent can end its dependence on raw materials, in order to commercialise value-added products and reduce its infrastructure deficit.
15. The AfCFTA should enable the creation of larger economies of scale and a bigger market, thereby improving the capacity to attract investments.
16. Following the signing of the Agreement, African Ministers of Trade met recently in Dakar, Senegal, to approve Annexes to its Protocols and modalities for customs tariff liberalisation. These documents will be submitted for consideration to the African Union Summit scheduled to take place in Nouakchott, Mauritania, in July 2018.
17. At the Joint ACP-EU meeting, ACP Parliamentarians should underscore the AfCFTA's importance, and request support not only in the form of technical assistance, but also in ensuring that there is policy coherence that supports its implementation and ensures that its benefits come to fruition.
18. However, the discussion was cut short following the remarks made by one member, who underscored that the AfCFTA included African countries that are not ACP Member States, and that the ACP could not speak on their behalf.

V. Economic Partnership Agreements: State of Play of Negotiations and Implementation

19. The Secretariat provided an update and circulated a note on the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) process, indicating that National EPA Implementation Plans had been or were being formulated.
20. Members noted that the problem of multiple trade regimes in some ACP regional organisations persists. For Africa, the launch of the AfCFTA, which could lead to an Africa-EU EPA in the future, is a welcome development that could help to drive forward regional EPAs.
21. Members noted that EPA implementation should take account of global developments, including the shift to inward-looking policies in some major economies, and the need to ensure that the scope of trade liberalisation is right, properly timed, and adequately paced. Safeguard measures should also be put in place to protect emerging industries or sectors.
22. Furthermore, there is a need for EPA monitoring and evaluation to ensure not only compliance with EPA provisions, but also that these agreements are actually generating benefits.
23. Members were hardly encouraged by the brief presentation on the situation in the CARICOM region, which has the most experience in terms of EPA implementation. Some countries in the region were concerned that EPAs had not produced the anticipated benefits, citing revenue losses and problems relating to market access, especially in mode 4 for providers of professional services.
24. Members bemoaned the fact that at the joint meeting, discussions are only conducted with the European Commission, without any possibility of an intervention from the ACP side, and found that the situation reflected an imbalance. They therefore invited the ACP Group to gather hard facts, up-to-date information, and empirical data, which can be generated by conducting a scientific study of the process. In this regard, they reiterated their previous request for an impact assessment of the EPA process, to enable the ACP Group to provide the EU side with clear indications of what needs to be done.

VI. The Joint ACP-EU Cooperation Framework for Private Sector Development Support in ACP Countries

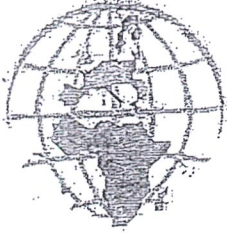
25. Under this item, the Committee's members were informed of the Joint ACP-EU Cooperation Framework for Private Sector Development Support in ACP Countries and its implementation.

26. Adopted in 2014 by the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the Joint ACP-EU Cooperation Framework for Private Sector Development Support in ACP Countries presents the principles and general guidelines that must direct future actions for private sector development in ACP countries. It aims to: i) improve the business environment; ii) support the development of entrepreneurship and micro-enterprises; iii) facilitate access to financing; and iv) strengthen the competitiveness of ACP enterprises and their access to markets.

27. It centres around four pillars:

- Improving the business environment;
- Supporting the private sector in relevant development areas;
- Developing support for microfinance services; and
- Promoting private investments for development, through innovative financing mechanisms (loan-grant blending, public-private partnerships, etc.).

28. In the context of the 11th EDF, the programming process has been a consistent and complementary one at the national, regional, and intra-ACP levels. At the intra-ACP level, the priorities identified were broken down into programmes or projects, some of which are currently being implemented.



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

ACP_OJ(2018)1011_01

DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting

Thursday 11 October 2018, 10.00-12.30 and 14.00-17.30

Brussels

Room: Altiero Spinelli A5E-2

1. Adoption of agenda OJ – AP102.612v01-00
2. Approval of minutes of meeting PV – AP102.573v01-00
 - 16 June 2018 in Brussels
3. Co-Chairs' announcements
4. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries
Co-rapporteurs: Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) and Nicolas Bay
 - Consideration of draft report DR – AP102.614v01-00
 - Exchange of views with Eduin Matta Castillo, Policy & Programme Officer in the United Nations Industrial Development Organization
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
5. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP Countries' economies
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission

6. The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries, and particularly to remote areas
 - Appointment of co-rapporteurs *Seydellias*
 - Exchange of views with Philipp Trotter, Research Associate in Renewable Energy in the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford
 - Exchange of views with Alfredo Cestari, President, Camera di Commercio ItalAfrica Centrale
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
7. Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027: impact of the EDF budgetisation on ACP-EU cooperation
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
8. Economic Partnership Agreements: State of play of negotiations and implementation
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
9. Any other business
 - Urgent and topical subjects
10. Date and place of next meeting



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Political Affairs

ACP_OJ(2018)1011

DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting

Thursday 11 October 2018, 10:15-12:45 and 14:00-17:30

Brussels

Room: Altiero Spinelli ASP A5G-2

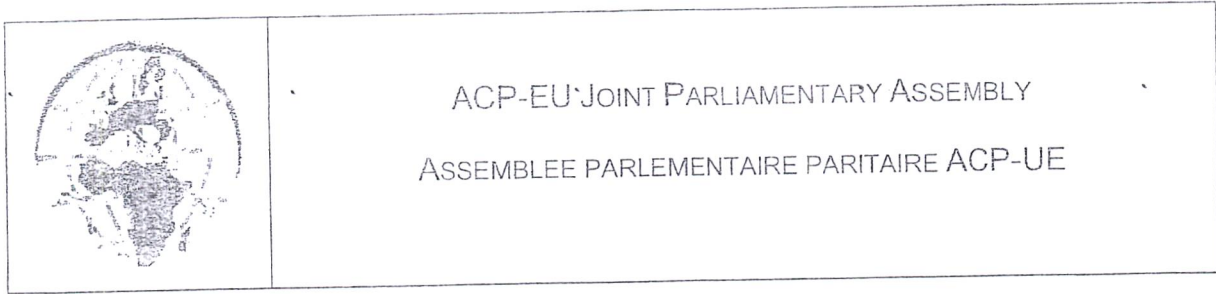
1. Adoption of agenda OJ – AP 102.605v01-00

2. Approval of minutes of meeting PV – AP102.581v01-00
 - 16 June 2018

3. Co-chairs' announcements

4. **The fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking**
Co-rapporteurs: Deirdre Clune and Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d'Ivoire)
 - Consideration of draft report DR – AP102.578v03-00

5. **The strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU partnership**
 - Exchange of views with Ludger Kühnhardt, Director at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) and Professor of Political Science at the Institute for Political Science and Sociology at the University of Bonn
6. **Political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement**
 - Exchange of views with the European External Action Service
7. **Follow-up by the Commission/EEAS on the resolution adopted by the JPA on "ACP-EU relations post-Cotonou: A strong parliamentary dimension" and "The humanitarian crisis in South Sudan"**
8. **Human trafficking – Legal and institutional dimension**
 - Exchange of views with Ruth Nordström, Senior Legal Counsel at Scandinavian Human Rights Lawyers, Uppsala, Sweden
9. **The role of the diaspora in ACP-EU relations**
 - Exchange of views with Jenny Maggi, Senior lecturer and researcher at the department of sociology of the University of Geneva
10. **Water Governance as a source of conflict prevention**
 - Exchange of views with Zaki Shubber, IHE Delft Institute for Water Education
11. **The political situation in ACP and EU Member States**
12. **Any other business**
13. **Date and place of next meeting**



Committee on Political Affairs

ACP_PV(2018)1606

MINUTES
of the meeting of 16 June 2018, 15:00-18:30
Brussels

The meeting opened on Saturday 16 June 2018 at 15:06, with Charles Goerens (Vice-Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda

OJ – AP 102.388v01-00

The Co-Chair announced the language regime English, French, German and Italian - passive).

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 22 March 2018

PV – AP102.413v01-00

The minutes were approved.

3. Co-chairs' announcements

The Co-Chair announced the subject of the workshop:

- “Biotechnological research for sustainable agriculture with a focus on developing countries”;

The Co-Chair informed Members on the formal opening of the Session and on the youth event.

The Co-Chair informed Members on the Newsletter (available in English and French).

4. **ACP-EU relations post-Cotonou: A strong parliamentary dimension**

Co-Rapporteurs: Jacob Oulanyah (Uganda) and Cristian Dan Preda

- Consideration of amendments AM – AP102.400v03-00
- Adoption of draft report DR – AP102.400v01-00

Sebastian C. Kopulande (replacing Jacob Oulanyah) and Bogdan Brunon Wenta (replacing Cristian Dan Preda) presented the draft report and commented on the amendments.

Amendments adopted: 1, 2, 8, 9, 10, 13, 15, 20, 21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 30, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 41, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 65, 67 and 68.

Amendments rejected: 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 11, 12, 14, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 31, 37, 38, 39, 40, 42, 45, 55, 62, 63, 66, 69 and 70.

Amendment fallen: 27, 29, 52, 59 and 60.

Amendments withdrawn: none.

Decision: The draft report, as amended, was adopted by unanimity, save one abstention.

5. **The fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking**

Co-Rapporteurs: Deirdre Clune and Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d'Ivoire)

- Consideration of working document DT – AP102.578v01-00

Alpha Ousmane (replacing Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon) and Bogdan Wenta (replacing Deirdre Clune) presented the working document.

Speakers: Price Cyprien (Haiti), Bodil Valero, Neena Gill, Rana Tlampati Kiteru (Kenya), Adjedoue Weidou (Tchad), Robert Gbian (Benin), HE Carl Greenridge (Guyana), Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Wamai Wamanga (Uganda), Osman H.E. Ahmed (Sudan), Joaquin Tasso-Vilallonga (EEAS) and Domenico Rosa (EC).

Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso) wound up the debate.

6. **Decision on the title of the next report**

- Exchange of views

Speakers: Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Vicky Katumwa (RDC), Frank Engel, Adjedoue Weidou (Tchad), Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso), Sebastian Kopulande (Zambia), Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye (Burundi), Osman H.E. Ahmed (Sudan) and Joachim Zeller.

Decision: The title of the next report will be: “The strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU partnership”.

The calendar will be: first exchange of views with invited experts in October 2018; consideration of draft report in December 2018; adoption of draft report in March 2019.

7. Water Governance as a source of conflict prevention

- Exchange of views with Sundeep Waslekar, President of the Strategic Foresight Group, Mumbai, by video-link, and Alfonso Medinilla of the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

Based on an analysis of all 286 shared river basins in the world, Sundeep Waslekar concluded that water governance provides a link between peace and development, decreasing the risk of conflict, saving lives while also providing growth and livelihoods. He asked for strong action by the international community to recognise water basins as a strategic asset of humanity, so that any crime against them could be considered as a crime against humanity.

Alfonso Medinilla pointing to water governance as a key element for agriculture and food security, energy security and economic development, climate change adaptation, state security and territorial control.

Speakers: Adjedoue Weidou (Tchad), Bodil Valero, Alpha Ousmane (Burkina Faso), Maria del Carmen Marques Ruiz (EEAS) and Domenico Rosa (EC).

Members largely agreed with the importance of the topic and supported the presenters' conclusions.

8. Political dialogue under Article 8 of the Cotonou Agreement

- Exchange of views with the European External Action Service

Joaquin Tasso-Vilallonga (EEAS) reported on the main topics discussed during the political dialogues that took place over the last months. He mentioned peace and security as a major recurrent item and also elaborated on a comprehensive approach of migration related issues. He also expressed concerns on the situation in Burundi.

Speakers: Joaquin Tasso Vilallonga (EEAS), Adjedoue Weidou (Tchad) and Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye (Burundi).

9. The political situation in ACP and EU Member States

- Exchange of views

Members brought up the political dialogue between government and opposition in Togo, facilitated by the Presidents of Ghana and Guinea, the legislative elections planned in Chad in November 2018 and the roadmap for elections in 2020 in Burundi.

Speakers: Petik-Abalo Abiguime (Togo), Adjedoue Weidou (Chad), Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye (Burundi) and Joaquin Tasso-Vilallonga (EEAS).

10. Any other business

None.

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11. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting will take place on 11 October 2018 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 18:44.

ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
 ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
 LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNÍH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRSDALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/
 JELENĒTI ĪV/REGISĪTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBCENOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
 LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LĀSNĀOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA

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Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)	
EP/PE Charles Goerens	ACP Vicky Katumwa (DRC)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamentiliiikmed/Μέλη/Members/Zastupnici/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter	
EP/PE Ignazio Corrao, Edward Czesak, Karol Karzski, Cécile Kashetu Kyenge, Bodil Valero, Joachim Zeller	ACP Robert Gbian (Benin), Alpha Ousmane (Burkina faso), Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye (Burundi), Mohamed Abdallah Ahmed (Djibouti), Tesfaye Daba Wakjira (Ethiopia), Ashneel Sudhakar (Fij), Carl Greenidge (Guyana), Jean Pascal Lumerant (Haiti), Zavia Mayne (Jamaica), Dido Ali Raso (Kenya), Tsoinyana Samuel Rapapa (Lesotho), Acarous Moses Gray (Liberia), Carlos Manuel Cassandra Correia (Sao Tome & Principe), Adjedoue Weidou (Tchad), Petik-Abalo Abiguime (Togo), Sebastian Kopulande (Zambia), Irene Zindi (Zimbabwe)
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Zamjenici/Suppléants/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanti/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter	
EP/PE Frank Engel, Neena Gill, Ricardo Serrao Santos	

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač'-Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
Sundeep Waslekar (President of the Strategic Foresight Group, Mumbai - by video-link), Alfonso Medinilla (European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM))

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/ Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)
Domenico Rosa
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnější činnost/

EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa väliteenistus/Eυρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Europska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Kültügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Služba Działañ Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre ätgärd (*)

Joaquin Tasso Vilallonga, Carmen Marques Ruiz

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

ACP

Maria Ornelas, Vigilio Adriano Tyova (Angola), Marcellin Ahonoukoun (Benin), Rose Marie K. Compaore, Mambila Banse, Anselme Some, Adèle Kiemde (Burkina Faso), Spès-Caritas Njebarikanuye, Salvator Bigirimana (Burundi), Sanga Toure (Cote D'Ivoire), Mukendi Kabambi (DRC), Jean-Jaures Ondele (Congo Brazzaville), Amelia Fukofuka (Cook Islands), Mohamed Bourhan Ali (Djibouti), Michael Tesfai Hagos (Eritrea), Tesfaye Daba Wakjira (Ethiopia), Raphaël Mangouala, Fernand Paulin Joumas dit Salamba (Gabon), Jedidiah Reuben Adogla (Ghana), David T.A. Hales (Guyana), Jean-Marcel Lumerant (Haiti), Allele Reid, Zavia Mayne (Jamaica), Dennis Wamalwa, Rana Tlampati Kiteru (Kenya), Ntsoaki Moqolo, Matsobotsi Phakisi, Rethabile Ramalefane (Lesotho), Acarous Moses Gray, Alfred G. Koiwood (Liberia), Claudio Mate, Luís Júnior Dava (Mozambique), Peter Eduvie Ufouma (Nigeria), Michel Rugema (Rwanda), David Madala, S.Patricia Kopane (South Africa), Tageldin Osman Ali Osman, Osman H.E. Ahmed (Sudan), Juma A. Salum (Tanzania), Guelpina Boukar, Ali Abakar Adji (Tchad), Tchaye Kondi (Togo), Jack Wamai Wamanga, William Nokrach, Daniel Oyet, Franklin R. Katungwe (Uganda), Sebastian Kopulande, Henry Ngalazi, Mwansa Chali Ngulube, Kangwa Mukuka (Zambia)

EP members: Bogdan Wenta, Anna Zaborska

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppenes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretariai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretariat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Politiisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppenas sekretariat

PPE	Rudka, Solofoson
S&D	Dunsmore
ECR	Lipinska
ALDE	Adoum
Verts/ALE	Köller
GUE/NGL	
EFDD	
ENF	
NI	

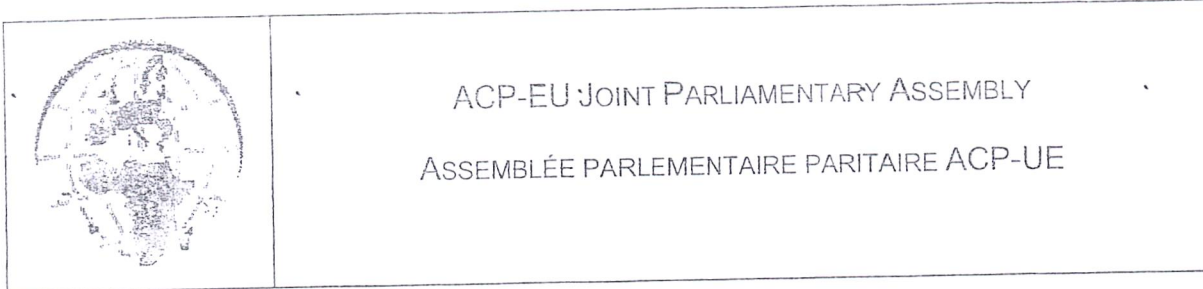
Секретариат на Асамблеята/Secretaría de la Asamblea/Sekretariát shromáždění/Forsamlingens sekretariat/Sekretariat der Versammlung/Assamblee sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της Συνέλευσης/Assembly sekretariat/Secrétariat de l'assemblée/Tajništvo skupštine/Sekretariato dell'Assemblea/Asamblejas sekretariāts/Asamblējos sekretariats/A Közgyűlés titkársága/Sekretariat tal-Assemblea/Secretariaat van de Vergadering/Sekretariat Zgromadzenia/Sekretariado da assembleia/Secretariatul adunării/Sekretariát zhromaždenia/Sekretariat skupštine/Edustajakokouksen sihteeristö/Församlingens sekretariat

EP/PE Pellegrius, Haglund	ACP Walsweer
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Assisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Urban, König	

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- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
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Vīci 'Chairman'/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Présidente/Vicepreşedinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/
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Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Uffīcjal/Ambtenaar/UrządNIK/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradnik/Uradnik/Virkamies/
Tjänsteman

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ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

4

Committee on Political Affairs

25.9.2018

DRAFT REPORT

on the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking

Committee on Political Affairs

Co-rapporteurs: Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d'Ivoire)
Deirdre Clune (European Parliament)

PART A: DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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EXPLANATORY STATEMENT (published separately)	

At its meeting of 16 December 2017 in Port-Au-Prince (Haiti), the Bureau of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly authorised its Committee on Political Affairs to draw up a report, pursuant to Rule 2(8) of its Rules of Procedure, on the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking.

At its meeting of 22 March 2018, the Committee on Political Affairs appointed Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d'Ivoire) and Deirdre Clune as co-rapporteurs.

The Committee on Political Affairs examined the draft report at its meetings of ... in Brussels and its meeting of ... in

At the latter meeting, it adopted the accompanying draft motion for a resolution.

The following Members were present for the vote:

The resolution was tabled for adoption on ...

on the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in ... (Benin) from 3 to 5 December 2018,
- having regard to the Treaty on European Union and in particular Article 2 and Article 3(2) thereof,
- having regard to the revised Cotonou Partnership Agreement and in particular Article 5, Article 8(4), Article 11(1) and (7), and Article 29(1)(b)) thereof,
- having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the Committee of the Regions of 22 May 2007 entitled ‘Towards a general policy on the fight against cyber crime’¹,
- having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions of 28 April 2015 entitled ‘The European Agenda on Security’²,
- having regard to the Joint Communication to the European Parliament and the Council of 13 September 2017 entitled ‘Resilience, Deterrence and Defence: Building strong cybersecurity for the EU’³,
- having regard to the Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament and the Council of 15 March 2017 entitled ‘Evaluation of the implementation of the EU Drugs Strategy 2013-2020 and of the EU Action Plan on Drugs 2013-2016: a continuous need for an EU Action Plan on Drugs 2017-2020’⁴,
- having regard to the Convention on Cybercrime of the Council of Europe of 23 November 2001, known as the Budapest Convention⁵,
- having regard to the final report of the T-CY Cloud Evidence Group of the Council of Europe of 16 September 2016 entitled ‘Criminal justice access to electronic evidence in the cloud: Recommendations for consideration by the T-CY’⁶,
- having regard to UN General Assembly Resolution 65/230 of 21 December 2010 on the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice⁷,

¹ COM(2007)0267.

² COM(2015)0185.

³ JOIN(2017)0450.

⁴ COM(2017)0195.

⁵ The Convention on Cybercrime of the Council of Europe (CETS No 185).

⁶ <https://rm.coe.int/16806a495e>

⁷ <http://undocs.org/A/RES/65/230>

- having regard to UN General Assembly Resolution 72/196 of 19 December 2017 on strengthening the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity¹,
- having regard to the UN Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Resolutions 22/7 on strengthening international cooperation to combat cybercrime² and 22/8 on promoting technical assistance and capacity-building to strengthen national measures and international cooperation against cybercrime³, of 26 April 2013,
- having regard to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) report of February 2013 entitled 'Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime'⁴,
- having regard to the UNODC World Drug Report 2017⁵,
- having regard to the UNODC report on the meeting of the Expert Group to Conduct a Comprehensive Study on Cybercrime, held in Vienna from 10 to 13 April 2017⁶,
- having regard to Europol Public Information Intelligence Notification 004-2013 of June 2013 entitled 'Hackers deployed to facilitate drugs smuggling'⁷,
- having regard to the Europol Serious and Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA) of 28 February 2017 and the Internet Organised Crime Threat Assessment (IOCTA) of 28 September 2016⁸,
- having regard to a Europol press release of 28 November 2017 on 'Drugs and the darknet: A growing threat to health and security'⁹,
- having regard to a Europol press release of 6 December 2017 on the Europol Strategic Report entitled 'How illegal drugs sustain organised crime in the EU'¹⁰,
- having regard to the joint publication of the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA) and Europol of 2017 entitled 'Drugs and the darknet - Perspectives for enforcement, research and policy'¹¹,

¹ <http://undocs.org/A/RES/72/196>

² https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/Crime_Resolutions/2010-2019/2013/CCPCJ/Resolution_22-7.pdf

³ https://www.unodc.org/documents/commissions/CCPCJ/Crime_Resolutions/2010-2019/2013/CCPCJ/Resolution_22-8.pdf

⁴ <https://www.sbs.ox.ac.uk/cybersecurity-capacity/system/files/Comprehensive%20Study%20on%20Cybercrime.pdf>

⁵ <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/scientists/world-drug-report-2017---executive-summary-conclusions-and-policy-implications.html>

⁶ https://www.unodc.org/documents/organized-crime/cybercrime/Cybercrime-April-2017/Cybercrime_report_2017/Report_Cyber_E.pdf

⁷ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/cyber-bits-hackers-deployed-to-facilitate-drugs-smuggling>

⁸ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/activities-services/main-reports/serious-and-organised-crime-threat-assessment>

⁹ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/drugs-and-darknet-growing-threat-to-health-and-security>

¹⁰ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/newsroom/news/europol-strategic-report-how-illegal-drugs-sustain-organised-crime-in-eu>

¹¹ <https://www.europol.europa.eu/publications-documents/drugs-and-darknet-perspectives-for-enforcement->

- having regard to the EMCDDA Trendspotter study undertaken in 2014 on 'The Internet and drug markets - Summary of results'¹,
- having regard to the Organization of American States' Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission report on 'Drugs in Cyberspace: Understanding & Investigating Diversion & Distribution of Controlled Substances via the Internet', prepared for the CICAD Experts Group Meetings of August 2006²,
- having regard to Article 18(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs (ACP-EU/102.578),
- A. whereas the increasing use of drugs is devastating for lives and economies, both in European and ACP countries; whereas one third of the criminal groups active in the EU are involved in the production, trafficking or distribution of various types of drugs, making drug trafficking one of the most lucrative criminal sectors;
- B. whereas the darknet facilitates illegal trade and is becoming one of the biggest engines of organised crime in European and ACP countries;
- C. whereas it is important to know and understand the distinction between the 'surface web' and the 'deep web', in order to better unravel the workings of the online drug market and how it appeals to buyers and sellers;
- D. whereas an understanding of the functioning of the darknet and the first online drug market (the 'Silk Road') is necessary to better comprehend the appeal of the darknet, as this offers anonymity and easy accessibility; whereas research done on the subject should be analysed, assessed and improved to obtain accurate results;
- E. whereas countries such as Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Côte d'Ivoire and the Gambia are known drugs arrival and transit points; whereas the drug issue is an extremely sensitive one in each of these countries, yet very few reports have provided specific details about them;
- F. whereas little is known about drug seizures that are carried out on a daily basis in ACP countries;
- G. whereas some ACP countries have become gateways or transit points for all types of drugs, which are then shipped to the United States, Europe, and Asia; whereas the production of synthetic drugs has, in just a few years, become common in most ACP countries;
- H. whereas the technical knowledge needed to be able to hack into security systems should also be possessed by investigators so that they can keep pace with professional hackers and counter attacks against IT systems;

research-and-policy

¹http://www.emcdda.europa.eu/attachements.cfm/att_234684_EN_Internet%20and%20drug%20markets%20study.pdf

²http://www.cicad.oas.org/reduccion_oferta/grupoexpertos/Farma_docs/Drugs_in_Cyberspace_Distribution_Controlled_Substances.pdf

- I. whereas diverging legal provisions in the different EU Member States and ACP countries pose a problem in the international battle against online drug trafficking; whereas better cooperation and communication between different countries and different players (national, police and customs authorities) has been underlined in many reports as the key to success but also, considering the current ambiguities, as a serious starting point for action;
- J. whereas there is a need to strengthen international, regional and sub-regional cooperation to effectively prevent, prosecute and punish crime, in particular by enhancing the national capacity of states through the provision of technical assistance;
- K. whereas the fact that perpetrators of cybercrime are often located in different regions around the world from those of their victims can have disruptive effects on societies worldwide;
- L. whereas investigations show that when illegal websites disappear, this is mostly due to action taken by the operators themselves and not as a result of law enforcement action, which means that cybercriminals are one step ahead;
- M. whereas the development of decentralised networks allowing marketplaces to exist on multiple servers enhances the anonymity factor and creates a multiplier effect;
- N. whereas the French West Indies in the Caribbean have, over the last few years, become a major international transit point for cocaine trafficking, with a growing share of the market;
- O. whereas several investigations have shown the importance of cyber attacks in the drug trafficking process; whereas raids conducted by the police in Belgium, the Netherlands and elsewhere have shown that drug traffickers can avoid border controls and find out the location and movement of containers via spam, emails and the hacking of security systems;
1. Calls for the EU to focus on gathering sound information to gain an understanding of drug-related cybercrime, and to introduce systematic and on-going analyses of the features of the drug trade and the business models underlying it in order to shape strategic responses, meet specific challenges and identify new opportunities to fight this scourge more effectively; urges the EU to make progress on facilitating cross-border access to electronic evidence for criminal investigations, in particular to counter the anonymity factor;
 2. Encourages the EU to promote technical research, capacity-building and consumer education, in view of the ease of access to the internet and the similarities between illegal online markets and legitimate websites such as EBay, which make it difficult for consumers to recognise the difference and make every internet user vulnerable to sellers/suppliers of illegal products;
 3. Calls for a holistic approach to research since cyber criminality and drug trafficking are interwoven with other branches of illegal trade and crime;

4. Calls on the international community to focus on reducing the production and trafficking of synthetic drugs and on disrupting related criminal activities;
5. Encourages the ACP and EU countries to invest in enhanced border controls, international security cooperation and information-gathering since, even though a significant part of drug trafficking can be processed online, the drugs themselves cannot exist in cyberspace, and a physical address from which the drugs are actually shipped is still needed;
6. Encourages the EU to cooperate and coordinate its investigations and actions with countries of origin and transit countries to curb the growing amounts of cannabis, heroin and cocaine smuggled into the EU;
7. Calls for reinforced cooperation with the international community in the area of training law enforcement officers and data-sharing in order to tackle drugs-related cybercrime more efficiently;
8. Underlines the need to diversify the approach to the problem and to make investigation more dynamic by setting up ad hoc think tanks to look specifically at these issues;
9. Calls for international cooperation with regard to monitoring the internet while respecting individual freedoms; calls, in this regard, for more enhanced cooperation between government institutions and agencies, law enforcement agencies and public and private organisations;
10. Urges the international community to modernise drug trafficking legislation through enhanced cooperation with the relevant UN bodies, in particular to fill the gaps existing between criminal activities, online and offline traffic, the visible web and the invisible web, digital evidence compared to classical scientific evidence, and between different countries and different laws;
11. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the African Union, the regional organisations of the ACP states and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
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Committee on Political Affairs

27.8.2018

DRAFT REPORT

on the fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking

Committee on Political Affairs

Co-rapporteurs: Agnima Alain Michel Lobognon (Côte d'Ivoire)
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PART B: EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

1. Introduction and scope

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In recent decades, globalisation has transformed the world, bringing us new forms of communication, technological innovations, increasingly interconnected economies and new means of transportation. Another facet of globalisation, however, is its criminogenic effects. Fast-moving technological progress, the internet and the freedom of circulation and establishment in global markets have changed the way in which contemporary commerce is conducted and crime perpetrated. If globalisation has turned our world into one big marketplace, the internet has become the ideal means to an end. One of the biggest security threats of our time is the increasing presence of cybercrime, while the drug market remains the largest of the EU's criminal markets. By using the online market, the trade in drugs not only becomes an even more profitable activity, conducted on an ever-larger scale, but it also becomes a very difficult issue to comprehend, control and reverse.

In order to gain a better understanding of how cybercrime and drugs trafficking are interconnected, we will consider a number of questions. What is the online drug market and how does it work? What research has been carried out on the subject? What do we know about it and where does the EU stand? What is happening in countries outside the EU? Why does it appeal, and what are the constraints of online drug trafficking? The paper will then conclude with recommendations for all actors involved.

Special attention should be paid to decentralised networks that allow marketplaces to exist on multiple servers. This poses a threat to the EU in particular since most drug suppliers are EU-based: one third of EU criminal groups are involved in the production, trafficking or distribution of drugs, posing a major risk to the prosperity and security of EU citizens. For this reason, the focus of this document is on the EU. However, new developments in ACP countries are also alarming and require follow-up.

2. The online drug market

Globalisation and e-commerce have made medicine supply chains more complex, opening up numerous entry points for substandard or falsified medicinal products. Cybercrime is a significant element of this.

Organised criminal networks are attracted by the huge profits to be made through pharmaceutical crime. They operate across national borders undertaking activities that include the import, export, manufacture and distribution of counterfeit and illicit medicines. This is often facilitated via cybercrime.

Falsified or 'fake' medicines are a growing problem globally. This crime involves the manufacture, trade and distribution of fake, stolen or illicit medicines and medical devices. In the worst cases, medicines containing the wrong ingredients may kill or seriously harm patients.

One of the engines of organised crime in the European Union (EU) is illegal trade on dark net markets, also known as cryptomarkets. Illicit goods such as drugs and weapons are common items for sale on these websites.

When discussing the online drug market, a distinction needs to be drawn between drug trafficking on the 'surface web' and the 'deep web'. Sales on the surface web can be traced, as

this part of the internet can be accessed through typical search engines such as Google. Sales carried out on the dark net, however, cannot be traced since the data are encrypted. It thus offers the possibility of creating an online anonymous market.

The first online drug marketplace began operating in 2011 under the name 'Silk Road' and lasted until 2014. It was later replaced by Silk Road 2.0, and other online markets were created soon after.

Silk Road provided an online environment for buyers and sellers to conduct transactions. It shared similarities with other online marketplaces such as eBay: professional dispute resolution mechanisms, the use of vendor and buyer ratings, the hosting of member discussion forums, etc. The most popular items were traditional street drugs and prescription medicines. By using two technologies, Tor (software used for clouding IP addresses) and bitcoin (used to facilitate transactions), Silk Road was able to hide operators' IDs and locations.

Aside from online drug selling platforms, cyber attacks have also become a distinct feature of the drug trafficking process. Via spam, emails, hacking of security systems, etc. drug traffickers can avoid border controls and find out the location and movement of containers.

3. Research on the online drug market

One of the aims of this document is to determine what is currently known about online drug market operations in an EU context. Some useful policy papers have been written and several (EU) projects have been set up.

In 2014, the EU-funded Illegal Trade and Online Marketplaces (ITOM) project uncovered a method through which bitcoins can be traced and IP addresses located. Bitcoin and IP tracing is still extremely difficult, but the progress made is encouraging. The project resulted in the creation of an EU cybercrime network.

Project ITOM was also responsible for the European share of Operation Onymous, an international police operation led by the FBI that targeted large cryptomarkets and managed to seize hundreds of web domains.

Another European initiative was the Austrian-led 'Joint investigation to combat drug trafficking via the virtual market (dark net) within and also into the EU' (JICDT-VM) project. The project started in February 2015 and ran until January 2017. All 28 EU Member States were involved, as well as candidate countries and third-party countries, Europol, Eurojust, Interpol, EMCDDA (the European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction), the European Commission and UNODC.

Diverging legal provisions in the different EU Member States pose a problem in the international battle against online drug trafficking. Cooperation and communication among different countries and different players is key to success.

4. Opportunities and limitations

The internet offers considerable advantages for Organised Crime Groups (OCGs) which seek to keep a low profile while extending their clientele. The internet's greatest asset is at the same time the toughest problem for governments to tackle: the anonymity offered to both sellers and buyers, hence creating trust in sites. Buyers often refer to a better quality of drugs when purchasing drugs online and to feeling safer when they buy online rather than on the street where violence might occur.

Sellers and suppliers are market driven and aim to minimise risks and maximise profits. The internet offers the possibility to reduce risks and operate without borders. Using cyberspace to sell drugs also entails a new business model in which the intermediaries (the 'middlemen') can be cut out of the drug chain.

Several reports have concluded that the online drug market is mainly used by the younger generation, more specifically men under the age of 30, who have access to the internet and are technologically literate.

One of the biggest limitations is the technological knowledge required to be able to hack security systems and to work with encrypted data and the online platform. This is one of the main reasons why traditional OCGs have started working together with cyber gangs and professional hackers.

Another limitation is the fact that, even though a significant amount of the drug trafficking can be done online, the drugs themselves cannot exist in cyberspace, so a physical address from which the drugs are actually shipped is still needed.

5. Drug trafficking outside the EU

Drug trafficking is a major transnational threat in Africa where it converges with other illicit activities such as money laundering, human trafficking and terrorism. The continent is often used as a transit region in the drug route between origin and destination countries. The so-called 'southern route' (for heroin) goes from Afghanistan to East Africa on its way to consumer markets in Europe, while Latin American (cocaine) dealers use West Africa and cannabis dealers use North Africa to reach Europe.

Given the importance of the informal economy and the global nature of the internet, African drug lords are also making use of new online developments. In Kenya, for example, the mobile money service M-Pesa is used to facilitate illegal transactions and is becoming so powerful that it might even disrupt the Kenyan economy.

6. Challenges for the future and recommendations

Technological advancements have created unparalleled obstacles to holding drug traffickers accountable, rendering the sale of drugs both highly visible and frustratingly untraceable.

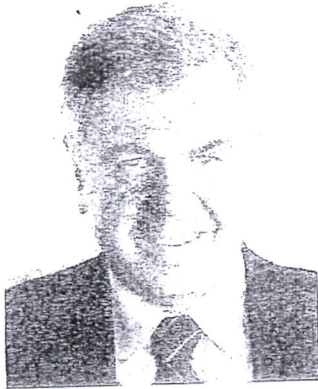
The biggest challenge to resolving online drug trafficking is the enormous black hole it entails. The first exploratory studies started only one decade ago and many grey areas exist (between different criminal activities, online/offline trafficking, surface/deep web, digital evidence

versus traditional forensic evidence, different countries, different legal codes, etc.). The monitoring and tracking of illegally operating internet websites is complicated because websites are easily and quickly created, removed or altered. Research has shown that when illegal websites disappear, this is mostly due to actions taken by the operators themselves and not by law enforcement actors.

As the greatest problem to be tackled is the anonymity offered to sellers and buyers, several recommendations can be made:

- Revise legislation on drug trafficking to better tackle online trafficking
- Increase funding for projects aimed at preventing cybercrime
- Promote uniform international cooperation
- Invest in technical knowhow, training, capacity building and consumer education
- Focus on coordinated market disruption, online monitoring and the identification, arrest and prosecution of sellers
- Encourage cross-sector cooperation
- Promote a set of core principles for cybersecurity as a universal baseline

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Ludger Kühnhardt

Ludger Kühnhardt is Director at the Center for European Integration Studies (ZEI) at Bonn University and Professor of Political Science at Bonn University. Between 1991 and 1997 he was Professor of Political Science at Freiburg University, where he also served as Dean of his Faculty. After studies of history, philosophy and political science at Bonn, Geneva, Tokyo and Harvard, Kühnhardt wrote a dissertation on the world refugee problem and a second thesis (Habilitation) on the universality of human rights. He was speechwriter for Germany's Federal President Richard von Weizsäcker (1987-1989) and a visiting professor at prestigious universities around the world, among them Cape Town University, College of Europe, Dartmouth College, Stanford University, Seoul National University, St. Antony's College Oxford, Canterbury University Christchurch and Tongji University Shanghai. He regularly lectures at the Catholic University Milan, at the Diplomatic Academy Vienna and at the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies in Malta. He was a Visiting Scholar at the Hoover Institution at Stanford, at the Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna, and, twice, a Public Policy Scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington D.C. The Woodrow Wilson Center appointed him as one of its Global Fellows. In 2004 he was awarded the European Science Prize of the European Cultural Foundation

Kühnhardt's political and academic consulting experience includes work for the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the President of the European Parliament and the parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). He is a member of the Advisory Board for Societal Affairs of the German Catholic Bishops Conference, a member of the Advisory Board of the Official Monetary and Financial Institutions Forum (OMFIF), a member of the International Advisory Board of the World Security Network, a member of the Scientific Committee of the West African Institute (WAI), a member of the Advisory Board on European Studies in Asia of the Asia-Europe Foundation in Singapore and a Global Fellow of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington D.C. Kühnhardt has lectured on all continents.

Ludger Kühnhardt was born in 1958 in Münster/Germany. He is married with two children.

Among more than thirty books, his publications include: *European Union – The Second Founding. The Changing Rationale of European Integration*, Baden-Baden 2008 (2nd rev. and enlarged edition 2010); (ed.) *Crises in European Integration. Challenges and Responses, 1945-2005*, New York/Oxford 2009; *Region-Building. The Global Proliferation of Regional Integration*, 2 vol., New York/Oxford 2010; *Africa Consensus: New Interests, Initiatives, and Partners*, Washington D.C. 2014; *The Global Society and Its Enemies*, Cham 2017.

RESOLUTION¹

on ACP-EU relations post-Cotonou: a strong parliamentary dimension

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 18 to 20 June 2018,
- having regard to 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 (the Cotonou Agreement)², and to its revisions of 2005 and 2010³,
- having regard to the Georgetown Agreement of 1975 setting up the ACP Group, and to its revision of 1992⁴,
- having regard to the Joint Africa-EU Strategy, adopted by the African and European Heads of State and Government at the Lisbon summit on 9 December 2007⁵,
- having regard to the 7th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the ACP countries on 13 and 14 December 2011 in Malabo,
- having regard to its resolution of 9 December 2015 on forty years of partnership: evaluation of the impact on trade and development in the ACP countries and prospects for enduring relations between the ACP countries and the European Union⁶,
- having regard to its resolutions on ACP-EU relations, in particular that of 11 February 2015 on the work of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA)⁷,
- having regard to its declaration of 21 December 2016 on the parliamentary dimension of

¹ Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 20 June 2018 in Brussels (Belgium).

² OJ L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3.

³ OJ L 287, 4.11.2010, p. 3.

⁴ http://www.epg.acp.int/fileadmin/user_upload/Georgetown_1992.pdf

⁵ http://www.africa-eu-partnership.org/sites/default/files/documents/eas2007_joint_strategy_en.pdf

⁶ OJ C 179, 18.5.2016, p. 29.

⁷ OJ C 310, 25.8.2016, p. 19.

post-Cotonou ACP-EU relations¹,

- having regard to the joint statement of 9 December 2015 by the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the future of ACP-EU relations²,
- having regard to the 103rd and 105th meetings of the ACP Council of Ministers on, respectively, 26 and 27 April 2016 in Dakar and 3 and 4 May 2017 in Brussels,
- having regard to the European Parliament resolution of 4 October 2016 on the future of ACP-EU relations beyond 2020³,
- having regard to the European Consensus on Development, adopted in Brussels on 7 June 2017⁴,
- having regard to the European Commission recommendation of 12 December 2017 for a Council Decision authorising the opening of negotiations on a Partnership Agreement between the European Union and the countries of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States⁵,
- having regard to the Joint Communication of the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy to the European Parliament and the Council of 22 November 2016: A renewed partnership with the countries of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific⁶,
- having regard to the Joint Consultation Paper of the European Commission and the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of 6 October 2015: Towards a new partnership between the European Union and the African, Caribbean and Pacific countries after 2020⁷,
- having regard to the opinion of the European Economic and Social Committee adopted on 12 May 2016 on the future of the EU's relations with the ACP Group of States⁸,
- having regard to the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development and the outcome document adopted by the UN General Assembly on 25 September 2015: Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development⁹,
- having regard to the Agenda 2063 adopted by the African Union Commission in April 2015¹⁰, having regard to the Communiqué of the 20th Meeting of the CARICOM Council for Foreign and Community Relations (COFCOR) held in Bridgetown Barbados on 18 -

¹ OJ C 170, 30.5.2017, p. 36.

² http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2015_acp2/pdf/1081264en.pdf

³ OJ C 314, 21.9.2017, p. 38.

⁴ Council document 9459/2017.

⁵ COM(2017) 763 final.

⁶ JOIN(2016) 52 final.

⁷ JOIN(2015) 0033.

⁸ <http://www.eesc.europa.eu/our-work/opinions-information-reports/opinions/future-eus-relations-acp-group-countries-green-paper>

⁹ UN General Assembly resolution A/RES/70/1.

¹⁰ <http://www.un.org/en/africa/osaa/pdf/au/agenda2063.pdf>

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- having regard to the outcomes of the 107th session of the ACP Council of Ministers on 29 May 2018 and the 43rd session of the ACP-EU Council of Ministers on 1 June 2018 in Lomé, Togo,
- having regard to the Waigani communiqué on the future perspectives of the ACP Group adopted by the 8th Summit of the ACP Heads of State and Government,
- having regard to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs (ACP-EU/102.400/fin.),
- A. whereas the Cotonou Partnership Agreement (CPA) has been successful in the creation of a legally-binding reciprocal partnership between the EU and the ACP Group;
- B. whereas the role of the JPA as laid out in the CPA is to facilitate greater understanding between the peoples of the EU and those of the ACP States, to raise public awareness on a wide range of topics, promote democratic processes through dialogue and consultation, ensure consistent monitoring of the CPA, and advocate for the empowerment of ACP national parliaments;
- C. whereas the JPA has the merit of creating a cross-border framework for parliamentary debate on a large scale, and whereas, despite its imperfections, it is a valuable asset in an increasingly interconnected and interdependent world;
- D. whereas the future negotiations on the ACP-EU relationship must be an opportunity to develop a vision and to give the relationship a political dimension;
- E. whereas the Georgetown Agreement of 7 June 1975 needs to be revised in order to broaden and strengthen the foundations of the ACP Group with a view to responding to the challenges and geopolitical upheavals of the 21st century and to furthering multilateralism;
- F. whereas the 'three pillar' approach of the CPA has enjoyed mixed results, with undeniable successes in the field of development and a clear contribution to the advancement of the Millennium Development Goals, but whereas substantial scope for improvement remains regarding political cooperation;
- G. whereas the future agreement must move towards strengthening the partnership and boosting integration;
- H. whereas both the EU and the ACP Group have undergone a substantial political and economic transformation since the ratification of the CPA, notably with the ACP Group displaying increased heterogeneity;
- I. whereas the post-Cotonou agreement between the EU and the ACP Group must be complementary with wider EU and ACP strategies, such as the Global Strategy on the EU's Foreign and Security Policy, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and Agenda 2063;
- J. whereas the issue of the financing of the new partnership needs to be addressed and

negotiated as a priority, including the question of the inclusion of the European Development Fund in the EU budget;

- K. whereas reinforcing the parliamentary dimension between the EU and the ACP Group and promoting its guiding role in decision-making should be a key element of the new ACP- EU partnership;
- L. whereas the frequency and variety of JPA meetings has enabled consistent dialogue between EP and ACP Members, thus consolidating its legitimacy and strengthening parliamentary diplomacy, and whereas the JPA has been used as a model of parliamentary diplomacy in various political forums;
- M. whereas the JPA's fact finding and joint election observation missions are sometimes considered politically useful, as they facilitate, on account of parity, frank, effective and direct dialogue between partners on subjects including democracy, the rule of law, good governance and human rights;
- N. whereas the objective of the JPA should be to engage the public interest, and whereas, as the parliamentary body of the partnership, it should not become a forum for clashes between states or between geographical areas, but rather a forum for constructive, transparent, accountable and effective cooperation, especially since the states and geographical areas are no longer always the appropriate level for tackling the many challenges – hence the need to improve effectiveness regarding the implementation of the JPA's decisions;
- O. whereas there is a lack of presence and diligence in Brussels meetings of the JPA from certain EP Members, which has led to the weakening of the continuity of the JPA's work, and indeed a questioning of its relevance, which would be extremely damaging;
- P. whereas there is a significant gender imbalance within the JPA and a distinct lack of younger Members;
- Q. whereas the ACP Secretariat lacks human and financial resources in comparison to the EP Secretariat and whereas ACP Members have complained of a perceived lack of leverage and expressed a desire for more meaningful input in the drafting process;
1. Calls for an overarching, legally-binding ACP-EU framework, in order that the future partnership may build on previous achievements, the United Nation's Agenda 2030 and binding guidelines for fair and equitable trade, while ensuring significant improvements so as to further promote sustainable economic development in ACP countries;
 2. Considers that the existing ACP framework should remain the 'centre of gravity' for a future partnership that will cover all three regions of Africa, the Caribbean and the Pacific Islands while reinforcing the role of each one of them and taking into account their growing specificities, through the proposed legally-binding regional compacts;
 3. Reiterates the importance of strengthening the parliamentary dimension of the future agreement, ensuring a real consultative power for the future overarching JPA; requests that its legal and operational autonomy be guaranteed; demands that the Assembly be closely associated with the implementation of the agreement and that it be regularly

consulted on all matters of importance for the partnership;

4. Emphasises that the reinforcement of the political dimension of the CPA should be a prerequisite for the setting-up of the new future partnership, including in the form of enhanced parliamentary scrutiny accompanied by sufficient funding to allow for the adequate realisation of parliamentary activities;
5. Insists that Agenda 2030, the Sustainable Development Goals, the European Consensus on Development and Agenda 2063 must be at the heart of the renewed ACP-EU partnership and that their implementation should drive the activities of the JPA; believes that the JPA should produce regular updates on progress in SDG attainment and envisages establishing a mechanism for sharing best practices;
6. Recognises the increased importance of regional organisations and sub-regional integration within the ACP Group and believes this should be reflected in the architecture of the post-Cotonou partnership; calls, in this context, for more frequent JPA regional meetings to address region-specific issues, strengthen dialogue with regional and sub-regional institutions and focus more strongly on the specificity and sensitivities of each regional bloc; stresses, however, the need for coherence and complementarity between the sub-regional, regional and global strategies;
7. Requests that meetings between EU and ACP Members at the level of the regional compacts be held at least once a year in each region, and that they be complemented by a forum for women and young people;
8. Believes that the JPA should be fully involved in the negotiations for a reinforced political ACP-EU partnership after 2020 and that the essential role and prerogatives of the JPA should be redefined in order to maximise its efficiency and guarantee its legal and operational autonomy;
9. Recalls that it shall be immediately and fully informed at all stages of the negotiating procedure;
10. Calls for the consolidation of parliamentary diplomacy, particularly through the JPA's fact-finding and election observation missions and joint observation missions on security issues as they are key instruments for democratic capacity-building, and encourages the JPA to make better use of its space for dialogue and negotiation, so as to facilitate joint action and the building of effective ACP-EU coalitions in the international arena;
11. Calls for the future agreement to be negotiated by a unified entity consisting of the African, Caribbean and Pacific States represented in a single undertaking;
12. Considers that the parliamentary dimension could be reinforced by having trainees in the cabinets of the European members of the ACP-EU JPA;
13. Reaffirms its commitment to the principle of subsidiarity, which encourages decision making as close as possible to citizens, at the most relevant level of responsibility, be it national, regional, continental, or ACP-wide; stresses that, in many areas, responsibility must be taken at all levels – from the most global, to ensure an effective, level playing field, to the most local – so that the objectives are achievable in practice;

14. Advocates for improved communication and synchronisation between the EU and the ACP Group and each of their members, notably by ensuring that both partners are properly assisted by a dedicated secretariat; stresses that the use of specific secretariats is for practical reasons, not a reflection of the EU and the ACP Group having fundamentally different interests requiring an administrative separation; calls, nevertheless, for close and sincere cooperation between the secretariats and between parliamentarians;
15. Requests, therefore, that the new agreement foresees that the Joint Parliamentary Assembly meets twice a year in plenary session, alternately in the European Union and in an ACP State, without the Assembly depending on the Council being convened;
16. Encourages reforms that increase the JPA's transparency and public profile in order to ensure that it is accountable to the citizens of the various Member States;
17. Is convinced that regular meetings at ACP-EU level are needed to provide continuity and stability for the partnership and to allow for regular reporting and peer reviews;
18. Urges all ACP-EU Member States to strive for gender balance in their delegations to the JPA, and encourages better inclusion of delegates under 40 years of age; urges delegations to ensure appropriate representation of opposition parties in order to foster genuine cross-party parliamentary dialogue;
19. Requests that EP Members attend and be actively involved in all JPA activities; calls for the adoption of strict rules to ensure their participation in all JPA meetings and votes;
20. Calls upon the JPA's Member States to guarantee consistent and predictable funding for the ACP Parliamentary Assembly and Co-Secretariat, to improve the overall capacity of the JPA;
21. Calls for a more active role for non-state actors, including civil society organisations and the local and regional private sector, in ACP-EU decision-making; insists that the new JPA structure include formal participation from civil society organisations at regional and ACP-EU level; emphasises that these actors should be involved in all ACP-EU decisions and activities in compliance with a multi-stakeholder approach; recalls, in this context, the need to ensure that the principles of transparency and democracy are respected within the organisations concerned; calls for the JPA to include regular, specific events focusing on women and young people;
22. Stresses that the fact that the EP Conference of Presidents is entitled to oppose the missions of the EP-component to the JPA meetings, although justified by budgetary constraints or security concerns, may hamper the legal and operational autonomy of the JPA; calls for the legal autonomy of the JPA to be ensured and for the decision-making process for all official activities of the JPA to be reviewed;
23. Calls on any EU Member State holding the EU Council Presidency by rotation to involve itself more deeply in the preparation, organisation and hosting of the JPA session as provided for in the current CPA, and furthermore stresses the added value of holding the JPA sessions in the EU Member State holding the EU Council Presidency by rotation;

24. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the African Union, the regional organisations of the ACP States and the Secretary General of the United Nations.

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RESOLUTION¹

on the humanitarian crisis in South Sudan

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 18 to 20 June 2018,
- having regard to Article 18(2) of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to the final report of 12 April 2018 of the UN Security Council Panel of Experts on South Sudan,
- having regard to the 26 March 2018 Communiqué of the 61st extraordinary session of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Council of ministers on the situation in South Sudan,
- having regard to the UN Security Council's resolution on South Sudan 2406 (2018) as well as all previous UN Security Council resolutions on South Sudan,
- having regard to the statement of 8 May 2017 issued by the Troika (the US, the UK and Norway) and the EU on the security situation in South Sudan,
- having regard to the conclusions of the Council of the European Union of 16 April 2018 on South Sudan,
- having regard to the statements of 23 March 2017 and 14 December 2017 issued by the President of the UN Security Council on South Sudan,
- having regard to the joint press statement of 29 January 2017 by the African Union (AU), IGAD and the UN on South Sudan,
- having regard to the European Parliament resolution on South Sudan (2017/2683(RSP)) as well as all previous resolutions of the European Parliament on South Sudan,
- having regard to the signature of the Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians

¹ Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 20 June 2018 in Brussels (Belgium).

- and Humanitarian Access Agreement (CoHA) on 21 December 2017,
- having regard to the IGAD Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) of 17 August 2015,
 - having regard to the Global Report on Food Crises 2018,
 - having regard to the revised Cotonou Agreement,
 - having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
 - having regard to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,
 - having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights,
 - having regard to the Arms Trade Treaty regulating the international trade in conventional arms,
- A. whereas since December 2013, South Sudan has been in a state of civil war between forces loyal to President Salva Kiir and rebels led by former Vice President Riek Machar;
 - B. whereas all parties to the conflict continue warfare, in violation of the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (ARCSS) signed in August 2015; whereas there continues to be a total disregard for international human rights and humanitarian law and a lack of accountability for violations and abuses committed in the conflict, even concerning war crimes, and whereas the conflict is increasingly escalating into an outright ethnic war;
 - C. whereas attempts to revive the 2015 peace deal led to an IGAD-brokered 'Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians, and Humanitarian Access' (ACOH) in December 2017, but whereas violations of the ceasefire have been perpetrated by all parties;
 - D. whereas according to the UN, 7 million South Sudanese will need humanitarian assistance in 2018; whereas famine warnings have been persistent since early 2017, with up to 2.4 million on the brink of starvation, more than 260 000 children severely malnourished and the number of people facing severe food insecurity reaching 7.1 million in 2018;
 - E. whereas the worsening food insecurity is primarily driven by continued conflict and displacements, which have contributed to reduced crop production; whereas the famine is considered to be entirely man-made and the result of war tactics, as highlighted in a UN report;
 - F. whereas as a result of the conflict there are now over 2.4 million South Sudanese refugees in neighbouring countries and another 2 million internally displaced, with 85% estimated to be children and women;

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- G. whereas more than 14 000 soldiers, police, security and civilian personnel are currently deployed in the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS); whereas as of February 2018, UNMISS was protecting 204 247 internally-displaced persons in protection sites;
- H. whereas according to the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, due to the conflict only 22% of medical facilities in South Sudan are operational; whereas cholera, malaria, and other illnesses have already caused the death of many people as a result of extreme poverty and lack of access to health care;
- I. whereas all parties to the conflict have attempted to disrupt the distribution of humanitarian assistance and extract taxes and fees from humanitarian partners, leading to their operations being hindered and fuelling warfare; whereas at least 101 humanitarian personnel have been killed since 2013;
- J. whereas in spite of these difficulties, humanitarian aid operations reached some 5.4 million people in 2017 against a target of 6.2 million people deemed to be in need of assistance, mainly through the presence of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan;
- K. whereas women and children have been most affected by the conflict; whereas rape and sexual violence have been used as a weapon of war by all sides; whereas 70% of children are out of school; whereas child abduction by armed groups is on the increase; whereas an estimated number of 19 000 children, mostly boys, have been recruited or used as soldiers by armed forces and groups in the country;
- L. whereas there is a chronic lack of women's representation in South Sudan, with women playing no role in peace talks;
- M. whereas the EU and its Member States have contributed more than 43% of the humanitarian funding for South Sudan; whereas in 2017 the Commission mobilised EUR 248 million to address the crisis inside South Sudan and in neighbouring countries of asylum;
- N. whereas the EDF-financed African Peace Facility constitutes the main source of funding to support the African Union's and the African Regional Economic Communities' efforts in the area of peace and security;
- O. whereas the UN Security Council has failed to impose an arms embargo; whereas the EU imposed such an embargo in 2011; whereas brokers in EU Member States and in third countries, including state-owned companies, have transferred helicopters, machine guns, mortars and other arms to various factions in the conflict, in violation of the EU embargo and the Arms Trade Treaty, thus prolonging warfare and increasing its destructiveness;
- P. whereas South Sudan has not ratified the revised Cotonou Agreement;
- 1. Expresses its deep concern about the continuing conflict and the deteriorating humanitarian situation in South Sudan; calls on all parties to immediately cease

hostilities, keep their obligations under the ARCSS and ACOH and to resume their dialogue on national conciliation; insists that there can be no military solution to the conflict;

2. Insists that in order to be meaningful and inclusive, the process of national dialogue should feature neutral leadership, the inclusion of opposition groups, women's representation and south Sudanese citizens outside of the country;
3. Underlines that the AU, supported by the EU and its Member States, must take an active role in mediating a political solution to achieve lasting peace in South Sudan, including by devoting more resources to the AU's envoy to South Sudan; urges the EU and its Member States to scale up non-military humanitarian support, the main priority being to answer the UN's call for funding and stop the food insecurity, in accordance with UN actions and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs);
4. Welcomes the recent advances made in establishing a hybrid court for South Sudan and recalls that this is a fundamental part of the 2016 peace agreement and essential in bringing war criminals to justice; calls on the AU, with assistance from the UN and the EU, to finalise its establishment, with priority being given to the creation of its investigative branch, as a matter of urgency;
5. Condemns human rights' abuses perpetrated by all parties to the conflict, including killings and torture, rape and other acts of sexual violence, as well as child abductions, attacks on schools, child conscription and abuse; underlines that recruitment of children by parties to a conflict and rape as a weapon of war constitute war crimes punishable under international law;
6. Acknowledges the contribution of neighbouring countries in providing humanitarian corridors; urges the continued granting of free, safe and unhindered access to all areas, in accordance with international humanitarian law, which is indispensable to prevent a recurrence of famine in 2018;
7. Condemns all attacks conducted on humanitarian personnel and facilities and calls on all parties to the conflict in South Sudan to ensure a safe and secure environment, enabling the delivery of humanitarian assistance; calls for strong collective actions by all donors, UN agencies and NGOs in order to respond in a more systematic and resolute manner;
8. Calls on the authorities to ensure that any return or relocation of internally-displaced persons is conducted in a safe and dignified manner; calls for the use of targeted sanctions against any key political or military figures in the government or opposition who commit human rights abuses;
9. Welcomes the decision of the 61st Council of Ministers of IGAD on 26 March 2018 to take targeted sanctions against individual violators of the CoHA and encourages the AU to implement this decision;
10. Deeply regrets that all attempts to establish a UN Security Council weapons' transfer embargo to South Sudan have failed; calls on all Security Council members to

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support such a ban;

11. Calls on the EU to continue applying its autonomous arms embargo against South Sudan; deplores any brokering or transfer of arms and technology carried out in the EU or its partners' territories to warring parties in South Sudan; calls urgently on the Member States to investigate any such accusations and to punish those responsible in an appropriate way;
12. Welcomes the decision of the UN Security Council to strengthen the mandate of the UNMISS and to increase the maximum personnel and resources available to it, including to the Regional Police Force;
13. Calls on the European External Action Service (EEAS) and the EU Member States to step up their efforts within the framework of the Common Foreign and Security Policy / Common Security and Defence Policy (CFSP/CSDP) and the IGAD+ group in order to bring about a resolution of the conflict, including strengthening the capacity of UNMISS;
14. Strongly condemns the high levels of corruption and illicit financial flows that fuel the conflict; calls on the Sudanese authorities to take action on greater financial accountability and transparency, notably in the oil sector, adherence to international financial standards and responsible engagement with the regional and international financial sectors and encourages South Sudan to join the Eastern and Southern African Anti-Money Laundering Group;
15. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Vice-President of the Commission / High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the General Assembly, the African Union, the ACP-EU Council and the Government of South Sudan.

7



Biography

Ruth Nordström, LL.M. gained her Master's degree from *Uppsala University*, Sweden having specialized in criminal law, human rights and business law. She is the President and Senior Legal Counsel of *Scandinavian Human Rights Lawyers (SHRL)*, a non-governmental organization dedicated to the promotion and protection of human rights. SHRL have provided legal assistance in numerous cases regarding human rights, asylum & migration law and human trafficking, and the organization arrange lectures and conferences on the topics. SHRL are Swedish partners in several EU projects under the EU Justice Program, regarding a better protection for victims of human trafficking. *Ruth Nordström* has former work experience from the *Administrative Court of Uppsala, Sweden*.

8



Jenny Maggi

1. Personal information

Date of birth: June, 5th, 1965; website: <https://www.unige.ch/sciences-societe/socio/fr/jennymaggi/>
jenny.maggi@unige.ch

2. Education

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 2000 | PhD in Social Psychology. Thesis: <i>Prosélytisme, élaboration du conflit et changement d'attitude. Etudes expérimentales autour de la question des étrangers en Suisse</i> . Direction: Prof. Gabriel Mugny, Laboratoire de Psychologie Sociale, FAPSE, University of Geneva. |
| 1991-1996 | Lic. in Psychology, Dipl. in Psychology, Master of Advanced Studies in Social Psychology (FAPSE, University of Geneva) |

3. Academic positions

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| Since 2004 | Senior lecturer/researcher; Department of Sociology, University of Geneva |
| 1999 – 2004 | Researcher, Swiss forum for migration and population studies (SFM), University of Neuchâtel |
| 1999 – 2001 | Researcher, Resop - Faculty of political science, University of Geneva |
| 1997 – 1998 | Scientific collaborator, Department of social and health affairs (DSS), Canton Ticino, CH |
| 1991 – 1996 | Research and teaching assistant, Laboratory of Social Psychology, Faculty of Psychology, University of Geneva |

4. Main recent research projects

Since more than a decade, Jenny Maggi works on a series of studies on transnational Senegalese migration, diaspora organisations, and on the role of diaspora in both host-country integration and home-country development. Research was also focused on civil society, IOs and state practices (and policies) related to migration and development, particularly in France, Italy and Switzerland. She presently leads a study in Senegal on national and local policies and practices on migration and development, and on the role of Senegalese diaspora organisations and individuals in agricultural and rural development. She was previously involved in a series of studies on asylum-seekers policies, migration and health, attitudes towards foreigners, citizenship and social policy analysis.

Jenny Maggi has more than 20 years of experience in quantitative and qualitative research, and, since 2007, she also uses audio-visual methods in social sciences as a communication strategy for research valorisation and dialogue among different types of stakeholders (civil society, international organizations and state actors), as well as for education and sensitization activities (students, professionals and the general public). She has directed in collaboration with Dame Sarr two socio-ethnographic films on Senegalese diaspora dynamics, *Tukki bi (The Journey)*, in 2009, and *Au diapason de la diaspora*, in 2012. She has conducted tens of outreach activities among different types of stakeholders on transnational migration, migration and

development, diaspora organizations, and migrant policies. <https://vimeo.com/240045272>
<https://vimeo.com/240082900>.

5. Selection of relevant publication

Complete list of publications: <https://www.unige.ch/sciences-societe/socio/fr/jennymaggi/publications/>

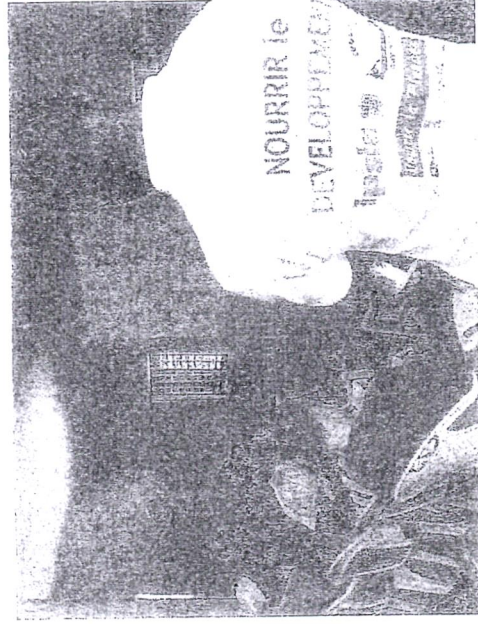
GREEN, E., SARRASIN, O., & MAGGI, J. (2014). Understanding transnational political involvement among Senegalese migrants. The role of acculturation preferences and perceived discrimination. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 41, 91-101.

MAGGI, J., SARR, D., GREEN, E.G.T., SARRASIN, O., & FERRO, A. (2013). Migrations transnationales sénégalaises, intégration et développement. Le rôle des associations de la diaspora à Milan, Paris et Genève. *Sociograph - Sociological Research Study* n°15.

MAGGI, J., SARR, D., & AMADEI, N. in collaboration with CATTACIN, S., LOSI, N., DE GUCHTENEIRE, P., PECOUD, A. (2008). *Louga, Sénégal: Représentations autour de la migration auprès d'une communauté d'origine*. Université de Genève, OIM & UNESCO.

ACP – EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
Brussels, 11 October 2018

Le rôle de la diaspora dans les relations ACP – EU



UNIVERSITÉ
DE GENÈVE

Jenny Maggi, Senior lecturer/researcher
Département de Sociologie, Université de Genève

Présentation

9

- 1) Le transnationalisme des migrations et la (ré)émergence de la thématique migration et développement
- 2) Le rôle multidimensionnel de la diaspora dans le développement du pays d'origine et dans les relations entre Etats d'origine et d'accueil
- 3) Les retours et les investissements
- 4) L'exemple du Programme d'Appui aux Initiatives de Solidarité pour le Développement (PAISD), France – Sénégal (avec la contribution financière de l'UE)
- 5) Remarques conclusives et questionnements

Transnationalisme des migrations 9

- « **Tournant transnationaliste** » dans les dynamiques migratoires contemporaines
- **Modèles classiques**: l'intégration dans le pays d'accueil comporte l'affaiblissement des liens avec le pays d'origine
- **Transnationalisme**: les diasporas gardent des liens avec leur pays d'origine et **lient les espaces d'accueil et d'origine**
- **Double présence** ici et là-bas: les diasporas jouent rôle social, culturel, politique et économique autant dans les sociétés d'accueil que d'origine
- **Compatibilité** entre l'intégration dans le pays d'accueil et l'engagement pour le développement du pays d'origine

Migration et développement

- (Ré)émergence d'une conception positive du lien M&D parmi les policy-makers et les chercheurs (voir le Global Forum on Migration and Development, GFMD, depuis 2007)
- Surtout en raison de l'ampleur prise par les transferts de fonds: augmentation de 51% de 2007 à 2016, de 296 milliards à 445 milliards USD (cf. rapport de l'IFAD, 2017)
- (Ancien) débat: selon une vision « pessimiste », la migration peut réduire le développement (p. ex. « assistentialisme », consommation ostentatoire, « brain drain »)
- Consensus actuel sur la reconnaissance du rôle positif et multidimensionnel des diasporas dans le développement du pays d'origine (cf. de Haas, 2012)

Changement de paradigme

Passage du paradigme « *More development for less migration* » au paradigme « *Better migration for more development* » (Ceschi, 2001)

Cela implique d'envisager que:

- 1) La mobilité a des retombées positives sur le développement des pays d'origine
- 2) L'intégration et le respect des droits des migrants ont des effets positifs sur le développement
- 3) Importance de créer les conditions favorables, autant dans les pays d'accueil que d'origine, pour que la migration ait un impact positif sur le développement (*diaspora policies*)

Rôles multidimensionnels de la diaspora (1)

- **Transferts de fonds (remittances):** consommation, accès à l'éducation et aux soins, logement, amélioration des conditions de vie des familles
- **Transfert de compétences,** d'expertise, échanges scientifiques
- **Transferts socio-culturels,** de pratiques, de technologies, d'innovations
- **Projets de développement (associatifs) à caractère social et/ou productif,** aussi avec la participation d'acteurs étatiques ou privés: infrastructures, électrification et énergie solaire, accès à l'eau, projets d'agriculture à valeur ajoutée (production, transformation, commercialisation), écoles, postes de santé

Rôles multidimensionnels de la diaspora (2)

- Investissements productifs individuels et/ou collectifs: dynamisation du secteur immobilier, commerce, création d'entreprises
- Rôle d'ambassadeur: facilite la création de liens entre autorités locales, organismes de la société civile, populations dans les contextes d'accueil et d'origine (p. ex. via les projets de développement ou de coopération décentralisée), trait d'union entre territoires d'accueil et d'origine
- Engagement politique, gouvernance: ex. du Sénégal, 15 députés de la diaspora représentent depuis 2017 les Sénégalais de l'extérieur au Parlement

Retours et investissements

- Emergence de la figure du « repat » dans les médias, les migrants investisseurs de retour
- Appel des pays d'origine pour intensifier les vocations d'investisseurs, mise en place de programmes d'appui à la création d'entreprises (ex. du Fonds d'appui à l'investissement des Sénégalais de l'extérieur, FAISE au Sénégal)
- Mise en œuvre de programmes de promotion de l'entreprenariat de la part d'organismes de coopération européens (p. ex. pour le Sénégal, le PLASEPRI en Italie et le PAISD en France)
- A la différence des programmes européens de retour volontaire assistés ou contraints, ce type de programmes n'implique pas le renoncement au titre de séjour (droit à la circulation)

Ressources

9

Pouvant être acquises lors de l'expérience migratoire:

- **Capital financier**
- **Capital social** lié au réseau des connaissances et de partenaires dans le pays d'accueil (étrangers voulant investir dans le pays d'origine des migrants, programmes de coopération décentralisées des pays d'accueil, acteurs privés et de la société civile)
- **Capital intellectuel et compétences**
- **Valeurs et aptitudes:** esprit d'entrepreneuriat, organisation, éthique du travail, ambition, assurance, résilience, capacité d'adaptation, ouverture ...

Contraintes

- **Environnement des affaires** plus ou moins contraignant: tracasseries administratives, lourdeurs bureaucratiques, difficultés d'accès au crédit, aux facilités fiscales, douanières et administratives
- **Non-connaissance** ou **difficulté d'accès aux informations** relatives à la réglementation et à l'environnement des affaires, aux dispositifs institutionnels d'accompagnement et de suivi existants
- **Possibles déficits d'infrastructures**
- **Dimensions culturelles et sociales**: problèmes de réintégration sociale, éthique du travail différente, possibles blocages culturels à l'action entrepreneuriale, sollicitations financières de la famille et de connaissances (cf. Dimé, 2015)

L'exemple du PAISD (Sénégal/France) 9

- Fruit de la coopération bilatérale entre le Sénégal et la France (depuis 2005), vise à contribuer au développement socioéconomique du Sénégal, en soutenant les initiatives individuelles et collectives de la diaspora
- 5 axes opérationnels:
 - 1) Accompagnement à la création d'entreprises;
 - 2) Appui au développement territorial des régions d'origine (cofinancement de projets associatifs, suivi technique);
 - 3) Mobilisation des compétences et savoir-faire de la diaspora (missions de volontariat pour le développement);
 - 4) Capitalisation des bonnes pratiques;
 - 5) Double espace: coordination des activités en France et au Sénégal

Impacts et évolutions

- Projets associatifs à caractère social et communautaire (ex. infrastructures éducatives, sanitaires, hydrauliques, barrages hydro-agricoles) : passage de l'échelle villageoise à des projets de plus large envergure selon une démarche de territorialisation de l'action publique (davantage de collaboration entre diasporas et élus locaux)
- Accompagnement d'environ 569 investisseurs de la diaspora en 10 ans (agriculture/élevage, commerce, services, tourisme, transport, consultance, éducation...), avec l'exemple de Niokolo Transport de l'Association de Ressortissants de Kedougou: 20 véhicules, transport de 89'000 personnes/an, 56 emplois et diversification des activités
- Depuis 2017, importante contribution du Fonds Fiduciaire d'Urgence de l'EU pour l'Afrique. Elargissement du PAISD à la diaspora en Italie, Espagne, Belgique: création d'emploi, renforcement des synergies M&D. Lutte contre les migrations forcées

Conclusions et questionnements

- Nouveau défi pour la diaspora: passage du social au productif. Comment mieux accompagner ce passage dans les pays d'accueil et d'origine?
- Soutenir le développement dans les pays d'origine aussi dans le propos de créer des emplois pour les jeunes et lutter contre la migration irrégulière. *More development for less migration* ou *Better migration for more development* ?
- Le retour des migrants investisseurs: un atout pour les pays d'origine et d'accueil? Retour définitif ou circulation entre les espaces?
- Emergence du rôle politique de la diaspora, ambassadeur et trait d'union entre les espaces: quelle valeur ajoutée?



Zaki S. Shubber

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PROFILE

Zaki Shubber has been a lecturer in law and water diplomacy at IHE Delft since 2012. She is a trained lawyer and practiced corporate and finance law in Switzerland and in the UK before focusing on water law and conflict resolution.

At IHE Delft she lectures and researches on national and international water law, water cooperation and water diplomacy as well as dispute resolution mechanisms in the context of water related disputes. She also lectures regularly on these subjects in The Netherlands and internationally and has organised and contributed to many tailor-made trainings for professionals on the same topics.

In addition to these activities, she has been coordinating the water conflict management master specialisation and water conflict management modules at the Institute. She also established and coordinated the Water Cooperation and Diplomacy master programme, which is jointly run with the University for Peace in Costa Rica and Oregon State University in the US and has led the development of water diplomacy activities at the Institute.

She has practical and research experience about the legal aspects of water resources management at different levels including at the national level. She has been involved a project to support the modernising of water law in countries in South Asia and South East Asia funded by the ADB and is involved in other projects with legal components



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

ACP_OJ(2018)1011_01

DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting

Thursday 11 October 2018, 10.15-12.45 and 14.00-17.30

Brussels

Room: Altiero Spinelli A5G-3

1. Adoption of agenda OJ – AP102.613v01-00
2. Approval of minutes of meeting PV – AP102.616v01-00
 - 16 June 2018 in Brussels
3. Co-Chairs' announcements
4. Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking
Co-rapporteurs: Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) and Catherine Bearder
 - Consideration of draft report DR – AP102.718v01-00
 - Exchange of views
5. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission

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6. **Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries**
 - Appointment of co-rapporteurs
 - Exchange of views with Angel Gudiña, Executive Secretary of Don Bosco International, and Filip Lammens, Managing Director of VIA Don Bosco NGO
7. **Promoting women's and girls' health: taking stock of commitments and progress**
 - Exchange of views with Anouka van Eerdewijk, Senior Advisor on gender equality and social justice at the Royal Tropical Institute (KIT), and affiliated researcher at the Institute for Management Research of Radboud University Nijmegen, and Vitalis Mukhebi, International Advocacy Officer at Faith to Action Network (Kenya)
8. **Any other business**
 - Urgent and topical subjects
9. **Date and place of next meeting**

AP102.613v02-00

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ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

ACP_PV(2018)0616_01

MINUTES

of the meeting of 16 June 2018, 10.00-13.30
Brussels

The meeting opened on Saturday 16 June 2018 at 10.07, with Catherine Bearder (replacing EP Co-Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda (OJ – AP102.590v01-00)

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 22 March 2018 (PV – AP102.591v01-00)

The minutes were approved.

3. Co-Chairs' announcements

The Co-Chair announced the topic of the workshop organised during the 35th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly:

- “Biotechnological research for sustainable agriculture with a focus on developing countries”.

The Co-Chair informed Members about the formal opening of the Session and the Youth event.

The Co-Chair informed Members about the Newsletter (available in English and French).

4. The social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries
Co-rapporteurs: Halifa Sallah (Gambia) and Eleni Theocharus

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- Consideration of amendments (AA – AP102.408v01-00)
- Adoption of draft report (DR – AP102.408v01-00)

Amendments adopted: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 22, 23, 24, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 75, 76, 77, 78.

Amendments rejected: 63, 64, 74.

Amendments falling: 21, 26, 34, 46.

Decision: The report, as amended, was adopted, with one abstention.

5. **Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking**

Co-rapporteurs: Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) and Catherine Bearder

- Consideration of working document (DT – AP102.592v01-00)
- Exchange of views with Ms Cindy Chimal, Interpol Environmental Security Department

In her presentation on the subject matter, Ms Cindy Chimal from the Interpol Environmental Department, briefed Members on the work of Interpol with respect to environmental crime. Ms Chimal indicated that the project approach on the subject matter involves intelligence, capacity-building, operations, and advocacy. Noting the complexity of environmental crime and the need not to follow an isolated approach, Ms Chimal informed Members that Interpol is a partner in the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC) which includes, CITES, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), the World Bank, and the World Customs Organisation.

In their remarks, the Co-rapporteurs noted that wildlife trafficking from the source through to destination countries involves all concerned stakeholders. They underlined the fact that global illegal wildlife markets are complex and corruptive, and interlinked with the drug trade, money laundering, human trafficking, gun-running and terrorism. They called for a legal enforcement procedure to combat wildlife trafficking.

Speakers: Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Kombo Gberi (Cameroon), Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Suhair Ahmed Salah (Sudan), Mathew Sahr Nyuma (Sierra Leone), Ben Abdallah Banda (Ghana), Bogdan Brunon Wenta, P.K. Welly (Micronesia), Rita Sithole (Mozambique), Irene Zindi (Zimbabwe) and Philippe Mayaux (European Commission).

Members encouraged the advocacy programmes of Interpol to include education campaigns for communities on wildlife conservation. Members also underscored the need for deterrent legislation on wildlife trafficking at national and regional levels, with stiff punishments. Further, it was noted that tourism plays a role in promoting the demand for wildlife products. Members also noted the need to support the populations living in wildlife zones.

The meeting continued with Musa Hussein Naib (ACP Vice Co-Chair) in the chair.

6. Decision on the title of the next report

Members hold an exchange of views on two proposed titles for the next report, namely:

- a) Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries; and
- b) The social and environmental consequences of substance abuse including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.

Speakers: Catherine Bearder, Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Rita Sithole (Mozambique), Julie Ward, Ben Abdallah Banda (Ghana), Suhair Ahmed Salah (Sudan) and Irene Zindi (Zimbabwe).

Decision: The title of the next report would be: "Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries".

7. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on improving the access to basic healthcare systems, notably to medicines against infectious diseases

- Exchange of views with the European Commission

Mr Jan Pahler (European Commission) briefed members on the follow-up actions taken by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the JPA on improving the access to basic healthcare systems, notably to medicines against infectious diseases. In his presentation, Mr Pahler noted that with respect to emergency response systems, a number of areas for potential exchanges of lessons learned have already been identified where the Africa CDC can cooperate with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control. He also informed Members of the 11th EDF intra-ACP action to strengthen health systems in ACP countries, with a budgetary allocation of EUR 150 million. The three components of the action include: a) contributing to health systems support in countries, including on Non-Communicable Diseases; b) health systems-strengthening through a regional health security agenda; and c) contributing to enhancing integration and implementation of sexual and reproductive health and rights programmes.

Speakers: Anna Záborská, Suhair Ahmed Salah (Sudan) and Irene Zindi (Zimbabwe).

Members underlined the fact that their respective countries have the primary responsibility for putting in place public health policies that can deal with the challenges presented by infectious diseases.

8. Climate change: threats and opportunities for life and sustainable development

- Exchange of views with Professor Jean-Pascal van Ypersele, former Vice President of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), Professor of climatology

and environmental sciences at the University of Louvain, and Member of Belgian Royal Academy

In his presentation Prof. Ypersele noted that since 1950 extremely hot days and heavy precipitation have become more common. He further noted that the potential impacts of climate change include: a) food and water shortages, b) increased displacement of people, c) increased poverty, and d) coastal flooding. Prof. Ypersele then underlined the fact that: i) water, which is essential to life, is a key sector affected by climate change, ii) adaptation is key, and water needs to be much better shared and managed, iii) stabilizing the temperature as closely as possible to not more than 1.5°C above the pre-industrial level is essential, and requires a rapid move away from fossil fuels, and an end to deforestation, iv) the challenge is huge: transforming the world in a few decades so that the whole world's activities are decarbonized while poverty and hunger are eliminated, and v) addressing this challenge opens up so many opportunities, including opportunities to address in a synergistic manner other societal goals, such as the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

Speakers: Catherine Bearder, Mathew Sahr Nyuma (Sierra Leone), Liuga Faumuina (Samoa), Halifa Sallah (Gambia), Julie Ward, P.K. Welly (Micronesia), Zamel M. Moktar (Mauritania) and Georgios Pantoulis (European Commission).

Members noted that urbanisation increases pressure on habitable areas, particularly with respect to water needs, a sector affected by climate change. Members then emphasized that countries need to abide by the commitments made in the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, in order to save the planet from being uninhabitable.

9. **Urgent and topical subjects**

- Exchange of views

Speakers: Catherine Bearder and Rita Sithole (Mozambique).

Members briefly deliberated on the subject matter of the draft text for a Statement or a Declaration on *Putting youth, including young people with disabilities, at the heart of ACP-EU relations*. Members then agreed to request that the Co-Presidents adopt the text as their own Statement or Declaration. Members also took note of the constitutional developments in Mozambique.

10. **Any other business**

None.

11. **Date and place of next meeting**

The next meeting of the Committee will take place on 11 October 2018 in Brussels, Belgium.

The meeting closed at 13.40.

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ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOĽIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAETAETH ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNÍH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĚJUMU REGISTRŮ/DALYVIŲ SAŪARAŠAS/
JELENĽETI ÍV/REGÍSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBEENOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTA DE PREZENÇĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄ OLOLISTA/DEL.TAGARLISTA

Бюро/Μesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)	
EP/PE Catherine Bearder (replacing EP Co-Chair)	ACP Musa Hussein Naib (Eritrea) (1 st Vice Co-Chair)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamentiliiikmed/Mέλη/Members/Zastupnici/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Narini/ Képviseclők/ Membri/Leden/Poslowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter	
EP/PE Norbert Neuser Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez Bogdan Brunon Wenta Anna Záborská	ACP Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) Kombo Gberi (Cameroon) Prim Pujals (Dominican Republic) Rugema Michel (Rwanda) Faumuina Tiatialuga (Samoa) Mathew Sahr Nyuma (Sierra Leone) Suhair Ahmed Salah (Sudan) Agnese M. Simati (Tuvalu) Dexter T. Nduwa (Zimbabwe) Ben Abdallah Banda (Ghana) Moffat Makande (Malawi) Zamel M. Moktar (Mauritania) Alberto Vaquina (Mozambique) Amadou Dioffo (Niger) Halifa Sallah (Gambia) Clifford Andre (Seychelles)
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EP/PE Maria Arena Tomasz Piotr Poręba Eleni Theocharous Julie Wnrd	

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatorer/Beobachter/Vaatlējad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/ Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebētāji/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/ Orazowalci/Ŧarkkajilija/Observatörer

Πο покана на председателя/For invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimche kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-Chairman/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
Cindy Chimal (Interpol) J.P. van Ypersele (University of Louvain)

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rádcu/Rat/Nðukogug/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Vijeće/Consiglio/Padoame/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/ Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Komisija/Commissione/Bizottság/ Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)
Gatta, Mayaux, Paehler, Pantoulis (DG DEVCO)
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Evropská služba pro vnější činnost/ EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisteenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Evropska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew għall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Služba Działañ Zewnętrznych/Servico Europeu para a Acção Externa/ Serviciul european pentru acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)

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V. Tyova, J. A.L. Semedo, M.J. Ornelas, C. Mukinda, A. Jesus (Angola), E.J. Batshu, M. Kgotudiso, S. Outhule, S. Matambo, M. Ntongana (Botswana), R.N.E. Doka, I.M. Juru, T. Khumalo, I. Zindi (Zimbabwe), R. Mhone, T.A. Kalebe, M. Mwanyula (Malawi), F. Makhalela, P. Parkies, D. Madlala, P.K. Semaleng (South Africa), M. Cheboi, D. Rasso, D.C. Wanjiku, D. Nthiwa, I. Gogo, M. Kamar (Kenya), D. Oyet, W.W. Nokrach, J. Wamanga Wamai (Uganda), R. Mangouala, J. Salamba, F. Yalis, A. Mba (Gabon), W. William (Seychelles), Juma Salum (Tanzania), M. T. Hagos (Eritrea), L. Adolphus (Guyana), A. A. Koroma, D. Rogers, S.E. Lamina, K.K. Conteh (Sierra Leone), J.H.M. Etcky (Cameroon), Madi M.K. Ceeday, Mamadou Ceeday (Gambia), A.O. Amadou, O. Mahamune, I.M. Alassane, C. Kokche, C. Kore Hassane, I. Adamou, A. Issifou (Niger), M.M. T. Busiala, B.M. Kabambi (DRC), M.A. da Silu, C. Mate, L. Dava (Mozambique), A. Sylla (Guinea), M.I. Hassan, T. Osman, A. Wedad (Sudan), F.N. Caley, A. Alisa, M. Venaani (Namibia), C.M. Cassandra (Sao Tome et Principe), A.I. Fuscini, C.K.O. Nsiah, A. Armah (Ghana), T. Penn (Samoa) and G. Nkanagu (COMESA)

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ECR	Michaelidou
ALDE	Desnuelle
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<p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinett/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Ταμειάρχη/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Generali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálního tajemníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekretærens kansli</p>

<p>Секретариат на Асамблеята/Secretaria de la Asamblea/Sekretariát shromáždění/Forsamlingens sekretaria/Sekretariat der Versammlung/Assamblee sekretariaat/Γραμματεία της Συνέλευσης/Assembly secretariat/Secrétariat de l'assemblée/Tajništvo skupštine/Sekretariato dell'Assemblea/Asamblejas sekretariāts/Asamblejos sekretoriatas/A Közgyűlés (titkársága)/Segretarjat tal-Assemblea/Sekretariat van de Vergadering/Sekretariat Zgromadzenia/Sekretariado da assembleia/Sekretariatul adunării/Sekretariát zhromaždenia/Sekretariat skupštine/Edustajakokouksen sihteeristö/Församlingens sekretariat</p>	
<p>EP/PE Roşemary Opačić, Rok Koželj, Jesper Haglund, Dag Sourander</p>	<p>ACP John Fred Kakule</p>
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistentz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistentc/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistentcr</p>	
<p>Françoise Claes, Marianne Lorentzen</p>	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirminikas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Předseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

20.9.2018

DRAFT REPORT

on combating the destabilising effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

Co-rapporteurs: Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana)
Catherine Bearder (European Parliament)

PART A: DRAFT MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

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PROCEDURAL PAGE

At its meeting of 16 December 2017 in Port-au-Prince (Haiti), the Bureau of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly authorised its Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment to draw up a report, pursuant to Rule 2(8) of its Rules of Procedure, on combating the destabilising effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking.

At its meeting of 22 March 2018, the Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment appointed Gilbert S. Mangole (Botswana) and Catherine Bearder as co-rapporteurs.

The Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment examined the draft report at its meetings of 11 October 2018 in Brussels and of 1 December 2018 in Cotonou (Benin).

At the latter meeting, it adopted the accompanying draft motion for a resolution.

The following Members were present for the vote:

The resolution was tabled for adoption on ...

MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

on combating the destabilising effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in Brussels on 11 October 2018,
- having regard to 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 (the Cotonou Agreement), and to subsequent revisions to the agreement adopted in 2005 and 2010¹,
- having regard to the Statement of the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the importance of integrating the Sustainable Development Goals on protecting natural resources, wildlife and habitats into post-Cotonou negotiations, Port-au-Prince, 19 December 2017²,
- having regard to the Declaration of the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the post-Cotonou negotiations on the occasion of the 15th Regional Meeting of the JPA, Nairobi, 12 April 2018³,
- having regard to the Declaration of the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the poaching of African Elephants, Paramaribo, 29 November 2012⁴,
- having regard to the Joint Statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the European Parliament and the Commission entitled The New European Consensus on Development: 'Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future', Brussels, 7 June 2017⁵,
- having regard to the Commission communication of 26 February 2016 entitled 'EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking' (COM2016)0087⁶,
- having regard to the European Parliament resolution of 24 November 2016 on the EU

¹ OJ L 287, 4.11.2010, p. 3.

² http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2017_haiti/pdf/ry_statement_co-presidents_natural_resources_en.pdf

³ http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2018_nairobi/pdf/declaration_on_post-cotonou_negotiations_en.pdf

⁴ http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2012_paramaribo/pdf/elephants_app_declaration_en_final.pdf

⁵ OJ C 210, 30.06.2017, p. 1.

⁶ COM/2016/087 final.

- Action Plan against wildlife trafficking¹,
- having regard to the Commission communication of February 2017 entitled ‘EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking – One year after – Overview of actions and initiatives taken by the EU Member States and the European Commission’²,
 - having regard to the Convention on International trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), implemented in the EU through Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97 on the protection of species of wild fauna and flora by regulating trade therein, and Commission Regulation (EC) No 865/2006 laying down detailed rules concerning the implementation of Council Regulation (EC) No 338/97,
 - having regard to Council Decision (EU) 2015/451 of 6 March 2015 concerning the accession of the European Union to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES)³,
 - having regard to the African Elephant Action Plan, 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES, March 2010,
 - having regard to United Nations Resolution A/69/L.80 of 15 July 2015 on tackling illicit trafficking in wildlife,
 - having regard to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, 2003⁴,
 - having regard to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organised Crime, 2000⁵,
 - having regard to the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime (ICWC), comprising CITES, Interpol, UNODC, the World Bank and the World Customs Organisation,
 - having regard to the London Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade, February 2014,
 - having regard to the United for Wildlife Transport Taskforce Buckingham Palace Declaration of 15 March 2016,
 - having regard to the 4th and 5th EU-Africa Summits of April 2014 and November 2017,
 - having regard to the African Elephant Summit, Botswana, December 2013⁶,
- A. whereas the human-induced crisis of biodiversity loss is eroding the foundations of life on earth, with many flora and fauna on the brink of extinction;
- B. whereas ecosystems are faced with the challenges of climate change, the unsustainable use of natural resources, pollution and urbanisation, in addition to the increasing volume of

¹ OJ C 224, 27.6.2018, p. 117.

² http://ec.europa.eu/environment/cites/pdf/Achievements_WAP_overview.pdf

³ OJ L 75, 19.3.2015, p. 1.

⁴ https://www.unodc.org/documents/brussels/UN_Convention_Against_Corruption.pdf

⁵ <https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/organized-crime/intro/UNTOC.html>

⁶ <https://www.iucn.org/ssc-groups/inaminals/african-elephant-specialist-group/african-elephant-summit>

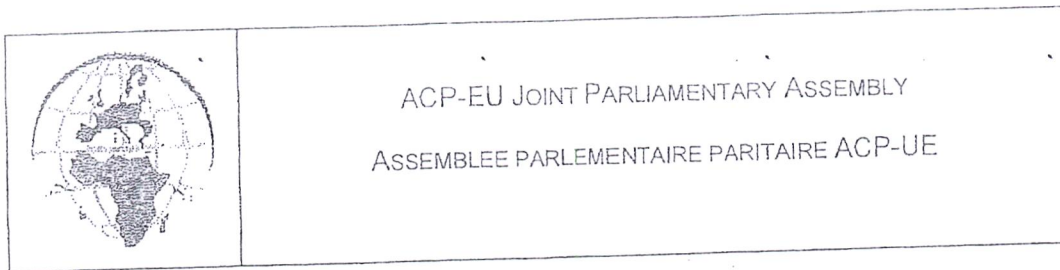
- illegal trade in plants and animals;
- C. whereas wildlife trafficking is one of the most profitable forms of organised cross-border criminal activity, is linked to other serious organised crimes, is thwarting conservation efforts and is threatening the welfare of many countries;
 - D. whereas the misuse of natural resources is compounding the fragility of ecosystems; whereas each ACP country has a unique natural environment on which it depends for food, water, health and tourism, and which is linked to its socio-economic and political system;
 - E. whereas a large majority of the ACP countries are source and/or transit countries and wildlife trafficking can have destabilising effects on them, threatening natural heritage, communities and livelihoods; whereas ACP countries have different approaches towards conservation and wildlife trafficking;
 - F. whereas environmental conservation is linked to sustainable development, with parks protecting indigenous wildlife and associated human heritage assets and providing economic and social benefits to local populations; whereas nature-based tourism contributes to awareness, respect for ecosystems, job creation and the economy;
 - G. whereas human-wildlife conflict is an obstacle to conservation efforts; whereas the activities of poachers threaten the lives of rangers and local people who are often their victims, with poachers using weapons and equipment against often poorly trained and equipped anti-poaching agents;
 - H. whereas the illegal trade in wildlife encourages corruption, which in turn destabilises governments, eroding the rule of law and undermining border controls; whereas in some instances wildlife trafficking has contributed to the instability of entire regions, with profits funding militias and sustaining armed conflict;
 - I. whereas markets for illegally traded wildlife are located mainly outside ACP countries, the EU being one of the main transit zones or destinations for these products;
 - J. whereas illegal wildlife markets are global, complex, corruptive and well established, with networks of traffickers fuelling a circle of demand and supply and the growing involvement of other forms of transnational organised crime, such as money laundering, gun-running or terrorism; whereas the trade is increasingly conducted online;
 - K. whereas organised criminal groups find wildlife trafficking attractive and easy because of low risks, high profits and weak penalties due to the low priority attached to it by law enforcement authorities;
 - L. whereas criminal networks are still operating despite anti-trafficking policies and cooperative efforts; whereas enforcement is generally failing, with too many cases of seizures of wildlife products leading to too few arrests, prosecutions and convictions, a lack of data collection and the halting or closure of investigations;
 - M. whereas CITES regulates international legal trade in wildlife to avert over-exploitation,

- but there is a lack of clear guidance on implementation for law enforcers and prosecutors;
- N. whereas the SDGs urge the international community to develop more coordinated efforts to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of our aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems;
- O. whereas Article 32 of the 2000 Cotonou Agreement has been the framework for the ACP-EU partnership on environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources, including wildlife and biodiversity;
1. Recalls that ACP ecosystems play a role in preserving financial, ecological and cultural values at local and global level; emphasises that the use of natural resources must be sustainable; calls for ACP-EU cooperation to mainstream environmental protection;
 2. Recalls the Statement of the Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU JPA on the importance of integrating the SDGs on protecting natural resources, wildlife and habitats into the post-Cotonou negotiations;
 3. Urges the ACP and EU countries to make wildlife trafficking a standalone priority of the new partnership under the forthcoming Post-Cotonou Agreement, encompassing the external dimensions of the EU Action Plan Against Wildlife Trafficking;
 4. Urges the ACP and EU countries to commit to fighting wildlife trafficking and related crimes, with a focus on key source, transit and market countries; calls for a solution-based exchange and for a strong ACP-EU course of action;
 5. Invites the ACP and EU countries to develop a holistic approach to stopping the operations of internationally organised wildlife trafficking by working with law enforcement bodies, the judiciary, the private sector, civil society and stakeholders;
 6. Calls for the creation of an ACP Action Plan Against Wildlife Trafficking; acknowledges the need for each individual ACP country to adopt flexible measures to accommodate their different circumstances, recognising their achievements and conservation efforts;
 7. Urges ACP countries to further develop and implement wildlife conservation strategies at all levels, alongside anti-corruption measures and foreign policy; emphasises that environmental protection needs a long-term return on investment; notes the benefits of Transfrontier Conservation Areas (TFCA);
 8. Calls on ACP countries to ensure cooperation and respect between bodies dealing with wildlife, such as park authorities, local authorities, CITES authorities, inspection services, law enforcement agencies, veterinary services, researchers and customs authorities;
 9. Recognises that regional and international cooperation, political commitment, stability, good governance and implementation are prerequisites for sustainable conservation efforts, in particular for effectively tackling networks of illegal wildlife trade, which in turn benefits local communities in source countries;
 10. Stresses that protection of local ecosystems should support the development of local

economies, lifting rural populations out of poverty, fostering the responsible use of natural resources and reducing migration;

11. Encourages ACP countries to further develop and safeguard nature preserves with a governance system and authorities to support the involvement of civil society, rangers and local communities in conservation and anti-poaching efforts, and to ensure fair allocation of the income and wealth obtained; urges ACP governments to provide the necessary support to wildlife rangers;
12. Urges ACP countries to empower local populations to sustainably manage their natural resources and develop alternative livelihoods in order to avoid wildlife consumption and human-wildlife conflict in protected areas (buffer zones); welcomes continued EU financial and technical support to community-led programmes;
13. Calls on governments to invest in awareness raising, education, deterrence and prevention with a view to the eradication of illegal wildlife trade, and to adopt tailored behavioural change campaigns to stop the demand for wildlife products such as bush meat;
14. Welcomes EU support to ACP priority countries, particularly those with insufficient resources to enforce wildlife legislation and prosecute smugglers, helping them and their communities to implement national and international wildlife regulations in line with the CITES Convention;
15. Urges the EU to increase financial support to ACP countries and projects through the DCI, EDF and new Multiannual Financial Framework for the Neighbourhood, Development and International Cooperation Instrument (NDICI); welcomes enhanced mechanisms for environmental crime and wildlife trafficking efforts, including training for the law enforcement, judicial and prosecution services; calls on the EU to monitor the wildlife programmes it supports and to integrate environmental indicators into foreign aid packages;
16. Encourages EU Member States to ensure implementation and better enforcement of the EU Action Plan Against Wildlife Trafficking, to drastically reduce the demand for illegal wildlife products, and to impose stronger restrictions on imports of wildlife products such as ivory and hunting trophies;
17. Welcomes the increase in the activities of Europol and Eurojust on wildlife trafficking and insists on multilateral coordination, cross-border operational actions and support for joint investigations with the ACP countries;
18. Recognises that Interpol is key to facilitating international police cooperation on wildlife trafficking between ACP and EU countries through its sub-regional structure; urges governments to allow inter-agency collaboration and Interpol investigations;
19. Calls on ACP and EU governments to work towards stricter law enforcement and sanctions for wildlife trafficking, making sure that arrests are followed by fair prosecutions and commensurate convictions; notes the benefits of case law; highly recommends the establishment of wildlife enforcement agencies in source, transit and market countries;

20. Urges ACP and EU countries to increase technical cooperation and data sharing on wildlife conservation and trafficking; calls on governments and agencies to report arrests of traffickers and seizures of wildlife products, making them available for analytical purposes; takes note of Africa-Twix and EU-Twix;
21. Calls for stricter ACP-EU border and customs controls on illegal wildlife products; reminds governments that customs reporting to a central database and training for the whole law enforcement chain should be key priorities;
22. Recognises the need for ACP and EU countries to address environmental crime that feeds corruption within the legal systems; calls for the monitoring of suspicious financial flows on wildlife trafficking linked to other forms of serious organised crime;
23. Calls for cooperation with enforcers, NGOs and technology companies on illegal online wildlife trade; invites governments to introduce or strengthen legislation to address enforcement challenges associated with cyber-enabled wildlife crime;
24. Underlines that trade and development should respect human rights and promote environmental conservation;
25. Instructs the Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council, the African Union, the Pan-African Parliament, the regional and national parliaments of the ACP countries and of the EU Member States, and the regional organisations of ACP countries.



Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

10.9.2018

DRAFT REPORT

on combatting the destabilising effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries
and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action
Plan against wildlife trafficking

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

Co-rapporteurs: Gilbert Mangole (Botswana)
Catherine Bearder (European Parliament)

PART B: EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

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Biodiversity loss and wildlife trafficking

The silent global crisis of biodiversity loss is eroding the foundations of life on Earth, placing the future of humanity at risk. Biodiversity underpins the systems that feed and sustain human beings.

Many fragile ecosystems already face large challenges owing to climate change, natural disasters, land-use, the unsustainable use of natural resources, pollution, urbanisation and human-wildlife conflict, in addition to the increasing and profitable illegal trade of plants and animals.

Researchers call the massive loss of wildlife since the 1970s a 'biological annihilation', representing a 'frightening assault on the foundations of human civilisation'. Worldwide, too many flora and fauna are on the brink of extinction.

With the life-sustaining forces under such threat, it is the duty of this and future generations to fight for the conservation of our planet's biodiversity at both national and international levels.

It is well recognised that not only are elephants and rhinos being killed for their tusks and horns, but also sharks for their fins, pangolins for their scales and tigers for their fur. Rosewood is being cut down to make luxury furniture. Birds and reptiles are trafficked and kept in captivity in appalling conditions. Every part of the planet is being plundered.

Wildlife trafficking is happening at an alarming rate, thwarting conservation efforts and threatening the welfare and prosperity of countries at all tiers of the Human Development Index.

Wildlife trafficking is now an organised international crime estimated to be worth billions of euro annually, being the fourth most profitable form of organised cross-border criminal activity, and is closely linked to other forms of serious and organised crime.

Global illegal wildlife markets are complex and corruptive, subject to rapid fluctuations, with products being trafficked from source, to transit and destination countries, and interlinked with the drug trade, money laundering, human trafficking, gun-running and terrorism.

Modern day poachers use high-calibre and powerful weapons that at times are used against anti-poaching agents. Advances in weaponry have made it possible to kill more animals in a very short space of time, with military precision and limited risk of detection.

Stretching over continents, international criminal organisations have found in wildlife a relatively easy and lucrative business, with profits being significantly higher than the risk of being caught and prosecuted. The sentencing for this crime is extremely low in most countries.

Regardless of the international and national policy efforts that have been made, and actions conducted in the field, enforcement is generally failing. Too many seizures of wildlife products have led to no arrests nor convictions. While data collection and sharing is lacking on many levels, investigations are stuck or closed.

Crime syndicates, lack of resources, greed and corruption are driving well-established

networks of illegal trafficking in flora and fauna, creating a vicious circle in which a high demand in, and supply of, wildlife products have become major factors in the profitability of this illegal trade.

Throughout Asia, Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific, Latin America, the United States and Europe, organised crime is fuelling demand and supply for wildlife products supporting corruption and creating a market of novel products. This illegal trade is also taking place online.

The link between corruption and wildlife trafficking is corrosive to our society, robbing citizens of their natural heritage, of their economy, of their democracy and of their rights, and it undermines the rule of law and fundamental principles of life on Earth.

Globally, major efforts have been made to curb this trade. Since 1975, the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) has subjected the international legal trade of specimens of wild animals and plants to certain controls, to avert over-exploitation.

More recently, the Agenda 2030 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 14 and 15 urge the international community to develop better and more coordinated efforts to ensure the conservation, protection and sustainable use of our aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

The African, Caribbean, and Pacific countries and wildlife trafficking

Even if the markets for illegally traded wildlife products are located mainly outside African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries, trafficking has major destabilising effects on these countries and their natural heritage, a large majority of them being source or transit countries. The African elephant, for instance, is found in many African countries, where it faces a serious threat of extinction. Habitat loss, human-elephant conflict and illegal killings has been compounded by an escalation of transnationally organised poaching for ivory. At international level, the African elephant range States are committed to an African Elephant Action Plan adopted in March 2010 at the 15th Conference of Parties of CITES. CITES provisions have been strengthened, and the Action Plan provides a very useful framework for action in Africa.

ACP countries are extremely dependent on biodiversity and local ecosystems for food, water, health, tourism, etc., but the exploitation of natural resources, flora and fauna must be sustainable. Unfortunately, the increasing use of natural resources is compounding the fragility of ecosystems, most of which have reached crisis levels.

Each country and region has a specific natural environment closely interlinked with its local socio-economic and political context. The conservation of ACP flora and fauna therefore plays an extremely significant role in preserving financial, ecological, cultural and aesthetic values, at global as well as local levels, for future generations.

Strategies to preserve such natural environments should be developed and implemented at both national and regional levels to allow more effective inter-agency collaboration, coordinated joint action and sharing of information. Where possible, regions should form cross-border conservation areas to protect flora and fauna populations, and to collectively

address issues of wildlife crimes, including trafficking.

National parks protect and conserve indigenous wildlife, vegetation, landscapes and associated human heritage assets. At community level, they provide a social, economic and ecological benefit, safeguarded by enforceable legislation. Nature-based tourism, the observation of animal and plant life in their natural habitats, contributes to local cultures and awareness. Communities living alongside wildlife must be engaged as active partners in their conservation in order to promote sustainable human-wildlife co-existence.

Wildlife conservation is also strongly coupled with sustainable development, cooperation and assistance. It is accepted that trade and development should respect human rights and promote animal welfare and environmental conservation.

In addition to fostering the sustainable use of natural resources, the conservation and protection of biodiversity should also have the aim of supporting the development of local economies and lifting rural populations out of poverty, fostering the sustainable and responsible use of natural resources and reducing migration.

However, organised international wildlife crime is having profoundly negative impacts on local communities and livelihoods, not only by driving them into the illegal wildlife trade as a means of subsistence. The activities of violent and armed poachers threaten the lives of rangers and local people, who are often their victims.

The illegal trade in wildlife encourages corruption, which in turn destabilises governments, eroding the rule of law and undermining border controls. In some instances, this illegal trade has been the main factor contributing to the insecurity and instability of entire regions. The profits of this trade often contribute to fund militias and fuel armed conflict and terrorism.

The link between corruption and wildlife trafficking threatens good governance, undermines institutions, ethical values and the judiciary system, and jeopardises efforts towards sustainable development.

ACP countries have taken different approaches towards fighting wildlife trafficking, and there is therefore a need to share experiences and best practices in order to develop a more coordinated common approach to tackle local and national operations of internationally organised criminal networks, taking into account the individual needs of every single ACP region. At the African Elephant Summit held in Botswana in December 2013, African Heads of State adopted 14 Urgent Measures in support of the Africa Elephant Action Plan, are aimed at halting and reversing the trend in illegal killing of elephants and the illegal trade in ivory. The Urgent Measures were carried forward to the London Conference on Illegal Wildlife Trade in February 2014, to the 4th Africa-EU Summit in April 2014 and lastly to the United Nations General Assembly in July 2015, at which occasion they culminated in the first-ever United Nations General Assembly resolution on 'Tackling Illicit Trafficking in Wildlife'¹.

¹ UNGA Resolution A/69/L.80, 15 July 2015.

The way forward on tackling wildlife trafficking within the ACP-EU Partnership

Since 2000, Article 32 of the Cotonou Agreement has been the framework for the ACP-EU Partnership on environmental protection and sustainable management of natural resources, including wildlife and biodiversity.

Considering the international criminal scope of wildlife trafficking, and recognising the existing link between market demand and supply, it is essential for the ACP-EU Partnership to engage in a deeper and more balanced political dialogue on wildlife trafficking.

An important step in addressing illegal wildlife trafficking is the huge challenge of reducing the demand for illegal wildlife products. Countries in which there is demand for such products have the responsibility to do more to reduce the demand through stronger law enforcement and judicial procedures, engagement with local communities and support for sustainable livelihoods in wildlife source areas. Much still needs to be done to ensure compliance.

While the EU is an important destination and transit hub of illegally harvested wildlife products, its coordinated response and assistance to source countries has proven to provide limited capacity to protect wildlife.

In line with the Agenda 2030 of the UN SDGs, the European Commission has, in response, presented an ambitious Action Plan to tackle wildlife trafficking within the EU that aims to strengthen the role played by the EU in the global fight, in cooperation with all its partners.

Mainstreaming environmental protection, fighting international criminal activities and incorporating the external dimension of the EU Action Plan into all aspects of ACP-EU cooperation, with a much stronger commitment towards fighting wildlife trafficking together, should form a key area of a new Partnership under the forthcoming Post-Cotonou Agreement.

Tackling wildlife trafficking is of common interest to both ACP and EU countries, and to that extent the Post-Cotonou ACP-EU Partnership should recognise and encompass the external dimension of the EU Action Plan.

ACP-EU relations should focus on dialogue and coordinated action towards a stronger legal framework, and better law enforcement, to effectively tackle the trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna operated by international criminal organisations, crushing the demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.

In the forthcoming Report of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, a course of actions such as the following will be recommended to the ACP-EU Partners:

- Improve common dialogue and information exchange on wildlife trafficking within the ACP-EU Group. Support the adoption and implementation of strong ACP-EU decisions, resolutions and political declarations.
- Engage more extensively with key source, transit and market countries with a view to developing and implementing a common ACP approach on tackling wildlife trafficking, and work closely with civil society and the private sector in this effort.
- Enhance technical cooperation and data sharing on wildlife conservation within and

across borders. Put in place supportive wildlife conservation or enforcement programmes, based on a common ACP-EU Group approach.

- Ensure that the illegal wildlife trade is part of trade dialogues with key WTO partners. Include provisions on wildlife trafficking in trade agreements with regional and international trade blocs, and monitor proactively and report on the implementation of the commitments made in this regard.
- Incorporate wildlife trafficking in all sectors of ACP-EU development cooperation, in line with the European Consensus on Development – People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.
- Work with relevant regional organisations such as the African Union, the Southern African Development Community and the East African Community, with multilateral fora and programmes such as CITES, the International Consortium on Combating Wildlife Crime and the Global Wildlife Program, with and international organisations such as Interpol, Europol, the World Customs Organisation and the UNDC.
- Adopt flexible measures to accommodate the different circumstances of certain countries so that they are not unnecessarily punished for their conservation efforts, to ensure, using the best science available, that local communities are able to benefit in a sustainable way from the local biodiversity.
- Avoid limiting assistance to enforcement only, ensuring instead that it be extended to local communities with a view to developing other economic activities, especially where global measures have been taken to ban exploitation of species when they become classified as endangered.

In this regard, the EU should upgrade and improve technical and financial support to ACP countries provided through the Development Cooperation Instrument (DCI) and the European Development Fund (EDF). Technical and financial assistance mechanisms should be made available for middle-income and highly indebted middle-income with the objective of addressing wildlife trafficking efforts in those countries.

Assistance should be provided to ACP priority countries, particularly those with insufficient resources to enforce legislation and prosecute smugglers, allowing them to implement national and international wildlife regulations, in line with CITES recommendations.

Fighting corruption is at the heart of these activities and should be tackled with the legal system. ACP-EU Partners are therefore called on to work towards stronger criminal sanctions and law enforcement under the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

The EU and ACP governments should work together to: put in place a clear prohibition on wildlife trafficking; effect stricter border and customs controls, prosecutions and convictions; report on seizures and arrests; monitor suspicious financial flows; create a cybercrime road map towards addressing the illegal trade online; and establish wildlife enforcement agencies and attachés in key source, transit and market countries, within the ACP states as well as in the EU Member States.

Awareness raising, education, deterrence and prevention should also be a central part of the ACP-EU coordinated action towards the eradication of the illegal trade of wildlife.

Considering that the EU has been given the mandate to act under the EU Action Plan against Wildlife Trafficking, the aim should be to link EU action to ACP-EU coordinated action.

The forthcoming report will provide recommendations in line with the three priorities, and will be based on the following main objectives of the EU Action Plan:

- 1.1. Reduce the demand for, and supply of, illegal wildlife products;
- 1.2. Ensure that rural communities in source countries are engaged in, and benefit from, wildlife conservation;
- 1.3. Increase business sector engagement in efforts to combat wildlife trafficking and encourage sustainable sourcing of wildlife products;
- 1.4. Tackle corruption associated with wildlife trafficking;
- 2.4. Improve international cooperation on enforcement against wildlife trafficking;
- 3.1. Provide increased, more effective and more strategically focused support to developing countries;
- 3.2. Strengthen and coordinate better action against wildlife trafficking and its root causes with relevant source, transit and market countries;
- 3.3. Address security dimension of wildlife trafficking;
- 3.4. Strengthen multilateral efforts to combat wildlife trafficking.

ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

ACP-EU/102.408/18/fin.

RESOLUTION¹

on the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) from 18 to 20 June 2018,
- having regard to 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 (the Cotonou Agreement), and to subsequent revisions to the agreement adopted in 2005 and 2010²,
- having regard to its resolution of 20 December 2017 on the blue economy: opportunities and challenges for ACP States,
- having regard to the waste management policies, strategies, acts and regulations enacted by ACP States and regions, such as the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (Cleaner Pacific 2025 (2016)), Rwanda (2015), South Africa (2009), Nigeria (2007), Jamaica (2002), Uganda (1999), Gambia (1994) and Barbados (1985), among others,
- having regard to Commission Regulation (EU) No 1357/2014 of 18 December 2014 replacing Annex III to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on waste and repealing certain Directives³,
- having regard to the Commission Decision of 18 December 2014 amending Decision 2000/532/EC on the list of waste pursuant to Directive 2008/98/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council⁴,
- having regard to the Commission report of 29 November 2011 entitled 'Implementing EU Waste Legislation for Green Growth'⁵,
- having regard to the Commission report of 1 April 2011 entitled 'Plastic waste in the

¹ Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 20 June 2018 in Brussels (Belgium).

² OJ L 287, 4.11.2010, p. 3.

³ OJ L 365, 19.12.2014, p. 89.

⁴ OJ L 370, 30.12.2014, p. 44.

⁵ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/studies/pdf/study.pdf>

AP102.408/fin

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- environment¹,
- having regard to Directive 2008/98 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 19 November 2008 on waste and repealing certain Directives²,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1013/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 14 June 2006 on shipments of waste³,
 - having regard to Directive 2000/59/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 27 November 2000 on port reception facilities for ship-generated waste and cargo residues⁴,
 - having regard to the Commission Decision of 3 May 2000 replacing Decision 94/3/EC establishing a list of wastes pursuant to Article 1 (a) of Council Directive 75/442/EEC on waste and Council Decision 94/904/EC establishing a list of hazardous waste pursuant to Article 1(4) of Council Directive 91/689/EEC on hazardous waste (*notified under document number C(2000) 1147*)⁵,
 - having regard to Council Directive 1999/31/EC of 26 April 1999 on the landfill of waste⁶,
 - having regard to the Stockholm Convention of 22 May 2001 on persistent organic pollutants,
 - having regard to the Rotterdam Convention on the Prior Informed Consent Procedure for certain hazardous chemicals and pesticides in international trade of 10 September 1998,
 - having regard to the Bamako Convention on the Ban of the Import into Africa and the Control of Transboundary Movement and Management of Hazardous Wastes within Africa of 30 January 1991,
 - having regard to the Basel Convention on the Control of Transboundary Movements of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal of 22 March 1989,
 - having regard to the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-Based Activities, adopted by 108 governments and the European Commission,
 - having regard to the conclusions of the 2nd ACP/EC/UN-Habitat Tripartite Conference on Sustainable Urbanisation as a Response to Urban Poverty Alleviation,
 - having regard to the UN-Habitat Note on Urbanisation Challenges, Waste Management and Development of 14 February 2014⁷,

¹ <http://ec.europa.eu/environment/waste/studies/pdf/plastics.pdf>

² OJ L 312, 22.11.2008, p. 3.

³ OJ L 190, 12.7.2006, p. 1.

⁴ OJ L 332, 28.12.2000, p. 81.

⁵ OJ L 226, 6.9.2000, p. 3.

⁶ OJ L 182, 16.7.1999, p. 1.

⁷ http://www.europarl.europa.eu/intcoop/acp/2014_mauritius/pdf/un_habitat_presentation_en.pdf

- A. whereas pollution and its harmful effects on people's health, the environment and the planet have often been neglected by governments and the international community, both the direct effects (such as the effects of air pollution on human health and of pesticide use on the environment and biodiversity) and the indirect effects (such as the pollution of soil in which crops are grown and the knock-on effects on human health);
- B. whereas pollution is the largest environmental cause of disease and death in the world today, responsible for an estimated nine million premature deaths in 2015;
- C. whereas 92% of all pollution-related mortality is seen in low- and medium-income countries and whereas, in some countries, the figures are very alarming;
- D. whereas the United Nations has indicated that by 2014, the population living in urban areas in the world had reached 54% and is expected to reach 66% by 2050;
- E. whereas Africa's urban population is projected to grow by 54% by 2050;
- F. whereas a growing urban population presents numerous challenges, but also has the potential to improve prosperity and development as well as the integration of ACP countries into global networks, thus increasing the chance of finding solutions to challenges;
- G. whereas 62% of urban populations in Sub-Saharan Africa live in degraded suburbs, most often located in environmentally fragile areas, and without access to basic services such as water, sanitation, energy, transport and waste management systems; whereas those populations are therefore extremely exposed to pollution sources and to their consequences on the environment and health;
- H. whereas strategies to reduce waste production should take priority, while recycling and processing of waste should be viewed only as fallback options;
- I. whereas inadequate waste collection services and recycling systems, hazardous dumps and environmental damage – and the resulting risks to health – have an impact on the lives of millions of inhabitants in ACP States;
- J. whereas poor waste management slows the economic and social development of ACP States, particularly their slums;
- K. whereas lack of capacity to deal with industrial and domestic waste has severe negative consequences on the biodiversity of ACP countries, their particular ecosystems and the flora and fauna dependent on these ecosystems;
- L. whereas in some ACP States, due to a lack of appropriate technology, infectious medical wastes and toxic industrial waste expose waste handlers to a wide array of risks;
- M. whereas poor waste management practices, along with the lack of an efficient and sustainable waste management system, especially in rural areas, are the cause of persistent problems such as inefficient refuse collection, poor public compliance with waste sorting,

- and the uncontrolled open burning of waste;
- N. whereas the Pacific islands have particular problems in dealing with untreated waste, particularly plastic waste;
- O. whereas the widespread dumping of refuse in water bodies and uncontrolled dump sites aggravates the problems of generally low sanitation levels across the ACP States;
- P. whereas the gap between waste management policy and legislation and actual waste management practices in ACP States is widening, due to ongoing capacity constraints or to the non-existence of management facilities for the different waste streams;
- Q. whereas global consumption of electrical and electronic equipment is on the rise; whereas addressing the full life cycle of electrical and electronic equipment is central to the 2030 development agenda;
- R. whereas many cities in EU Member States have had to address challenges caused by growing waste production and poor waste management in the past, but were able to find ways to cope, through a combination of educational campaigns and improved and better enforced legislation;
- S. whereas countries, on occasion including EU Member States, have exported their hazardous and toxic waste to the ACP States since the 1970s; whereas the responsibility of the countries exporting such waste should be considered as important as that of the countries importing it;
- T. whereas urban environments generate types of waste that often have serious implications for human health and environmental sustainability;
- U. whereas, as already noted in the resolution of 20 December 2017 on the blue economy, efforts in waste management, particularly the implementation of the recommendations in the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment, must be stepped up in order to preserve the potential of the blue economy, as marine pollution is largely caused by land-based factors, such as the accumulation of plastic waste;
- V. whereas the goals for the blue economy, set out in the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly resolution of 20 December 2017, include preserving the environment through joint action between ACP States and private sector stakeholders in a variety of areas, including proper and sustainable waste management;
- W. whereas natural disasters such as earthquakes and hurricanes, which very often strike ACP States and, as regards hurricanes, at an intensity which is only likely to increase, given the effects of climate change, may lead to large amounts of waste being generated, which can result in unprecedented health risks to the population;
- X. whereas urbanisation and poor waste management are also contributing to the pollution of our oceans and therefore have repercussions for local activities which rely on marine resources (fishing, tourism);
- Y. whereas the fast-growing use of ICT and the rapid turnover in technology, particularly

computers and mobile phones, creates growing electronic waste streams, particularly of rare and hazardous metals, for which sustainable waste management capacity has yet to be found and which accumulate along with municipal waste in dump sites;

- Z. whereas efforts to improve the situation have not been enough to contend with rapid population growth and urbanisation; whereas per capita waste generation is increasing as economies grow;
- AA. whereas, as noted at the United Nations Ocean Conference in June 2017, plastic use is one of the most pressing problems facing coastal areas and islands;
- BB. whereas public authorities are ultimately responsible for ensuring the provision of adequate waste management services and the primary method of waste disposal in most ACP States is the 'summon to bring' system, which is managed at the municipal level;
- CC. whereas in many ACP States waste management systems are constrained by the limited know-how concerning separate collection alternatives and the high cost factor involved in mixed waste collection, hence limiting recourse to the re-use, recycling and conversion alternatives;
- DD. whereas current by-laws in most localities in ACP States place responsibility for waste management on municipalities that are insufficiently equipped to deal with collection and disposal, and such by-laws are now an impediment to investment in waste management by the private sector;
- EE. whereas members of local civil society doing informal waste management work should be encouraged to regularise and formalise their work so that they can participate fully and officially in that economic activity;
- FF. whereas, in some cases, the advent of private-sector operators has improved solid waste collection; whereas, however, a public authority with sufficient resources has every right to take primary responsibility for waste collection;
- GG. whereas recycling efforts can improve urban environments while simultaneously generating income opportunities and improved livelihoods;
- HH. whereas comprehensive waste management practices at national and local level reduce the damaging effects on human health and help health services to deal with the costs of these issues;
- II. whereas the implementation and enforcement of waste regulations and conventions is severely constrained by the lack of good governance and transparency and, in some cases, by the prevalence of corruption;
- I. Calls on the EU and the international community to actively support the development of national waste management strategies and a circular economy through adequate funding and monitoring, national capacity-building in low and middle income countries and by offering assistance, including technical and administrative expertise, in particular to ensure access for all to basic waste services, to stop uncontrolled dumping and burning, to bring hazardous waste under control and to focus on waste prevention (the 3Rs –

reduce, reuse, recycle); calls on the national authorities, with the help of the European Union and with a view to creating jobs through special training, to establish a proper strategy;

2. Stresses that in order for waste legislation to have maximum impact, the creation of a mindset in which waste avoidance, waste reduction and waste collection are high priorities is crucial; recommends, to this end, that awareness and educational campaigns should be deployed in schools and among children in general;
3. Stresses that, according to the World Health Organisation (WHO), more than 12.6 million deaths each year are attributable to unhealthy environments, a figure set to skyrocket in the years to come owing to the population boom in Africa;
4. Recalls that public authorities are ultimately responsible for ensuring the provision of adequate waste management services; calls on the ACP States to create, where necessary, a Ministry for Urban Development and for the Environment, to implement urban development policy and to draw up urban development strategic plans and environmental action plans in close partnership with local authorities; stresses that the transition from a waste management policy to a resource management policy implies close cooperation across all levels of government, particularly with local governments, as well as the active support of the informal sector;
5. Insists that the most tangible results can be achieved at local level, through a combination of local regulations and waste collection and avoidance schemes adapted to local conditions, and with citizens' involvement; recalls that national governments should assist these local areas, which are often under-financed and ill-equipped to exercise their responsibilities;
6. Calls on the EU to draw up rules for its companies to be effective partners in environmental management and to invest responsibly and with a view to sustainability in ACP States by taking into account the waste generation impact of their investments, as well as the opportunities to reuse or recycle the waste generated; stresses equally the need to build on existing small-scale entrepreneurial recycling schemes while eliminating hazardous working practices; stresses that companies should draw up a roadmap on how to manage the waste that they produce, with a view to including a management strategy in their investment projects;
7. Highlights the fact that rapid product innovation, miniaturisation and replacement, especially for information and communication technology (ICT) products and consumer equipment, are fuelling the increase in e-waste; is alarmed that improper and illegal e-waste traffic is prevalent in most developing countries, irrespective of whether or not national e-waste legislation exists; calls for a more coordinated approach to address the full potential of e-waste prevention, collection and treatment globally; calls on the EU and the ACP countries to engage more with the private sector to address business responsibility in the production of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE), particularly in the early stages of the life cycle of EEE, such as the acquisition of raw materials, design and production, as well as the repair, reuse and refurbishment of EEE;
8. Recalls that uncollected waste represents a serious public health issue in developing countries, particularly for children living in households without a waste collection

service, while blocked drains aggravate floods and spread infectious diseases; is alarmed by the health and environmental impact of open dumping and burning (severe land pollution and freshwater, groundwater and sea pollution; local air pollution and climate change); highlights the fact that, according to the UNEP Global Waste Management Outlook (2015), the cost of inaction in developing countries (in terms of health care, lost productivity, flood damage, clean-up costs, etc.) exceeds the financial cost per capita of proper waste management by a factor of 5-10; urges the Commission, against this background, to provide proper incentives for public investments in the environmentally sound management of waste streams in the ACP States; stresses that any incentives to encourage private sector engagement should promote sustainability, job creation with full rights and wealth creation that will guarantee sustainable development; considers that incentives for investments could include the lowering of contributions, tax exemptions, incentives to encourage hiring, particularly of young people, and staff training, along with the exchange of good practices;

9. Calls on the Commission to launch, in cooperation with the ACP States, awareness-raising campaigns on sorting waste and responsible use of plastic bags, including through school education programmes;
10. Recalls that the development of national waste management strategies should take into account local biodiversity and ecosystems, which have significant ecological, cultural and aesthetic values, and upon which ACP countries are disproportionately dependent for food, water, health and tourism;
11. Notes with concern that, according to UNEP and Interpol, illegal trafficking of hazardous waste is one of the five major sectors of environmental crime; urges those ACP States that have yet to sign the Basel¹, Bamako², Stockholm³ and Rotterdam⁴ conventions to do so, and all the ACP States to initiate effective legislation which would ban the import and export of hazardous waste and punish its indiscriminate dumping, criminalising illicit waste trafficking; calls on the EU and its Member States to increase the share of ODA allocated to governance and judicial sector reform in order to combat and prevent environmental crime, especially in less-developed countries (LDCs);
12. Urges the ACP States which have yet to do so to formally ban the importing, manufacturing and sale on their territory of non-biodegradable plastic bags, which seriously harm the environment;
13. Calls on the ACP States, the European Union and the international community to step up actions to implement the recommendations in the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment, preserving the potential of the blue economy so as to progressively reduce the threats to the livelihoods of the ACP coastal countries, especially the Small Island States, which are heavily dependent on this sector for their survival, and to support the national socio-economic development plans for sustainability

¹ <http://www.basel.int/Portals/4/Basel%20Convention/docs/text/BaselConventionText-e.pdf>

² https://au.int/sites/default/files/treaties/7774-treaty-0015_-_bamako_convention_on_hazardous_wastes_e.pdf

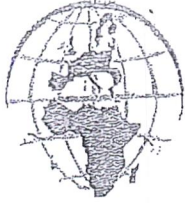
³ <http://www.pops.int/Portals/0/download.aspx?d=UNEP-POPS-TREATY-NOTIF-CN681-2015.En.pdf>

⁴ <http://www.pic.int/Portals/5/download.aspx?d=UNEP-FAO-RC-CONVTEXT-2015.English.pdf>

- of these countries;
14. Stresses the need, in order to discourage offenders, for sanctions to be truly dissuasive and to be applied;
 15. Calls on the ACP States to design integrated waste management strategies that would enable regular reviews to be carried out and appropriate waste management systems to be monitored; calls for the EU and other appropriate international organisations to develop ad hoc country-specific measurable criteria, which would serve as a tool for ACP States to improve their waste management systems; recommends the publishing of annual reports on waste disposal, so that existing aid and assistance measures can be assessed in the light of the results obtained;
 16. Calls on the ACP States to use their funds and resources to launch pilot projects, specifically on excellence in waste management, and in doing so to try to create a model which can be used in other fields;
 17. Calls on the ACP States to invest in education on recycling and hygiene, as well as in training for local staff in safe and environmentally sustainable waste management; calls, with a view to raising awareness of the need for a sustainable approach to the environment and to waste treatment, for information to be given not only to staff but also to the population as a whole, starting with school children;
 18. Reiterates the importance of everyday and simple waste treatment actions; calls on the ACP States to invest in simple, long-lasting infrastructures at municipal level to empower communities and neighbourhoods to improve their waste management and make use of by-products from such systems;
 19. Invites the EU to offer ACP States technical, financial, logistical and administrative assistance and expertise related to waste management and the circular economy in order to promote best practices and know-how, as well as the transfer of technologies, technical material and equipment, including in the fields of plastics and radioactive, biological, chemical and biomedical waste;
 20. Recalls the positive effects partnerships between EU and ACP cities can have on the exchange of best practices, and invites mayors and local governments to actively seek new partnerships and to strengthen existing ones;
 21. Invites civil society organisations involved in environmental action and resource efficiency in both the EU and the ACP countries to build up partnerships, develop common programmes and share their knowledge;
 22. Calls on the EU to provide the ACP States with technological expertise in waste recycling, particularly for plastics and aluminium;
 23. Calls on the EU, in cooperation with the ACP States, and with a view to launching an efficient and effective intervention strategy, to make a list of the sites and geographical areas where waste management seems to be a more sensitive issue;
 24. Calls on the ACP States to swiftly establish regional emergency response systems for

sound waste management and access to sanitation in the case of humanitarian crises, such as conflicts or natural disasters, so that those states can quickly return to normal;

25. Recalls that waste management is dependent on good governance, and stresses that improving waste and resource management should be part of the climate change mitigation strategy; invites the ACP States to create collaborative platforms with stakeholders and civil society organisations in order to improve the 'reduce, reuse and recycle' (the 3Rs) approach; calls, furthermore, for the creation of similar platforms between ACP and EU Member States;
26. Recalls that environmentally friendly waste-to-energy initiatives can help solve both waste issues and energy poverty; invites the ACP States and the EU to cooperate more closely in this matter by devising efficient waste collection programmes to feed energy production facilities;
27. Stresses the need to promote energy recovery from waste; recalls that landfill is a major source of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas; recalls that biogas systems treat organic waste to produce biogas to supplement energy requirements while reducing the release of gases which are dangerous to health into the atmosphere; recommends, therefore, that the adaptation of such technologies for use in degraded suburban areas in particular be facilitated and financed;
28. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council, the African Union, the Pan-African Parliament, the regional and national parliaments of the ACP States and of the EU Member States, and the regional organisations of ACP States.



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

ACP_OJ(2018)1011_01

DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting

Thursday 11 October 2018, 10.00-12.30 and 14.00-17.30

Brussels

Room: Altiero Spinelli A5E-2

1. Adoption of agenda OJ – AP102.612v01-00
2. Approval of minutes of meeting PV – AP102.573v01-00
 - 16 June 2018 in Brussels
3. Co-Chairs' announcements
4. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries
Co-rapporteurs: Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) and Nicolas Bay DR – AP102.614v01-00
 - Consideration of draft report
 - Exchange of views with Eduin Matta Castillo, Policy & Programme Officer in the United Nations Industrial Development Organization
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
5. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP Countries' economies
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission

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6. The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries, and particularly to remote areas
 - Appointment of co-rapporteurs
 - Exchange of views with Philipp Trotter, Research Associate in Renewable Energy in the Smith School of Enterprise and the Environment, University of Oxford
 - Exchange of views with industry leaders in the energy sector with experience of renewables
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
7. Multiannual Financial Framework 2021-2027: impact of the EDF budgetisation on ACP-EU cooperation
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
8. Economic Partnership Agreements: State of play of negotiations and implementation
 - Exchange of views with the European Commission
9. Any other business
 - Urgent and topical subjects
10. Date and place of next meeting



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

ACP_PV(2018)0616_01

MINUTES
of the meeting of 16 June 2018, 15.00-18.30
Brussels

The meeting opened on Saturday 16 June 2018 at 15.12, with Laura Ferrara (EP Co-Chair) presiding.

1. Adoption of agenda (OJ – AP102.571v01-00)

Co-Chair Laura Ferrara announced the language regime and informed Members of the items on the draft agenda.

ACP Co-Chair Phel Parkies stated that the ACP side had not been informed regarding point 7 “Prospects for the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfACFTA): drawing lessons from other regional integration examples” and that it had therefore not agreed to the inclusion of the aforesaid point on the draft agenda.

A discussion followed and in view of the presence of a guest speaker to this point in the meeting room, it was agreed that the agenda would be adopted. However, point 7 would only include the presentation by the guest speaker with no debate or follow-up.

Speakers: Phel Parkies (South Africa), Laura Ferrara, Maria Arena, Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Clifford Andre (Seychelles), André Misiekaba (Suriname), McHenry Venaani (Namibia) and Dexter Nduna (Zimbabwe).

The agenda was adopted as reflected in these minutes.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 22 March 2018 (PV – AP102.406v01-00)

The minutes were approved.

3. Co-Chairs' announcements

The Co-Chair announced the topic of the workshop organised during the 35th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly:

- “Biotechnological research for sustainable agriculture with a focus on developing countries”.

The Co-Chair informed Members about the formal opening of the Session and the Youth event.

The Co-Chair informed Members about the Newsletter (available in English and French).

4. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries

Co-rapporteurs: Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) and Nicolas Bay

- Consideration of working document (DT – AP102.572v01-00)
- Exchange of views

The ACP co-rapporteur Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius) (the EP Co-Rapporteur Nicolas Bay was absent) set out the main elements of the forthcoming report, which will focus on the policies, strategies, conditions and the regulatory framework to be put in place to unlock the potential of SMEs in ACP countries. The document distributed to Members contained three recommendations that needed to be discussed further between the two co-rapporteurs. A consensual document would be ready by the end of the current session of the Assembly, pending agreement between the co-rapporteurs and would then be distributed to Members, thus adopted.

Speakers: Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Michel Kamano (Guinea), André Misiekaba (Suriname), Clifford Andre (Seychelles), Dexter Nduna (Zimbabwe), Mfanawemakhosi Dlamini (Kingdom of eSwatini), Lillian Achieng Gogo (Kenya) and the European Commission.

Members commented on the importance of SMEs for the economic development of ACP countries and called for an ACP-EU common position on this issue, which would have a real impact on the potential of SMEs in ACP countries.

Co-rapporteur Sangeet Fowdar wound up the debate.

5. Decision on the title of the next report

- Exchange of views

Decision: The title of the next report would be: “The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries, and particularly to remote areas”.

The Chair reminded Members of the timetable, as follows: appointment of co-rapporteurs and first exchange of views with invited experts in October 2018; consideration of draft report in December 2018; adoption of draft report in March 2019.

Speakers: Piernicòla Pedicini, Phel Parkies (South Africa), Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Clifford Andre (Seychelles) and Hermann Razafindravelo (Madagascar).

The European Commission responded to the different questions raised by Members.

The meeting continued with Phel Parkies (ACP Co-Chair) presiding.

6. Follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on the Blue economy: opportunities and challenges for ACP States
- Exchange of views with the European Commission

The European Commission reported exhaustively on the follow-up to the resolution and on the recommendations that were addressed to the EU.

Speakers: The European Commission, Heather Sibungo (Namibia), Maria Lidia Senra Rodríguez, Clifford Andre (Seychelles), Hermann Razafindravelo (Madagascar) and Colin Connelly (Trinidad and Tobago).

The meeting continued with Laura Ferrara (EP Co-Chair) presiding.

7. The impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP countries' economies
- Co-rapporteurs: Lucie Milebou Aubusson ép Mboussou (Gabon) and Maria Arena
- Consideration of amendments (AA – AP102. 403v01-00)
 - Adoption of draft report (DR – AP102. 403v01-00)

Lucie Milebou Aubusson ép Mboussou (Gabon) and Maria Arena presented the draft report and the amendments.

Amendments adopted: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 12, 17 (1st part), 20, 23, 24, 28, 31, 33, 36, 37, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 47, 50, 52, 56, 60, 62, 63, 65, 66, 69, 70.

Amendments rejected: 6, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17 (2nd part), 18, 19, 21, 22, 25, 26, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, 35, 38, 39, 46, 48, 49, 51, 53, 54, 55, 57, 58, 59, 61, 64, 67, 68.

Amendments fallen: 0.

Decision: The draft report, as amended, was adopted.

The meeting continued with Phel Parkies (ACP Co-Chair) presiding.

8. **Prospects for the Continental Free Trade Area (CFTA): drawing lessons from other regional integration examples**

- Exchange of views with Sean Woolfrey, Policy Officer in the Economic and Agricultural Transformation programme, The European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM)

Sean Woolfrey from ECDPM made a presentation on the current state of play of the AfCFTA negotiations. He highlighted the key challenges, such as ensuring ratification and implementation of the agreement by Member States, establishing a rules-based regime, overcoming the potentially uneven distribution of benefits between member states, better engaging non-state actors in the AfCFTA, financing implementation and AfCFTA institutions. No debate followed as the ACP side had questioned the inclusion of this agenda item in the draft agenda and only agreed to let the presentation take place without debate.

9. **Economic Partnership Agreements: State of play of negotiations and implementation**

- Exchange of views with the European Commission

The EC set out the state of play of negotiations and implementation of the Economic Partnership Agreements (EPAs).

Speakers: The European Commission, Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Clifford Andre (Seychelles), Maria Arena and Dexter Nduna (Zimbabwe).

A number of ACP and EU Members asked for information on the early concrete benefits observed in the countries benefitting from the EPAs.

The Commission responded to the questions raised.

10. **Joint ACP-EU PSD Framework: state of play of implementation**

- Exchange of views with the European Commission

The representative from the Commission outlined ACP-EU cooperation on private sector development (PSD), and recalled the role of the PSD platform. EUR 600 million have been allocated for private sector development in the Intra-ACP Indicative Programme for 2014-2020.

Speakers: European Commission, Ambassador Fatumanava Luteru (Ambassador of the Independent State of Samoa to the Kingdom of Belgium and the European Union), Michel Kamano (Guinea) and Dexter Nduna (Zimbabwe).

11. **Any other business**

- Urgent and topical subjects

The ACP Co-Chair reflected on the question of the number of items that should be on future meeting agendas. He suggested that the agenda should be limited to four or five items and not eight, as at this meeting.

12. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting to take place on 11 October 2018 in Brussels.

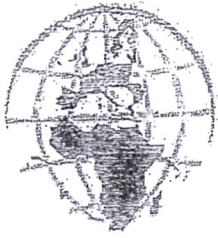
The meeting closed at 18.36.

ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΟΗΛΟΛΙΓΙΑΤΕ ΝΙΜΕΚΙΡΙ/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNÍH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĚJUMU REGISTR/S DALYVIJ SARAŠAS/
JELENLĚTI İV/REGİSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBEENOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTÄ DE PREZENŤA/PREZENČNÄ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA

<p>Βίιορ/Μεσα/Πρεδεδνιϋτο/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδραιο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)</p>	
<p>EP/PE Laura Ferrara (P)</p>	<p>ACP Phel Parkies (P)</p>
<p>Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Zastupnici/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter</p>	
<p>EP/PE Maria Arena, Laura Ferrara, Piernicola Pedicini</p>	<p>ACP Salomão Xirimbimbi (Angola), Léon Alfred Opimbat (Republic of Congo), Silvestre Oyono Bibang (Equatorial Guinea), Jomo Mfanawemakhosi Dlamini (Kingdom of eSwatini), Lucie Milebou Aubusson ép Mboussou (Gabon), Michel Kamano (Guinea), Hermann Razafindravelo (Madagascar), Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius), Heather Sibungo (Namibia), Pally Iriase (Nigeria), Akilah Byron-Nisbett (Saint Kitts & Nevis), Papa Badou Ndiaye (Senegal), Clifford Andre (Seychelles), Silas Kerry Tausinga (Solomon Islands), André Misiekaba (Suriname), Juma A. Salum (Tanzania)</p>
<p>Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradnici/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναλ.ηρωτέζ/Substitutes/Zamjenici/Suppléants/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradnici/ Nameštники/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter</p>	
<p>EP/PE Maria Lidia Senra Rodriguez, Pedro Silva Pereira, Bogdan Brunon Wenta, Joachim Zeller</p>	<p>Lillian Achieng Gogo (Kenya), McHenry Venaani (Namibia), Dexter Nduna (Zimbabwe)</p>

<p>Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatelejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/ Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/ Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer</p>

<p>По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/ Fuq stedina tač-Chairman/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitata presedintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan</p>
<p>Sean Woolfrey, Policy Officer in the Economic and Agricultural Transformation programme, The European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM) Ambassador Fatumanava Luteru (Ambassador of the Independent State of Samoa to the Kingdom of Belgium and the European Union)</p>



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

26.9.2018

DRAFT REPORT

on the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

Corapporteurs: Sangeet Fowdar (Mauritius)
Nicolas Bay (European Parliament)

PART B: EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

Introduction

As an engine of wealth creation and economic growth in all market economies, the private sector contributes significantly to employment and revenue in developing countries. According to the United Nations (*Resolution adopted at the 74th plenary meeting, on 6 April 2017, establishing Micro-, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day*), the private sector represents 84% of the gross domestic product (GDP) of developing countries and has the capacity to provide a sustainable basis for the mobilisation of domestic resources, provided that it is correctly regulated. It must also be able to produce the goods and services required and create jobs.

In order to encourage the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as micro-enterprises, the private sector's key players in the process of transforming the economies of ACP countries into sustainable economies, the private sector clearly needs to play a greater role and shoulder greater responsibility in cooperation policies. The private sector is expected to increase investments in ACP countries for the development of job-creation value chains and promotion of the role of SMEs in the economies of ACP countries. To that end, the structure of the private sector in ACP countries, comprising an increasing number of micro-enterprises, most of which operate in the informal sector, deserves to be recognised and taken into consideration.

SME development, too, should form part of ACP countries' medium and long-term development strategies. More specifically, the sustainable industrialisation of ACP economies should primarily focus on SMEs that generate added value and can become effectively integrated into value chains.

The challenge facing SME development is how to overcome the obstacles and constraints that hinder their creation and prevent them from realising their potential to transform the economies of ACP countries and meet their development needs. Good policies, more investment in human capital and global economic opportunities, where knowledge, innovation, and technology are used through tailored partnerships, can help ACP countries to become economically competitive, utilise their considerable potential to improve the well-being of their peoples, and liberate them, in the long run, from using external aid.

I. SME development: the basis for the transformation of ACP economies

According to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) - OECD SME Ministerial Conference, Mexico, 23 February 2018 - SMEs and micro-enterprises make a vital contribution towards opening up new prospects for more sustainable and stable growth, especially because of the role they play in development, the dissemination of innovations, the provision of goods and services, and job creation.

More specifically, SMEs help with the acquisition and use of skills, in order to improve productivity and promote the private sector, thereby providing better job opportunities, while raising national revenues by helping to increase gross domestic product.

SMEs play a critical economic and social role in the sustainable development of the actors of economic transformation in ACP countries by focusing on multifaceted challenges and opportunities to integrate the informal economy into the formal economy. The economic and social empowerment of low-income, non-bankable SMEs and micro-enterprises reduces poverty by creating jobs for the low-skilled workforce, and offers workers an opportunity to increase their incomes under decent working conditions.

A competitive local private sector and an enabling business environment are vital to achieving smart, sustainable and inclusive growth and to creating decent jobs and reducing poverty. The ACP-EU cooperation framework for private sector development (PSD) support in ACP countries, adopted in June 2014, outlined the following priorities: (i) supporting business-friendly national and regional policies; (ii) strengthening production capacities by providing micro-level support to the private sector and supporting key intermediary organisations; (iii) improving access to responsible and sustainable micro-finance services; (iv) increasing access to finance for SMEs and catalyse private investments through blending operations.

The 11th EDF's Indicative Intra-ACP Programme for Private Sector Development allocated €600 million for PSD in ACP countries.

II. Challenges to SME development in ACP countries

It is important to highlight the factors and obstacles that hinder ACP countries from creating a transparent trade environment conducive to the creation and development of SMEs. In this regard, there is a need to define the context of the action to be carried out by public authorities, the private sector, non-governmental organisations and civil society in order to act in a comprehensive and consistent manner.

(a) Policy, strategy and legal and regulatory framework

To enable SMEs to start up, grow and prosper in existing or emerging sectors, ACP countries will have to promote effective and innovative policy and regulatory reforms, an MSME-friendly tax regime, an enabling infrastructure network covering, for example, renewable energies and transport, cross-border trade-enabling policies and logistics, and the development and maintenance of stable and reliable political, financial, banking and legal institutions.

(b) Human and technological capability development

Strategic human capital and technology capability development are two items missing from the PSD, industrial development and MSME development agenda of most ACP countries. Yet human capital and technology capital are the two most valuable and differentiating capabilities of countries in the race for entrepreneurship, innovation, industrial/international competitiveness and, hence, sustainable development.

(c) Conditions required and legal security

To enable SMEs to start up, grow and prosper in existing or emerging sectors, including through participatory practices, ACP countries must promote the conditions required, including: effective and innovative regulations, such as provisions establishing networks for infrastructure facilities and renewable energies, taxation and the possibility of cross-border trade, the development and maintenance of stable and reliable political, financial, banking and legal institutions, incentives for informal economies to register their business with the relevant authorities, the establishment of a business ecosystem to support the growth of SMEs, innovation and the digital economy, and SME market access.

(d) Access to financing and cost

According to a new OECD report, access to financing is still a major challenge for SMEs and an obstacle to economic recovery in most countries. The fact is that such enterprises can only fulfil their role in helping to develop countries if they receive the necessary financing to start and continue their activities, and are supported by stable and reliable institutions and infrastructures. There is a need to find ways of securing sources of financing and ensuring that they are maintained.

Alongside access by SMEs and micro-enterprises to financing, there must be a better understanding of their funding needs. There is a need, accordingly, to provide credit guarantee mechanisms to improve SME access to financing, as well as the most flexible mechanisms possible to best meet the specific needs of each applicant.

(e) Regional trade and export development

In order for SMEs to become vehicles for the economic transformation of ACP countries, there must be support for regional and continental free-trade areas and, as a result, the development of regional trade and exports, the establishment of regional trade corridors and One Stop Border Posts (OSBPs), the development of supply and integrated regional distribution chains, and preparation and provision of integrated export capacity building services, including exports and trade.

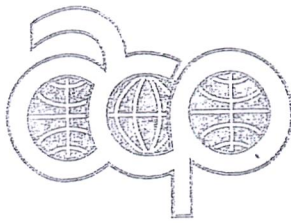
III. Recommendations

The sustainable development of ACP countries requires a strong and responsible private sector that is led by SMEs and micro-enterprises, capable of providing access to crucial goods and services and interested in economic growth, job creation, and social and environmental governance matters. The report calls for the following:

- 1 Stepping up the implementation of policies and inclusive, responsible legal frameworks that are business-friendly;

- 2 Promoting the development of infrastructures and reliable and stable national institutions so as to maintain an environment conducive to the creation and development of SMEs;
- 3 Improving access by SMEs and micro-enterprises to flexible financing modalities and conditions that are tailored to the funding needs and differing circumstances of SMEs and micro-enterprises;
- 4 Integrating EU aid into national and regional strategies as part of a global investment approach and ensuring that European aid and programmes are not used as substitutes for national investments, but, rather, simply constitute financial and technical support for the development policies and economic infrastructures of ACP countries;
- 5 Establishing transparent EU aid allocation criteria for the development of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises, and strengthening the mechanisms for control and monitoring of those funds, in order to ensure that they are used properly and effectively;
- 6 Building capacity in terms of production, processing, promotion and trade;
- 7 Promoting innovative investment solutions and mechanisms that facilitate the creation of jobs, especially for women and young people;
- 8 Encouraging the governments of ACP countries to take measures to protect particular sectors from extra-ACP competition;
- 9 Linking investments to training a skilled local labour force to meet the needs of the labour market, and to balanced best practices, micro-enterprise and SME access to capital, the cost of financing, digital financial services, and knowledge management;
- 10 Taking account of the issues relating to SME integration into the informal sector of economies by establishing financial and non-financial means encouraging informal economies to register their businesses with the relevant authorities;
- 11 Building the capacities of SMEs in ACP countries by calling for markets to be integrated in order to provide them with access to local, regional and international markets, in particular through cooperation between ACP States or with EU Member States, including the outermost regions;
- 12 Promoting partnerships between SMEs in ACP countries and in the EU – vehicles for technology and innovation transfer.

Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and
Pacific Group of States
(ACP Group)

REFERENCE

ACP/81/077/18
MFDIP/MC/ng *R*

Brussels, 4 October 2018

NOTE ON THE EDF BUDGETISATION

Introduction

1. The Cotonou Agreement is a comprehensive and exemplary agreement that introduced radical changes and set ambitious objectives, while preserving the achievements of the 25 years of financial and technical cooperation between the ACP States and the EU, including the basic structure of financial instruments of cooperation".
2. It differs from the preceding Lomé Agreements, in that it is based on the Partnership principle, and stipulates the contractual nature of relations, as well as a set of common fundamental objectives and principles.
3. While from one agreement to the other, the partnership has managed to adapt to a constantly evolving international environment, in order to better meet the needs of the ACP States and the challenges they face, a continuity in the basic framework for development cooperation has been maintained, centred around a core multi-annual grant based financial allocation the use of which is jointly programmed by ACP States or regional organisations with the European Commission".
4. The second revision of the Agreement in 2010 provided an opportunity to better focus development strategies on poverty reduction and further clarify their general framework, namely:
 - i. Cooperation strategies are now based on the partners' international commitments, in particular on the conclusions of United Nations conferences and international development goals;
 - ii. Development strategies have been tailored to the specific situation of each ACP country and cooperation is based on the principle of local ownership of economic and social reforms;
 - iii. The involvement of private sector and civil society stakeholders in the development process has been encouraged and they are being consulted on development strategies.
5. By providing long-term financing for development projects, the European Development Fund (EDF) has introduced the principle of predictability into the partnership, which is critical for long-term development.
6. By making specific financial resources available, the EDF has helped to strengthen intra-ACP cooperation, through the financing of several cross-cutting projects and programmes.
7. Several important areas have been covered and the commitment and disbursement rates have been extremely satisfactory, at around 80%, particularly with regard to intra-ACP resources.
8. As a result, the EU is now the leading financial partner of ACP States, since through its financial instrument, the EDF, it provides them, with resources primarily in the form of grants, but supplemented by a variety of loan financing instruments in support of the development efforts undertaken by ACP States.
9. *The Cotonou Agreement expires on 29 February 2020, and negotiations for a new agreement is expected to start in October 2018.*

10. At its 107th session on 30 May 2018, the Council of Ministers adopted a negotiating mandate for a Post-Cotonou partnership agreement with the EU to be underpinned by the specific objectives set out in the mandate.

- I. Achievements of Development Finance Cooperation

The Negotiating Mandate reiterates its commitment to maintaining the European Development Fund (EDF).

11. By providing long-term financing to development projects, the EDF has introduced the principle of predictability into the partnership, which is essential for long-term development.
12. At present, the European Development Fund (EDF) is the main Community instrument for funding development in ACP countries.
13. It has always been characterised by the special feature of its daily management by the European Commission, outside the scope of its general budget.
14. No other development cooperation instrument has developed such complex, tangible, and positive relations.
15. The EDF's main distinguishing features are the following
 - a) Co-Management of Aid
16. Co-management is a special feature of the ACP-EU partnership, which means that responsibilities are shared among the executing agents [Authorising Officer at the EC level, National, Regional, and Intra-ACP Authorising Officers (NAOs, RAOs), and the Head of Delegation] but with primacy placed on aligning with the development strategies of ACP States and regional organisations.
17. It also involves joint decision-making, and creates synergy in the decision-making process.
18. Co-management is one of the key features of the functioning of the ACP-EC Committee on Development Finance Cooperation, which takes joint decisions, at the financial and implementation level, and on the revision of some Annexes of the Agreement, as provided for in Article 100 of the Agreement.
 - b) Predictability of Resources
19. The predictability of aid is an important factor in programming projects and programmes, and in ensuring their medium and long-term sustainability.
20. Setting the financial allocation for five years, which facilitates the making of the projections that are essential for sustained development efforts, is one of the most positive features of the EDF.
21. By making these financial allocations available to ACP countries, in the form of grants, for the purpose of carrying out development programmes, including supporting the ACP Secretariat's operational costs, and funding technical assistance, the EDF has created a special culture, which has made the ACP-EU partnership a unique model of development cooperation.

II. Post-Cotonou Development Financing Instrument

22. At present, the European Development Fund (EDF) is the main Community instrument that supports development in ACP countries.
23. It is provisioned by voluntary contributions from EU Member States and undergoes a negotiation process (five-year financial protocol), which is different from that of the Partnership Agreement.
24. The 11th EDF budget for the 2014-2020 period was set at €29,089 million, divided among the different instruments, namely the national and regional indicative programmes, intra-ACP cooperation, and the Investment Facility managed by the European Investment Bank.
25. It is clear that the EDF and the culture of cooperation that it has created are the primary achievement of the Partnership.
26. Some of the benefits of the EDF include:
 1. non-refundable aid to countries and regions;
 2. significant levels of resources;
 3. medium and long-term financing;
 4. a flexible resource allocation system;
 5. co-management; and
 6. strengthening of intra-ACP cooperation.

III. Possible Budgetisation of the EDF

27. The budgetisation of the EDF has been a topic of discussion within the European institutions for several years, which has yet to achieve 100% consensus.
28. At present, it is heavily supported by the European Parliament, which holds the view that it is powerless to approve EDF credits, and it is supported by the European Commission, which gives it both a political and institutional dimension.
29. The next attempt to budgetise the EDF will take place in a political and institutional context marked by the European Parliament's desire to manage the Community's external assistance effectively, the Commission's willingness to increase its management responsibilities, and by the way in which the European Council has been trying to better monitor the Commission's external actions, in recent years.
30. Finally, the draft negotiating mandate put forward by the European Commission to the EU Council, and the Commission's 2021-2027 Multiannual Financial Framework include the EDF in the budget, under the heading "Neighbourhood Policy, Development, and International Cooperation."
31. The confluence of these different events will influence the EU's external development aid policy and will provide an opportunity to open up the discussions on EDF budgetisation.
32. This change could bring an end to the system of successive EDFs, and fully integrate financing for ACP-EU cooperation into the general budget system, that is in the EU's annual budget and in its mid-term programming framework.

33. The scope of EDF budgetisation must be assessed based on its impact on the key features of development finance cooperation, especially its positive achievements.
34. In this regard, it must be weighed against the objectives and principles of development finance cooperation, namely co-management, predictability of resources, joint programming, and the role of the executing agents, such as NAOs and RAOs.
35. It seems that the most striking demonstration of budgetisation will be the annual budget payments, which will considerably reduce the leeway afforded by the EDF's current implementation structure.
36. In fact, unused resources or those that will be decommitted will be lost to those countries concerned.
37. At the institutional level, budgetisation could render joint organs, such as the ACP and ACP-EU Ministerial Committees on Development Finance Cooperation obsolete, as well as those of the Authorised Representatives at the Ambassadorial level.

ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

ACP-EU/102.403/18/fin.

RESOLUTION¹

on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP countries' economies

The ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly,

- meeting in Brussels (Belgium) on 18-20 June 2018,
- having regard to Article 18(1) of its Rules of Procedure,
- having regard to 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 (the Cotonou Agreement)², as amended in 2005 and 2010³,
- having regard to the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development and its outcome document adopted by the General Assembly on 25 September 2015 entitled 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', and in particular to Goal 2 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set out therein, namely to end hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture,⁴
- having regard to report A/HRC/16/49 of the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food of 8 March 2011 entitled 'Agroecology and the right to food',
- having regard to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly Resolution of 21 December 2016 on challenges for family farming and small-scale agriculture production in ACP countries,
- having regard to the European Parliament resolution of 15 February 2017 on low-risk pesticides of biological origin⁵,
- having regard to paragraph 56 of the Joint statement by the Council and the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council, the

¹ Adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on 20 June 2018 in Brussels (Belgium).

² OJ L 317, 15.12.2000, p. 3.

³ OJ L 287, 4.11.2010, p. 3.

⁴ UN General Assembly resolution [A/RES/70/1](#).

⁵ Texts adopted, P8_TA(2017)0042.

- European Parliament and the Commission on the new European Consensus on Development entitled 'Our World, Our Dignity, Our Future' of 30 June 2017¹,
- having regard to Regulation (EU) 2016/2031 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 October 2016 on protective measures against pests of plants²,
 - having regard to Council Directive 91/414/EEC of 15 July 1991 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market³ and Directive 98/8/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 February 1998 concerning the placing of biocidal products on the market⁴,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1107/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 21 October 2009 concerning the placing of plant protection products on the market⁵,
 - having regard to Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products⁶,
 - having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) and establishing a European Chemicals Agency⁷,
 - having regard to the decisions⁸, resolutions and declaration adopted at the 106th session of the ACP Council of Ministers, held on 5-6 December 2017,
 - having regard to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, Resolution 70/1 of the United Nations General Assembly of 25 September 2015 and the outcome document of the sustainable development summit entitled 'Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development', and in particular, Sustainable Development Goal No 2,
 - having regard to the International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) of the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), adopted in 1952 to prevent the introduction and spread of organisms harmful to plants⁹,
 - having regard to the International Labour Organisation (ILO) conventions on safety and health in agriculture, in particular Convention No 170 concerning Safety in the Use of Chemicals at Work¹⁰, and Convention No 184 concerning Safety and Health in

¹ OJ L 210, 30.6.2017, p. 1.

² OJ L 317, 23.11.2016, p. 4.

³ OJ L 230, 19.8.1991, p. 1.

⁴ OJ L 123, 24.4.1998, p. 1.

⁵ OJ L 309, 24.11.2009, p. 1.

⁶ OJ L 167, 27.6.2012, p. 1.

⁷ <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/en/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:02006R1907-20140410&from=en>

⁸ Decision No 12/CVI/18 concerning non-tariff barriers

⁹ <https://www.ippc.int/en/history-of-the-ippc/>

¹⁰ http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C170

- Agriculture¹,
- having regard to Report A/HRC/34/48 of the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food, of 24 January 2017²,
 - having regard to the UN FAO's and World Health Organisation's International Code of Conduct on Pesticide Management. Guidelines on Highly Hazardous Pesticides (Rome, March 2016),
 - having regard to the World Health Organisation (WTO) Agreement on the Application of Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures (SPS Agreement) of 1995³ and the International Code of Conduct on Management of phytosanitary products, pesticides, seeds and other inputs (PPPSIs),
 - having regard to the declaration of the 9th WTO Ministerial Conference, held on 3-6 December 2013 in Bali, on public stockholding for food security purposes⁴,
 - having regard to the 2009 report by the International Assessment of Agricultural Knowledge, Science and Technology for Development (IAASTD) entitled 'Agriculture at a Crossroads',⁵
 - having regard to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Network on Illegal trade of Pesticides,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade (ACP-EU/xxxxxx),
- A. whereas agriculture plays a key role in sustainable development, poverty reduction and the eradication of hunger in ACP countries;
- B. whereas the recommendations made by the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food in his 2011 report entitled 'Agroecology and the right to food' show that agroecology has the power to double food production in entire regions within 10 years while mitigating climate change and biodiversity loss and alleviating rural poverty;
- C. whereas the development of intensive agriculture is dependent on scientific research – which is for the most part controlled by the agricultural chemicals and pharmaceutical industries – and the use of chemical substances, such as phytosanitary products or pesticides, seeds and other agricultural inputs;
- D. whereas the international community has introduced a number of legislative instruments establishing the international consensus on PPPSIs necessary for trade, food safety and human health; whereas, however, the use of illicit goods in food, notably illicit pesticides,

¹ http://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=NORMLEXPUB:12100:0::NO::P12100_ILO_CODE:C184

² http://www.cms.int/sites/default/files/document/UN-Human%20Rights%20Council_AHRC3448_Adversive%20effects%20of%20pesticides.pdf

³ https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/sps_e/spsagr_e.htm

⁴ https://www.wto.org/english/thewto_e/minist_e/mc9_e/desci38_e.htm

⁵ http://www.fao.org/fileadmin/templates/est/Investment/Agriculture_at_a_Crossroads_Global_Report_IAASTD.pdf

- around the world is growing and involves highly sophisticated criminal networks and organised crime;
- E. whereas the FAO and WHO estimate that in excess of 30% of the pesticides sold each year in developing countries do not meet international standards and are often incorrectly labelled or not identified;
 - F. whereas a wide range of illicit products are on the market, including substances not approved by the local authorities and counterfeit, expired or adulterated products with falsified packaging or labelling;
 - G. whereas the uncontrolled use of PPPSIs has a damaging impact on the environment, human health and the economy of the countries concerned;
 - H. whereas the most obvious risks concern human health, particularly ENT diseases and diseases affecting the skin, the lungs and the digestive system, as well as cancer, the main victims being young people and women, of whom the highest numbers are in sectors of the food production sector in which PPPSIs are used;
 - I. whereas the report of the UN Special Rapporteur on the right to food shows that PPPSIs cause the death of some 200 000 people each year as a result of acute poisoning, with 99% of cases occurring in developing countries;
 - J. whereas the use of pesticides that do not comply with international standards also undermines trust in agricultural products, and therefore also the potential for the further development of exports;
 - K. whereas legal agrochemicals including pesticides present safety challenges and health hazards throughout their product cycles, with the most severe potentially adverse consequences occurring during the storage, transportation and distribution, use and disposal stages; whereas the governments of ACP countries face major constraints in the development of an effective regulatory framework for PPPSIs, such as lack of data, insufficient budgets and human resources and inadequate implementation of laws, something that gives rise to large-scale trafficking in PPPSIs;
 - L. whereas the illicit trade reduces possible tax revenues, hampers cash flow control and weakens trust in public institutions, hence contributing to suboptimal access to foreign capital, higher-risk premiums for investments in domestic assets and a slower pace of economic development;
 - M. whereas most ACP countries have no legislation governing PPPSIs, and those that do have failed to establish appropriate and strict rules to deter trafficking in these products;
 - N. whereas many users of PPPSIs lack the requisite level of training or education to understand the technical characteristics of these products, and are thus unaware of their harmful effects on health, the economy and the environment;
 - O. whereas the global liberalisation of agricultural markets, the low price of illegal PPPSIs, the lack of training and knowledge among users and inadequate legislation and oversight by ACP countries go some way to explaining the proliferation of these illegal products

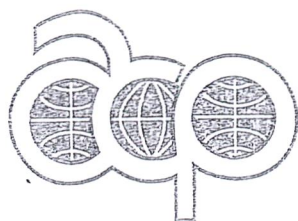
on ACP markets;

1. Takes the view that it is essential to draw up a clear strategy to tackle the illegal trade in PPPSIs and to promote food security by supporting technological solutions leading to the development of local seeds appropriate to a given climate or geographical area, and producing organic PPPSIs; adds that this strategy should be based on support for agroecology and family farming which respects the environment and helps develop the social and solidarity-based economy;
2. Urges the EU and the Member States to make operational the commitment made in the European Consensus on Development to support agroecology, including through the agriculture investment window of the European Investment Plan and the European Fund for Sustainable Development, and by reflecting this commitment in the next multiannual financial framework, in order to implement the spirit of the 2030 Agenda and the Paris Climate Agreement;
3. Notes that in order to benefit from the possibilities offered by PPPSIs the development of agriculture, ACP countries should:
 - (a) familiarise themselves with the international and national regulatory frameworks governing PPPSIs;
 - (b) address a number of structural challenges hampering the legal and effective promotion of these products;
 - (c) identify the risks associated with PPPSIs in order to prevent, manage the impact of and ultimately eradicate the illegal trade in PPPSIs on their respective economies;
 - (d) ban fumigation and lay down strict rules to protect water and biodiversity;
 - (e) lay down strict rules to protect the health of workers exposed to PPPSIs – with special attention being paid to women – and with a view to providing training for medical staff on the health effects of PPPSIs;
4. Calls for the use of organic fertilisers to be promoted and for agricultural practices using reasonable quantities of lawful PPPSIs to be adopted; calls, at the same time, on the ACP countries to reflect on the use of substances which, although legal, have been proven to have harmful effects on the environment, biodiversity and human health;
5. Stresses the need to consolidate public scientific and technological expertise, that is independent of businesses, to help identify the actors and organised crime groups and networks involved in the illicit trade in PPPSIs, and to take concrete action to prevent and combat the importation, sale and use of illicit pesticides;
6. Stresses the need for governmental control of externalities caused by improper use of PPPSIs;
7. Calls for a ban on all PPPSIs that are harmful to bees and pollinators;

8. Emphasises the need for a thoroughgoing review of the marketing authorisation criteria for PPPSIs, ensuring that the procedure is based on data and scientific evidence that is independent of industry, and that the precautionary principle prevails in all circumstances;
9. Emphasises the need to establish measures to punish those responsible, within companies and administrations, for any concealment or manipulation of data for the purposes of obtaining a marketing authorisation;
10. Calls for meaningful action to address trafficking and food insecurity through technical and financial assistance, and through tough action on the part of EU Member States to tackle the export, or transit through their territory, of counterfeit PPPSIs;
11. Reiterates the urgent need for awareness-raising and training for farmers, small-scale producers and traders so that they appreciate the problem of illicit PPPSIs, their ineffectiveness and the danger they pose;
12. Notes the importance of disseminating information about PPPSIs so as to enable producers, users and consumers to adopt prudent safety practices; takes the view that, to this end, awareness-raising should have a collective focus, and not be restricted to the professionals concerned;
13. Stresses that ACP governments need to take measures to promote and reinforce legislation, in particular by creating a specific offence in order to establish criminal penalties for offenders, control the flow of illicit PPPSIs both within and outside their borders and set up laboratories and granaries at national level suitable for conserving local crops, which are more resistant to the local climate;
14. Urges companies manufacturing and selling the products concerned to provide them in forms suitable for ACP farmers in terms of volume, concentration and packaging so as to facilitate their use, reduce their cost and minimise the risk of exposure, inhalation and ingestion; recommends that efficient waste disposal processes be organised in order to achieve these goals;
15. Emphasises the need to bring in genuinely dissuasive criminal penalties for the distribution and sale of counterfeit or fake products, or products that do not comply with the legislation in force;
16. Calls for stronger international cooperation with a view to determining measures to impose harsher penalties for the production, export or import of counterfeit or illicit products, and for failure to comply with intellectual property rules;
17. Calls on the ACP countries and the EU Member States to step up their mutual administrative support on customs matters in order to identify, as clearly as possible, the transport routes and storage locations used for counterfeit or adulterated PPPSIs, and to take joint action to close them down, in particular by monitoring deliveries and setting up joint investigation teams;
18. Supports strengthening the regional approach in order to tackle counterfeiting more effectively since it is essential to establish regional laboratories in ACP countries and to enhance regional customs cooperation and information exchange networks on PPPSIs

between ACP countries in the same region;

19. Emphasises that regional cooperation, in particular when it includes the mutual recognition of type-approvals, makes it possible to ensure safe and sound free movement, which is vital for a regional and continental market;
20. Advocates establishing, as part of ACP-EU cooperation, a common fund for public research that guarantees independence from industry, and development in the various sectors making up the field of agronomy, including secondary and higher education on agriculture, which would be used to strengthen the capacity of ACP countries to set up national PPPSI approval and certification processes, as well as information and training plans for farmers on organic crops;
21. Calls for the introduction of a mandatory, effective and rigorous public system for quality control and the destruction of poor stocks, in accordance with WHO and FAO specifications as well as a PPPSI traceability mechanism in order to determine their composition and their origin and identify them;
22. Instructs its Co-Presidents to forward this resolution to the ACP-EU Council of Ministers, the European Parliament, the European Commission, the European Council, the African Union, the Pan-African Parliament, the regional and national parliaments, the regional organisations relating to ACP countries, the European Investment Bank and the World Bank.



KENYA

REFERENCE

ACP/23/080/18

PAHD Dept/JPA: MMM/bm

Brussels, 27 September 2018

51st SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2018

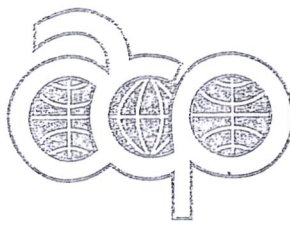
10:00HRS TO 13:00HRS

ACP HOUSE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

DRAFT AGENDA

-
1. Welcome Remarks by the President
 2. Accreditation of Non-Parliamentary Representatives
 3. Adoption of the agenda [ACP/23/080/18]
 4. Communication from the President
 5. Communication from the Secretary-General
 6. Draft Summary Record of the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly [ACP/23/081/18]:
 - i. Approval; and
 - ii. Matters arising.
 7. Exchange of views on the reports of
 - i. Committee on Political Affairs;
 - ii. Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade; and
 - iii. Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment.
 8. Communication from the Bureau of the ACP PA
 9. Any other business.





REFERENCE

ACP/23/079/18
PAHD Dep/WJA: MMM/31

Brussels, 27 September 2018

51st SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

WEDNESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2018

10:00HRS TO 13:00HRS

ACP HOUSE, BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Welcome Remarks by the President

The meeting will be presided over by the President of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly, Hon. Joseph OWONA KONO of Cameroun.

The President will open the meeting, make his opening remarks and welcome Members to the meeting.

2. Accreditation of Non-Parliamentary Representatives

Members are hereby reminded of Article 1.e of the Rules of Procedure of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly which states as follows:

"A Parliament may designate one (1) Non-Parliamentary representative to represent it, with the right to vote at that sitting of the Assembly. The mandate must reach the Bureau of the ACP Assembly before the opening of the Session in question.

In the absence of a parliament, the Assembly may agree to allow a State to participate, without the right to vote. The transition authorities must send a mandate to the Bureau prior to the opening of the Session in question.

In both cases cited above, the Assembly shall proceed, at the start of the sitting, with the accreditation of the representatives designated by the Parliaments or States concerned, pursuant to paragraph d".

Article 1(2) and (3) of the Rules of Procedure of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly similarly state:

"The Assembly shall be composed of two houses containing equal numbers of EU and ACP Representatives. The members of the Assembly shall be, on the one hand, members of the European Parliament and, on the other, members of parliament or, failing this, in exceptional cases such as force majeure, notice of which must be

communicated in writing in advance to the Bureau of the Assembly as referred to in Article 2 (hereinafter 'the Bureau'), representatives designated by the Parliament of each ACP State. In the absence of a parliament, the attendance without the right to vote of a representative from the ACP State concerned shall be subject to the prior approval of the Assembly. The credentials of the members of the Assembly shall be established by a letter of appointment from the appropriate authorities of the respective States in the case of ACP representatives and from the President of the European Parliament in the case of its representatives".

Only those Representatives designated by their National Parliaments have a right to be accredited. The Communication from Parliaments or competent authorities in ACP States should reach the ACP Secretariat in advance of the 51st Session of the ACP PA. The Communication should clearly state the reasons for the attendance of a non-Parliamentarian bearing in mind the strict conditions specified in the two sets of Rules cited above.

3. Adoption of the agenda [ACP/23/079/18]

The President will present the draft agenda for the meeting for adoption. The agenda will be examined in advance by the Bureau of the ACP PA at its meeting on **Tuesday, 9 October 2018**. The President will present any recommendations of the Bureau for amendment of the agenda.

Members may also make proposals for revisions or additions to the agenda. Members who wish to take the floor under the item on 'any other businesses will be requested to notify the President so that a list of speakers can be taken at this time.

Items for 'any other business' are for information only. Requests for decision or follow-up by the Assembly should be proposed as substantive agenda items for consideration by the Assembly. Ideally, such items should first be considered at Committee level, which will then be included in the reports of the Committees to the Assembly

4. Communication from the President

The President will communicate any pertinent information, especially house-keeping arrangements regarding the conduct of the session and meetings of the JPA that will be held at the European Parliament.

5. Statement by the Secretary-General

The Secretary-General will make his customary address to the Assembly. Among other issues, He will inform the Assembly of major ACP events or those that have implications on the ACP Group that will have taken place in the period since the previous meeting. The Secretary-General will also inform the Assembly of the major policy initiatives and Work Programme of the ACP Group in the coming months.

6. Draft Summary Record of the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly [ACP/23/081/18]

The Summary Record of the 50th Session of the ACP PA held in Brussels, will be presented for consideration and adoption. The Record will be examined for accuracy first, and thereafter adoption, Members may address matters arising therefrom. Requests for correction of the list of participants attached to the Summary Record should be communicated directly to the Secretariat and not raised in the Assembly.

7. Exchange of views on the reports of:

- i. Committee on Political Affairs;
- ii. Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade; and
- iii. Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment.

The Chairpersons of the Standing Committees will present oral reports of the accounts of their meetings held on 9 October 2018. The main focus of the presentations will be information on discussions on the respective Resolutions of the JPA under consideration by the Committees that will be adopted at the 36th Session of the JPA to be held in Cotonou – Benin in from 1 to 5 December 2018. These Resolutions are:

- 36th JPA session
- i. The fight against cybercrime and drug trafficking – Committee on Political Affairs; ✓ *Tonga*
 - ii. Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) development at the heart of economic transformation in ACP countries – Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade.
 - iii. Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking – Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment; and

✓ During meetings of the Committees at ACP-EU Level that will be held at the European Parliament on 12 October 2018, a deadline will be set for Members to propose amendments to the above Resolutions.

The Committees will also hold exchange of views with invited experts on the Resolutions that will be presented for adoption at the 37th Session of the JPA (and 53rd Session of the ACP PA) that will be held in the EU country in the first half of 2019. These Resolutions will be on the following themes:

- i. The strategic significance and dimension of the ACP-EU partnership – Committee on Political Affairs;
- ii. The possibilities of renewable energies in bringing sustainable economic development to ACP countries and particularly to remote areas – Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade;

- iii. Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth in ACP countries - Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment.

8. Communication from the Bureau of the ACP PA

The President will communicate decisions and recommendations of the Bureau of the ACP PA arising out of its meeting of 9 October 2018. The principle recommendations will include:

- i. Confirmation of host country and dates for the 36th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and 52nd Session of the ACP PA that are scheduled to be held from 28 November to 5 December 2018.

According to the principle of rotation in place, the host country for the above meetings is supposed to be designated by the ACP side and Benin has offered to host.

- ii. Proposals for themes for the two urgent motions for Resolution to be included on the Draft Agenda of the 36th Session of the JPA.

In addition to the Resolutions recommended by the Standing Committees, the 36th Session of the JPA will adopt two urgent motions for Resolution on themes decided on by the Bureau. The ACP side has to ensure that, in the spirit of 'give and take,' one of the themes adopted must be recommended by it.

The general idea behind urgent motions is that the issues covered must be of such an urgent nature as not to be left to the long process of adopting Resolutions of the Standing Committees. In this regard, Political developments or crises, security situations and humanitarian emergencies are themes that have been the subject matter of Urgent Motions for Resolutions.

It has become increasingly difficult for the JPA to reach compromise on Urgent Motions for Resolution that target individual ACP States. The power of veto (in the vote by separate Houses) that the ACP and EU sides have over each other's positions means that there can never be agreement on certain issues. This leads to Resolutions on such matters failing to pass at voting stage despite the effort and time invested in the process. For sensitive subjects, it would be better to organise them as subjects without resolution for debate in plenary and arrange for the participation of Government Representatives from relevant ACP or EU Member States.

Subjects for Urgent Motions should instead be on more general themes rather than focus on specific countries unless the situation clearly warrants a Resolution, for instance a humanitarian or security crisis.

If the Bureau does not come up with specific recommendations, it will be open to Members to make proposals in the Plenary Session.

3 topics submitted Political - Dring

ACP-EU JPA - Cotonou Benin
 36th session. 28th Nov - 5th Dec
 All African members VISA
 do not need

Proposals for 4 topics for debates without Resolution to be included on the draft agenda of the 36th Session of the JPA. Members may also make proposals from the floor of the Plenary Session.

iii. Proposals for 4 topics for debates without Resolution to be included on the draft agenda of the 36th Session of the JPA. Members may also make proposals from the floor of the Plenary Session.

In addition to Resolutions of the Standing Committees and urgent motions for Resolution, there are usually 3 or 4 other topics for debate *without Resolution* at Plenary Sessions of the JPA.

One of the debates is a keynote debate with a high personality, such as a serving or former Head of State, Head of an international organisation or UN officials at the level of Under Secretary-General or higher.

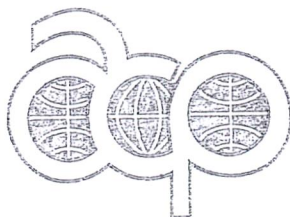
If the Bureau does not come up with specific recommendations, it will be open to Members to make proposals in the Plenary Session.

9. Any other business

Members who have information they wish to communicate to the Assembly will do so under this Item.

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Groupe des Etats d'Afrique
des Caraïbes et du Pacifique
(Groupe ACP)



African, Caribbean and
Pacific Group of States
{ACP Group}

REFERENCE ACP/23/081/18
PAHD Dept: DWS/bm

Brussels, 27 September 2018

DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
50th SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
Held on Friday, 15 June 2018
At ACP House in Brussels, Belgium

DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE
50TH SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
HELD ON FRIDAY, 15 JUNE 2018
AT ACP HOUSE IN BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

1. The 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly (ACP PA) was held on 15 June 2018 at ACP House in Brussels, Belgium presided by Hon. Joseph Hyacinthe Owona Kono (Cameroun) President of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly.
2. He welcomed delegates to the meeting and informed them of the language regime for the meeting - active English and French, and passive Spanish and Portuguese.
3. The President welcomed the following Members (head of Delegations) who were attending for the first time:
 - Hon. Cheryl Sandra V. HUSBANDS (Barbados)
 - Mrs. Amelia FUKOFUKA (Cook Islands)
 - Hon. Muferait Kamil AHIMED (Éthiopia)
 - Hon. Zavia MAYNE (Jamaïque)
 - Hon. Raphael MHONE (Malawi)
 - Hon. Liuga FAUMUINA (Samoa)
 - Hon. Papa Badou NDIAYE (Sénégal)
 - Hon. Mathew SAHR NYUMA (Sierra Leone)
 - Hon. Dr Nafie ALI NAFIE AHMED (Sudan)
4. The President regretted unfortunate events that had occurred in various member states such as South Africa – he paid tribute to Winnie Mandela also informed of an earthquake that occurred in South Africa, Ebola outbreak in Congo, an eruption of a dam in Kenya and plane crash in Cuba. Before proceeding further with the meeting, the President invited the Assembly to rise in observance of a minute of silence in honour of the memory of the departed.
5. The President concluded with an update on issues of global governance and the role of the ACP group through its member states. He informed the meeting of the election of two ACP Countries that is South Africa and Dominican Republic to the Security Council for a period of two-years starting on 1 January 2019. He recalled that this council is the only U.N. body that can make legally binding decisions and has the power to impose sanctions and authorize the use of force. Furthermore, he informed

Economic and Social Council. A council that is the central platform for fostering debate and innovative thinking, forging consensus on ways forward, and coordinating efforts to achieve internationally agreed goals.

6. He reiterated that the overwhelming votes received by these ACP Member States speak of the confidence the United Nations Family and called on the assembly to take keen interest in the work of these bodies as their countries actively participate in shaping the global agenda.

ACCREDITATION OF NON-PARLIAMENTARY REPRESENTATIVES

7. The following was accredited as non-parliamentary Representative:

Tuvalu

H. E Mr. Aunese Makoi SIMATI, Ambassador of Tuvalu in Belgium.

ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

8. The Agenda as captured in document with reference [ACP/23/050/18] was adopted as presented.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE PRESIDENT

9. The President communicated the following administrative matters of the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly:
 - Appealed with the regional coordinators to provide the composition of their bureau members at the said session in order to finalise the committee compositions;
 - Reminded members to register for speaking times for the 35th Session of Joint Parliamentary Assembly plenary;
 - Recalled procedures for the amendments to the reports to be adopted at the 35th Session of the JPA;

- Called on members to participate in the two conciliation meetings on urgent motions for Resolution on the urgency of new measures to fight international terrorism, and the Humanitarian crisis in South Sudan. The Chair requested Bureau Members in their capacities as regional coordinators and Vice-Presidents to nominate 2 Members from their regions for each conciliation meeting that would be held on Monday 18 June 2018;
- Informed of the access arrangements to the premises of the European Parliament during the JPA meetings especially the meetings taking place on the weekends.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

10. H.E Dr. Patrick I Gomes, ACP Secretary-General, Secretary General recalled that the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly, - a Golden Jubilee Session, was taking place at a pivotal moment as the ACP Group of States and the European Union, prepare to launch the negotiations for a Post-Cotonou Partnership Agreement – an Agreement that is to be post-modern, dynamic and visionary.
11. He updated the parliamentarians on the negotiations for the Post Cotonou Agreement that remains a Member State driven process; and as such preparations on part of the ACP Group are being guided by the Committee of Ambassadors in Brussels, with technical support from the Secretariat, mainly through an Internal Task Force. Their work has made possible key issues that have been addressed by the Ambassadorial Central Negotiating Group (CNG) and the three Technical Negotiating Teams (TNTs) that concentrate on the three strategic pillars that are the substantive core of the ACP's Mandate and derive their political legitimacy having been previously approved by the Council of Ministers and rooted in the Summits of ACP Heads of State as early as 2012 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and more recently in 2016 in Port Moresby Papua New Guinea.
12. He reiterated the role to be played by Parliament and Parliamentarians that is most significant not only for a strong legal basis through ratification of the successor agreement but also ensuring clear responsibilities and how they are to be discharged by all stakeholders – the executive, administration, civil society, organized interest groups is done. He stressed on the need for a truly inclusive and participatory manner for the Members of parliament that would be both in the process and the product.

13. He recalled the overarching frame-work of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals, where the ACP Strategic pillars are anchored, the ACP has embedded a Core Nucleus from which emanate the guiding principles and objectives of the Negotiating Mandate, as well as cross-cutting themes which identify the mutually beneficial issues and interests that are to be thoroughly addressed as essential goals of the Partnership agreement.
14. The Secretary General informed the meeting of the outcome of the 107th Session of the ACP Council of Ministers held from 29 to 30 May 2018 in Lomé, Togo. In its Decision, the ACP Council of Ministers adopted the ACP Negotiating Mandate for a Post Cotonou Agreement and authorized the Committee of Ambassadors to make preparations for the official launch of the commencement of negotiations with the European Union in accordance with requisite Article of the ACP-EU Cotonou Partnership Agreement.
15. He added that the ACP Negotiating Mandate, called for a single undertaking within the ACP framework in the negotiation process, resulting in a legally-binding Agreement. This is very crucial for the solidarity and unity of the ACP Group, and as such the ACP Parliamentary Assembly has a role to play in promoting this undertaking at national, regional and continental levels. Following which, the Secretary General expressed his gratitude for the strong Declaration by the ACP Parliamentarians adopted at the 49th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly, held on 21st March 2018. He noted that the Declaration called on all Member States of the ACP Group to maintain its unity and solidarity, and undertake the negotiation of the Post Cotonou Agreement as a single entity in line with the vision and mission of the ACP Group as articulated at the 7th and 8th Summits of the ACP Head of States and Governments, as well as the ACP Policy Framework document "Towards the ACP We Want".
16. The Secretary General also updated Members on other areas that are of importance to the cooperation. He recalled the vision for the ACP Group of States to be a more effective global player and address geopolitical changes of the 21st century, in response to deepening South-South cooperation and regionalization. He added that these aspects are being addressed through the on-going work by the Committee of Ambassadors on the Revision of the Georgetown Agreement. More significantly is the acceptance of the generous offer from the Republic of Equatorial Guinea to host the ACP Information Centre for South – South and Triangular Cooperation, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea. This is a tangible institutional mechanism by which the role of the ACP Group as a Facilitator and Hub of South South & Triangular Cooperation will be visible with a presence in an ACP Member State.

17. Dr Gomes also updated members on the financial sustainability of the ACP Group. He stated that substantial progress had been achieved on the establishment of the Endowment and Trust Fund (ETF), particularly on its proposed governance structure but stated some critical structural issues were still being addressed.
18. In the ensued exchange of views members reiterated their support for the single undertaking of a Post-Cotonou successor agreement and called for unity as the main message as the ACP Group prepares for a post modern successor agreement. Members also called for a stronger parliamentary dimension in the successor agreement.

APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 48th SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

19. The Summary Record of the 50th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly held in Brussels, Belgium [ACP/23/050/18] was adopted with some typographical corrections.

EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

20. The Assembly heard oral reports on the work of the Standing Committees as follows:

Committee on Political Affairs

21. The Report of the Committee on Political Affairs (Committee I) was presented by Hon. Vicky Katumwa Mukalayi (Democratic Republic of Congo) Chair of the Committee on Political Affairs with a focus on the following issues.
22. The Committee deliberated on the amendments of the resolution on "*ACP-EU relations post-Cotonou: a strong parliamentary dimension*" with the facilitation of Hon. Jacob Oulanyah of Uganda in his capacity as the ACP Co-rapporteur. Honorable Oulanyah presented 70 amendments submitted for the motion for resolution. He pointed out that the amendments had reflected discussions held during the intersessional meetings held in March 2018. He highlighted that some of the amendments that made reference to the Kigali summit's outcomes were not considered. The committee agreed to reject those references in order to provide for a text that supports a common approach. The Co-rapporteur also highlighted some amendments that had been proposed only addressed EUs interests. Following his presentation, the committee rejected 20, retained 3 amendments in their original version and accepted 47 amendments.

23. **Title of the next Report**, the Committee deliberated on the following 3 titles proposed by the secretariat:

- Role of Parliament in combating gender based violence;
- Role of Social Media and fake news on democracy;
- Technology and Democracy – Challenges and opportunities.

24. Following the exchange of views the Committee agreed to retain the second topic but reformulated it as such: "**Social media and the protection of democracy**". The committee agreed that the topic on the role of parliament in combating gender based violence be addressed at a later stage, and the committee would now propose the title "**Social Media and Protection of Democracy**" to the EU Counterparts.

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

25. The Vice Chair of the Committee of Socials Affairs and the Environment Hon. Musa Hussein NAIB (Eritrea) presented the main outcomes of the meeting of the Committee. The highlights of the Committees work were as follows:

26. Members considered amendments to a draft report with the facilitation of the ACP Co-rapporteur, Hon. Halifa Sallah (Gambia). The Meeting noted that 78 Amendments were submitted to the draft report entitled "*the social and environmental consequences of urbanisation, particularly the sound management of industrial and domestic waste in ACP countries*". The Meeting then adopted the ACP voting positions on these Amendments, with some oral amendments.

27. Members considered the Working Document on the next report entitled Combating the destabilizing effects of wildlife trafficking in ACP countries and promoting the implementation of the external dimension of the EU Action Plan against wildlife trafficking. The ACP Co-rapporteur highlighted that many fragile ecosystems already face large challenges owing to climate change, natural disasters, land use, as well as the increasing and profitable illegal trade of plants and animals, among others. He underlined that wildlife trafficking is happening at an alarming rate threatening the welfare and prosperity of countries at all tiers.

28. Members further noted that organised crime is fuelling the demand and supply for wildlife products supporting corruption and creating a market of novel products. As part of the way forward on tackling wildlife trafficking, Members underlined that the ACP-EU relations should focus on dialogue and coordinated action towards a stronger legal framework, and better law enforcement, to effectively tackle the trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna operated by international criminal organisations, crushing the demand and supply of illegal wildlife products.
29. Members noted that conflict is one the means which encourages the trafficking of wildlife products, as such there is need to promote peace in conflict situations. Members called need for stiffer punishment regimes for traffickers in wildlife products, similar to those for drug traffickers.
30. On the title of the next report, the Meeting exchanged views on the two topics proposed by the Secretariat that were to be proposed to the EU Counterparts:
- a) Reducing the global number of out-of-school children, adolescents and youth, in ACP countries;
 - b) The social and environmental consequences of substance abuse including narcotic drug abuse and harmful use of alcohol.
31. The meeting exchanged views on the follow-up by the Commission on the resolution adopted by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly on Improving the access to basic health systems, notably to medicines in the fight against infectious diseases, and also took note of the topic to be discussed at the joint meeting on Climate change: threats and opportunities for life and sustainable development,
32. The Committee also suggested that the subject matters of Migration and Human Rights, and the Impact of Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs), be deliberated on under urgent and topical subjects, during the Joint Meeting with the EU counterparts.

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

33. The Chair of the Committee on the Economic Development, Finance and Trade Hon. Phel Parkies (South Africa) presented the main outcomes of the meeting of the Committee. The highlights of the Committee work were as follows:

34. Committee members considered the amendments to the draft resolution on the report on the impact of the illegal trade in phytosanitary products, seeds and other agricultural inputs on ACP countries' economies based on the presentation, arguments, and the guidance of the Co-Rapporteur, Mrs. Lucie Milebou Aubusson of Gabon. This process allowed Committee members to comment on the different amendments and to adopt a voting position. Committee members recommended voting in favour of the resolution as a whole, in keeping with the adopted voting position.
35. Committee members also considered the working document prepared by the Co-Rapporteurs. The working document highlighted that private sector is an engine of wealth creation and economic growth in market economies, and contributes significantly to employment and revenue in developing countries.
36. The document focused on three areas, the development of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) at the heart of the transformation of ACP economies, which presents the potential and the economic and social role of SMEs, the challenges to the development of SMEs in ACP countries, which identifies the obstacles and constraints preventing the creation and the development of SMEs and the recommendations which, when implemented, should help to develop a strong and responsible private sector, capable of contributing to the transformation of African economies.
37. Committee members underscored the relevance of the topic in the current context and the prospects for economic and social development in ACP countries. They called for public-private partnerships to be strengthened and for the experiences of other developing countries to serve as inspiration, in order to make SMEs true development tools.
38. On the title for the next report, Committee members were unable to make a decision on the title of their next report. They invited the Chair, in collaboration with the Secretariat, to propose a title that would be examined during the plenary session.
39. Following consultations with the Secretariat, the following titles were proposed to be presented during the joint committee.
- contribution of migration to Economic Development;
or
 - challenges' for development finance in Middle Income Countries.

40. The Committee deliberated on other issues such as the prospects for the Africa Continental Free Trade Area, drawing lessons from other regional integration examples, State of play of negotiations and implementation of Economic Partnership Agreements, the joint ACP-EU Framework for Private Sector Development support in ACP Countries.

COMMUNICATION FROM THE BUREAU OF THE ACP PA

41. The President presented the following recommendations from the meeting of the Bureau of the ACP PA that took place on Tuesday, 20 March 2018:

Upcoming Joint Parliamentary Assembly Meetings

- a) The 52nd Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly (PA) and 36th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly will be held in Benin from 28 November – 5 December 2018;
- b) The 54th Session of the ACP Parliamentary Assembly (PA) and 37th Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly will be held on the second half of the year by the rotating EU Presidency - Romania. The EU will update members at its next meeting;
- c) The 16th Regional Meeting would be held in Yaoundé, Cameroon, from 17 to 19 July 2018. He informed that Secretariat had started preparations for the meeting and appealed to Members from the region to confirm their participation as soon as possible. The Bureau also received the outcome of the 15th Regional Meeting.

Workshops

42. The President informed the meeting that in line with the procedures where a host country is expected to host workshops for the assembly, he added due to the peculiar situation of the host country not hosting the 35th Session the European Parliament has proposed a visit to the University of Ghent at the Biotech Center on Food.

Humans Rights

43. The President recalled that while this agenda item remains standard item the Bureau expressed the need for consultations with Member States prior to the issues being tabled at the joint assembly in order to provide for adequate preparations for a response by the Members States.

Visa Situation for ACP Members

44. The Bureau noted with concern the challenges experienced by some of the ACP Members of Parliament in securing their visas specifically the Democratic Republic of Congo and Comoros who could therefore not attend the meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

45. The following Members took the floor on the following items:

Burkina Faso

46. The Representative of Burkina Faso addressed the committee regarding the fact that the DRC delegation was unable to travel for lack of visas. They urged the need for ACP to present a strong united front in the face of this breach of diplomatic procedure.

Eswatini

47. The Representative of Eswatini informed the meeting that the country had reverted to its former name, the Kingdom of Eswatini, as it was known before the colonial era (during which it was named Swaziland). He added that parliamentary elections were to be held in the third quarter of this year.

St Vincent and Grenadines

48. The Representative of the St. Grenadines called on the need to follow procedures. He stressed on the need for speakers expected to address the assembly should be cleared by the president. The speaker should be interrogated by the President on the subject matter to be addressed and tenor of his speech before he/she addresses the Assembly. Following which the President would recommend the proposal to speak to the Assembly.

South Africa

49. The Representative of South Africa informed that South Africa would be celebrating the centenary of the birth of Nelson Mandela across the world in the month of July.
50. There being no other business, the President brought the meeting to a close at 13:20hrs.

Wednesday, 20 June 2018
Mercredi le 20 juin 2018

ACP/23/055/18 FINAL
PAHD Dept/Dépt.PDH/bm

LIST OF ACP PARTICIPANTS
50TH SESSION OF THE ACP PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY AND
35TH SESSION OF THE ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
TO BE HELD IN BRUSSELS (BELGIUM) FROM 13 - 20 JUNE 2018

LISTE DE PARTICIPANTS ACP
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ET 35EME SESSION DE L'ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE ACP-UE
PREVUES DU 13 AU 20 JUIN 2018 A BRUXELLES (BELGIQUE)

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